DIRECTOR AID

The Winding-Up Petition Report 2024

Winding-up petitions and liquidations in England and Wales in 2024: the Director Aid Petition Figures

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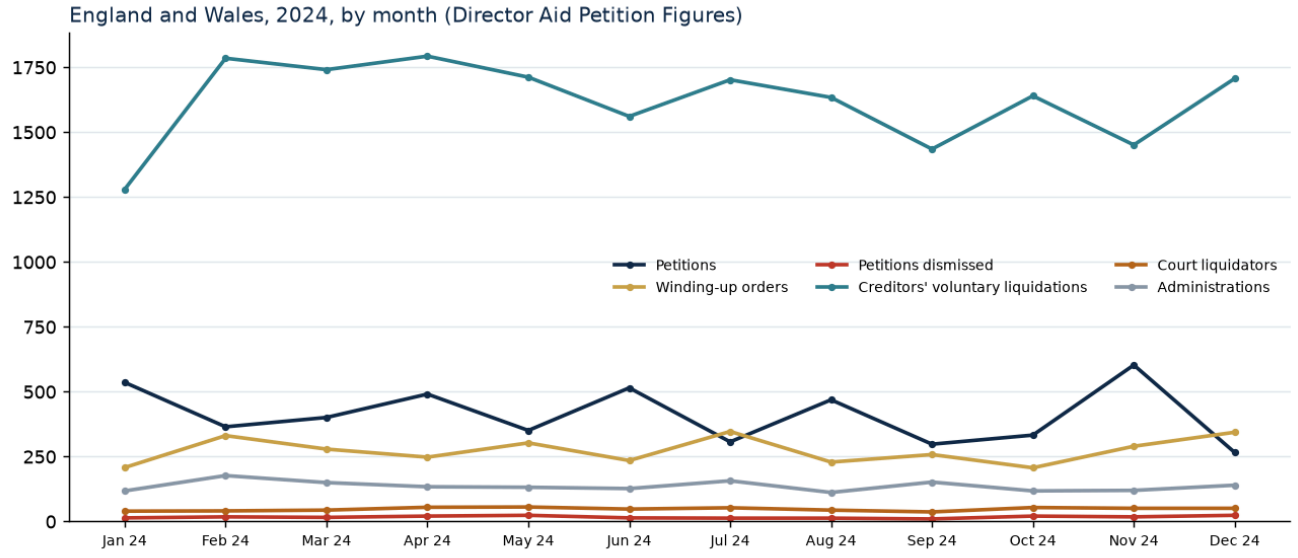
Winding-up petitions and liquidations in England and Wales in 2024

> **This report online:** directoraid.co.uk/winding-up-petitions-and-liquidations-2024.html (updated monthly). Also: the figures hub · the regional map · the press kit · method and licence · the data (CSV). Every link in this document is clickable.

In 2024, 4,935 winding-up petitions were advertised against companies in England and Wales; 3,279 winding-up orders were made; 19,441 companies went into creditors' voluntary liquidation; 1,637 administrators were appointed. This is the Director Aid Petition Figures year report for 2024: the monthly figures, the regions and sectors, the petitioners, what happened at the hearings and the firms appointed. A PDF of this report is at The Winding-Up Petition Report 2024.

In brief

- Petitions were up 738% on 2023 (4,935 against 589).
- The busiest month was November 2024 (603) and the quietest December 2024 (266).
- HMRC presented 51% of the petitions; the rest came from trade creditors, lenders, landlords and local authorities.
- 66% of the petitions heard ended in a winding-up order within a year.
- London had the most (1,797, 37% of the total).
- Construction was the sector most affected (22% of those with a known sector).
- FRP Advisory Trading Limited took more appointments than any other firm (1,484).
- The companies were typically 8 years old; 23% were under five.



Director Aid Petition Figures, directoraid.co.uk. Source: public insolvency records and Director Aid's own monitoring, analysed by Director Aid.

