

STATISTICAL RELEASE
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Statistics of liquidations and insolvencies
(Preliminary)

January 2018

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Liquidations: results for January 2018

Table A – Number of liquidations

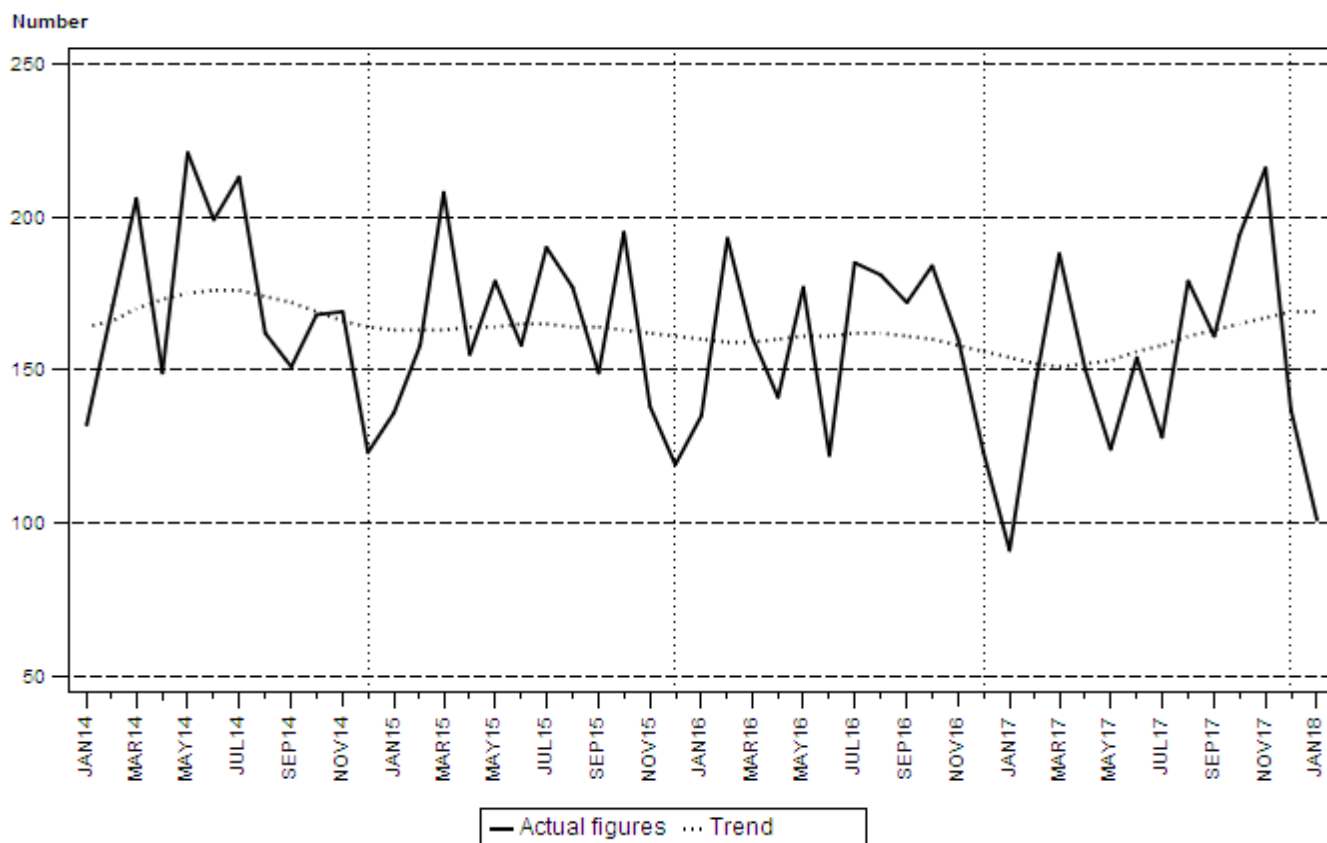
Number of liquidations January 2018	% change between January 2017 and January 2018	% change between November 2016 to January 2017 and November 2017 to January 2018
101	11,0	21,4

The total number of liquidations increased by 11,0% (10 more liquidations) year-on-year in January 2018. Compulsory liquidations increased by 5 cases and voluntary liquidations increased by 5 cases during this period.

