

**Table C-2A.**  
**U.S. District Courts—Civil Cases Commenced, by Nature of Suit,**  
**During the 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2011 Through 2015**

| Nature of Suit   | 2011           | 2012           | 2013           | 2014           | 2015           | Percent Change<br>2014-2015 |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>Total Cases</b>                                       | <b>289,252</b> | <b>278,442</b> | <b>284,604</b> | <b>295,310</b> | <b>279,036</b> | <b>-5.5</b>                 |
| <b>Contract Actions, Total</b>                           | <b>32,306</b>  | <b>28,713</b>  | <b>28,571</b>  | <b>28,557</b>  | <b>26,068</b>  | <b>-8.7</b>                 |
| Franchise  | 423            | 367            | 477            | 456            | 382            | -16.2                       |
| Insurance  | 9,493          | 8,679          | 10,569         | 11,728         | 9,711          | -17.2                       |
| Marine   | 1,117          | 1,032          | 987            | 810            | 907            | 12.0                        |
| Miller Act   | 388            | 574            | 473            | 502            | 398            | -20.7                       |
| Negotiable Instruments                                   | 876            | 819            | 654            | 562            | 505            | -10.1                       |
| Recovery of Overpayments and<br>Enforcement of Judgments | 5,047          | 3,279          | 2,520          | 2,352          | 2,186          | -7.1                        |
| Defaulted Student Loans                                  | 4,332          | 2,657          | 1,855          | 1,654          | 1,546          | -6.5                        |
| Veterans' Overpayment                                    | 8              | 6              | 4              | 8              | 7              | -                           |
| Other  | 707            | 616            | 661            | 690            | 633            | -8.3                        |
| Other Contract Actions                                   | 14,962         | 13,963         | 12,891         | 12,147         | 11,979         | -1.4                        |
| <b>Real Property Actions, Total</b>                      | <b>10,688</b>  | <b>12,960</b>  | <b>10,762</b>  | <b>7,802</b>   | <b>9,195</b>   | <b>17.9</b>                 |
| Condemnation of Land                                     | 183            | 123            | 173            | 149            | 339            | 127.5                       |
| Foreclosure  | 7,224          | 8,130          | 6,264          | 3,928          | 4,256          | 8.4                         |
| Rent, Lease and Ejectment                                | 333            | 662            | 516            | 773            | 688            | -11.0                       |
| Torts to Land, Including<br>Product Liability            | 577            | 1,054          | 687            | 642            | 1,554          | 142.1                       |
| Other Real Property Actions                              | 2,371          | 2,991          | 3,122          | 2,310          | 2,358          | 2.1                         |
| <b>Tort Actions, Total</b>                               | <b>78,176</b>  | <b>61,306</b>  | <b>67,738</b>  | <b>79,990</b>  | <b>68,879</b>  | <b>-13.9</b>                |
| <b>Personal Injury, Total</b>                            | <b>73,750</b>  | <b>57,151</b>  | <b>63,316</b>  | <b>76,463</b>  | <b>61,093</b>  | <b>-20.1</b>                |
| <b>Personal Injury/Product<br/>Liability, Total</b>      | <b>59,761</b>  | <b>43,083</b>  | <b>49,526</b>  | <b>60,078</b>  | <b>41,764</b>  | <b>-30.5</b>                |
| Airplane   | 101            | 66             | 28             | 53             | 63             | 18.9                        |
| Marine   | 14             | 24             | 30             | 11             | 9              | -18.2                       |
| Motor Vehicle  | 305            | 287            | 238            | 292            | 404            | 38.4                        |
| Asbestos   | 37,744         | 15,167         | 607            | 448            | 1,982          | 342.4                       |
| Health Care/Pharma                                       | -              | 6,791          | 9,004          | 13,939         | 15,712         | 12.7                        |
| Other  | 21,597         | 20,748         | 39,619         | 45,335         | 23,594         | -48.0                       |

