

Construction – Company Insolvencies

FY2025/26 chart pack

Thought leadership – Construction-focused insolvency analysis

Data published 27 July 2026
Data to 12 July 2026



Executive summary: construction risk cooled, but did not normalise

3,472

FY26 construction insolvencies

24.5%

Share of all company insolvencies

89.3%

NSW + VIC + QLD share of construction

796

Construction restructuring appointments

1 The peak eased, not the risk environment

Construction insolvencies were -3.4% below FY25, but remained 2.7x FY22 levels.

2 Construction is still the standout industry

The sector represented roughly one in four company insolvencies and was the largest FY26 industry category by a wide margin.

3 Geography matters for outreach

NSW, Victoria and Queensland together accounted for almost nine in ten construction insolvencies in FY26.

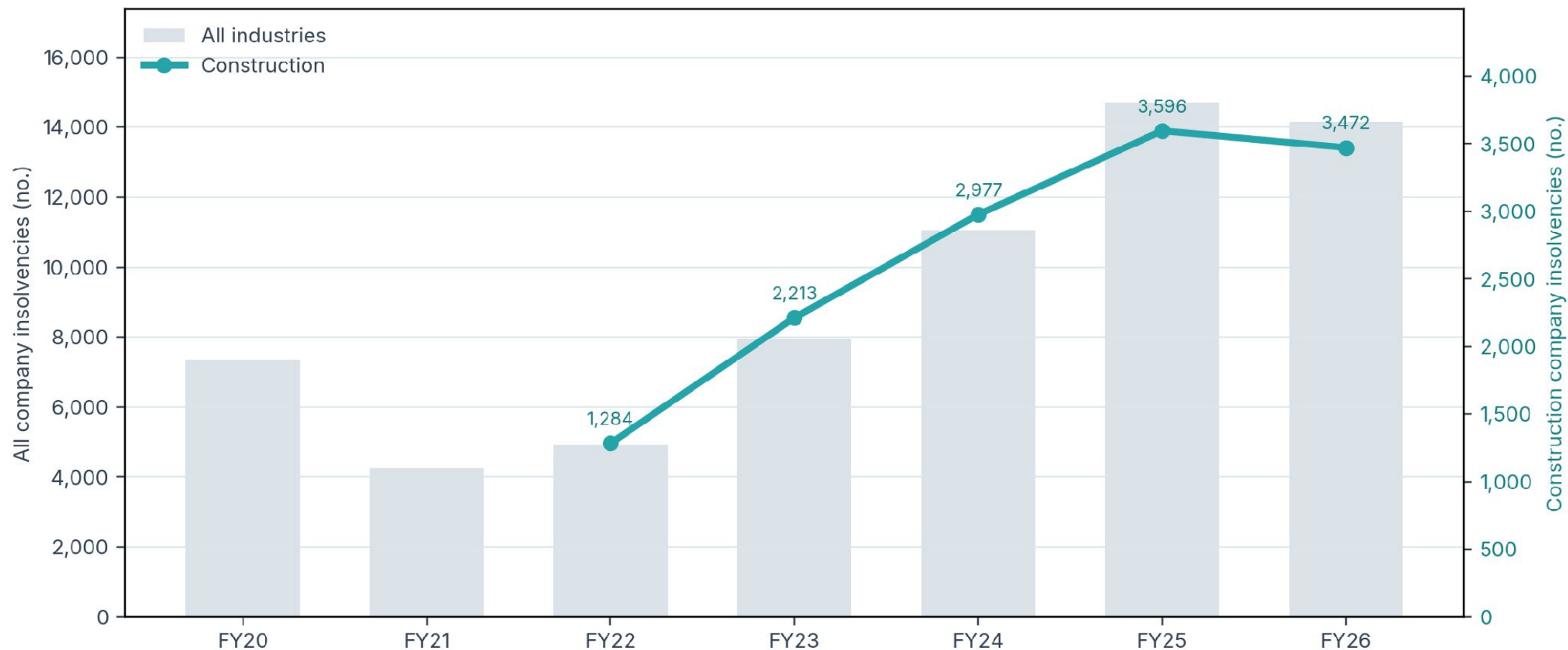
4 SBR is now part of the story

Small business restructuring commenced on 1 January 2021. It surged in FY25 and remained material in FY26.