Five out of the ten industries increased year-on-year. Financing, insurance, real estate and business services increased by 20 liquidations (from 30 to 50) and trade, catering and accommodation decreased by 12 liquidations (from 24 to 12) – see Table 1.

There was an increase of 21,4% in the three months ended January 2018 compared with the three months ended January 2017.

Figure 1 – Number of liquidations



Insolvencies: results for December 2017

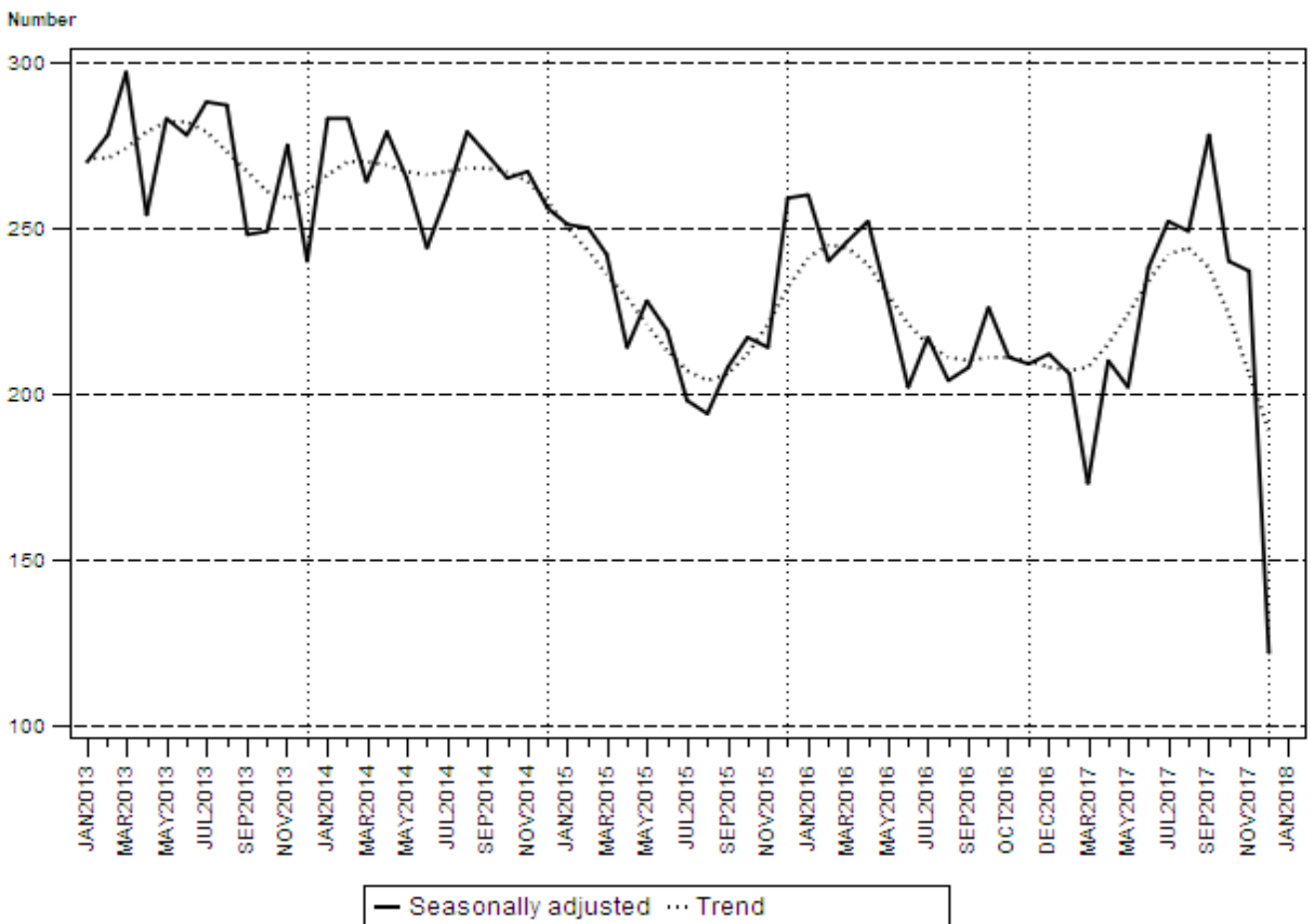
Table B – Number of insolvencies

Number of insolvencies December 2017	% change between December 2016 and December 2017	% change between October to December 2016 and October to December 2017	% change between January to December 2016 and January to December 2017
102	-42,0	-2,8	-1,8

The number of insolvencies estimated was 102 in December 2017, showing a year-on-year decrease of 42,0%. A 2,8% decrease was estimated between the fourth quarter of 2016 and the fourth quarter of 2017. Insolvencies decreased by 1,8% (from 2 684 to 2 637) between 2016 and 2017 – see Table 5.

