



Ministry of  
**JUSTICE**



# **Company winding up and bankruptcy petition court statistics – second quarter 2008**

Ministry of Justice  
Statistics bulletin

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## Introduction

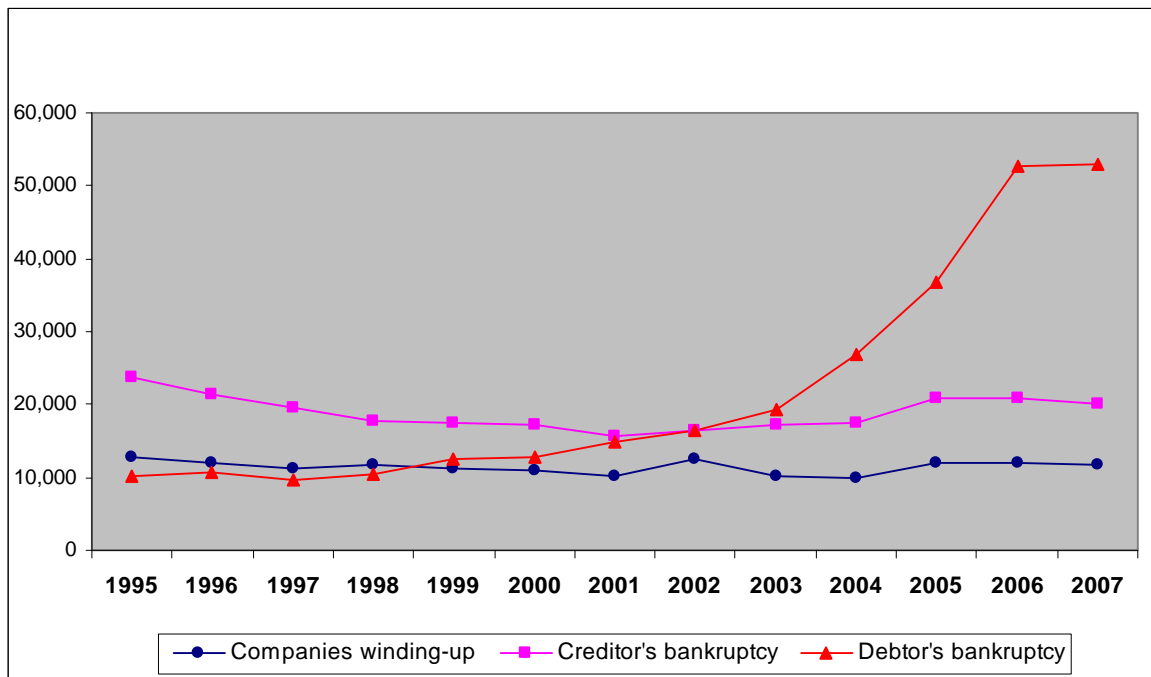
This bulletin presents the numbers of company winding up, and creditors' and debtors' bankruptcy petitions issued in the High Court and county courts of England and Wales for the second quarter of 2008.

## Findings

In the second quarter of 2008 the following number of petitions were issued:

- **2,927 company winding up petitions** – an increase of 11% on the petitions in the same quarter of 2007;
- **5,625 creditors' petitions** – an increase of 18% on the petitions in the same quarter of 2007;
- **13,533 debtors' petitions** – no change on the petitions in the same quarter of 2007.

**Figure 1: Company winding up and bankruptcy petitions filed 1995 – 2007**



**Table 1: Insolvency and bankruptcy petitions filed**

<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 (r)	20,891 (r)	52,678 (r)
2007		11,609 (r)	20,057 (r)	53,071 (r)
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 (r)	5,615	13,843 (r)
	Q2	2,775 (r)	4,966 (r)	12,811 (r)
	Q3	2,878 (r)	5,107 (r)	12,950 (r)
	Q4	3,304 (r)	5,203 (r)	13,074
2007	Q1	3,300	5,701 (r)	15,116 (r)
	Q2	2,642	4,767 (r)	13,518 (r)
	Q3	2,808 (r)	5,003 (r)	12,722 (r)
	Q4	2,859 (r)	4,586 (r)	11,715 (r)
2008	Q1	2,962 (r)	4,800 (r)	13,047 (r)
	Q2	2,927 (p)	5,625 (p)	13,533 (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 therefore be taken when drawing comparisons between time 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 during 2008 Q2**

