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# Statistics of liquidations and insolvencies

June 2001

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### Key figures as at the end of June 2001 regarding the number of liquidations

Actual estimates	June 2001	April 2001 to June 2001	% change between June 2000 and June 2001	% change between January 2001 to March 2001 and April 2001 to June 2001	% change between January 2000 to June 2000 and January 2001 to June 2001
Number of liquidations	294	982	-23,2	-1,5	+19,1

### Key findings as at the end of June 2001 regarding the number of liquidations

#### Total number of liquidations increases

*The total number of liquidations recorded for the first six months of 2001 increased by 19,1% (from 1 662 to 1 979) compared with the corresponding period of 2000. The total number of liquidations recorded for June 2001 decreased by 23,2% (from 383 to 294) compared with June 2000. Furthermore, the total number of liquidations recorded for the second quarter of 2001 decreased by 1,5% (from 997 to 982) compared with the first quarter of 2001.*

The increase of 19,1% in the total number of liquidations during the first six months of 2001 compared with the first six months of 2000 was due to an increase of 49,9% (from 955 to 1 432) in voluntary liquidations. Voluntary liquidations of close corporations and of companies increased by 84,5% (from 466 to 860) and by 17,0% (from 489 to 572) respectively during the above-mentioned period.

The decrease of 23,2% in the total number of liquidations during June 2001 compared with June 2000 was due to a decrease of 53,7% (from 190 to 88) in compulsory liquidations.

### Key figures as at the end of May 2001 regarding the number of insolvencies

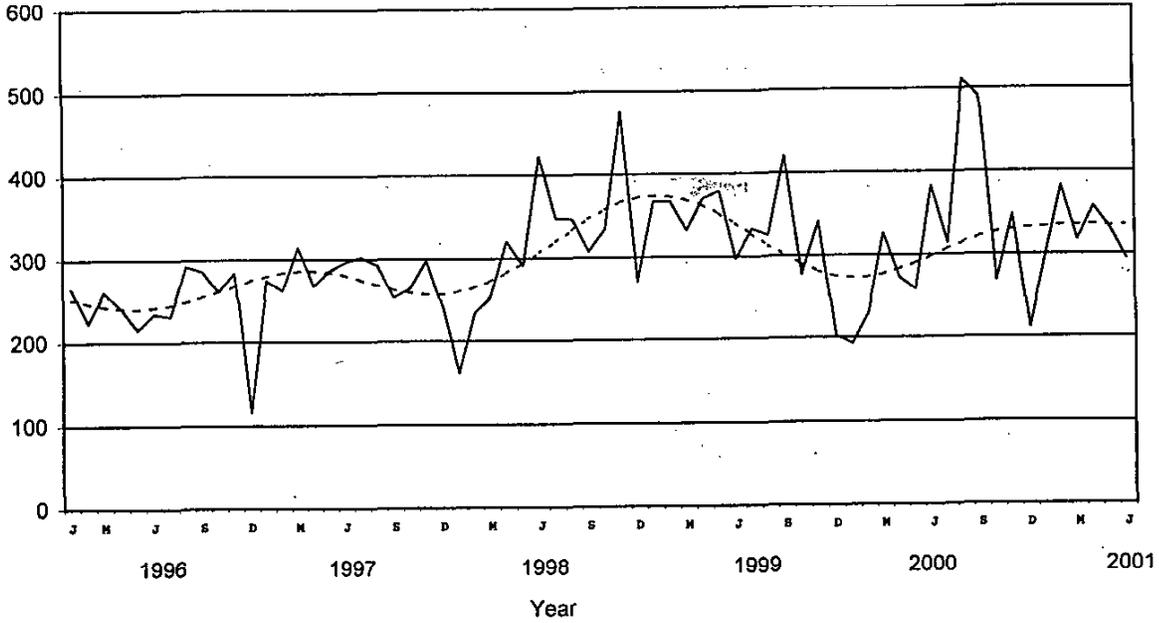
Actual estimates	May 2001	March 2001 to May 2001	% change between May 2000 and May 2001	% change between December 2000 to February 2001 and March 2001 to May 2001	% change between January 2000 to May 2000 and January 2001 to May 2001
Number of insolvencies	157	609	-61,6	-14,5	-45,1

