Legal Records Demand Index

August 2026 report: Tracking growth in subpoena activity across the United States

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Wolters Kluwer

Executive summary

The **CT Corporation Legal Records Demand Index** provides a data-driven view into how demand for third-party records in U.S. legal proceedings has changed over time. Based on seven years of proprietary service of process data from CT Corporation, the Index tracks subpoena activity across major record categories, including insurance, medical, pharmacy, employment, banking, financial/credit card, and business records.

The 2026 Index shows that subpoena activity has grown substantially faster than non-subpoena service of process activity. From YTD June 2019 to YTD June 2026, subpoena volume increased **67%**, compared with a **40%** increase in non-subpoena service of process volume over the same YTD period.

Full-year data tells a similar story: from 2019 through 2025, subpoena volume increased **52%**, while non-subpoena service of process volume increased **21%**.

The findings point to a significant increase in subpoena activity and requests for third-party records associated with legal proceedings and other matters. While the data does not identify the factors driving individual subpoenas, subpoena activity grew substantially faster than non-subpoena service of process activity during the period analyzed.

Key findings

- **Subpoena activity is outpacing other service of process activity.** Subpoena volume increased **67%** from YTD June 2019 to YTD June 2026, compared with **40%** growth in non-subpoena service of process volume.
- **Healthcare-related records are among the fastest-growing subpoena categories.** Medical records subpoenas increased **136%**, while pharmacy records subpoenas increased **103%** from YTD June 2019 to YTD June 2026.
- **Insurance records remain the largest subpoena category analyzed.** Insurance records accounted for **28%** of subpoenas and increased **74%** from YTD June 2019 to YTD June 2026.
- **Financial and credit card record subpoenas rebounded above pre-pandemic levels.** This category increased **75%** from YTD June 2019 to YTD June 2026 after dropping significantly at the start of the pandemic.
- **Subpoena growth varies significantly by state.** Utah, New Jersey, Washington, North Carolina, and South Carolina posted the highest percentage increases among the jurisdictions highlighted in the analysis.
- **Florida stands out for healthcare-related subpoena growth.** Florida subpoena volume increased **109%** overall, while Florida medical records subpoenas increased **220%** and pharmacy records subpoenas increased **206%** from YTD June 2019 to YTD June 2026.

Introduction

Why track litigation records?

Subpoenas provide a unique view of trends in requests for records associated with litigation, regulatory inquiries, investigations, and other legal proceedings. While lawsuit filings and docket activity can show where disputes are occurring, subpoena activity can help illustrate changes in the volume and types of records being requested over time.

The **CT Corporation Legal Records Demand Index** was developed to help legal, compliance, risk, and corporate governance professionals better understand these shifts. The Index analyzes subpoena activity handled through CT Corporation's service of process operations and compares it with non-subpoena service of process activity over time.

This year's findings point to a clear trend: subpoena activity has risen more quickly than other service of process volume, with particularly strong growth in healthcare, pharmacy, insurance, and financial record requests.

Section 1: The CT Corporation Legal Records Demand Index

Subpoena activity has grown 67% since 2019

Using YTD June 2019 as a baseline, the CT Corporation Legal Records Demand Index shows sustained growth in subpoena activity over the seven-year period analyzed. Subpoena volume increased from **163,325** in YTD June 2019 to 273,020 in YTD June 2026.

Legal Records Demand Index score
2019 YTD June = 100

Year	YTD June subpoena volume	Index score
2019	163,325	100
2020	154,900	95
2021	175,277	107
2022	180,847	111
2023	205,492	126
2024	234,834	144
2025	242,147	148
2026	273,020	167

Index score calculated using YTD June 2019 subpoena volume as the baseline of 100.

The 2026 Index score of 167 reflects a **67%** increase in subpoena volume from the YTD June 2019 baseline.

Subpoenas are outpacing non-subpoena service of process activity

The Index also compares subpoena growth with non-subpoena service of process activity. From YTD June 2019 to YTD June 2026, subpoena volume increased **67%**, while non-subpoena service of process volume increased **40%**.

From 2019 through 2025 on a full-year basis, subpoena volume increased **52%**, compared with **21%** growth in non-subpoena service of process volume.

What this means

The data indicates that subpoenas represent a growing share of overall service of process activity. While the Index does not identify the reasons behind individual requests, subpoena activity grew substantially faster than non-subpoena service of process activity throughout the period analyzed.

Section 2: Record categories driving growth

Healthcare-related records lead the increase

Several subpoena categories showed significant growth from YTD June 2019 to YTD June 2026, with medical and pharmacy records posting the largest percentage increases among the major categories analyzed.