The post-COVID insolvency rebound did not unwind in FY26

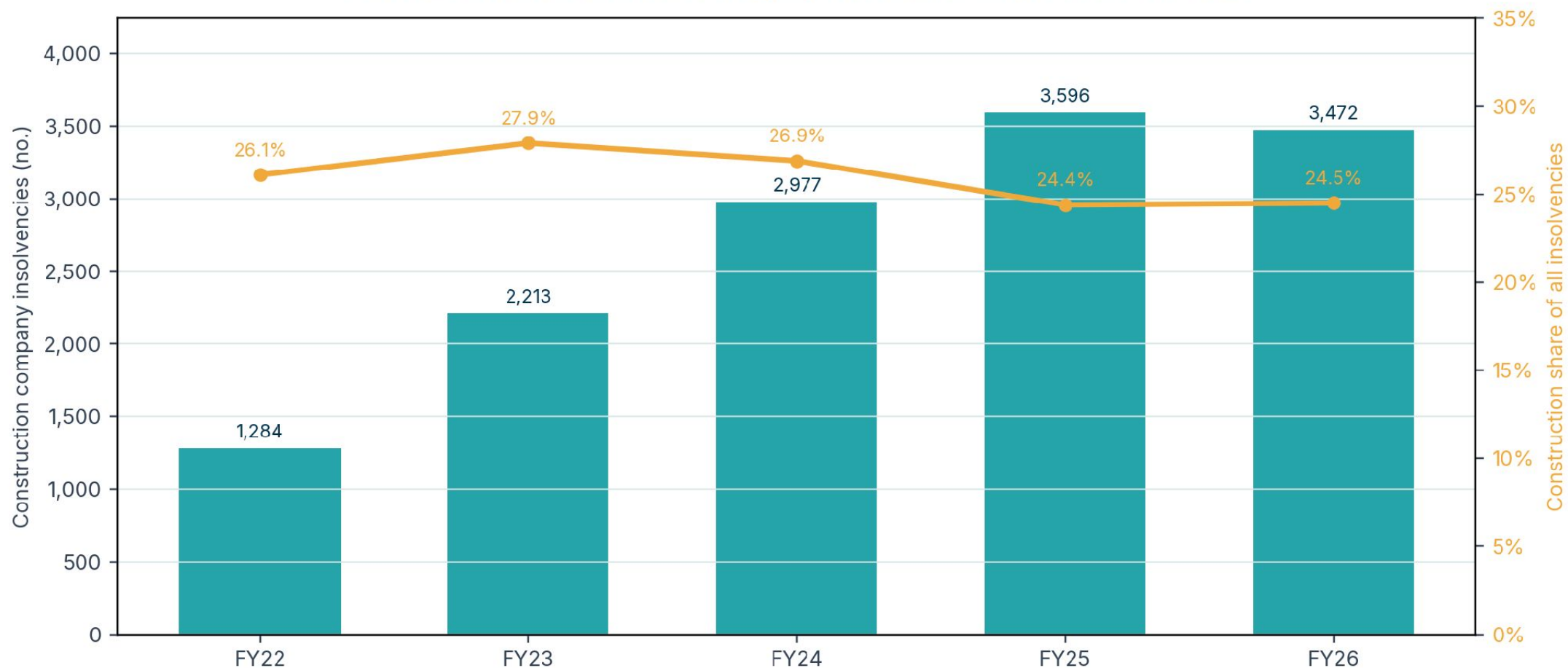
Corporate insolvencies remain well above pre-COVID levels; construction stayed elevated





