Corporate bankruptcies in France
April 2017

13 June 2017

At end-March 2017, the aggregated number of corporate bankruptcies over the last 12 months decreased by 6.5 %

- At end-March, the aggregated number of corporate bankruptcies over the last 12 months amounted to 57,153, down 6.5% compared to March 2016 (see tables A and B and charts 1 and 2).

- According to provisional data, the aggregated number of corporate bankruptcies decreases at a slower pace at end-April 2017 (-7.0 %) (see tables A and B and charts 1 and 2).

Corporate bankruptcies decreased in most business sectors

- Two sectors, construction and industry, recorded the strongest decrease in bankruptcies over the past 12 months (-12.5 % and -7.4 %, respectively). The aggregated number of bankruptcies also decreased in other sectors, particularly in wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles (-6.8 %) and accommodation and food services (-6.8 %).

- However, over the past 12 months corporate bankruptcies increased in agriculture, forestry and fishing (+10.4 %) and to a lesser extent in transport and storage (+2.7 %).

Bankruptcies decreased across all firm sizes

- Bankruptcies decreased for SMEs (-6.5 %) as well as for intermediate-sized enterprises (ISE) and large enterprises (-2.8 %, see table B).

The outstanding loan amounts of firms filing for bankruptcy over the past 12 months accounts for a little more than 0.35% of the total outstanding loan amounts reported to the Banque de France’s Central Credit Register.

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 (%)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Business sector</th>
<th>Aggregate over the last 12 months</th>
<th>Quarter to Quarter</th>
<th>Monthly data</th>
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<td>March 17 / Mar. 16</td>
<td>Jan. 17 / Feb. 17</td>
<td>March 17</td>
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<td>March 16 / Mar. 16</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

All firms

61,127
57,153
6,566
5,666

Source: Banque de France – database: Fbn. Data available at end-May 2017

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

csa / wda: seasonally adjusted – wda: working day adjusted

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

The methodology is available in French at: https://www.banque-france.fr/statistiques/acces-aux-series/methodologies

All series published by the Banque de France are available at: Webstat Banque de France
B – Corporate bankruptcies by firm size
Bankruptcies in number of legal units, year on year change (%)

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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SME, among them</td>
<td>61,091</td>
<td>57,118</td>
<td>-6.5 %</td>
<td>56,230</td>
<td>-7.0 %</td>
<td>-1.9 %</td>
<td>4,502</td>
<td>4,479</td>
<td>4,622</td>
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<tr>
<td>Micro-enterprises and unknown firms size</td>
<td>57,754</td>
<td>54,110</td>
<td>-7.2 %</td>
<td>53,312</td>
<td>-6.7 %</td>
<td>-2.0 %</td>
<td>4,220</td>
<td>4,366</td>
<td>4,438</td>
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<tr>
<td>Very small firms</td>
<td>2,012</td>
<td>1,766</td>
<td>-12.2 %</td>
<td>1,723</td>
<td>-13.2 %</td>
<td>-16.2 %</td>
<td>137</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small firms</td>
<td>975</td>
<td>913</td>
<td>-6.4 %</td>
<td>884</td>
<td>-9.9 %</td>
<td>31.0 %</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medium-size firms</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>329</td>
<td>-6.0 %</td>
<td>311</td>
<td>-11.1 %</td>
<td>-9.0 %</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>25</td>
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<tr>
<td>ISE – Large Firms</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>2.8 %</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>0.0 %</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

All firms                    | 61,127   | 57,153   | -6.5 %            | 56,266        | -7.0 %            | -1.9 %   | 4,504   | 4,483   | 4,666    |

Source: Banque de France – database: Fiben. Data available at end-May 2017
Calculation : Banque de France – Companies Directorate – Companies Observatory

C – Changes in corporate bankruptcies

1 – Bankruptcy index
Aggregate number of bankruptcies over the past 12 months
(Average over December 1990 – March 2017 = 100)

2 – Change in bankruptcies
Year-on-year change in the 12-month aggregate

3 – Loan amounts of bankrupt non-financial firms over loan amount of all firms
Aggregate over the past 12 months

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

Source: Banque de France, Companies Directorate, Data available at end-May 2017