

## Weekly Bankruptcy Analysis February 15-21, 2021

*Written by:*

*Ed Flynn<sup>1</sup>*

*American Bankruptcy Institute; Alexandria, Va.*

Total filings were down by nearly 50 percent during the third week of February compared to the same week last year.<sup>2</sup> Once again, the largest decline involved chapter 13 filings, which were down by slightly over 63 percent from last year.

Bankruptcy Filings February 15 - 21, 2021		
Type of Case	Number Filed	Percent Change From Same Week Last Year
Total	6,373	-49.5%
- Chapter 7	4,565	-41.7%
- Chapter 11	90	-43.0%
- Chapter 13	1,706	-63.1%
- Other Cases*	12	-14.3%
* Chapters 9, 12 and 15		

The winter storm that hit the Southern and Eastern states last week probably was a factor behind the relatively low filings during the week. Only 139 bankruptcy cases were filed in the State of Texas last week, down by 72 percent from the previous year. Filings in Oklahoma were also down about 72 percent during the week.

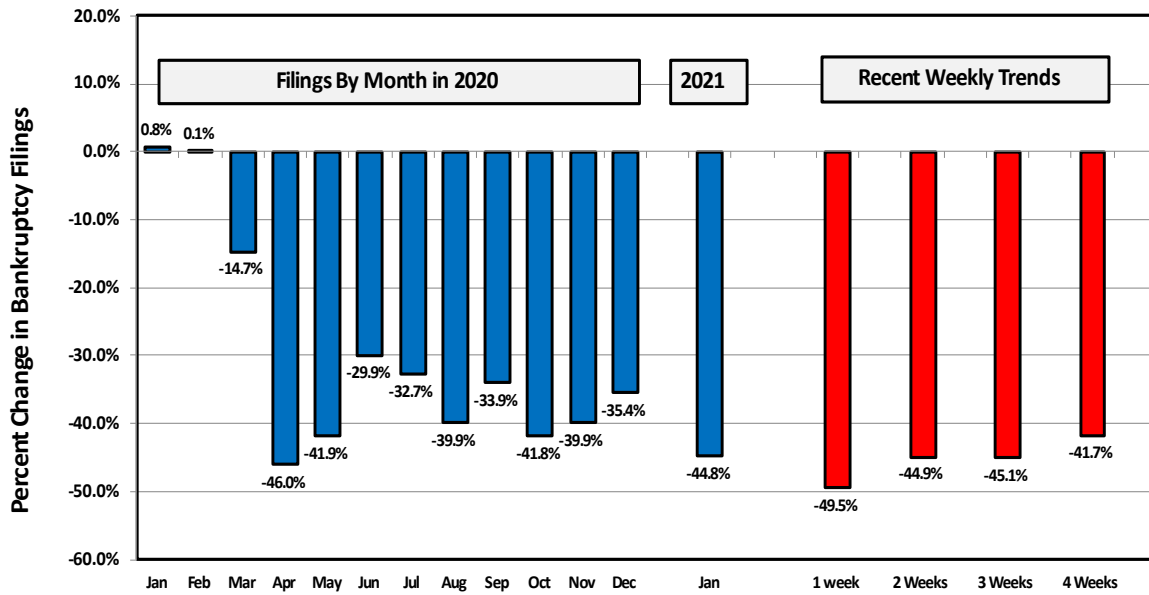
The following charts show filing trends by chapter since the beginning of 2020.

