

# **Company winding up and bankruptcy petition court statistics – second quarter 2009**

Ministry of Justice  
Statistics bulletin

Published: 14 August 2009

## Introduction

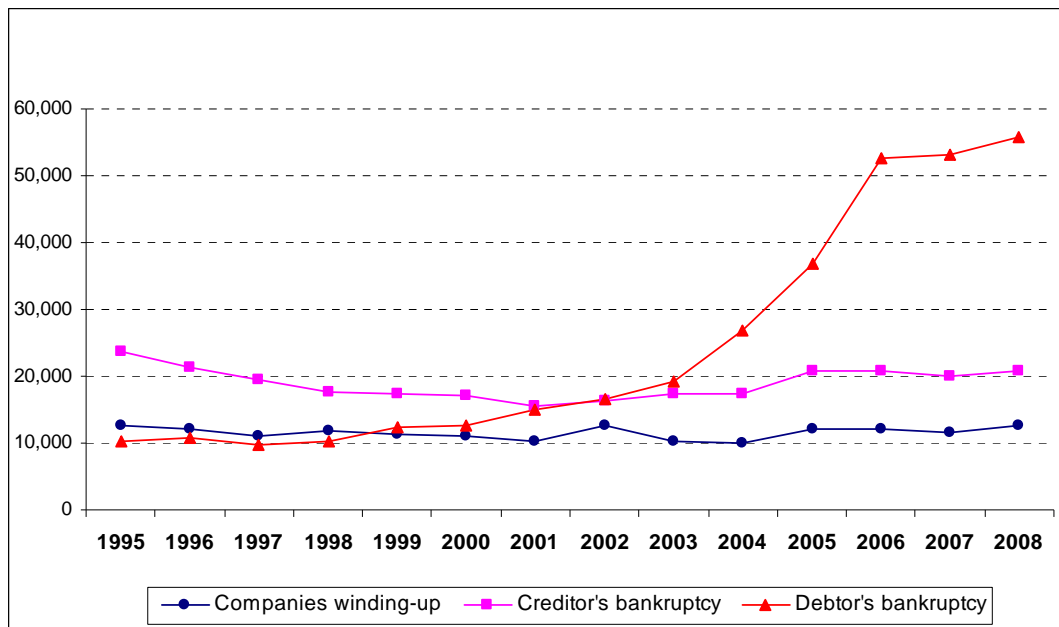
This bulletin presents the numbers of company winding up, and creditors' and debtors' bankruptcy petitions issued in the High Court and county courts of England and Wales for the second quarter of 2009.

## Findings

In the second quarter of 2009 the following number of petitions were issued:

- 3,181 **company winding up petitions** – an increase of 9% on the same quarter of 2008 and an 8% decrease on the previous quarter.
- 4,951 **creditors' petitions** – a decrease of 12% on the same quarter of 2008 and a 9% increase on the previous quarter.
- 16,139 **debtors' petitions** – an increase of 19% on the same quarter of 2008 and a 4% decrease on the previous quarter.

**Figure 1: Company winding up and bankruptcy petitions filed 1995 – 2008**



**Table 1: Insolvency and bankruptcy petitions filed, 1995-2009**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Quarter</b>	<b>Companies winding-up petitions</b>	<b>Creditors bankruptcy petitions</b>	<b>Debtors bankruptcy petitions</b>
1995		12,757	23,765	10,139
1996		11,980	21,268	10,689
1997		11,158	19,543	9,636
1998		11,771	17,755	10,380
1999		11,315	17,496	12,393
2000		11,028	17,220	12,757
2001		10,265	15,571	14,984
2002		12,634	16,330	16,507
2003		10,146	17,258	19,323
2004		10,006	17,459	26,776
2005		12,099	20,777	36,897
2006		12,108	20,891	52,678
2007		11,676	19,987	53,080
2008		12,559	20,678	55,663
2003	Q1	2,650	4,366	4,357
	Q2	2,577	4,271	4,776
	Q3	2,385	4,320	4,922
	Q4	2,534	4,301	5,268
2004	Q1	2,617	4,555	5,124
	Q2	2,233	4,422	7,337
	Q3	2,542	3,980	6,901
	Q4	2,614	4,502	7,414
2005	Q1	2,892	4,861	7,528
	Q2	3,229	5,419	9,285
	Q3	2,977	5,087	9,418
	Q4	3,001	5,410	10,666
2006	Q1	3,151	5,615	13,843
	Q2	2,775	4,966	12,811
	Q3	2,878	5,107	12,950
	Q4	3,304	5,203	13,074
2007	Q1	3,302	5,712	15,127
	Q2	2,643	4,770	13,502
	Q3	2,859	4,938	12,772
	Q4	2,872	4,567	11,679
2008	Q1	3,054	4,771	12,985
	Q2	2,927	5,655	13,565
	Q3	3,196	5,539	13,749
	Q4	3,382	4,713	15,364
2009	Q1	3,461	4,535	16,775
	Q2	3,181 (p)	4,951 (p)	16,139 (p)

