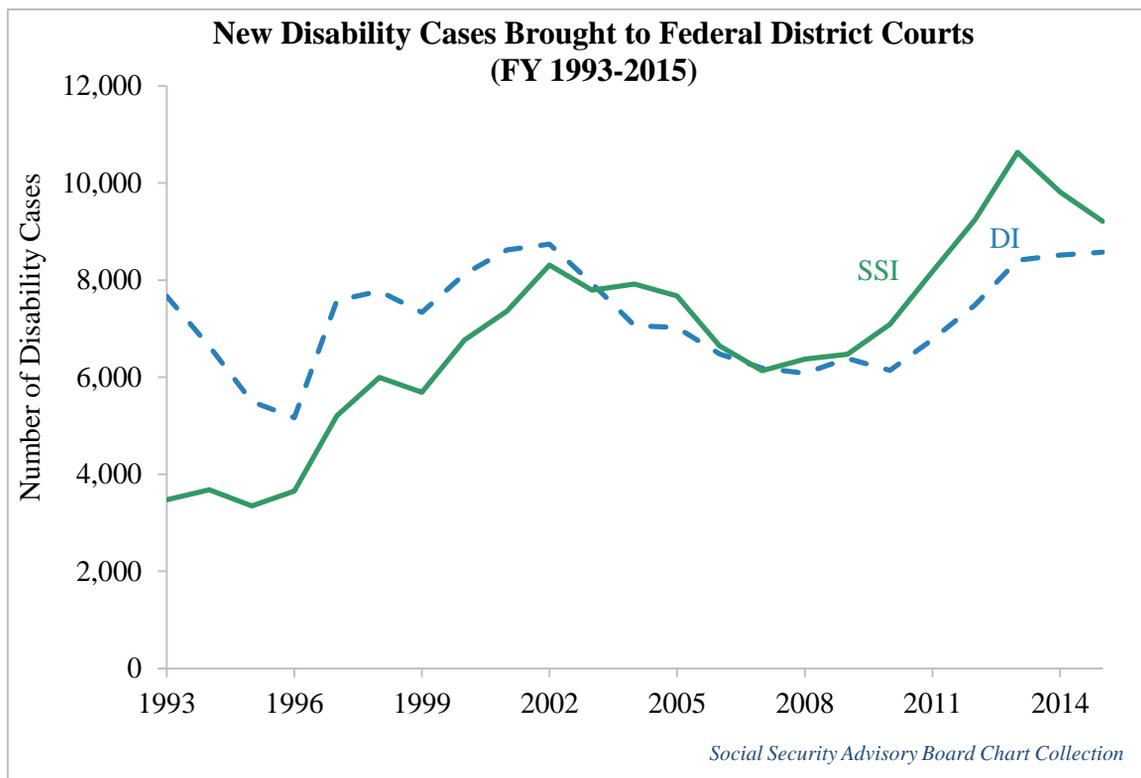


Chapter 11: Federal District Courts

Social Security Advisory Board



Chart 1: New Disability Cases Brought to Federal District Courts

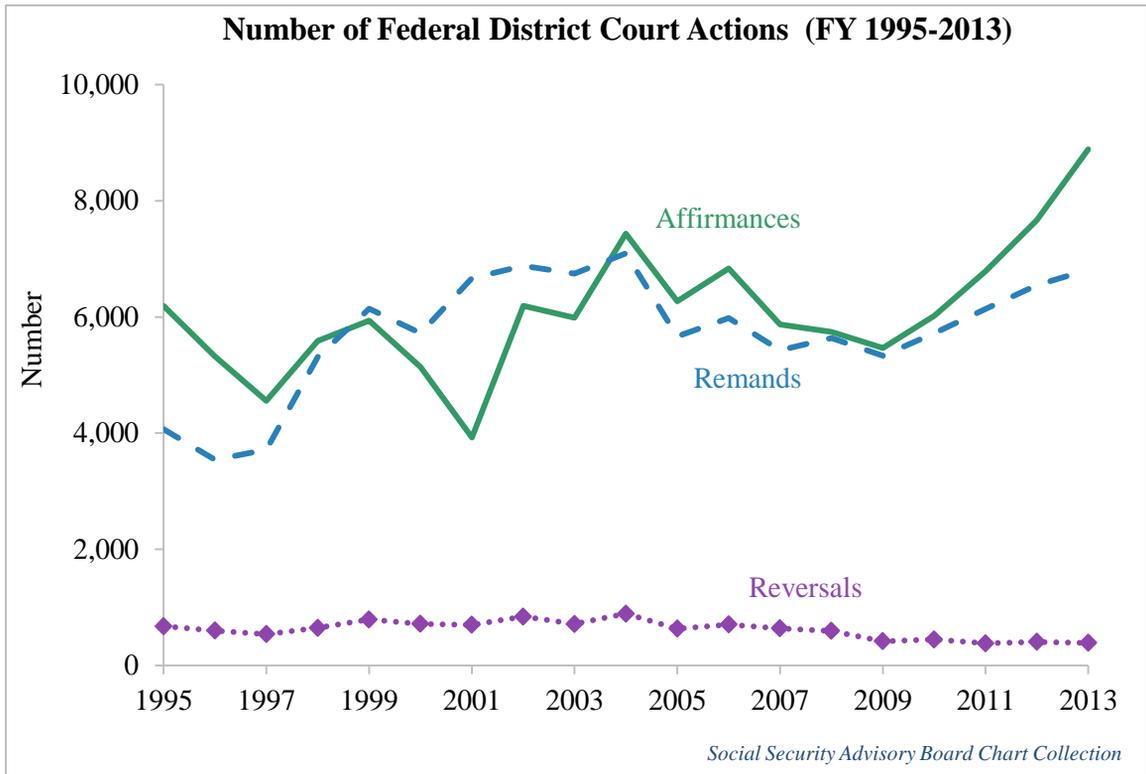


Generally, disability cases taken to Federal district courts declined from 2002 through 2010, both in number and in relative terms. In 2002 there were 17,052 new DI and SSI court cases, which represented 6.2 percent of all new civil cases. In 2010 there were 13,229, representing only 4.7 percent of all new civil cases. In 2015, there were 17,788 new DI and SSI court cases (6.4 percent of all new civil cases). The highest number of new disability cases brought to Federal district courts was 19,041 in 2013 (6.7 percent of all new civil cases).

Sources:

