

Correction Made in November 2021: Updates to the underlying data resulted in revised totals for complaints against judges.

Table S-22
Report of Complaints Commenced and Action Taken Under Authority of 28 U.S.C. 351-364
During the Period from 10/1/2019 to 9/30/2020

Summary of Activity	Circuits											National Courts				
	Total	Fed	DC	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	CC	CIT
Complaints Pending on 9/30/2019¹	606	9	24	37	64	25	91	50	79	9	20	30	68	96	4	0
Complaints Filed	1,253	41	30	29	113	69	145	145	123	106	78	121	66	154	33	0
Source of Complaints																
Filed by Complainant	1,242	41	30	29	113	69	145	136	122	106	78	120	66	154	33	0
Identified by Circuit Chief Judges	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Complainants²																
Prison Inmates	438	13	5	0	23	21	60	57	56	22	56	36	34	52	3	0
Lawyers	32	0	2	0	18	2	1	0	1	3	0	2	2	0	1	0
Litigants	777	28	15	29	73	44	86	94	64	79	22	85	26	102	30	0
Public Officials	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Judicial Employee	5	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	32	0	8	0	0	0	3	2	1	2	0	3	9	4	0	0
Judges Complained About																
Circuit Judges	299	25	8	11	44	14	28	25	25	22	16	26	22	33	0	0
District Judges	676	12	22	15	45	39	84	75	73	64	52	60	28	83	24	0
Court of International Trade Judges	2	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Court of Federal Claims Judges	7	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0
Bankruptcy Judges	41	0	0	1	7	5	7	0	3	2	0	9	1	5	1	0
Magistrate Judges	228	1	0	2	17	10	26	45	22	18	10	26	15	33	3	0
Nature of Allegations³																
Special Treatment for Friend or Relative	34	0	0	1	4	0	9	5	2	0	1	1	0	10	1	0
Acceptance of Bribe, Gift, or Favor	72	1	1	0	2	0	5	16	22	0	11	1	0	13	0	
Improper Ex Parte Communication with Party or Counsel	80	0	2	1	10	0	10	8	12	1	12	5	6	11	2	0
Partisan Political Activity or Statement	15	0	7	0	0	0	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	4	0
Soliciting Funds for Organization	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Improper Outside Income	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

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Financial Disclosure Violation	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	3	0	0
Unwanted, Abusive, or Offensive Sexual Conduct	12	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	0	0	0	0	0
Hostility Toward Litigant, Attorney, Judicial Employee, or Other	125	0	9	2	19	2	12	10	5	0	31	4	11	16	4	0
Hostile Work Environment	5	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Discrimination on the Basis of Race, Color, Sex, or Other	158	1	3	1	35	2	23	21	17	0	32	7	5	8	3	0
Retaliation for Participating in Complaint Process	29	1	0	0	10	0	11	1	2	0	1	1	0	2	0	0
Refusal to Cooperate in Complaint Proceeding	3	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Failure to Report or Disclose Misconduct or Disability	22	1	0	0	4	0	4	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Conduct Outside of Official Duties	20	6	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	3	6	1	0	0	0	0
Related to Merits of Decision or Ruling	985	20	23	26	82	38	126	107	79	82	66	113	57	134	32	0
Delayed Decision	92	0	5	1	10	4	12	20	22	1	2	4	4	6	1	0
Other Misconduct	507	14	11	4	47	43	55	78	37	20	6	51	32	100	9	0
Disability	34	1	1	0	2	0	3	5	2	0	0	5	3	11	1	0
Actions Regarding Complaints																
Withdrawn	10	0	0	0	1	0	1	4	0	0	0	2	1	1	0	0
Complaint Withdrawn with Consent of Circuit Chief Judge	10	0	0	0	1	0	1	4	0	0	0	2	1	1	0	0
Withdrawal of Petition for Review	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Actions by Circuit Chief Judge																
Matters returned from Judicial Council or Judicial Conference Committee	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Complaint Dismissed in Whole or in Part	857	41	31	14	44	62	122	138	14	71	65	99	36	107	13	0
Not Misconduct or Disability	24	0	0	1	0	1	12	5	0	1	0	4	0	0	0	0

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Merits-Related	695	4	28	13	43	57	121	98	13	43	53	92	32	97	1	0
Frivolous	235	14	0	0	0	61	0	68	9	38	44	0	1	0	0	0
Allegations Lack Sufficient Evidence	546	15	26	7	19	62	118	79	4	2	34	53	24	100	3	0
Allegations Incapable of Being Established	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Filed in Wrong Circuit	45	35	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	0
Otherwise Not Appropriate	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Complaint Concluded in Whole or in Part	13	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	1	0	2	0	1	5	0	0
Informal Resolution Before Complaint Filed	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Voluntary Corrective Action Taken	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Intervening Events	13	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	1	0	2	0	1	5	0	0
Complaint Referred to Special Committee	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	1	0	0	0	0
Actions by Special Committees																
Matter Returned From Judicial Council	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
New Matter Referred to Circuit Chief Judge	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Judicial Council Proceedings																
Matter returned from Judicial Conference	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Complaint Transferred to/From Another Circuit	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Special Committee Reports Submitted to Judicial Council	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Received Petition for Review	434	5	7	11	22	34	76	101	21	40	27	18	16	54	2	0
Action on Petition for Review																

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Additional Investigation Warranted																
Returned to Special Committee	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Retained by Judicial Council	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Received From Judicial Council	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Complaints Terminated by Final Action Between 10/1/2019 and 9/30/2020	859	43	14	14	44	59	124	160	18	80	51	76	52	111	13	0
Complaints Pending on 9/30/2020	657	0	17	29	90	28	56	19	126	34	36	63	50	89	20	0

CC = U.S. Court of Federal Claims; CIT= U.S. Court of International Trade.

¹ Revised.

² Number of complainants may not equal total number of filings because each complaint may have multiple complainants. Each complaint may involve multiple allegations. Each complaint may have multiple reasons for dismissal.

³ Changes to the items appearing under "Allegations in Complaint" reflect recent amendments to the Rules for Judicial-Conduct and Judicial-Disability Proceedings and track the Rules language and provisions directly.