

Ashford

2011 half year business confidence report



headlines

- Q2 2011 saw a new record in company registrations in Ashford when compared to any previous Q2.
- June 2011 saw a new record in company registrations in Ashford when compared to any previous June.
- May 2011 saw a new record in company closures in Ashford when compared to any previous May.

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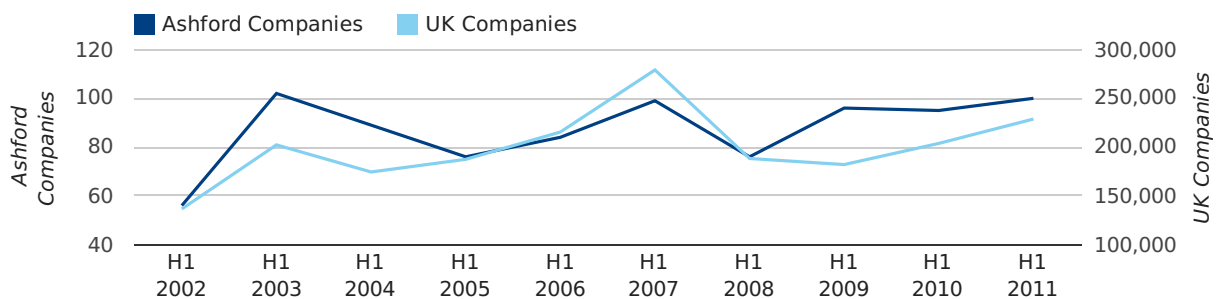
Half Year Data (Jan-Jun 2011)

In the first half of 2011 a total of 100 companies were formed in Ashford. This figure is 5.3% higher than last year, which compares badly to the UK wide figure of 12.3%.

The highest total for a first half year in Ashford occurred in 2003 when a total of 102 were formed.

HALF YEAR (JAN-JUN)	ASHFORD	UK
2011	100	228,735
2010	95	203,749
% CHANGE	5.3%	12.3%
RECORD YEAR	2003 (102)	2007 (279,097)

new companies by half year



Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2011)

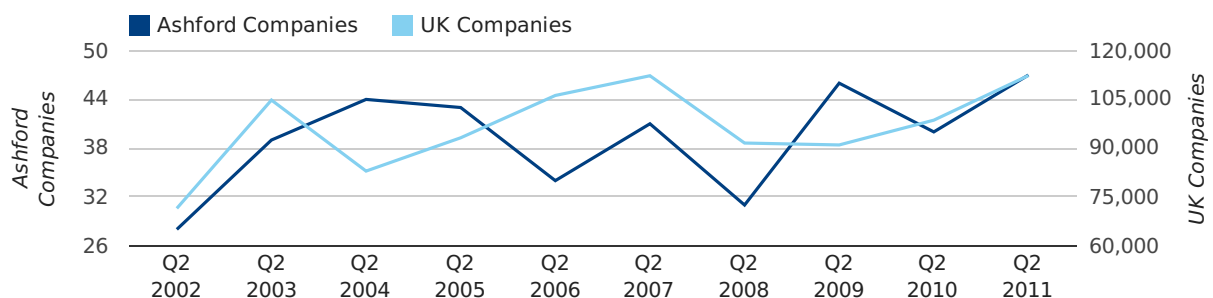
Q2 2011 saw a new record in company registrations in Ashford when compared to any previous Q2.

A total of 47 companies were registered in Ashford during the second quarter of 2011 (Apr 2011 - Jun 2011).

This figure is an increase of 17.5% versus the same period last year (Q2 2010). This figure compares well to the UK as a whole, which saw an increase of 13.9% against the same period last year.