Administrative Office of the United States Courts, Judicial Business of the United States Courts for the years shown, table C-2A, <http://www.uscourts.gov/statistics/table/c-2a/judicial-business/2015/09/30>

Chart 2a: Federal District Court Actions



Since 1995, Federal courts have reversed relatively few agency decisions. The reversal rate was 6 percent or higher from 1995 through 2002, but since then it has dropped to less than 3 percent in 2011 to 2013.

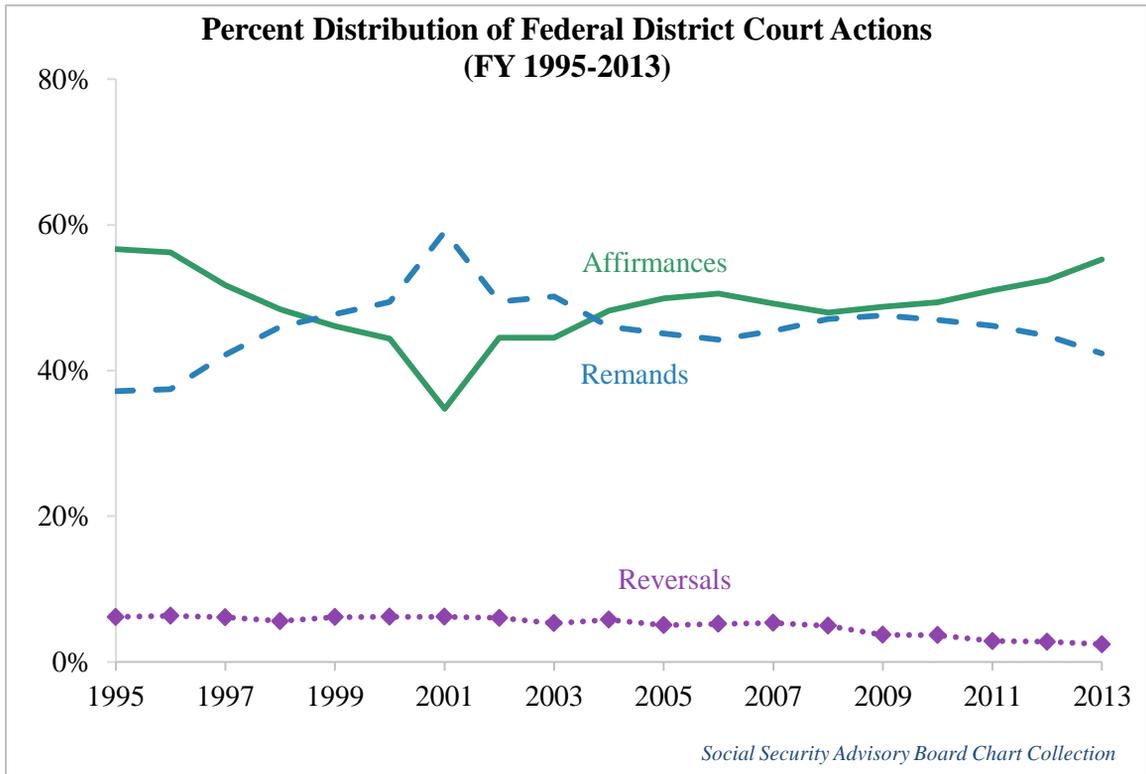
Of the remaining cases, the courts affirm about half of SSA's decisions, and remand the other half back to the agency. A large percentage of cases remanded are subsequently allowed by SSA. Figures shown here include all Social Security program litigation, of which disability cases account for about 95 percent.

