As offices and city centres come back to life, consumption patterns are shifting after the sustained impact of COVID lockdowns. The main early beneficiaries were grocery delivery firms such as Ocado, as customers favoured the <u>convenience</u> of <u>online delivery services</u> above queuing for socially distanced supermarkets. Later, home improvement companies such as B&Q and Screwfix did good business as working-from-home owners <u>invested spare time upgrading their properties</u>.

As the pandemic eases and workers return to their offices, the COVID beneficiaries are facing the double hit of a return to more traditional <u>buying habits</u> and an inflation squeeze on household budgets.

Figures 1 to 4 show detailed credit trends for some UK home improvement and grocery delivery companies – all show a recent decline in credit quality.

Figure 1: B&Q PLC, owned by Kingfisher PLC

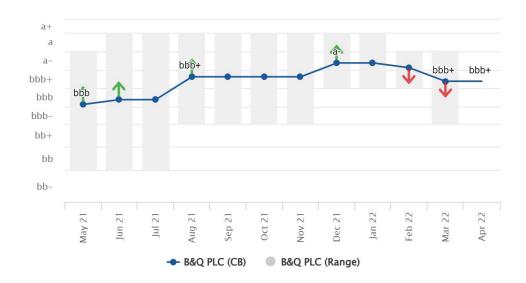


Figure 2: Screwfix Direct LTD, owned by Kingfisher PLC

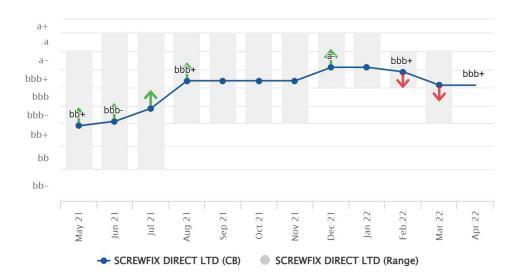




Figure 3: Ocado Group PLC

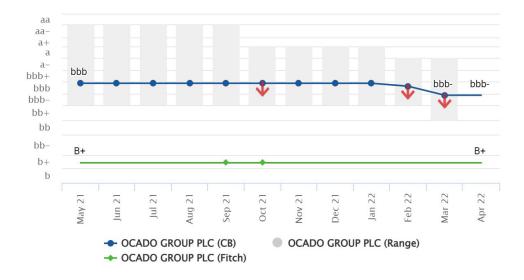


Figure 4: DFS Furniture PLC



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Credit Benchmark brings together internal credit risk views from 40+ of the world's leading financial institutions. The contributions are anonymized, aggregated, and published in the form of entity-level Credit Consensus Ratings (CCRs) and aggregate analytics to provide an independent, real-world perspective of risk. CCRs are available for 60,000+ financials, corporate, funds, and sovereign entities globally across emerging and developed markets, and 90% of the entities covered are otherwise unrated.

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芦 10 Million

Contributed Credit Risk Estimates Per Year 40 Million+ Estimates Collected Since Launch



60,000+

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2x

Twice Monthly Frequency



75%

Unrated by Major Credit Rating Agencies



1,200+

Aggregates



120+

Countries



+08

Months of Data



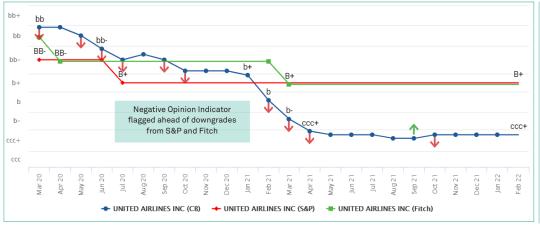
50+

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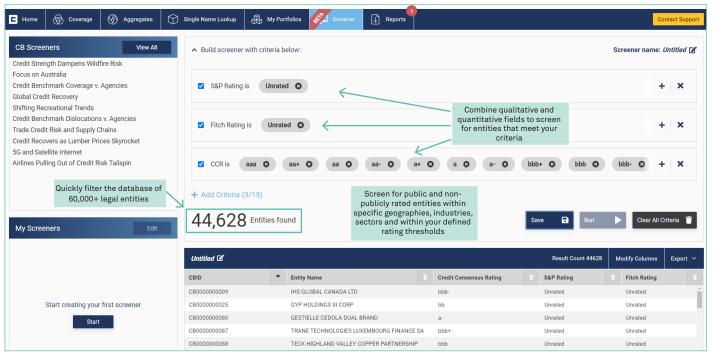


Credit Benchmark Web App: Entity-Level Data Sample

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