### Key findings as at the end of May 2001 regarding the number of insolvencies

#### Total number of insolvencies decreases

*The total number of insolvencies recorded for the first five months of 2001 decreased by 45,1% (from 1 912 to 1 049) compared with the first five months of 2000. The total number of insolvencies for May 2001 decreased by 61,6% (from 409 to 157) compared with May 2000. Furthermore, the total number of insolvencies recorded for the three months ended May 2001 decreased by 14,5% (from 712 to 609) compared with the previous three months.*

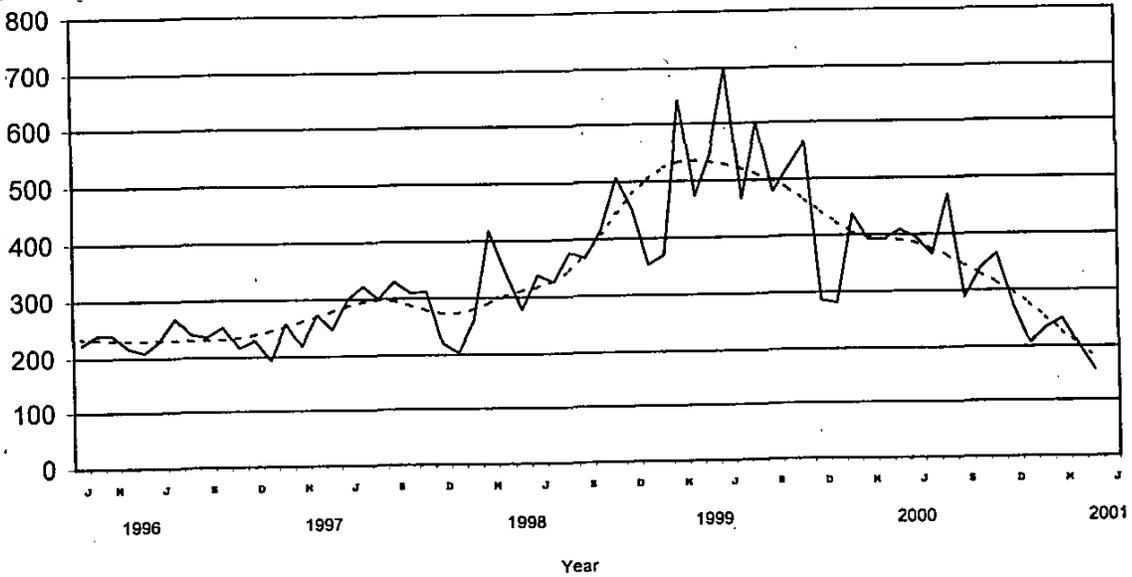
Figure 1 - Total number of liquidations



Source : Stats SA

— Actual    - - - - Trend

Figure 2 - Total number of insolvencies



Source : Stats SA

— Actual    - - - - Trend

  
 PP  
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## Notes

### Forthcoming issues

Issue	Expected release date
July 2001	30 August 2001
August 2001	4 October 2001
September 2001	1 November 2001
October 2001	29 November 2001
November 2001	20 December 2001
December 2001	31 January 2002

### Purpose of the survey

The Survey of Liquidations and Insolvencies is a monthly survey covering all liquidations and insolvencies in South Africa (SA). Information on liquidations is obtained from the Registrar of Companies and Close Corporations, Department of Trade and Industry, while information on insolvencies is based on Notices of the Master of the Supreme Court which appears in the Government Gazette. The results of this survey 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.

Table 1- Total number of liquidations according to industry

Industry	2000 Total			June 2000			May 2001			June 2001		
	Compul- sory	Volun- tary	Total									
1.Agriculture, Hunting, Forestry & Fishing	31	33	64	7	3	10	0	2	2	0	2	2
2.Mining & Quarrying	65	29	94	1	1	2	4	6	10	3	5	8
3.Manufacturing	228	218	446	41	16	57	20	17	37	24	11	35
4.Electricity,Gas & Water	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	4	0	1	1
5.Construction	205	327	532	12	24	36	16	49	65	15	54	69
6.Wholesale and Retail Trade, Catering & Accommodation	445	733	1178	65	71	136	18	67	85	21	47	68
7.Transport, Storage, Communication	95	104	199	6	8	14	4	19	23	3	21	24
8.Financing,Insurance, Real estate, Business Services	394	760	1154	51	66	117	15	85	100	22	65	87
9.Community, Social, Personal Services	52	86	138	7	4	11	3	2	5	0	0	0
Total number of liquidations	1515	2290	3805	190	193	383	81	250	331	88	206	294

