



Summary of corporate insolvencies by size, age and location in England and Wales, 2015 to 2017

Main Points

- The number of enterprises entering insolvency was stable between 2015 and 2017, but the rate has fallen due to an increase in the number of enterprises.
- Insolvent enterprises accounted for an estimated 0.67% of all England and Wales turnover in 2017.
- Insolvency was **more likely** in northern regions.
- Insolvency was **less likely** in very small or very large enterprises.

National Overview

In 2017, there were 14,210 enterprise insolvencies in England and Wales: this was broadly similar to both 2015 and 2016.

Although enterprise insolvency volumes have remained level over the 3 years there has been an increase in the number of corporate enterprises registered with the IDBR from 1.5 million in 2015 to 1.75 million in 2017.

Therefore, the rate of insolvencies per 10,000 enterprises in England and Wales has fallen from 95 in 2015 to 81 in 2017.

Region

Region refers to where a company's is registered and does not necessarily reflect where they carry out their business activities.

Yorkshire and the Humber, the North East and the North West had the **highest insolvency rates**.

London had the **highest number of insolvencies** because more enterprises were registered there.

Figure 1: Enterprise insolvencies by region in England and Wales, 2015-2017





Size - turnover and number of employees

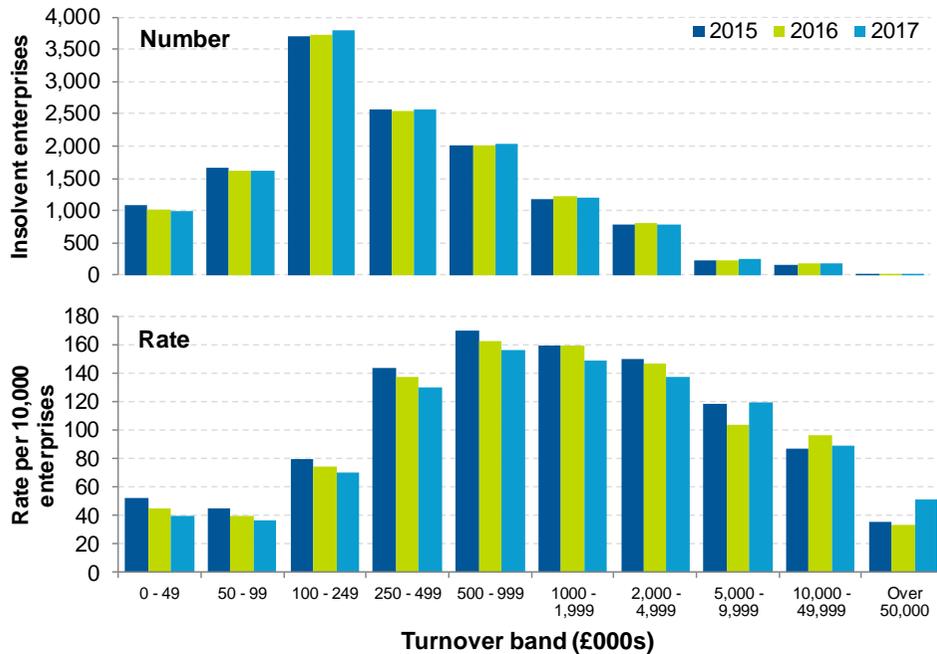
Turnover

48% of insolvencies occurred in enterprises with a turnover under £250,000.

However, these types of enterprise are **less likely** to enter insolvency. In enterprises that had a turnover under £250,000 the insolvency rate was lower than the England and Wales average

At the other end of the scale, enterprises with a turnover of £50 million or greater were also **less likely** than average to enter insolvency, with a rate of 52 insolvencies per 10,000.

