



GAC

**Statistics of Economic
Concentration Requests
for 2025**

BAHRAIN · EGYPT · KUWAIT · QATAR · SAUDI ARABIA · UAE

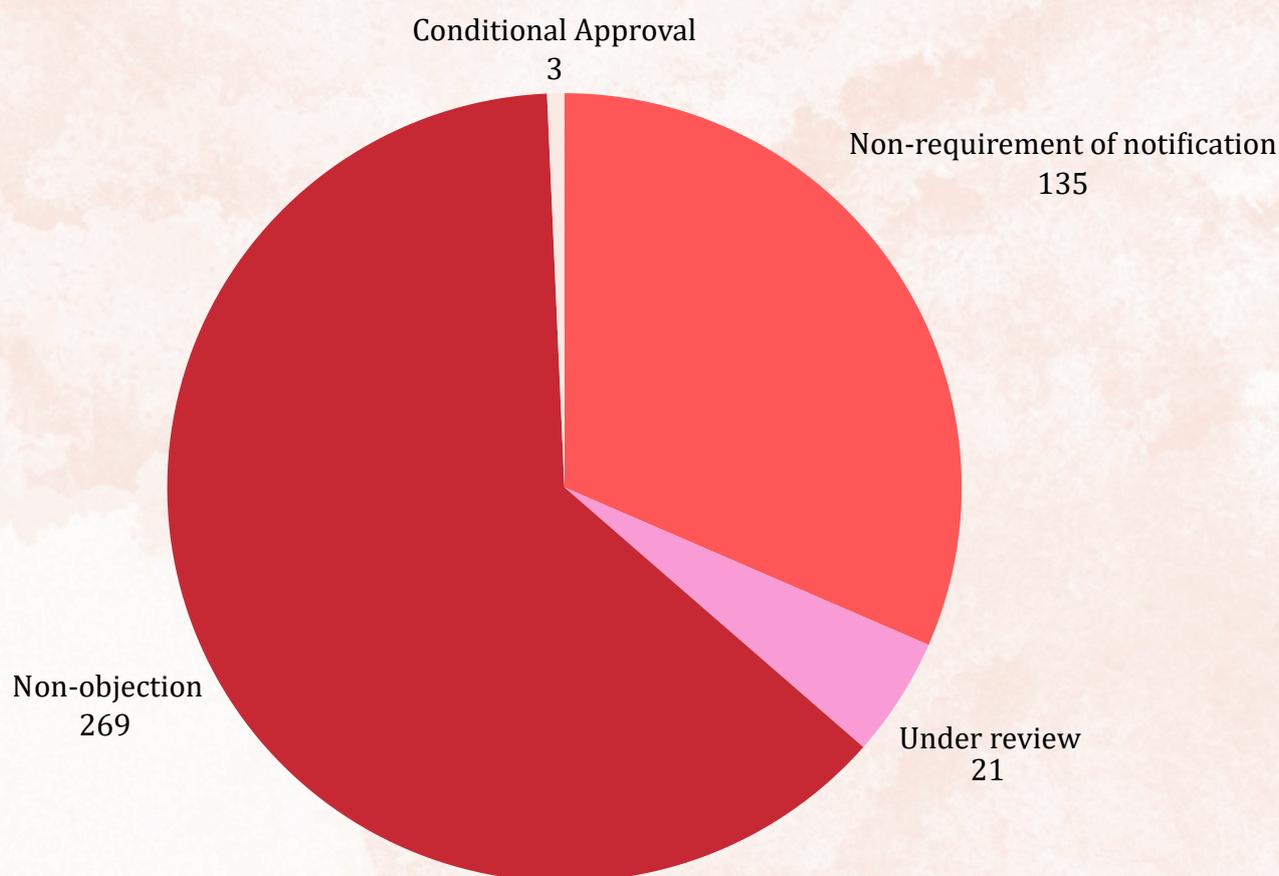
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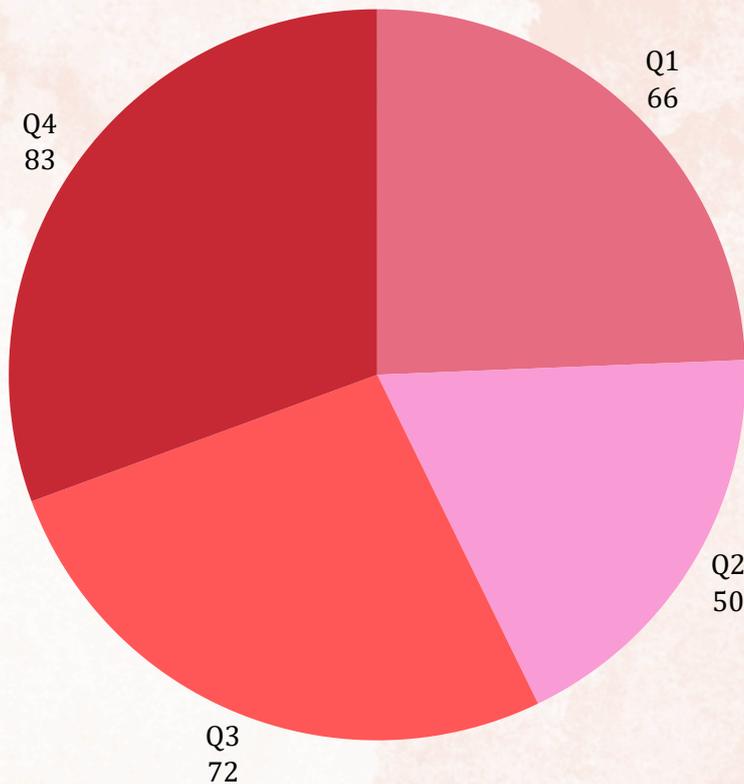
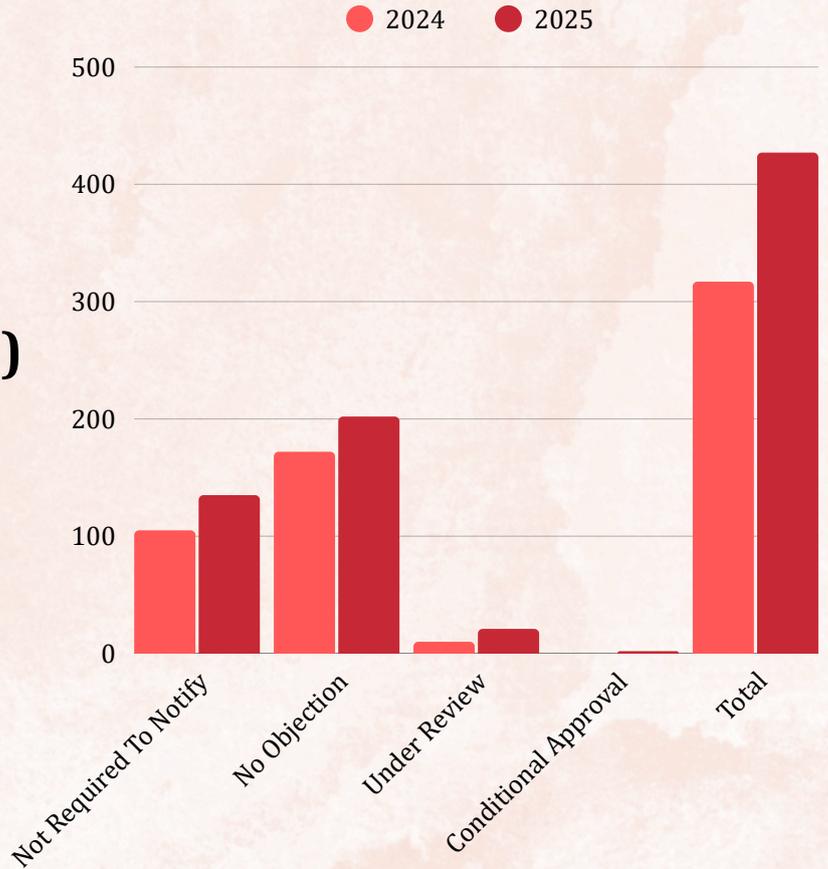
Economic Concentration Applications Submitted to the General Authority for Competition in 2025

In 2025, the General Authority for Competition (“GAC”) received a total of 427 economic concentration applications. During the year, the GAC issued decisions of no objection (approval) for 269 transactions and granted two conditional approvals, with no transactions being rejected. In addition, the GAC issued 135 certificates confirming that notification was not required for transactions that did not meet the merger control reporting thresholds. As of the end of 2025, 21 applications remained under review.