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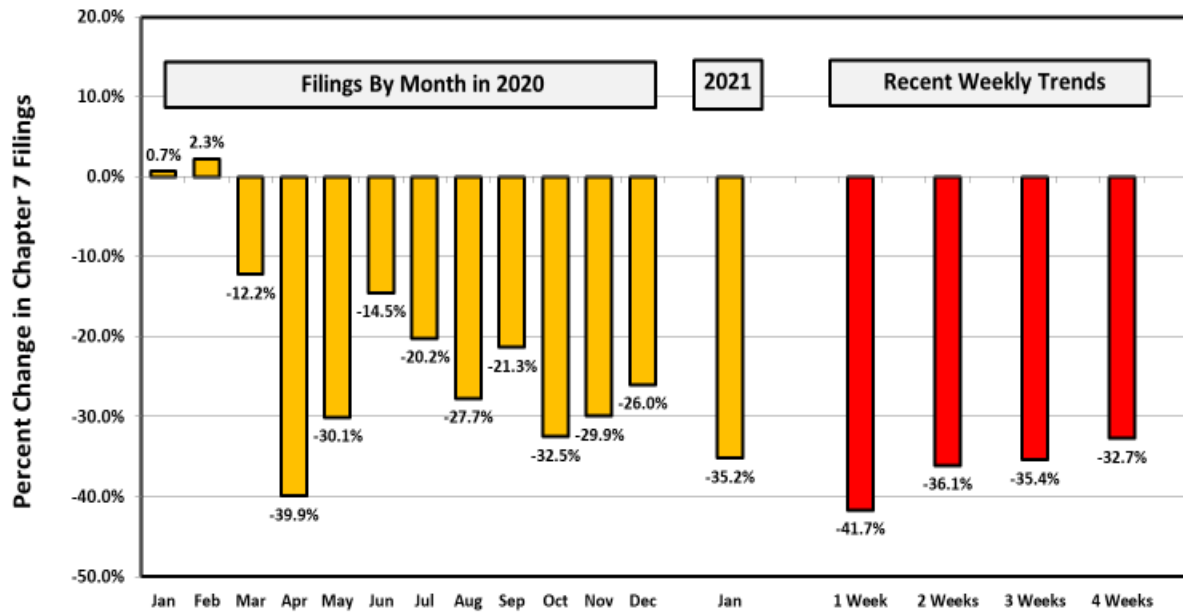
<sup>1</sup> Ed Flynn is a consultant with ABI and serves as a coordinating editor for the *ABI Journal*. He previously worked for more than 30 years at the Executive Office for U.S. Trustees and the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts.