**Table C-2A. (September 30, 2015—Continued)**

| Nature of Suit                         | 2011           | 2012           | 2013           | 2014           | 2015           | Percent Change<br>2014-2015 |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>Other Personal Injury, Total</b>    | <b>13,989</b>  | <b>14,068</b>  | <b>13,790</b>  | <b>16,385</b>  | <b>19,329</b>  | <b>18.0</b>                 |
| Airplane                               | 269            | 194            | 222            | 214            | 191            | -10.7                       |
| Marine                                 | 1,390          | 1,258          | 1,200          | 1,166          | 1,125          | -3.5                        |
| Motor Vehicle                          | 3,549          | 3,501          | 3,524          | 3,741          | 3,743          | 0.1                         |
| Assault, Libel, and Slander            | 590            | 579            | 636            | 495            | 591            | 19.4                        |
| Federal Employers Liability Act        | 413            | 412            | 352            | 330            | 296            | -10.3                       |
| Medical Malpractice                    | 1,105          | 1,044          | 1,025          | 986            | 1,135          | 15.1                        |
| Other                                  | 6,673          | 7,080          | 6,831          | 9,453          | 12,248         | 29.6                        |
| <b>Personal Property Damage, Total</b> | <b>4,426</b>   | <b>4,155</b>   | <b>4,422</b>   | <b>3,527</b>   | <b>7,786</b>   | <b>120.8</b>                |
| Fraud, Including Truth in Lending      | 2,683          | 2,340          | 2,078          | 2,005          | 2,396          | 19.5                        |
| Other Personal Property Damage         | 1,743          | 1,815          | 2,344          | 1,522          | 5,390          | 254.1                       |
| <b>Actions Under Statutes, Total</b>   | <b>168,078</b> | <b>175,463</b> | <b>177,533</b> | <b>178,961</b> | <b>174,894</b> | <b>-2.3</b>                 |
| <b>Antitrust</b>                       | <b>475</b>     | <b>702</b>     | <b>817</b>     | <b>799</b>     | <b>769</b>     | <b>-3.8</b>                 |
| <b>Bankruptcy, Total</b>               | <b>2,829</b>   | <b>3,928</b>   | <b>2,633</b>   | <b>2,651</b>   | <b>2,814</b>   | <b>6.1</b>                  |
| Appeal (28 U.S.C. 158)                 | 2,227          | 2,168          | 1,992          | 2,055          | 2,272          | 10.6                        |
| Withdrawal (28 U.S.C. 157)             | 602            | 1,760          | 641            | 596            | 542            | -9.1                        |
| <b>Banks and Banking</b>               | <b>622</b>     | <b>605</b>     | <b>340</b>     | <b>294</b>     | <b>237</b>     | <b>-19.4</b>                |
| <b>Civil Rights, Total</b>             | <b>37,020</b>  | <b>37,705</b>  | <b>35,307</b>  | <b>35,274</b>  | <b>37,384</b>  | <b>6.0</b>                  |
| Voting                                 | 168            | 204            | 129            | 171            | 86             | -49.7                       |
| Employment                             | 15,141         | 15,018         | 13,322         | 11,937         | 12,205         | 2.2                         |
| Housing and Accommodations             | 783            | 741            | 667            | 757            | 775            | 2.4                         |
| Welfare                                | 52             | 28             | 6              | 0              | 0              | -                           |
| ADA—Employment                         | 1,768          | 1,958          | 1,944          | 1,894          | 2,076          | 9.6                         |
| ADA—Other                              | 2,713          | 3,133          | 3,039          | 4,432          | 5,156          | 16.3                        |
| Education                              | -              | 126            | 294            | 455            | 525            | 15.4                        |
| Other Civil Rights                     | 16,395         | 16,497         | 15,906         | 15,628         | 16,561         | 6.0                         |
| <b>Environmental Matters</b>           | <b>726</b>     | <b>696</b>     | <b>1,436</b>   | <b>614</b>     | <b>845</b>     | <b>37.6</b>                 |
| <b>Deportation</b>                     | <b>53</b>      | <b>20</b>      | <b>25</b>      | <b>21</b>      | <b>20</b>      | <b>-4.8</b>                 |