SECOND QUARTER (APR 2011 - JUN 2011)	ASHFORD	UK
2011	47	112,344
2010	40	98,612
% CHANGE	17.5%	13.9%
RECORD YEAR	2011 (47)	2011 (112,344)

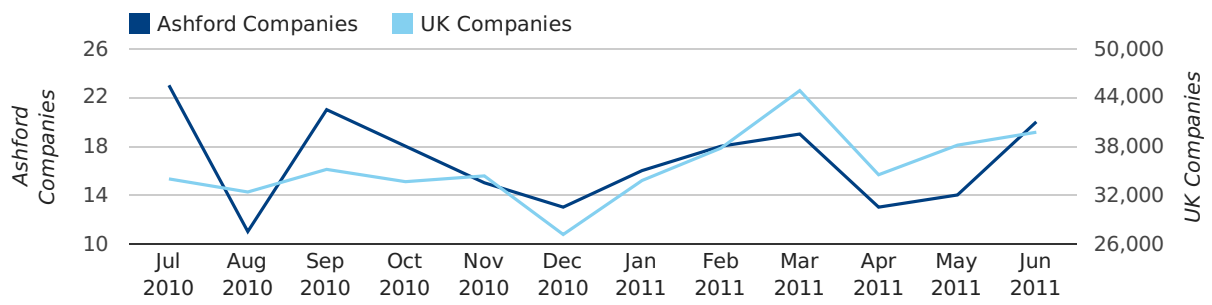
new companies by quarter



Monthly Data (Apr, May & Jun 2011)

June 2011 saw a new record in company registrations in Ashford when compared to any previous June.

new companies by month



	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
NEW COMPANIES IN 2011	13	14	20
NEW COMPANIES IN 2010	15	14	11
% CHANGE	-13.3%	0.0%	81.8%
RECORD YEAR	2010 (15)	2005 (18)	2011 (20)

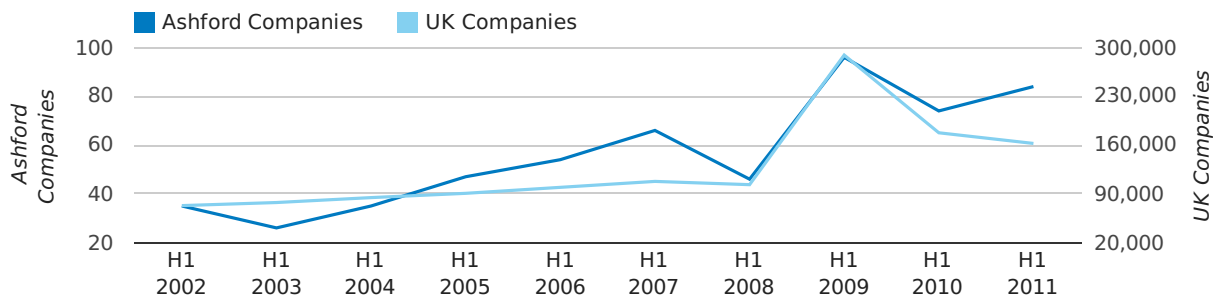
Half Year Data (Jan-Jun 2011)

In the first half of 2011 a total of 84 companies were dissolved in Ashford. This figure is 13.5% higher than last year, which compares badly to the UK wide change of -8.6%.

The highest total for a first half year in Ashford occurred in 2009 when a total of 96 were closed.

HALF YEAR (JAN-JUN)	ASHFORD	UK
2011	84	162,310
2010	74	177,631
% CHANGE	13.5%	-8.6%
RECORD YEAR	2009 (96)	2009 (289,236)