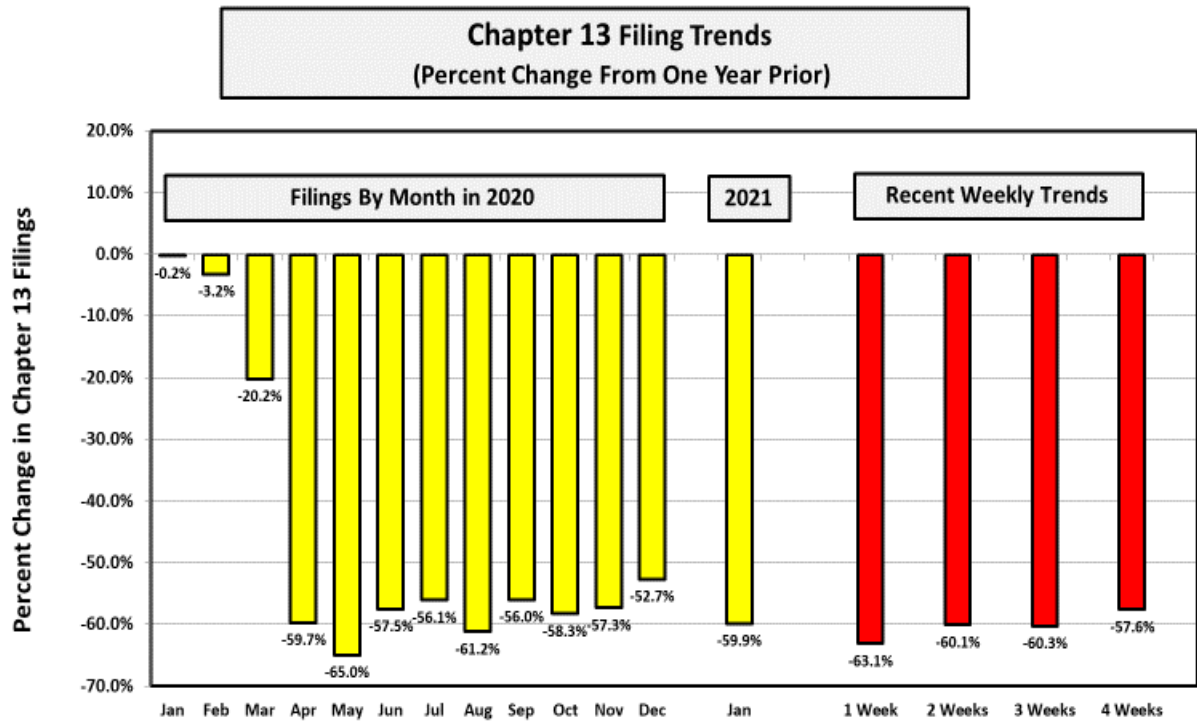
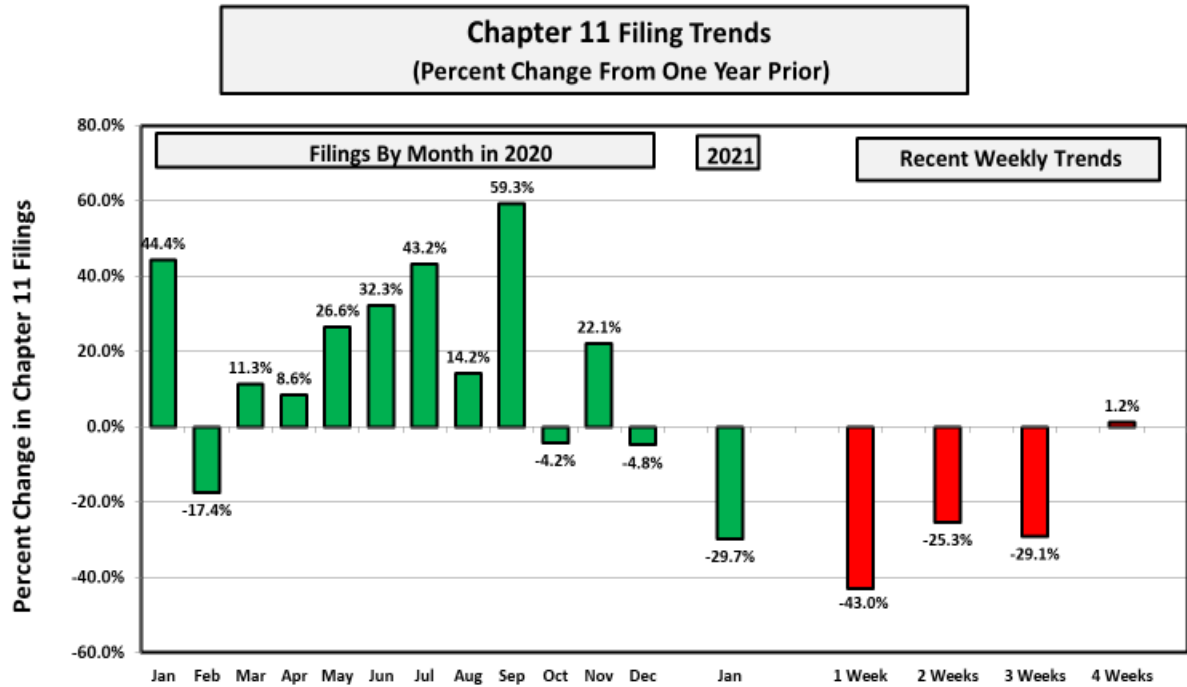
<sup>2</sup> These figures are from PACER and are subject to change. See <https://www.pacer.gov/>.

### Bankruptcy Filing Trends (All Chapters) Percent Change From One Year Prior



### Chapter 7 Filing Trends (Percent Change From One Year Prior)





## Chapter 11 Cases

Chapter 11 case filings were fairly low during the week, down by more than 40 percent from the same week last year.

The single notable filing during the week was by Country Fresh Holding Company Inc., which filed in the Southern District of Texas along with 17 affiliates on February 15. Country Fresh is a supplier of fresh-cut fruits and vegetables and ready-to-go meals.

<b>Types of Chapter 11 Cases Filed</b>		
	<b>February 15 - 21</b>	
	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
<b>Total Filed</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>158</b>
<b>Solo Cases</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>92</b>
<b>Parent cases</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Child cases</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>58</b>
<b><i>Filed By Individuals</i></b>	<b>15</b>	<b>38</b>
<b>Subchapter V Cases</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>NA</b>

The 39 subchapter V cases filed during the week represented the highest weekly total in nearly three months. In the first year that subchapter V was available (year ending February 18, 2021), 1,537 such cases were filed.

