

# Weekly Bankruptcy Analysis August 10-16, 2020

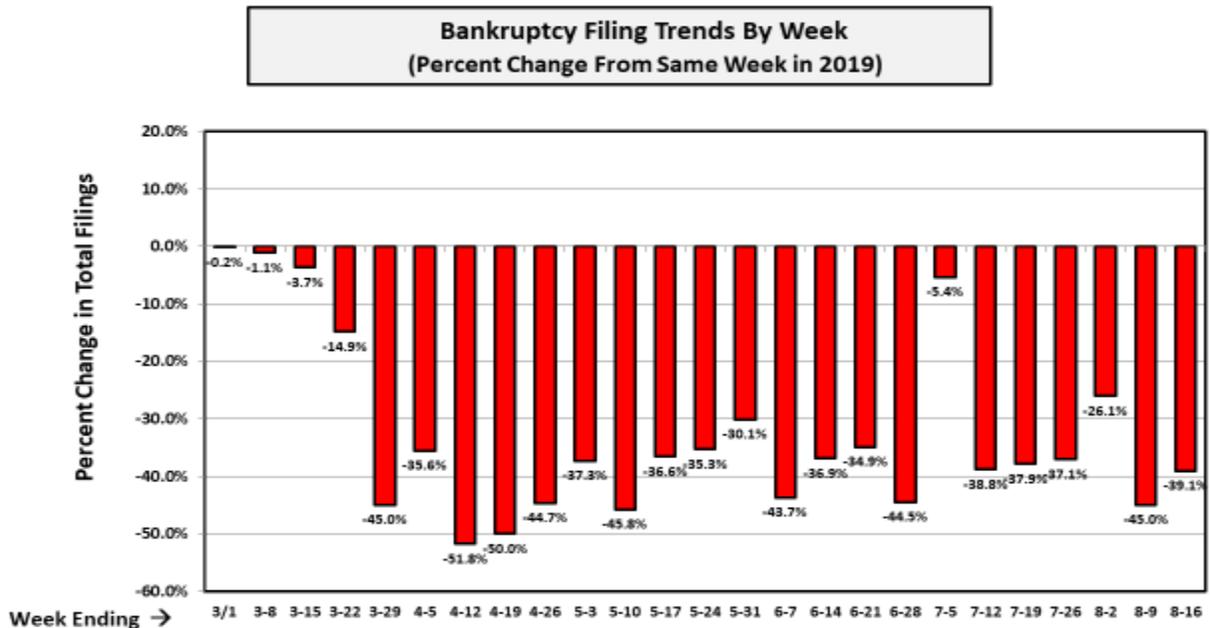
*Written by:  
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Total filings were down by 39 percent during the week ending August 16 compared to the same week in 2019.<sup>2</sup> Once again, the largest percentage decline was in chapter 13 filings, which were down by 60 percent from last year.

<b>Bankruptcy Filings August 10 - 16, 2020</b>		
Type of Case	Number Filed	Percent Change From Same Week in 2019
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,464</b>	<b>-39.1%</b>
- Chapter 7	6,316	-27.7%
- Chapter 11	135	2.3%
- Chapter 13	2,001	-60.1%
- Other Cases*	12	-25.0%
<i>* Chapters 9, 12 and 15</i>		

The following chart shows the weekly trends since March.