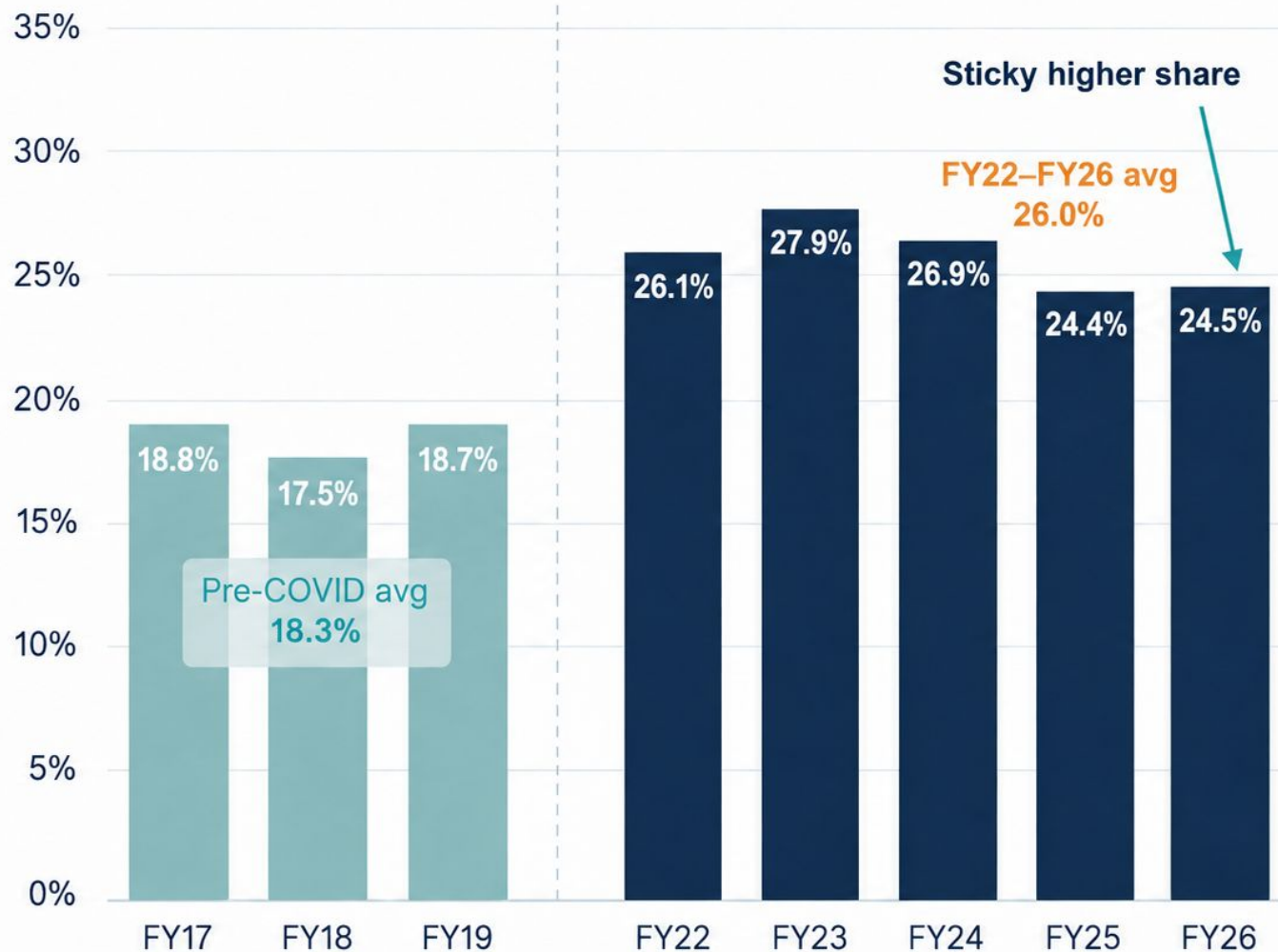
Construction remained about one quarter of all insolvencies

