



**United States District Court  
Northern District of Ohio**

**Annual Assessment of the  
Civil and Criminal Dockets**  
for the  
**Northern District of Ohio**

**Calendar Year  
2002**

**Annual Assessment of the Civil and Criminal Dockets  
for the  
United States District Court  
Northern District of Ohio  
April 30, 2003**

The Northern District of Ohio adopted a delay and cost reduction plan effective January 1, 1992 pursuant to its role as a demonstration district under the Civil Justice Reform Act (CJRA) of 1990. That Act required that each district court annually assess the condition of its civil and criminal dockets with a view to determining appropriate additional actions that may be taken by the Court to reduce cost and delay in civil litigation and to improve the litigation management practices of the Court. (See 28 U.S.C. §475). Although the CJRA has now sunset, the Court continues to monitor the status of its civil and criminal dockets through this annual assessment.

The Northern District of Ohio manages its docket using the Differentiated Case Management (DCM) Plan, wide menu of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) options and Pending Inventory Reduction Plan (PIRP) that were adopted to reduce unnecessary cost and delay in civil litigation. These case management tools have assisted the Court maintain current dockets and reduce the pending inventory of older cases and motions while proving to be popular among the bench and the bar.

The DCM, ADR and PIRP programs have greatly assisted the Court in effectively managing its docket since 1992. These programs were especially important because the Court suffered under a shortage of judicial officers for over a decade. The district is authorized 12 judgeships (including one temporary position) and seven magistrate judgeships. However, until the appointment of Judge John R. Adams in February 2003, the Court had been at full strength only twice (in 1996 and in 1998) since October 1989, and then never for more than six months in a row. The DCM, ADR and PIRP programs were of particular importance in their first years, including one 18-month period (August 1992 thru February 1994) when five of the 12 district judgeships were vacant.

The Court was pleased that Congress extended its temporary judgeship for an additional five years during 2002. If Congress had not acted, the district's temporary judgeship would have lapsed with the creation of the next vacancy and its number of authorized judgeships would have been reduced to 11.

**Executive Summary**

**Civil Docket (non-asbestos)**

The pending civil docket decreased 5.7% from 3,015 pending cases at the end of 2001 to 2,844 at the end of 2002. The 2,844 pending cases represent the lowest figure of the past decade and are 20.3% below the 3,568 cases pending at the close of 1991.

The success of the Court's case management techniques, and the benefits of being at or near full judicial strength, is demonstrated by the small pending docket in comparison

to the record level of civil filings during the past several years. Although civil case filings have declined the past two years, the number of civil filings in all years beginning in 1995 has been higher than any year before that time. Civil filings declined 8.4% from 3,880 in 2001 to 3,555 in 2002, but they were still 5% higher than the 3,386 cases filed in 1991.

The decline in civil cases filings was primarily caused by a decline in General Civil filings (down 26% from 749 in 2001 to 552 in 2002), Civil Rights cases (down 12% from 900 in 2001 to 789 in 2002) and social security Administrative Reviews (down 10% from 370 in 2001 to 333 in 2002 following a 27% decline from 510 in 2000).

### Criminal Docket

In contrast to the civil docket, the number of pending criminal cases remained at a near record level and pending criminal defendants are at an all time high. The number of pending criminal cases decreased 0.5% from the record high of 405 in 2001 to 403 at the close of 2002. The number of pending criminal defendants rose 11.8% from 645 to 721.

The increase in the number of pending criminal cases and defendants is directly attributable to record number of criminal defendant filings. Although the Court closed more criminal cases and criminal defendants in 2002 than ever before, the pending criminal docket still rose due to the increase in criminal defendant filings. Criminal case filings reached the third highest level ever, even with a decrease of 8.9% from 615 in 2001 to 560 in 2002. Criminal defendant filings increased 12.4% from 954 in 2001 to 1,072, representing the highest number of criminal defendant filings ever. Criminal case closings increased 1.2% from 568 in 2001 to 575 in 2002 while criminal defendant closings rose 5.4% from 937 in 2001 to 988 in 2002, the highest totals ever recorded.

### Asbestos Docket

All asbestos cases in the federal courts are regularly transferred to the Eastern District of Pennsylvania for pretrial supervision under Multi-District Litigation. However, asbestos cases continue to be filed and docketed here. Asbestos case filings, which have provided a substantial portion of the funding for Clerk's Office staffing and Court operations over the past decade, tumbled 89% from 10,841 in 2001, when 9,672 land-based asbestos cases were unexpectedly removed from state courts, to 1,211 in 2002. Plaintiff's counsel in the maritime asbestos litigation have informed the Court that they are unlikely to file significant numbers of cases in the future.

### Civil Justice Reform Act (DCM, ADR, and the PIRP)

Much of the improvement in the status of the Court's dockets over the past decade can be attributed to the Differentiated Case Management Plan, the wide menu of Alternative Dispute Resolution options, the Pending Inventory Reduction Plan, and the increased utilization of magistrate judges that were the focus of the district's Civil Justice Reform Act efforts.

Since January 1, 1992, 23,147 cases have received track assignments including: 2,244 (9.7%) expedited track assignments, 11,749 (50.8%) standard track assignments, 860 (3.7%) complex track assignments, 67 (0.3%) mass tort track assignments and 8,227 (35.5%) administrative track assignments. In general, cases assigned to the expedited track are expected to be completed in 9 months, cases assigned to the standard track are expected to be completed in 15 months and cases assigned to the complex track are expected to be completed in 24 months. Administrative track cases, primarily social security reviews, are expected to be completed within 15 months, while mass tort cases are expected to be resolved within time periods specified within the individual case management plans developed for the specific body of litigation.

Some 3,768 cases have now been referred to the district's court-annexed ADR program including: 940 cases to Early Neutral Evaluation; 2,698 cases to Mediation; 62 cases to Arbitration; 64 cases to Summary Jury Trial; three cases to Summary Bench Trial; and one case to a mini-trial process. Of the 3,694 cases that had completed ADR by the end of 2002, 1,748 or 47% were resolved prior to or through the ADR proceeding.

The number of civil cases three years and older has been reduced by 78% since the district initiated its CJRA efforts, decreasing from 399 cases at the close of 1991 to 87 cases at 2002 year end, although it rose 12% from the 65 cases at the close of 2001.

The number of motions pending six months or longer increased 78.5% from 130 in September 2001 to 232 in September 2002. Since September 1992, the number of motions pending six months or longer decreased 80.1% from 1,169.

The role of the magistrate judges in the management of civil cases continues to be significant. At year-end, magistrate judges presided over 411 (14%) of the pending civil cases. Magistrate judges were the presiding judicial officers for 545 (15%) of the civil cases that were resolved in 2002, up 100% from the 272 civil cases magistrate judges closed in 1991.

### Electronic Filing

The Northern District of Ohio has served as an electronic filing prototype Court since January 1, 1996, when it began requiring parties in new maritime asbestos cases to file documents electronically over the Internet rather than on paper. The Court has also permitted electronic filing in other civil cases since October 1997. Beginning July 1, 2000, all newly filed civil cases have been placed directly into the Court's new Case Management / Electronic Filing System (CM/ECF) which provides electronic access to court documents over the Internet. By the time of this report, 3,403 attorneys, representing over 1,200 firms and solo practitioners, had electronically filed 77,129 documents in this district in traditional civil cases. Another 182,960 documents had been electronically filed in the maritime asbestos litigation.

## Electronic Courtrooms

The Court has now installed an advanced electronic courtroom in each of its four Court Houses. Through the use of a Digital Evidence Presentation System (DEPS), counsel can display exhibits, realtime transcripts, video recordings or multimedia presentations with the push of a button. Portable evidence presentation equipment and video conferencing capability are available at each court house to streamline trials, permit remote witness testimony. The new Cleveland Court House has 4 electronic courtrooms while the other court houses have one each.

## **Judicial Resources**

### District Judges

The Northern District of Ohio is authorized 12 judgeships, 11 permanent and one temporary. Since October 1989, however, the Court has never been at full strength for more than six months at a time. The Court regained full strength for the first time since February 26, 1999 when Judge John R. Adams joined the bench in February 2003.

For the year ending September 30th, the number of vacant judgeship months within the district remained the same 12.0 in 2001 to 12.0 in 2002. The number of vacant judgeship months for the nation's 665 authorized district judgeships increased 7.5% during the same period.

The district's temporary judgeship was extended for an additional five years by Congress in 2002.

### Magistrate Judges

The Northern District of Ohio is authorized seven magistrate judges with four assigned to Cleveland and one each to Akron, Youngstown and Toledo. The Court has also benefitted from having an additional magistrate judge in Cleveland serving in a retired-recalled status.

## **Civil Docket**

### Civil Case Filings

Civil case filings in the Northern District of Ohio fell 8.4% from 3,880 in 2001 to 3,555 in 2002. Since 1991 civil case filings have increased 5%.

The district's national case filing statistics have been predominated by the large number of asbestos cases filed here. According to the Federal Court Management Statistics Judicial Workload Profile for the year ending September 30, 2002, the district's civil case filings (including asbestos cases) per authorized judgeship increased 136% from 497 in 2001 to 1,173 in 2002 while the national average for all district courts rose 14.1%

from 454 to 518. From 1991 to 2002, case filings per authorized judgeships were up 191.1% in the Northern District of Ohio compared to 37.4% nationally. The district's civil case filings per authorized judgeship ranked first in the nation and the Sixth Circuit during 2002.

The Administrative Office uses a system of weighting cases by case type in order to measure the relative difficulty of various district court case loads. Although the weighting factor for asbestos cases is small (about 0.19 per case), the large number of asbestos cases which have been filed here has had a significant impact on the overall weighted case filings statistic for the district.

According to the 2002 Federal Case Management Statistics Judicial Caseload Profile, the district's 596 weighted civil case filings per authorized judgeship were 14.4% higher than the national average of 521. The district ranked 17th in the nation and first in the Sixth Circuit in weighted case filings in 2002. However, if we were to exclude the asbestos cases, the district's weighted case filings per judgeship would only be 421.

The Judicial Conference uses 430 weighted case filings per judgeship as a threshold to determine whether a district has the need for additional judgeships. Excluding both asbestos filings as well as the district's current temporary judgeship position, the district's weighted case filings per judgeship is estimated to be about 459 which leads to the conclusion that the continuation of the temporary judgeship remains justified.

### Filings by Category

The types of civil actions filed in the Northern District of Ohio continue to fluctuate. For instance, death penalty case filings more than doubled from 7 in 2001 to 16 in 2002. Personal injury case filings increased 11% from 447 in 2001 to 494 in 2002. Antitrust case filings rose 25% from 12 in 2001 to 15 in 2002. Conversely, administrative reviews (overwhelmingly social security cases) declined 10% from 370 in 2001 to 333 in 2002 and general civil filings (such as government collection cases) fell 26% from 749 in 2001 to 552 in 2002. Both categories declined for the second year in a row. Civil rights cases fell for the fourth year in a row, down 12% from 900 in 2001 to 789 in 2002. Habeas corpus case filings remained steady at 287 in 2002 after a three year decline; habeas corpus case filings were down 29% from the high of 402 in 1998.

### Civil Case Closings

Civil case closings decreased 2.7% from 3,826 in 2001 to 3,723 in 2002. The 2001 closings were 1.9% above the 3,655 cases closed in 1991.

### Pending Civil Case Load

The number of civil actions pending at the end of the year decreased 5.7% from 3,015 in 2001 to 2,844 in 2002, the lowest level in over a decade. Since 1991, the number

of pending civil cases is down 20.3% from 3,568.

## **Criminal Docket**

### **Criminal Case Filings**

While the case management techniques adopted by the Court under the CJRA are being applied to the civil caseload, the effects of the criminal docket on overall case management cannot be overlooked due to the priority criminal cases receive due to The Speedy Trial Act of 1974.

The number of new criminal case filings dropped 8.9% from a record high of 615 in 2001 to 560 in 2002. Criminal case filings have increased 30.2% since 1991.

The number of defendants in criminal cases filed in 2002 increased 12.4% from 954 in 2001 to 1,072 in 2002, the highest total ever. The number of defendants in a criminal case is often indicative of the degree of difficulty of the case. Criminal defendant filings have increased 56.7% since 1991.

The number of criminal filings per judgeship remains relatively low in the Northern District of Ohio. Criminal felony case filings per authorized judgeship decreased 4% during the year ending September 30th from 50 in 2001 to 48 in 2002, while the national average for all district courts rose 9.1% from 77 to 84. Since 1991, the district's criminal case filings per judgeship have increased 29.7%, compared to a 62% increase nationwide. In 2002, the district ranked 67th out of 94 in the nation and seventh out of nine in the Sixth Circuit in criminal felony case filings per authorized judgeship.

