

Weekly Bankruptcy Analysis

August 9-15, 2021

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Bankruptcy filings were quite low during the week ending August 15, down by more than 20 percent from the same week in 2020 and down by more than half from two years ago (pre-pandemic). Chapter 13 filings dropped sharply at the beginning of the pandemic and have stayed low, while the decline in chapter 7 filings was less pronounced in 2020 but has continued into 2021.

Bankruptcy Filings August 9 - 15, 2021			
Type of Case	Number Filed	Percent Change From Same Week Last Two Years	
		2020	2019
Total	6,538	-22.4%	-52.1%
- Chapter 7	4,464	-29.2%	-48.1%
- Chapter 11	57	-58.1%	-54.8%
- Chapter 13	2,008	1.8%	-59.1%
- Other Cases*	9	-25.0%	-30.8%
* Chapters 9, 12 and 15			

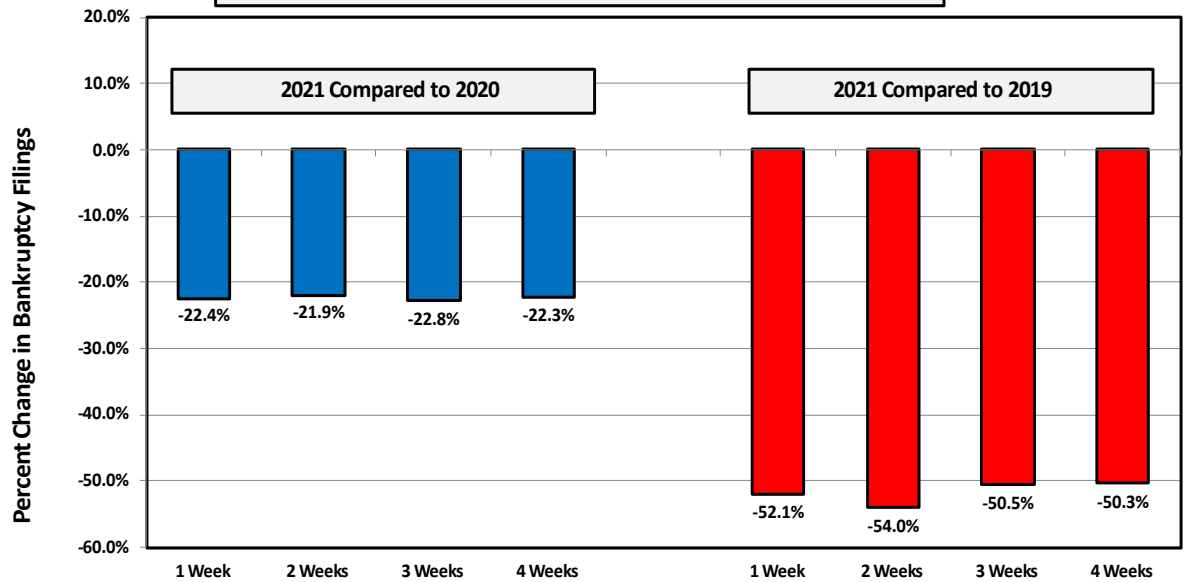
The following charts show recent weekly filing trends by chapter compared to 2020 and 2019.

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Week Ending
August 15

Bankruptcy Filing Trends (All Chapters)

