

## Probate and Family Court Department, Filings By Fiscal Year and Case Type

CASE TYPE	FY 2015 FILINGS	FY 2016 FILINGS	FY 2017 FILINGS	% CHANGE FROM FY 2016
Guardianship	10,720	11,109	11,580	4.2%
Conservatorship	2,632	3,156	3,366	6.7%
Estate Administration and Other Probate	31,063	31,279	30,546	-2.3%
Equity	965	1,266	1,541	21.7%
Change of Name	3,568	3,817	4,181	9.5%
Adoption and Child Welfare	1,237	1,259	1,293	2.7%
Paternity Complaints	16,321	15,686	15,011	-4.3%
Divorce and other Dom. Rel.	23,881	23,692	23,500	-0.8%
Modification and Contempt	48,726	47,851	44,842	-6.3%
Protection From Abuse	3,021	3,023	3,013	-0.3%
Total Probate, Equity, and Change of Name	48,948	50,627	51,214	1.2%
Percentage "Probate"	34.4%	34.4%	34.4%	
Total Adoption, Child Welfare, and "Family"	93,186	91,511	87,659	-4.2%
Percentage "Family"	65.6%	65.6%	65.6%	
*Total	142,134	142,138	138,873	-2.3%

\*These totals reflect MassCourts data provided by the Department of Research and Planning, which are lower than those reported by the Probate and Family Court in prior years. The difference reflects activity, primarily connected to Estate Administration, counted through docket entries in prior years. Users are now required to enter all cases into MassCourts as "action codes." For accuracy of comparison, only MassCourts "action code" entries are used for all years.