dissolved companies by half year



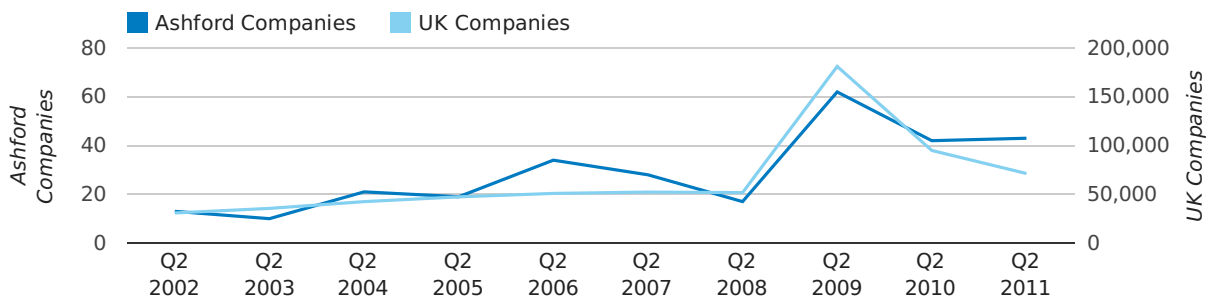
Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2011)

A total of 43 companies were dissolved in Ashford during the second quarter of 2011 (Apr 2011 - Jun 2011).

This figure is an increase of 2.4% versus the same period last year (Q2 2010). This figure compares poorly to the UK as a whole, which saw a decrease of 24.9% against the same period last year.

SECOND QUARTER (APR 2011 - JUN 2011)	ASHFORD	UK
2011	43	71,324
2010	42	94,954
% CHANGE	2.4%	-24.9%
RECORD YEAR	2009 (62)	2009 (181,176)

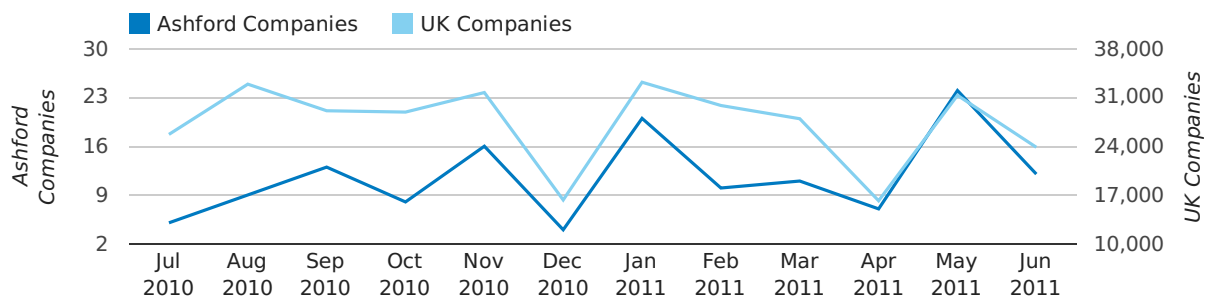
dissolved companies by quarter



Monthly Data (Apr, May & Jun 2011)

May 2011 saw a new record in company closures in Ashford when compared to any previous May.

dissolved companies by month



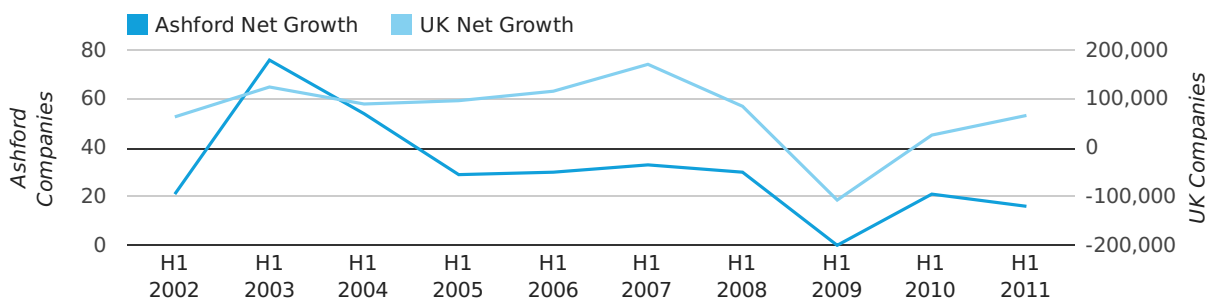
	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2011	7	24	12
CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2010	11	16	15
% CHANGE	-36.4%	50.0%	-20%
RECORD YEAR	2009 (23)	2011 (24)	2009 (17)

Half Year Data (Jan-Jun 2011)

In the first half of 2011 the company register for Ashford increased by 16 companies. This figure is 23.8% lower than last year, which compares badly to a UK increase of 154.3%.

