



stats sa

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REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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STATISTICAL RELEASE

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Statistics of insolvencies (Preliminary)

August 2026

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Contents

Insolvencies: results for August 2026	2
Figure 1 – Number of insolvencies: year-on-year percentage change.....	2
Tables.....	3
Table 1 – Insolvencies of individuals and partnerships (number)	3
Table 2 – Year-on-year percentage change in the number of insolvencies of individuals and partnerships	3
Table 3 – Number of insolvencies of individuals and partnerships by province	4
Explanatory notes.....	5
Glossary.....	5
Technical enquiries	5
General information.....	6

Insolvencies: results for August 2026

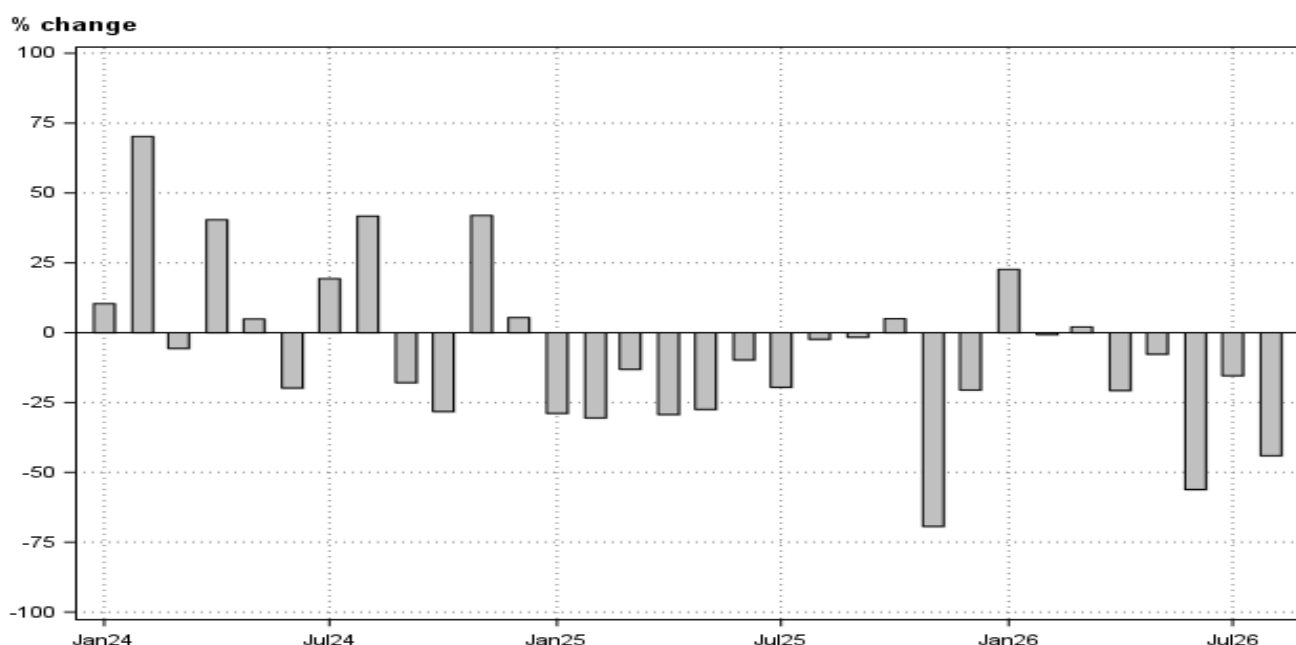
Table A – Number of insolvencies

Number of insolvencies Aug 2026	% change between Aug 2025 and Aug 2026	% change between Jun to Aug 2025 and Jun to Aug 2026	% change between January to Aug 2025 and January to Aug 2026
117	-44,0	-37,9	-17,3

The total number of insolvencies decreased by 37,9% (from 517 to 321) in the three months ended August 2026 compared with the three months ended August 2025. There was a year-on-year decrease of 44,0% (from 209 to 117) in August 2026.

The total number of insolvencies decreased by 17,3% (from 1 225 to 1 013) in the first eight months of 2026 compared with the first eight months of 2025.

Figure 1 – Number of insolvencies: year-on-year percentage change




Risenga Maluleke
 Statistician-General

Tables

Table 1 – Insolvencies of individuals and partnerships (number)

Month	2023	2024	2025	2026
Jan	135	149	106	130
Feb	131	223	155	154
Mar	178	168	146	149
Apr	146	205	145	115
May	205	215	156	144
Jun	192	154	139	61
Jul	176	210	169	143
Aug	151	214	209	117
Sep	151	124	122	
Oct	195	140	147	
Nov	186	264	81	
Dec	37	39	31	
Total	1 883	2 105	1 606	

Table 2 – Year-on-year percentage change in the number of insolvencies of individuals and partnerships

