

Liquidity

Enough cash to pay bills as they fall due

Current assets - current liabilities = Working Capital

Working Capital Ratio (current ratio)  
Current Assets/ current liabilities  
Tells us if the company has enough current assets to pay its current liabilities  
Ideal ratio is 2:1  
Tells a business how much money it has for every one euro it owes

Importance  
Less than 2:1, then the business does not have enough cash to pay its bills as they come in  
Business will lose cash discounts for early payment. Can be corrected by selling investments for cash, selling stock at a reduced price to increase Cashflow, reducing credit period to debtors  
If the ratio is higher than 2:1 then the business has too much spare cash lying around. Cash could be invested to make money

Acid Test Ratio/ Quick Acid Ratio  
Measures ability to pay debts out of liquid assets  
Stock omitted- not liquid  
Better measure of liquidity  
Ideal Ratio: 1:1  
Tells a business how much cash it has, when stock is ignored, for every €1 it owes

Ratio less than 1:1, firm is illiquid (over trading). Firm can't pay bills, will lose its credit rating and find it hard to get supplies on credit  
Sell investments for cash or stock at a discount to improve cash flow  
Apply for bank overdraft  
Reducing length of credit to debtors  
Give discounts to debtors for prompt payment