HALF YEAR (JAN-JUN)	ASHFORD	UK
2011	16	66,425
2010	21	26,118
% CHANGE	-23.8%	154.3%
RECORD YEAR	2003 (76)	2007 (171,296)

net growth by half year



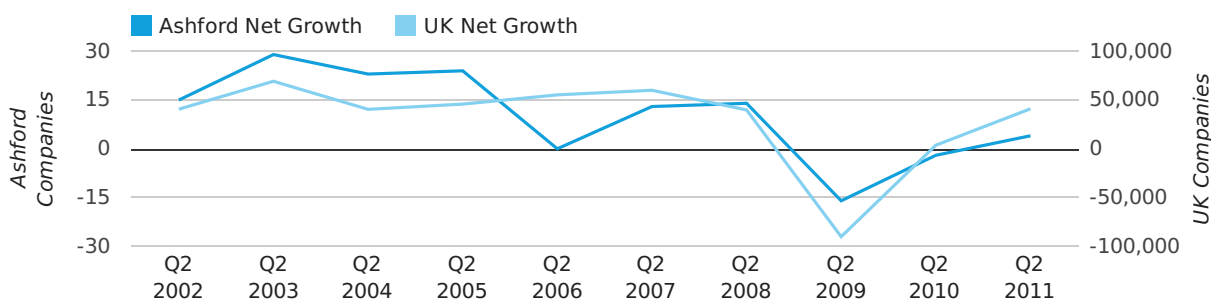
Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2011)

Net company growth for Ashford during the second quarter of 2011 (Apr 2011 - Jun 2011) was 4 companies.

This represents an increase of 300.0% on the same period last year.

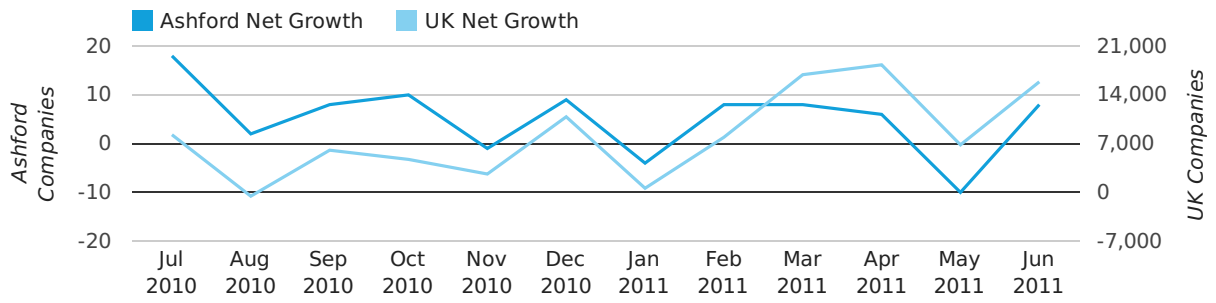
SECOND QUARTER (APR 2011 - JUN 2011)	ASHFORD	UK
2011	4	41,020
2010	-2	3,658
% CHANGE	-300.0%	1,021.4%
RECORD YEAR	2003 (29)	2003 (69,274)

net growth by quarter



Monthly Data (Apr, May & Jun 2011)

