

# Ashford

2012 half year business confidence report



## headlines

- May 2012 saw a new record in company registrations in Ashford when compared to any previous May.

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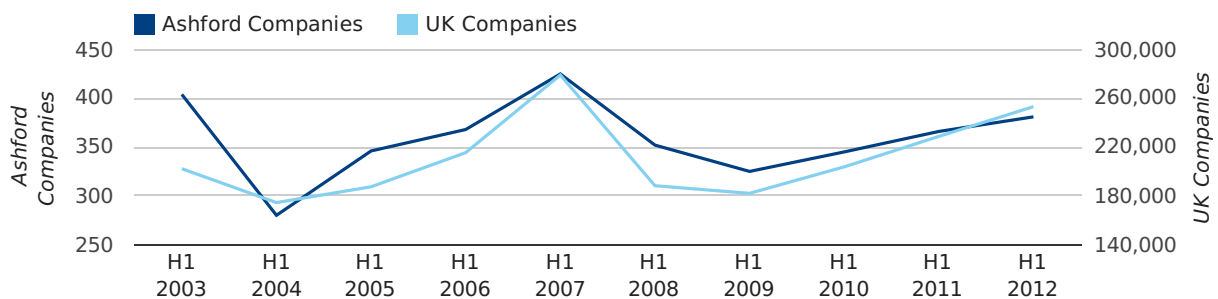
### Half Year Data (Jan-Jun 2012)

In the first half of 2012 a total of 381 companies were formed in Ashford. This figure is 4.1% higher than last year, which compares badly to the UK wide figure of 10.7%.

The highest total for a first half year in Ashford occurred in 2007 when a total of 425 were formed.

HALF YEAR (JAN-JUN)	ASHFORD	UK
2012	381	253,150
2011	366	228,735
% CHANGE	4.1%	10.7%
RECORD YEAR	2007 (425)	2007 (279,097)

### new companies by half year



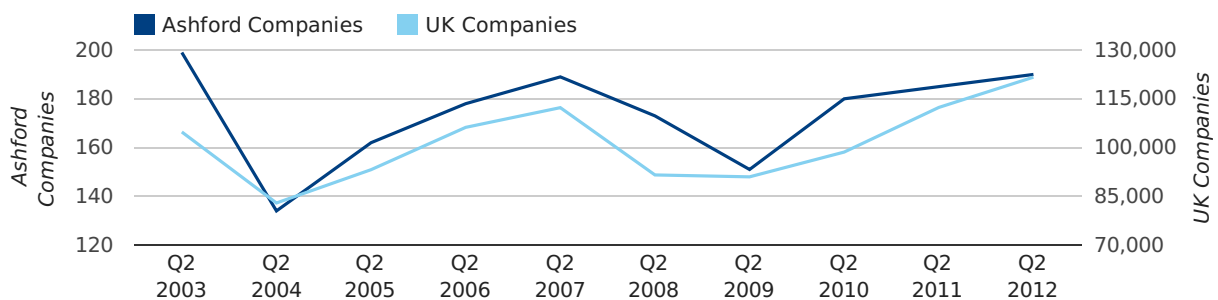
### Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2012)

A total of 190 companies were registered in Ashford during the second quarter of 2012 (Apr 2012 - Jun 2012).

This figure is an increase of 2.7% versus the same period last year (Q2 2011). This figure compares badly to the UK as a whole, which saw an increase of 8.3% against the same period last year.

SECOND QUARTER (APR 2012 - JUN 2012)	ASHFORD	UK
2012	190	121,659
2011	185	112,344
% CHANGE	2.7%	8.3%
RECORD YEAR	2003 (199)	2012 (121,659)

### new companies by quarter



## Monthly Data (Apr, May & Jun 2012)

May 2012 saw a new record in company registrations in Ashford when compared to any previous May.