### **Disappearing Chapter 13 Cases**

The pandemic has brought about a large drop in bankruptcy filings (except for chapter 11 cases). While chapter 7 filings have fallen by 27.5 percent since last April, chapter 13 filings are down by 58.4 percent. In six Northeastern states and the District of Columbia, chapter 13 filings have been down by more than 70 percent over the last 10 months. In the Eastern District of New York, chapter 13 filings have dropped by 93.7 percent.

The peak year for chapter 13 filings was 2003, when filings averaged about 9,000 per week. Even as recently as 2019, chapter 13 filings averaged about 5,500 per week. During the pandemic, chapter 13 filings have fluctuated between 2,000 and 2,500 most weeks.

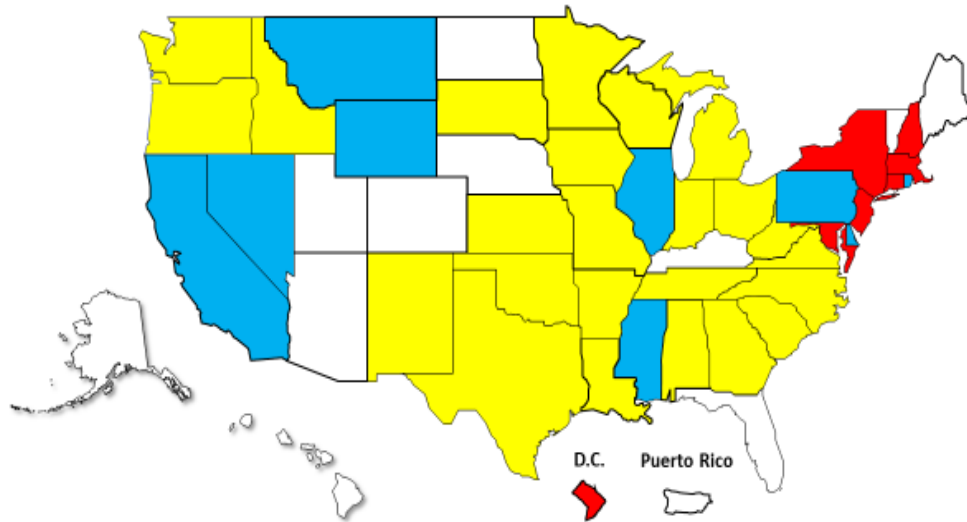
Chapter 13 filings are likely to remain quite low for at least four more months, as the Biden Administration has recently extended the federal moratorium on foreclosures until June 30.

The following map and table show the trends at the state and district levels.

**Percent Change in Chapter 13 Filings**  
April 2020 – January 2021 vs. One Year Prior

(National Average = 58.4% Decrease)