	Companies winding-up		Creditors bankruptcy petitions		Debtors bankruptcy petitions	
	2008 Q2	% Change <sup>2</sup> in Total since 2007 Q2	2008 Q2	% Change <sup>2</sup> in Total since 2007 Q2	2008 Q2	% Change <sup>2</sup> in Total since 2007 Q2
Croydon	5	-	97	-9%	266	-24%
Kingston-upon-Thames	4	-	40	-2%	56	-36%
Romford	0	-	69	-22%	79	-44%
<b>London County Court Group</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>-13%</b>	<b>401</b>	<b>-31%</b>
<b>Royal Courts of Justice<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>1,378</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>2,486</b>	<b>24%</b>	<b>871</b>	<b>-9%</b>
<b>London</b>	<b>1,387</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>2,692</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>1,272</b>	<b>-17%</b>
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☒ Birmingham	282	21%	108	6%	331	-5%
Coventry	1	-	27	-21%	153	14%
Warwick	0	-	4	-	47	12%
<b>Birmingham, Coventry, Solihull and Warwickshire</b>	<b>283</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>-9%</b>	<b>531</b>	<b>2%</b>
Burton-on-Trent	2	-	7	-	73	14%
Dudley	0	-	7	-	43	26%
Hereford	0	-	20	-	62	2%
Kidderminster	0	-	4	-	32	-16%
Shrewsbury	0	-	9	-	95	3%
Stafford	0	-	6	-	31	7%
Stoke-on-Trent	0	-	20	-	157	24%
Stourbridge	0	-	13	-	39	-7%
Walsall	0	-	31	-23%	136	-6%
Wolverhampton	1	-	13	-71%	128	56%
Worcester	0	-	12	-	93	-26%
<b>Black Country, Staffordshire and West Mercia</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>-15%</b>	<b>889</b>	<b>6%</b>
Chesterfield	0	-	13	-	76	38%
Derby	1	-	18	-14%	119	17%
Nottingham	1	-	60	40%	300	25%
<b>Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>495</b>	<b>25%</b>
Boston	2	-	20	-	68	-24%
Leicester	7	-	30	-27%	193	-8%
Lincoln	3	-	20	-	146	47%
Northampton	2	-	47	57%	170	-8%
<b>Lincolnshire, Leicestershire, Rutland and Northamptonshire</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>577</b>	<b>-1%</b>
<b>Midlands</b>	<b>302</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>489</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>2,492</b>	<b>6%</b>
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Darlington	1	-	13	-	76	58%
Durham	1	-	16	-	118	31%
Teeside	1	-	20	0%	161	13%
☒ Newcastle-upon-Tyne	42	27%	133	46%	385	-4%
Sunderland	1	-	27	-4%	98	-8%
<b>Cleveland, Durham and Northumbria</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>31%</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>838</b>	<b>6%</b>
Barnsley	0	-	19	-	63	0%
Doncaster	0	-	19	-	123	19%
Gt Grimsby	1	-	25	-	91	12%
Kingston-upon-Hull	3	-	35	3%	184	35%
Scunthorpe	0	-	5	-	31	-14%
Sheffield	4	-	154	31%	202	22%
<b>Humber and South Yorkshire</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>257</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>694</b>	<b>19%</b>
Bradford	2	-	51	-55%	133	18%
Dewsbury	0	-	12	-50%	61	-3%
Halifax	4	-	26	-	36	6%
Harrogate	0	-	16	-	34	31%
Huddersfield	0	-	13	-	44	5%
☒ Leeds	299	30%	48	41%	122	-8%
Scarborough	0	-	9	-	85	-31%
Wakefield	0	-	15	-	110	34%
York	0	-	5	-	70	-20%
<b>North and West Yorkshire</b>	<b>305</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>-14%</b>	<b>695</b>	<b>-1%</b>
<b>North East</b>	<b>359</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>661</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>2,227</b>	<b>7%</b>