**Table C-2A. (September 30, 2015—Continued)**

| Nature of Suit                                   | 2011          | 2012          | 2013          | 2014          | 2015          | Percent Change<br>2014-2015 |
|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>Prisoner Petitions, Total</b>                 | <b>53,611</b> | <b>54,300</b> | <b>56,955</b> | <b>60,675</b> | <b>52,531</b> | <b>-13.4</b>                |
| Motions to Vacate Sentence                       | 6,260         | 8,499         | 7,924         | 7,390         | 5,520         | -25.3                       |
| Habeas Corpus—General                            | 19,624        | 18,851        | 19,356        | 19,185        | 18,448        | -3.8                        |
| Habeas Corpus—Death Penalty                      | 195           | 189           | 193           | 165           | 194           | 17.6                        |
| Mandamus and Other                               | 1,011         | 907           | 883           | 950           | 837           | -11.9                       |
| Civil Rights                                     | 17,047        | 16,970        | 17,514        | 18,991        | 17,829        | -6.1                        |
| Prison Condition                                 | 8,609         | 8,066         | 10,098        | 13,045        | 8,690         | -33.4                       |
| Habeas Corpus—Alien Detainees                    | 865           | 744           | 791           | 736           | 670           | -9.0                        |
| Civil Detainee—Conditions of Confinement         | -             | 74            | 196           | 213           | 343           | 61.0                        |
| <b>Forfeiture and Penalty, Total</b>             | <b>2,369</b>  | <b>2,298</b>  | <b>2,144</b>  | <b>1,901</b>  | <b>1,471</b>  | <b>-22.6</b>                |
| Agricultural Acts                                | 35            | 18            | 4             | 2             | 0             | -                           |
| Food and Drug Act                                | 51            | 16            | 3             | 0             | 0             | -                           |
| Drug-Related Seizure of Property                 | 1,235         | 1,289         | 1,155         | 1,018         | 688           | -32.4                       |
| Air Traffic Regulations                          | 6             | 0             | 1             | 0             | 0             | -                           |
| Occupational Safety and Health Act               | 28            | 13            | 1             | 0             | 0             | -                           |
| Other Forfeiture and Penalty Suits               | 1,014         | 962           | 980           | 881           | 783           | -11.1                       |
| <b>Labor Laws, Total</b>                         | <b>17,967</b> | <b>19,440</b> | <b>18,043</b> | <b>18,673</b> | <b>19,322</b> | <b>3.5</b>                  |
| Fair Labor Standards Act                         | 6,336         | 8,152         | 7,500         | 8,160         | 8,781         | 7.6                         |
| Labor Management Relations Act                   | 1,173         | 1,167         | 883           | 812           | 690           | -15.0                       |
| Labor Management Reporting<br>and Disclosure Act | 42            | 15            | 7             | 1             | 0             | -                           |
| Railway Labor Act                                | 74            | 44            | 64            | 57            | 45            | -21.1                       |
| ERISA <sup>2</sup>                               | 8,860         | 8,404         | 7,599         | 7,191         | 7,228         | 0.5                         |
| FMLA <sup>3</sup>                                | -             | 291           | 877           | 1,108         | 1,139         | 2.8                         |
| Other Labor Litigation                           | 1,482         | 1,367         | 1,113         | 1,344         | 1,439         | 7.1                         |
| <b>Immigration, Total <sup>4</sup></b>           | <b>1,083</b>  | <b>1,058</b>  | <b>1,054</b>  | <b>1,163</b>  | <b>1,321</b>  | <b>13.6</b>                 |
| Naturalization Applications                      | 298           | 301           | 272           | 277           | 260           | -6.1                        |
| Other Immigration Actions                        | 785           | 757           | 782           | 886           | 1,061         | 19.8                        |
| <b>Intellectual Property Rights, Total</b>       | <b>9,940</b>  | <b>11,666</b> | <b>13,335</b> | <b>13,420</b> | <b>13,751</b> | <b>2.5</b>                  |
| Copyright  | 2,297         | 3,074         | 3,666         | 4,041         | 5,035         | 24.6                        |
| Patent   | 4,015         | 5,189         | 6,497         | 5,686         | 5,564         | -2.1                        |
| Trademark  | 3,628         | 3,403         | 3,172         | 3,693         | 3,152         | -14.6                       |