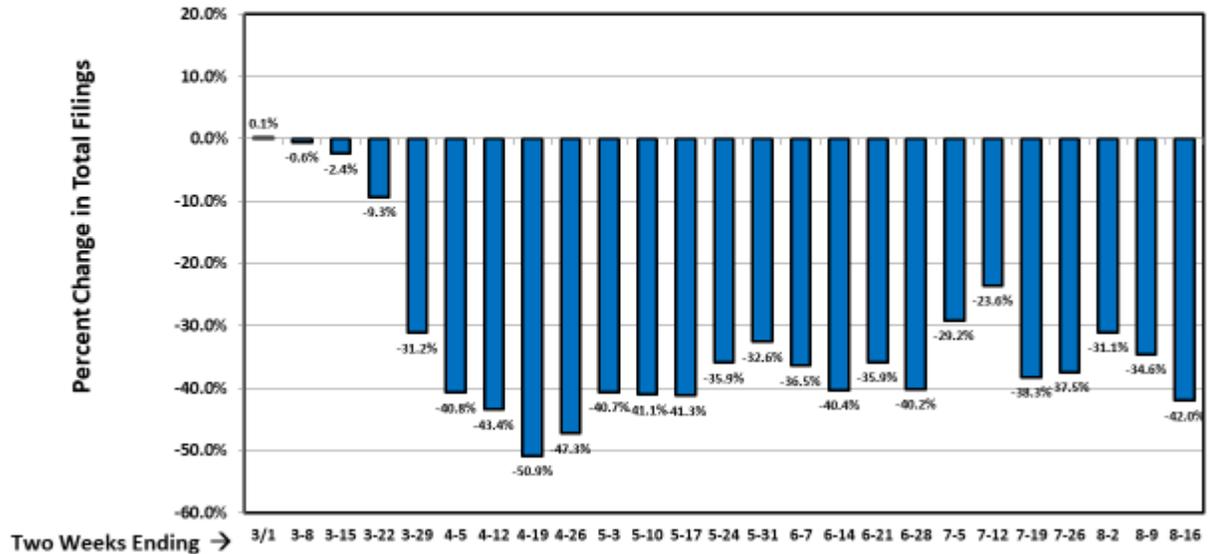


<sup>1</sup> Ed Flynn is a consultant with ABI and serves as a coordinating editor for the *ABI Journal*. He previously worked for more than 30 years at the Executive Office for U.S. Trustees and the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts.

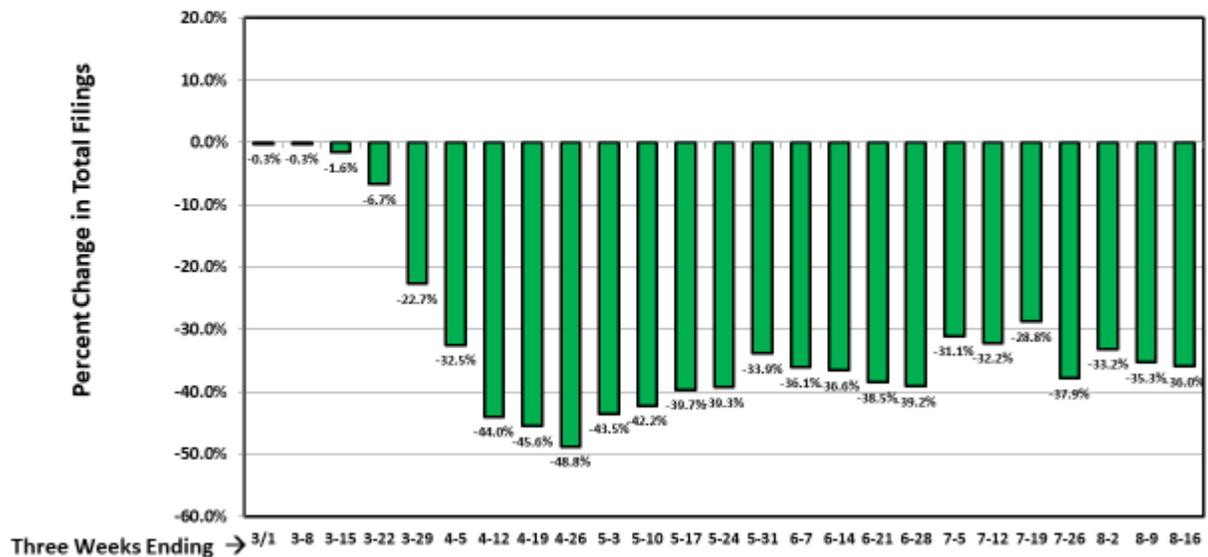
<sup>2</sup> These figures are from PACER and are subject to change. See <https://www.pacer.gov/>.

