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# Statistical release

## P0043

# Statistics of liquidations and insolvencies (Preliminary)

## January 2015

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**Enquiries:**

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## Contents

<b>Liquidations: results for January 2015</b> .....	<b>2</b>
Table A – Number of liquidations.....	2
Figure 1 – Number of liquidations.....	2
<b>Insolvencies: results for December 2014</b> .....	<b>3</b>
Table B – Number of insolvencies .....	3
Figure 2 – Number of insolvencies .....	3
<b>Tables</b> .....	<b>4</b>
Table 1 – Total liquidations according to industry (number) .....	4
Table 1.1 – Liquidations of companies according to industry (number) .....	4
Table 1.2 – Liquidations of close corporations according to industry (number) .....	4
Table 2 – Total liquidations (number) .....	5
Table 2.1 – Compulsory liquidations (number).....	5
Table 2.2 – Voluntary liquidations (number).....	5
Table 3 – Total liquidations of companies (number).....	6
Table 3.1 – Compulsory liquidations of companies (number).....	6
Table 3.2 – Voluntary liquidations of companies (number).....	6
Table 4 – Total liquidations of close corporations (number) .....	7
Table 4.1 – Compulsory liquidations of close corporations (number).....	7
Table 4.2 – Voluntary liquidations of close corporations (number).....	7
Table 5 – Insolvencies of individuals and partnerships (number).....	8
<b>Explanatory notes</b> .....	<b>9</b>
<b>Glossary</b> .....	<b>9</b>
<b>General information</b> .....	<b>10</b>

