



Press release

Statistics Netherlands

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Number of bankruptcies stable

In the first quarter of this year, slightly more than 1 000 bankruptcies were pronounced. This is a modest 2% increase on the same period last year, according to the latest figures by Statistics Netherlands. Furthermore the debt restructuring regulation was applied to more than 2 200 people in the first quarter.

More private individuals bankrupt

The number of bankruptcies among private individuals, not owning a business, was 190 in the first quarter of this year, up one third on the first quarter last year.

The debt restructuring regulation was applied to more than 2 200 individuals. Since its introduction on 1 December 1998 the number of cases has gone up each quarter. This is partly because the regulation was phased in gradually. In the first quarter of 1999 it was applied to 900 private individuals, in the to 2 100. With over 2 200 private individuals in the first quarter this year, the number of debt restructuring cases seems to be levelling off. The preliminary figures by Statistics Netherlands show that one in six debt restructuring cases concerns a private individual owning a single-owner business.

Fewer enterprises and institutions bankrupt

There has been a 4% drop in bankruptcies of enterprises and institutions on the first quarter last year. The drop is mainly found in the category single-owner companies, which account for nearly half.

The number of bankruptcies among limited liability companies has been just over 500 in the first quarters of the last three years.

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Table 1 Bankruptcies pronounced in each quarter 1995-2000

Tabel 1. Uitgesproken faillissementen per kwartaal, 1995-2000

Kwartaal	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
I	1532	1411	1450	1376	1002	1020
II	1376	1373	1369	1297	969	
III	1492	1342	1331	1310	900	
IV	1447	1451	1397	1048	969	

Bron: CBS