Company winding up and bankruptcy petition statistics – Second Quarter 2008

	Companies winding-up		Creditors bankruptcy petitions		Debtors bankruptcy petitions	
	2008 Q2	% Change <sup>2</sup> in Total since 2007 Q2	2008 Q2	% Change <sup>2</sup> in Total since 2007 Q2	2008 Q2	% Change <sup>2</sup> in Total since 2007 Q2
Birkenhead	0	-	19	-34%	73	18%
Chester	1	-	18	-	44	10%
Crewe	0	-	31	-	49	-18%
☒ Liverpool	102	38%	154	47%	354	77%
Macclesfield	2	-	9	-	37	-21%
Warrington & Runcorn	0	-	10	-	80	-18%
<b>Cheshire and Merseyside</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>241</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>637</b>	<b>26%</b>
Barrow-in-Furness	0	-	3	-	28	-13%
Blackburn	2	-	16	-	69	-4%
Blackpool	0	-	23	-12%	76	-7%
Burnley	0	-	31	-	50	-2%
Carlisle	0	-	15	-	30	-27%
Kendal	0	-	2	-	12	-
Lancaster	0	-	16	-	22	5%
☒ Preston	33	57%	23	15%	110	45%
Whitehaven	0	-	5	-	38	-16%
<b>Cumbria and Lancashire</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>47%</b>	<b>435</b>	<b>1%</b>
Bolton	1	-	14	-	55	-15%
Bury	0	-	11	-	43	5%
☒ Manchester	226	44%	59	26%	130	35%
Oldham	1	-	23	0%	92	28%
Salford	0	-	24	-	103	2%
Stockport	1	-	17	-19%	70	9%
Tameside	1	-	32	-	55	0%
Wigan	2	-	14	-33%	91	-8%
<b>Greater Manchester</b>	<b>232</b>	<b>46%</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>639</b>	<b>8%</b>
<b>North West</b>	<b>372</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>569</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>1,711</b>	<b>12%</b>
Bedford	2	-	5	-	39	-22%
Chelmsford	2	-	23	-	75	42%
Colchester	0	-	14	-	112	-28%
Hertford	3	-	20	-	78	-21%
Luton	2	-	63	80%	108	-9%
Southend	3	-	104	206%	258	14%
St. Albans	1	-	34	26%	139	21%
<b>Bedfordshire, Essex and Herts</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>263</b>	<b>74%</b>	<b>809</b>	<b>-1%</b>
Bury St Edmonds	0	-	22	-	91	60%
Cambridge	0	-	4	-	99	-5%
Ipswich	0	-	9	-	97	-29%
King's Lynn	1	-	10	-	65	-21%
Norwich	1	-	28	-24%	233	3%
Peterborough	1	-	14	-50%	129	-3%
<b>Cambridgeshire, Norfolk and Suffolk</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>-15%</b>	<b>714</b>	<b>-3%</b>
Canterbury	2	-	18	-	181	16%
Maidstone	1	-	5	-	31	-37%
Medway	3	-	42	-5%	159	12%
Tunbridge Wells	4	-	12	-	54	-22%
<b>Kent</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>425</b>	<b>2%</b>
Brighton	7	-	50	-34%	277	-31%
Eastbourne	0	-	9	-	45	-26%
Guildford	3	-	34	17%	117	-16%
Hastings	0	-	5	-	77	12%
<b>Surrey and Sussex</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>-22%</b>	<b>516</b>	<b>-23%</b>
Aylesbury	0	-	49	36%	81	-21%
Banbury	1	-	10	-	38	27%
Newbury	0	-	5	-	26	-7%
Milton Keynes	2	-	44	-	63	-21%
Oxford	7	-	21	-28%	92	2%
Reading	2	-	32	-3%	114	-18%
Slough	2	-	42	91%	100	-3%
<b>Thames Valley</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>47%</b>	<b>514</b>	<b>-10%</b>
<b>South East</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>728</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>2,978</b>	<b>-7%</b>