### **Criminal Case Closings**

For the second consecutive year, both criminal case closings and criminal defendant closings reached record highs. Criminal case closings increased 1.2% from 568 in 2001 to 575 in 2002. The number of criminal defendant closings rose 5.4% from 937 in 2001 to 988 in 2002. Criminal case closings have increased 28.3% and criminal defendant closings have increased 55.6% since 1991.

### **Pending Criminal Case Load**

The pending criminal case load decreased slightly from 405 at the end of 2001 to 403 at the end of 2002. Since the end of 1991, the pending criminal case load has increased 33%. The number of defendants pending in criminal cases increased 11.8% from 645 in 2001 to 721 in 2002. Since the end of 1991, the number of defendants pending in criminal cases has increased 41.9%.

## **Civil and Criminal Trials**

During 2002, there were 61 civil trials and 50 criminal trials. According to the 2002 Federal Case Management Statistics Workload Profile, the district ranked 91st out of 94 districts in the nation and ninth out of nine districts in the Sixth Circuit in the total number of trials completed per authorized judgeship during the year ending September 30, 2002. Those figures bolster the Court's reputation as a settlement district in which alternative dispute resolution and court managed settlement conferences are used extensively.

## **Differentiated Case Management**

Under the Civil Justice Reform Act of 1990, the Northern District of Ohio was designated to "experiment with systems of differentiated case management that provide specifically for the assignment of cases to appropriate processing tracks that operate under distinct and explicit rules, procedures, and time frames for the completion of discovery and for trial." 28 U.S.C. § 482. The Local Rules set forth the DCM plan. Because the DCM plan was operational by January 1, 1992, the Court also received status as an Early Implementation District under the Act.

The underlying principle of the DCM plan is to make access to a fair and efficient court system available and affordable to all citizens by reducing costs and avoiding unnecessary delay without compromising the independence or the authority of either the judicial system or the individual judicial officer. The DCM plan attempts to meet these goals by providing early involvement of a judicial officer in each case and by establishing "event-date certainty" for case management conferences, status hearings, final pretrial conferences and trial dates as well as for discovery and motion cut-off dates. The DCM plan also promotes the active and cooperative assistance of counsel in managing all phases of the litigation. The use of alternative dispute resolution is strongly encouraged.

Under DCM, judicial officers review each case and assign it to one of five processing "tracks": expedited, standard, complex, administrative or mass tort. Each track employs case management guidelines tailored to the general requirements of similarly situated cases and case management plans are issued to meet the specific needs of individual cases.

From January 1, 1992 through December 31, 2002, there were 41,705 non-asbestos civil cases filed in the Northern District of Ohio. During that period 38,861 (93.2%) of those actions were terminated while 2,844 (6.8%) remained pending. The pending actions include hundreds of cases that have been filed recently and which have not had time to mature.

Since the inauguration of the DCM program, 23,147 cases have received track assignments including: 2,244 (9.7%) to the expedited track, 11,749 (50.8%) to the standard track, 860 (3.7%) to the complex track, 67 (0.3%) to the mass tort track and 8,227 (35.5%) to the administrative track.

## Alternative Dispute Resolution

Section 16 of the Local Rules provides a broad menu of non-binding, court-annexed ADR processes designed to provide quicker, less expensive and generally more satisfying alternatives to traditional litigation. The rules provide guidelines for the use of Early Neutral Evaluation ("ENE"), Mediation, Arbitration, Summary Jury Trial and Summary Bench Trial. These processes are court-annexed in that the Court manages and supervises the implementation of these ADR procedures. Parties are also encouraged to consider the use of extrajudicial ADR procedures to resolve disputes. During 1992 and 1993 the Northern District of Ohio served as a Pilot District for a voluntary arbitration program. The Court benefits greatly from the services provided by the 350 plus attorneys who serve on its Federal Court Panel of Neutrals, overwhelmingly on a pro bono basis.

From January 1, 1992 through December 31, 2002, judicial officers of the Northern District of Ohio have referred 3,768 cases to ADR, including: 940 cases to Early Neutral Evaluation ("ENE"), 2,698 cases to Mediation, 62 cases to voluntary Arbitration, 64 cases to Summary Jury Trial, three cases to Summary Bench Trial and one case to a mini-trial process. Every judicial officer has referred at least one case to ADR.

The number of cases referred to ADR declined 18.52% from 351 in 2001 to 286 in 2002. ADR referrals were 20.78% below the 361 cases referred to ADR in 1992 during the program's first year of operation. The decrease in ADR referrals reflects the overall reduction in the pending civil docket.

The results of 3,694 cases completing ADR are now known. The remaining 74 cases have not completed the ADR process and are awaiting the selection of a neutral or scheduling of the ADR proceeding.

Approximately 26% of the cases were resolved through ADR either by settlement or binding arbitration award. Included were 183 cases through ENE, 759 cases through Mediation, 15 cases through Arbitration, eight cases settled following Summary Jury Trials, one case settled following a Summary Bench Trial and one case settled as result of mini-trial process.

Fourteen percent of the cases were resolved after the actions were referred to ADR but before the ADR proceedings took place. Cases in this category include default judgments and dismissed actions where the parties settled without the necessity of ADR.

Seven percent of the cases referred to ADR were withdrawn from the process prior to the ADR proceedings being conducted. Cases are withdrawn from ADR for various reasons including remands of actions to a state court, automatic bankruptcy stays, parties filing non-consent to voluntary arbitration, the return of actions to chambers for ruling on dispositive motions or reconsideration of the ADR referral by the judicial officer.

Fifty-three percent of the cases completing ADR were returned to chambers for

post-ADR settlement negotiations and case processing. Cases returned to chambers should not be considered failures. Frequently, the ADR process places an action in shape for more efficient case processing and sets the stage for future settlement negotiations. This is particularly true of ENE, which is primarily designed to prepare a civil case for trial by getting the parties to evaluate their case, focus on the issues, organize discovery, work expeditiously and prepare the case for trial.

### **Pending Inventory Reduction Plan**

At the time the Court adopted its Differentiated Case Management plan, it also adopted a Pending Inventory Reduction Plan to assure the public and the bar that all cases, both new and old, would always receive a fair amount of the Court's attention. The Pending Inventory Reduction Plan focuses primarily on the needs of older cases but also addresses the fair and expeditious processing of all cases. The goals of the PIRP are that: 1) no cases be pending which are over three years old, 2) no motions be pending more than six months, 3) no bench trials be awaiting rulings for more than six months, 4) no case be inactive for more than 90 days, 5) the median time from filing to disposition be reduced from the then 14 months to the national average of nine months and 6) the "Unassigned" docket be eliminated.

#### **Civil Cases Three Years and Older**

The number of civil cases three years and older has been reduced by about 78% since the PIRP was adopted, down from 399 such cases at the end of 1991 to 87 such cases at the end of 2002. However, the number of cases three years and older rose nearly 34% from 65 such cases at the close of 2001.

#### **Motions Six Months and Older**

In order to comply with CJRA reporting requirements, each district court must report the number of motions pending six months or longer twice each year, at the end of March and September. The number of motions pending in the Northern District of Ohio that were six months or older increased 78.5 % from 130 in September 2001 to 232 in September 2002, the most recent reporting period. The district continues to work diligently through its Motions Control Program to reach the PIRP goal of resolving all motions within six months.

#### **Bench Trials**

There were no bench trials awaiting a ruling for six months or longer at the end of 2002.

#### **Inactive Cases**

The number of cases which had been inactive for 90 days or more decreased about 11% from 495 at the end of 2001 to 443 at the end of 2002.

### Median Time to Disposition from Filing

The median time to disposition from filing for all civil cases (including asbestos), as reported by the Federal Court Management Statistics Judicial Workload Profile, decreased from 8.3 months in 2001 to 7.6 months in 2002. The average for all district courts is 8.7 months. However, it should be noted, that over the past several years the median time statistic for the Northern District of Ohio has been skewed, primarily reflecting the regular transfer of newly filed asbestos cases shortly after filing to the E.D. of Pennsylvania pursuant to the ongoing Multi-District Litigation pending before that Court.

### Unassigned Docket

An unassigned case is a matter that does not reside on the docket of any particular judge. Since the inception of the PIRP, the unassigned docket has been eliminated.

### **Magistrate Judge Utilization**

The CJRA Advisory Group recognized that the contributions of magistrate judges would be critical to the success of the new case management system. The Advisory Group recommended that the role of the magistrate judges be expanded. Parties are now asked whether they will consent to the jurisdiction of a magistrate judge both at the time they file their initial papers and once again at the initial Case Management Conference.

Magistrate judges currently preside over 411 of the 2,844 pending civil cases, down 9.7% from the 455 cases presided over in 2001 but up 27.6% over the 322 cases presided over in 1991.

Magistrate judges were the presiding judicial officers for 545 (15%) of the civil cases that were resolved in 2002, down 4% from the 568 closings in 2001. The 545 closings were up 100% from the 272 civil cases resolved by magistrate judges in 1991.

### **Asbestos Litigation**

On July 29, 1991, the Judicial Panel on Multi district Litigation (MDL) transferred all asbestos cases pending in federal courts to the E.D. of Pennsylvania for pretrial management supervision. Although the MDL transferee judge has assumed overall pretrial management supervision of this complex mass tort litigation, the presence of the asbestos docket continues to influence staff workload in the Northern District of Ohio. Pursuant to the Judicial Panel's order of transfer, all case files and pleadings continue to be maintained and docketed by the transferor courts. Some 1,211 new asbestos cases were filed and docketed in this district during 2002, a 89% decrease from the 10,841 asbestos cases filed in 2001. The district now maintains over 59,000 asbestos case files. The MDL judge has issued orders dismissing, subject to reinstatement, the overwhelming majority of cases on the asbestos docket. However, the MDL judge continues to permit the parties in those dismissed cases to file amended complaints and answers if they choose to do so.

## **Educational Efforts**

The Northern District of Ohio continues to actively educate the bar about its DCM and ADR programs as well as its electronic courtrooms and electronic filing project by co-sponsoring Continuing Legal Education (CLE) seminars with the major local bar associations throughout the district. Electronic courtroom and electronic filing training is also provided at each of the court houses. The district also conducts annual training and refresher courses in alternative dispute resolution techniques for over 350 members of its Federal Court Panel who serve as ADR neutrals. In addition, the Court provides a wealth of information on its website ([www.ohnd.uscourts.gov](http://www.ohnd.uscourts.gov)).

## **Northern District of Ohio Advisory Group**

Perhaps the most beneficial aspect of the Civil Justice Reform Act was the creation in each district of the CJRA Advisory Groups. Those groups provided an avenue for a continuing dialog on effective case management and other issues of interest to the bench and the bar. While the CJRA has now sunset, the Judicial Conference of the U.S. Courts has recommended that the Advisory Group process be retained. The Northern District of Ohio has adopted that recommendation and has extended the membership and mission of the group beyond merely civil matters. The mission of the group, now called the Advisory Group of the Northern District of Ohio, is to provide information on all matters of interest to the bench and the bar and to assist in the implementation of Court adopted programs such as electronic filing and the electronic courtroom projects. The Advisory Group meets as a whole with the Court each spring and fall and conducts committee meetings regularly throughout the year.

## **Electronic Filing**

In January 1996, the Northern District of Ohio became the first Court to use the Internet for electronic filing. At that time, the Court mandated electronic filing in its maritime asbestos litigation out of operational necessity after it had been overwhelmed with the filing of over 500,000 asbestos pleadings in one 12-month period and had developed a 7-month backlog of docketing. Since then over 58 law firms have electronically filed more than 182,000 documents in 23,262 maritime asbestos cases. The electronic filing system used by the Court was developed by the Technology Enhancement Office of the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts. The system streamlines the typically labor intensive process of creating legal documents, filing them with the Court and making them available to the other parties in the litigation while providing 24-hour per day access to Court records.

Building upon the success it had with its unique maritime asbestos litigation, the Court began permitting electronic filing in selected civil cases in October 1997, and began permitting electronic filing in all newly filed cases in July 2000. By March 2003, over 6,200 attorneys had registered to use the Court's system and 3,403 attorneys representing over 1,200 firms and solo practitioners had electronically filed 77,129 documents. The Court's goal is to have all pending civil cases placed into the Case Management / Electronic Case File (CM/ECF) system,

which provides electronic access over the Internet 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and permits electronic filing, as soon as possible.

The Administrative Office continues to work on enhancing the CM/ECF system and making it available to all federal courts. The next version of the software will permit the Court to place criminal cases into the system.

In September 2001, the Judicial Conference of the U.S. Courts established a nationwide policy governing electronic availability of federal court case file information. The policy states that access to electronic documents in civil cases should be made available electronically to the same extent that they are available at the courthouse with one exception (Social Security cases should be excluded from electronic access) and that certain "personal data identifiers" should be modified or partially redacted by the litigants. These identifiers are social security numbers, dates of birth, financial account numbers and names of minor children. The policy also states that public remote electronic access to documents in criminal cases should not be available at this time, with the understanding that this policy will be reexamined within two years. The policy permits courts to provide electronic access to parties and counsel of record in criminal cases, but does not allow for remote electronic public access to documents in criminal matters, accept under limited situations. The policy also permits courts to allow electronic filing in criminal cases if they desire. The Northern District of Ohio will not determine if it will permit electronic filing in criminal cases until the final software is provided.