### Liquidations: results for January 2015

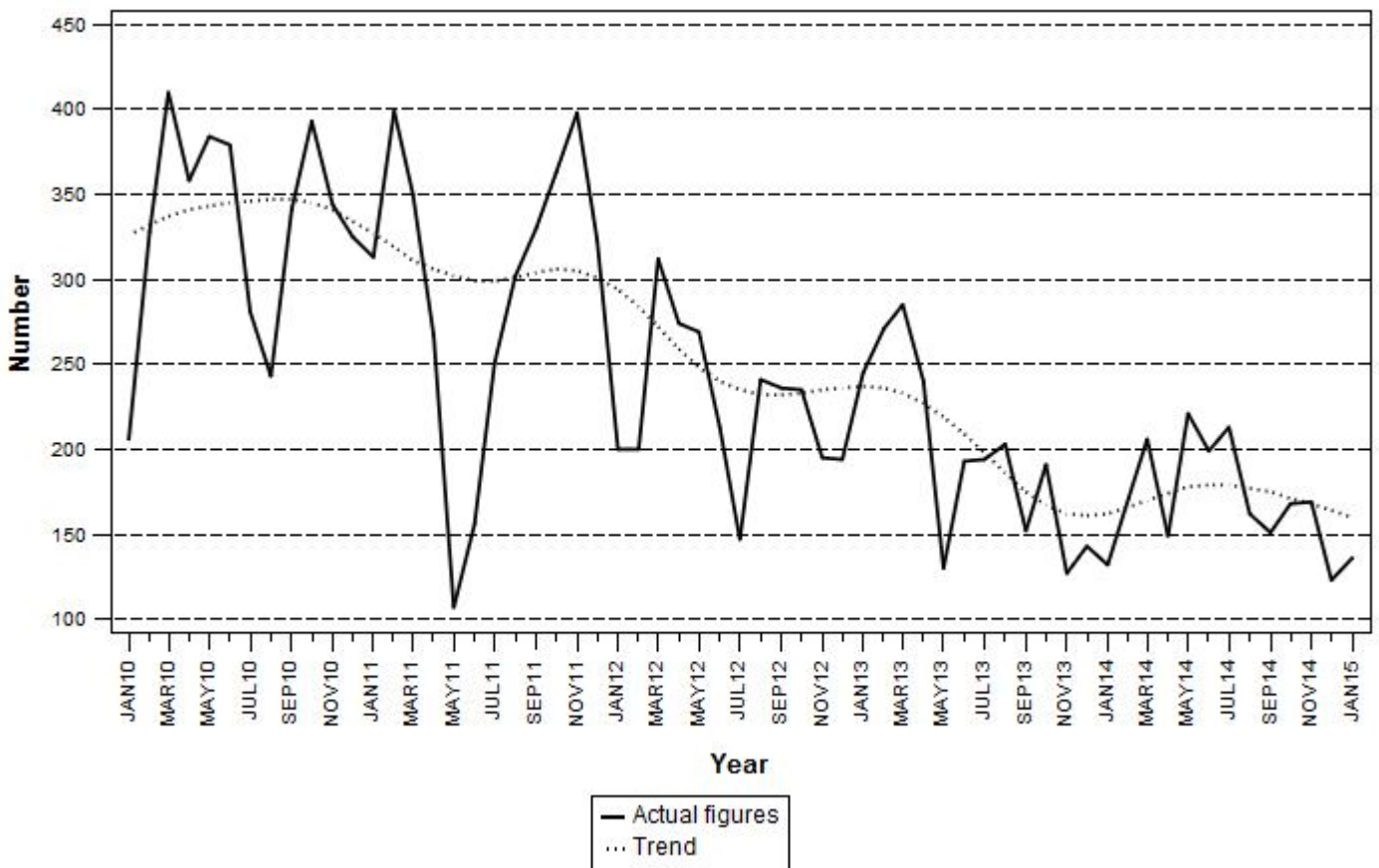
**Table A – Number of liquidations**

Number of liquidations January 2015	% change between January 2014 and January 2015	% change between November 2013 to January 2014 and November 2014 to January 2015
136	3,0	6,5

The total number of liquidations recorded increased by 6,5% (from 402 to 428) in the three months ended January 2015 compared with the three months ended January 2014. Voluntary liquidations increased by 7,7% (from 352 to 379), while compulsory liquidations decreased by only 1 case.

The total number of liquidations increased by 3,0% year-on-year in January 2015.

**Figure 1 – Number of liquidations**



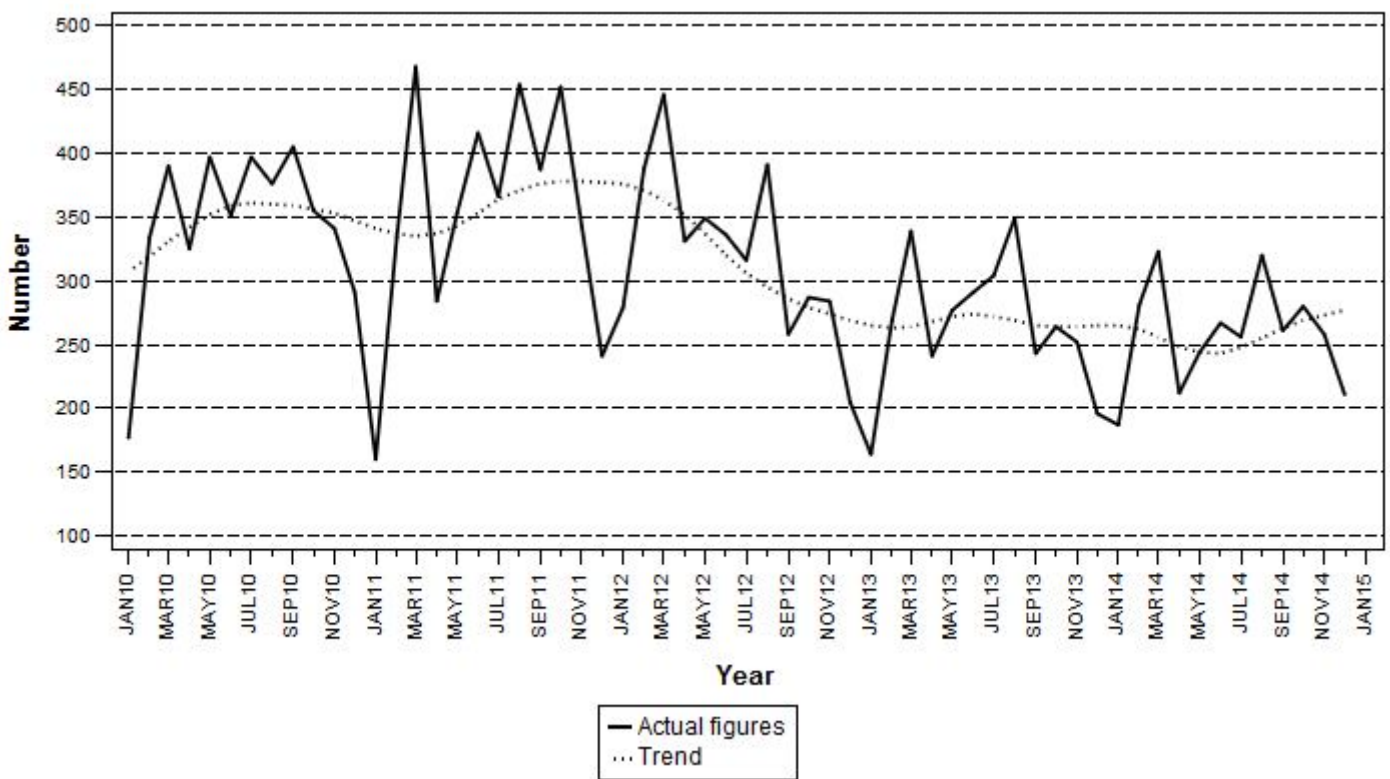
**Insolvencies: results for December 2014**