Company winding up and bankruptcy petition statistics – Second Quarter 2008

	Companies winding-up		Creditors bankruptcy petitions		Debtors bankruptcy petitions	
	2008 Q2	% Change <sup>2</sup> in Total since 2007 Q2	2008 Q2	% Change <sup>2</sup> in Total since 2007 Q2	2008 Q2	% Change <sup>2</sup> in Total since 2007 Q2
Bath	4	-	8	-	107	-7%
☒ Bristol	402	-24%	56	-36%	292	14%
Taunton	2	-	4	-	74	-11%
Yeovil	2	-	16	-	89	-23%
<b>Avon &amp; Somerset</b>	<b>410</b>	<b>-23%</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>-34%</b>	<b>562</b>	<b>-1%</b>
Barnstaple	0	-	12	-	67	16%
Exeter	2	-	26	-	108	-25%
Plymouth	0	-	17	-	189	-2%
Torquay & Newton Abbot	0	-	11	-	91	-19%
Truro	1	-	16	-	161	-18%
<b>Devon &amp; Cornwall</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>82%</b>	<b>616</b>	<b>-13%</b>
Bournemouth	12	-	49	58%	232	21%
Cheltenham	0	-	7	-	52	24%
Gloucestershire	0	-	13	-	80	16%
Salisbury	0	-	1	-	38	-3%
Swindon	1	-	16	-33%	86	-26%
Weymouth & Dorchester	1	-	17	-	65	7%
<b>Dorset, Gloucestershire and Wiltshire</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>6%</b>
Newport (I.O.W.)	0	-	6	-	53	47%
Portsmouth	0	-	28	40%	162	-20%
Southampton	6	-	16	-30%	148	38%
Winchester	2	-	13	-	24	0%
<b>Hampshire &amp; Isle of Wight</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>37%</b>	<b>387</b>	<b>5%</b>
<b>South West</b>	<b>435</b>	<b>-23%</b>	<b>332</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>2,118</b>	<b>-2%</b>
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Aberystwyth	0	-	2	-	15	-
Blackwood	0	-	6	-	47	42%
Carmarthen	0	-	7	-	19	-14%
Haverfordwest	0	-	1	-	29	-28%
Swansea	1	-	18	-	71	-7%
Welshpool & Newtown	0	-	1	-	32	-
<b>Mid and West Wales</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>10%</b>
Caernarfon	0	-	5	-	36	-10%
Llangefni	0	-	1	-	7	-
Mold	0	-	3	-	18	-
Rhyl	3	-	12	-	39	-5%
Wrexham	2	-	6	-	46	-31%
<b>North Wales</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>-18%</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>-15%</b>
Aberdare	0	-	5	-	7	-
Bridgend	1	-	9	-	47	38%
☒ Cardiff	11	-	29	-31%	115	16%
Merthyr Tydfil	0	-	7	-	17	-
Neath & Port Talbot	2	-	14	-	43	-
Newport (Gwent)	2	-	18	-	78	11%
Pontypridd	0	-	10	-	69	57%
<b>South East Wales</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>24%</b>	<b>376</b>	<b>30%</b>
<b>Wales</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>735</b>	<b>12%</b>
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<b>England &amp; Wales</b>	<b>2,927</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>5,625</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>13,533</b>	<b>0%</b>

Notes

\* - Court now closed

☒ - Provincial High Court Centre

- 1 The Royal Courts of Justice, located in central London, is the headquarters of the High Court. This 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.