### **Electronic Courtroom, Video Conferencing and Satellite Receivers**

The Northern District of Ohio strives to provide litigants with the best facilities available to assist in the efficient administration of justice. In order to streamline the presentation of evidence at trial, the Court installed one of the most technologically advanced courtrooms in the country in its Cleveland Court House in September 1998. Since then similar courtrooms were installed in Akron, Toledo and Youngstown court houses. In addition, three new electronic courtrooms have been installed in the new Cleveland Court House and the electronic courtroom in the old Cleveland court house was relocated to the new building providing the district with a total of 7 electronic courtrooms.

Through the use of a Digital Evidence Presentation System (DEPS), counsel can display exhibits, real-time transcripts, video recordings or multimedia presentations with the push of a button. The system includes: a document camera for displaying documents, x-rays and three-dimensional objects; 15" flat-panel video displays on counsel tables, the judge's bench and between jurors; VGA connections to display documents, multi-media presentations or images from a portable computer on any monitor in the courtroom; technology-ready counsel tables; real-time court reporter transcription; a visual image printer to produce 3" x 5" prints of any image displayed through the DEPS; a tablet and light pen which permit on-screen drawing and highlighting to emphasize specific details of evidence; a videocassette recorder; infrared equipment for listening assistance and language translation; and under carpet CAT 5 connections. The district also has portable evidence presentation and video conferencing equipment available at each of the other Court locations.

The Court also has video-conferencing equipment in each of its Court locations as part of a prisoner video-conferencing project. This equipment can also be used for a variety of other purposes including remote witness testimony and administrative meetings of the Court.

Finally, the Court also has satellite receivers at each of its court locations, enabling judges and staff to participate in satellite training programs offered by the Administrative Office and the Federal Judicial Center.

### **Conclusion**

The Court enjoyed a stellar year in 2002. It moved into the new Carl B. Stokes U.S. Court House in Cleveland, had its temporary judgeship extended for an additional five years, and early in 2003, the district's judicial vacancy was filled, which put the Court at full-strength for the first time since February 1999.

The civil and criminal dockets in the Northern District of Ohio remain in excellent shape. The pending civil docket is at a decade low, despite the Court having experienced record high levels of civil case filings during most of the past several years. Moreover, the number of civil cases 3 years and older and the number of motions pending 6 months or more are at, or near, their lowest levels in recent memory. While the number of pending criminal cases and the number of pending criminal defendants are at record levels for the district, the criminal docket remains relatively low when compared to the criminal dockets of most other districts.

The Court remains committed to its DCM and ADR programs and it also continues to move forward in making electronic presentation equipment available in its courtrooms as well as to permit electronic filing and expand electronic access to the Court's dockets over the Internet.

## **Attachments**

- Attachment 1: District Court Vacant Judgeship Months
- Attachment 2: Non-Asbestos Civil Case Filings
- Attachment 3: Total Civil Case Filings Per Judgeship (Includes Asbestos)
- Attachment 4: Weighted Civil Case Filings Per Judgeship (Includes Asbestos)
- Attachment 5: Non-Asbestos Civil Case Filings by Category
- Attachment 6: Non-Asbestos Civil Case Closings
- Attachment 7: Non-Asbestos Civil Cases Pending At Year End
- Attachment 8: Criminal Case Filings
- Attachment 9: Total Criminal Felony Case Filings Per Judgeship
- Attachment 10: Criminal Case Closings
- Attachment 11: Pending Criminal Cases
- Attachment 12: Civil and Criminal Trials
- Attachment 13: Status of Civil Cases Filed From January 1, 1992 through December 31, 2002
- Attachment 14: Track Assignments of Pending Civil Cases Filed Since January 1992
- Attachment 15: Alternative Dispute Resolution Referrals
- Attachment 16: Disposition of Cases Completing ADR
- Attachment 17: Cases Three Years and Older
- Attachment 18: Motions Pending Six Months and Longer
- Attachment 19: Bench Trials Awaiting Rulings Six Months or More
- Attachment 20: Civil Cases Inactive 90 or More Days
- Attachment 21: Median Time in Months from Filing to Disposition
- Attachment 22: Pending Civil Case Loads at Year End by Judicial Status
- Attachment 23: Non-Asbestos Civil Case Closings by Status of Judicial Officer
- Attachment 24: Asbestos Case Filings

Attachment 1

District Court Vacant Judgeship Months Source: Federal Management Statistics Profile				
September	U.S. Total	% Change	ND of OH	% Change
1991	1227.6	--	25.1	--
1992	1313.4	6.99	47.7	90.04
1993	1199.9	-8.64	60.0	25.79
1994	1104.3	-7.97	49.0	-18.33
1995	642.0	-41.86	19.8	-59.59
1996	571.7	-10.95	6.5	-67.17
1997	791.7	38.48	23.0	253.85
1998	720.2	-9.03	11.6	-49.57
1999	566.5	-21.34	7.1	-38.79
2000	597.5	5.47	12.0	69.01
2001	749.9	25.51	12.0	0.00
2002	806.4	7.53	12.0	0.00

Attachment 2

Non-Asbestos Civil Case Filings		
December	Filings	% Change
1991	3,386	--
1992	3,547	4.75
1993	3,550	0.08
1994	3,422	-3.61
1995	3,601	5.23
1996	3,621	0.56
1997	4,328	19.53
1998	3,926	-9.29
1999	4,130	5.20
2000	4,147	0.41
2001	3,880	-6.44
2002	3,555	-8.38

Attachment 3

Total Civil Case Filings Per Judgeship (Includes Asbestos)				
Source: Federal Management Statistics Profile				
September	U.S. Avg.	% Change	ND of OH	% Change
1991	377	--	403	--
1992	409	8.49	412	2.23
1993	407	-0.49	683	65.78
1994	413	1.47	663	-2.93
1995	434	5.08	721	8.75
1996	471	8.53	802	11.23
1997	480	1.91	833	3.87
1998	467	-2.71	856	2.76
1999	477	2.14	609	-28.86
2000	474	-0.63	696	14.29
2001	454	-4.22	497	-28.59
2002	518	14.10	1,173	136.01

## Attachment 4

Weighted Civil Case Filings Per Judgeship (Includes Asbestos) Source: Federal Management Statistics Profile				
September	U.S. Avg.	% Change	ND of OH	% Change
1991	386	--	349	--
1992	412	6.74	370	6.02
1993	419	1.70	441	19.19
1994	419	0.00	415	-5.90
1995	448	6.92	424	2.17
1996	472	5.36	486	14.62
1997	504	6.78	503	3.50
1998	484	-3.97	509	1.19
1999	472	-2.48	411	-19.25
2000	479	1.48	464	12.90
2001	479	0.00	447	-3.66
2002	521	8.77	596	33.33

## Attachment 5

Non-Asbestos Civil Case Filings by Category													
Case Category	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	% Change 2001-2002	% Change 1992-2002
Admiralty	20	17	22	16	14	18	18	11	23	21	14	-33.33	-30.00
Antitrust	11	15	18	16	3	5	10	3	5	12	15	25.00	36.36
Civil Rights	725	809	914	1037	998	993	1032	938	930	900	789	-12.33	8.83
Contract	370	326	374	340	378	391	370	397	431	535	537	0.37	45.14
Habeas--non §2255)	116	148	170	216	201	354	402	326	319	287	287	0.00	147.41
Labor Relations	449	371	386	390	380	386	333	362	432	419	399	-4.77	-11.14
Patent	31	34	27	49	39	53	51	27	44	47	39	-17.02	25.81
Personal Injury	405	531	363	505	410	782	378	347	281	447	494	10.51	21.98
Administrative Reviews	504	482	447	334	299	381	395	493	510	370	333	-10.00	-33.93
Tax	53	43	38	23	37	34	33	19	21	34	28	-17.65	-47.17
Unfair Competition	75	64	72	69	56	79	88	86	82	52	52	0.00	-30.67
General Civil	787	710	591	593	787	849	806	1104	1059	749	552	-26.30	-29.86
Death Penalty	1	0	0	13	19	3	10	17	10	7	16	128.57	1500.00
Total	3,547	3,550	3,422	3,601	3,621	4,328	3,926	4,130	4,147	3,880	3,555	-8.38	0.23

Attachment 6

Non-Asbestos Civil Case Closings		
December	Closings	% Change
1991	3,655	--
1992	3,829	4.76
1993	3,485	-8.98
1994	3,348	-3.93
1995	3,690	10.22
1996	4,183	13.36
1997	3,947	-5.64
1998	4,393	11.30
1999	4,181	-4.83
2000	4,322	3.37
2001	3,826	-11.48
2002	3,723	-2.69

## Attachment 7

Non-Asbestos Civil Cases Pending At Year End		
December	Cases	% Change
1991	3,568	--
1992	3,372	-5.49
1993	3,543	5.07
1994	3,689	4.12
1995	3,740	1.38
1996	3,244	-13.26
1997	3,630	11.90
1998	3,170	-12.67
1999	3,123	-1.48
2000	2,952	-5.48
2001	3,015	2.13
2002	2,844	-5.67

## Attachment 8

Criminal Case Filings				
December	Cases	% Change	Defendants	% Change
1991	430	--	684	--
1992	545	26.74	796	16.37
1993	462	-15.23	669	-15.95
1994	479	3.68	677	1.20
1995	494	3.13	736	8.71
1996	451	-8.70	713	-3.13
1997	479	6.21	792	11.08
1998	567	18.37	871	9.97
1999	473	-16.58	725	-16.76
2000	541	14.38	974	34.34
2001	615	13.68	954	-2.05
2002	560	-8.94	1,072	12.37

## Attachment 9

Total Criminal Felony Case Filings Per Judgeship Source: Federal Management Statistics Profile				
September	U.S. Avg.	% Change	ND of OH	% Change
1991	52	--	37	--
1992	54	3.85	40	8.11
1993	53	-1.85	45	12.50
1994	49	-7.55	38	-15.56
1995	51	4.08	39	2.63
1996	55	7.84	36	-7.69
1997	60	9.09	34	-5.56
1998	69	15.00	46	35.29
1999	74	7.25	40	-13.04
2000	78	5.41	42	5.00
2001	77	-1.28	50	19.05
2002	84	9.09	48	-4.00

## Attachment 10

Criminal Case Closings				
December	Cases	% Change	Defendants	% Change
1991	448	--	635	--
1992	476	6.25	731	15.12
1993	523	9.87	771	5.47
1994	463	-11.47	643	-16.60
1995	505	9.07	748	16.33
1996	497	-1.58	727	-2.81
1997	461	-7.24	732	0.69
1998	530	14.97	888	21.31
1999	542	2.26	799	-10.02
2000	489	-9.78	828	3.63
2001	568	16.16	937	13.16
2002	575	1.23	988	5.44

## Attachment 11

Pending Criminal Cases				
December	Cases	% Change	Defendants	% Change
1991	303	--	508	--
1992	372	22.77	578	13.78
1993	307	-17.47	450	-22.15
1994	336	9.45	516	14.67
1995	329	-2.08	518	0.39
1996	295	-10.33	506	-2.32
1997	318	7.80	569	12.45
1998	364	14.47	565	-0.70
1999	294	-19.23	485	-14.16
2000	345	17.35	630	29.90
2001	405	17.39	645	2.38
2002	403	-0.49	721	11.78

Attachment 12

Civil and Criminal Trials						
December	Civil Trials	% Change	Criminal Trials	% Change	Total Trials*	% Change
1991	100	--	55	--	155	--
1992	104	4.00	56	1.82	160	3.23
1993	103	-0.96	58	3.57	161	0.63
1994	97	-5.83	50	-13.79	147	-8.70
1995	120	23.71	66	32.00	186	26.53
1996	157	30.83	46	-30.30	203	9.14
1997	131	-16.56	54	17.39	185	-8.87
1998	129	-1.53	53	-1.85	182	-1.62
1999	111	-13.95	43	-18.87	154	-15.38
2000	113	1.80	38	-11.63	151	-1.95
2001	88	-22.12	46	21.05	134	-11.26
2002	61	-30.68	50	8.70	111	-17.16

\* Figures for 1991 and 1992 do not include trials conducted by Magistrate Judges.

## Attachment 13

Status of Civil Cases Filed From Jan. 1, 1992 through Dec. 31, 2002				
Track	Cases Filed* 1/1/92-12/31/02	Pending	Terminated	Percentage Terminated
Expedited	2,244	121	2,123	94.61
Standard	11,749	976	10,773	91.69
Complex	860	73	787	91.51
Administrative	8,227	643	7,584	92.18
Mass Tort	67	0	67	100.00
Unassigned:				
< 120 Days	9,383	585	8,798	93.77
120 + Days	9,175	446	8,729	95.14
Total	41,705	2,844	38,861	93.18
* Includes reopened cases.				

