Aberdeen

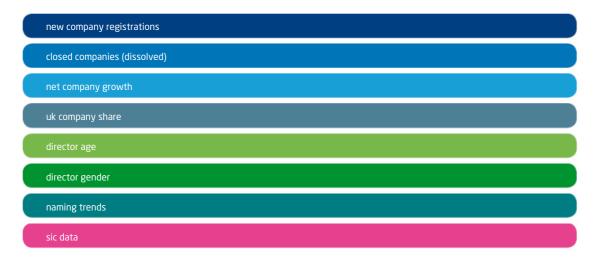
2011 annual business confidence report



headlines

- November 2011 saw a new record in company registrations in Aberdeen when compared to any previous November.
- November 2011 saw a new record in company closures in Aberdeen when compared to any previous November.

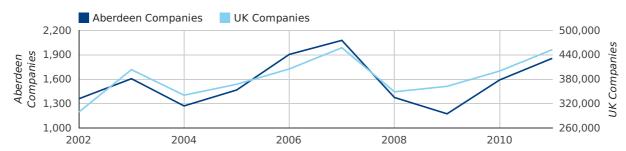
contents



A total of 1,858 companies were formed in Aberdeen in 2011. This total is 16.7% higher than in 2010 and compares poorly to the UK figure of a 13.1% growth compared to 400,358 the previous year.

YEAR	ABERDEEN	UK
2011	1,858	452,870
2010	1,592	400,358
2009	1,175	362,675
2008	1,376	349,203
2007	2,079	457,649
RECORD YEAR	2007 (2,079)	2007 (457,649)

new companies by year



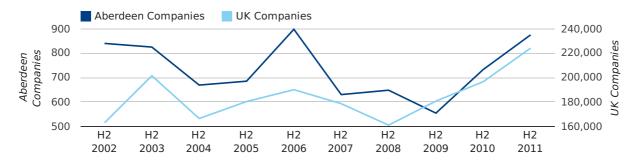
Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

In the second half of 2011 a total of 875 companies were formed in Aberdeen. This figure is 19.4% higher than last year, which compares well to the UK wide figure of 14.0%.

The highest total for a second half year in Aberdeen occurred in 2006 when a total of 898 were formed.

HALF YEAR (JUL-DEC)	ABERDEEN	UK
2011	875	224,135
2010	733	196,609
% CHANGE	19.4%	14.0%
RECORD YEAR	2006 (898)	2011 (224,135)

new companies by half year

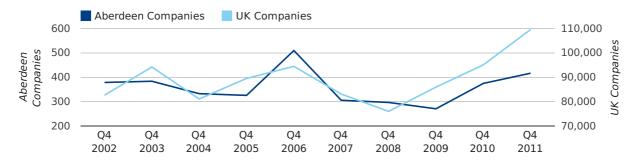


A total of 417 companies were registered in Aberdeen during the fourth quarter of 2011 (Oct 2011 - Dec 2011).

This figure is an increase of 11.2% versus the same period last year (Q4 2010). This figure compares badly to the UK as a whole, which saw an increase of 15.3% against the same period last year.

FOURTH QUARTER (OCT 2011 - DEC 2011)	ABERDEEN	UK
2011	417	109,623
2010	375	95,117
% CHANGE	11.2%	15.3%
RECORD YEAR	2006 (510)	2011 (109,623)

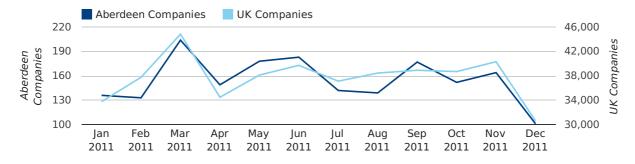
new companies by quarter



Monthly Data (Oct, Nov & Dec 2011)

November 2011 saw a new record in company registrations in Aberdeen when compared to any previous November.

new companies by month

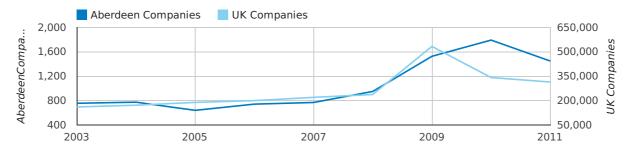


	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
NEW COMPANIES IN 2011	152	164	101
NEW COMPANIES IN 2010	117	143	115
% CHANGE	29.9%	14.7%	-12.2%
RECORD YEAR	2006 (328)	2011 (164)	2003 (183)

A total of 1,450 companies were dissolved in Aberdeen in 2011. This total is 19.2% lower than in 2010 and compares unfavourably to the UK figure of 8.1% decrease compared to the previous year.