Construction accounted for roughly one in four insolvencies in FY26





Construction's insolvency share shifted up - and stayed elevated



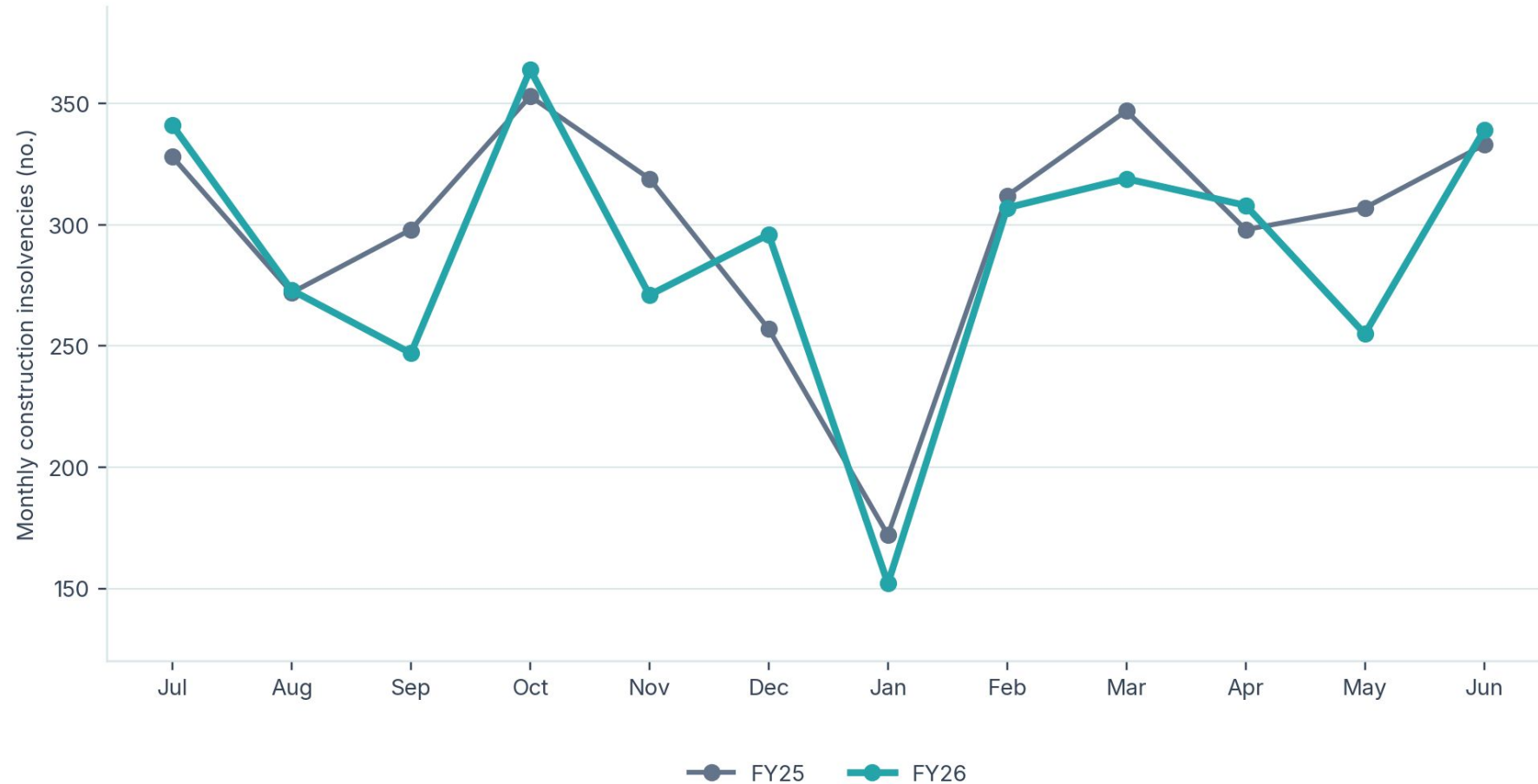
RBA observations

- Fixed-price contracts amplified materials and labour cost shocks.
- Delays raised costs and deferred payment milestones.
- Builders had thinner liquidity buffers than comparable firms.
- In 2026, wage and input cost pressures, together with thin margins, kept construction insolvency rates elevated.



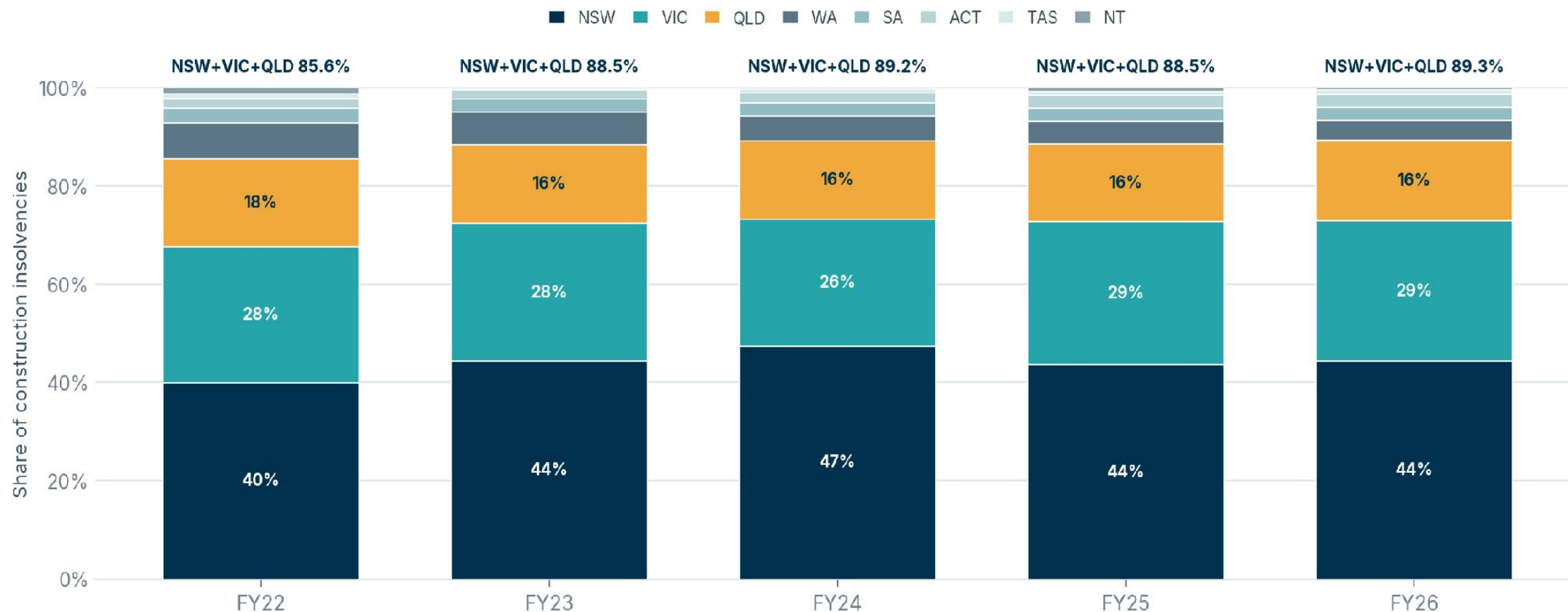
The FY26 monthly pattern was high but not accelerating