## Notes:

All period figures denoted by (r) are based on revised data and replace those provided in the last bulletin

All period figures denoted by (p) are based on provisional data

Figures in this table are not seasonally adjusted. Care should be taken when drawing comparisons between periods that do not cover the same parts of the year, as any difference may in part be a result of seasonal effects

**Table 2: Insolvency and Bankruptcy petitions filed in the county courts, 2009 Q2**

	Companies winding-up		Creditors bankruptcy		Debtors bankruptcy petitions	
	2009 Q2	% Change <sup>2</sup> in total since 2008 Q2	2009 Q2	% Change <sup>2</sup> in total since 2008 Q2	2009 Q2	% Change <sup>2</sup> in total since 2008 Q2
Croydon	2	-	116	9%	296	7%
Kingston-upon-Thames	3	-	55	34%	108	77%
Romford	1	-	55	-35%	69	-28%
<b>London County Court Group</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>226</b>	<b>-3%</b>	<b>473</b>	<b>9%</b>
<i>Royal Courts of Justice</i> <sup>1</sup>	1,815	32%	2,162	-13%	1,099	26%
<b>London</b>	<b>1,821</b>	<b>31%</b>	<b>2,388</b>	<b>-12%</b>	<b>1,572</b>	<b>21%</b>
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☒ Birmingham	368	30%	112	4%	526	59%
Coventry	5	-	36	33%	221	44%
Warwick	1	-	15	-	52	11%
<b>Birmingham, Coventry, Solihull and Warwickshire</b>	<b>374</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>799</b>	<b>50%</b>
Burton-on-Trent	1	-	9	-	70	-4%
Dudley	0	-	12	-	55	28%
Hereford	1	-	12	-40%	76	23%
Kidderminster	1	-	5	-	46	44%
Shrewsbury	2	-	8	-	115	21%
Stafford	0	-	6	-	41	24%
Stoke-on-Trent	0	-	21	5%	137	-13%
Stourbridge	6	-	8	-	45	15%
Walsall	0	-	31	0%	242	78%
Wolverhampton	1	-	16	-	88	-31%
Worcester	5	-	11	-	121	30%
<b>Black Country, Staffordshire and West Mercia</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>-2%</b>	<b>1,036</b>	<b>16%</b>
Chesterfield	1	-	8	-	83	9%
Derby	6	-	22	-	135	13%
Nottingham	4	-	77	28%	343	14%
<b>Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>561</b>	<b>13%</b>
Boston	4	-	9	-55%	92	35%
Leicester	14	-	48	100%	191	7%
Lincoln	0	-	14	-30%	179	23%
Northampton	7	-	36	-23%	186	9%
<b>Lincolnshire, Leicestershire, Rutland and Northamptonshire</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>-4%</b>	<b>648</b>	<b>15%</b>
<b>Midlands</b>	<b>427</b>	<b>41%</b>	<b>516</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>3,044</b>	<b>23%</b>
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Darlington	1	-	10	-	71	-7%
Durham	0	-	18	-	110	-7%
Middlesborough	1	-	23	15%	183	14%
☒ Newcastle-upon-Tyne	37	-12%	46	-65%	503	31%
Sunderland	3	-	22	-19%	124	27%
<b>Cleveland, Durham and Northumbria</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>-9%</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>-43%</b>	<b>991</b>	<b>18%</b>
Barnsley	0	-	9	-	72	14%
Doncaster	1	-	18	-	144	17%
Gt Grimsby	1	-	14	-44%	89	-2%
Kingston-upon-Hull	4	-	26	-26%	229	24%
Scunthorpe	0	-	3	-	60	94%
Sheffield	4	-	54	-65%	262	30%
<b>Humber and South Yorkshire</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>-52%</b>	<b>856</b>	<b>23%</b>
Bradford	0	-	42	-18%	130	-2%
Dewsbury	0	-	17	-	76	25%
Halifax	2	-	23	-12%	45	25%
Harrogate	0	-	6	-	66	94%
Huddersfield	0	-	9	-	39	-11%
☒ Leeds	337	13%	36	-25%	141	16%
Scarborough	0	-	8	-	71	-16%
Wakefield	0	-	13	-	93	-15%
York	3	-	18	-	124	77%
<b>North and West Yorkshire</b>	<b>342</b>	<b>12%</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>-12%</b>	<b>785</b>	<b>13%</b>
<b>North East</b>	<b>394</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>415</b>	<b>-37%</b>	<b>2,632</b>	<b>18%</b>

