



Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts

December 4, 2001

Bankruptcy Filings Hit Fiscal Year Historic High in 2001

Bankruptcy filings in federal courts rose to a fiscal year historic high during the 12-month period ending September 30, 2001. Bankruptcy cases for FY 2001 totaled 1,437,354, up 14 percent from the 1,262,102 bankruptcy filings for FY 2000, according to data released today by the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts. The Judiciary's fiscal year is the twelve-month period from October 1 through September 30.

The previous high for bankruptcy filings during a fiscal year was in 1998, when filings reached a total of 1,436,964. Two fiscal years of declining case filings followed. The highest number of bankruptcy filings recorded in any twelve-month period was reached in calendar year 1998, (January 1, 1998 through December 31, 1998) when filings totaled 1,442,549.

Business filings in FY 01 totaled 38,490, up 7 percent from FY 00. Nevertheless, business filings are an ever smaller portion of total bankruptcy filings; they have declined 29 percent since 1997, while non-business or personal filings have become an increasingly larger portion. Non-business bankruptcy filings totaled 1,398,864 in FY01, up 14 percent from FY 00.

The bankruptcy courts have continued to handle the heavier workload, although no new bankruptcy judges have been added to the federal bench since 1992. As a consequence, cases per judgeship have increased 48 percent since 1992 and the average number of cases handled per bankruptcy judgeship now stands at 4,436.

Overall, growth in bankruptcy filings was due to growth under all chapters of the Bankruptcy Code, except Chapter 12. The number of Chapter 7 filings rose 16.5 percent to 1,014,137 in FY 01, from 870,805 filings in FY 00. Chapter 13 filings rose 8.2 percent to 412,272 in FY 01, from 380,880 in FY 00. Chapter 11 filings rose 7 percent to 10,519 in FY 01, from 9,835 in FY 00. Chapter 12 filings fell 31.2 percent to 379 in FY 01, from 551 in FY 00.

Business and Non-Business Filings
Years Ended September 30, 1997-2001

<u>FY</u>	<u>Business</u>	<u>Non-Business</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
2001	38,490	1,398,864	1,437,354
2000	36,065	1,226,037	1,262,102
1999	38,625	1,315,751	1,354,376
1998	47,125	1,389,839	1,436,964
1997	54,252	1,313,112	1,367,364

(MORE)

Chapter 7 is designed to allow individuals to keep certain exempt property while the remaining property is sold to repay creditors. Under Chapter 13 bankruptcy, creditors may be repaid in installments, in full or in part, over a 3- to 5-year period. Chapter 11 provides for a business to continue operations while formulating a plan to repay its creditors. Chapter 12 is designed to meet the needs of financially distressed family farmers. Provisions for Chapter 12

Bankruptcy Filings by Chapter of the Bankruptcy Code 12-Month Periods Ending September 30				
	Chapter			
Year	7	11	12	13
2001	1,014,137	10,519	379	412,272
2000	870,805	9,835	551	380,880
1999	959,291	8,982	811	385,262
1998	1,026,134	8,765	879	401,151
1997	958,045	11,221	966	397,097

expired on July 1, 2000 and P.L. 107-8 extended the deadline to June 1, 2001. P.L. 107-17 extended the second deadline to October 1, 2001. Legislation is currently before Congress to re-enact and extend Chapter 12 protections. For more information on bankruptcy visit the Judiciary’s website at www.uscourts.gov/bankbasic.pdf. Local bankruptcy court rules can be found at www.uscourts.gov/rules/bk-localrules.html.

The number of bankruptcy cases filed during the fourth quarter of the Judiciary’s fiscal year (July 1, 2001 – September 30, 2001) totaled 359,518. Filings in the third quarter of the Judiciary’s 2001 fiscal year (April 1, 2001—June 30, 2001) totaled 400,394. The number of bankruptcies filed during the second quarter of fiscal year 2001 (January 1, 2001—March 31, 2001) was 366,841. First quarter filings for FY 2001 (October 1, 2000 — December 31, 2000) totaled 310,169.

A breakdown of the latest data on bankruptcy filings follows and is also available on the Judiciary’s website at www.uscourts.gov under Newsroom.