COMPARISON OF ECONOMIC CONCENTRATION REQUESTS (2024-2025)

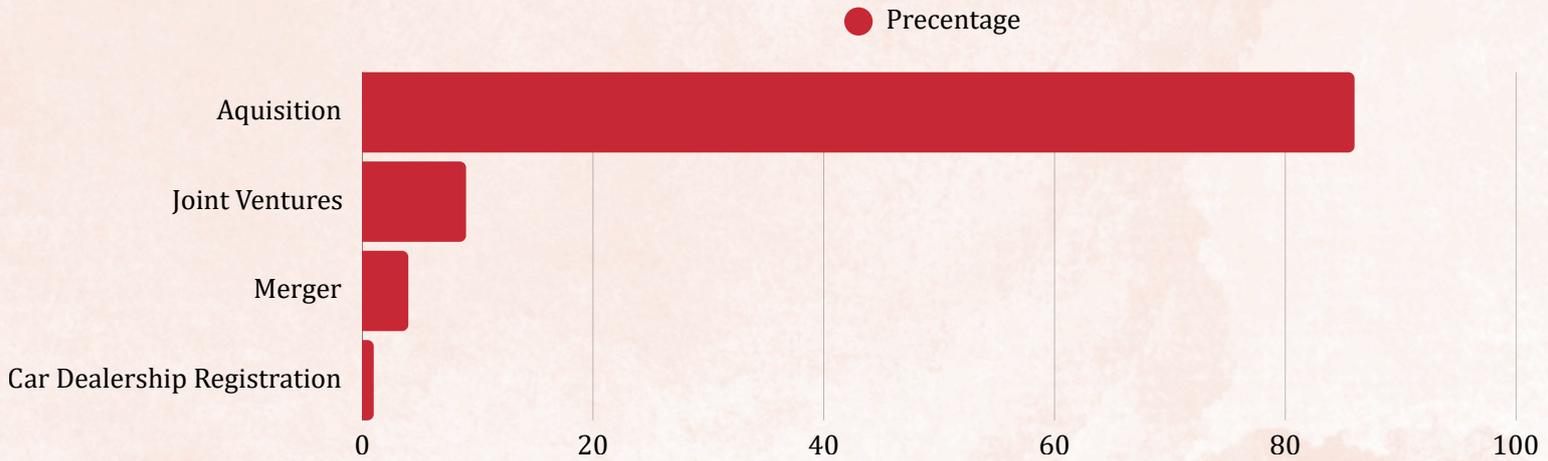
The GAC achieved a record number of no-objection (approval) decisions in 2025, with a 34.2% increase compared to 2024.