## Attachment 14

Track Assignments of Pending Civil Cases Filed Since January 1, 1992				
Track	# of Pending Cases	Percentage of Cases	Percentage of Cases Assigned to Tracks	Percentage of Cases Assigned to Non-Administrative Tracks
Expedited	121	4.25	6.67	10.34
Standard	976	34.32	53.83	83.42
Complex	73	2.57	4.03	6.24
Mass Tort	0	0.00	0.00	0.00
Administrative	643	22.61	35.47	
Unassigned:				
< 120 days	585	20.57		
120 + days	446	15.68		
Total	2,844			

Attachment 15

Alternative Dispute Resolution Referrals															
	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	00	01	02	Total	% Change 2001-2002	% Change 1992-2002	Total as % of Grand Total
ENE	181	158	128	135	94	72	37	40	38	36	21	940	71.43	-88.40	24.95
MED	142	227	244	236	249	258	301	252	220	311	258	2698	20.54	81.69	71.60
ARB	16	7	5	6	2	7	8	1	1	3	6	62	-50.00	-62.50	1.65
SJT	22	14	22		2	1		1		1	1	64		-95.45	1.70
SBT			2	1								3			0.08
Other			1									1			0.03
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>361</b>	<b>406</b>	<b>402</b>	<b>378</b>	<b>347</b>	<b>338</b>	<b>346</b>	<b>294</b>	<b>259</b>	<b>351</b>	<b>286</b>	<b>3768</b>	<b>22.73</b>	<b>-20.78</b>	

## Attachment 16

<b>Disposition of Cases Completing ADR</b>							
	<b>ENE</b>	<b>MED</b>	<b>ARB</b>	<b>SJT</b>	<b>SBT</b>	<b>OTHER</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Withdrawn from ADR	46 5%	178 7%	13 22%	16 25%			253 7%
Resolved Prior to ADR	104 11%	368 14%	24 41%	30 47%	2 67%		528 14%
Resolved Through ADR	183 20%	759 29%	15 26%	8 13%	1 33%	1 100%	967 26%
Settlement Negotiations and Case Processing to Continue	600 64%	1330 50%	6 10%	10 16%			1,946 53%
<b>Total</b>	<b>933</b>	<b>2,635</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3,694</b>
<b>Percentages may not total to 100 due to rounding.</b>							

## Attachment 17

Cases Three Years and Older		
December	Cases	% Change
1991	399	--
1992	177	-55.64
1993	144	-18.64
1994	178	23.61
1995	163	-8.43
1996	145	-11.04
1997	115	-20.69
1998	102	-11.30
1999	92	-9.80
2000	58	-36.96
2001	65	12.07
2002	87	33.85

## Attachment 18

Motions Pending Six Months and Longer		
September	Motions	% Change
1992	1,169	--
1993	1,420	21.47
1994	273	-80.77
1995	546	100.00
1996	494	-9.52
1997	375	-24.09
1998	145	-61.33
1999	312	115.17
2000	179	-42.63
2001	130	-27.37
2002	232	78.46



## Attachment 20

Civil Cases Inactive 90 or More Days		
December	Cases	% Change
1992	635	--
1993	677	6.61
1994	564	-16.69
1995	551	-2.31
1996	420	-23.78
1997	440	4.76
1998	330	-25.00
1999	386	16.97
2000	199	-48.45
2001	495	148.74
2002	443	-10.51

Attachment 21

Median Time in Months from Filing to Disposition Source: Federal Management Statistics Profile				
September	U.S. Avg.	% Change	ND of OH	% Change
1991	10	--	20	--
1992	9	-10.00	6	-70.00
1993	8	-11.11	2	-66.67
1994	8	0.00	4	100.00
1995	8.9	N/M*	5.4	N/M*
1996	7.0	-11.35	3.4	-37.04
1997	8.4	20.00	2.6	-23.53
1998	9.2	9.52	4.8	84.61
1999	10.3	11.96	5.4	12.50
2000	8.2	-20.39	4.2	-22.22
2001	8.7	6.10	8.3	97.62
2002	8.7	0.00	7.6	-8.43

\* Not meaningful. Prior to 1995, the AO reported median times only in whole numbers.

## Attachment 22

Pending Civil Case Loads at Year End by Judicial Status					
	Active	Senior & Other	Magistrate	Total	% Change
1991	2,539	707	322	3,568	--
1992	1,978	970	424	3,372	-5.49
1993	2,233	800	510	3,543	5.07
1994	2,868	473	348	3,689	4.12
1995	2,861	559	320	3,740	1.38
1996	2,267	732	245	3,244	-13.26
1997	2,556	735	339	3,630	11.90
1998	2,278	462	429	3,169	-12.70
1999	2,239	485	399	3,123	-1.45
2000	2,091	387	474	2,952	-5.48
2001	2,190	370	455	3,015	2.13
2002	2,041	392	411	2,844	-5.67

## Attachment 23

Non-Asbestos Civil Case Closings by Status of Judicial Officer					
	Active	Senior & Other	Magistrate	Total	% Change
1991	2,743	640	272	3,655	-
1992	2,511	926	392	3,829	4.76
1993	2,079	956	450	3,485	-8.98
1994	2,189	760	396	3,345	-4.02
1995	2,593	700	397	3,690	10.31
1996	2,744	1,035	404	4,183	13.36
1997	2,883	727	337	3,947	-5.64
1998	2,964	943	486	4,393	11.30
1999	2,950	750	481	4,181	-4.83
2000	3,104	723	495	4,322	3.37
2001	2,723	535	568	3,826	-11.48
2002	2,698	480	545	3,723	-2.69

## Attachment 24

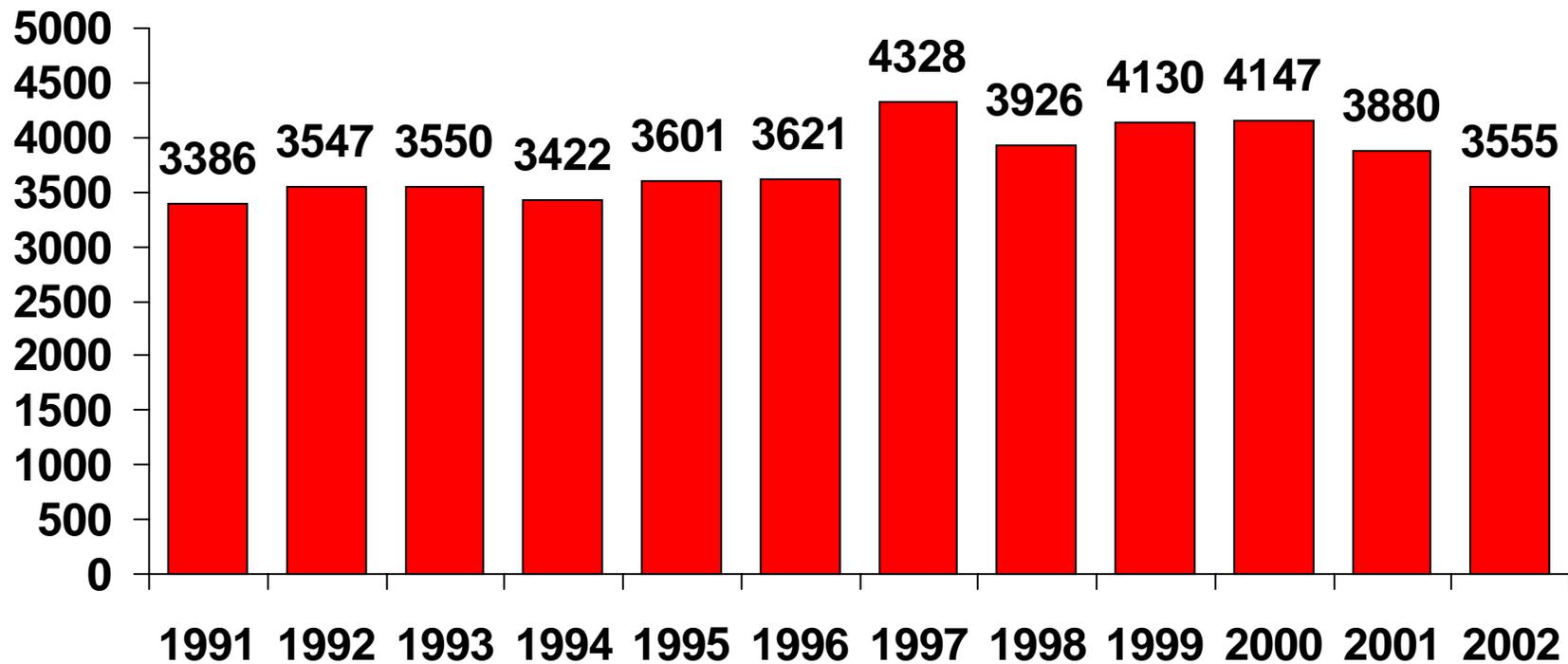
Asbestos Case Filings		
December	Filings	% Change
1992	1,523	0.00
1993	4,319	183.59
1994	4,163	-3.61
1995	5,184	24.53
1996	6,010	15.93
1997	5,325	-11.40
1998	4,997	-6.16
1999	3,269	-34.58
2000	2,430	-25.67
2001	10,841	346.13
2002	1,211	-88.83

**Annual Assessment of the Civil and Criminal Dockets  
for the  
United States District Court  
Northern District of Ohio**

## Table of Contents

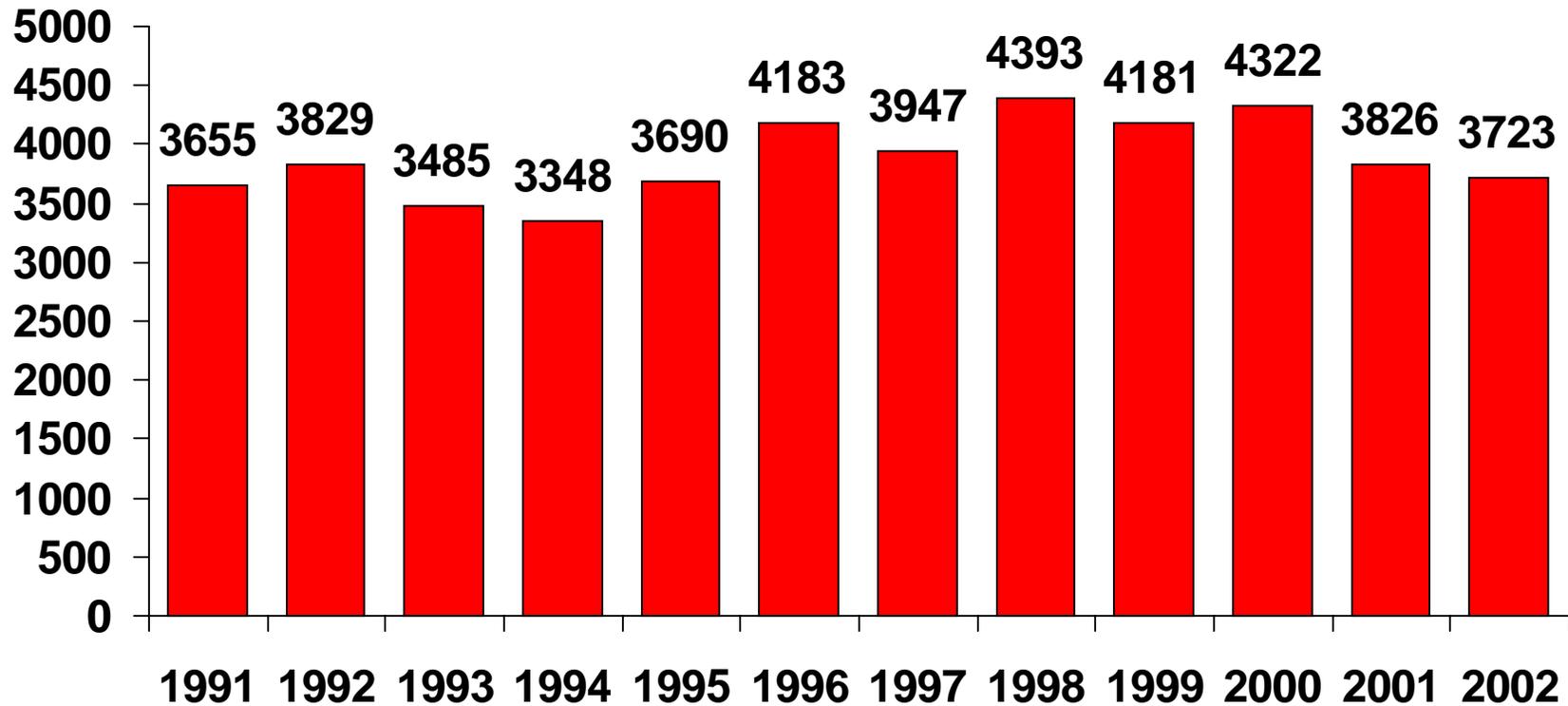
Civil Case Load	
Case Filings .....	1
Case Closings .....	2
Pending Cases .....	3
Asbestos Case Load	
Case Filings .....	4
Case Closings .....	5
Civil Trial Activity .....	6
Criminal Case Load	
Case Filings .....	7
Case Closings .....	8
Defendant Filings .....	9
Defendant Closings .....	10
Pending Cases .....	11
Pending Defendants .....	12
Criminal Trial Activity .....	13
Total Civil and Criminal Trials .....	14
Civil Justice Reform Act	
Civil Cases Two Years and Older .....	15
Civil Cases Three Years and Older .....	16
Motions Pending Six Months or More .....	17