Seasonally adjusted insolvencies decreased by 48,5% in December 2017 compared with November 2017. This followed month-on-month changes of -1,3% in November 2017 and -13,7% in October 2017 – see Table 6.

Figure 2 – Number of insolvencies



Risenga Maluleke
Statistician-General

Tables

Table 1 – Total liquidations according to industry (number)

Industry	Total 2017			January 2017			December 2017			January 2018		
	C	V	Total	C	V	Total	C	V	Total	C	V	Total
1.Agriculture, hunting, forestry and fishing	1	17	18	0	0	0	0	3	3	0	1	1
2.Mining and quarrying	2	6	8	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	0
3.Manufacturing	5	69	74	0	2	2	0	7	7	0	4	4
4.Electricity, gas and water	1	7	8	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1
5.Construction	13	78	91	0	2	2	0	6	6	0	3	3
6.Trade, catering and accommodation	43	361	404	0	24	24	4	15	19	2	10	12
7.Transport, storage, communication	8	33	41	1	1	2	0	3	3	0	0	0
8.Financing, insurance, real estate, business services	82	529	611	4	26	30	3	52	55	5	45	50
9.Community, social, personal services	14	133	147	0	10	10	0	7	7	3	9	12
10.Unclassified	42	424	466	1	19	20	2	32	34	1	17	18
Total number of liquidations	211	1 657	1 868	6	85	91	11	126	137	11	90	101

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

Industry	Total 2017			January 2017			December 2017			January 2018		
	C	V	Total	C	V	Total	C	V	Total	C	V	Total
1.Agriculture, hunting, forestry and fishing	1	7	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
2.Mining and quarrying	2	5	7	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	0
3.Manufacturing	3	28	31	0	0	0	0	4	4	0	3	3
4.Electricity, gas and water	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5.Construction	5	21	26	0	2	2	0	1	1	0	0	0
6.Trade, catering and accommodation	25	131	156	0	7	7	2	9	11	2	5	7
7.Transport, storage, communication	3	8	11	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0
8.Financing, insurance, real estate, business services	44	258	302	2	13	15	2	35	37	1	35	36
9.Community, social, personal services	2	14	16	0	0	0	0	2	2	1	3	4
10.Unclassified	38	363	401	1	16	17	2	28	30	1	15	16
Total number of liquidations	123	835	958	3	39	42	8	80	88	5	62	67

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

Industry	Total 2017			January 2017			December 2017			January 2018		
	C	V	Total	C	V	Total	C	V	Total	C	V	Total
1.Agriculture, hunting, forestry and fishing	0	10	10	0	0	0	0	3	3	0	0	0
2.Mining and quarrying	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3.Manufacturing	2	41	43	0	2	2	0	3	3	0	1	1
4.Electricity, gas and water	1	7	8	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1
5.Construction	8	57	65	0	0	0	0	5	5	0	3	3
6.Trade, catering and accommodation	18	230	248	0	17	17	2	6	8	0	5	5
7.Transport, storage, communication	5	25	30	1	0	1	0	2	2	0	0	0
8.Financing, insurance, real estate, business services	38	271	309	2	13	15	1	17	18	4	10	14
9.Community, social, personal services	12	119	131	0	10	10	0	5	5	2	6	8
10.Unclassified	4	61	65	0	3	3	0	4	4	0	2	2
Total number of liquidations	88	822	910	3	46	49	3	46	49	6	28	34

C = Compulsory.

V = Voluntary.