Company winding up and bankruptcy petition statistics – second quarter 2009

	Companies winding-up		Creditors bankruptcy		Debtors bankruptcy petitions	
	2009 Q2	% Change <sup>2</sup> in total since 2008 Q2	2009 Q2	% Change <sup>2</sup> in total since 2008 Q2	2009 Q2	% Change <sup>2</sup> in total since 2008 Q2
Birkenhead	0	-	15	-	72	-1%
Chester	1	-	12	-	67	52%
Crewe	0	-	16	-48%	71	45%
☒ Liverpool	72	-29%	79	-49%	369	4%
Macclesfield	1	-	18	-	61	65%
Warrington	0	-	22	-	82	3%
<b>Cheshire and Merseyside</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>-30%</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>-33%</b>	<b>722</b>	<b>13%</b>
Barrow-in-Furness	0	-	5	-	23	-18%
Blackburn	1	-	17	-	93	35%
Blackpool	0	-	19	-17%	75	-1%
Burnley	1	-	18	-42%	66	32%
Carlisle	0	-	12	-	52	73%
Kendal	0	-	4	-	18	-
Lancaster	0	-	2	-	25	14%
☒ Preston	11	-67%	8	-65%	141	28%
Whitehaven	1	-	2	-	38	0%
<b>Cumbria and Lancashire</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>-60%</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>-35%</b>	<b>531</b>	<b>22%</b>
Bolton	3	-	20	-	57	4%
Bury	4	-	7	-	59	37%
☒ Manchester	233	3%	59	0%	115	-12%
Oldham	1	-	21	-9%	91	-1%
Salford	2	-	21	-13%	83	-19%
Stockport	0	-	16	-	73	4%
Tameside	0	-	6	-81%	60	9%
Wigan	2	-	24	-	101	11%
<b>Greater Manchester</b>	<b>245</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>-10%</b>	<b>639</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>North West</b>	<b>333</b>	<b>-10%</b>	<b>423</b>	<b>-26%</b>	<b>1,892</b>	<b>11%</b>
Bedford	2	-	8	-	51	31%
Chelmsford	4	-	23	0%	86	15%
Colchester	5	-	22	-	187	67%
Hertford	0	-	18	-10%	93	19%
Luton	1	-	30	-52%	146	35%
Southend-on-Sea	3	-	95	-14%	226	-12%
St. Albans	1	-	39	15%	144	4%
<b>Bedfordshire, Essex and Herts</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>-13%</b>	<b>933</b>	<b>15%</b>
Bury St Edmonds	1	-	10	-55%	83	-9%
Cambridge	1	-	15	-	137	38%
Ipswich	8	-	3	-	108	11%
King's Lynn	0	-	16	-	68	5%
Norwich	2	-	14	-50%	301	29%
Peterborough	5	-	10	-	159	23%
<b>Cambridgeshire, Norfolk and Suffolk</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>-22%</b>	<b>856</b>	<b>20%</b>
Canterbury	2	-	29	-	305	69%
Maidstone	1	-	2	-	46	48%
Medway	1	-	55	31%	187	18%
Tunbridge Wells	0	-	17	-	77	43%
<b>Kent</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>34%</b>	<b>615</b>	<b>45%</b>
Brighton	5	-	75	50%	394	42%
Eastbourne	0	-	11	-	92	104%
Guildford	2	-	69	103%	127	9%
Hastings	0	-	5	-	68	-16%
<b>Surrey and Sussex</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>63%</b>	<b>681</b>	<b>31%</b>
Aylesbury	1	-	32	-35%	92	14%
Banbury	1	-	10	-	36	-5%
Newbury	2	-	5	-	35	35%
Milton Keynes	6	-	24	-45%	97	54%
Oxford	4	-	21	0%	89	-3%
Reading	11	-	34	6%	149	31%
Slough	3	-	48	14%	106	6%
<b>Thames Valley</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>-14%</b>	<b>604</b>	<b>18%</b>
<b>South East</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>44%</b>	<b>740</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>3,689</b>	<b>24%</b>

