

## Corporate bankruptcies – France • October 2018

### In September 2018, the number of corporate bankruptcies decreased by 2.7% year-on-year

- At the end of September 2018, the aggregate number of corporate bankruptcies over the last 12 months amounted to 53,496 down 2.7% compared to September 2017 (see tables A and B and charts 1 and 2).
- However, the aggregate number of bankruptcies over the past 3 months increases by 4.5% compared to the same aggregate 3 months ago.

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

- The agriculture, industry and wholesale and retail trade sectors recorded the strongest decreases in bankruptcies over the past 12 months (-7.7%, -5.6% and -4.7%, respectively). Bankruptcies also decreased substantially in other sectors, particularly in the construction sector (-4.5%).
- However, over the same period, corporate bankruptcies increased in some sectors, in particular in the transportation and storage sector (+8.3%) and in the advisory and business support activities (+3.7%).

### In September 2018, bankruptcies decreased for most firm sizes

- Bankruptcies decreased for SMEs as a whole (-2.7%), despite an increase for Very small firms (+1.5%). They decreased 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 September, 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 1.6% at the end of October 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 <sup>a</sup> (gross data)					Quarter to Quarter sa / wda <sup>bc</sup>		Monthly data sa / wda <sup>c</sup>		
	Sep. 17	Sep. 18	Sep. 18/Sep. 17	Oct. 18 prov.	Oct. 18/Oct. 17	Sep. 18	July 18	Aug. 18	Sep. 18	
Agriculture, forestry and fishing (AZ)	1,539	1,421	-7.7 %	1,421	-6.2 %	6.0 %	121	123	124	
Industry (BE)	3,949	3,727	-5.6 %	3,823	-3.5 %	5.8 %	300	330	338	
Construction (FZ)	12,303	11,750	-4.5 %	11,822	-3.5 %	5.5 %	998	1,068	1,068	
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles (G)	12,085	11,511	-4.7 %	11,633	-3.3 %	0.2 %	950	1,003	992	
Transportation and storage (H)	1,809	1,960	8.3 %	1,999	11.7 %	6.3 %	186	160	182	
Accommodation and food service activities (I)	7,229	7,271	0.6 %	7,300	0.4 %	4.6 %	592	634	714	
Information and communication (JZ)	1,375	1,318	-4.1 %	1,315	-4.2 %	-5.1 %	113	110	102	
Financial and insurance activities (KZ)	1,075	1,042	-3.1 %	1,043	-3.2 %	-8.2 %	96	89	86	
Real estate activities (LZ)	1,797	1,723	-4.1 %	1,723	-3.3 %	-4.3 %	127	144	141	
Advisory & Business support activities (MN)	5,822	6,036	3.7 %	6,103	5.9 %	26.0 %	482	814	494	
Education, human health and social work services, Arts, entertainment and recreation, Other service activities (P to S)	5,470	5,316	-2.8 %	5,302	-2.9 %	2.0 %	438	458	494	
<b>All firms<sup>d</sup></b>	<b>54,961</b>	<b>53,496</b>	<b>-2.7 %</b>	<b>53,912</b>	<b>-1.6 %</b>	<b>4.5 %</b>	<b>4,454</b>	<b>4,914</b>	<b>4,749</b>	

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

Calculation : Banque de France – Companies Directorate – Companies Observatory

<sup>a</sup> Aggregate number of corporate bankruptcies over the past 12 months compared to the same aggregate one year ago

<sup>b</sup> Aggregate number of corporate bankruptcies over the past 3 months compared to the same aggregate three months ago