Table 2 – Total liquidations (number)

Month	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
January	200	245	132	136	135	91	101
February	200	271	171	158	193	146	
March	312	285	206	208	161	188	
April	274	240	149	155	141	150	
May	269	130	221	179	177	124	
June	213	193	199	158	122	154	
July	147	194	213	190	185	128	
August	241	203	162	177	181	179	
September	236	152	151	149	172	161	
October	235	191	168	195	184	194	
November	195	127	169	138	160	216	
December	194	143	123	119	123	137	
Total	2 716	2 374	2 064	1 962	1 934	1 868	

Table 2.1 – Compulsory liquidations (number)

Month	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
January	61	3	22	13	16	6	11
February	27	26	12	22	13	13	
March	39	53	18	39	14	14	
April	4	17	35	7	24	4	
May	3	9	29	20	14	15	
June	14	16	89	29	10	17	
July	1	18	47	34	25	10	
August	63	19	25	23	9	21	
September	58	13	20	15	29	45	
October	21	9	33	14	20	32	
November	18	4	23	12	14	23	
December	8	24	13	10	12	11	
Total	317	211	366	238	200	211	

Table 2.2 – Voluntary liquidations (number)

Month	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
January	139	242	110	123	119	85	90
February	173	245	159	136	180	133	
March	273	232	188	169	147	174	
April	270	223	114	148	117	146	
May	266	121	192	159	163	109	
June	199	177	110	129	112	137	
July	146	176	166	156	160	118	
August	178	184	137	154	172	158	
September	178	139	131	134	143	116	
October	214	182	135	181	164	162	
November	177	123	146	126	146	193	
December	186	119	110	109	111	126	
Total	2 399	2 163	1 698	1 724	1 734	1 657	

Table 3 – Total liquidations of companies (number)

Month	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
January	97	121	74	79	66	42	67
February	75	123	87	80	100	81	
March	115	147	89	101	78	80	
April	105	104	78	70	80	73	
May	130	56	108	87	96	56	
June	105	96	104	90	65	84	
July	74	92	109	93	108	62	
August	133	97	86	87	97	94	
September	136	82	75	79	85	85	
October	109	100	78	88	98	106	
November	72	55	75	59	72	107	
December	108	75	65	56	67	88	
Total	1 259	1 148	1 028	969	1 012	958	

Table 3.1 – Compulsory liquidations of companies (number)

Month	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
January	37	3	16	9	9	3	5
February	11	5	7	16	9	12	
March	11	32	6	18	6	6	
April	2	10	24	5	17	3	
May	3	7	20	16	9	5	
June	14	11	54	22	4	11	
July	0	9	26	21	9	4	
August	34	11	20	12	6	14	
September	41	9	13	3	17	25	
October	14	4	22	8	13	23	
November	6	2	6	7	6	9	
December	2	14	8	3	8	8	
Total	175	117	222	140	113	123	

Table 3.2 – Voluntary liquidations of companies (number)

Month	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
January	60	118	58	70	57	39	62
February	64	118	80	64	91	69	
March	104	115	83	83	72	74	
April	103	94	54	65	63	70	
May	127	49	88	71	87	51	
June	91	85	50	68	61	73	
July	74	83	83	72	99	58	
August	99	86	66	75	91	80	
September	95	73	62	76	68	60	
October	95	96	56	80	85	83	
November	66	53	69	52	66	98	
December	106	61	57	53	59	80	
Total	1 084	1 031	806	829	899	835	

Table 4 – Total liquidations of close corporations (number)

Month	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
January	103	124	58	57	69	49	34
February	125	148	84	78	93	65	
March	197	138	117	107	83	108	
April	169	136	71	85	61	77	
May	139	74	113	92	81	68	
June	108	97	95	68	57	70	
July	73	102	104	97	77	66	
August	108	106	76	90	84	85	
September	100	70	76	70	87	76	
October	126	91	90	107	86	88	
November	123	72	94	79	88	109	
December	86	68	58	63	56	49	
Total	1 457	1 226	1 036	993	922	910	

Table 4.1 – Compulsory liquidations of close corporations (number)

Month	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
January	24	0	6	4	7	3	6
February	16	21	5	6	4	1	
March	28	21	12	21	8	8	
April	2	7	11	2	7	1	
May	0	2	9	4	5	10	
June	0	5	35	7	6	6	
July	1	9	21	13	16	6	
August	29	8	5	11	3	7	
September	17	4	7	12	12	20	
October	7	5	11	6	7	9	
November	12	2	17	5	8	14	
December	6	10	5	7	4	3	
Total	142	94	144	98	87	88	