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO  
CIVIL CASE FILINGS  
1991-2002 (Year ending December 31)**



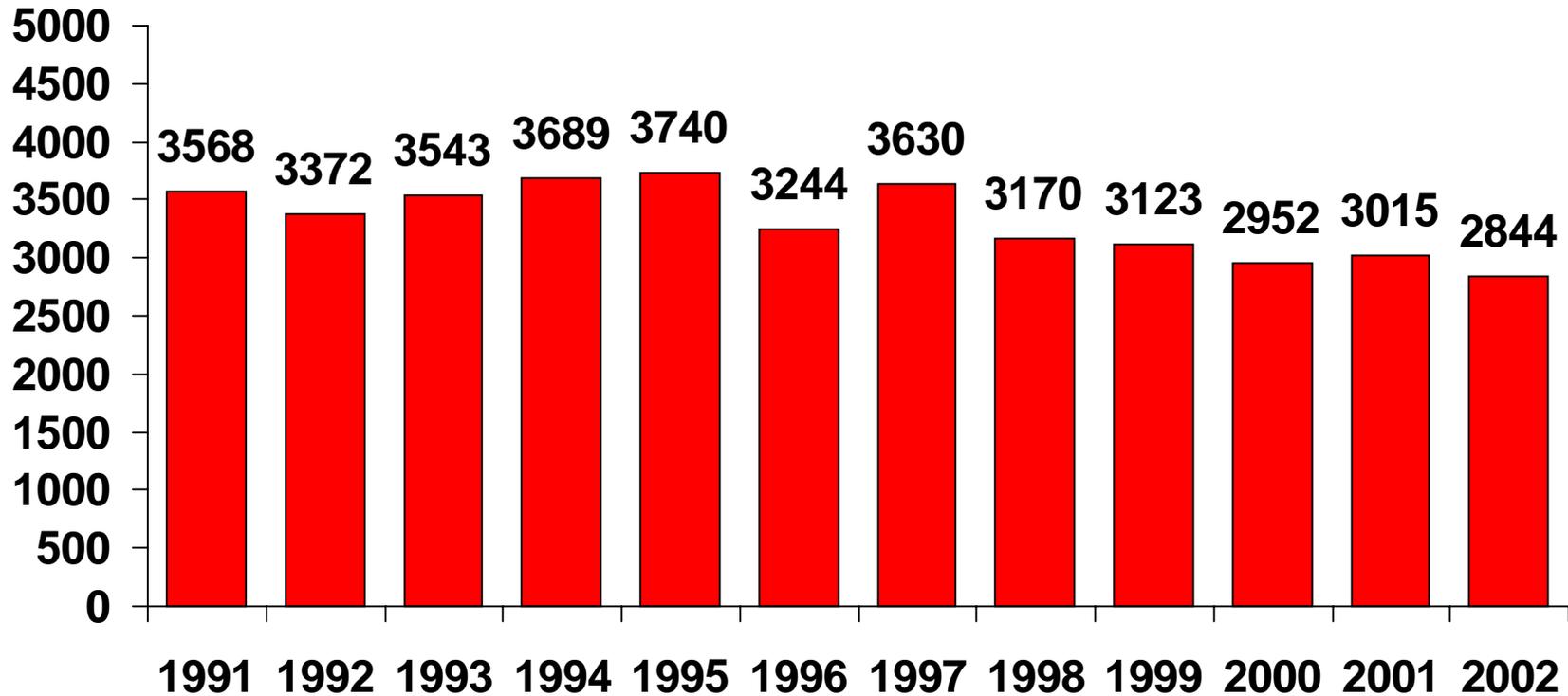
- **% Change 2001-2002: -8.38%**
- **% Change 1991-2002: 4.99%**

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO  
CIVIL CASE CLOSINGS  
1991-2002 (Year ending December 31)**



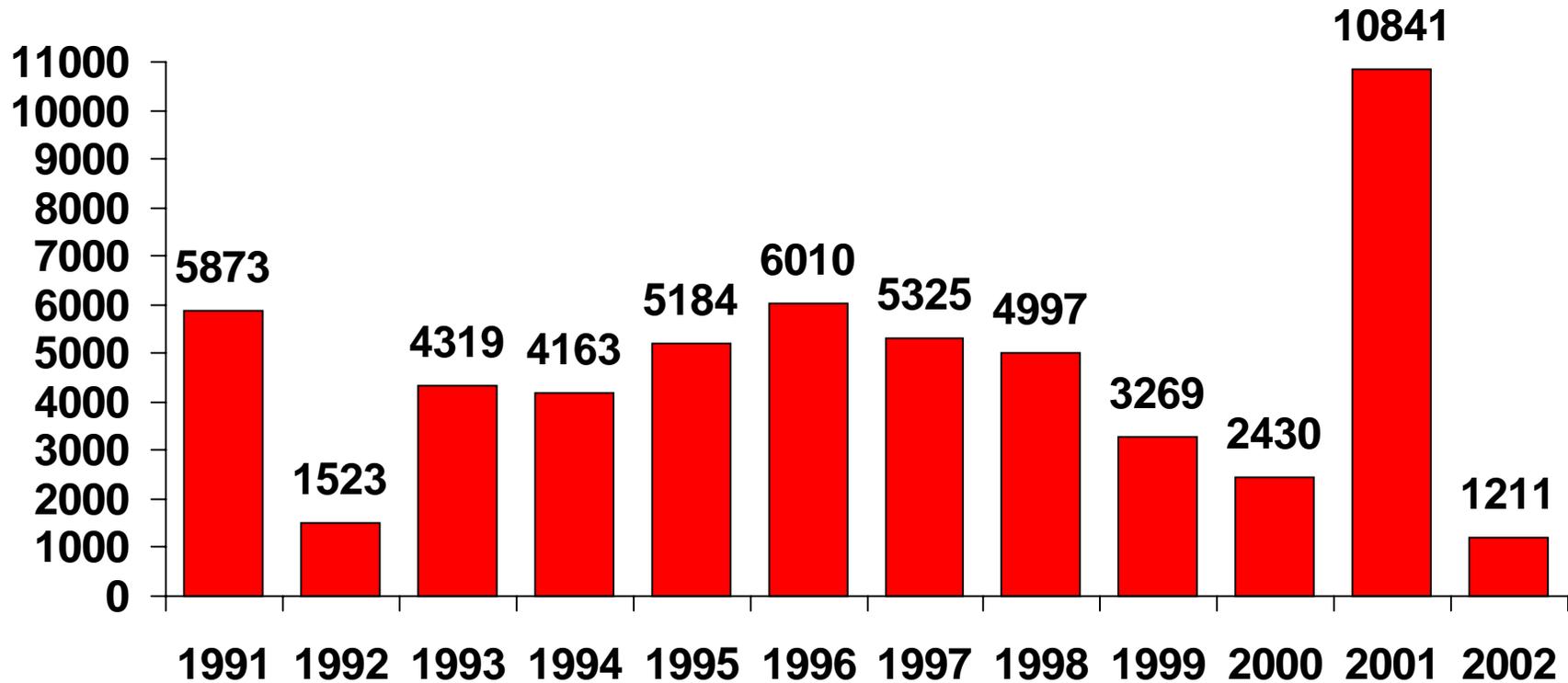
- % Change 2001-2002: -2.69%
- % Change 1991-2002: 1.86%

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO  
PENDING CIVIL CASES  
1991-2002 (Year ending December 31)**



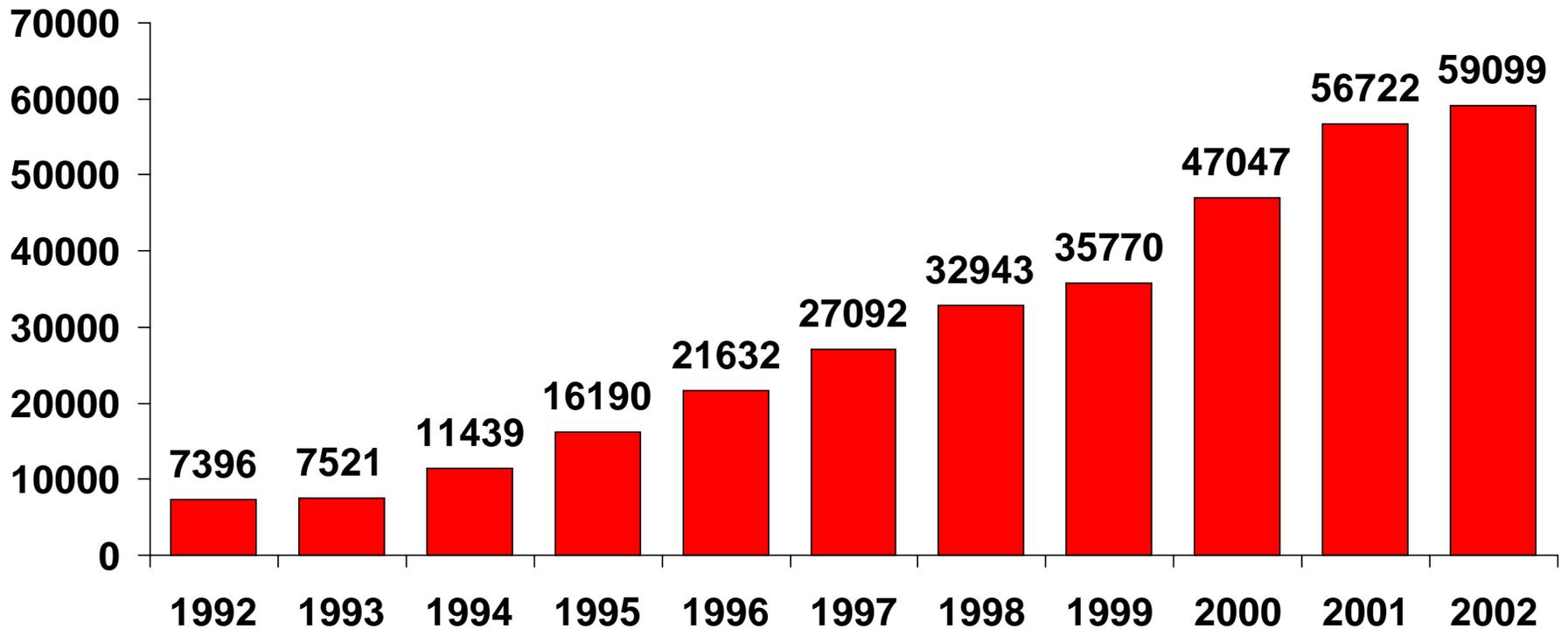
- % Change 2001-2002: -5.67%
- % Change 1991-2002: -20.29%

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO  
ASBESTOS CASE FILINGS  
1991-2002 (Year ending December 31)**