Subpoena growth by record category
YTD June 2019 to YTD June 2026

Record category	Share of subpoenas analyzed	Growth since 2019
Medical records	12%	+136%
Pharmacy records	9%	+103%
Financial/credit card records	13%	+75%
Insurance records	28%	+74%
Business records	9%	+57%
Banking records	12%	+35%
Employment records	11%	+20%

Medical records subpoenas increased **136%**, and pharmacy records subpoenas increased **103%** from YTD June 2019 to YTD June 2026.

Insurance records subpoenas increased **74%** and represented **28%** of subpoenas in the analysis, making insurance records the largest category shown in the data.

Financial and credit card records subpoenas increased **75%** from YTD June 2019 to YTD June 2026, following a significant drop at the start of the pandemic.

Category-level observations

Insurance records
Insurance records accounted for **28%** of subpoenas and increased **74%** from YTD June 2019 to YTD June 2026. The data also notes that insurance records subpoenas continued to rise even through the pandemic and were concentrated in California, Florida, Georgia, and Texas, which together represented **80%** of insurance records subpoenas.

Medical records
Medical records subpoenas increased **136%** from YTD June 2019 to YTD June 2026. The analysis notes that medical records subpoenas continued to rise even through the pandemic and were more than 100% higher in volume, with Florida, California, and Virginia identified as top states.

Pharmacy records
Pharmacy records subpoenas increased **103%** from YTD June 2019 to YTD June 2026. The data notes that pharmacy records subpoenas continued to rise even through the pandemic and were concentrated in Florida and California, which represented **76%** of pharmacy records subpoenas.

Financial and credit card records
Financial and credit card records subpoenas increased **75%** from YTD June 2019 to YTD June 2026. The category dropped significantly at the start of the pandemic but was **75%** higher than pre-pandemic YTD June 2019 levels by YTD June 2026.

Banking records
Banking records subpoenas increased **35%** from YTD June 2019 to YTD June 2026. The category dropped moderately in the pandemic year, rose each YTD June period through 2024, decreased **19%** in YTD June 2025, and was back up **14%** in YTD June 2026.

Employment records
Employment records subpoenas increased **20%** from YTD June 2019 to YTD June 2026. The data notes that the category declined in the pandemic year and rose each year thereafter, with less growth in YTD June 2025 before increasing **18%** in YTD June 2026.

Business records
Business records subpoenas increased **57%** from YTD June 2019 to YTD June 2026. The data notes that pandemic levels were virtually flat with YTD June 2019 and that the category has shown increasing percentage growth since 2023, with **26%** year-over-year growth in YTD June 2026.

Section 3: State trends

Fastest-growing jurisdictions

Subpoena growth varied significantly by jurisdiction. The fastest-growing states in the analysis include Utah, New Jersey, Washington, North Carolina, and South Carolina.

Fastest-growing states by subpoena volume
YTD June 2019 to YTD June 2026

State	2019 volume	2026 volume	Growth
Utah	913	2,529	+177%
New Jersey	1,278	3,451	+170%
Washington	835	2,140	+156%
North Carolina	1,434	3,591	+150%
South Carolina	1,236	2,844	+130%
Delaware	1,547	3,294	+113%
Florida	30,669	64,019	+109%

Utah subpoena volume increased from **913** in YTD June 2019 to **2,529** in YTD June 2026, a **177%** increase.

New Jersey subpoena volume increased from **1,278** in YTD June 2019 to **3,451** in YTD June 2026, a **170%** increase.

Washington subpoena volume increased from **835** in YTD June 2019 to **2,140** in YTD June 2026, a **156%** increase.

North Carolina subpoena volume increased from **1,434** in YTD June 2019 to **3,591** in YTD June 2026, a **150%** increase.

South Carolina subpoena volume increased from **1,236** in YTD June 2019 to **2,844** in YTD June 2026, a **130%** increase.

Largest jurisdictions by volume

California, Florida, New York, Texas, and Georgia were among the larger jurisdictions shown in the analysis based on YTD June 2026 subpoena volumes.

Selected high-volume states
YTD June 2026

State	2026 YTD June volumes	Growth since 2019
California	83,761	+69%
Florida	64,019	+109%
New York	24,423	+66%
Texas	12,498	+44%
Georgia	12,046	+53%

California subpoena volume increased from **49,592** in YTD June 2019 to **83,76**1 in YTD June 2026, a **69%** increase.

Florida subpoena volume increased from **30,669** in YTD June 2019 to **64,019** in YTD June 2026, a **109%** increase.

New York subpoena volume increased from **14,704** in YTD June 2019 to **24,423** in YTD June 2026, a **66%** increase.

Texas subpoena volume increased from **8,680** in YTD June 2019 to **12,498** in YTD June 2026, a **44%** increase.