Table 2 - Number of liquidations of companies according to industry

Industry	2000 Total			June 2000			May 2001			June 2001		
	Compul- sory	Volun- tary	Total									
1.Agriculture, Hunting, Forestry & Fishing	10	8	18	4	1	5	0	1	1	0	1	1
2.Mining & Quarrying	3	14	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3.Manufacturing	102	87	189	24	5	29	5	12	17	10	6	16
4.Electricity,Gas & Water	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	4	0	1	1
5.Construction	37	54	91	7	4	11	4	5	9	4	11	15
6.Wholesale and Retail Trade, Catering & Accommodation	285	320	605	34	28	62	15	43	58	19	24	43
7.Transport, Storage, Communication	9	27	36	1	1	2	1	1	2	0	4	4
8.Financing,Insurance, Real estate, Business Services	197	442	639	27	34	61	12	48	60	20	29	49
9.Community, Social, Personal Services	16	15	31	3	0	3	3	2	5	0	0	0
Total number of liquidations of companies	659	967	1626	100	73	173	41	115	156	53	76	129

Table 3 - Number of liquidations of close corporations according to industry

Industry	2000 Total			June 2000			May 2001			June 2001		
	Compul- sory	Volun- tary	Total									
1.Agriculture, Hunting, Forestry & Fishing	21	25	46	3	2	5	0	1	1	0	1	1
2.Mining & Quarrying	62	15	77	1	1	2	4	6	10	3	5	8
3.Manufacturing	126	131	257	17	11	28	15	5	20	14	5	19
4.Electricity,Gas & Water	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5.Construction	168	273	441	5	20	25	12	44	56	11	43	54
6.Wholesale and Retail trade,Catering and Accommodation	160	413	573	31	43	74	3	24	27	2	23	25
7.Transport, Storage, Communication	86	77	163	5	7	12	3	18	21	3	17	20
8.Financing,Insurance, Real estate, Business Services	197	318	515	24	32	56	3	37	40	2	36	38
9.Community, Social, Personal Services	36	71	107	4	4	8	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total number of liquidations of close corporations	856	1323	2179	90	120	210	40	135	175	35	130	165



Table 9 - Number of voluntary liquidations of companies: 1989 to 2001

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year-tot	Year-ave
1989	37	34	58	45	43	35	83	58	39	24	34	34	524	44
1990	43	61	79	39	23	19	17	22	21	18	20	8	370	31
1991	14	15	18	16	16	15	7	15	24	12	11	13	176	15
1992	13	14	10	9	5	16	15	15	15	9	17	16	154	13
1993	17	22	31	24	22	19	23	33	28	25	50	58	342	29
1994	60	77	97	71	120	75	85	94	118	127	174	118	1 216	101
1995	97	106	138	78	84	53	97	88	74	59	40	41	955	80
1996	44	37	43	45	26	44	32	33	41	50	31	23	449	37
1997	50	37	50	37	47	54	33	33	68	67	53	47	576	48
1998	35	46	59	128	52	116	63	48	57	40	116	84	844	70
1999	65	102	95	79	69	68	71	92	96	80	60	51	928	77
2000	59	94	94	79	90	73	57	104	62	85	87	83	967	81
2001	73	102	104	102	115	76								95

Table 10 - Number of liquidations of close corporations: 1989 to 2001

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year-tot	Year-ave
1989	30	24	45	37	36	39	49	54	64	53	42	49	522	44
1990	42	29	34	72	32	77	29	38	26	52	55	47	633	44
1991	59	30	52	61	49	47	70	102	80	72	47	70	738	62
1992	84	98	165	81	78	91	95	100	108	122	105	90	1 217	101
1993	106	112	140	104	127	146	82	124	103	129	107	96	1 376	115
1994	44	137	78	80	119	104	92	128	144	122	78	89	1 215	101
1995	118	118	156	135	137	104	150	155	114	174	151	38	1 550	129
1996	119	102	123	115	117	142	149	174	151	157	169	58	1 576	131
1997	147	154	200	134	167	179	188	183	131	137	179	154	1 953	163
1998	76	135	145	149	166	221	215	196	191	228	306	105	2 133	178
1999	233	169	167	204	237	183	219	157	264	132	205	104	2 274	190
2000	102	78	85	107	128	210	225	359	397	163	236	89	2 179	182
2001	191	263	185	228	175	165								201