DECISIONS ON NON-OBJECTION TO ECONOMIC CONCENTRATION REQUESTS IN 2025 BY QUARTER

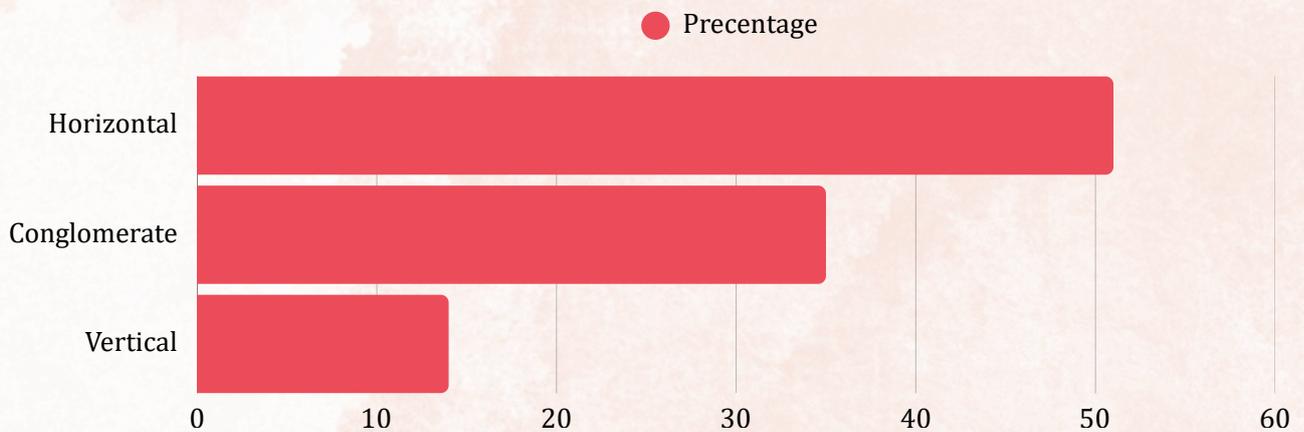
CLASSIFICATION OF ECONOMIC CONCENTRATIONS BY TYPE

Acquisition transactions accounted for the majority of economic concentrations at 86%, followed by joint ventures at 9%, and merger transactions at 4%. Additionally, the GAC approved the registration of 1% additional car agencies during this year.



CLASSIFICATION OF ECONOMIC CONCENTRATIONS BY RELATIONSHIP

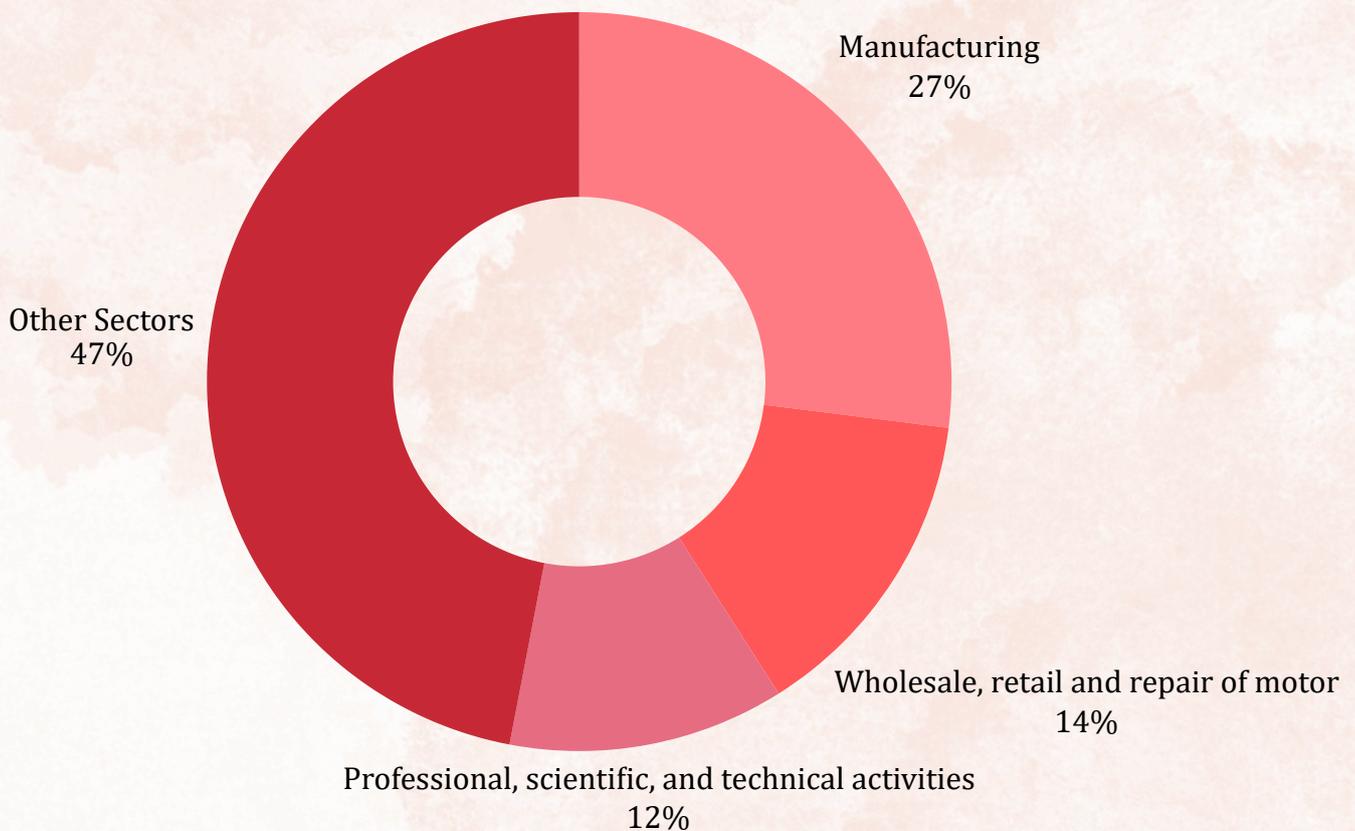
Horizontal relationships among commercial establishments obtained the highest percentage at 51%, followed by conglomerate relationships at 35%. Vertical relationships accounted for the lowest percentage, constituting 14% of economic concentration applications.