Month by month

Month	Petitions	Winding-up orders	Petitions dismissed	Creditors' voluntary liquidations	Court liquidators	Administrations	Members' voluntary liquidations
January 2024	536	208	14	1,280	40	118	453
February 2024	365	331	18	1,785	41	177	583
March 2024	401	279	16	1,741	44	150	724
April 2024	491	248	21	1,793	55	134	797
May 2024	351	303	24	1,712	56	132	529
June 2024	515	235	14	1,561	48	127	612
July 2024	307	347	13	1,702	53	157	788
August 2024	469	229	13	1,634	44	112	701
September 2024	298	258	10	1,435	37	152	981
October 2024	333	207	21	1,640	54	118	2,553
November 2024	603	290	18	1,451	51	120	1,011
December 2024	266	344	24	1,707	51	140	591

What happened to the petitions

Of the 4,929 petitions advertised in 2024 that are old enough to have had their hearing, 66% were followed by a winding-up order within a year and 4% by an advertised dismissal; the rest were withdrawn, dismissed without a notice, adjourned beyond the year or are still pending. The share that end in an order is the single most important number for a director: it is high because most companies do nothing effective between service and the hearing.

Who presented the petitions

HMRC presented 51% of the petitions advertised in 2024 (2,524 of 4,935). Creditor petitions, from trade creditors, lenders, landlords and local authorities, are the ones most often disputed, paid or withdrawn before the hearing.

Petitioner	Number	Share
HMRC	2,524	51%
Trade creditors	1,274	26%
Lenders and banks	360	7%
Landlords	89	2%
Local authorities	130	3%
Other petitioners	558	11%

By region

Petitions in 2024, by the region of the company's own address.

Region	Number	Share
London	1,797	37%
South East	544	11%
South West	241	5%
East of England	373	8%
East Midlands	218	4%
West Midlands	391	8%
North West	663	14%
North East	144	3%
Yorkshire and the Humber	356	7%
Wales	176	4%

By sector

Petitions in 2024, by the company's stated nature of business.

Sector	Number	Share
Construction	1,087	22%
Manufacturing, Mining and Utilities	291	6%
Retail, Wholesale and Motor Trade	655	13%
Hospitality (Hotels, Restaurants, Bars)	392	8%
Transport and Logistics	202	4%
Media, IT and Telecoms	343	7%
Property	322	7%
Finance and Insurance	164	3%
Professional Services	441	9%
Business Support Services	542	11%
Health, Education and Care	168	3%
Agriculture	21	0%
Leisure and Other Services	260	5%
Other or Not Stated	47	1%

By court

Court	Number	Share
High Court (London)	4,129	86%
High Court (Business and Property Courts in Leeds)	255	5%
High Court (Business and Property Courts in Manchester)	233	5%
High Court (Business and Property Courts in Birmingham)	63	1%
High Court (Business and Property Courts in Liverpool)	30	1%
High Court (Business and Property Courts in Bristol)	20	0%
County Court at Aberdare	10	0%
High Court (Business and Property Courts in Newcastle)	6	0%
County Court at Bradford	5	0%
County Court at Croydon	4	0%
County Court at Southampton	4	0%
County Court at Birmingham	3	0%

Firms appointed most often

Administrations, creditors voluntary liquidations and court appointments taken in 2024, by firm. Every firm has its own page in the practitioner directory.

Firm	Appointments in 2024
FRP Advisory Trading Limited	1,484
Leonard Curtis	1,278
Quantuma Advisory Limited	878
Anderson Brookes Insolvency Practitioners Limited	557
SFP Restructuring Limited	545
Opus Restructuring LLP	455
Clarke Bell Limited	383
MVL Online Ltd	293
CMB Partners UK Limited	274
AABRS Limited	272
Antony Batty & Company LLP	265
RG Insolvency	257
Valentine & Co	248
Butcher Woods	241
DSi Business Recovery	240

Reading the figures

- The counts are of public notices, by the date of the notice; a company that appears twice (a petition and later an order) is counted once under each.
- Regions and sectors come from the company's own address and stated business. Scotland and Northern Ireland are left out.
- Dismissals undercount, because a petition that is withdrawn or dismissed is often never advertised.
- Full method, definitions and licence: how the figures are compiled. Other years and the monthly series: the figures.

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Director Aid gives directors facing a winding-up petition a free initial consultation with a Solicitor: 07361 999123, text DIRAID to 82228, directoraid.co.uk. Journalists: help@directoraid.co.uk.

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