

Corporate bankruptcies – France • November 2018

In October 2018, the number of corporate bankruptcies decreased by 1.4% year-on-year

- At the end of October 2018, the aggregate number of corporate bankruptcies over the last 12 months amounted to 53,980 down 1.4% compared to October 2017 (see tables A and B and charts 1 and 2).
- The aggregate number of bankruptcies over the past 3 months increases by 6.1% compared to the same aggregate 3 months ago.

Over the past 12 months, corporate bankruptcies decreased in most business sectors

- The agriculture, information and communication, construction, and whole sale and retail trade sectors recorded the strongest decreases in bankruptcies over the past 12 months (-5.2%, -4.2%, -3.4%, and -3.4% respectively). Bankruptcies also decreased substantially in other sectors, particularly in the industry sector (-3.2%).
- However, over the same period, corporate bankruptcies increased in some sectors, in particular in the transportation and storage sector (+12.0%) and in the advisory and business support activities (+5.8%).

In October 2018, the evolution of bankruptcies varied according to firm sizes

- Bankruptcies decreased for SMEs as a whole (-1.4%), despite an increase for Very small firms (+1.1%). They increased also for Intermediate-sized enterprises (ISEs) and Large firms (+3 bankruptcies over 12 months, see table B).

The outstanding loan amount of firms filing for bankruptcy over the past 12 months accounts, at the end of October, for nearly 0.35% of the total outstanding loan amount reported to the Banque de France's Central Credit Register.

The aggregate number of corporate bankruptcies decreased by 1.2% at the end of November 2018, according to provisional data (see tables A and B and chart 2).

To find out more: data on business start-ups are reported by the French National Institute of Statistics and Economic Studies (INSEE): [Business start-ups on the INSEE's website](#)

A – Corporate bankruptcies by sector

Bankruptcies in number of legal units, year on year change (%)

Business sector	Aggregate over the last 12 months ^a (gross data)				Quarter to Quarter sa / wda ^{b,c}		Monthly data sa / wda ^c		
	Oct. 17	Oct. 18	Oct. 18/Oct. 17	Nov. 18 prov.	Nov. 18/Nov. 17	Oct. 18	Aug. 18	Sep. 18	Oct. 18
Agriculture, forestry and fishing (AZ)	1,512	1,433	-5.2 %	1,376	-9.4 %	5.9 %	125	126	120
Industry (BE)	3,958	3,831	-3.2 %	3,816	-2.5 %	16.8 %	329	336	407
Construction (FZ)	12,244	11,833	-3.4 %	11,811	-2.5 %	5.3 %	1,067	1,062	1,015
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles (G)	12,040	11,634	-3.4 %	11,577	-3.5 %	2.4 %	999	988	1,010
Transportation and storage (H)	1,789	2,003	12.0 %	2,044	15.5 %	1.0 %	161	184	172
Accommodation and food service activities (I)	7,268	7,305	0.5 %	7,243	-0.4 %	6.6 %	634	720	621
Information and communication (JZ)	1,372	1,314	-4.2 %	1,318	-3.6 %	-7.5 %	110	102	104
Financial and insurance activities (KZ)	1,078	1,043	-3.2 %	1,054	-0.6 %	-7.2 %	89	86	91
Real estate activities (LZ)	1,780	1,729	-2.9 %	1,693	-2.5 %	4.9 %	144	141	140
Advisory & Business support activities (MN)	5,766	6,101	5.8 %	6,125	6.7 %	29.0 %	817	496	505
Education, human health and social work services, Arts, entertainment and recreation, Other service activities (P to S)	5,458	5,326	-2.4 %	5,247	-3.4 %	3.3 %	453	501	429
All firms^d	54,769	53,980	-1.4 %	53,736	-1.2 %	6.1 %	4,919	4,757	4,628

Source: Banque de France – database: Fiben. Data available at end-December 2018

Calculation: Banque de France – Companies Directorate – Companies Observatory

^a Aggregate number of corporate bankruptcies over the past 12 months compared to the same aggregate one year ago

^b Aggregate number of corporate bankruptcies over the past 3 months compared to the same aggregate three months ago

^c sa : seasonally adjusted – wda : working day adjusted

^d The line « All firms » includes legal units whose business sector is not known

B – Corporate bankruptcies by firm size

Bankruptcies in number of legal units, year on year change (%)