CONCENTRATION REQUESTS BY SECTOR FOR 2025

The manufacturing sector accounted for the largest share of the sectoral distribution of notifiable economic concentrations, with 73 applications out of a total of 271 applications received by the Authority. The wholesale and retail trade and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles sector followed with 38 applications, then professional, scientific, and technical activities with 32 concentration applications.

GAC, for its part, sought to define the relevant market for concentration filings under the narrowest scope in order to assess the market and identify the effects resulting from the transactions. In 2025, the Authority also received economic concentrations active in new markets, most notably: the motorsports market dedicated to Formula 1, the off-road tires market, the electric vehicles market, and the greenhouses market.



ECONOMIC CONCENTRATION REQUESTS FOR 2025 BY NATIONALITY OF COMMERCIAL ENTERPRISES

The share of economic concentration applications in 2025 involving local establishments, where the acquiring/merging party was a local entity, reached 25% of the total applications. In contrast, 75% of acquisition applications involved foreign establishments that have a presence or impact in the local market.

| Description | % of Total Requests |
|--|----------------------------|
| All parties of the transaction are local entities | 17% |
| All parties of the transaction are foreign entities | 69% |
| One party of the transaction is a local entity | 14% |

At the country level, data on economic concentration applications for 2025 showed a clear variation in the distribution of applications by the nationality of the parties. The United States of America ranked first as the most represented country, accounting for 22% of total applications, followed by the United Kingdom at 7%, and the United Arab Emirates at 6%. The distribution also included a wide range of European and Asian countries, including France, the Netherlands, Germany, Italy, and Japan, in addition to several other countries, reflecting the broad geographic scope of the parties involved in economic concentration applications submitted to the Authority during 2025.

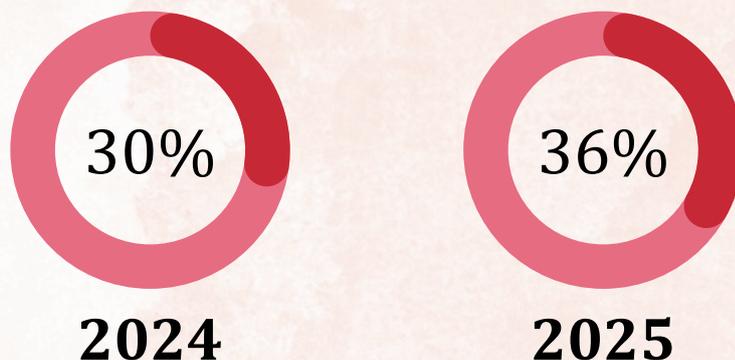
ECONOMIC CONCENTRATION APPLICATIONS FOR 2023 BY LOCAL GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

At the regional level within the Kingdom, the Riyadh Region recorded the highest share of economic concentration transactions, accounting for 55%, followed by the Makkah Region at 25%, and Ash-Sharqiyah at 13%, respectively.