Quarterly Bankruptcy Filings*

Ending	Total Filings	Ending	Total Filings	Ending	Total Filings
SEPT. 30, 2001	359,518	DEC. 31, 1997	347,685	MAR. 31, 1994	206,565
JUN. 30, 2001	400,394	SEPT. 30, 1997	353,515	DEC. 31, 1993	206,570
MAR. 31, 2001	366,841	JUN. 30, 1997	367,168	SEPT. 30, 1993	215,498
DEC. 31, 2000	310,169	MAR. 31, 1997	335,073	JUN. 30, 1993	229,406
SEPT. 30, 2000	308,718	DEC. 31, 1996	311,131	MAR. 31, 1993	222,694
JUN. 30, 2000	321,729	SEPT. 30, 1996	303,309	DEC. 31, 1992	228,562
MAR. 31, 2000	312,335	JUN. 30, 1996	297,162	SEPT. 30, 1992	236,810
DEC. 31, 1999	318,634	MAR. 31, 1996	266,149	JUN. 30, 1992	250,622
SEPT. 30, 1999	323,550	DEC. 31, 1995	244,494	MAR. 31, 1992	252,733
JUN. 30, 1999	345,956	SEPT. 30, 1995	233,593	DEC. 31, 1991	234,383
MAR. 31, 1999	330,784	JUN. 30, 1995	235,302	SEPT. 30, 1991	231,743
DEC. 31, 1998	353,108	MAR. 31, 1995	212,626	JUN. 30, 1991	246,496
SEPT. 30, 1998	361,205	DEC. 31, 1994	201,618	MAR. 31, 1991	231,017
JUN. 30, 1998	373,460	SEPT. 30, 1994	208,187		
MAR. 31, 1998	354,118	JUN. 30, 1994	216,213		

*Because of ongoing corrections to the bankruptcy database, the quarterly data may not total to the most recent annual figures.

**TABLE F-2 U.S. BANKRUPTCY COURTS
BUSINESS AND NONBUSINESS BANKRUPTCY CASES COMMENCED, BY CHAPTER OF THE BANKRUPTCY CODE,
DURING THE 12-MONTH PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2001**

CIRCUIT AND DISTRICT	TOTAL FILINGS	TOTAL BUSINESS FILINGS*					TOTAL NON- BUSINESS FILINGS							
		CHAP. 7	CHAP. 11	CHAP. 12	CHAP. 13	TOTAL	CHAP. 7	CHAP. 11	CHAP. 12	CHAP. 13	TOTAL			
TOTAL...	1,437,354	1,014,137	10,519	379	412,272	38,490	22,800	9,787	379	5,481	1,398,864	991,337	732	406,791
DC.....	2,522	1,720	27	-	775	35	9	23	-	3	2,487	1,711	4	772
1ST...	44,949	31,206	338	2	13,402	1,215	824	315	2	73	43,734	30,382	23	13,329
ME.....	4,400	4,052	27	1	320	161	115	27	1	18	4,239	3,937	-	302
MA.....	17,455	14,992	149	1	2,312	387	231	147	1	7	17,068	14,761	2	2,305
NH.....	3,869	3,530	27	-	312	308	272	27	-	9	3,561	3,258	-	303
RI.....	4,790	4,407	14	-	369	73	54	12	-	7	4,717	4,353	2	362
PR.....	14,435	4,225	121	-	10,089	286	152	102	-	32	14,149	4,073	19	10,057
2ND...	80,814	65,318	1,487	11	13,977	2,699	1,043	1,417	11	207	78,115	64,275	70	13,770
CT.....	11,523	9,925	94	2	1,502	172	87	82	2	1	11,351	9,838	12	1,501
NY,N....	15,363	12,603	59	7	2,693	434	280	57	7	89	14,929	12,323	2	2,604
NY,E....	25,299	19,813	268	-	5,218	388	127	256	-	5	24,911	19,686	12	5,213
NY,S....	14,380	11,801	1,013	-	1,546	1,194	195	972	-	7	13,186	11,606	41	1,539
NY,W....	12,495	9,610	52	1	2,832	423	292	49	1	81	12,072	9,318	3	2,751
VT.....	1,754	1,566	1	1	186	88	62	1	1	24	1,666	1,504	-	162
3RD...	95,690	64,583	1,817	6	29,284	3,368	1,369	1,737	6	256	92,322	63,214	80	29,028
DE.....	3,951	1,889	1,060	-	1,002	1,133	69	1,059	-	5	2,818	1,820	1	997
NJ.....	41,059	26,537	385	2	14,135	716	368	339	2	7	40,343	26,169	46	14,128
PA,E....	23,526	13,787	151	2	9,586	329	172	137	2	18	23,197	13,615	14	9,568
PA,M....	11,943	9,458	73	1	2,411	744	471	70	1	202	11,199	8,987	3	2,209
PA,W....	15,142	12,864	142	1	2,135	433	281	127	1	24	14,709	12,583	15	2,111
VI.....	69	48	6	-	15	13	8	5	-	-	56	40	1	15