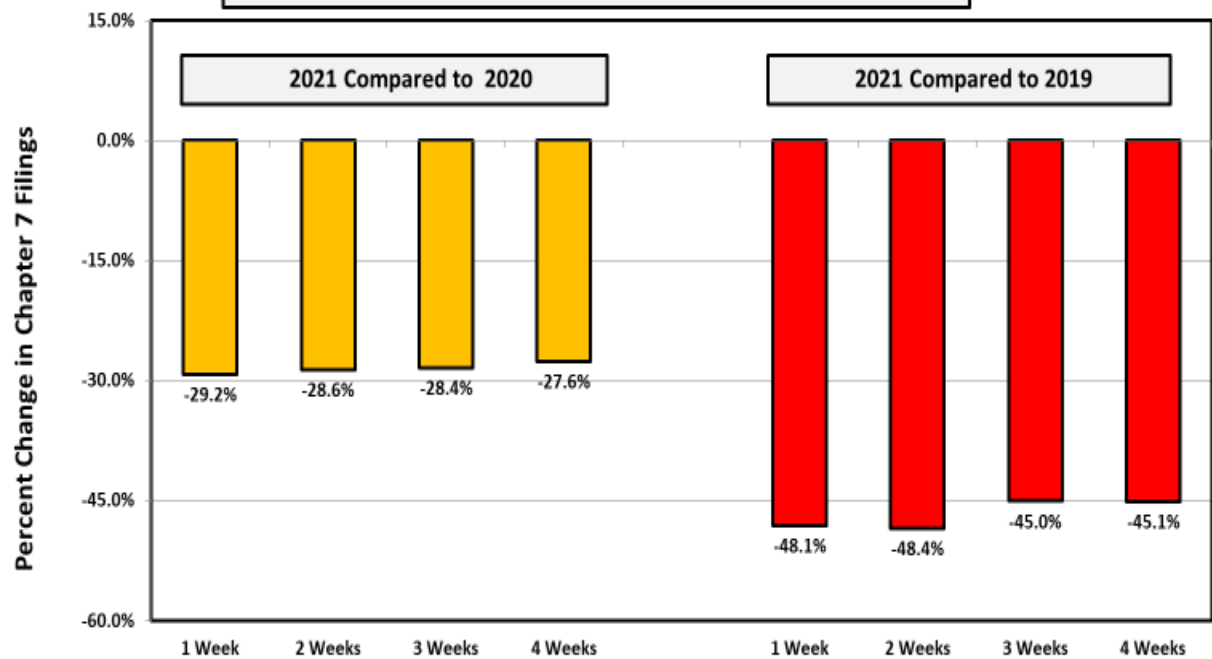
Percent Change From 2020 and 2019



Week Ending
August 15

Chapter 7 Filing Trends

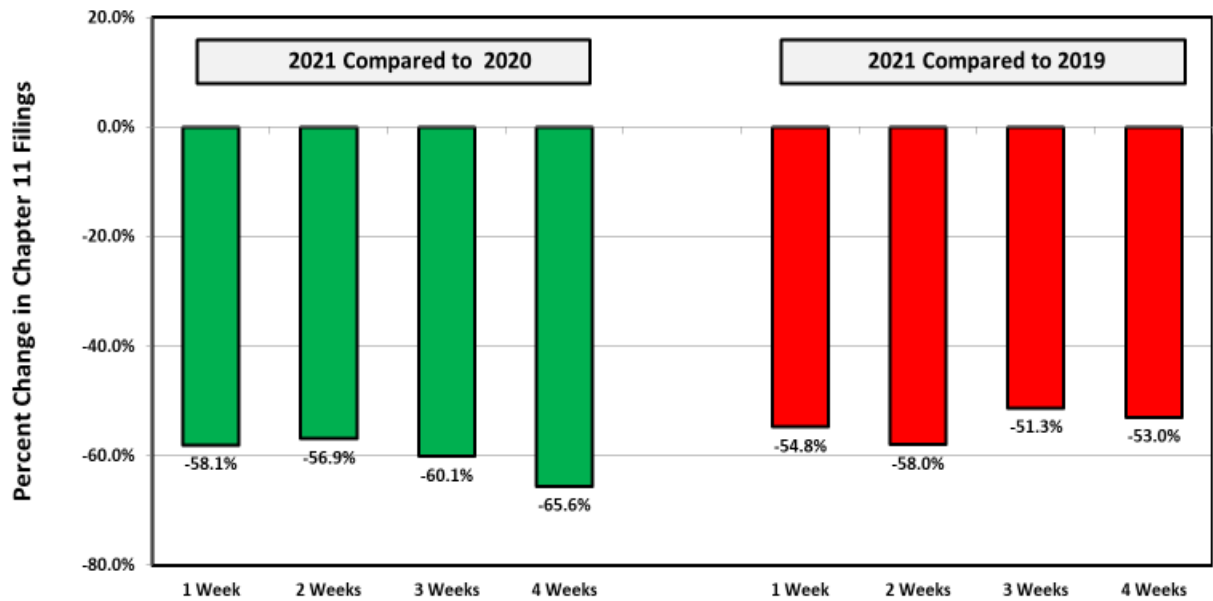
Percent Change From 2020 and 2019



Week Ending
August 15

Chapter 11 Filing Trends

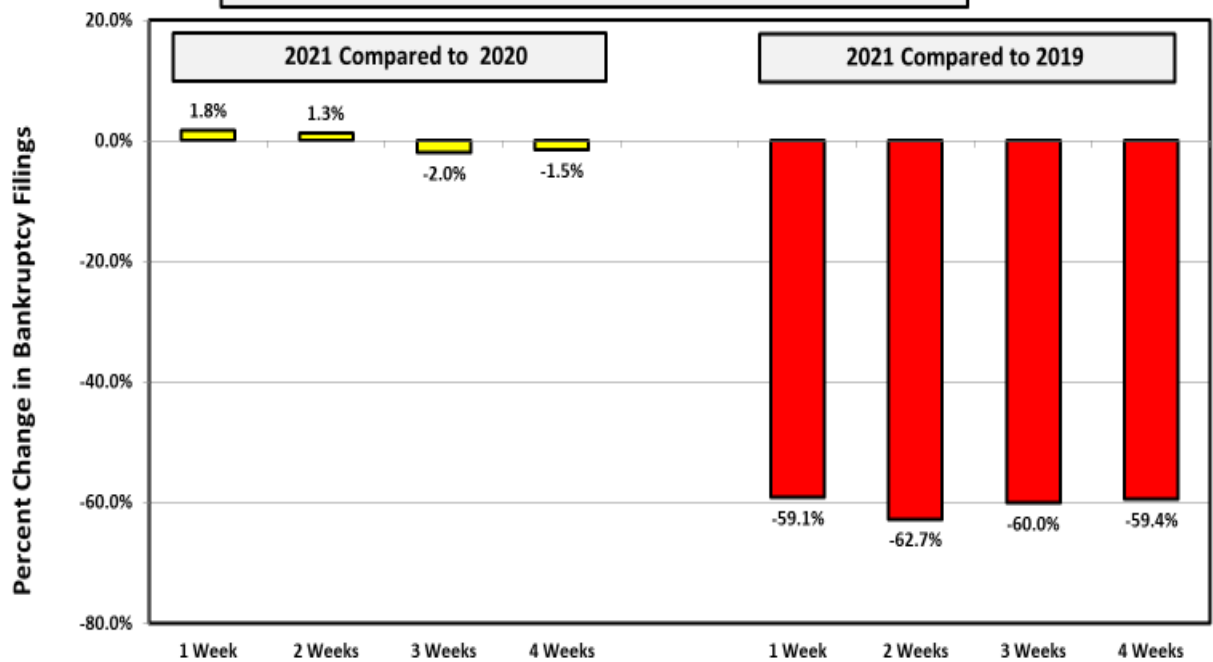
Percent Change From 2020 and 2019



Week Ending
August 15

Chapter 13 Filing Trends

Percent Change From 2020 and 2019



Chapter 11 Cases

Once again, chapter 11 filings were quite light during the week — down by well over half from the same week during each of the last two years. Even disregarding related filings by subsidiaries of the parent debtor, chapter 11 filings were down by about 41 percent from the same week last year and by nearly half from the same week in 2019.

For the second straight week, there were no particularly large or notable chapter 11 cases filed. This is in sharp contrast to the same two-week period in 2020, when chapter 11 filers included three retailers (Tailored Brands, Lord & Taylor and Stein Mart), two energy companies (Fieldwood Energy and Hermitage Offshore Services) and commercial printing company Arandell Holdings. Also filed during the same period last year were chapter 15 cases involving Virgin Atlantic Airways and Mexican retailer Grupo Famsa, S.A.B.

Types of Chapter 11 Cases Filed			
	August 9 - 15		
	2021	2020	2019
Total Filed	57	136	126
Solo Cases	45	75	87
Parent Cases	4	8	8
Child Cases	8	53	31
<i>Filed By Individuals</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>37</i>
Subchapter V Cases	25	26	NA

Chapter 11 Cases Filed by Individuals

Although most chapter 11 cases involve corporate debtors, a portion of these cases are filed by individuals. There are a number of reasons why an individual might choose chapter 11, including having debts above the chapter 13 ceiling (currently \$419,275 for unsecured debt and \$1,257,850 for secured debt), not having the regular income required to fund a chapter 13 plan, or avoiding the more rigorous chapter 13 means test.

Whatever the reasons behind individual chapter 11 filings, the statistical data shows that they are down sharply in recent months. For example, over the last 10 weeks there have been 127 individual chapter 11 cases filed, down by more than half from the 258 such cases filed during the same period last year and the 283 individual chapter 11 cases filed two years ago.

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