**Table 3: Insolvency and bankruptcy petitions filed in the county courts during 2008 Q1-2**

	Companies winding-up		Creditors bankruptcy petitions		Debtors bankruptcy petitions	
	2008 Q1-Q2	% Change <sup>2</sup> in Total since 2007 Q1-Q2	2008 Q1-Q2	% Change <sup>2</sup> in Total since 2007 Q1-Q2	2008 Q1-Q2	% Change <sup>2</sup> in Total since 2007 Q1-Q2
Croydon	6	-	224	5%	554	-22%
Kingston-upon-Thames	10	-	62	9%	152	-23%
Romford	3	-	147	-25%	187	-31%
<b>London County Court Group</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>433</b>	<b>-7%</b>	<b>893</b>	<b>-24%</b>
<b>Royal Courts of Justice <sup>1</sup></b>	<b>2,777</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>4,239</b>	<b>-10%</b>	<b>1,757</b>	<b>-13%</b>
<b>London</b>	<b>2,796</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>4,672</b>	<b>-10%</b>	<b>2,650</b>	<b>-17%</b>
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☒ Birmingham	653	35%	274	31%	636	-17%
Coventry	8	-	73	-4%	278	12%
Warwick	0	-	15	-35%	79	-12%
<b>Birmingham, Coventry, Solihull and Warwickshire</b>	<b>661</b>	<b>37%</b>	<b>362</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>993</b>	<b>-10%</b>
Burton-on-Trent	2	-	15	-25%	128	2%
Dudley	0	-	19	-	86	-7%
Hereford	1	-	27	-	122	-2%
Kidderminster	0	-	10	-	63	-26%
Shrewsbury	2	-	23	-12%	180	-13%
Stafford	0	-	19	-	71	-3%
Stoke-on-Trent	0	-	26	-35%	319	-1%
Stourbridge	1	-	28	-	72	-8%
Walsall	0	-	58	-6%	266	-11%
Wolverhampton	2	-	25	-63%	233	29%
Worcester	5	-	23	-34%	202	-4%
<b>Black Country, Staffordshire and West Mercia</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>-43%</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>-14%</b>	<b>1,742</b>	<b>-3%</b>
Chesterfield	0	-	13	-	123	1%
Derby	1	-	31	3%	260	-14%
Nottingham	1	-	105	38%	556	14%
<b>Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>939</b>	<b>3%</b>
Boston	4	-	35	35%	135	-30%
Leicester	10	-	50	-32%	420	3%
Lincoln	3	-	40	43%	287	29%
Northampton	8	-60%	76	3%	370	-9%
<b>Lincolnshire, Leicestershire &amp; Rutland and Northamptonshire</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>-17%</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>1,212</b>	<b>-1%</b>
<b>Midlands</b>	<b>701</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>985</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>4,886</b>	<b>-3%</b>
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Darlington	3	-	20	-	141	38%
Durham	4	-	46	24%	206	6%
Tesside	3	-	46	10%	273	1%
☒ Newcastle-upon-Tyne	122	63%	247	16%	791	-4%
Sunderland	2	-	80	51%	233	1%
<b>Cleveland, Durham and Northumbria</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>68%</b>	<b>439</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>1,644</b>	<b>1%</b>
Barnsley	0	-	27	35%	133	9%
Doncaster	0	-	28	12%	198	-7%
Gt Grimsby	3	-	49	48%	176	14%
Kingston-upon-Hull	4	-	59	-26%	370	21%
Scunthorpe	0	-	11	-50%	61	-29%
Sheffield	10	-	317	59%	377	2%
<b>Humber and South Yorkshire</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>491</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>1,315</b>	<b>5%</b>
Bradford	4	-	148	-23%	244	10%
Dewsbury	0	-	48	-4%	121	-2%
Halifax	6	-	48	-	79	-10%
Harrogate	1	-	29	12%	67	-26%
Huddersfield	1	-	37	16%	94	4%
☒ Leeds	648	28%	119	105%	240	-10%
Scarborough	1	-	16	-30%	151	-25%
Wakefield	0	-	35	25%	191	31%
York	2	-	12	-	158	-9%
<b>North and West Yorkshire</b>	<b>663</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>492</b>	<b>12%</b>	<b>1,345</b>	<b>-4%</b>
<b>North East</b>	<b>814</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>1,422</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>4,304</b>	<b>1%</b>

