

Chapter 9 Quarterly Filings (1980-Present)

Municipality Bankruptcy

	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	Total
1980			1		1
1981			2		2
1982		2	1		3
1983	1	1	2		4
1984	1	1	2		4
1985	1		1	1	3
1986	1	4	1	2	8
1987	5	2			7
1988	1	2	1	1	5
1989	2	3	2	2	10
1990	2	1	6	4	13
1991	6	5	2	5	18
1992	6	2	5	1	14
1993	2	1	4	5	12
1994	5	3	3	5	16
1995	3	1	1	5	10
1996	2	2	4		8
1997	1	5	4		10
1998		1	1	1	3
1999	1		2	2	5
2000	2	2	3	4	11
2001		2	3	3	8
2002		3	2	2	7
2003		3		3	6
2004	2	2	1	2	7
2005	1	2	4	4	11
2006	2		1	2	5
2007	2	2	1	1	6
2008		2	1	1	4
2009	3	1	2	6	12
2010	1	2	2	1	7
2011	2	2	3	6	13
2012	2	6	9	3	20
2013	2	2	5		9
2014	2	5	2	3	12
2015	1	1	2		4
2016	2	1	2	3	8
2017	2	2	1	2	7
2018	2	1	1	0	4
2019	1	1	2		

Note:

- The purpose of chapter 9 is to provide a financially-distressed municipality protection from its

creditors while it develops and negotiates a plan for adjusting its debts. The term "municipality" is defined in the Bankruptcy Code as a "political subdivision or public agency or instrumentality of a State." 11 U.S.C. § 101(40). The definition is broad enough to include cities, counties, townships, school districts, and public improvement districts. It also includes revenue-producing bodies that provide services which are paid for by users rather than by general taxes, such as bridge authorities, highway authorities, and gas authorities.

- If the sum of the quarterly filings is slightly lower than the annual total, it is because of joint cases that are split during a later quarter, and because a small number of cases are processed after the end of a reporting quarter.