Table 4.2 – Voluntary liquidations of close corporations (number)

Month	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
January	79	124	52	53	62	46	28
February	109	127	79	72	89	64	
March	169	117	105	86	75	100	
April	167	129	60	83	54	76	
May	139	72	104	88	76	58	
June	108	92	60	61	51	64	
July	72	93	83	84	61	60	
August	79	98	71	79	81	78	
September	83	66	69	58	75	56	
October	119	86	79	101	79	79	
November	111	70	77	74	80	95	
December	80	58	53	56	52	46	
Total	1 315	1 132	892	895	835	822	

Table 5 – Insolvencies of individuals and partnerships (number)

Month	1/ 2011	1/ 2012	1/ 2013	1/ 2014	1/ 2015	1/ 2016	1/ 2017
January	161	292	164	187	168	180	156
February	342	407	269	281	254	244	213
March	479	466	339	323	293	297	225
April	291	349	241	249	208	233	180
May	366	366	312	273	230	237	206
June	418	344	291	267	238	228	270
July	373	328	304	281	214	219	249
August	464	406	349	328	216	233	290
September	397	276	243	261	203	210	262
October	461	298	264	280	217	219	249
November	355	307	270	258	212	208	235
December	241	205	196	211	226	176	102
Total	4 348	4 044	3 242	3 199	2 679	2 684	2 637

1/ Preliminary.

Table 6 – Seasonally adjusted number of insolvencies

Month	Number				Month-on-month % change			
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2014	2015	2016	2017
January	283	251	260	212	17,9	-2,0	0,4	1,4
February	283	250	240	206	0,0	-0,4	-7,7	-2,8
March	264	242	246	173	-6,7	-3,2	2,5	-16,0
April	279	214	252	210	5,7	-11,6	2,4	21,4
May	265	228	228	202	-5,0	6,5	-9,5	-3,8
June	244	219	202	238	-7,9	-3,9	-11,4	17,8
July	260	198	217	252	6,6	-9,6	7,4	5,9
August	279	194	204	249	7,3	-2,0	-6,0	-1,2
September	272	208	208	278	-2,5	7,2	2,0	11,6
October	265	217	226	240	-2,6	4,3	8,7	-13,7
November	267	214	211	237	0,8	-1,4	-6,6	-1,3
December	256	259	209	122	-4,1	21,0	-0,9	-48,5

Explanatory notes

- Introduction**
- 1 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.
 - 2 This statistical release reflects voluntary and compulsory liquidations of companies and close corporations and insolvencies of individuals and partnerships.
- Purpose of the survey**
- 3 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.
 - 4 Due to insolvencies figures being available late, the data on insolvencies are published a month later than liquidations.
- Scope of the survey**
- 5 This survey covers the total number of:
 - companies and close corporations which were liquidated; and
 - individuals and partnerships placed under final sequestration.
- Symbols and abbreviations**
- 6 Stats SA – Statistics South Africa
- Seasonal adjustment**
- 7 Seasonally adjusted estimates are generated each month using the X-12-ARIMA Seasonal Adjustment Program developed by the US Bureau of the Census, 1968. Seasonal adjustment is a means of removing the estimated effects of normal seasonal variation from the series so that the effects of other influences on the series can be recognised more clearly. Seasonal adjustment does not aim to remove irregular or non-seasonal influences which may be present in any particular month.
 - 8 Influences that are volatile or unsystematic can still make it difficult to interpret the movement of the series even after adjustment for seasonal variations. This means the month-to-month movements of seasonally adjusted estimates may not be reliable indicators of trend behaviour. The X-12-ARIMA procedure for liquidations and insolvencies is described in more detail on the Stats SA website:
[click to download seasonal adjustment P0043 March 2017](#)
- Trend cycle**
- 9 The trend is the long-term pattern or movement of a time series. The X-12- ARIMA Seasonal Adjustment Program is used for smoothing seasonally adjusted estimates to estimate the underlying trend cycle.

Glossary

- Compulsory liquidation** A compulsory liquidation takes place when the affairs of a company or close corporation are wound up by order of the court.
- Insolvency** 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.
- Liquidation** 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.
- Voluntary liquidation** A voluntary liquidation takes place when a company or close corporation, by own choice, resolves to wind-up its affairs.

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