### new companies by month



	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
NEW COMPANIES IN 2012	57	75	58
NEW COMPANIES IN 2011	60	63	62
% CHANGE	-5.0%	19.0%	-6.5%
RECORD YEAR	2008 (75)	2012 (75)	2003 (73)

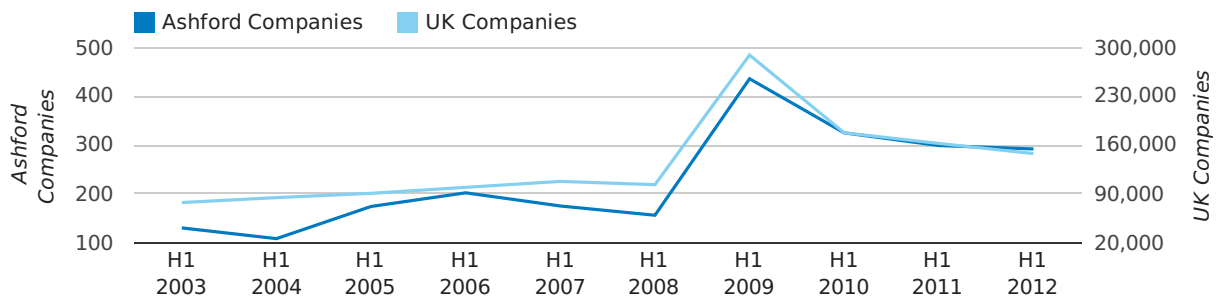
### Half Year Data (Jan-Jun 2012)

In the first half of 2012 a total of 292 companies were dissolved in Ashford. This figure is 2.3% lower than last year, which compares badly to the UK wide change of -8.9%.

The highest total for a first half year in Ashford occurred in 2009 when a total of 436 were closed.

HALF YEAR (JAN-JUN)	ASHFORD	UK
2012	292	147,793
2011	299	162,310
% CHANGE	-2.3%	-8.9%
RECORD YEAR	2009 (436)	2009 (289,236)

### dissolved companies by half year



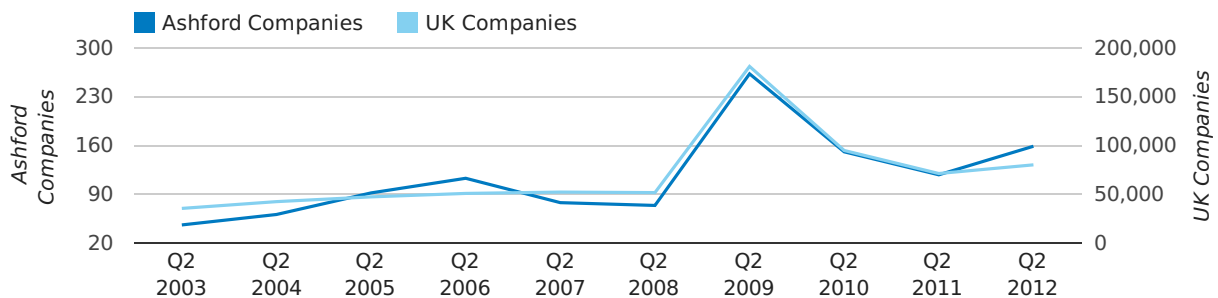
### Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2012)

A total of 159 companies were dissolved in Ashford during the second quarter of 2012 (Apr 2012 - Jun 2012).

This figure is an increase of 34.7% versus the same period last year (Q2 2011). This figure compares poorly to the UK as a whole, which saw an increase of 12.5% against the same period last year.

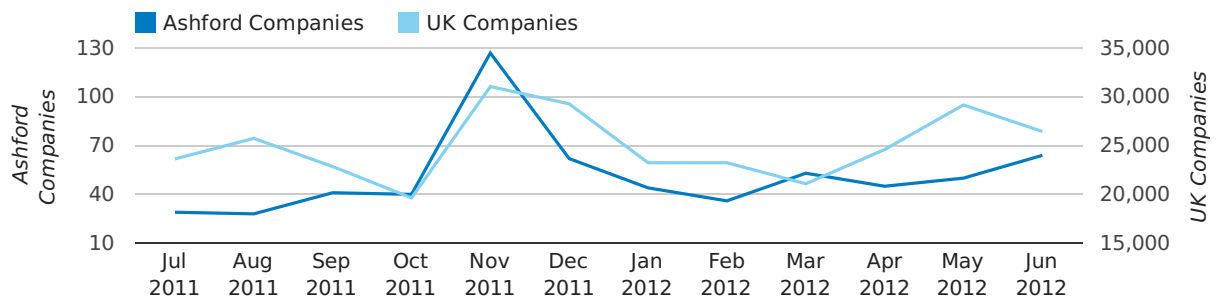
SECOND QUARTER (APR 2012 - JUN 2012)	ASHFORD	UK
2012	159	80,217
2011	118	71,324
% CHANGE	34.7%	12.5%
RECORD YEAR	2009 (263)	2009 (181,176)