net growth by month



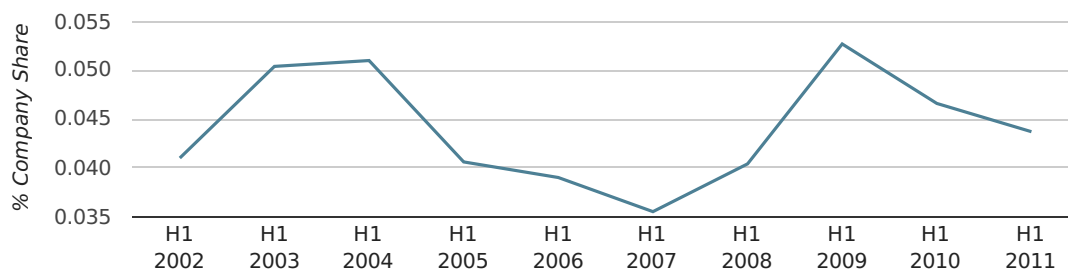
	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
NET GROWTH IN 2011	6	-10	8
NET GROWTH IN 2010	4	-2	-4
% CHANGE	50.0%	400.0%	-300.0%
RECORD YEAR	1998 (9)	2005 (14)	2003 (12)

Half Year Data (Jan-Jun 2011)

In the first half of 2011 Ashford formed 0.0% of all UK companies. This is the same as the 2010 figure of 0.0%.

HALF YEAR (JAN-JUN)	ASHFORD
2011	0.0%
2010	0.0%
2009	0.1%
2008	0.0%
2007	0.0%
RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960)	1967 (0.1%)

company share by half year

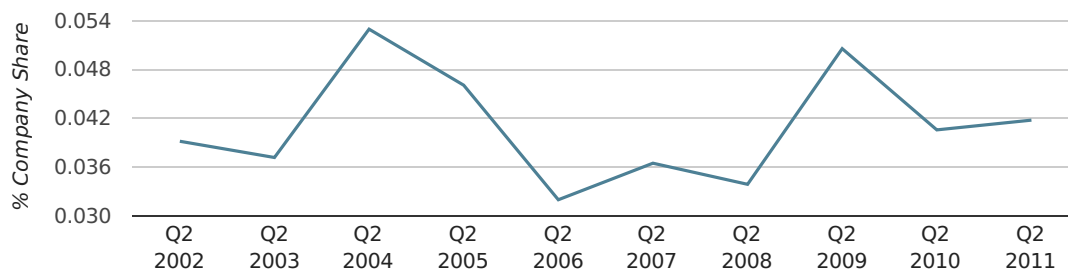


Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2011)

In the second quarter of 2011, Ashford formed 0.0% of all UK companies.

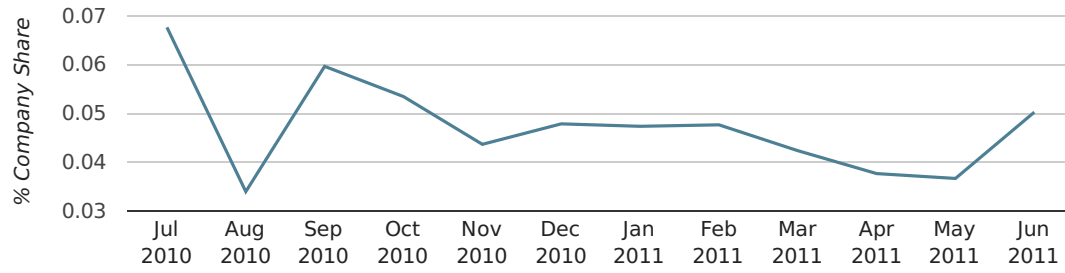
SECOND QUARTER (APR 2011 - JUN 2011)	ASHFORD
2011	0.0%
2010	0.0%
2009	0.1%
2008	0.0%
2007	0.0%
RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960)	1961 (0.2%)

company share by quarter



Monthly Data (Apr, May & Jun 2011)

company share by month



	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2011	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%
UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2010	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
% CHANGE	-16.0%	-21.2%	60.7%
RECORD YEAR	1967 (0.2%)	1970 (0.3%)	1961 (0.3%)