Company winding up and bankruptcy petition statistics – second quarter 2009

	Companies winding-up		Creditors bankruptcy		Debtors bankruptcy petitions	
	2009 Q2	% Change <sup>2</sup> in total since 2008 Q2	2009 Q2	% Change <sup>2</sup> in total since 2008 Q2	2009 Q2	% Change <sup>2</sup> in total since 2008 Q2
Bath	0	-	33	-	107	0%
☒ Bristol	75	-81%	39	-30%	286	-2%
Taunton	0	-	10	-	101	36%
Yeovil	2	-	15	-	110	24%
<b>Avon &amp; Somerset</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>-81%</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>604</b>	<b>7%</b>
Barnstaple	1	-	6	-	79	18%
Exeter	1	-	20	-23%	123	14%
Plymouth	0	-	11	-	232	23%
Torquay	1	-	15	-	128	41%
Truro	4	-	24	-	178	11%
<b>Devon &amp; Cornwall</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>-13%</b>	<b>740</b>	<b>20%</b>
Bournemouth	9	-	37	-14%	244	5%
Cheltenham	1	-	10	-	53	2%
Gloucester	4	-	12	-	102	28%
Salisbury	0	-	2	-	36	-5%
Swindon	1	-	17	-15%	162	71%
Weymouth	0	-	8	-	76	17%
<b>Dorset, Gloucestershire and Wiltshire</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>-15%</b>	<b>673</b>	<b>20%</b>
Newport (I.O.W.)	1	-	4	-	55	4%
Portsmouth	2	-	20	-29%	178	10%
Southampton	5	-	15	-	164	11%
Winchester	0	-	1	-	27	13%
<b>Hampshire &amp; Isle of Wight</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>-37%</b>	<b>424</b>	<b>10%</b>
<b>South West</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>-75%</b>	<b>299</b>	<b>-11%</b>	<b>2,441</b>	<b>15%</b>
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Aberystwyth	0	-	1	-	5	-
Carmarthen	0	-	8	-	22	-24%
Haverfordwest	0	-	7	-	38	-12%
Neath & Port Talbot	0	-	2	-	66	-7%
Swansea	4	-	23	-	71	122%
Welshpool & Newton	0	-	3	-93%	23	-89%
<b>Mid and West Wales</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>225</b>	<b>-</b>
Caernarfon	0	-	5	-	47	-
Llangefni	0	-	4	-	12	-
Mold	1	-	7	-	22	-44%
Rhyl	0	-	7	-	63	37%
Wrexham	2	-	8	-70%	63	-57%
<b>North Wales</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>-</b>
Aberdare	1	-	1	-	20	-57%
Blackwood	0	-	5	-	64	-
Bridgend	0	-	11	-	69	47%
☒ Cardiff	14	-	43	48%	103	-10%
Merthyr Tydfil	0	-	4	-	9	-
Newport (Gwent)	5	-	22	-	121	55%
Pontypridd	0	-	9	-	51	-26%
<b>South East Wales</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>437</b>	<b>15%</b>
<b>Wales</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>869</b>	<b>18%</b>
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<b>England &amp; Wales</b>	<b>3,181</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>4,951</b>	<b>-12%</b>	<b>16,139</b>	<b>19%</b>

☒ Provincial High Court Centre

- 1 The Royal Courts of Justice located in central London, is the headquarters of the High Court. The Court has nationwide jurisdiction but handles a particularly large proportion of the insolvency work originating in London, and is therefore included in the London regional total.
- 2 The percentage change figures shown in this table reflect, where necessary, revised data for earlier years. They may therefore not be consistent with previously published data for these earlier time periods. Percentages are not shown where the number of petitions in the same quarter a year ago is fewer than 20.