Company winding up and bankruptcy petition statistics – Second Quarter 2008

	Companies winding-up		Creditors bankruptcy petitions		Debtors bankruptcy petitions	
	2008 Q1-Q2	% Change <sup>2</sup> in Total since 2007 Q1-Q2	2008 Q1-Q2	% Change <sup>2</sup> in Total since 2007 Q1-Q2	2008 Q1-Q2	% Change <sup>2</sup> in Total since 2007 Q1-Q2
Chester	2	-	32	-	87	-19%
Crewe	1	-	59	44%	101	-12%
☒ Liverpool	208	52%	237	20%	581	24%
Macclesfield	4	-	21	-36%	69	-17%
Warrington & Runcorn	0	-	25	-17%	142	-24%
<b>Cheshire and Merseyside</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>44%</b>	<b>374</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>980</b>	<b>-11%</b>
Barrow-in-Furness	0	-	5	-	53	-35%
Blackburn	3	-	39	63%	124	-11%
Blackpool	0	-	38	-57%	159	-5%
Burnley	0	-	52	126%	101	15%
Carlisle	0	-	25	-	59	-31%
Kendal	0	-	8	-	23	-32%
Lancaster	1	-	22	-4%	48	2%
☒ Preston	37	32%	54	54%	238	34%
Whitehaven	0	-	9	-	71	-1%
<b>Cumbria and Lancashire</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>252</b>	<b>12%</b>	<b>876</b>	<b>-2%</b>
Bolton	1	-	24	-41%	124	-35%
Bury	1	-	30	-	70	71%
☒ Manchester	428	39%	101	-31%	244	-9%
Oldham	4	-	54	32%	169	1%
Salford	0	-	37	6%	165	2%
Stockport	4	-	31	-3%	137	10%
Tameside	2	-	42	20%	117	-13%
Wigan	5	-	41	-5%	188	2%
<b>Greater Manchester</b>	<b>445</b>	<b>41%</b>	<b>360</b>	<b>-5%</b>	<b>1,214</b>	<b>-4%</b>
<b>North West</b>	<b>701</b>	<b>39%</b>	<b>986</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>3,070</b>	<b>-6%</b>
Bedford	5	-	21	-32%	87	-5%
Chelmsford	4	-	36	29%	145	18%
Colchester	0	-	59	23%	226	-28%
Hertford	5	-	32	-	156	-32%
Luton	5	-	99	60%	231	-1%
Southend	7	-	135	22%	445	-11%
St. Albans	2	-	63	-35%	319	12%
<b>Bedfordshire, Essex and Herts</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>445</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>1,609</b>	<b>-9%</b>
Bury St Edmonds	1	-	32	-	147	26%
Cambridge	2	-	23	-	193	-21%
Ipswich	0	-	25	-19%	225	-16%
King's Lynn	2	-	19	-	131	-21%
Norwich	1	-	56	-22%	454	-12%
Peterborough	3	-	33	-37%	247	-7%
<b>Cambridgeshire, Norfolk and Suffolk</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>-10%</b>	<b>1,397</b>	<b>-11%</b>
Canterbury	4	-	44	42%	365	-2%
Maidstone	1	-	18	-	69	-43%
Medway	7	-	91	2%	313	-12%
Tunbridge Wells	4	-	23	0%	107	-35%
<b>Kent</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>854</b>	<b>-16%</b>
Brighton	13	-	104	-37%	561	-22%
Eastbourne	0	-	16	-	91	-27%
Guildford	7	-	70	25%	229	-21%
Hastings	1	-	13	-38%	150	0%
<b>Surrey and Sussex</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>-19%</b>	<b>1,031</b>	<b>-20%</b>
Aylesbury	0	-	92	5%	154	-21%
Banbury	1	-	14	-	68	-13%
Newbury	0	-	10	-	66	-8%
Milton Keynes	7	-	60	140%	122	-27%
Oxford	8	-	37	-3%	223	13%
Reading	2	-	49	-8%	251	-15%
Slough	7	-	91	102%	192	-18%
<b>Thames Valley</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>353</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>1,076</b>	<b>-13%</b>
<b>South East</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>1,365</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>5,967</b>	<b>-13%</b>