Table 11 - Number of compulsory liquidations of close corporations: 1989 to 2001

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year-tot	Year-ave
1989	28	23	39	31	29	35	45	50	61	52	39	45	477	40
1990	40	25	31	72	29	77	29	37	24	49	52	45	510	43
1991	56	29	51	59	46	47	67	99	79	67	42	70	712	59
1992	82	86	159	75	71	85	83	95	103	115	103	85	1 142	95
1993	96	110	127	100	120	133	68	111	91	111	73	86	1 226	102
1994	24	94	51	57	89	79	60	97	89	59	36	43	778	65
1995	73	51	95	62	63	45	98	105	84	147	112	18	953	79
1996	98	53	110	88	83	117	125	143	119	110	129	44	1 219	102
1997	93	107	167	104	128	142	133	119	93	94	112	107	1 399	117
1998	37	77	73	107	116	154	151	115	133	160	221	68	1 412	118
1999	175	81	62	90	113	85	97	55	108	37	83	48	1 034	86
2000	53	21	25	38	17	90	45	199	210	23	103	32	856	71
2001	37	97	40	99	40	35								58

Table 12 - Number of voluntary liquidations of close corporations: 1989 to 2001

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year-tot	Year-ave
1989	2	1	6	6	7	4	4	4	3	1	3	4	45	4
1990	2	4	3	0	3	0	0	1	2	3	3	2	23	2
1991	2	1	3	2	3	0	3	3	1	5	5	0	26	2
1992	2	12	6	6	7	6	12	5	5	7	2	5	75	6
1993	10	2	13	4	7	13	14	13	12	18	34	10	150	13
1994	20	43	27	23	30	25	32	31	55	63	42	46	437	36
1995	45	67	61	73	74	59	52	50	30	27	39	20	597	50
1996	21	49	13	27	34	25	24	31	32	47	40	14	357	30
1997	54	47	33	30	39	37	55	64	38	43	67	47	554	46
1998	39	58	72	42	50	67	64	81	58	68	85	37	721	60
1999	58	88	105	114	124	98	122	102	156	95	122	56	1 240	103
2000	49	57	60	69	111	120	180	160	187	140	133	57	1 323	110
2001	154	166	145	130	135	130								143

Table 13 - Total number of insolvencies: 1989 to 2000

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year-tot	Year-ave
1989	176	198	187	236	225	206	221	267	243	240	244	215	2 658	222
1990	179	216	268	206	267	302	254	309	343	279	257	224	3 104	259
1991	271	257	325	320	315	306	369	432	411	448	349	254	4 057	338
1992	369	349	485	435	370	447	414	460	548	480	512	385	5 294	438
1993	379	408	553	386	376	390	377	419	385	379	472	319	4 843	404
1994	336	298	399	237	243	283	323	381	275	256	251	191	3 473	289
1995	246	238	250	210	210	212	194	316	231	240	259	164	2 770	231
1996	224	240	240	217	209	230	268	241	236	253	216	229	2 803	234
1997	193	257	218	272	247	300	323	300	330	310	312	220	3 282	274
1998	203	259	417	345	278	339	326	377	367	416	507	453	4 287	357
1999	354	370	643	474	547	700*	468*	600	479	522	565	286	6 008	501
2000	281*	437	392	393*	409*	395*	365*	470*	289*	341*	365*	272*	4 408	367
2001	207*	233*	249*	203*	157*									175

A Preliminary  
\* Revised

## Additional information

### Explanatory Notes

- Introduction**
- 1 Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) collects administrative information on liquidations from the Registrar of Companies and Close Corporations, Department of Trade and Industry, while information on insolvencies is gathered from Notices of the Master of the Supreme Court which 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.
- Scope of the survey**
- 3 This survey covers -
    - the total number of companies and close corporations which were liquidated; and
    - the total number of individuals and partnerships placed under final sequestration.
- Related publications**
- 4 Users June also wish to refer to the following publications which are available from Stats SA -
    - Bulletin of Statistics.
    - SA Statistics.
- Unpublished statistics**
- 5 In some cases Stats SA can also make available statistics which are not published. The statistics can be made available in one or more of the following ways: computer printout, CD or diskette. Generally a charge is made for providing unpublished statistics.
- Symbols and abbreviations**
- 6 CD            Compact Disc  
Stats SA      Statistics South Africa

## 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**

An 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**

A 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 voluntarily 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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