CIRCUIT AND DISTRICT	TOTAL FILINGS	TOTAL BUSINESS FILINGS*					TOTAL NON-							
		CHAP. 7	CHAP. 11	CHAP. 12	CHAP. 13	CHAP. 13	BUSINESS FILINGS	CHAP. 7	CHAP. 11	CHAP. 13				
4TH...	130,835	84,922	660	16	45,234	2,723	1,767	580	16	357	128,112	83,155	80	44,877
MD.....	34,610	23,868	174	-	10,568	782	496	154	-	132	33,828	23,372	20	10,436
NC,E....	13,144	6,397	52	7	6,687	229	111	47	7	63	12,915	6,286	5	6,624
NC,M....	10,513	4,025	47	-	6,441	220	136	47	-	37	10,293	3,889	-	6,404
NC,W....	8,489	4,166	44	2	4,277	114	70	41	2	1	8,375	4,096	3	4,276
SC.....	13,506	6,294	80	2	7,130	140	67	62	2	9	13,366	6,227	18	7,121
VA,E....	28,145	20,156	167	-	7,822	301	156	137	-	8	27,844	20,000	30	7,814
VA,W....	12,286	10,459	40	4	1,781	601	485	37	4	73	11,685	9,974	3	1,708
WV,N....	4,042	3,784	16	1	241	145	112	16	1	16	3,897	3,672	-	225
WV,S....	6,100	5,773	40	-	287	191	134	39	-	18	5,909	5,639	1	269
5TH...	120,658	69,145	1,081	36	50,391	3,953	2,172	1,023	36	717	116,705	66,973	58	49,674
LA,E....	10,003	6,674	59	1	3,269	134	79	52	1	2	9,869	6,595	7	3,267
LA,M....	3,222	2,340	16	-	866	35	20	15	-	-	3,187	2,320	1	866
LA,W....	13,222	6,989	62	6	6,165	524	302	60	6	156	12,698	6,687	2	6,009
MS,N....	7,613	4,831	23	3	2,756	93	61	21	3	8	7,520	4,770	2	2,748
MS,S....	13,862	8,806	84	2	4,970	191	98	78	2	13	13,671	8,708	6	4,957
TX,N....	25,140	13,055	309	17	11,759	1,025	574	300	17	134	24,115	12,481	9	11,625
TX,E....	10,675	5,824	69	2	4,780	456	237	64	2	153	10,219	5,587	5	4,627
TX,S....	19,437	10,875	322	2	8,236	977	492	309	2	172	18,460	10,383	13	8,064
TX,W....	17,484	9,751	137	3	7,590	518	309	124	3	79	16,966	9,442	13	7,511
6TH...	194,526	134,542	984	10	58,989	3,706	2,320	907	10	468	190,820	132,222	77	58,521
KY,E....	11,088	9,630	94	-	1,364	316	195	91	-	30	10,772	9,435	3	1,334
KY,W....	14,145	11,509	53	1	2,582	154	97	53	1	3	13,991	11,412	-	2,579
MI,E....	30,731	21,993	165	-	8,573	386	214	160	-	12	30,345	21,779	5	8,561
MI,W....	13,317	10,107	59	3	3,148	262	177	59	3	23	13,055	9,930	-	3,125
OH,N....	35,023	28,807	158	-	6,058	1,244	903	155	-	186	33,779	27,904	3	5,872
OH,S....	32,734	25,763	127	4	6,839	549	334	120	4	90	32,185	25,429	7	6,749
TN,E....	18,477	11,141	67	2	7,267	354	217	61	2	74	18,123	10,924	6	7,193
TN,M....	13,761	8,580	111	-	5,070	202	104	82	-	16	13,559	8,476	29	5,054
TN,W....	25,250	7,012	150	-	18,088	239	79	126	-	34	25,011	6,933	24	18,054