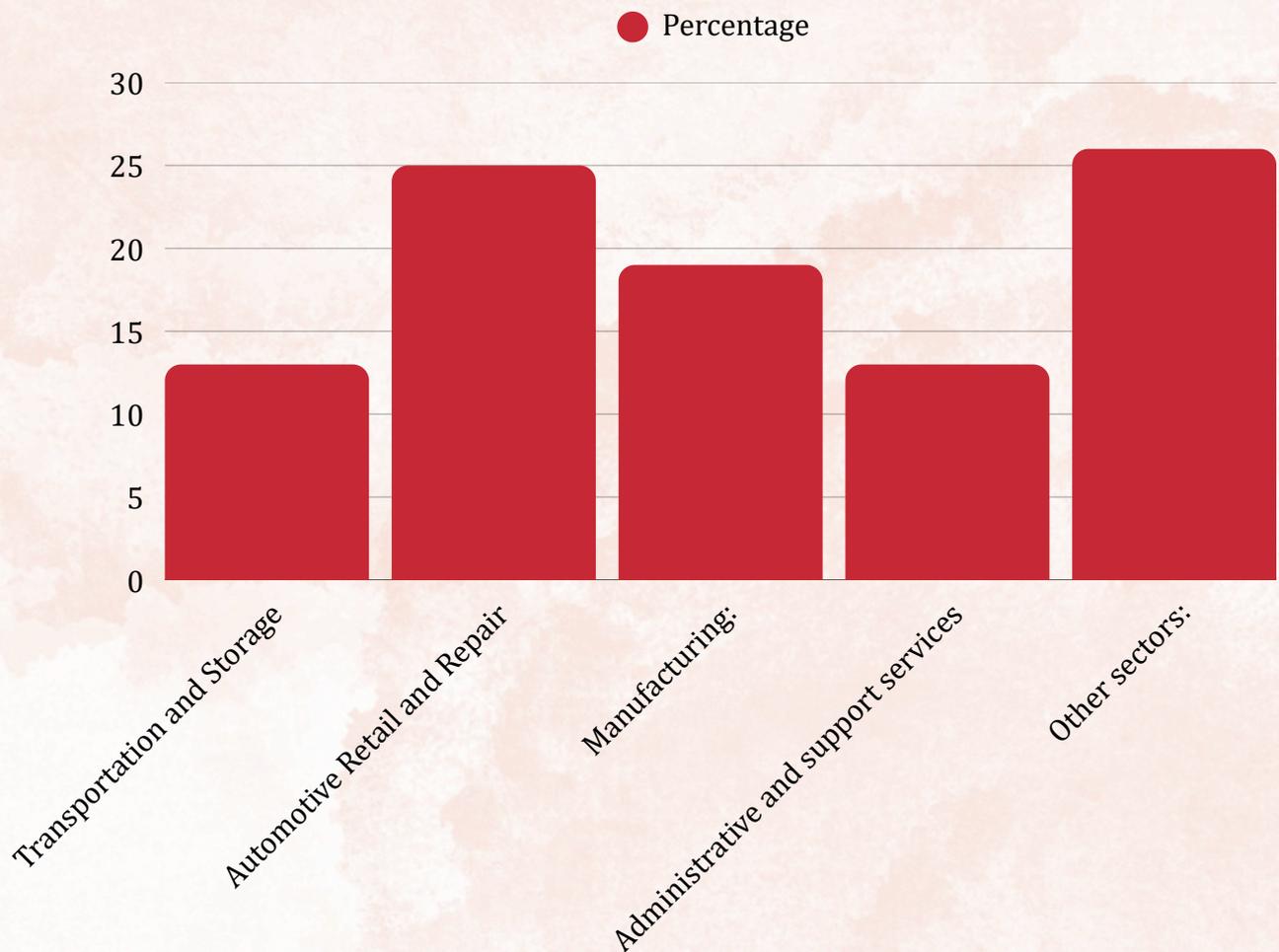
SAUDI-LISTED COMPANIES IN THE SAUDI MARKET

In 2024, the percentage of economic concentration applications involving local acquirers or mergers reached 44.06% of the total applications, while the percentage of entities participating in the economic concentration transaction and listed on the Saudi market was 30.3%.



