

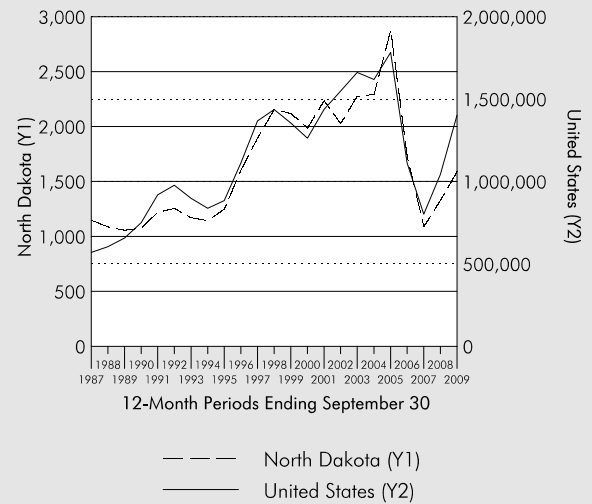
Bankruptcy Cases Filed by State: Fiscal Year 2009

Nationwide, bankruptcy filings dropped abruptly during 2006 after implementation of the Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act (BAPCPA) (Figure 1). On April 20, 2005, President Bush signed into law the BAPCPA, which made substantial changes to the bankruptcy code (most provisions took effect in October 2005). For more information, visit <http://www.justice.gov/ust/eo/bapcpa/>.

North Dakota bankruptcy cases filed in federal court totaled 1,590 in fiscal year 2009 (the 12-month period ending September 30, 2009), up 20 percent when compared to the 1,330 filings in fiscal year 2008 (Table 1). Non-business filings, the majority of North Dakota bankruptcy cases, totaled 1,523 in fiscal year 2009, which is up from the 1,270 non-business filings in fiscal year 2008. Business filings for North Dakota totaled 67 in fiscal year 2009, which is up from 60 in fiscal year 2008.

A look at bankruptcy filings for different 12-month periods shows that although filings for the period ending September 30, 2009 remain well below pre-BAPCPA levels, total filings are increasing (Figure 2). For the 12-month period ending December 30, 2006, North Dakota bankruptcy filings totaled 743. Filings rose steadily to reach 1,590 for the 12-month period ending September 30, 2009.

Figure 1. Bankruptcy Filings: Fiscal Years 1987 to 2009
North Dakota and the United States

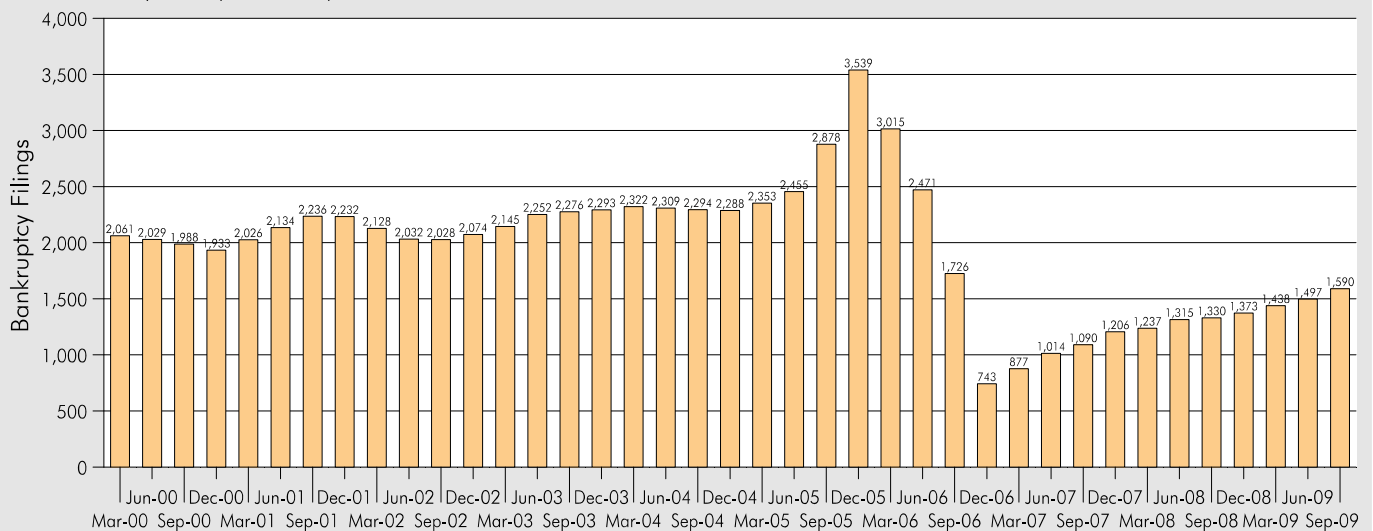


Note: The federal Judiciary's fiscal year is the 12-month period ending September 30. Source: Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, Statistical Tables for the Federal Judiciary at <http://www.uscourts.gov/bnkrpctstats/bankruptcystats.htm>

The numbers presented in this report are for 12-month periods ending in the month and year as indicated. The federal Judiciary's fiscal year is the 12-month period ending September 30. Bankruptcy is defined as a legal recognition that a company or individual is insolvent and must restructure or liquidate. "Cases filed" refers to the commencement of a proceeding through the presentation of a petition to the clerk of court.

