



The Insolvency
Service

Information Rights Team

The Insolvency Service
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www.gov.uk/insolvency-service

Our ref: FOI24/25-174

Date: 2 April 2025

Dear [REDACTED]

Re: Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request

Thank you for your email on 7 March 2025 in which you requested from the Insolvency Service:

I would be interested to know the number of insolvencies by Standard Industrial Classification (A, B, C, ...) by incorporation year per calendar year since 2014 in the UK.

Would you happen to have this data available ?

Your request has been dealt with under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

I can confirm the agency holds the information you have requested. Please see the attached supplement (Annex A – Company insolvencies by SIC and Incorporation year, 2014 to 2024) which includes numbers of company insolvencies by standard industrial classification of economic activities (SIC) and year of incorporation. The data in Annex A is presented according to the year in which insolvency cases were registered at Companies House, with individual tabs representing every year from 2014 to 2024.

Under section 16 of the Act (Advice and Assistance) you may find it useful to note:

Data for these statistics are sourced from [Companies House](#). Companies House carries out its statutory functions of maintaining the registry of corporate bodies that are regulated by the Companies Act 2006. Note that Companies House does not monitor all business types (e.g. sole traders) and for information on these and other business types you may wish to contact the [Office of National Statistics](#).

Industry breakdowns have been presented in line with the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC 2007). Companies self-report their sector (or industry) at the time of registration at Companies House. Where a company has multiple SIC codes, only the first code is included in the data used for this response.

These statistics may not align with the [published official statistics](#). The data used for Annex A is sourced from Companies House which includes the incorporation date of companies. In the monthly company insolvency official statistics, compulsory liquidation data for England and Wales is sourced from the Insolvency Service case administration system, and Northern

Ireland compulsory liquidation data are sourced from the Department for the Economy. Therefore, there are methodological differences in how duplicated cases have been handled. Although efforts have been made to remove duplicate data, some insolvency cases may be represented more than once in Annex A.

Please note that large numbers of additional creditors' voluntary liquidations referred to as "bulk" insolvencies have been retained in Annex A. These are customarily excluded from headline insolvency numbers but are included in Table 1d in the official statistics publications.

The monthly official statistics should be considered the authoritative record of the number of insolvencies in the United Kingdom.

Complaints

If you are not satisfied with the response we have provided you and would like us to reconsider our decision by way of an internal review (IR), please contact our Information Rights team within 40 working days of this letter at foi@insolvency.gov.uk or by post at:

Information Rights Team
The Insolvency Service
3rd Floor
Cannon House
18 Priory Queensway
Birmingham
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United Kingdom

You also have the right to contact the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) if you wish for them to investigate any complaint you may have regarding our handling of your request. However, please note that the ICO is likely to expect an IR to have been completed in the first instance.

Kind regards

Information Rights Team
The Insolvency Service

The Department for Business and Trade, Official receivers and the Adjudicator are Data Controllers in respect of personal data processed by the Insolvency Service. For the details about how personal data is processed by the agency, please see the full Insolvency Service Personal Information Charter here:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/insolvency-service/about/personal-information-charter>