**Table C-2A. (September 30, 2015—Continued)**

| Nature of Suit                                | 2011          | 2012          | 2013          | 2014          | 2015          | Percent Change<br>2014-2015 |
|---|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>Securities, Commodities, and Exchanges</b> | <b>1,402</b>  | <b>1,432</b>  | <b>1,113</b>  | <b>947</b>    | <b>1,013</b>  | <b>7.0</b>                  |
| <b>Social Security Laws, Total</b>            | <b>15,705</b> | <b>17,645</b> | <b>19,977</b> | <b>19,146</b> | <b>18,538</b> | <b>-3.2</b>                 |
| Disability Insurance                          | 6,779         | 7,487         | 8,407         | 8,513         | 8,578         | 0.8                         |
| Supplemental Security Income                  | 8,176         | 9,248         | 10,634        | 9,813         | 9,210         | -6.1                        |
| Retirement and Survivors Benefits             | 682           | 772           | 784           | 692           | 656           | -5.2                        |
| Other   | 68            | 138           | 152           | 128           | 94            | -26.6                       |
| <b>RICO <sup>5</sup></b>                      | <b>666</b>    | <b>772</b>    | <b>645</b>    | <b>735</b>    | <b>678</b>    | <b>-7.8</b>                 |
| <b>State Reapportionment Suits</b>            | <b>14</b>     | <b>14</b>     | <b>9</b>      | <b>11</b>     | <b>3</b>      | <b>-72.7</b>                |
| <b>Tax Suits</b>                              | <b>1,194</b>  | <b>1,202</b>  | <b>1,113</b>  | <b>941</b>    | <b>989</b>    | <b>5.1</b>                  |
| <b>Customer Challenge</b>                     | <b>9</b>      | <b>9</b>      | <b>3</b>      | <b>0</b>      | <b>0</b>      | <b>-</b>                    |
| <b>Consumer Credit</b>                        | <b>9,822</b>  | <b>9,320</b>  | <b>8,974</b>  | <b>8,547</b>  | <b>9,801</b>  | <b>14.7</b>                 |
| <b>Cable/Satellite TV</b>                     | <b>1,518</b>  | <b>1,514</b>  | <b>1,489</b>  | <b>1,367</b>  | <b>1,162</b>  | <b>-15.0</b>                |
| <b>Freedom of Information Act</b>             | <b>388</b>    | <b>344</b>    | <b>382</b>    | <b>446</b>    | <b>514</b>    | <b>15.2</b>                 |
| <b>Constitutionality of State Statutes</b>    | <b>333</b>    | <b>328</b>    | <b>322</b>    | <b>323</b>    | <b>383</b>    | <b>18.6</b>                 |
| <b>Other Statutory Actions</b>                | <b>10,332</b> | <b>10,465</b> | <b>11,417</b> | <b>11,013</b> | <b>11,348</b> | <b>3.0</b>                  |
| <b>Other Actions, Total</b>                   | <b>4</b>      | <b>0</b>      | <b>0</b>      | <b>0</b>      | <b>0</b>      | <b>-</b>                    |

NOTE: Percent change not computed when fewer than 10 cases reported for the previous period. Data collection for the categories of health care/pharmaceutical, education, civil detainee—conditions of confinement, and Family and Medical Leave Act began on October 1, 2011.

<sup>1</sup> Includes cases filed in previous years as consolidated cases that thereafter were severed into individual cases.

<sup>2</sup> ERISA = Employee Retirement Income Security Act.

<sup>3</sup> FMLA = Family and Medical Leave Act

<sup>4</sup> Data collection for these categories began in December 2007.

<sup>5</sup> RICO = Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act.