Figure 2. North Dakota Bankruptcy Filings: 12-Month Periods, 2000 to 2009

Note: 12-month periods presented by end-date



Source: Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, Statistical Tables for the Federal Judiciary at <http://www.uscourts.gov/bnkrpctstats/bankruptcystats.htm>

Table 1. Bankruptcy Cases Filed by State: Fiscal Years 2000 to 2009

Notes: ¹Includes outlying areas not shown separately. The federal Judiciary's fiscal year is the 12-month period ending September 30.

Source: Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, Statistical Tables for the Federal Judiciary at <http://www.uscourts.gov/bnkrpctstats/bankruptcystats.htm>

Area	12-Month Periods Ending September 30										
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	% Chg: 08-09
United States ¹	1,262,102	1,437,354	1,547,669	1,661,996	1,618,987	1,782,643	1,112,542	801,269	1,042,993	1,402,816	34.5%
Alabama	32,345	37,504	41,322	42,360	41,907	44,884	27,738	23,176	27,572	34,714	25.9%
Alaska	1,412	1,467	1,432	1,541	1,468	1,885	1,300	696	851	933	9.6%
Arizona	21,205	24,001	28,738	31,994	31,686	35,570	17,457	9,749	16,908	31,017	83.4%
Arkansas	16,683	20,476	22,694	24,346	24,396	27,608	15,762	11,494	13,241	16,223	22.5%
California	150,870	150,311	149,954	146,130	127,864	135,872	85,223	62,951	116,979	190,838	63.1%
Colorado	15,458	18,117	20,303	25,243	27,879	34,772	22,207	14,238	19,692	26,608	35.1%
Connecticut	10,968	11,523	11,456	12,272	11,644	12,777	8,895	5,572	7,706	9,710	26.0%
Delaware	4,849	3,951	3,966	3,978	3,740	3,798	2,562	1,897	2,827	4,592	62.4%
Dist. of Col.	2,501	2,522	2,521	2,381	1,987	1,951	1,313	670	863	1,095	26.9%
Florida	73,438	83,585	90,330	95,478	88,370	93,898	52,146	36,572	61,095	90,947	48.9%
Georgia	58,574	67,436	75,067	79,985	79,299	79,245	50,462	48,104	57,858	73,632	27.3%
Hawaii	4,667	4,975	4,684	3,908	3,237	3,716	2,233	1,281	1,810	2,941	62.5%
Idaho	7,155	8,124	8,686	9,630	9,445	10,462	5,865	3,716	4,740	7,203	52.0%
Illinois	61,953	70,750	80,197	86,802	80,665	91,160	57,023	39,147	52,610	69,695	32.5%
Indiana	37,587	45,142	52,686	55,605	55,681	63,158	44,906	29,656	37,538	46,888	24.9%
Iowa	8,245	10,547	11,473	12,577	12,988	16,083	9,123	6,660	7,818	9,892	26.5%
Kansas	11,509	13,329	14,519	16,177	16,401	18,936	12,179	7,730	8,642	10,588	22.5%
Kentucky	20,895	25,233	26,839	29,659	28,555	33,103	22,494	16,216	20,436	24,723	21.0%
Louisiana	22,832	26,447	26,840	29,164	29,985	32,134	19,735	13,534	15,412	18,268	18.5%
Maine	4,036	4,400	4,467	4,593	4,637	5,459	3,096	2,143	2,800	3,761	34.3%
Maryland	30,833	34,610	34,963	35,173	30,438	30,448	18,608	12,509	16,926	24,179	42.9%
Massachusetts	16,125	17,455	17,069	18,174	18,054	21,952	15,181	13,011	15,636	19,805	26.7%
Michigan	36,575	44,048	52,529	62,305	63,882	75,760	53,354	43,806	53,340	67,005	25.6%
Minnesota	15,320	17,812	19,655	20,483	18,451	22,025	13,631	11,139	15,556	20,490	31.7%
Mississippi	18,220	21,475	22,099	22,856	21,351	21,842	13,117	10,789	11,816	14,454	22.3%
Missouri	25,978	29,584	32,808	38,000	37,646	43,981	28,865	20,141	24,419	30,025	23.0%
Montana	3,358	3,823	4,102	4,345	4,376	4,929	3,246	1,934	1,894	2,593	36.9%
Nebraska	5,552	6,888	7,443	8,555	8,906	10,515	6,678	5,204	6,431	7,347	14.2%
Nevada	14,182	17,265	19,095	20,689	18,397	18,220	12,759	9,445	16,756	27,560	64.5%
New Hampshire	3,784	3,869	3,903	4,390	4,573	5,341	3,214	2,804	3,676	4,976	35.4%
New Jersey	37,956	41,059	40,708	42,921	41,262	42,829	25,982	18,702	24,764	34,070	37.6%
New Mexico	7,039	8,426	8,975	9,967	9,360	10,921	5,559	3,232	4,268	5,765	35.1%
New York	60,002	67,537	70,004	75,349	80,854	90,648	57,686	38,823	45,113	55,402	22.8%
North Carolina	26,315	32,146	35,917	38,811	37,339	39,917	24,523	19,420	21,606	26,917	24.6%
North Dakota	1,988	2,236	2,028	2,276	2,294	2,878	1,726	1,090	1,330	1,590	19.5%
Ohio	53,592	67,757	76,122	87,833	90,556	109,413	72,603	48,527	54,638	69,615	27.4%
Oklahoma	19,082	22,799	23,833	26,737	27,236	31,222	19,519	8,966	10,470	13,605	29.9%
Oregon	18,040	22,008	24,034	25,723	24,589	27,909	16,236	8,993	11,615	17,200	48.1%
Pennsylvania	44,096	50,611	53,481	58,493	59,566	67,087	43,282	29,111	32,240	36,765	14.0%
Rhode Island	4,702	4,790	4,830	4,712	4,222	4,855	3,047	2,521	3,919	5,096	30.0%
South Carolina	11,725	13,506	15,531	16,335	15,632	15,209	8,527	7,139	7,988	9,739	21.9%
South Dakota	2,099	2,565	2,673	2,867	2,862	3,530	1,920	1,302	1,459	1,790	22.7%
Tennessee	48,138	57,488	62,810	65,974	62,461	63,058	40,785	37,779	45,187	54,281	20.1%
Texas	61,809	72,736	79,745	89,469	93,703	104,815	65,474	42,487	43,761	52,889	20.9%
Utah	14,738	18,522	21,444	22,444	21,312	20,611	10,015	6,182	8,403	13,660	62.6%
Vermont	1,497	1,754	1,774	1,919	1,773	1,948	1,498	849	1,155	1,527	32.2%
Virginia	36,509	40,431	42,650	43,842	41,329	40,587	22,958	17,893	26,381	35,368	34.1%
Washington	31,325	35,763	38,408	40,907	39,215	40,536	23,764	14,632	19,900	29,520	48.3%
West Virginia	8,447	10,142	10,021	11,102	11,511	14,482	8,173	4,230	5,077	6,352	25.1%
Wisconsin	17,901	21,170	24,242	28,415	27,444	32,718	19,831	14,952	20,295	26,538	30.8%
Wyoming	2,010	2,489	2,232	2,513	2,438	2,733	1,611	784	774	1,249	61.4%