FY26 construction insolvencies broadly tracked FY25, with a softer Nov/May



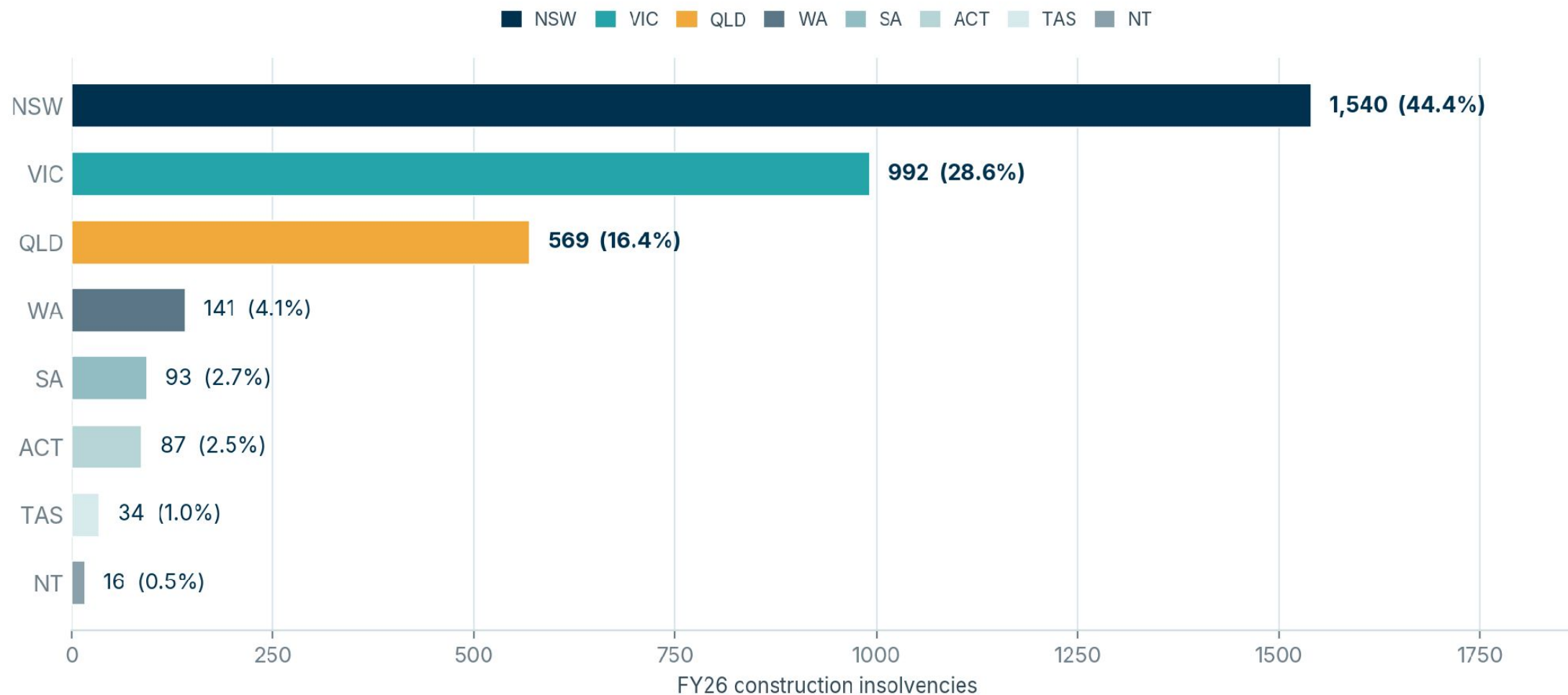


State mix: NSW + Victoria dominate the construction footprint