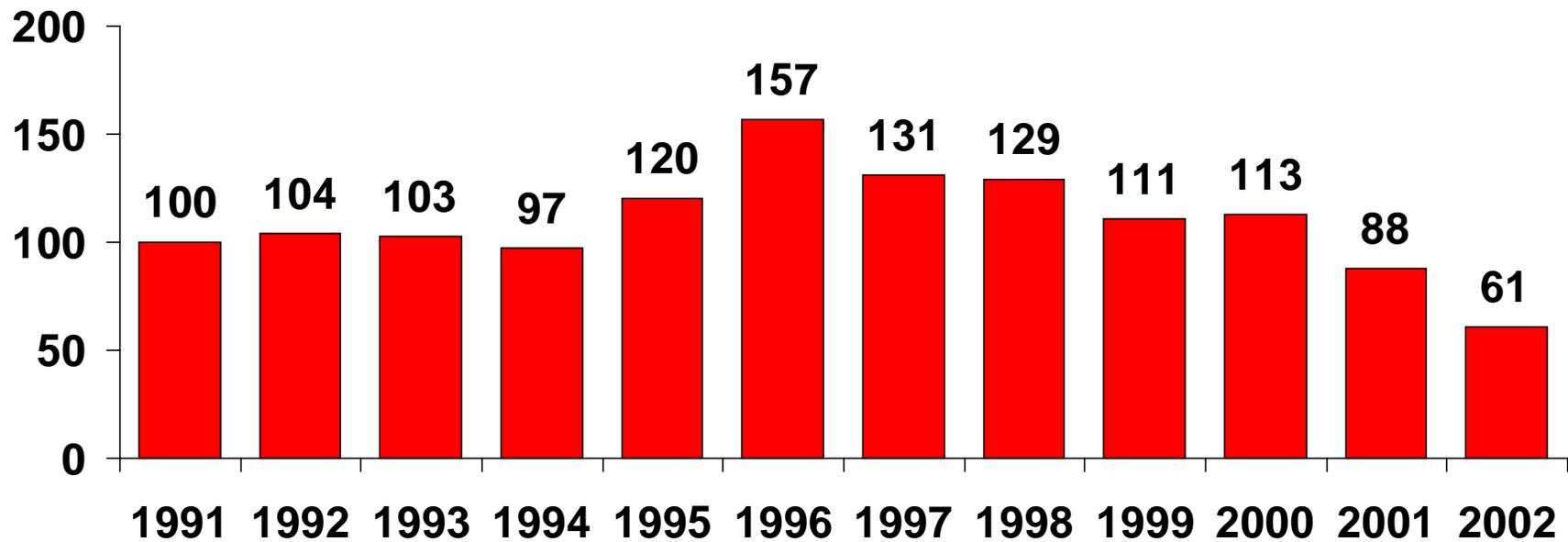
- % Change 2001-2002: -88.83%
- % Change 1991-2002: -79.38%

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO  
ASBESTOS CASE FILES MAINTAINED  
1992-2002 (Year ending December 31)**



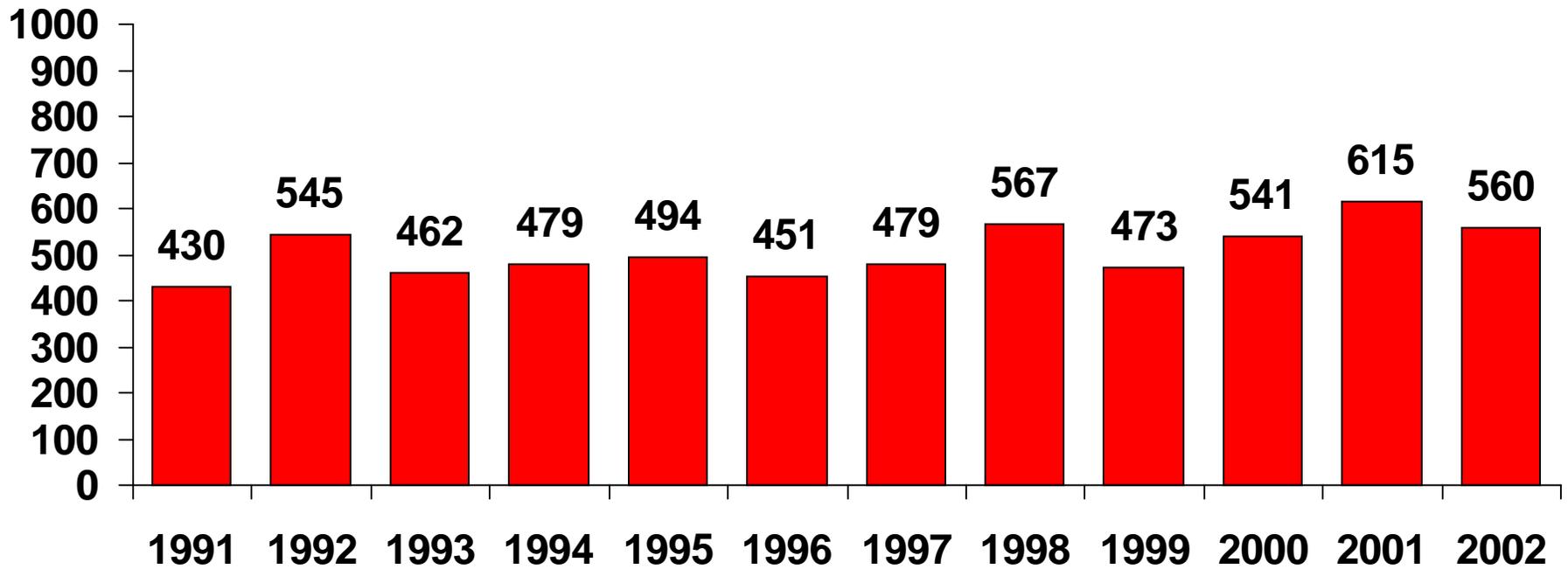
- % Change 2001-2002: 4.19%
- % Change 1992-2002: 699.07%

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO  
CIVIL TRIALS  
1991-2002 (Year ending December 31)**



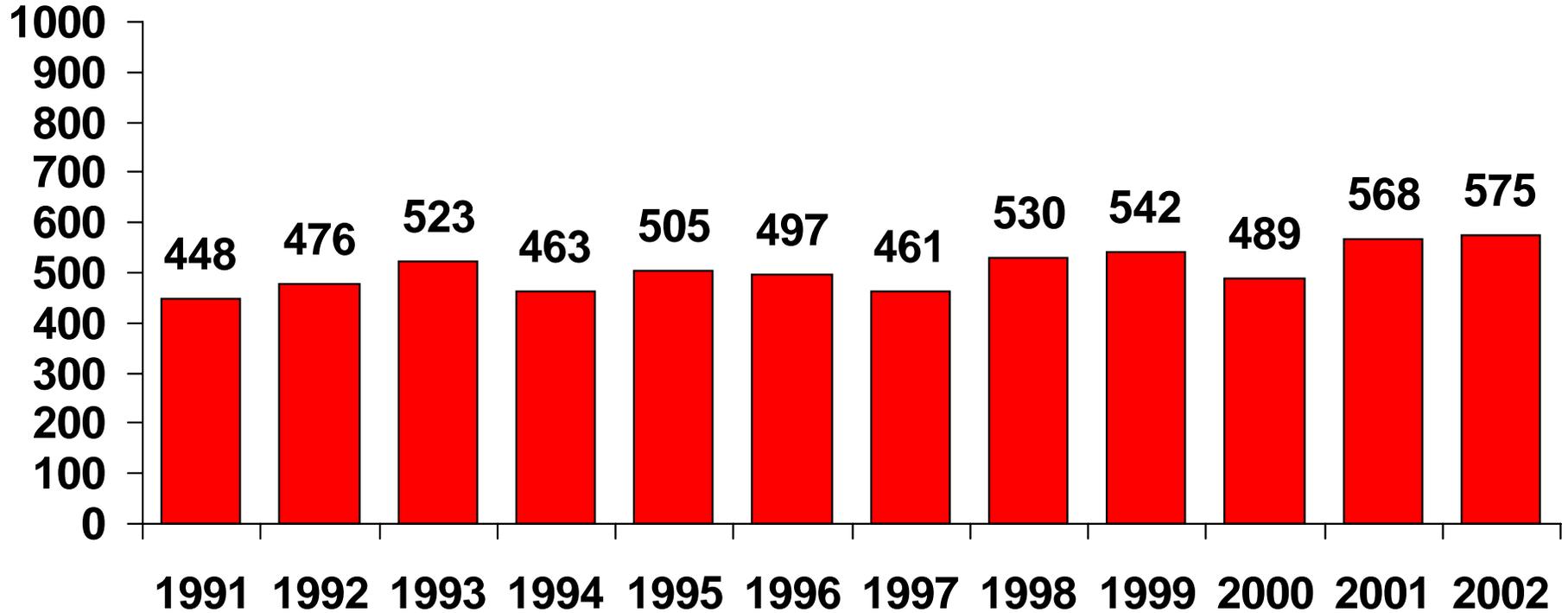
- % Change 2001-2002: -30.68%
- % Change 1991-2002: -39.00%

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO  
CRIMINAL CASE FILINGS  
1991-2002 (Year ending December 31)**



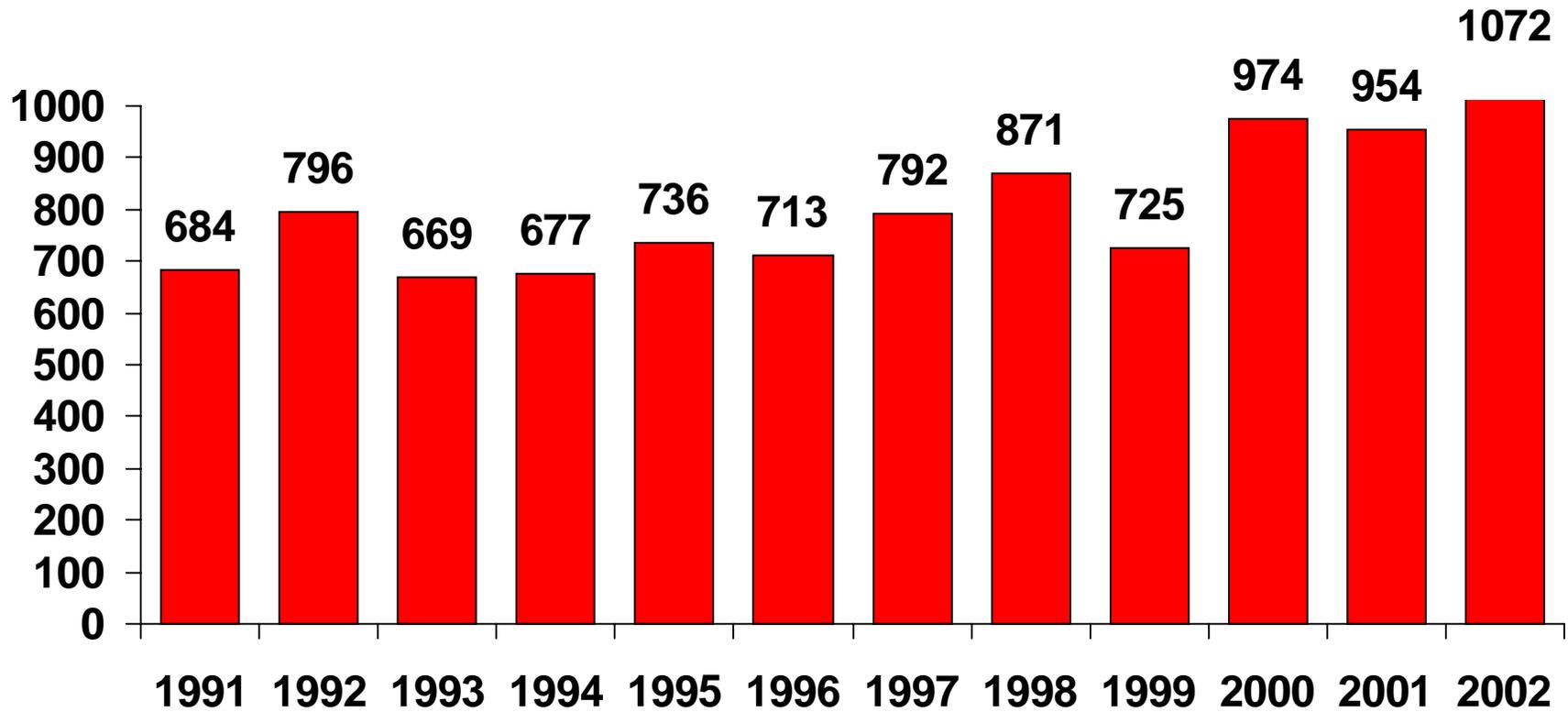
- % Change 2001-2002: -8.94%
- % Change 1991-2002: 30.23%

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO  
CRIMINAL CASE CLOSINGS  
1991-2002 (Year ending December 31)**