Size	Aggregate over the last 12 months ^a (gross data)				Quarter to quarter sa / wda ^{b,c}		Monthly data sa / wda ^c		
	Oct. 17	Oct. 18	Oct. 18/Oct. 17	Nov. 18 prov.	Nov. 18/Nov. 17	Oct. 18	Aug. 18	Sep. 18	Oct. 18
SME, among them	54,728	53,936	-1.4 %	53,697	-1.2 %	6.0 %	4,917	4,757	4,619
Micro-enterprises and unknown firm's size	51,447	50,660	-1.5 %	50,417	-1.3 %	6.4 %	4,648	4,475	4,354
Very small firms	2,037	2,060	1.1 %	2,040	-0.4 %	3.1 %	165	179	171
Small firms	944	917	-2.9 %	931	-1.3 %	3.4 %	76	78	82
Medium-size firms	300	299	-0.3 %	309	9.6 %	6.3 %	26	24	25
ISE – Large Firms	41	44	7.3 %	39	-13.3 %				
All firms	54,769	53,980	-1.4 %	53,736	-1.2 %	6.1 %	4,919	4,757	4,628

Source: Banque de France – database: Fiben. Data available at end-December 2018

Calculation : Banque de France – Companies Directorate – Companies Observatory

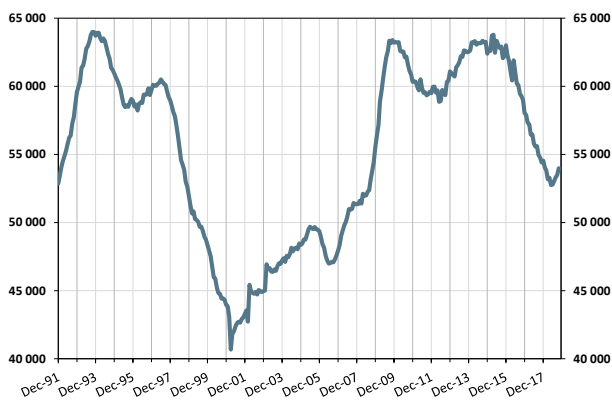
^a Aggregate number of corporate bankruptcies over the past 12 months compared to the same aggregate one year ago

^b Aggregate number of corporate bankruptcies over the past 3 months compared to the same aggregate three months ago

^c sa : seasonally adjusted – wda : working day adjusted

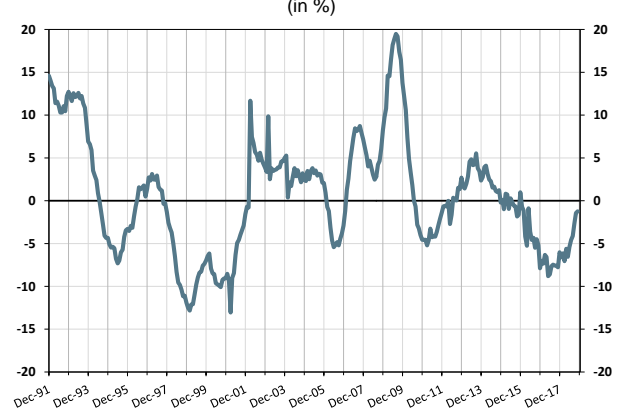
1 – Number of bankruptcies

Aggregate number of bankruptcies over the past 12 months
From Dec. 1991 to October 2018



2 – Change in bankruptcies

Year-on-year change in the 12-month aggregate
From Dec. 1991 to October 2018 (+ November 2018 provisional)
(in %)



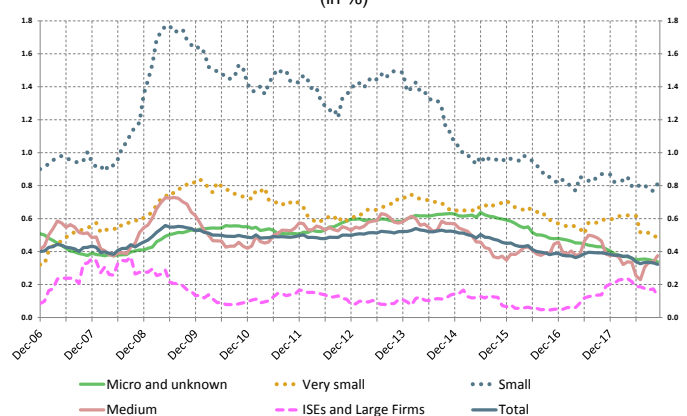
3 – Loan amounts of bankrupt non-financial firms over loan amount of all firms

Aggregate over the past 12 months
From Dec. 2006 to October 2018 (+ November 2018 provisional)
(in %)



4 – Loan amounts of bankrupt non-financial firms over loan amount of all firms – broken down by firm size

Aggregate over the past 12 months
From Dec. 2006 to October 2018 (+ November 2018 provisional)
(in %)



Source: Banque de France, Companies Directorate, Data available at end-December 2018