**Table B – Number of insolvencies**

Number of insolvencies December 2014	% change between December 2013 and December 2014	% change between October to December 2013 and October to December 2014	% change between January to December 2013 and January to December 2014
211	7,7	5,2	-2,8

The estimated number of insolvencies decreased by 2,8% (from 3 189 to 3 100) in 2014 compared with 2013. A 5,2% increase was estimated between the fourth quarter of 2013 and the fourth quarter of 2014. The number of insolvencies increased by 7,7% year-on-year in December 2014.

**Figure 2 – Number of insolvencies**



**PJ Lehohla**  
**Statistician-General**

**Tables**

**Table 1 – Total liquidations according to industry (number)**

Industry	Total 2014			January 2014			December 2014			January 2015		
	C	V	Total	C	V	Total	C	V	Total	C	V	Total
1.Agriculture, hunting, forestry and fishing	12	10	22	2	1	3	0	2	2	1	0	1
2.Mining and quarrying	5	10	15	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	1
3.Manufacturing	25	90	115	1	2	3	1	6	7	0	9	9
4.Electricity, gas and water	3	12	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
5.Construction	22	84	106	0	5	5	1	5	6	0	5	5
6.Wholesale and retail trade, catering and accommodation	76	386	462	1	25	26	3	30	33	1	21	22
7.Transport, storage, communication	10	75	85	0	2	2	0	4	4	0	3	3
8.Financing, insurance, real estate, business services	156	699	855	14	56	70	6	45	51	8	61	69
9.Community, social, personal services	57	332	389	3	19	22	2	17	19	3	22	25
<b>Total number of liquidations</b>	<b>366</b>	<b>1 698</b>	<b>2 064</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>136</b>

**Table 1.1 – Liquidations of companies according to industry (number)**

Industry	Total 2014			January 2014			December 2014			January 2015		
	C	V	Total	C	V	Total	C	V	Total	C	V	Total
1.Agriculture, hunting, forestry and fishing	8	5	13	2	1	3	0	0	0	1	0	1
2.Mining and quarrying	1	9	10	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1
3.Manufacturing	9	36	45	1	0	1	0	3	3	0	2	2
4.Electricity, gas and water	2	3	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5.Construction	7	24	31	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	3	3
6.Wholesale and retail trade, catering and accommodation	40	132	172	1	9	10	1	9	10	1	9	10
7.Transport, storage, communication	5	36	41	0	1	1	0	2	2	0	0	0
8.Financing, insurance, real estate, business services	113	352	465	10	33	43	6	31	37	6	39	45
9.Community, social, personal services	37	209	246	2	12	14	1	11	12	1	16	17
<b>Total number of liquidations</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>806</b>	<b>1 028</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>79</b>

**Table 1.2 – Liquidations of close corporations according to industry (number)**

Industry	Total 2014			January 2014			December 2014			January 2015		
	C	V	Total	C	V	Total	C	V	Total	C	V	Total
1.Agriculture, hunting, forestry and fishing	4	5	9	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	0
2.Mining and quarrying	4	1	5	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
3.Manufacturing	16	54	70	0	2	2	1	3	4	0	7	7
4.Electricity, gas and water	1	9	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
5.Construction	15	60	75	0	3	3	1	5	6	0	2	2
6.Wholesale and retail trade, catering and accommodation	36	254	290	0	16	16	2	21	23	0	12	12
7.Transport, storage, communication	5	39	44	0	1	1	0	2	2	0	3	3
8.Financing, insurance, real estate, business services	43	347	390	4	23	27	0	14	14	2	22	24
9.Community, social, personal services	20	123	143	1	7	8	1	6	7	2	6	8
<b>Total number of liquidations</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>892</b>	<b>1 036</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>57</b>

C = Compulsory.

V = Voluntary.