Date of Release: April 20, 2010

North Dakota Bankruptcy Cases Up in 2009

North Dakota bankruptcy cases filed in federal court totaled 1,590 in fiscal year 2009 (the 12-month period ending Sept. 30, 2009). This number is down significantly from the first half of the decade, yet up 20 percent when compared to the 1,330 filings in fiscal year 2008.

Nationwide, bankruptcy filings dropped abruptly during 2006 after implementation of the Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act (BAPCPA). On Apr. 20, 2005, President Bush signed into law the BAPCPA, which made substantial changes to the bankruptcy code (most provisions took effect in October 2005). For more information on the BAPCPA, visit <http://www.justice.gov/ust/eo/bapcpa/>.

This month's "Economic Brief," a monthly publication from the North Dakota State Data Center at North Dakota State University, focuses on the number of bankruptcy cases filed by state as reported by the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts.

North Dakota's trend in bankruptcy filings has closely followed the national pattern of change. In fiscal year 1987, North Dakota bankruptcy filings totaled 1,148. The number of filings dramatically rose during the latter half of the 1990s, reaching 2,157 in fiscal year 1998. After minimal change in bankruptcy filings in the early 2000s, the number of filings rapidly rose to 2,878 in fiscal year 2005. The implementation of BAPCPA produced a sharp drop in filings in 2007 to 1,090. Numbers rose to 1,590 filings in fiscal year 2009.

From 2008 to 2009, all states experienced an increase in bankruptcy filings. Nationally, the number of bankruptcy cases filed in federal court grew 35 percent during this time.

"North Dakota's increase in bankruptcy cases between 2008 and 2009 (i.e., 19.5 percent) was about half the rate of the nation, ranking us as the fifth lowest increase behind Alaska, Pennsylvania, Nebraska, and Louisiana. This reflects the relative strength of our state's economy in spite of the national recession," said Richard Rathge, Director of the State Data Center.

Non-business filings, the majority of North Dakota bankruptcy cases, totaled 1,523 in fiscal year 2009, which was up from the 1,270 non-business filings in fiscal year 2008. Business filings for North Dakota totaled 67 in fiscal year 2009, which is up from the 60 business filings in fiscal year 2008.

North Dakota State Data Center

North Dakota State University - IACC, Room 424
PO Box 6050, Dept. 8000
Fargo, North Dakota 58108-6050
Ph: (701) 231-7980 Fax: (701) 231-9730

For more information, contact:

Dr. Richard Rathge, Director
(701) 231-8621
richard.rathge@ndsu.edu

Karen Olson, Information Specialist
(701) 231-1060
k.olson@ndsu.edu

View publication online at:
<http://www.ndsu.edu/sdc/publications.htm>