

# Weekly Bankruptcy Analysis

## July 27–August 2, 2020

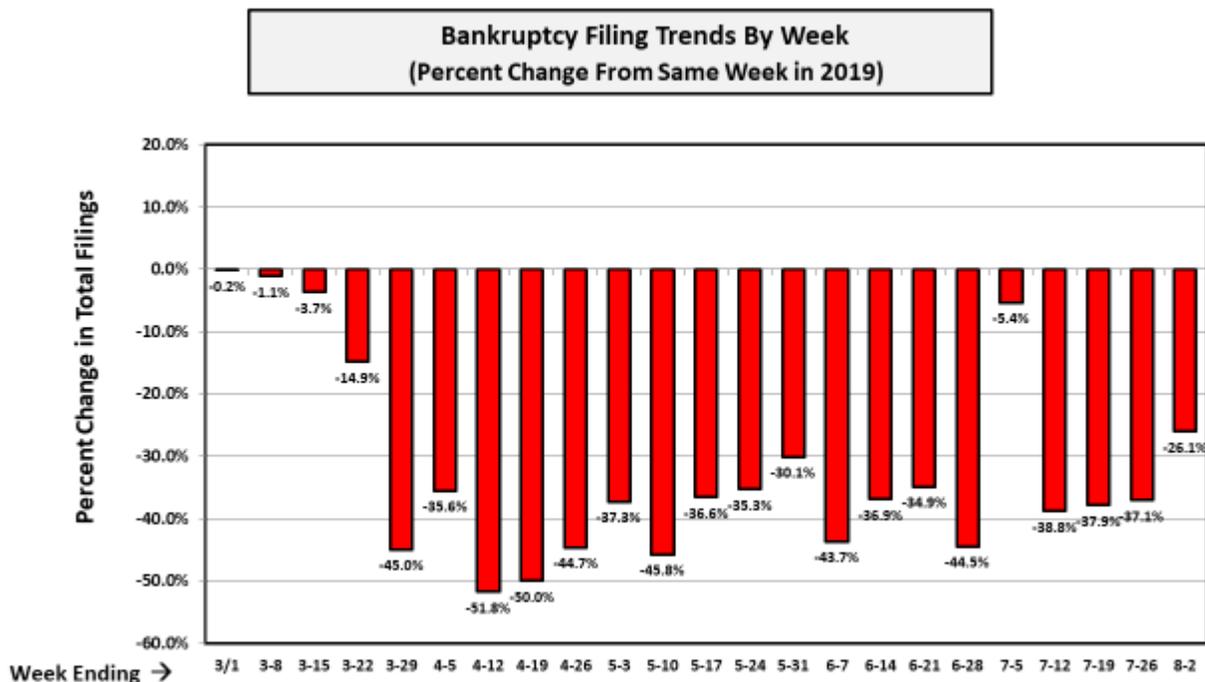
Written by:  
Ed Flynn<sup>1</sup>

American Bankruptcy Institute; Alexandria, Va.

Total filings were down by 26.1 percent during the week ending August 2 compared to the same week in 2019.<sup>2</sup> The 12,819 cases filed during the week represented the highest weekly total since mid-March. Filings always spike on the last business day of the month — mainly due to the chapter 7 means test. Nearly one-third of filings during the week were made on Friday, July 31.

Bankruptcy Filings July 27 - August 2, 2020		
Type of Case	Number Filed	Percent Change From Same Week in 2019
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,819</b>	<b>-26.1%</b>
- Chapter 7	9,687	-12.6%
- Chapter 11	207	105.0%
- Chapter 13	2,910	-52.7%
- Other Cases*	15	-16.7%
* Chapters 9, 12 and 15		

The following chart shows the weekly trends since March.