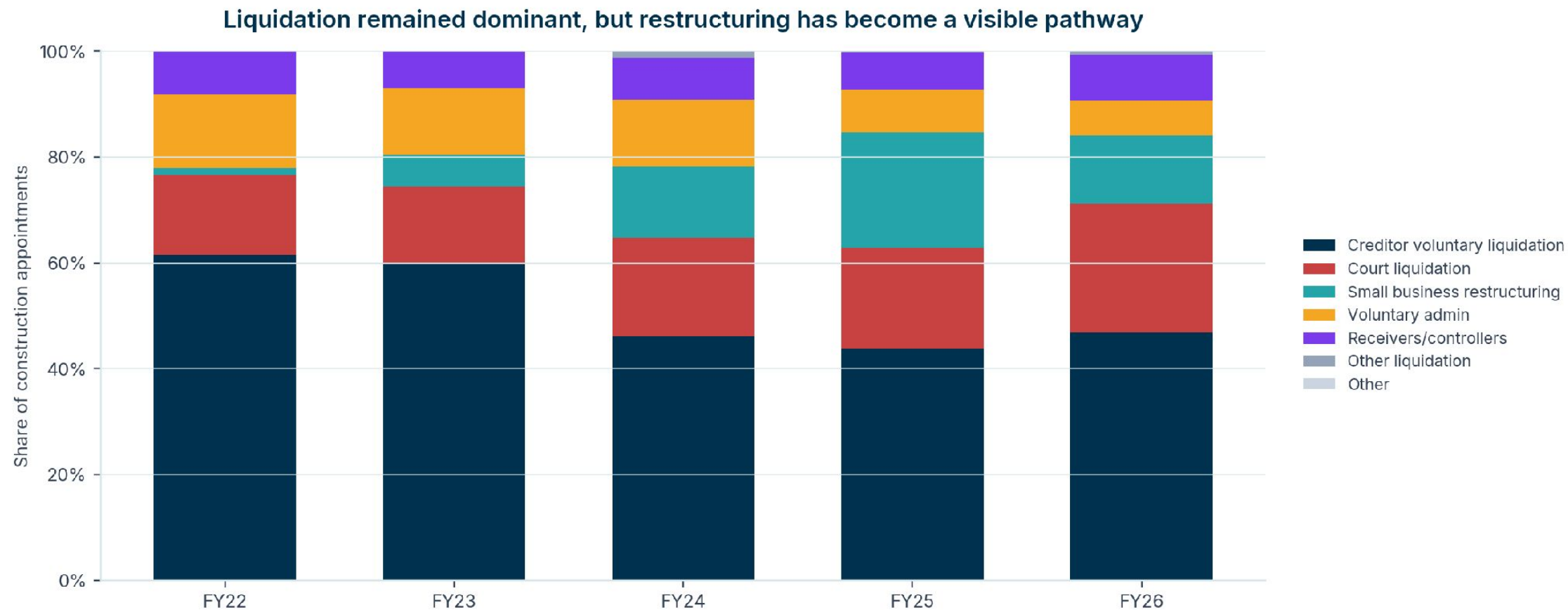


FY26 construction insolvencies were concentrated in the eastern states





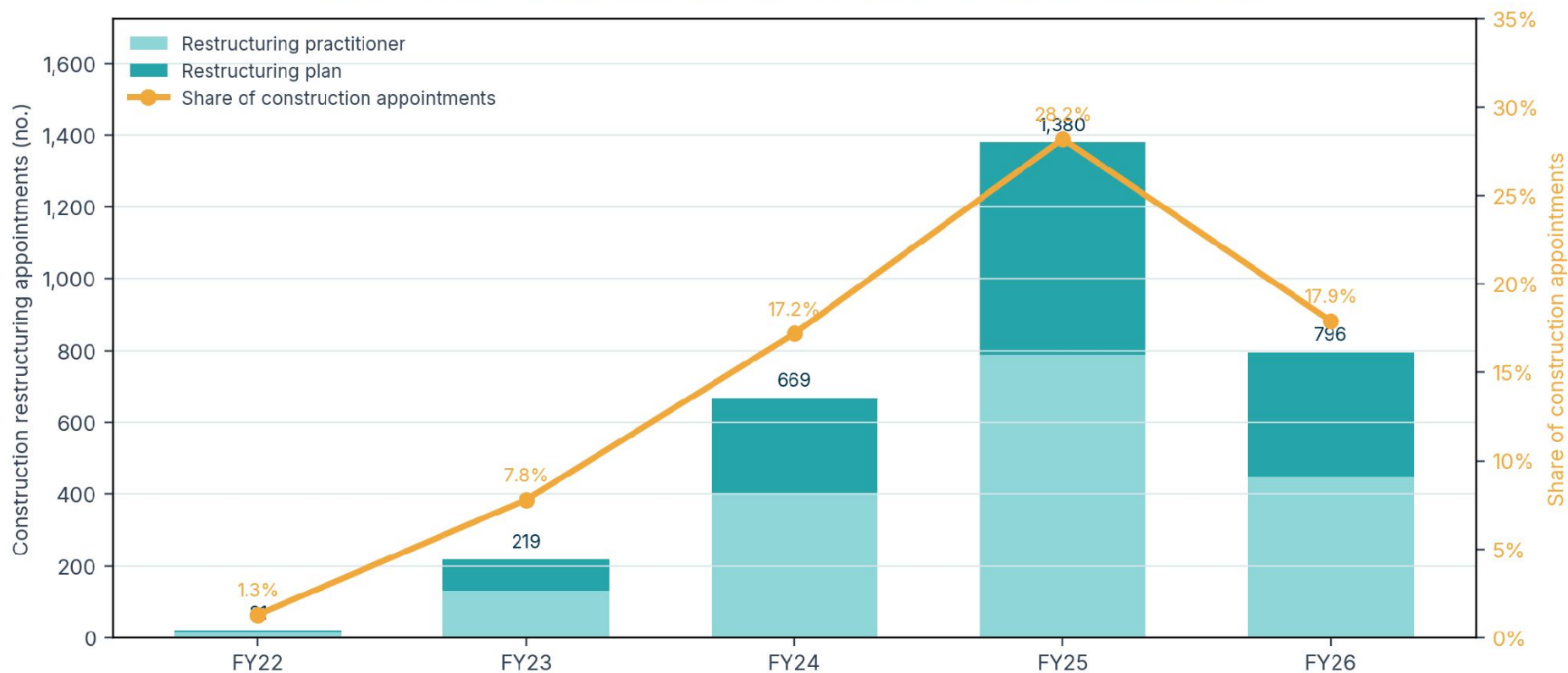
Liquidation dominated, but restructuring has become visible