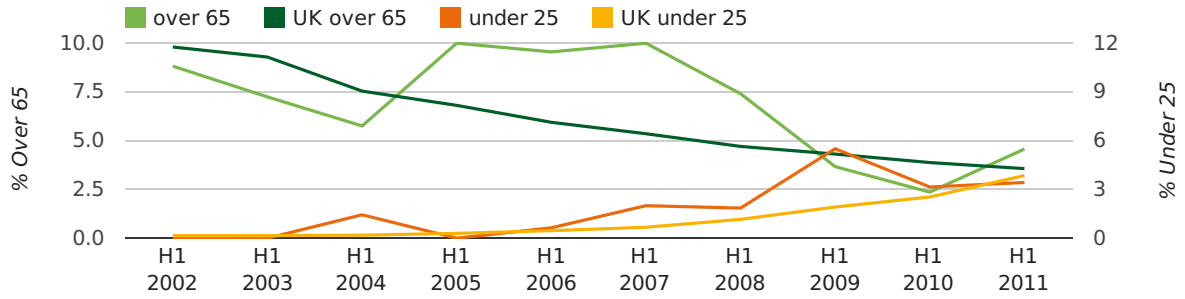
Half Year Data (Jan-Jun 2011)

The average age of a director in the first half of 2011 was 42.8.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 3.4% compared to the UK figure of 3.2%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 4.6% compared to the UK figure of 4.3%.

director age by half year



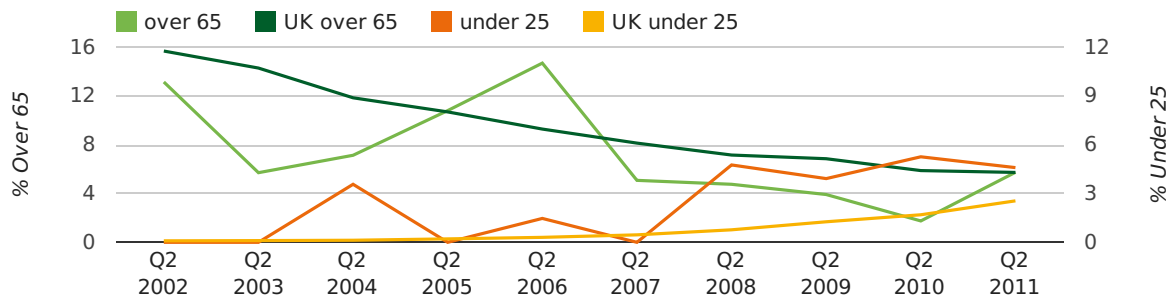
Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2011)

The average age of a director in the second quarter of 2011 was 43.8.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 4.6% compared to the UK figure of 3.4%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 5.7% compared to the UK figure of 4.3%.

director age by quarter

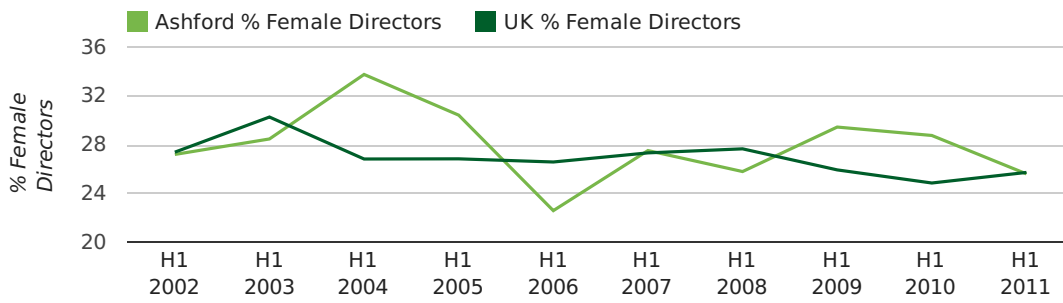


Half Year Data (Jan-Jun 2011)

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 2011 were female. This compares to a UK average of 25.7% for the same period.