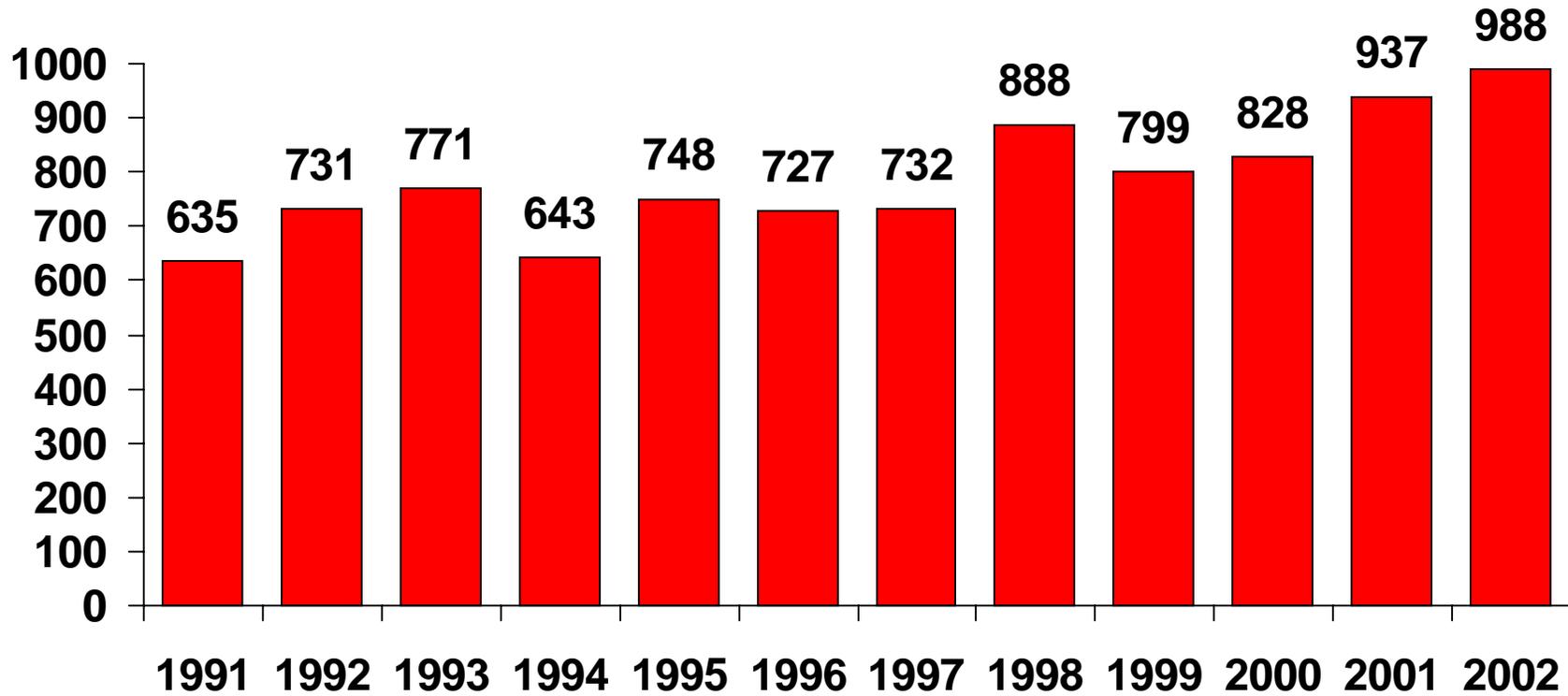
- % Change 2001-2002: 1.23%
- % Change 1991-2002: 28.35%

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO  
CRIMINAL DEFENDANT FILINGS  
1991-2002 (Year ending December 31)**



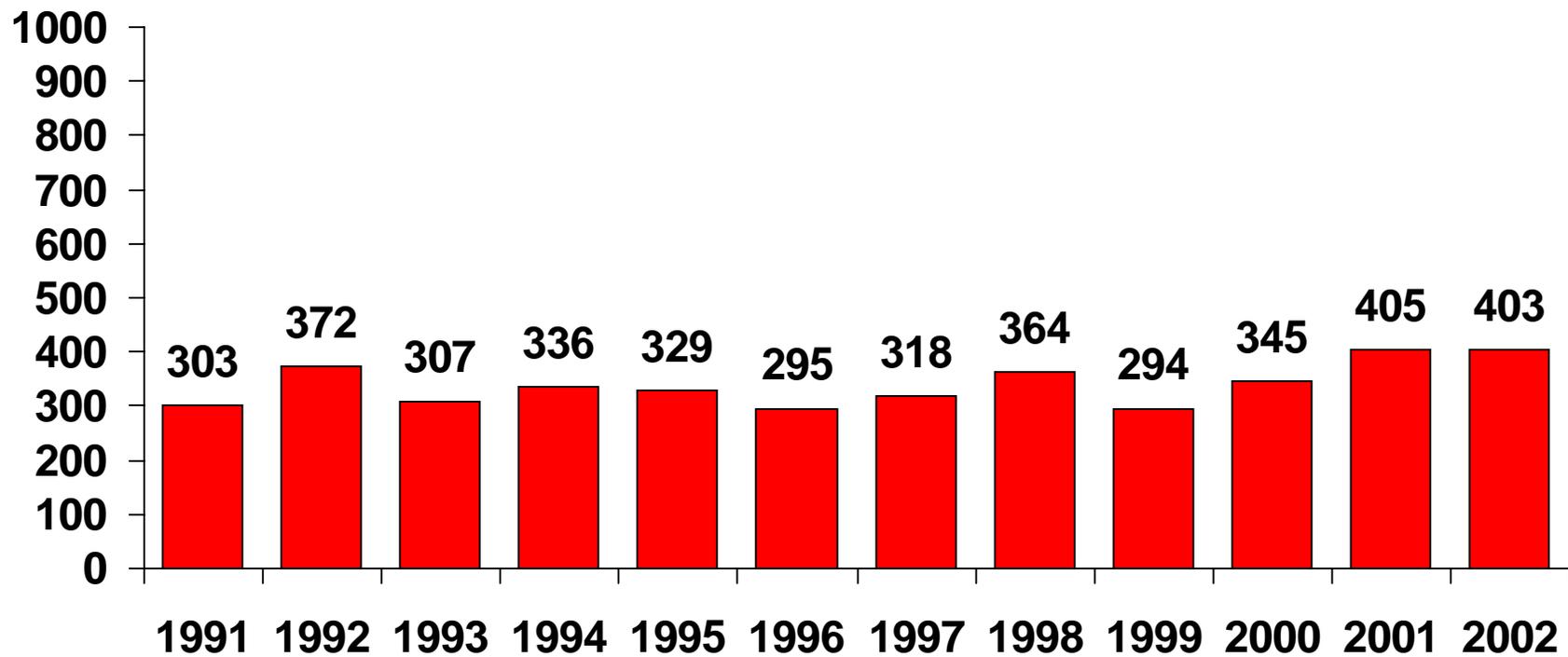
- % Change 2001-2002: 12.37%
- % Change 1991-2002: 56.73%

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO  
CRIMINAL DEFENDANT CLOSINGS  
1991-2002 (Year ending December 31)**



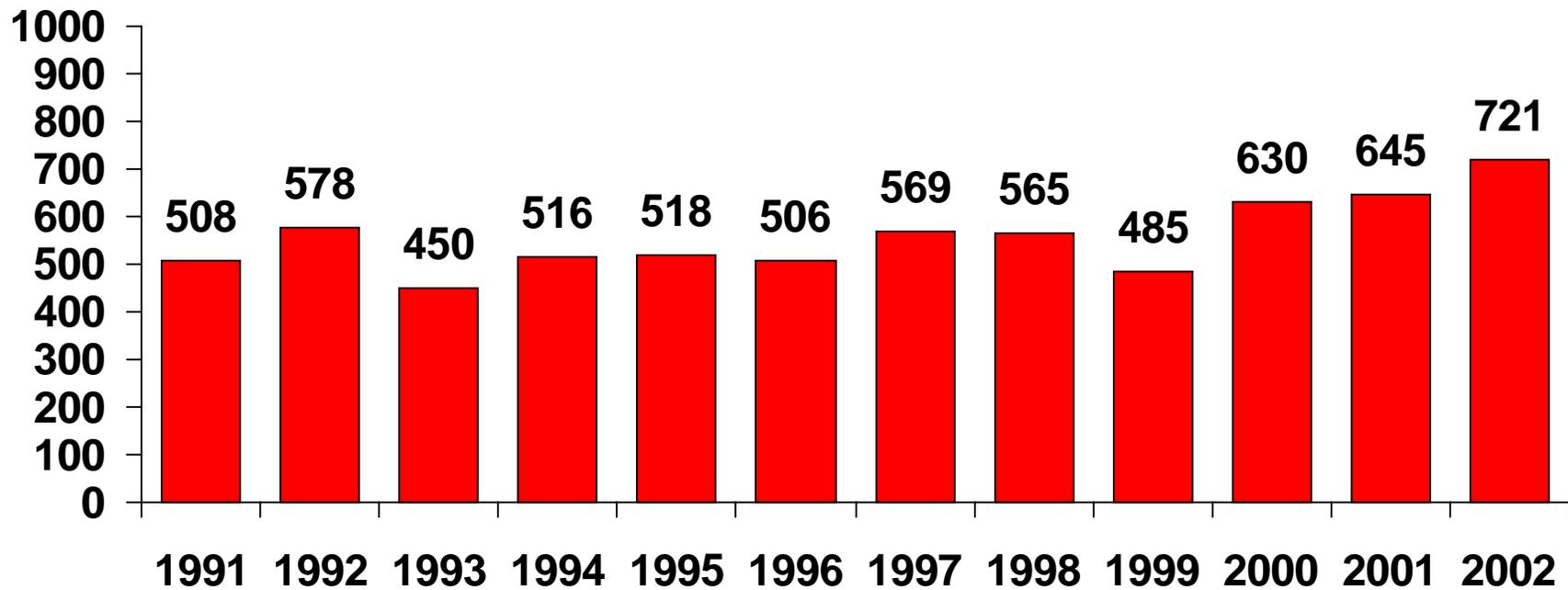
- % Change 2001-2002: 5.44%
- % Change 1991-2002: 55.59%

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO  
PENDING CRIMINAL CASES  
1991-2002 (Year ending December 31)**



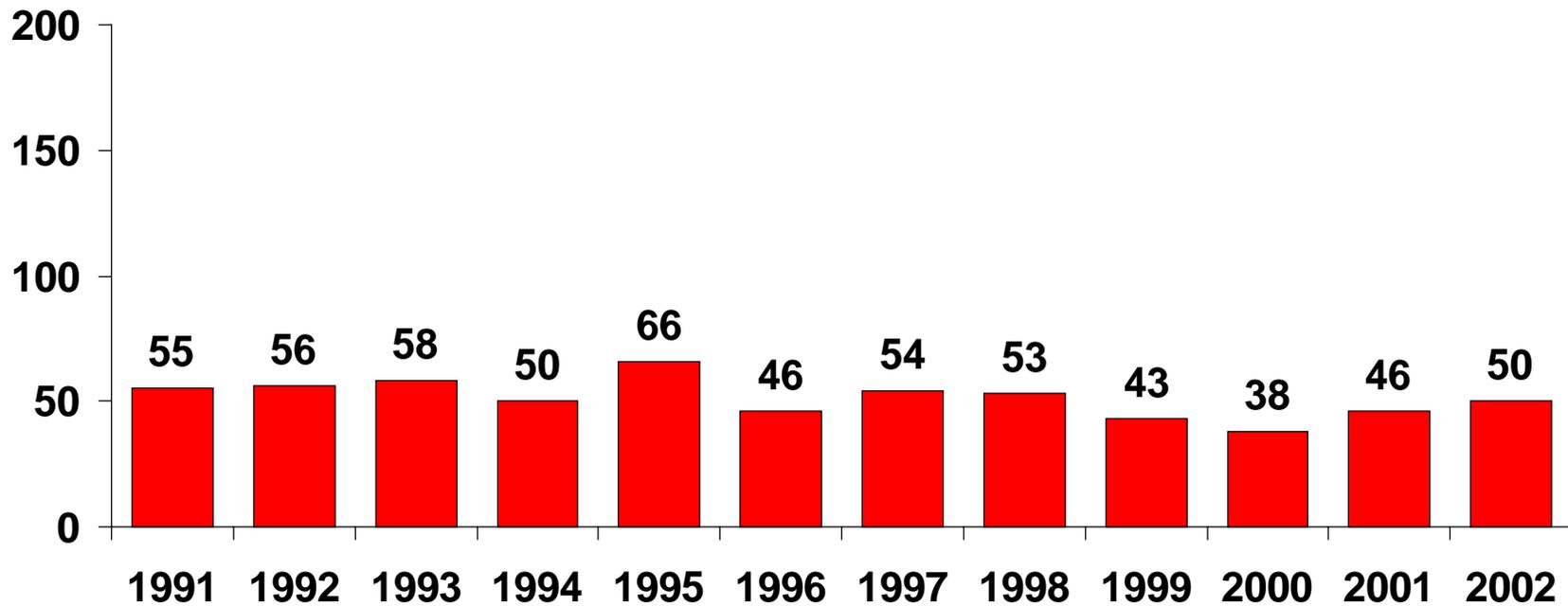
- % Change 2001-2002: -0.49%
- % Change 1991-2002: 33.00%

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO  
PENDING CRIMINAL DEFENDANTS  
1991-2002 (Year ending December 31)**