Company winding up and bankruptcy petition statistics – Second Quarter 2008

	Companies winding-up		Creditors bankruptcy petitions		Debtors bankruptcy petitions	
	2008 Q1-Q2	% Change <sup>2</sup> in Total since 2007 Q1-Q2	2008 Q1-Q2	% Change <sup>2</sup> in Total since 2007 Q1-Q2	2008 Q1-Q2	% Change <sup>2</sup> in Total since 2007 Q1-Q2
Bath	4	-	17	-56%	215	-14%
☒ Bristol	680	-56%	112	-25%	501	-8%
Taunton	2	-	14	-	149	-10%
Yeovil	5	-	22	-	168	-25%
<b>Avon &amp; Somerset</b>	<b>691</b>	<b>-55%</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>-26%</b>	<b>1,033</b>	<b>-13%</b>
Barnstaple	0	-	28	-	122	-8%
Exeter	2	-	40	18%	268	-9%
Plymouth	2	-	36	-10%	353	-13%
Torquay & Newton Abbot	0	-	19	-	228	-14%
Truro	1	-	35	3%	338	-20%
<b>Devon &amp; Cornwall</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>1,309</b>	<b>-14%</b>
Bournemouth	16	-	87	40%	448	12%
Cheltenham	0	-	12	-40%	98	0%
Gloucestershire	0	-	22	-	158	-13%
Salisbury	1	-	6	-	72	-6%
Swindon	2	-	33	-33%	168	-26%
Weymouth & Dorchester	1	-	19	-	121	-9%
<b>Dorset, Gloucestershire and Wiltshire</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>-29%</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>1,065</b>	<b>-4%</b>
Newport (I.O.W.)	0	-	10	-	109	27%
Portsmouth	0	-100%	66	57%	309	-13%
Southampton	7	-	42	0%	290	-13%
Winchester	3	-	16	-	39	-19%
<b>Hampshire &amp; Isle of Wight</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>-67%</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>747</b>	<b>-10%</b>
<b>South West</b>	<b>726</b>	<b>-55%</b>	<b>636</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>4,154</b>	<b>-11%</b>
.....						
Aberystwyth	0	-	6	-	27	-4%
Blackwood	0	-	13	-	86	0%
Carmarthen	0	-	14	-	44	-6%
Haverfordwest	0	-	1	-	51	-38%
Swansea	3	-	38	15%	139	-7%
Welshpool & Newtown	0	-	2	-	51	19%
<b>Mid and West Wales</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>398</b>	<b>-9%</b>
Caernarfon	1	-	22	-	77	-7%
Llangefni	0	-	1	-	10	-
Mold	0	-	5	-	42	-
Rhyl	4	-	24	-	79	-1%
Wrexham	2	-	17	-15%	115	-10%
<b>North Wales</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>323</b>	<b>-1%</b>
Aberdare	0	-	5	-	21	-40%
Bridgend	1	-	18	-	76	3%
☒ Cardiff	36	50%	77	-23%	199	19%
Merthyr Tydfil	0	-	7	-	31	19%
Neath & Port Talbot	2	-	22	-	88	76%
Newport (Gwent)	2	-	32	33%	148	9%
Pontypridd	1	-	19	-	112	23%
<b>South Wales</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>31%</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>675</b>	<b>17%</b>
<b>Wales</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>41%</b>	<b>323</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>1,396</b>	<b>4%</b>
.....						
<b>England &amp; Wales</b>	<b>5,889</b>	<b>-1%</b>	<b>10,389</b>	<b>-1%</b>	<b>26,427</b>	<b>-8%</b>

Notes

\* - Court now closed

☒ - Provincial High Court Centre

1 The Royal Courts of Justice, located in central London, is the headquarters of the High Court. This 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.

## 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 BERR 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 Q2 2008 figures are provisional and therefore liable to revision to take account of any late amendments.
4. Percentage changes are not provided where there are less than 20 observations in the past period.
5. **Insolvency:** A company or individual with debts that they are unable to pay is said to be 'insolvent'.
6. **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'.
7. 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.
8. 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.
9. **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.

10. 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)

Press enquiries should be directed to the Ministry of Justice press office:

**Michael Duncan**

Tel: 020 3334 3533

Email: [press.office@justice.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:press.office@justice.gsi.gov.uk)

Other enquiries about these statistics should be directed to

**Faiza Awais**

Economics & Statistics Division

Ministry of Justice

5<sup>th</sup> Floor

Selborne House

54–60 Victoria Street

London SW1E 6QW

Tel: 020 7210 8846

Email: [faiza.awais@justice.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:faiza.awais@justice.gsi.gov.uk)

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)