### dissolved companies by quarter



# Monthly Data (Apr, May & Jun 2012)

## dissolved companies by month



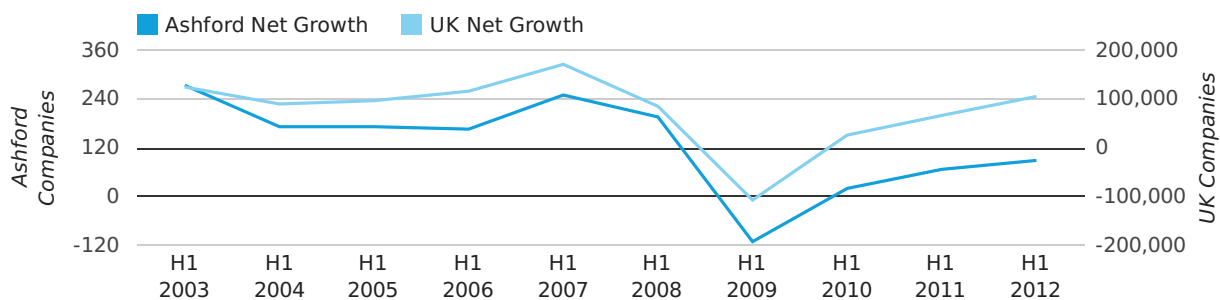
	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2012	45	50	64
CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2011	25	52	41
% CHANGE	80.0%	-3.8%	56%
RECORD YEAR	2009 (82)	2009 (109)	2009 (72)

### Half Year Data (Jan-Jun 2012)

In the first half of 2012 the company register for Ashford increased by 89 companies. This figure is 32.8% higher than last year, which compares badly to a UK increase of 58.6%.

HALF YEAR (JAN-JUN)	ASHFORD	UK
2012	89	105,357
2011	67	66,425
% CHANGE	32.8%	58.6%
RECORD YEAR	2003 (274)	2007 (171,296)

### net growth by half year



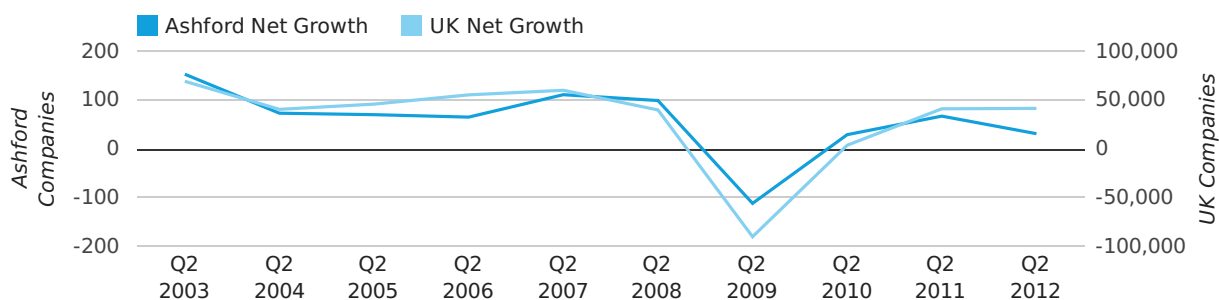
### Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2012)

Net company growth for Ashford during the second quarter of 2012 (Apr 2012 - Jun 2012) was 31 companies.

This represents a decrease of 53.7% on the same period last year.

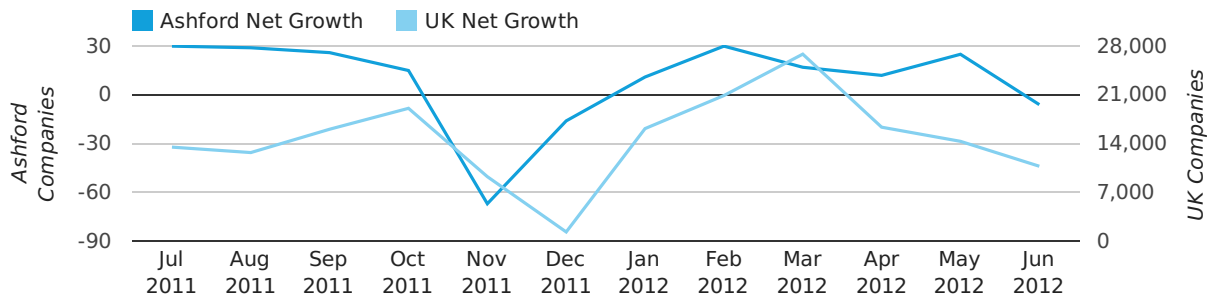
SECOND QUARTER (APR 2012 - JUN 2012)	ASHFORD	UK
2012	31	41,442
2011	67	41,020
% CHANGE	-53.7%	1.0%
RECORD YEAR	2003 (153)	2003 (69,274)