director gender by half year

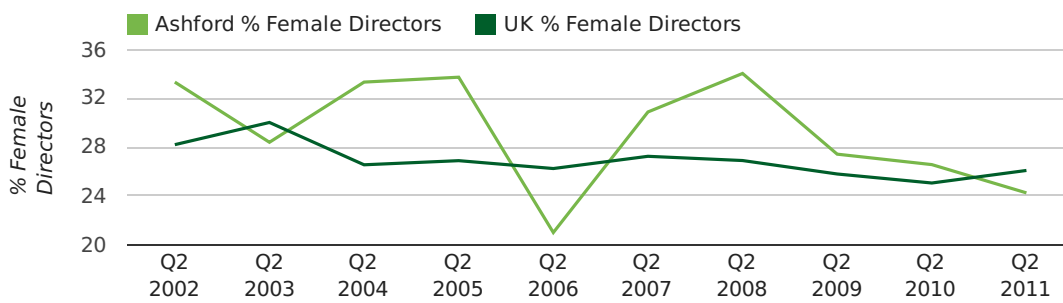


Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2011)

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

24.2% of all director appointments in Ashford in the second quarter of 2011 were female. This compares to a UK average of 26.1% for the same period.

director gender by quarter



Previous 12 months (Jun 2010-Jun 2011)

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

WORD	PERCENTAGE	UK WORD	UK PERCENTAGE
CONSULTING	3.30%	CONSULTING	5.09%
MANAGEMENT	1.52%	MANAGEMENT	4.86%
BUILDING	1.27%	CONSULTANCY	3.17%
LOGISTICS	1.02%	PROPERTY	2.43%
PROPERTY	1.02%	TRADING	2.05%
MAINTENANCE	1.02%	DESIGN	1.94%
CONSULTANTS	1.02%	ASSOCIATES	1.92%
TRADING	1.02%	BUSINESS	1.87%
SMILE	0.76%	CONSTRUCTION	1.77%
INTERIORS	0.76%	CONSULTANTS	1.76%
ASSOCIATES	0.76%	MEDIA	1.73%
IT	0.76%	ENGINEERING	1.67%
HEALTHCARE	0.76%	LONDON	1.60%
ENTERPRISES	0.76%	GLOBAL	1.46%
BLUE	0.76%	J	1.44%
TRANSPORT	0.76%	CARE	1.44%
REAL	0.51%	INVESTMENTS	1.42%
(SURREY)	0.51%	IT	1.39%
MEDIA	0.51%	BUILDING	1.32%
RETAIL	0.51%	PROPERTIES	1.31%
SIMPLY	0.51%	ELECTRICAL	1.30%
RIGHT	0.51%	M	1.27%
PK	0.51%	S	1.23%
CHINA	0.51%	ENTERPRISES	1.20%
AT	0.51%	SYSTEMS	1.20%

Previous 36 months, excluding companies less than 12 months old

SIC CODE	NUMBER OF COMPANIES	UK COMPANIES
None Supplied	75	202,072
7487 - Other business activities	34	60,758
9999 - Dormant Company	12	20,111
62020 - Information technology consultancy activities	11	10,545
99999 - Dormant Company	10	18,918
52230 - Service activities incidental to air transportation	8	145
7222 - Other software consultancy and supply	7	7,143
96090 - Other service activities not elsewhere classified	7	10,322
82990 - Other business support service activities not elsewhere classified	7	30,647
70229 - Management consultancy activities other than financial management	6	16,419
62012 - Business and domestic software development	6	3,262
9305 - Other service activities	5	9,063
47990 - Other retail sale not in stores, stalls or markets	5	2,324
74909 - Other professional, scientific and technical activities not elsewhere classified	5	7,835
6024 - Freight transport by road	4	2,316
43999 - Other specialised construction activities not elsewhere classified	4	3,050
62090 - Other information technology service activities	3	7,095
5242 - Retail sale of clothing	3	1,638
49410 - Freight transport by road	3	2,142
8514 - Other human health activities	3	2,515