Figure 2: Enterprise insolvencies by turnover in England and Wales, 2015-2017



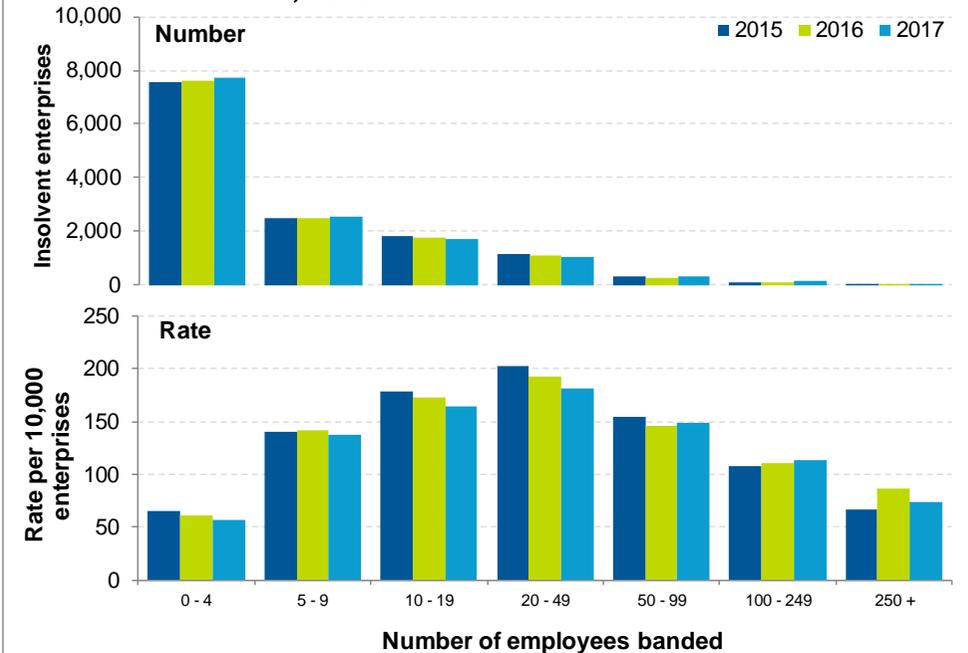
Number of employees

57% of insolvencies occurred in enterprises with 4 or fewer employees

However, these types of enterprise are **less likely** to enter insolvency. In enterprises that had up to 4 people the insolvency rate was lower than the England and Wales average

At the other end of the scale enterprises with more than 250 employees were also **less likely** than average to enter insolvency, with a rate of 73 insolvencies per 10,000.

Figure 3: Enterprise insolvencies by number of employees in England and Wales, 2015-2017



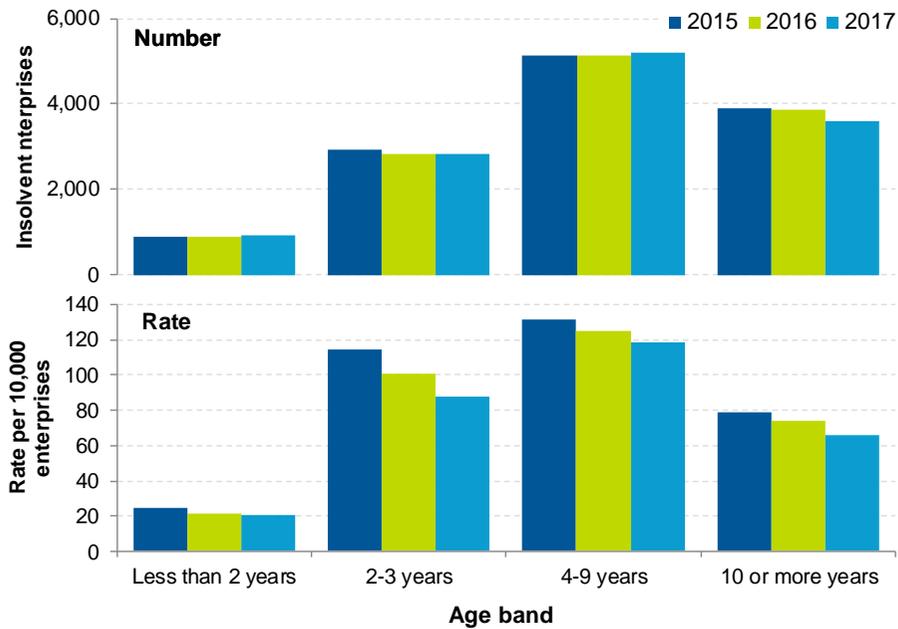


Age

In all years between 2015 and 2017 the **largest number** of insolvencies occurred in companies that were aged between 4 and 9 years old. In 2017, 5,200 enterprises in this group went into insolvency.

The **lowest number** of insolvencies for all years since 2015 occurred in enterprises that were under 2 years old. 910 enterprises in this group went into insolvency in 2017.

Figure 4: Enterprise insolvencies by age in England and Wales, 2015-2017



Industry

In 2017, enterprises in the accommodation and food services industry entered insolvency at a rate of 217 enterprises per 10,000, the **highest rate** in England and Wales.

The **lowest rate** of insolvency was in the agricultural, forestry and fisheries industry grouping with an insolvency rate of 30 per 10,000.

Figure 5: Enterprise insolvencies by industry in England and Wales, 2017