**Table 2 – Total liquidations (number)**

Month	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
January	270	206	313	200	245	132	136
February	391	328	399	200	271	171	
March	347	410	350	312	285	206	
April	349	358	267	274	240	149	
May	283	384	107	269	130	221	
June	311	379	156	213	193	199	
July	428	281	251	147	194	213	
August	264	243	302	241	203	162	
September	334	341	330	236	152	151	
October	287	393	363	235	191	168	
November	487	344	398	195	127	169	
December	382	325	323	194	143	123	
<b>Total</b>	<b>4 133</b>	<b>3 992</b>	<b>3 559</b>	<b>2 716</b>	<b>2 374</b>	<b>2 064</b>	

**Table 2.1 – Compulsory liquidations (number)**

Month	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
January	54	3	45	61	3	22	13
February	26	19	26	27	26	12	
March	10	23	12	39	53	18	
April	41	17	16	4	17	35	
May	26	30	30	3	9	29	
June	20	12	2	14	16	89	
July	37	35	8	1	18	47	
August	49	22	14	63	19	25	
September	2	20	18	58	13	20	
October	17	49	61	21	9	33	
November	12	20	74	18	4	23	
December	1	34	75	8	24	13	
<b>Total</b>	<b>295</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>381</b>	<b>317</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>366</b>	

**Table 2.2 – Voluntary liquidations (number)**

Month	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
January	216	203	268	139	242	110	123
February	365	309	373	173	245	159	
March	337	387	338	273	232	188	
April	308	341	251	270	223	114	
May	257	354	77	266	121	192	
June	291	367	154	199	177	110	
July	391	246	243	146	176	166	
August	215	221	288	178	184	137	
September	332	321	312	178	139	131	
October	270	344	302	214	182	135	
November	475	324	324	177	123	146	
December	381	291	248	186	119	110	
<b>Total</b>	<b>3 838</b>	<b>3 708</b>	<b>3 178</b>	<b>2 399</b>	<b>2 163</b>	<b>1 698</b>	

**Table 3 – Total liquidations of companies (number)**

Month	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
January	114	96	156	97	121	74	79
February	229	161	199	75	123	87	
March	152	177	145	115	147	89	
April	148	176	97	105	104	78	
May	109	203	36	130	56	108	
June	147	194	52	105	96	104	
July	201	128	81	74	92	109	
August	100	93	180	133	97	86	
September	162	136	190	136	82	75	
October	136	204	167	109	100	78	
November	161	174	152	72	55	75	
December	230	197	151	108	75	65	
<b>Total</b>	<b>1 889</b>	<b>1 939</b>	<b>1 606</b>	<b>1 259</b>	<b>1 148</b>	<b>1 028</b>	

**Table 3.1 – Compulsory liquidations of companies (number)**

Month	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
January	18	3	18	37	3	16	9
February	11	12	16	11	5	7	
March	8	19	12	11	32	6	
April	27	13	0	2	10	24	
May	9	24	3	3	7	20	
June	14	3	1	14	11	54	
July	20	25	4	0	9	26	
August	10	11	0	34	11	20	
September	1	3	18	41	9	13	
October	10	38	59	14	4	22	
November	3	15	42	6	2	6	
December	0	30	47	2	14	8	
<b>Total</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>222</b>	

**Table 3.2 – Voluntary liquidations of companies (number)**

Month	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
January	96	93	138	60	118	58	70
February	218	149	183	64	118	80	
March	144	158	133	104	115	83	
April	121	163	97	103	94	54	
May	100	179	33	127	49	88	
June	133	191	51	91	85	50	
July	181	103	77	74	83	83	
August	90	82	180	99	86	66	
September	161	133	172	95	73	62	
October	126	166	108	95	96	56	
November	158	159	110	66	53	69	
December	230	167	104	106	61	57	
<b>Total</b>	<b>1 758</b>	<b>1 743</b>	<b>1 386</b>	<b>1 084</b>	<b>1 031</b>	<b>806</b>	

**Table 4 – Total liquidations of close corporations (number)**

Month	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
January	156	110	157	103	124	58	57
February	162	167	200	125	148	84	
March	195	233	205	197	138	117	
April	201	182	170	169	136	71	
May	174	181	71	139	74	113	
June	164	185	104	108	97	95	
July	227	153	170	73	102	104	
August	164	150	122	108	106	76	
September	172	205	140	100	70	76	
October	151	189	196	126	91	90	
November	326	170	246	123	72	94	
December	152	128	172	86	68	58	
<b>Total</b>	<b>2 244</b>	<b>2 053</b>	<b>1 953</b>	<b>1 457</b>	<b>1 226</b>	<b>1 036</b>	