### net growth by quarter



# Monthly Data (Apr, May & Jun 2012)

## net growth by month



	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
NET GROWTH IN 2012	12	25	-6
NET GROWTH IN 2011	35	11	21
% CHANGE	-65.7%	127.3%	-128.6%
RECORD YEAR	1997 (69)	2003 (51)	2003 (55)

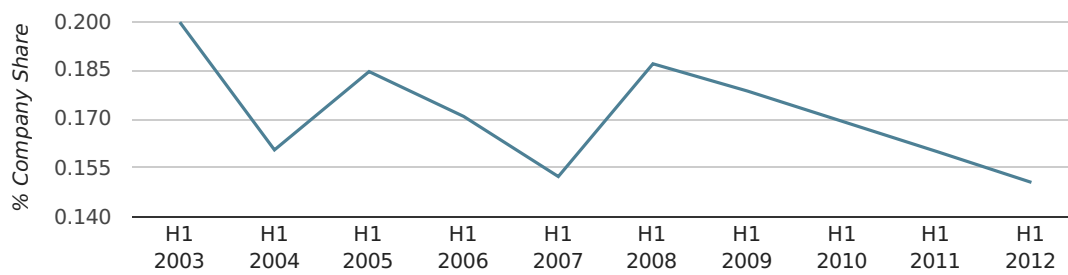


### Half Year Data (Jan-Jun 2012)

In the first half of 2012 Ashford formed 0.2% of all UK companies. This is the same as the 2011 figure of 0.2%.

HALF YEAR (JAN-JUN)	ASHFORD
2012	0.2%
2011	0.2%
2010	0.2%
2009	0.2%
2008	0.2%
RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960)	1971 (0.3%)

#### company share by half year

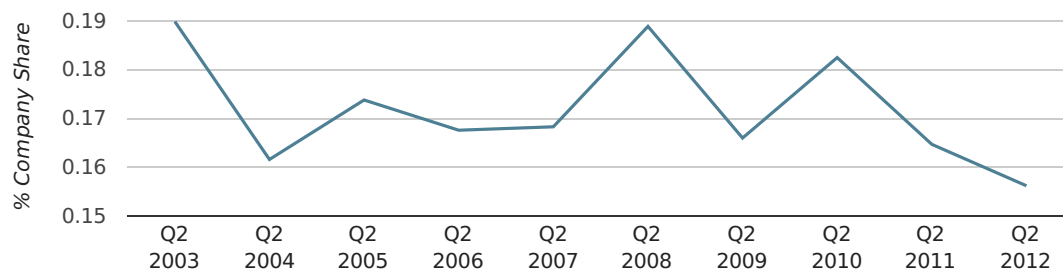


### Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2012)

In the second quarter of 2012, Ashford formed 0.2% of all UK companies.

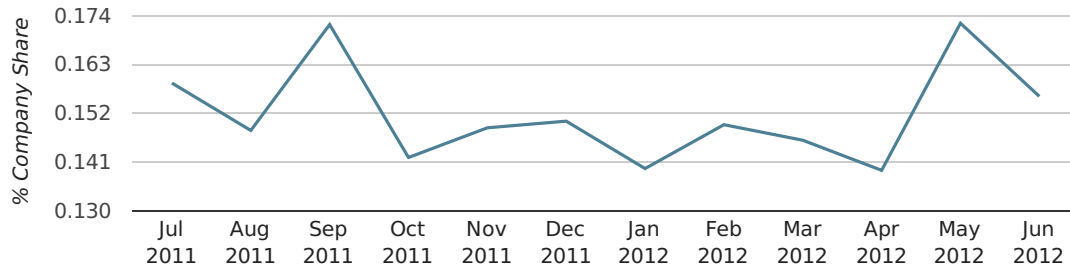
SECOND QUARTER (APR 2012 - JUN 2012)	ASHFORD
2012	0.2%
2011	0.2%
2010	0.2%
2009	0.2%
2008	0.2%
RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960)	1967 (0.3%)