**Table 3: Insolvency and bankruptcy petitions filed in the county courts, 2008 Q3 – 2009 Q2**

	Companies winding-up		Creditors bankruptcy		Debtors bankruptcy	
	2008 Q3- 2009 Q2	% Change <sup>2</sup> in total since 2007 Q3 - 2008 Q2	2008 Q3- 2009 Q2	% Change <sup>2</sup> in total since 2007 Q3 - 2008 Q2	2008 Q3- 2009 Q2	% Change <sup>2</sup> in total since 2007 Q3 - 2008 Q2
Croydon	15	-	464	-5%	1,235	12%
Kingston-upon-Thames	6	-	161	29%	412	29%
Romford	10	-	297	-8%	424	-8%
<b>London County Court Group</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>-3%</b>	<b>922</b>	<b>-1%</b>	<b>2,071</b>	<b>10%</b>
<i>Royal Courts of Justice</i> <sup>1</sup>	7,180	29%	8,289	0%	3,809	9%
<b>London</b>	<b>7,211</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>9,211</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>5,880</b>	<b>9%</b>
☒ Birmingham	1,537	49%	532	1%	1,574	19%
Coventry	23	-	142	17%	719	39%
Warwick	7	-	50	79%	182	9%
<b>Birmingham, Coventry, Solihull and Warwickshire</b>	<b>1,567</b>	<b>49%</b>	<b>724</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>2,475</b>	<b>24%</b>
Burton-on-Trent	4	-	43	19%	270	13%
Dudley	0	-	48	-27%	230	20%
Hereford	1	-	38	-7%	281	30%
Kidderminster	2	-	22	-8%	189	31%
Shrewsbury	12	-	41	8%	393	28%
Stafford	2	-	26	-16%	205	52%
Stoke-on-Trent	6	-	99	65%	630	9%
Stourbridge	12	-	45	0%	150	9%
Walsall	3	-	89	-20%	726	39%
Wolverhampton	14	-	97	45%	505	20%
Worcester	8	-	43	-2%	437	22%
<b>Black Country, Staffordshire and West Mercia</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>78%</b>	<b>591</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>4,016</b>	<b>24%</b>
Chesterfield	4	-	32	14%	337	52%
Derby	18	-	84	22%	518	10%
Nottingham	10	-	262	30%	1,369	35%
<b>Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>378</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>2,224</b>	<b>30%</b>
Boston	8	-	54	-13%	383	43%
Leicester	28	-	158	95%	817	12%
Lincoln	11	-	66	2%	633	18%
Northampton	25	-	176	14%	1,159	75%
<b>Lincolnshire, Leicestershire &amp; Rutland and Northamptonshire</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>71%</b>	<b>454</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>2,992</b>	<b>36%</b>
<b>Midlands</b>	<b>1,735</b>	<b>53%</b>	<b>2,147</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>11,707</b>	<b>28%</b>
Darlington	2	-	39	50%	299	13%
Durham	4	-	94	27%	483	25%
Middlesborough	6	-	91	-3%	633	29%
☒ Newcastle-upon-Tyne	207	-8%	263	-36%	1,895	32%
Sunderland	6	-	90	-21%	538	36%
<b>Cleveland, Durham and Northumbria</b>	<b>225</b>	<b>-8%</b>	<b>577</b>	<b>-20%</b>	<b>3,848</b>	<b>30%</b>
Barnsley	4	-	42	-45%	298	14%
Doncaster	3	-	50	9%	489	29%
Gt Grimsby	10	-	58	-15%	389	18%
Kingston-upon-Hull	17	-26%	113	-7%	745	15%
Scunthorpe	0	-	21	-25%	176	56%
Sheffield	17	-	227	-60%	862	19%
<b>Humber and South Yorkshire</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>-4%</b>	<b>511</b>	<b>-44%</b>	<b>2,959</b>	<b>21%</b>
Bradford	6	-	166	-54%	546	14%
Dewsbury	1	-	73	-18%	291	41%
Halifax	2	-	87	-5%	209	38%
Harrogate	1	-	37	-42%	211	57%
Huddersfield	1	-	64	0%	199	14%
☒ Leeds	1,453	20%	148	-16%	546	22%
Scarborough	1	-	29	-19%	320	1%
Wakefield	0	-	71	-5%	487	32%
York	7	-	45	36%	431	44%
<b>North and West Yorkshire</b>	<b>1,472</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>720</b>	<b>-27%</b>	<b>3,240</b>	<b>25%</b>
<b>North East</b>	<b>1,748</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>1,808</b>	<b>-31%</b>	<b>10,047</b>	<b>25%</b>