Month	2024	2025	2026	2026 year-to-date
Jan	10,4	-28,9	22,6	22,6
Feb	70,2	-30,5	-0,6	8,8
Mar	-5,6	-13,1	2,1	6,4
Apr	40,4	-29,3	-20,7	-0,7
May	4,9	-27,4	-7,7	-2,3
Jun	-19,8	-9,7	-56,1	-11,1
Jul	19,3	-19,5	-15,4	-11,8
Aug	41,7	-2,3	-44,0	-17,3
Sep	-17,9	-1,6		
Oct	-28,2	5,0		
Nov	41,9	-69,3		
Dec	5,4	-20,5		
Total	11,8	-23,7		

Table 3 – Number of insolvencies of individuals and partnerships by province

Period		Western Cape	Eastern Cape	Northern Cape	Free State	KwaZulu-Natal	North West	Gauteng	Mpumalanga	Limpopo	South Africa
2023	Jan	20	4	0	3	15	1	87	0	5	135
	Feb	19	2	1	4	15	5	83	0	2	131
	Mar	49	8	0	5	20	6	88	0	2	178
	Apr	20	3	0	1	9	1	105	0	7	146
	May	16	1	3	3	16	7	158	0	1	205
	Jun	31	1	1	7	14	5	131	0	2	192
	Jul	21	0	0	3	12	1	134	0	5	176
	Aug	20	1	1	4	24	1	97	0	3	151
	Sep	16	2	0	1	6	2	122	0	2	151
	Oct	22	4	1	5	8	3	151	0	1	195
	Nov	30	1	0	1	15	6	128	0	5	186
	Dec	7	1	0	2	1	1	24	0	1	37
	Total	271	28	7	39	155	39	1 308	0	36	1 883
2024	Jan	23	4	0	1	14	0	104	0	3	149
	Feb	31	1	1	5	11	1	170	0	3	223
	Mar	16	2	2	0	14	5	128	0	1	168
	Apr	30	1	1	4	10	4	143	7	5	205
	May	22	4	0	3	17	1	159	6	3	215
	Jun	11	4	0	4	5	4	122	3	1	154
	Jul	34	2	0	2	9	6	141	16	0	210
	Aug	24	2	0	2	12	1	161	8	4	214
	Sep	15	1	1	6	13	2	81	5	0	124
	Oct	34	1	0	5	10	0	87	3	0	140
	Nov	18	3	1	6	10	0	224	2	0	264
	Dec	8	2	0	3	2	1	15	8	0	39
	Total	266	27	6	41	127	25	1 535	58	20	2 105
2025	Jan	2	1	0	4	9	1	85	4	0	106
	Feb	24	1	3	5	10	6	101	5	0	155
	Mar	18	0	3		11	4	98	3	9	146
	Apr	22	2	3	1	15	0	100	2	0	145
	May	18	2	2	4	6	5	115	4	0	156
	Jun	13	1	0	2	8	4	109	2	0	139
	Jul	28	11	3	3	12	1	104	3	4	169
	Aug	28	3	0	5	13	2	146	6	6	209
	Sep	31	1	2	4	9	1	67	7	0	122
	Oct	23	4	3	2	8	1	100	6	0	147
	Nov	14	6	0	1	7	0	45	7	1	81
	Dec	11	3	0	5	4	1	7	0	0	31
	Total	232	35	19	36	112	26	1 077	49	20	1 606
2026	Jan	19	1	0	0	13	0	95	2	0	130
	Feb	34	5	0	2	13	3	85	10	2	154
	Mar	25	7	2	1	11	5	88	9	1	149
	Apr	18	0	2	1	10	0	79	4	1	115
	May	16	1	1	1	8	1	107	8	1	144
	Jun	12	0	3	5	11	1	22	5	2	61
	Jul	36	7	1	7	9	0	82	0	1	143
	Aug	33	1	0	2	1	1	69	2	8	117
	YTD	193	22	9	19	76	11	627	40	16	1 013

Explanatory notes

Introduction	1	Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) collects administrative information on insolvencies from the Department of Justice and Constitutional Development (DoJ&CD).
	2	This statistical release reflects insolvencies of individuals and partnerships.
Purpose of the survey	3	The aggregated data in this release 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.
Scope of the survey	4	This survey covers the total number of individuals and partnerships placed under final sequestration.
Symbols and abbreviations	5	Stats SA – Statistics South Africa DoJ&CD – Department of Justice and Constitutional Development YTD – Year-to-date

Glossary

Insolvency	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.
Individual	An individual refers to a natural person whose estate is sequestrated by a court order in terms of the Insolvency Act, 1936. This category includes sole proprietors, where the individual and the business are not separate legal entities.
Partnership	A partnership refers to a business arrangement between two or more persons conducting business jointly for profit without forming a separate juristic person.

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Stats SA publishes approximately 300 different statistical releases each year. It is not economically viable to produce them in more than one of South Africa's 12 official languages. Since the releases are used extensively locally and by international economic and social-scientific communities, Stats SA releases are published in English only.

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