Amount of Decrease



## Chapter 13 Cases Filed Trends During the Pandemic

		10 Months Ending January 31		Percent			10 Months Ending January 31		Percent
Circuit	District	2021	2020	Change	Circuit	District	2021	2020	Change
<b>National Total</b>		<b>99,121</b>	<b>238,023</b>	<b>-58.4%</b>	<b>National Total</b>		<b>99,121</b>	<b>238,023</b>	<b>-58.4%</b>
DC	District of Columbia	32	232	-86.2%	7	Northern District of Illinois	4,320	12,808	-66.3%
1	District of Maine	109	198	-44.9%	7	Central District of Illinois	380	914	-58.4%
1	District of Massachusetts	500	2,182	-77.1%	7	Southern District of Illinois	431	913	-52.8%
1	District of New Hampshire	115	433	-73.4%	7	Northern District of Indiana	1,115	2,576	-56.7%
1	District of Rhode Island	124	377	-67.1%	7	Southern District of Indiana	2,281	4,503	-49.3%
1	District of Puerto Rico	2,077	4,004	-48.1%	7	Eastern District of Wisconsin	1,689	3,545	-52.4%
2	District of Connecticut	267	982	-72.8%	7	Western District of Wisconsin	375	715	-47.6%
2	Northern District of New York	534	1,116	-52.2%	8	District of Arkansas	2,238	4,694	-52.3%
2	Eastern District of New York	339	5,383	-93.7%	8	Northern District of Iowa	71	160	-55.6%
2	Southern District of New York	338	1,566	-78.4%	8	Southern District of Iowa	151	366	-58.7%
2	Western District of New York	322	1,018	-68.4%	8	District of Minnesota	776	1,877	-58.7%
2	District of Vermont	42	84	-50.0%	8	Eastern District of Missouri	1,414	2,924	-51.6%
3	District of Delaware	247	673	-63.3%	8	Western District of Missouri	1,168	2,280	-48.8%
3	District of New Jersey	2,159	7,227	-70.1%	8	District of Nebraska	554	971	-42.9%
3	Eastern District of Pennsylvania	1,124	3,407	-67.0%	8	District of North Dakota	41	72	-43.1%
3	Middle District of Pennsylvania	765	1,798	-57.5%	8	District of South Dakota	43	99	-56.6%
3	Western District of Pennsylvania	1,044	2,129	-51.0%	9	District of Alaska	35	69	-49.3%
4	District of Maryland	1,458	5,288	-72.4%	9	District of Arizona	1,294	2,597	-50.2%
4	Eastern District of North Carolina	1,582	3,294	-52.0%	9	Northern District of California	1,073	2,656	-59.6%
4	Middle District of North Carolina	908	1,879	-51.7%	9	Eastern District of California	1,129	2,855	-60.5%
4	Western District of North Carolina	612	1,508	-59.4%	9	Central District of California	2,053	6,627	-69.0%
4	District of South Carolina	1,596	3,329	-52.1%	9	Southern District of California	416	1,149	-63.8%
4	Eastern District of Virginia	2,651	6,227	-57.4%	9	District of Hawaii	271	444	-39.0%
4	Western District of Virginia	842	1,885	-55.3%	9	District of Idaho	151	302	-50.0%
4	Northern District of West Virginia	60	142	-57.7%	9	District of Montana	78	197	-60.4%
4	Southern District of West Virginia	77	151	-49.0%	9	District of Nevada	533	1,567	-66.0%
5	Eastern District of Louisiana	717	1,726	-58.5%	9	District of Oregon	820	1,895	-56.7%
5	Middle District of Louisiana	139	555	-75.0%	9	Eastern District of Washington	303	621	-51.2%
5	Western District of Louisiana	2,149	4,997	-57.0%	9	Western District of Washington	847	2,197	-61.4%
5	Northern District of Mississippi	1,083	2,596	-58.3%	10	District of Colorado	1,120	2,148	-47.9%
5	Southern District of Mississippi	1,120	2,922	-61.7%	10	District of Kansas	1,234	2,560	-51.8%
5	Northern District of Texas	2,043	4,575	-55.3%	10	District of New Mexico	171	348	-50.9%
5	Eastern District of Texas	1,130	2,392	-52.8%	10	Northern District of Oklahoma	96	240	-60.0%
5	Southern District of Texas	1,546	4,070	-62.0%	10	Eastern District of Oklahoma	48	128	-62.5%
5	Western District of Texas	947	2,781	-65.9%	10	Western District of Oklahoma	460	1,014	-54.6%
6	Eastern District of Kentucky	1,036	2,015	-48.6%	10	District of Utah	1,829	3,250	-43.7%
6	Western District of Kentucky	1,433	2,582	-44.5%	10	District of Wyoming	25	78	-67.9%
6	Eastern District of Michigan	2,100	5,096	-58.8%	11	Northern District of Alabama	2,890	6,065	-52.3%
6	Western District of Michigan	421	1,029	-59.1%	11	Middle District of Alabama	2,842	5,435	-47.7%
6	Northern District of Ohio	1,365	3,179	-57.1%	11	Southern District of Alabama	1,469	3,144	-53.3%
6	Southern District of Ohio	1,951	4,310	-54.7%	11	Northern District of Florida	160	472	-66.1%
6	Eastern District of Tennessee	1,979	4,403	-55.1%	11	Middle District of Florida	2,540	5,758	-55.9%
6	Middle District of Tennessee	1,526	3,620	-57.8%	11	Southern District of Florida	3,551	6,230	-43.0%
6	Western District of Tennessee	3,270	8,213	-60.2%	11	Northern District of Georgia	4,749	12,044	-60.6%
					11	Middle District of Georgia	2,106	4,645	-54.7%
					11	Southern District of Georgia	1,902	4,298	-55.7%

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