

2000 CASELOAD HIGHLIGHTS

U.S. Courts of Appeals

- Appeals filings increased by only 4 appeals, yet reached another all-time high.
- Original proceedings grew 18 percent, and criminal appeals rose 4 percent.
- Bankruptcy appeals dropped 9 percent.

U.S. District Courts

Criminal Filings

- Criminal case filings climbed 5 percent.
- Filings of immigration cases rose 14 percent, with the five southwestern border districts receiving 63 percent of immigration cases.
- Cases involving firearms soared 23 percent.
- Drug case filings remained relatively stable, rising by 22 cases.
- Cases involving drugs, immigration, firearms, and fraud constituted 69 percent of filings.

Civil Filings

- Civil filings changed little, falling less than three-tenths of 1 percent.
- Filings with the United States as plaintiff or defendant jumped 9 percent.
- Cases involving federal question jurisdiction declined 4 percent, and diversity of citizenship filings decreased 2 percent.
- The median disposition time for civil cases was 8 months, two months less than in 1999.

U.S. Bankruptcy Courts

- Bankruptcy filings dropped 7 percent, but still exceeded one million.
- Filings under chapter 11 rose 9.5 percent.
- Filings under chapter 7 declined 9 percent, and filings under chapter 13 fell 1 percent.
- Both nonbusiness and business petitions fell 7 percent.

Federal Probation and Pretrial Services System

- The number of persons under the supervision of the federal probation system grew 3 percent to 100,395 on September 30, 2000.
- Persons serving terms of supervised release increased 7 percent and constituted 64 percent of all persons under supervision.
- The number of defendants in cases opened in the pretrial services system grew 7 percent to 85,617.