

Probate and Family Court Department, Filings By Fiscal Year and Case Type					
CASE TYPE	FY 2016 FILINGS	FY 2017 FILINGS	FY 2018 FILINGS	FY 2019 FILINGS	% CHANGE FROM FY 2018
Guardianship	11,109	11,580	11,596	11,252	-3.1%
Conservatorship	3,156	3,366	3,265	3,189	-2.4%
Estate Administration and Other Probate	31,279	30,546	30,565	30,865	1.0%
Equity	1,266	1,541	1,508	1,182	-27.6%
Change of Name	3,817	4,181	4,244	4,869	12.8%
Adoption and Child Welfare	1,259	1,293	1,215	1,095	
Special Immigrant Juvenile Status				163	100.0%
Paternity Complaints	15,686	15,011	12,852	13,511	4.9%
Divorce and other Dom. Rel.	23,692	23,500	22,171	21,839	-1.5%
Modification and Contempt	47,851	44,842	40,578	38,540	-5.3%
Protection From Abuse	3,023	3,013	3,044	2,621	-16.1%
Total Probate, Equity, and Change of Name	50,627	51,214	51,178	51,357	0.3%
Percentage "Probate"	34.4%	34.4%	39.1%	39.8%	
Total Adoption, Child Welfare, and "Family"	91,511	87,659	79,860	77,769	-2.7%
Percentage "Family"	65.6%	65.6%	60.9%	60.2%	
*Total	142,138	138,873	131,038	129,126	-1.5%

\*These totals reflect 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.