#### company share by quarter



## Monthly Data (Apr, May & Jun 2012)

### company share by month



	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2012	0.1%	0.2%	0.2%
UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2011	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%
% CHANGE	-20.0%	4.4%	-0.1%
RECORD YEAR	1969 (0.4%)	1967 (0.6%)	1972 (0.5%)

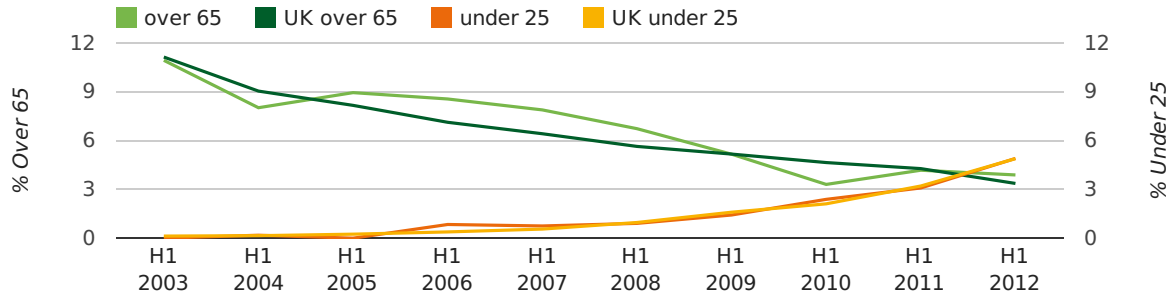
### Half Year Data (Jan-Jun 2012)

The average age of a director in the first half of 2012 was 43.8.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 4.9% compared to the UK figure of 4.9%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 3.9% compared to the UK figure of 3.4%.

#### director age by half year



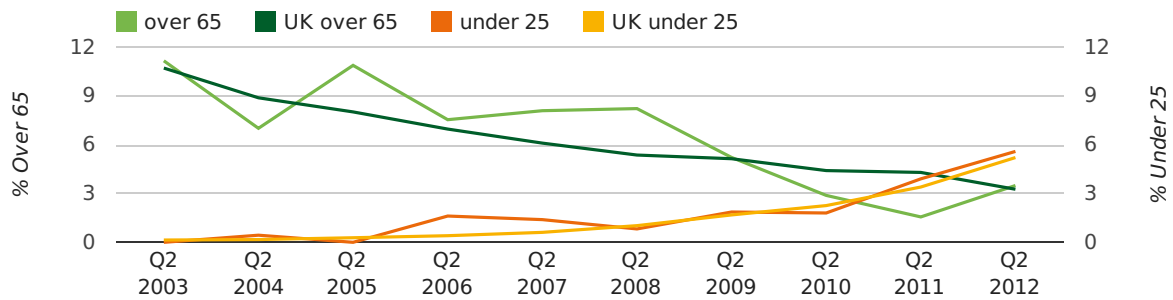
### Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2012)

The average age of a director in the second quarter of 2012 was 43.9.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 5.6% compared to the UK figure of 5.2%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 3.5% compared to the UK figure of 3.3%.

#### director age by quarter

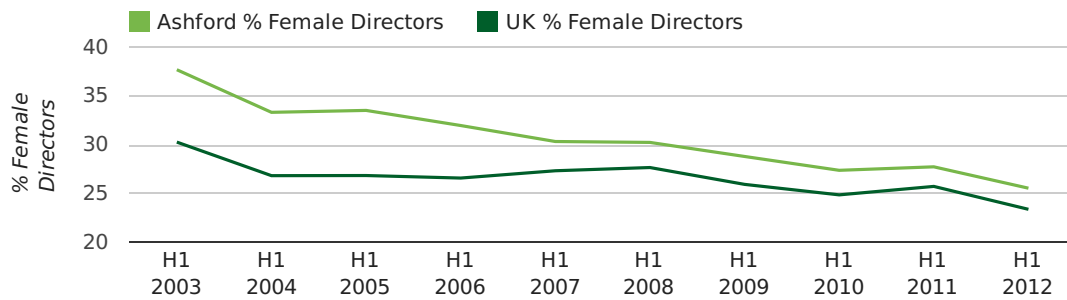


### Half Year Data (Jan-Jun 2012)

The record first half year for female directors in Ashford was 1861 when 40.0% of all directors were female.