YEAR	ABERDEEN	UK
2011	1,450	314,523
2010	1,794	342,232
2009	1,528	533,773
2008	951	237,901
2007	770	220,295
RECORD YEAR	2010 (1,794)	2009 (533,773)

dissolved companies by year



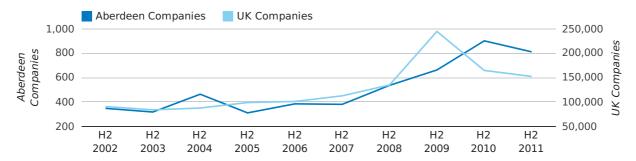
Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

In the second half of 2011 a total of 811 companies were dissolved in Aberdeen. This figure is 10.0% lower than last year, which compares well to the UK wide change of -7.5%.

The highest total for a second half year in Aberdeen occurred in 2010 when a total of 901 were closed.

HALF YEAR (JUL-DEC)	ABERDEEN	UK
2011	811	152,213
2010	901	164,601
% CHANGE	-10.0%	-7.5%
RECORD YEAR	2010 (901)	2009 (244,537)

dissolved companies by half year

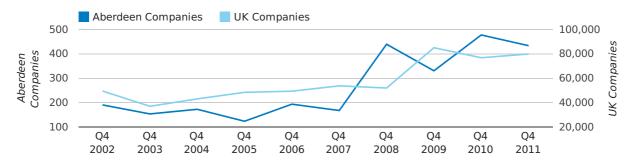


A total of 434 companies were dissolved in Aberdeen during the fourth quarter of 2011 (Oct 2011 - Dec 2011).

This figure is a decrease of 9.2% versus the same period last year (Q4 2010). This figure compares well to the UK as a whole, which saw an increase of 4.0% against the same period last year.

FOURTH QUARTER (OCT 2011 - DEC 2011)	ABERDEEN	UK
2011	434	79,983
2010	478	76,896
% CHANGE	-9.2%	4.0%
RECORD YEAR	2010 (478)	2009 (85,136)

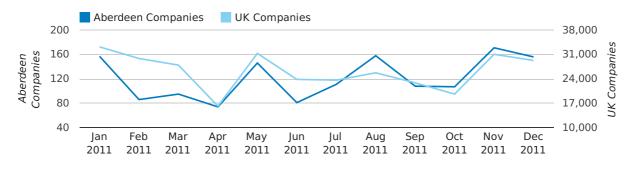
dissolved companies by quarter



Monthly Data (Oct, Nov & Dec 2011)

November 2011 saw a new record in company closures in Aberdeen when compared to any previous November.

dissolved companies by month



	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2011	107	171	156
CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2010	172	98	208
% CHANGE	-37.8%	74.5%	-25%
RECORD YEAR	2008 (375)	2011 (171)	2010 (208)

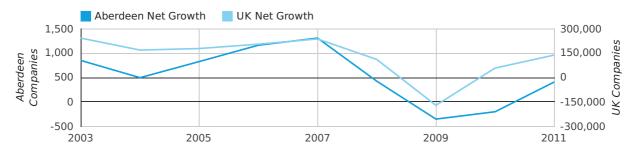
A total of 408 companies were added to the company register for Aberdeen in 2011. This number represents growth of 25.6% which compares unfavourably to the UK figure of 34.6%.

This number is 610 companies higher than the previous year.

The highest net company growth figure ever seen in one year came in 2007 when the Aberdeen company register grew by 1,309 companies.

YEAR	ABERDEEN	UK
2011	408	138,347
2010	-202	58,126
2009	-353	-171,098
2008	425	111,302
2007	1,309	237,354
RECORD YEAR	2007 (1,309)	2003 (242,543)

net growth by year

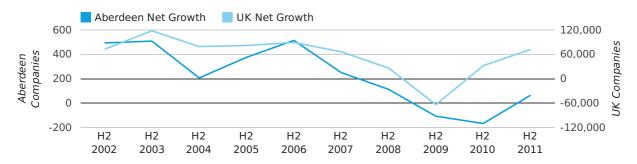


Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

In the second half of 2011 the company register for Aberdeen increased by 64 companies. This figure is 138.1% lower than last year, which compares badly to a UK increase of 124.7%.

HALF YEAR (JUL-DEC)	ABERDEEN	UK
2011	64	71,922
2010	-168	32,008
% CHANGE	-138.1%	124.7%
RECORD YEAR	2006 (514)	2003 (117,772)

net growth by half year

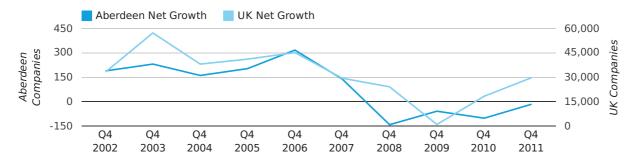


Net company growth for Aberdeen during the fourth quarter of 2011 (Oct 2011 - Dec 2011) was -17 companies.