Company winding up and bankruptcy petition statistics – second quarter 2009

	Companies winding-up		Creditors bankruptcy		Debtors bankruptcy	
	2008 Q3- 2009 Q2	% Change <sup>2</sup> in total since 2007 Q3 - 2008 Q2	2008 Q3- 2009 Q2	% Change <sup>2</sup> in total since 2007 Q3 - 2008 Q2	2008 Q3- 2009 Q2	% Change <sup>2</sup> in total since 2007 Q3 - 2008 Q2
Birkenhead	2	-	71	-12%	325	14%
Chester	2	-	51	-2%	234	35%
Crewe	0	-	64	-36%	306	59%
☒ Liverpool	330	-4%	309	-31%	1,228	19%
Macclesfield	5	-	67	56%	217	44%
Warrington	0	-	52	21%	324	5%
<b>Cheshire and Merseyside</b>	<b>339</b>	<b>-5%</b>	<b>614</b>	<b>-20%</b>	<b>2,634</b>	<b>23%</b>
Barrow-in-Furness	0	-	17	-	114	7%
Blackburn	10	-	90	14%	326	41%
Blackpool	0	-	88	24%	330	-13%
Burnley	3	-	73	-27%	274	43%
Carlisle	3	-	25	-17%	161	52%
Kendal	0	-	12	-	57	30%
Lancaster	3	-	21	-32%	98	44%
☒ Preston	48	-29%	68	-31%	484	20%
Whitehaven	2	-	13	-	153	-7%
<b>Cumbria and Lancashire</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>-8%</b>	<b>407</b>	<b>-10%</b>	<b>1,997</b>	<b>18%</b>
Bolton	10	-	82	86%	255	9%
Bury	6	-	48	-8%	242	58%
☒ Manchester	1,067	33%	182	-17%	569	18%
Oldham	2	-	116	29%	359	22%
Salford	5	-	68	5%	336	20%
Stockport	4	-	147	116%	336	29%
Tameside	0	-	42	-34%	275	30%
Wigan	6	-	78	-9%	377	12%
<b>Greater Manchester</b>	<b>1,100</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>763</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>2,749</b>	<b>22%</b>
<b>North West</b>	<b>1,508</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>1,784</b>	<b>-6%</b>	<b>7,380</b>	<b>21%</b>
Bedford	6	-	42	-5%	203	12%
Chelmsford	6	-	56	2%	335	34%
Colchester	13	-	96	2%	651	36%
Hertford	7	-	63	80%	349	42%
Luton	13	-	152	-30%	565	9%
Southend-on-Sea	12	-	478	70%	980	18%
St. Albans	7	-	144	-7%	506	-16%
<b>Bedfordshire, Essex and Herts</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>56%</b>	<b>1,031</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>3,589</b>	<b>16%</b>
Bury St Edmonds	4	-	54	23%	290	7%
Cambridge	3	-	65	48%	441	9%
Ipswich	11	-	36	-23%	457	4%
King's Lynn	0	-	48	60%	256	2%
Norwich	14	-	91	-22%	1,181	37%
Peterborough	11	-	71	25%	615	35%
<b>Cambridgeshire, Norfolk and Suffolk</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>95%</b>	<b>365</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>3,240</b>	<b>21%</b>
Canterbury	8	-	106	13%	923	37%
Maidstone	4	-	17	-37%	211	45%
Medway	25	-	189	-4%	727	18%
Tunbridge Wells	3	-	51	31%	264	18%
<b>Kent</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>48%</b>	<b>363</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>2,125</b>	<b>28%</b>
Brighton	20	-17%	279	42%	1,399	3%
Eastbourne	0	-	24	4%	256	46%
Guildford	22	-	172	45%	512	8%
Hastings	2	-	35	17%	294	11%
<b>Surrey and Sussex</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>510</b>	<b>38%</b>	<b>2,461</b>	<b>8%</b>
Aylesbury	17	-	175	22%	399	40%
Banbury	2	-	29	-	142	3%
Newbury	7	-	19	-	143	18%
Milton Keynes	13	-	90	-16%	352	42%
Oxford	8	-	102	57%	430	13%
Reading	16	-	96	8%	590	24%
Slough	19	-	176	4%	424	15%
<b>Thames Valley</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>95%</b>	<b>687</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>2,480</b>	<b>23%</b>
<b>South East</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>63%</b>	<b>2,956</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>13,895</b>	<b>18%</b>