SBR is now material, even after falling from the FY25 peak

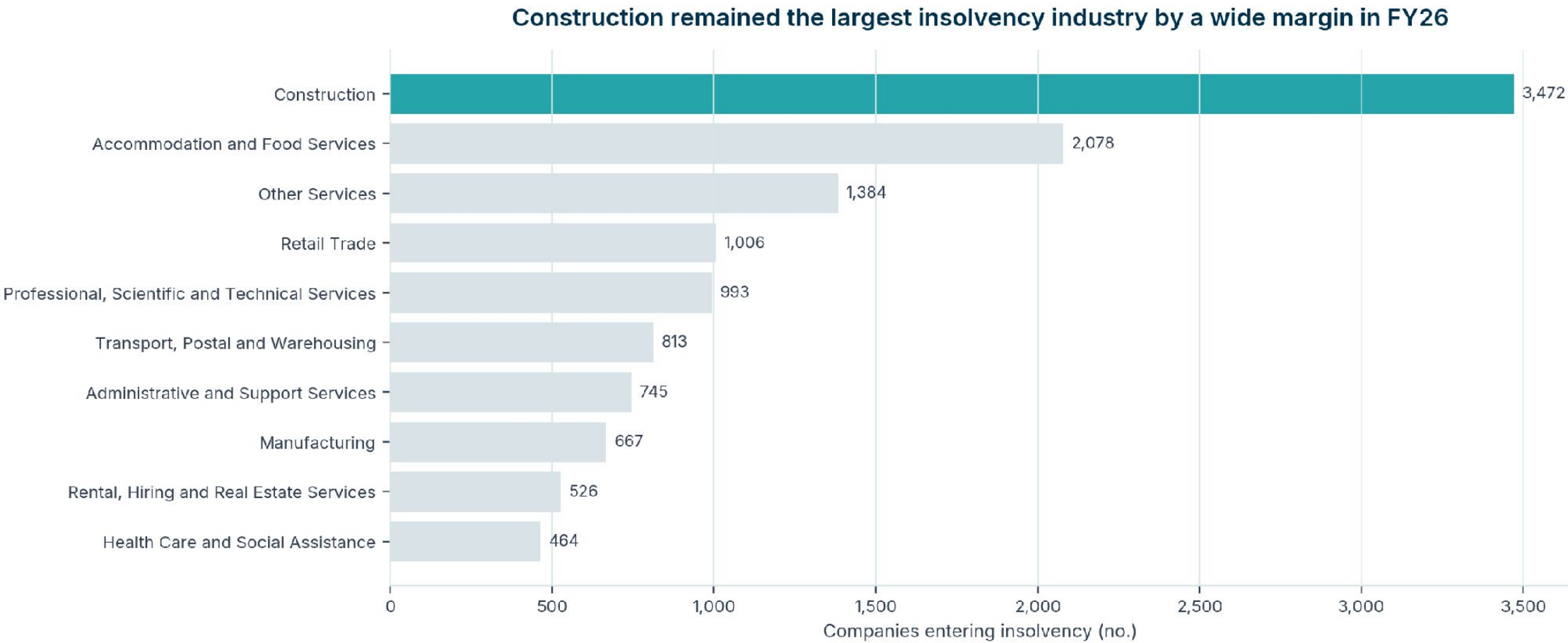
Small business restructuring surged in FY25, then normalised in FY26