**Table 4.1 – Compulsory liquidations of close corporations (number)**

Month	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
January	36	0	27	24	0	6	4
February	15	7	10	16	21	5	
March	2	4	0	28	21	12	
April	14	4	16	2	7	11	
May	17	6	27	0	2	9	
June	6	9	1	0	5	35	
July	17	10	4	1	9	21	
August	39	11	14	29	8	5	
September	1	17	0	17	4	7	
October	7	11	2	7	5	11	
November	9	5	32	12	2	17	
December	1	4	28	6	10	5	
<b>Total</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>144</b>	

**Table 4.2 – Voluntary liquidations of close corporations (number)**

Month	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
January	120	110	130	79	124	52	53
February	147	160	190	109	127	79	
March	193	229	205	169	117	105	
April	187	178	154	167	129	60	
May	157	175	44	139	72	104	
June	158	176	103	108	92	60	
July	210	143	166	72	93	83	
August	125	139	108	79	98	71	
September	171	188	140	83	66	69	
October	144	178	194	119	86	79	
November	317	165	214	111	70	77	
December	151	124	144	80	58	53	
<b>Total</b>	<b>2 080</b>	<b>1 965</b>	<b>1 792</b>	<b>1 315</b>	<b>1 132</b>	<b>892</b>	



**Table 5 – Insolvencies of individuals and partnerships (number)**

<b>Month</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>1/ 2013</b>	<b>1/ 2014</b>
January	118	196	177	160	* 279	164	187
February	295	378	334	* 334	388	269	281
March	288	536	390	468	446	339	323
April	396	531	325	* 284	* 331	241	212
May	338	612	397	* 353	349	277	244
June	425	613	351	416	* 336	291	267
July	473	594	397	366	* 316	304	256
August	502	694	376	454	* 391	349	320
September	459	485	405	387	258	243	261
October	589	450	355	452	287	264	280
November	453	520	341	* 343	* 284	252	258
December	427	469	291	241	205	196	211
<b>Total</b>	<b>4 763</b>	<b>6 078</b>	<b>4 139</b>	<b>* 4 258</b>	<b>* 3 870</b>	<b>3 189</b>	<b>3 100</b>

\* Revised.

1/ Preliminary.

## Explanatory notes

- |                                  |          |  |
|----------------------------------|----------|--|
| <b>Introduction</b>              | <b>1</b> | Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) collects administrative information on liquidations from Companies and Intellectual Property Commission, Department of Trade and Industry, while information on insolvencies is gathered from Notices of the Master of the Supreme Court that appear in the Government Gazette. |
|                                  | <b>2</b> | This statistical release reflects voluntary and compulsory liquidations of companies and close corporations and insolvencies of individuals and partnerships.  |
| <b>Purpose of the survey</b>     | <b>3</b> | The aggregated data in this release are used by the private and public sectors to measure economic performance and are also an important indicator of the scope of unpaid debt in South Africa.  |
|                                  | <b>4</b> | Due to insolvencies figures being available late, the data on insolvencies are published a month later than liquidations.  |
| <b>Scope of the survey</b>       | <b>5</b> | This survey covers the total number of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• companies and close corporations which were liquidated; and</li> <li>• individuals and partnerships placed under final sequestration.</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Related publications</b>      | <b>6</b> | Users may also wish to refer to the following publications which are available from Stats SA: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Bulletin of Statistics</i>; and</li> <li>• <i>South African Statistics</i>.</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Symbols and abbreviations</b> | <b>7</b> | Stats SA – Statistics South Africa   |

## Glossary

- |                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| <b>Compulsory liquidation</b> | A compulsory liquidation takes place when the affairs of a company or close corporation are wound up by order of the court.   |
| <b>Insolvency</b>             | Insolvency refers to an individual or partnership which is unable to pay its debt and is placed under final sequestration. The number of insolvencies does not refer to the number of persons involved, as a partnership which is unable to pay its debt is regarded as one insolvency, irrespective of the number of partners. |
| <b>Liquidation</b>            | Liquidation refers to the winding-up of the affairs of a company or close corporation when liabilities exceed assets and it can be resolved by voluntary action or by an order of the court.  |
| <b>Voluntary liquidation</b>  | A voluntary liquidation takes place when a company or close corporation, by own choice, resolves to wind-up its affairs.  |

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