DIRECTOR AID

The Winding-Up Petition Report 2025

Winding-up petitions and liquidations in England and Wales in 2025: the Director Aid Petition Figures

Director Aid · directoraid.co.uk · Published 16 November 2026 · Free to quote with credit (CC BY 4.0)

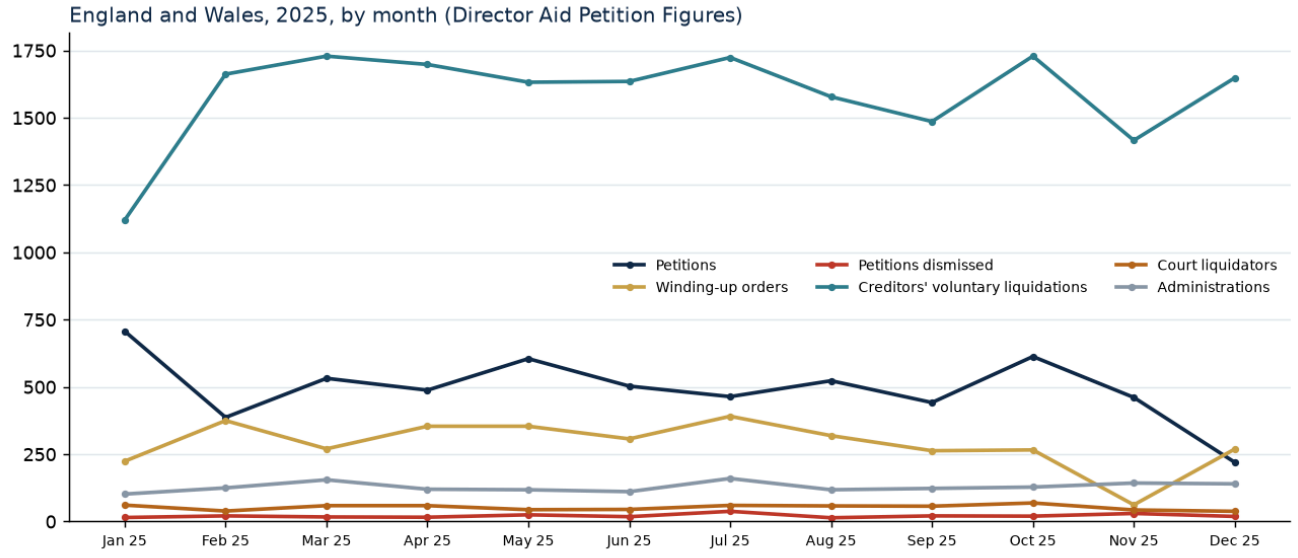
Winding-up petitions and liquidations in England and Wales in 2025

> **This report online:** directoraid.co.uk/winding-up-petitions-and-liquidations-2025.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 2025, 5,945 winding-up petitions were advertised against companies in England and Wales; 3,454 winding-up orders were made; 19,057 companies went into creditors' voluntary liquidation; 1,543 administrators were appointed. This is the Director Aid Petition Figures year report for 2025: 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 2025.

In brief

- Petitions were up 20% on 2024 (5,945 against 4,935).
- The busiest month was January 2025 (707) and the quietest December 2025 (220).
- HMRC presented 60% of the petitions; the rest came from trade creditors, lenders, landlords and local authorities.
- 61% of the petitions heard ended in a winding-up order within a year.
- London had the most (2,049, 35% of the total).
- Construction was the sector most affected (20% of those with a known sector).
- FRP Advisory Trading Limited took more appointments than any other firm (1,579).
- The companies were typically 8 years old; 22% 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 2025	707	224	15	1,120	61	102	362
February 2025	387	375	21	1,662	39	125	596
March 2025	532	270	17	1,729	59	155	1,599
April 2025	488	354	16	1,698	59	120	1,247
May 2025	605	354	25	1,632	44	118	264
June 2025	503	307	18	1,635	45	111	317
July 2025	464	391	38	1,724	60	160	376
August 2025	523	319	14	1,578	58	118	357
September 2025	442	263	21	1,486	57	123	420
October 2025	613	266	20	1,729	69	128	620
November 2025	461	62	30	1,416	43	143	726
December 2025	220	269	19	1,648	38	140	731

What happened to the petitions

Of the 5,940 petitions advertised in 2025 that are old enough to have had their hearing, 61% 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 60% of the petitions advertised in 2025 (3,590 of 5,945). 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	3,590	60%
Trade creditors	1,322	22%
Lenders and banks	259	4%
Landlords	86	1%
Local authorities	156	3%
The company or its directors	1	0%
Other petitioners	531	9%

By region

Petitions in 2025, by the region of the company's own address.

Region	Number	Share
London	2,049	35%
South East	687	12%
South West	362	6%
East of England	423	7%
East Midlands	302	5%
West Midlands	503	9%
North West	744	13%
North East	147	2%
Yorkshire and the Humber	434	7%
Wales	252	4%

By sector

Petitions in 2025, by the company's stated nature of business.

Sector	Number	Share
Construction	1,188	20%
Manufacturing, Mining and Utilities	384	6%
Retail, Wholesale and Motor Trade	846	14%
Hospitality (Hotels, Restaurants, Bars)	536	9%
Transport and Logistics	218	4%
Media, IT and Telecoms	429	7%
Property	357	6%
Finance and Insurance	144	2%
Professional Services	519	9%
Business Support Services	651	11%
Health, Education and Care	279	5%
Agriculture	35	1%
Leisure and Other Services	295	5%
Other or Not Stated	64	1%

By court

Court	Number	Share
High Court (London)	5,132	87%
High Court (Business and Property Courts in Leeds)	307	5%
High Court (Business and Property Courts in Manchester)	243	4%
High Court (Business and Property Courts in Birmingham)	58	1%
High Court (Business and Property Courts in Liverpool)	24	0%
High Court (Business and Property Courts in Bristol)	15	0%
High Court (Business and Property Courts in Newcastle)	11	0%
County Court at Aberdare	10	0%
County Court at Exeter	6	0%
High Court (Business and Property Courts in Cardiff)	4	0%
County Court at Kingston-upon-Thames	4	0%
County Court at Birmingham	3	0%

Firms appointed most often

Administrations, creditors voluntary liquidations and court appointments taken in 2025, by firm. Every firm has its own page in the practitioner directory.

Firm	Appointments in 2025
FRP Advisory Trading Limited	1,579
Leonard Curtis	1,161
Quantuma Advisory Limited	800
Anderson Brookes Insolvency Practitioners Limited	657
Opus Restructuring LLP	389
Clarke Bell Limited	368
CMB Partners UK Limited	269
MVL Online Ltd	265
DSi Business Recovery	246
Antony Batty & Company LLP	215
Marshall Peters	211
Cromwell & Co Insolvency Practitioners	206
AABRS Limited	204
FTS Recovery Limited	203
Parker Andrews Limited	200

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.

Quote these figures freely with credit to the Director Aid Petition Figures and a link to this page. Licence: Creative Commons Attribution 4.0. Source: public insolvency records and Director Aid's own monitoring, analysed by Director Aid. Contains public sector information licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0.

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.

Source: public insolvency records and Director Aid's own monitoring, analysed by Director Aid. Contains public sector information licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0.