Note: small business restructuring commenced on 1 January 2021, so early years reflect a newly introduced process.



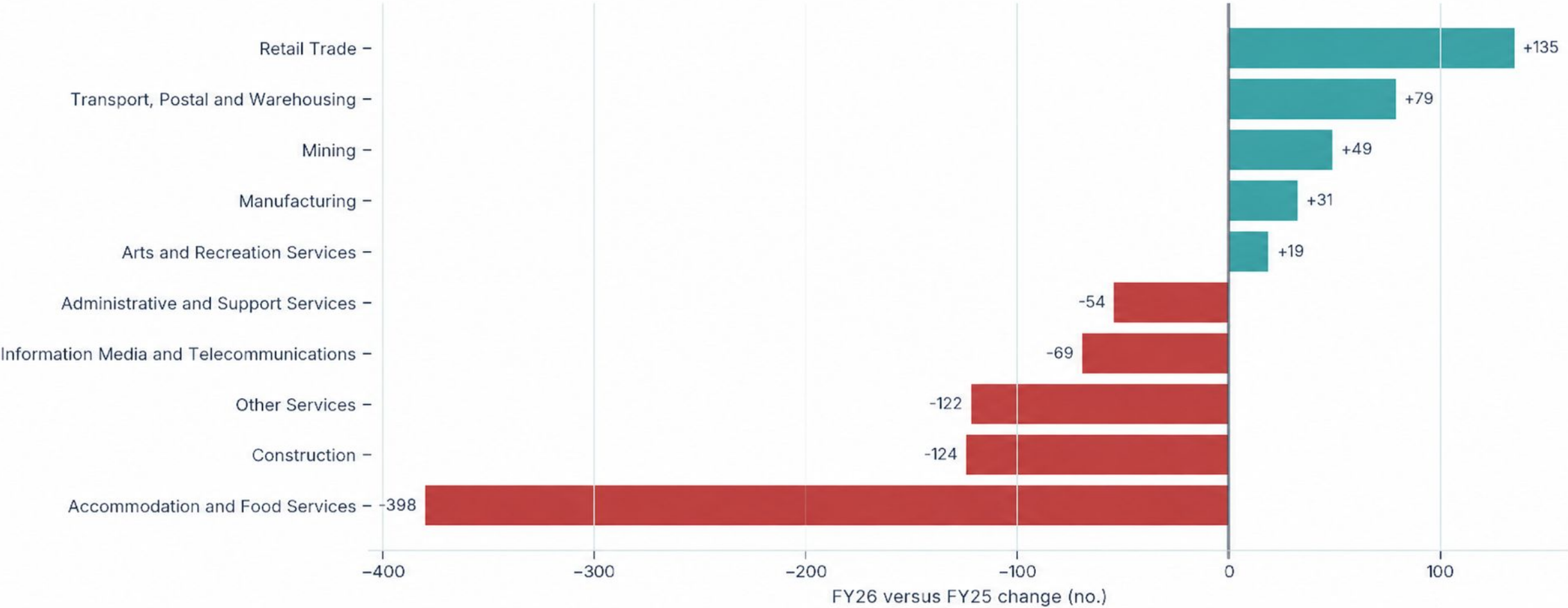
Construction was the largest insolvency industry in FY26





FY26 was cooler overall, but construction did not return to normal

FY26 cooled in some high-volume sectors; construction was only slightly lower



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Thank you for your interest.

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