CIRCUIT AND DISTRICT	TOTAL FILINGS	TOTAL BUSINESS FILINGS*					TOTAL NON- BUSINESS FILINGS							
		CHAP. 7	CHAP. 11	CHAP. 12	CHAP. 13	CHAP. 7	CHAP. 11	CHAP. 12	CHAP. 13	CHAP. 7	CHAP. 11	CHAP. 13		
7TH...	137,062	105,574	521	49	30,918	2,723	1,880	483	49	311	134,339	103,694	38	30,607
IL,N....	48,435	33,622	243	1	14,569	725	469	231	1	24	47,710	33,153	12	14,545
IL,C....	13,742	11,743	39	18	1,942	176	107	38	18	13	13,566	11,636	1	1,929
IL,S....	8,573	6,157	26	11	2,379	586	407	24	11	144	7,987	5,750	2	2,235
IN,N....	17,521	14,712	60	3	2,746	174	98	53	3	20	17,347	14,614	7	2,726
IN,S....	27,621	21,591	86	3	5,941	346	244	78	3	21	27,275	21,347	8	5,920
WI,E....	14,059	11,482	13	1	2,563	231	193	13	1	24	13,828	11,289	-	2,539
WI,W....	7,111	6,267	54	12	778	485	362	46	12	65	6,626	5,905	8	713
8TH...	90,108	68,109	339	65	21,594	3,284	2,391	322	65	505	86,824	65,718	17	21,089
AR,E....	13,024	6,853	26	3	6,142	181	74	23	3	81	12,843	6,779	3	6,061
AR,W....	7,452	5,119	7	3	2,323	113	75	7	3	28	7,339	5,044	-	2,295
IA,N....	4,230	4,067	9	3	151	184	164	9	3	8	4,046	3,903	-	143
IA,S....	6,317	5,828	18	4	467	92	67	18	4	3	6,225	5,761	-	464
MN.....	17,812	14,614	61	8	3,129	1,845	1,485	61	8	291	15,967	13,129	-	2,838
MO,E....	16,364	10,687	93	5	5,579	255	141	86	5	23	16,109	10,546	7	5,556
MO,W....	13,220	10,556	50	4	2,609	181	96	45	4	35	13,039	10,460	5	2,574
NE.....	6,888	5,787	49	27	1,025	145	59	48	27	11	6,743	5,728	1	1,014
ND.....	2,236	2,148	14	8	66	117	87	14	8	8	2,119	2,061	-	58
SD.....	2,565	2,450	12	-	103	171	143	11	-	17	2,394	2,307	1	86
9TH...	267,983	217,472	1,856	87	48,557	8,735	5,246	1,676	87	1,718	259,248	212,226	180	46,839
AK.....	1,467	1,302	17	-	148	112	77	17	-	18	1,355	1,225	-	130
AZ.....	24,001	19,277	302	3	4,417	769	399	272	3	95	23,232	18,878	30	4,322
CAN....	19,354	13,636	264	2	5,450	1,127	584	252	2	288	18,227	13,052	12	5,162
CA,E....	31,758	27,147	118	25	4,467	1,244	823	106	25	289	30,514	26,324	12	4,178
CAC....	86,011	70,971	488	3	14,546	2,386	1,779	430	3	171	83,625	69,192	58	14,375
CAS....	13,188	10,461	58	1	2,666	175	117	49	1	6	13,013	10,344	9	2,660
HL.....	4,975	4,453	30	-	491	75	45	26	-	3	4,900	4,408	4	488
ID.....	8,124	6,836	76	9	1,203	279	157	70	9	43	7,845	6,679	6	1,160
MT.....	3,823	3,379	17	3	424	143	111	13	3	16	3,680	3,268	4	408
NV.....	17,265	12,808	234	1	4,222	443	184	223	1	35	16,822	12,624	11	4,187
OR.....	22,008	18,757	40	12	3,199	1,306	584	40	12	670	20,702	18,173	-	2,529
WA,E....	9,891	7,440	49	27	2,375	334	215	36	27	56	9,557	7,225	13	2,319
WA,W....	25,872	20,806	152	1	4,913	311	155	131	1	24	25,561	20,651	21	4,889
GUAM....	226	180	10	-	36	26	12	10	-	4	200	168	-	32
NMI....	20	19	1	-	-	5	4	1	-	-	15	15	-	-