<sup>c</sup> sa : seasonally adjusted – wda : working day adjusted

<sup>d</sup> 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 <sup>a</sup> (gross data)				Quarter to quarter sa / wda <sup>bc</sup>		Monthly data sa / wda <sup>c</sup>		
	Sep. 17	Sep. 18	Sep. 18/Sep. 17	Oct. 18 prov.	Oct. 18/Oct. 17	Sep. 18	July 18	Aug. 18	Sep. 18
SME, among them	54,920	53,458	-2.7 %	53,869	-1.6 %	4.6 %	4,452	4,911	4,748
Micro-enterprises and unknown firm's size	51,664	50,192	-2.8 %	50,594	-1.6 %	4.7 %	4,172	4,643	4,467
Very small firms	2,024	2,054	1.5 %	2,060	0.9 %	3.9 %	171	165	180
Small firms	932	915	-1.8 %	917	-3.0 %	1.3 %	82	76	77
Medium-size firms	300	297	-1.0 %	298	-1.0 %	-2.1 %	22	26	23
ISE – Large Firms	41	38	-7.3 %	43	4.9 %				
All firms	54,961	53,496	-2.7 %	53,912	-1.6 %	4.5 %	4,454	4,914	4,749

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

Calculation : Banque de France – Companies Directorate – Companies Observatory

<sup>a</sup> Aggregate number of corporate bankruptcies over the past 12 months compared to the same aggregate one year ago

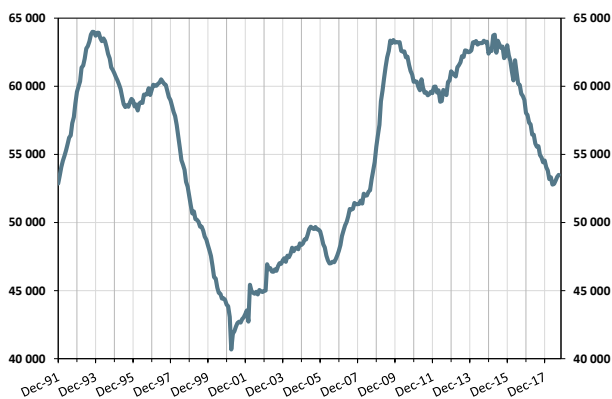
<sup>b</sup> Aggregate number of corporate bankruptcies over the past 3 months compared to the same aggregate three months ago

<sup>c</sup> sa : seasonally adjusted – wda : working day adjusted

## C – Changes in corporate bankruptcies

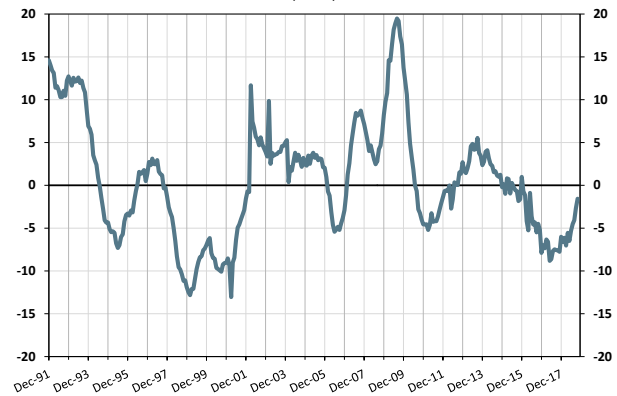
### 1 – Number of bankruptcies

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



### 2 – Change in bankruptcies

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



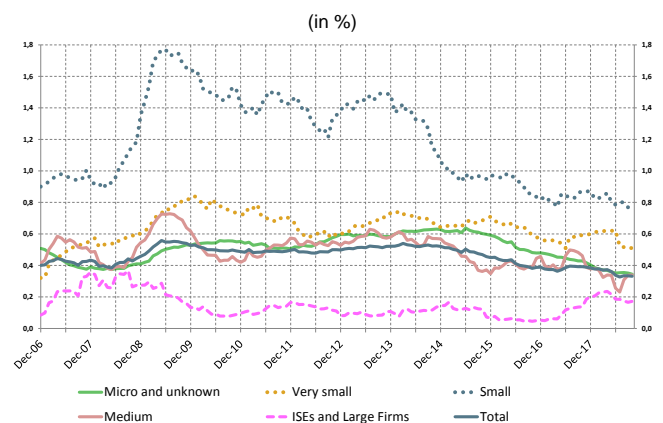
### 3 – Loan amounts of bankrupt non-financial firms over loan amount of all firms

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



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