Sources:

U.S. Social Security Administration, Office of General Counsel, *OGC Docket System*, data received August 2014.

Note: These numbers include all Social Security program litigation, disability and non-disability cases. The affirmation numbers include dismissals.

Chart 2b: Federal District Court Actions



Since 1995, Federal courts have reversed relatively few agency decisions. The reversal rate was 6 percent or higher from 1995 through 2002, but since then it has dropped to less than 3 percent in 2011 to 2013.

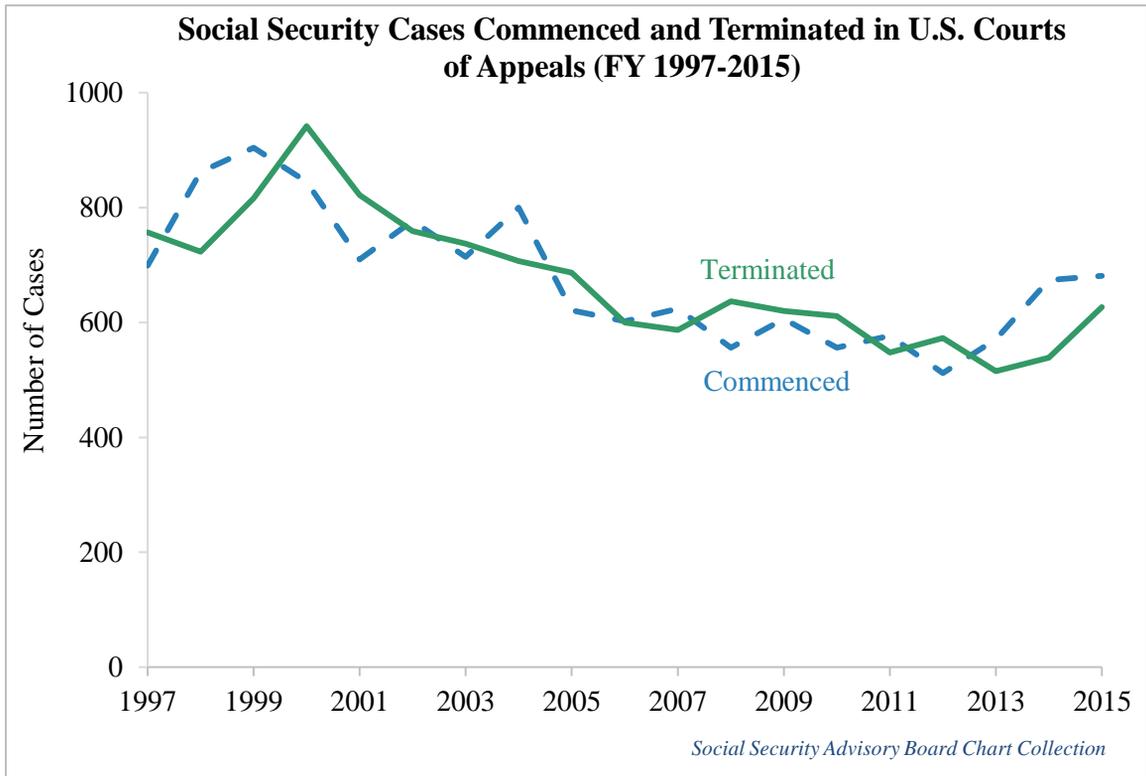
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Sources:

U.S. Social Security Administration, Office of General Counsel, *OGC Docket System*, data received August 2014.

Note: These numbers include all Social Security program litigation, disability and non-disability cases. The affirmation numbers include dismissals.

Chart 3: Social Security Cases Commenced and Terminated in U.S. Courts of Appeals



The number of Social Security cases appealed to the U.S. courts of appeals has varied somewhat over the years shown but has not exceeded 2 percent of all cases taken to those courts. Commenced refers to cases that are filed; terminated refers to cases that are actually decided.

Sources:

Administrative Office of the United States Courts, Judicial Business of the United States Courts for the years shown, table B-1A, <http://www.uscourts.gov/statistics/table/b-1a/judicial-business/2015/09/30>

Note: Data do not break out categories of Social Security cases.