This represents an increase of 83.5% on the same period last year.

FOURTH QUARTER (OCT 2011 - DEC 2011)	ABERDEEN	UK
2011	-17	29,640
2010	-103	18,221
% CHANGE	-83.5%	62.7%
RECORD YEAR	2006 (316)	2003 (57,175)

net growth by quarter



Monthly Data (Oct, Nov & Dec 2011)

net growth by month

RECORD YEAR



2001 (87)

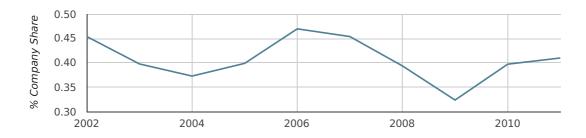
2003 (149)

2006 (264)

In 2011 Aberdeen formed 0.4% of all UK companies. This is no change on 2010 when Aberdeen was responsible for 0.4% of all UK companies.

YEAR	ABERDEEN
2011	0.4%
2010	0.4%
2009	0.3%
2008	0.4%
2007	0.5%
RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960)	1990 (0.8%)

company share by year

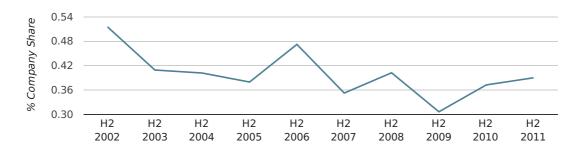


Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

In the second half of 2011 Aberdeen formed 0.4% of all UK companies. This is the same as the 2010 figure of 0.4%.

HALF YEAR (JUL-DEC)	ABERDEEN
2011	0.4%
2010	0.4%
2009	0.3%
2008	0.4%
2007	0.4%
RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960)	1989 (0.8%)

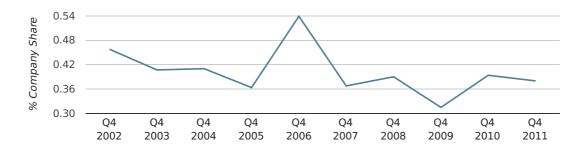
company share by half year



In the fourth quarter of 2011, Aberdeen formed 0.4% of all UK companies.

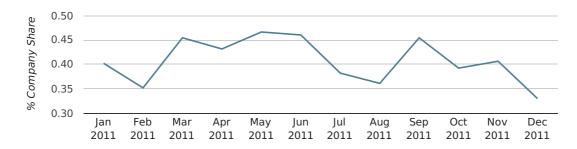
FOURTH QUARTER (OCT 2011 - DEC 2011)	ABERDEEN
2011	0.4%
2010	0.4%
2009	0.3%
2008	0.4%
2007	0.4%
RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960)	1988 (0.8%)

company share by quarter



Monthly Data (Oct, Nov & Dec 2011)

company share by month



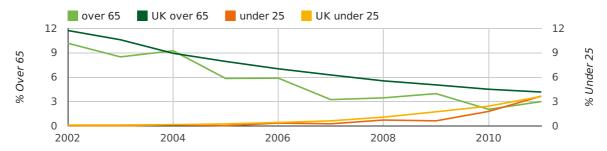
	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2011	0.4%	0.4%	0.3%
UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2010	0.3%	0.4%	0.4%
% CHANGE	12.9%	-2.3%	-22.1%
RECORD YEAR	1985 (1.4%)	1990 (1.0%)	1988 (1.0%)

The average age of a director in 2011 was 42.4.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 3.7% compared to the UK figure of 3.7%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 3.0% compared to the UK figure of 4.2%.

director age by year



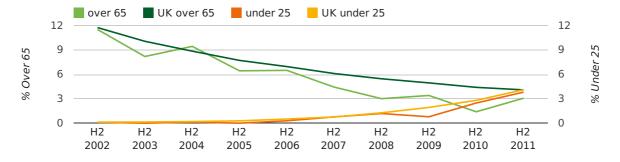
Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

The average age of a director in the second half of 2011 was 41.8.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 3.8% compared to the UK figure of 4.1%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 3.1% compared to the UK figure of 4.1%.

director age by half year

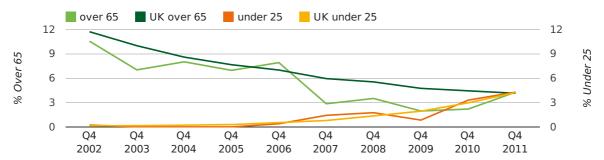


The average age of a director in the fourth quarter of 2011 was 42.0.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 4.3% compared to the UK figure of 4.2%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 4.3% compared to the UK figure of 4.1%.

