

UK Company Insolvency Statistics

Focus on the Real Estate Sector August 2026

Company Insolvency Headlines

1,946 
company insolvencies
registered in August 2026

 **0.1%**
vs July 2026

 **3.0%**
vs August 2025



Compulsory Liquidations

8% higher than July 2026 and 5% higher than August 2025.

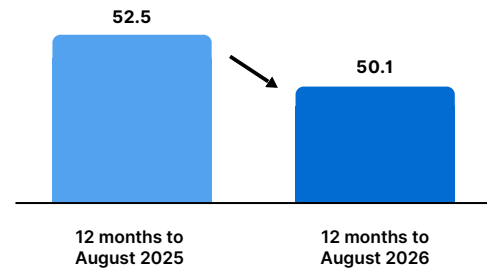


Administrations

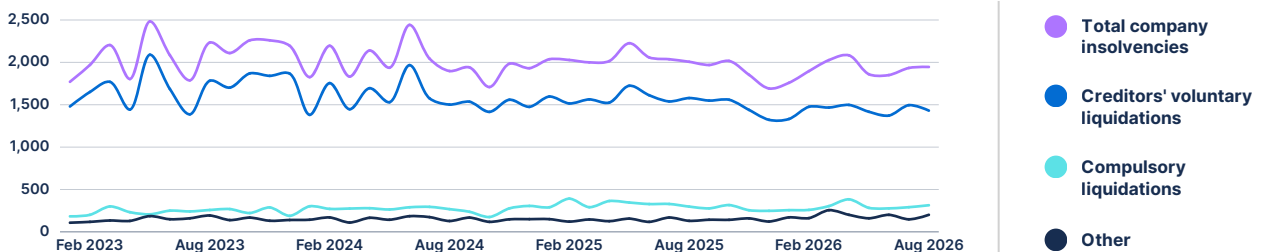
44% higher than in July 2026, and 60% higher than in August 2025. Administration numbers have been volatile in recent months due to connected real estate company appointments.

Insolvencies on a Rolling 12 Month Basis

Insolvencies per 10,000 companies



Monthly Insolvencies



Spotlight: Real Estate Companies



Insolvency numbers for 'Real Estate Activities' have increased materially over the last 12 months.

 **25%**
increase

In insolvencies in the 12 months to August 2026 compared to the preceding 12 months.



Market Commentary

The Administration of Market Financial Solutions (MFS), a major bridging and buy-to-let lender, has materially impacted 2026 insolvency figures.

Their insolvency is both a reflection of, and a contributor to, wider trends causing stress for property-focused companies.

MFS

MFS raised institutional and debt fund capital to provide higher-interest bridging loans. Its insolvency exposed malpractice, including the double pledging of assets as collateral, leaving lenders exposed and increasing pressure on borrowers.

Lender Caution

Lenders are tightening underwriting standards and due diligence, with greater focus on borrower track records, asset quality and exit strategies.

Refinancing

Loans secured during the low-interest-rate era are maturing into a market characterised by higher borrowing costs, reduced liquidity and value compression, making refinancing more difficult.

Deal Friction

Commercial real estate transaction volumes remain subdued, with prolonged deal timelines driven by lending constraints and buyers exploiting favourable market conditions. Opportunities exist for well-capitalised and cash-funded investors.

Watling Instructions



46 Hertford Street
Mayfair, London, W1J 7DP

Watling have been engaged to dispose of a prime period office building on behalf of the Administrators of one of the MFS group companies.