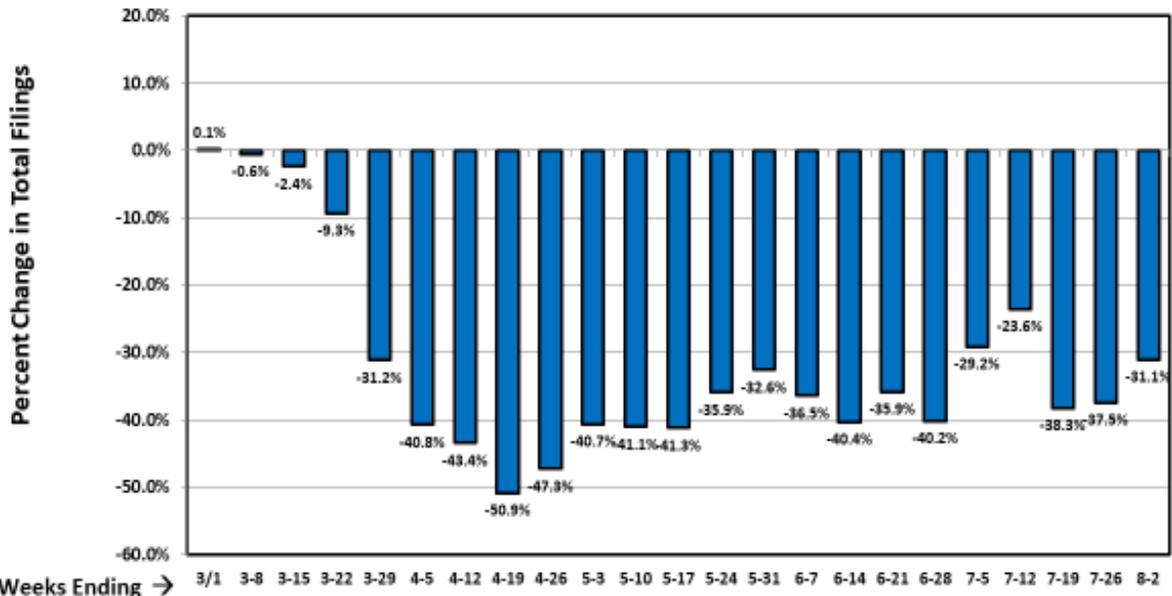


<sup>1</sup> Ed Flynn is a consultant with ABI and serves as a coordinating editor for the *ABI Journal*. He previously worked for more than 30 years at the Executive Office for U.S. Trustees and the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts.

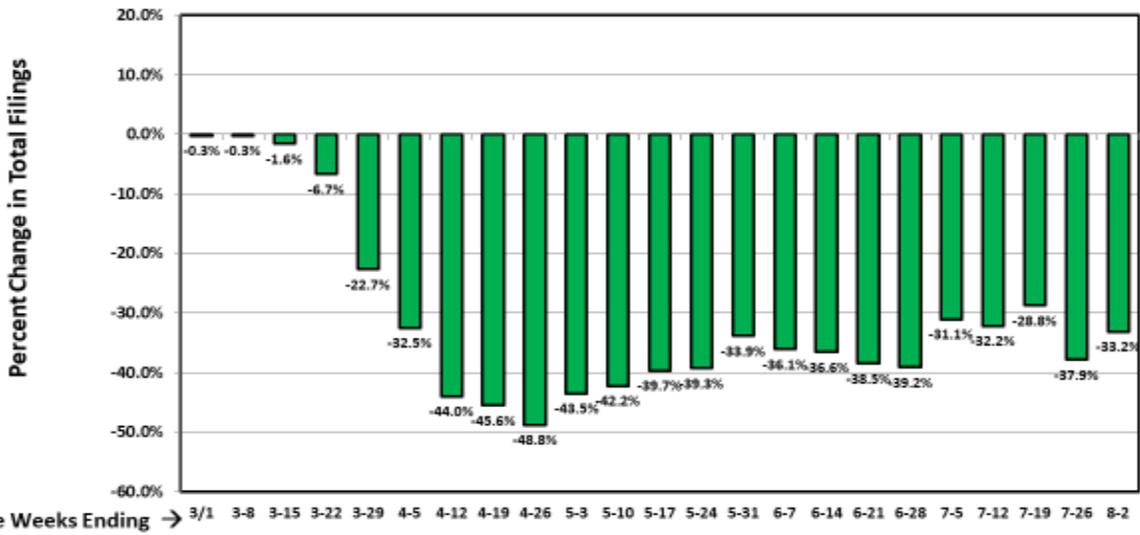
<sup>2</sup> These figures are from PACER and are subject to change. See <https://www.pacer.gov/>.

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 to 2019 filing levels after bottoming out in April.