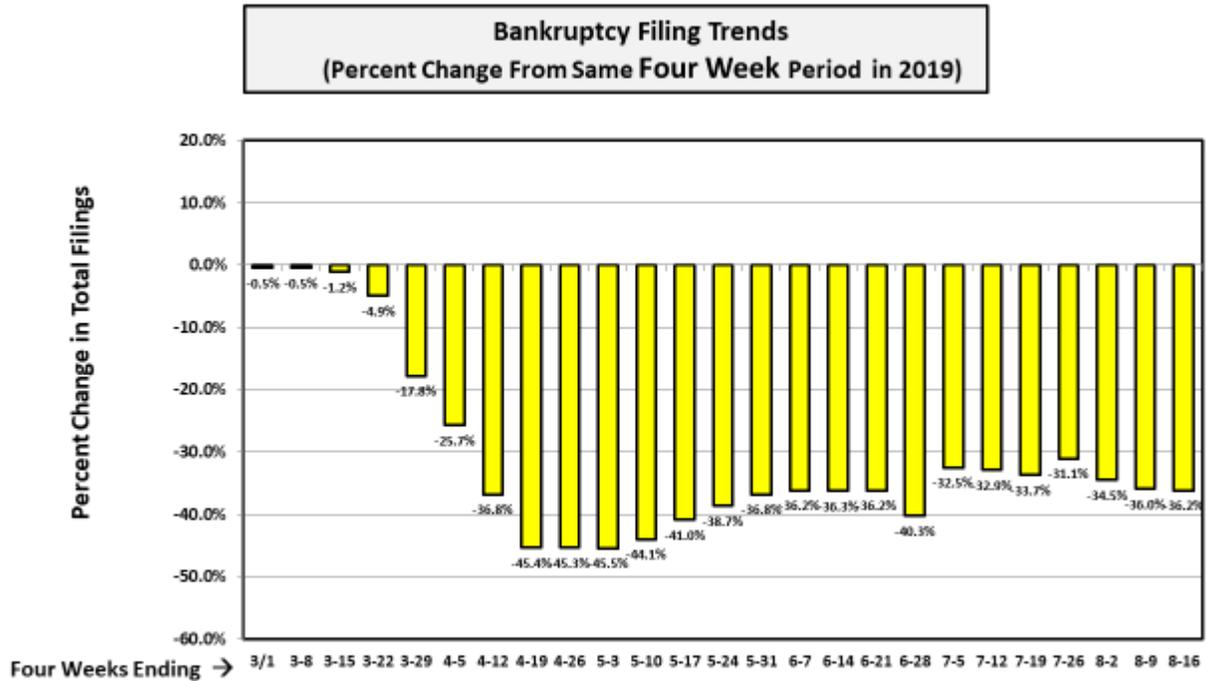
The weekly totals can be affected by several factors. For example, the spike in filings at the end of each month and the timing of holidays can affect weekly totals. To counteract these factors and provide a truer picture of actual trends, the following three charts show the weekly trends based on two-, three- and four-week rolling averages. Overall, they show a pattern of a very slow return toward 2019 filing levels after bottoming out in April.

**Bankruptcy Filing Trends**  
(Percent Change From Same Two Week Period in 2019)



**Bankruptcy Filing Trends**  
(Percent Change From Same Three Week Period in 2019)





### Chapter 11 Cases

Chapter 11 filings during the week were about the same as last year. The major difference is that nearly one-half of the chapter 11 filings last week were related filings, compared to less than one-quarter of the filings last year.

Types of Chapter 11 Cases Filed		
	August 10 - 16	
	2020	2019
<b>Total Filed</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>132</b>
<b>Solo Cases</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>94</b>
<b>Parent cases</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Child cases</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>Filed By Individuals</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>Subchapter V Cases</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>NA</b>

The 25 subchapter V cases filed during the week brings the total filed to date to 722.

### Notable Case Filings

COVID-19 has caused a dramatic increase in prominent bankruptcy filings (e.g., companies with debts and assets of several hundred million or more or firms that are household names), particularly by retailers and energy companies. Since May, we have been seeing about one such case filed per day. Notable filings last week include two more energy companies, a 112-year-old retailer, and the nation’s third-largest commercial printer.

<b>Notable Case Filings August 10 - 16, 2020</b>				
<b>Company Name</b>	<b>Industry</b>	<b>Date Filed</b>	<b>Court of Filing</b>	<b>Number of Related Cases</b>
Hermitage Offshore Services, Ltd.	Oil drilling support	8/11/2020	New York Southern	28
Stein Mart, Inc.	Discount department chain	8/12/2020	Florida Middle	2
Arandell Holdings, Inc.	Printing	8/13/2020	Delaware	2
Chaparral Energy, Inc.	Oil and gas	8/16/2020	Delaware	13

See the ABI Headlines for news of the latest filings at <https://www.abi.org/newsroom/headlines>.

### **Who Is Filing Subchapter V Cases?**

The Small Business Reorganization Act of 2019 (SBRA) took effect on Feb. 19, 2020. With the creation of subchapter V, a streamlined path through chapter 11 has been provided for small business debtors. To date, there have been 722 subchapter V cases filed.

Based on the names of the debtors and internet searches, I was able to categorize all but 40 of these cases (682 out of 722).

- Nearly 30 percent of the subchapter V cases (198) have been filed by individuals. Of these cases, 62 were joint filings, 33 were filed by female debtors, and 99 were filed by male debtors.
- Medical-related cases were the second-most common category. The 57 such cases included filings by doctors, dentists, other health care professionals and a variety of health care facilities.

Other categories with at least 10 subchapter V cases included:

- 45 Restaurants and bars
- 39 Business services
- 33 Trucking and transport firms
- 33 Construction and development
- 27 Retail
- 26 Home services
- 18 Auto sales and repair
- 17 Real estate
- 16 Energy
- 15 Taxi companies
- 12 Hotels and motels
- 11 Farm and agricultural
- 10 Health and fitness.