Georgia subpoena volume increased from **7,897** in YTD June 2019 to **12,046** in YTD June 2026, a **53%** increase.

Section 4: State spotlights

Florida: Significant growth across healthcare-related record categories

Florida stands out in the 2026 Index because of both its overall subpoena growth and the scale of its healthcare-related record request increases. Florida subpoena volume increased **109%** from YTD June 2019 to YTD June 2026.

Florida category highlights
YTD June 2019 to YTD June 2026

Category	Growth
Medical records	+220%
Pharmacy records	+206%
Insurance records	+113%

Florida medical records subpoenas increased **220%**, pharmacy records subpoenas increased **206%**, and insurance records subpoenas increased **113%** from YTD June 2019 to YTD June 2026.

California: Broad-based growth across major record types

California remains the largest jurisdiction shown in the analysis by YTD June 2026 subpoena volume, with **83,761** subpoenas in YTD June 2026.

California category highlights
YTD June 2019 to YTD June 2026

Category	Growth
Medical records	+100%
Insurance records	+73%
Employment records	+33%

California medical records subpoenas increased **100%**, insurance records subpoenas increased **73%**, and employment records subpoenas increased **33%** from YTD June 2019 to YTD June 2026.

New York: Growth in financial and banking records

New York subpoena volume increased **66%** from YTD June 2019 to YTD June 2026.

New York category highlights
YTD June 2019 to YTD June 2026

Category	Growth
Financial/credit card records	+116%
Banking records	+69%
Business records	-25%

New York financial and credit card records subpoenas increased **116%**, banking records subpoenas increased **69%**, and business records subpoenas decreased **25%** from YTD June 2019 to YTD June 2026.

Section 5: Pandemic and recovery patterns

The Index shows that subpoena categories were affected differently during the pandemic period.

Insurance records, medical records, and pharmacy records continued to rise even through the pandemic, according to the analysis.

Financial and credit card records subpoenas dropped significantly at the start of the pandemic but were **75%** higher in YTD June 2026 than in YTD June 2019.

Banking records subpoenas dropped moderately in the pandemic year, then rose in each YTD June period through 2024 before decreasing **19%** in YTD June 2025 and rising **14%** in YTD June 2026.

Employment records subpoenas dropped in the pandemic year and rose each year thereafter, with less growth in YTD June 2025 before increasing **18%** in YTD June 2026.

Section 6: About the findings

The Legal Records Demand Index reports observed subpoena activity trends within the analyzed data set. The findings identify changes in subpoena volume over time but do not determine the causes of those changes or the nature of the underlying legal matters.

Section 7: Implications for legal, compliance, and governance leaders

The Legal Records Demand Index shows substantial growth in subpoena activity across multiple record categories and jurisdictions. While the data does not identify the factors driving individual requests, the findings provide a view into how subpoena activity and requests for third-party records have changed over time.

For legal, compliance, risk, and governance teams, this trend may increase the importance of:

- Maintaining clear records management policies
- Ensuring consistent intake and routing of legal documents
- Tracking subpoena response workflows
- Coordinating across legal, compliance, privacy, and operations functions
- Monitoring jurisdictional and category-specific trends that may affect workload

These are general implications based on the growth patterns identified in the Index; the source data does not specify how individual organizations are managing subpoena response processes.

Conclusion

The 2026 CT Corporation Legal Records Demand Index shows a sustained increase in subpoena activity across the United States, with subpoena volume growing faster than non-subpoena service of process activity.

The strongest growth appeared in healthcare-related records, including medical and pharmacy records, while insurance records remained the largest category analyzed.

At the jurisdiction level, the data shows both significant growth in high-volume states such as California and Florida and rapid percentage increases in smaller or emerging jurisdictions such as Utah, New Jersey, Washington, North Carolina, and South Carolina.

Together, these trends highlight substantial growth in subpoena activity and requests for third-party records across multiple record categories and jurisdictions during the period analyzed. For organizations that receive, manage, or respond to subpoenas, understanding where and how record requests are changing can help inform legal operations, compliance planning, and governance strategies.

About CT Corporation

CT Corporation, a Wolters Kluwer business, provides registered agent, compliance, and service of process solutions that help businesses manage legal and regulatory obligations. CT Corporation supports organizations across industries with solutions designed to help them maintain good standing, manage compliance requirements, and respond to legal documents.

Methodology

The CT Corporation Legal Records Demand Index analyzes subpoena activity from CT Corporation's service of process operations. The analysis includes subpoena activity by lawsuit subtype and jurisdiction and compares subpoena volumes with non-subpoena service of process volumes.

The data covers 2019 through YTD June 2026. The YTD comparisons reflect YTD June activity for each year shown.