CIRCUIT AND DISTRICT	TOTAL FILINGS	TOTAL					TOTAL NON-					CHAP. 11	CHAP. 13	
		CHAP. 7	CHAP. 11	CHAP. 12	CHAP. 13	BUSINESS FILINGS*	CHAP. 7	CHAP. 11	CHAP. 12	CHAP. 13	BUSINESS FILINGS			CHAP. 7
10TH..	83,682	67,932	362	58	15,330	2,732	1,993	348	58	333	80,950	65,939	14	14,997
CO.....	18,117	15,664	93	3	2,357	440	323	91	3	23	17,677	15,341	2	2,334
KS.....	13,329	11,021	48	16	2,244	212	126	44	16	26	13,117	10,895	4	2,218
NM.....	8,426	7,275	62	4	1,085	586	438	59	4	85	7,840	6,837	3	1,000
OK,N...	5,692	5,164	23	3	502	508	435	22	3	48	5,184	4,729	1	454
OK,E...	4,148	3,873	12	6	257	99	73	12	6	8	4,049	3,800	-	249
OK,W...	12,959	10,752	40	25	2,142	375	274	39	25	37	12,584	10,478	1	2,105
UT.....	18,522	11,846	75	1	6,600	463	290	73	1	99	18,059	11,556	2	6,501
WY.....	2,489	2,337	9	-	143	49	34	8	-	7	2,440	2,303	1	136
11TH..	188,525	103,614	1,047	39	83,821	3,317	1,786	956	39	533	185,208	101,828	91	83,288
AL,N...	22,985	10,009	101	3	12,872	218	104	79	3	32	22,767	9,905	22	12,840
AL,M...	8,079	3,729	20	-	4,330	136	93	17	-	26	7,943	3,636	3	4,304
AL,S...	6,440	2,877	30	1	3,532	62	21	27	1	13	6,378	2,856	3	3,519
FL,N...	5,996	4,762	47	3	1,184	92	41	42	3	6	5,904	4,721	5	1,178
FL,M...	47,017	34,075	280	4	12,657	973	592	258	4	118	46,044	33,483	22	12,539
FL,S...	30,572	21,545	320	-	8,706	724	420	301	-	2	29,848	21,125	19	8,704
GA,N...	36,534	15,838	174	1	20,520	887	425	162	1	298	35,647	15,413	12	20,222
GA,M...	16,717	7,084	35	24	9,574	110	36	34	24	16	16,607	7,048	1	9,558
GA,S...	14,185	3,695	40	3	10,446	115	54	36	3	22	14,070	3,641	4	10,424

* THESE FIGURES INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING CASES NOT REFLECTED ELSEWHERE:

MA.....	SECTION 304 = 01	NY,N...	SECTION 304 = 01	NYS...	SECTION 304 = 20
NC,E...	CHAPTER 9 = 01	VA,W...	CHAPTER 9 = 01	VA,W...	SECTION 304 = 01
TX,S...	CHAPTER 9 = 02	TX,W...	CHAPTER 9 = 02	TX,W...	SECTION 304 = 01
OH,S...	SECTION 304 = 01	MO,W...	CHAPTER 9 = 01	AZ.....	SECTION 304 = 02
CA,N...	CHAPTER 9 = 01	CA,N...	SECTION 304 = 01	CA,E...	CHAPTER 9 = 01
CA,C...	SECTION 304 = 03	CA,S...	SECTION 304 = 02	HI.....	SECTION 304 = 01
FL,M...	SECTION 304 = 01	FL,S...	SECTION 304 = 01	GA,N...	SECTION 304 = 01
GA,S...	SECTION 304 = 01				