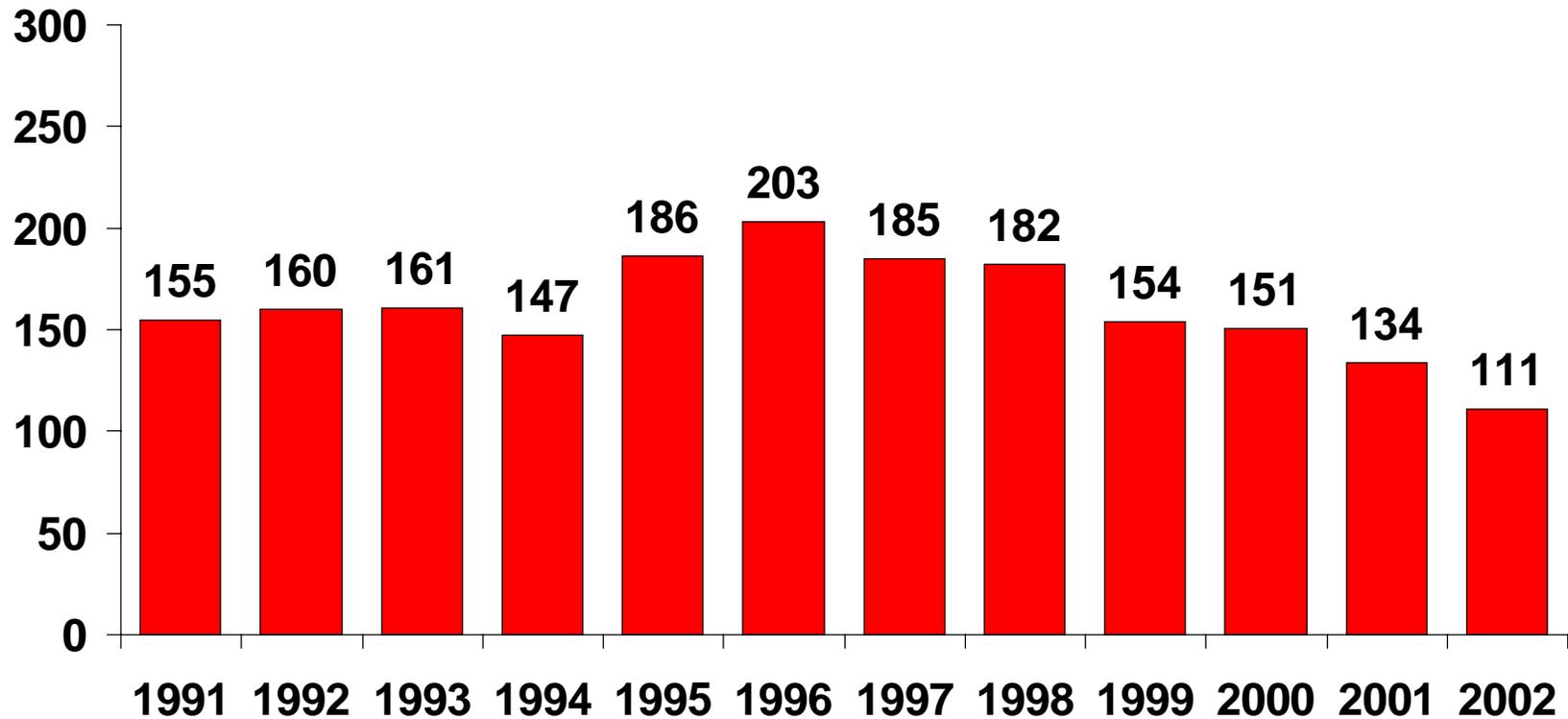
- % Change 2001-2002: 11.78%
- % Change 1991-2002: 41.93%

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO  
CRIMINAL TRIALS  
1991-2002 (Year ending December 31)**



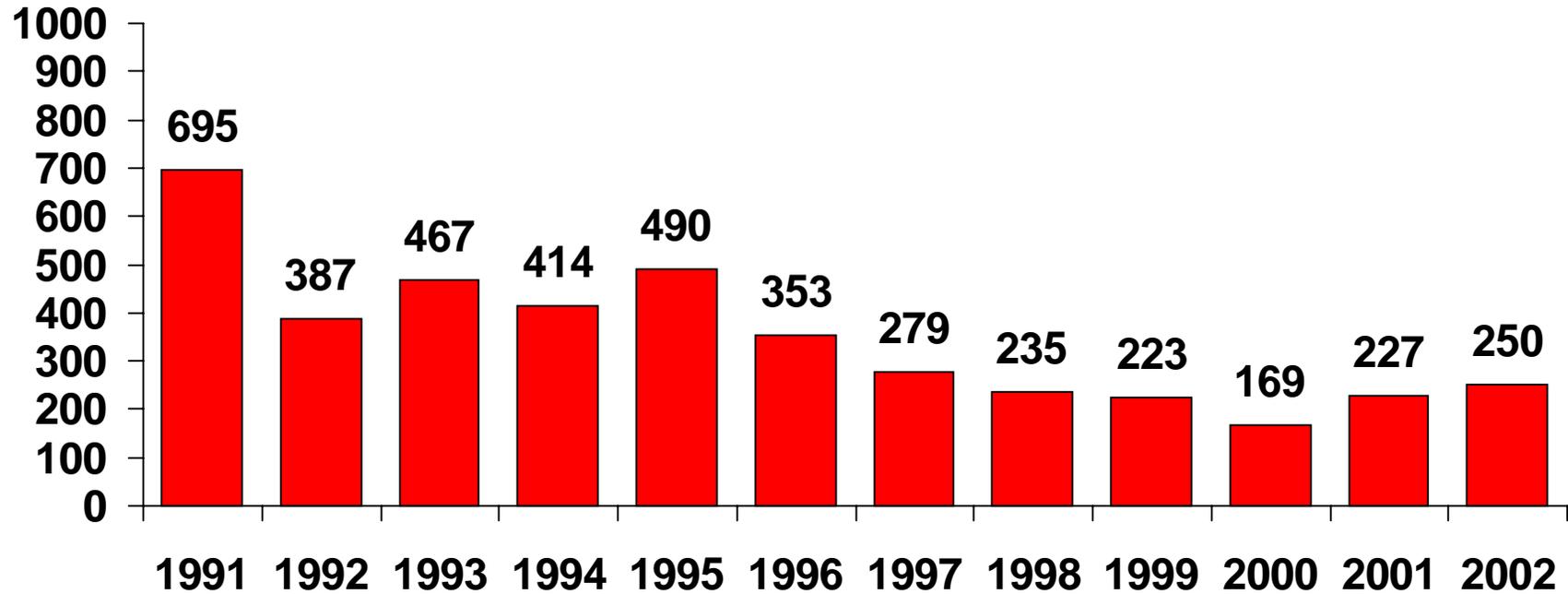
- **% Change 2001-2002: 8.70%**
- **% Change 1991-2002: -9.09%**

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO  
TOTAL CIVIL AND CRIMINAL TRIALS  
1991-2002 (Year ending December 31)**



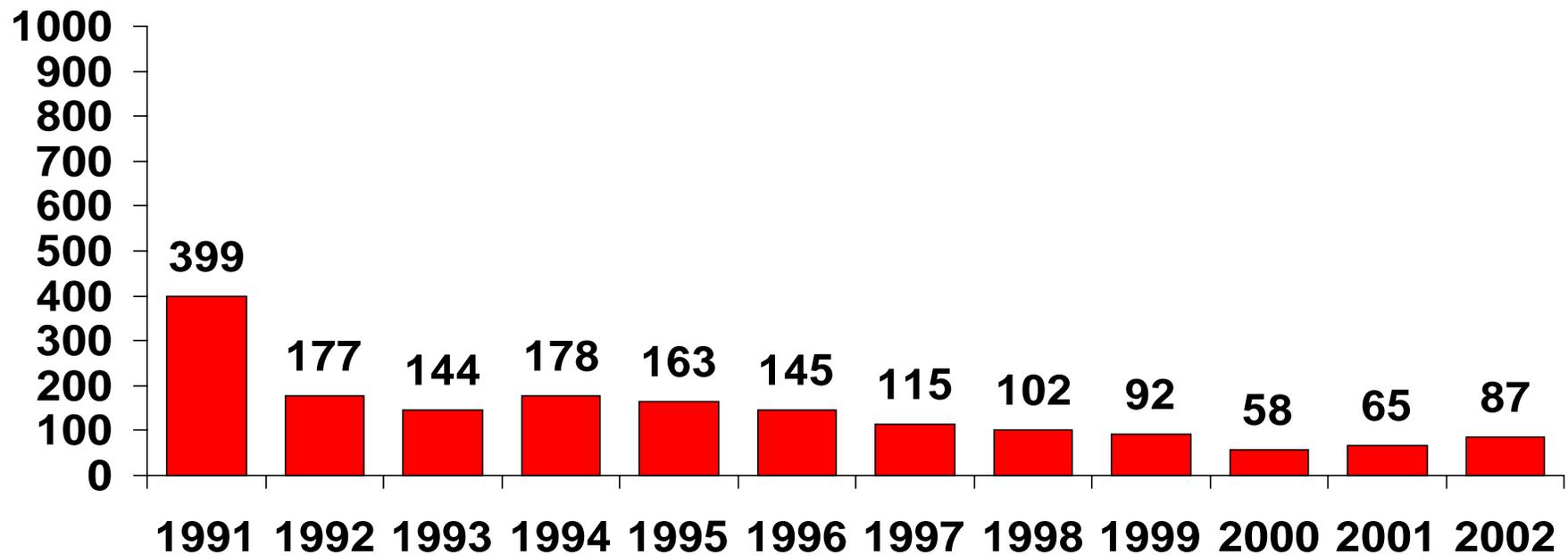
- % Change 2001-2002: -17.16%
- % Change 1991-2002: -28.39%

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO  
CIVIL CASES PENDING MORE THAN TWO YEARS  
1991-2002 (Year ending December 31)**



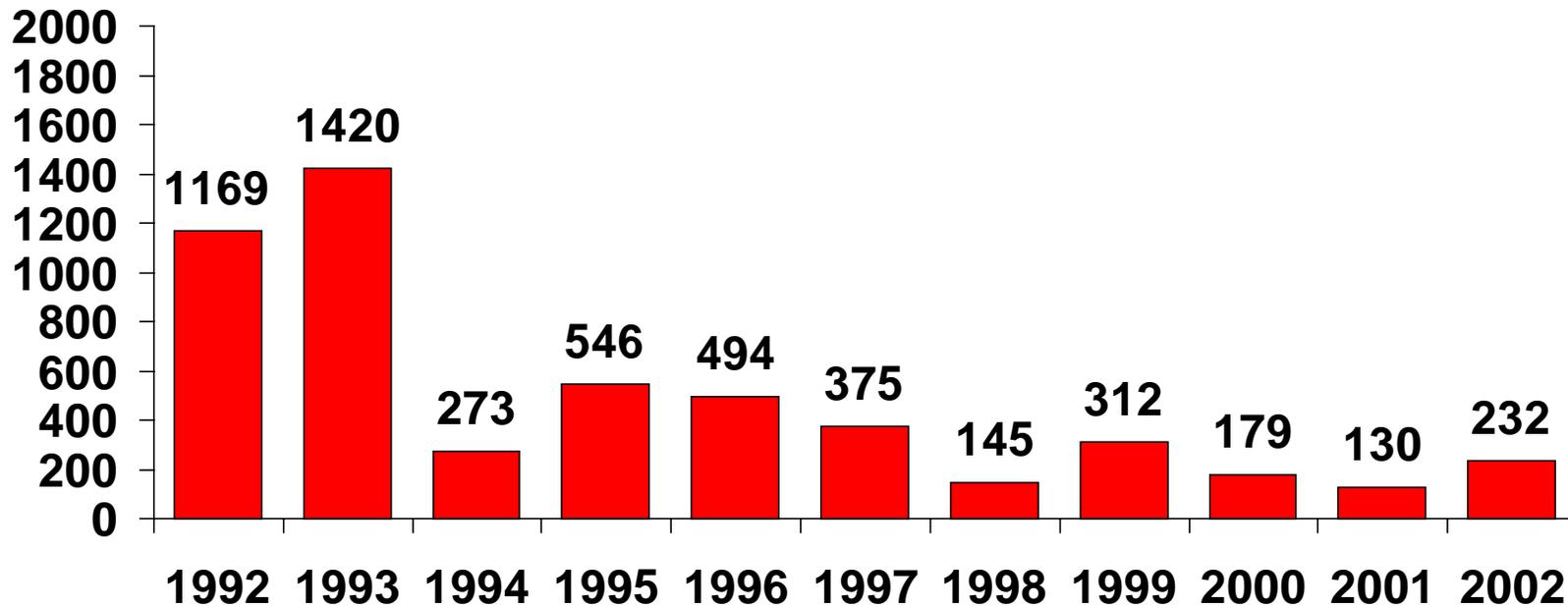
- % Change 2001-2002: 10.13%
- % Change 1991-2002: -64.03%

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO  
CIVIL CASES PENDING MORE THAN THREE YEARS  
1991-2002 (Year ending December 31)**



- % Change 2001-2002: 33.85%
- % Change 1991-2002: -78.20%

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO  
MOTIONS PENDING MORE THAN SIX MONTHS  
1992-2002 (Reporting period ending September 30)**



- % Change 2001-2002: 78.46%
- % Change 1992-2002: -80.15%