25.6% of all director appointments in Ashford in the first half of 2012 were female. This compares to a UK average of 23.4% for the same period.

#### director gender by half year

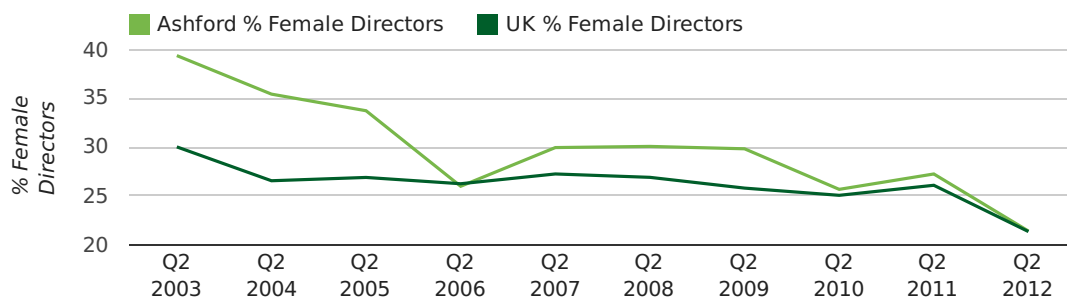


### Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2012)

The record second quarter for female directors in Ashford was in 1866 when 66.7% of all directors were female.

21.4% of all director appointments in Ashford in the second quarter of 2012 were female. This compares to a UK average of 21.3% for the same period.

#### director gender by quarter



Previous 12 months (Jun 2011-Jun 2012)

Excluding: LIMITED, LTD, &, UK, SERVICES, THE, (UK), AND, LTD., A, LLP, SOLUTIONS, COMPANY, OF.

WORD	PERCENTAGE	UK WORD	UK PERCENTAGE
MANAGEMENT	1.31%	CONSULTING	5.07%
KENT	1.31%	MANAGEMENT	4.74%
CONSULTING	1.31%	CONSULTANCY	3.28%
PROPERTY	1.07%	PROPERTY	2.35%
ASHFORD	1.07%	TRADING	2.10%
ASSOCIATES	0.90%	DESIGN	1.89%
(KENT)	0.82%	ENGINEERING	1.87%
CONSULTANCY	0.74%	ASSOCIATES	1.82%
IT	0.74%	CONSULTANTS	1.78%
GREEN	0.74%	CONSTRUCTION	1.71%
BUILDING	0.66%	BUSINESS	1.70%
CONSTRUCTION	0.58%	MEDIA	1.69%
CLUB	0.58%	LONDON	1.68%
FOODS	0.58%	J	1.57%
EAST	0.58%	GLOBAL	1.51%
BUSINESS	0.58%	INVESTMENTS	1.48%
TRADING	0.49%	IT	1.42%
CENTRE	0.49%	CARE	1.31%
SOUTH	0.49%	PROPERTIES	1.31%
B	0.49%	M	1.26%
S	0.41%	ELECTRICAL	1.23%
J	0.41%	BUILDING	1.23%
C	0.41%	SECURITY	1.19%
BLACK	0.41%	S	1.18%
PARTNERSHIP	0.41%	ENTERPRISES	1.17%

## Previous 36 months, excluding companies less than 12 months old

SIC CODE	NUMBER OF COMPANIES	UK COMPANIES
None Supplied	301	244,457
7487 - Other business activities	100	47,029
82990 - Other business support service activities not elsewhere classified	54	35,447
5132 - Wholesale of meat and meat products	44	187
99999 - Dormant Company	36	26,088
70229 - Management consultancy activities other than financial management	32	20,390
62020 - Information technology consultancy activities	31	15,280
9999 - Dormant Company	24	16,469
96090 - Other service activities not elsewhere classified	24	14,220
7414 - Business & management consultancy	18	10,978
74990 - Non-trading company	18	9,706
46320 - Wholesale of meat and meat products	18	208
7499 - Non-trading company	18	8,023
74909 - Other professional, scientific and technical activities not elsewhere classified	17	10,271
47910 - Retail sale via mail order houses or via Internet	16	3,818
47990 - Other retail sale not in stores, stalls or markets	15	3,233
9305 - Other service activities	14	7,926
41100 - Development of building projects	13	5,149
62090 - Other information technology service activities	12	8,258
62012 - Business and domestic software development	11	4,742