

CRIF STUDY: Q3 2022, A RENEWED INCREASE IN BANKRUPTCIES IN SWITZERLAND



Bankruptcy openings have increased sharply

CRIF AG study analyzed bankruptcies and the results are following. Switzerland as a whole reported an increase in bankruptcies in the third quarter of 2022 increasing by 19.1 percent compared to the third quarter of 2021. The cantons of Fribourg (211.9%), Wallis (117.5%), Schwyz (85.2%), Graubünden (77.8) and Ticino (64.3%) recorded the highest percentage increases. On the other hand, bankruptcy openings in some cantons have declined, for example in the cantons of Uri, Jura and Geneva.



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The construction industry (289), followed by wholesale trade (188) and gastronomy (152) recorded the most bankruptcy openings. The increase in wholesale trade compared to the same period last year was 56.7 percent. Also strong in terms of percentage growth in the number of bankruptcy openings have architecture and engineering offices (88.9%), the real estate industry (47.5%) and retail (45.2%).



In the third quarter of 2022, 11,645 companies were founded in Switzerland. In the same period, 6,669 companies were deleted from the Commercial Register, which is a 3 percent increase from the previous year. This is 2.6 percent more than in the third quarter of 2021.

The newest entries were in the cantons of Zurich (2,208), Vaud (1,158) and Geneva (928). The canton of Zurich has the strongest growth of 9.1 percent among the cantons with the most company foundations. The start-ups in the cantons of Solothurn (30.9%), Ticino (10.7%) and Aargau (9.1%) are also well above the Swiss average.

Looking at the individual industries, the retail trade (1'002) shows the most frequent start-ups, followed by the management consultancy (894) and the construction industry (841). Compared to the third quarter of 2021, however, the number of start-ups in the retail and construction industries has declined.

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Methodology

All companies that were newly entered in the commercial register in the period from 1 July 2022 to 30 September 2022, companies in which the bankruptcy proceedings were opened and all companies that were deleted in the commercial register during this period were included. For example, a company deletion takes place in the case of the dissolution of office, the cessation of bankruptcy proceedings, the end of the liquidity period, mergers or company tasks due to a lack of succession.