# Monthly Credit Risk Insights by Alares

Hi Colleague,

Insolvencies increased substantially in February, peaking at the highest monthly level seen in many years. This coincides with a sharp uptick in Court recoveries from the big four banks and the ATO. Is February a one-off or will this trend continue throughout 2024? Stay tuned for next month's update to see how these trends develop.

#### Key highlights in February -

- Insolvencies well above historical levels.
- Significant increase in Court recoveries from the big four banks.
- Winding up applications approaching historical levels.

If you have specific credit risk concerns about your customers or suppliers, please get in touch, we will be happy to help -

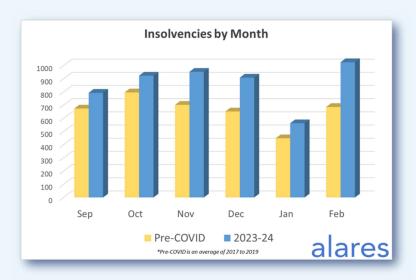
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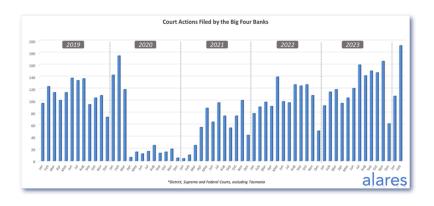
#### Substantial increase in insolvencies in February

Total insolvencies in February were almost 50% higher than pre-COVID numbers. This marks the highest monthly percentage increase we have seen to date.



#### Significant increase in Court recoveries from the big four banks

The big four banks have significantly increased their recovery activity after the typical pause in December and January. Was February a 'catch up' month or will this increased activity continue in the coming months?



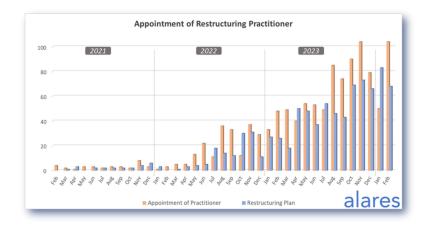
Similarly, ATO Court activity increased after the typical slowdown in December / January

ATO Court activity returned to the levels we saw in the second half of 2023, with total monthly numbers approaching pre-COVID levels.



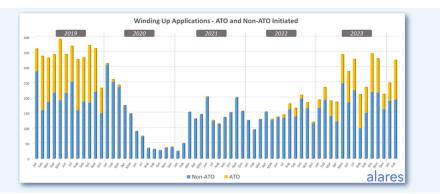
## Small business restructuring remains a key pathway for dealing with outstanding tax debts

The SBR process remains a key option for small business to navigate challenging economic conditions.



### Winding up applications continue to approach historical levels

Both ATO-initiated and non ATO-initiated Winding Up applications continue to trend back towards historical levels.



Alares provides critical due diligence data that is <u>NOT</u> captured by other providers.

For better **insights** into credit risks impacting your **customers** and **suppliers**, please get in touch -

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