Company winding up and bankruptcy petition statistics – second quarter 2009

	Companies winding-up		Creditors bankruptcy		Debtors bankruptcy	
	2008 Q3- 2009 Q2	% Change <sup>2</sup> in total since 2007 Q3 - 2008 Q2	2008 Q3- 2009 Q2	% Change <sup>2</sup> in total since 2007 Q3 - 2008 Q2	2008 Q3- 2009 Q2	% Change <sup>2</sup> in total since 2007 Q3 - 2008 Q2
Bath	5	-	69	97%	507	11%
☒ Bristol	522	-72%	174	-22%	1,169	21%
Taunton	0	-	39	5%	351	19%
Yeovil	4	-	45	-2%	422	30%
<b>Avon &amp; Somerset</b>	<b>531</b>	<b>-72%</b>	<b>327</b>	<b>-4%</b>	<b>2,449</b>	<b>20%</b>
Barnstaple	18	-	33	-15%	285	33%
Exeter	11	-	64	10%	596	17%
Plymouth	2	-	60	-6%	851	27%
Torquay	2	-	56	81%	615	45%
Truro	22	-	80	14%	927	31%
<b>Devon &amp; Cornwall</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>293</b>	<b>12%</b>	<b>3,274</b>	<b>30%</b>
Bournemouth	26	24%	144	0%	926	21%
Cheltenham	2	-	30	-6%	230	19%
Gloucester	9	-	58	16%	473	63%
Salisbury	1	-	6	-	134	-9%
Swindon	7	-	53	-21%	435	19%
Weymouth	0	-	38	52%	250	11%
<b>Dorset, Gloucestershire and Wiltshire</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>329</b>	<b>-1%</b>	<b>2,448</b>	<b>23%</b>
Newport (I.O.W.)	5	-	28	-	203	2%
Portsmouth	9	-	101	-2%	688	24%
Southampton	11	-	88	19%	651	14%
Winchester	1	-	15	-25%	118	66%
<b>Hampshire &amp; Isle of Wight</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>232</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>1,660</b>	<b>19%</b>
<b>South West</b>	<b>657</b>	<b>-66%</b>	<b>1,181</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>9,831</b>	<b>24%</b>
Aberystwyth	0	-	5	-	44	10%
Carmarthen	1	-	19	-39%	103	26%
Haverfordwest	0	-	27	-	132	32%
Neath	3	-	22	-49%	199	15%
Swansea	12	-	73	7%	344	17%
Welshpool	1	-	11	-	79	3%
<b>Mid and West Wales</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>-7%</b>	<b>901</b>	<b>18%</b>
Caernarfon	3	-	37	12%	239	60%
Llangefni	1	-	12	-	54	35%
Mold	1	-	16	-	101	12%
Rhyl	0	-	50	25%	208	34%
Wrexham	2	-	50	52%	260	14%
<b>North Wales</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>35%</b>	<b>862</b>	<b>30%</b>
Aberdare	3	-	15	-	76	41%
Blackwood	0	-	18	-45%	202	36%
Bridgend	5	-	37	0%	217	76%
☒ Cardiff	40	-37%	148	10%	359	2%
Merthyr Tydfil	3	-	15	-	52	2%
Newport (Gwent)	10	-	72	-15%	398	13%
Pontypridd	3	-	24	-23%	220	22%
<b>South Wales</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>-15%</b>	<b>329</b>	<b>-4%</b>	<b>1,524</b>	<b>21%</b>
<b>Wales</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>-4%</b>	<b>651</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>3,287</b>	<b>22%</b>
<b>England &amp; Wales</b>	<b>13,220</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>19,738</b>	<b>-1%</b>	<b>62,027</b>	<b>22%</b>