KEY SECTORS TARGETED BY FOREIGN COMPANIES

Data on economic concentration applications for 2025 showed that the wholesale and retail trade sector, including the repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles, accounted for the highest share of targeted sectors by foreign companies, at 25%. This was followed by the manufacturing sector at 19%, and then the transport and storage sector and the administrative and support services sector, each accounting for 13%.



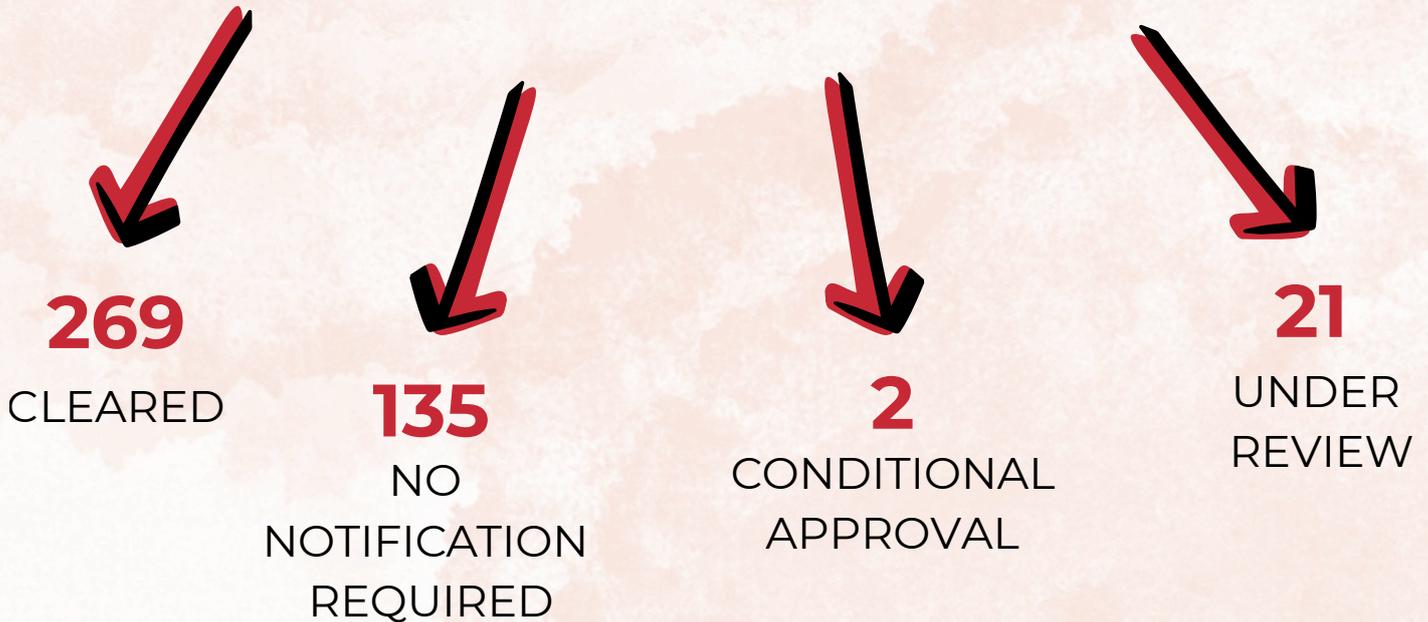
2025 HIGHLIGHTED STATISTICS

5.4
DAYS

AVERAGE DURATION FOR
REVIEWING ECONOMIC
CONCENTRATION APPLICATIONS
SUBMITTED TO THE AUTHORITY

472

APPLICATIONS



1,970,000,000,000 

TOTAL VALUE OF THE APPLICATIONS