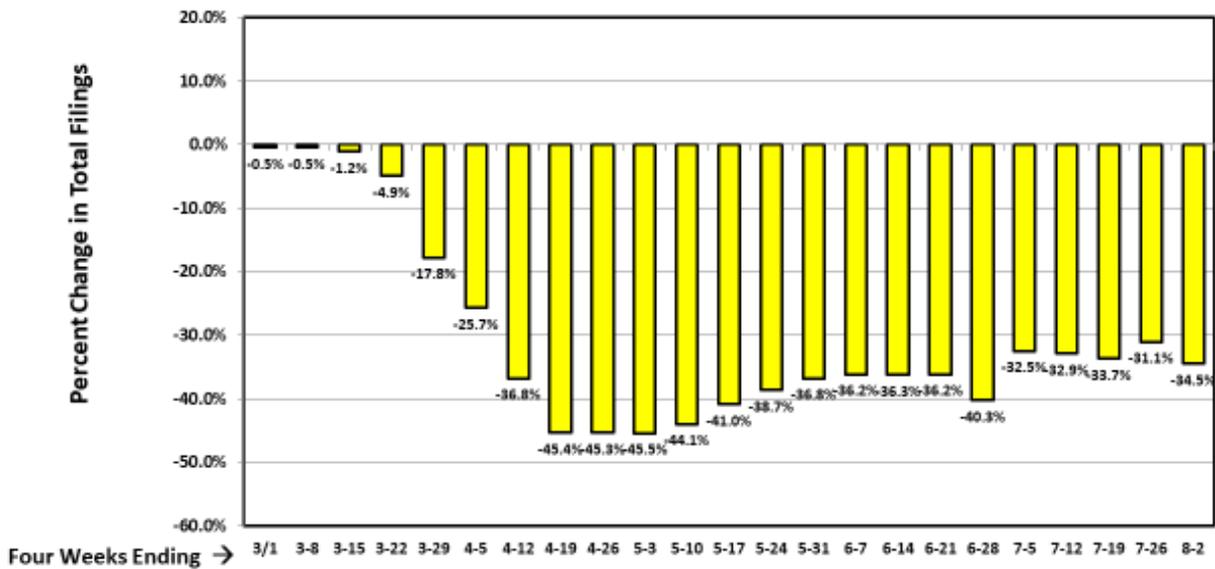
**Bankruptcy Filing Trends**  
(Percent Change From Same Two Week Period in 2019)



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



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



**Chapter 11 Cases**

Chapter 11 totals were quite high during the week — more than double the number filed during the same week last year. Over one-half (107 out of 207) of the chapter 11 filings during the week were made in the Southern District of Texas. Additionally, nearly two-thirds of the filings last week were related filings associated with larger cases. (Cases were considered related if they were filed on the same day, district and office with consecutive docket numbers.)

Types of Chapter 11 Cases Filed		
	July 27 - August 2	
	2020	2019
<b>Total Filed</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>101</b>
<b>Solo Cases</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>73</b>
<b>Parent cases</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Child cases</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>21</b>
<b><i>Filed By Individuals</i></b>	<b>11</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Subchapter V Cases</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>NA</b>

**Notable Case Filings**

There were a number of prominent filings during the week, five of which were in the Southern District of Texas.

## Notable Case Filings July 27 - August 2, 2020

Company Name	Industry	Date Filed	Court of Filing	Number of Related Cases
Remington Arms Company, LLC	Gunmaker	7/27/2020	Alabama Northern	12
California Pizza Kitchen, Inc.	Restaurant chain	7/29/2020	Texas Southern	7
Tonopah Solar Energy, LLC	Solar energy	7/30/2020	Delaware	0
Denbury Resources, Inc.	Oil & gas	7/30/2020	Texas Southern	17
Mood Media Corporation & DMX, LLC	Muzak	7/30/2020	Texas Southern	17
Noble Corporation plc	Offshore drilling	7/31/2020	Texas Southern	39
Tailored Brands, Inc.	Men's apparel	8/2/2020	Texas Southern	17
Lord and Taylor, LLC	Department stores	8/2/2020	Virginia Eastern	4

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

### Statistical Highlights for the Second Quarter of 2020

The Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts has released the official bankruptcy statistics for the second quarter of 2020 (see <https://www.uscourts.gov/news/2020/07/29/bankruptcy-filings-fall-118-percent-year-ending-june-30>). Highlights include:

- Total filings for the quarter were down by 39.7 percent from the same period in 2019;
- The 124,395 cases filed during the quarter represented the lowest quarterly total since the first quarter of 2006 (the first full quarter after the effective date of the Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act of 2005);
- Excluding that unusual quarter, the last time bankruptcy filings have been this low was in the first quarter of 1986;
- Chapter 7 filings nationwide were down by 29.1 percent from last year. The largest chapter 7 declines occurred in New York (-47.6 percent), Massachusetts (-44.0 percent), Vermont (-41.3 percent), New Jersey (-40.7 percent), Kansas (-39.2 percent), Michigan (-39.1 percent) and Wisconsin (-38.7 percent);
- Chapter 13 filings were down by 60.8 percent for the quarter. The largest declines occurred in Washington, D.C. (-89.6 percent), New York (-86.0 percent), Massachusetts (-78.0 percent), Maryland (-77.9 percent), Rhode Island (-75.2 percent), Connecticut (-73.1 percent) and New Jersey (-71.7 percent);
- Chapter 11 filings were up by 22.4 percent from the same quarter last year. The 2,145 cases filed nationwide represented the highest quarterly total since the second quarter of 2017;
- Chapter 12 filings were down by 29.9 percent for the quarter (from 164 in 2019 to 115 in 2020). This is despite the fact that the chapter 12 debt limit was more than doubled (to \$10 million) in August 2019 as a result of the Family Farmer Relief Act of 2019.