☒ **Provincial High Court Centre**

- 1 The Royal Courts of Justice located in central London, is the headquarters of the High Court. The Court has nationwide jurisdiction but handles a particularly large proportion of the insolvency work originating in London, and is therefore included in the London regional total.
- 2 The percentage change figures shown in this table reflect, where necessary, revised data for earlier years. They may therefore not be consistent with previously published data for these earlier time periods. Percentages are not shown where the number of petitions in the same period a year ago is fewer than 20.

## Explanatory notes

1. This is a National Statistics publication produced by the Ministry of Justice. National Statistics are produced to high professional standards set out in the National Statistics Code of Practice. They undergo regular quality assurance reviews to ensure that they meet customer needs. They are produced free from any political interference.
2. No assumption should be made from these statistics about the number of companies that go into liquidation, or the number of individuals made bankrupt. The figures published by the Ministry of Justice show the number of company winding-up petitions and bankruptcy petitions presented to the court. This information is taken from court administrative systems and is different to the quarterly statistics published by the Insolvency Service. The Insolvency Service figures, showing the number of company winding-up orders and bankruptcy orders, are derived from administrative records of the Department of Business Innovation and Skills (BIS) Insolvency Service and Companies House Executive Agencies. The statistics published by the Insolvency Service can be found using the link:  
[www.insolvency.gov.uk/otherinformation/statistics/insolv.htm](http://www.insolvency.gov.uk/otherinformation/statistics/insolv.htm)
3. The 2009 Q2 figures are provisional, and are therefore liable to revision to take account of any late amendments to the administrative databases from which these statistics are sourced. The standard process for revising the published statistics to account for these late amendments is as follows. An initial revision to the statistics for the latest quarter may be made when the next edition of this bulletin is published. Final figures for this quarter, and for other quarters in the same calendar year, will be published in the bulletin presenting the statistics for the second quarter of the following year.
4. The statistics in this bulletin are sourced from manual counts made by court staff which they have keyed into either One Performance Truth (from April 2009 onwards) or the Business Management System (before April 2009).
5. Percentage changes are not provided where there are fewer than 20 observations in the past period.
6. **Insolvency:** A company or individual with debts that they are unable to pay is said to be 'insolvent'.
7. **Company winding up:** When it becomes necessary to terminate a company's existence, whether owing to insolvency or for some other reason, the process is called 'winding up'.

8. There is a restriction on proceedings that may be commenced in county courts, which is based on the paid-up capital of the company. Well over half of winding up proceedings are commenced and handled in the Chancery Division of the High Court at the Royal Courts of Justice in London and at the eight provincial High Court centres. These centres are flagged [⊗] in Tables 2 and 3.
9. Company winding up proceedings will normally be commenced at the court centre local to the **registered office** of the company, which will not necessarily be situated in the same geographical area as the company's base or operational area. The relative regional levels of winding-up activity do not therefore necessarily reflect the geographical distribution of the companies involved.
10. **Individual bankruptcy**: Being bankrupt means you are or have been subjected to a bankruptcy order. A court makes a bankruptcy order only after a petition has been presented.
11. Proceedings for bankruptcy can be commenced at county courts with the appropriate jurisdiction, or in the Chancery Division of the High Court, either by a **creditor** (the person to whom the debt is owed) or by a **debtor** (the person who owes the debt).

### **Symbols and conventions**

The following symbols have been used throughout the tables in this bulletin:

- (r) = Revised data
- (p) = Provisional data

### **Contact points for further information**

Current and previous editions of this publication are available for download at: [www.justice.gov.uk/publications/companywindingupandbankruptcy.htm](http://www.justice.gov.uk/publications/companywindingupandbankruptcy.htm)

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General enquiries about the statistical work of the Ministry of Justice can be emailed to: [statistics.enquiries@justice.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:statistics.enquiries@justice.gsi.gov.uk)

Other National Statistics publications, and general information about the official statistics system of the UK, are available from [www.statistics.gov.uk](http://www.statistics.gov.uk)