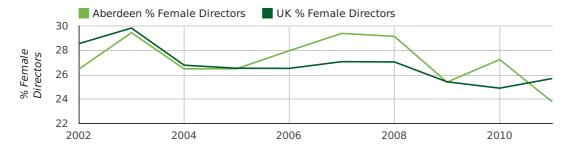
director age by quarter



The record year for female directors in Aberdeen was 1857 when 36.4% of all directors were female.

The percentage of female directors in Aberdeen in 2011 was 26.5%. The average for the UK during this time was 28.6%

director gender by year

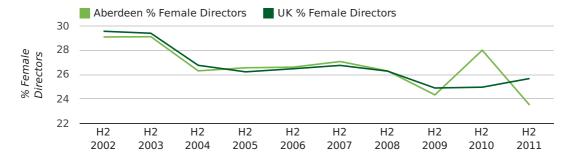


Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

The record second half year for female directors in Aberdeen was 1860 when 42.9% of all directors were female.

23.5% of all director appointments in Aberdeen in the second half of 2011 were female. This compares to a UK average of 25.7% for the same period.

director gender by half year

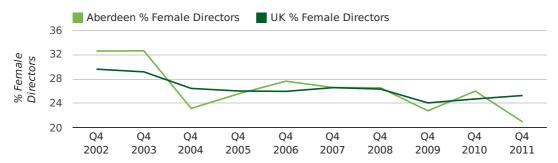


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The record fourth quarter for female directors in Aberdeen was in 1977 when 31.1% of all directors were female.

21.0% of all director appointments in Aberdeen in the fourth quarter of 2011 were female. This compares to a UK average of 25.3% for the same period.

director gender by quarter



naming trends $\operatorname{duport} \omega$

Previous 12 months (Dec 2010-Dec 2011)

 ${\sf Excluding: LIMITED, LTD, \&, UK, SERVICES, THE, (UK), AND, LTD., A, LLP, SOLUTIONS, COMPANY, OF.}\\$

WORD	PERCENTAGE	UK WORD	UK PERCENTAGE
ENGINEERING	6.27%	CONSULTING	5.07%
ABERDEEN	2.34%	MANAGEMENT	4.74%
DESIGN	2.17%	CONSULTANCY	3.26%
CONSULTING	1.93%	PROPERTY	2.37%
CONSULTANCY	1.93%	TRADING	2.07%
SUBSEA	1.76%	DESIGN	1.92%
ENERGY	1.64%	ASSOCIATES	1.86%
CONSULTANTS	1.56%	ENGINEERING	1.78%
(ABERDEEN)	1.43%	BUSINESS	1.78%
MANAGEMENT	1.43%	CONSULTANTS	1.76%
OIL	0.98%	CONSTRUCTION	1.73%
OFFSHORE	0.86%	MEDIA	1.71%
PROJECT	0.86%	LONDON	1.63%
PROPERTY	0.70%	J	1.51%
DRILLING	0.70%	INVESTMENTS	1.48%
GAS	0.66%	GLOBAL	1.46%
PLANNING	0.66%	IT	1.41%
PROPERTIES	0.66%	CARE	1.39%
GLOBAL	0.53%	PROPERTIES	1.29%
TRADING	0.53%	ELECTRICAL	1.29%
INSPECTION	0.53%	M	1.27%
SYSTEMS	0.49%	BUILDING	1.26%
(SCOTLAND)	0.49%	ENERGY	1.25%
TECHNOLOGY	0.49%	S	1.20%
RESOURCES	0.49%	ENTERPRISES	1.20%

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Previous 36 months, excluding companies less than 12 months old

SIC CODE	NUMBER OF COMPANIES	UK COMPANIES
None Supplied	606	205,525
7487 - Other business activities	320	57,052
82990 - Other business support service activities not elsewhere classified	312	32,483
74909 - Other professional, scientific and technical activities not elsewhere classified	173	8,671
70229 - Management consultancy activities other than financial management	85	17,765
96090 - Other service activities not elsewhere classified	82	11,768
71129 - Other engineering activities	63	1,823
7414 - Business & management consultancy	56	13,034
09100 - Support activities for petroleum and natural gas extraction	49	268
9999 - Dormant Company	40	20,199
74990 - Non-trading company	37	8,929
9305 - Other service activities	32	9,492
1120 - Services to oil and gas extraction	31	193
62020 - Information technology consultancy activities	30	12,072
99999 - Dormant Company	28	21,846
71122 - Engineering related scientific and technical consulting activities	27	812
5530 - Restaurants	25	5,013
56101 - Licensed restaurants	20	2,159
68209 - Other letting and operating of own or leased real estate	17	4,082
62090 - Other information technology service activities	17	7,493