

Bedford

q1 2011 business confidence report



headlines

- January 2011 saw a new record in company closures in Bedford when compared to any previous January.

contents

new company registrations

closed companies (dissolved)

net company growth

uk company share

director age

director gender

naming trends

sic data

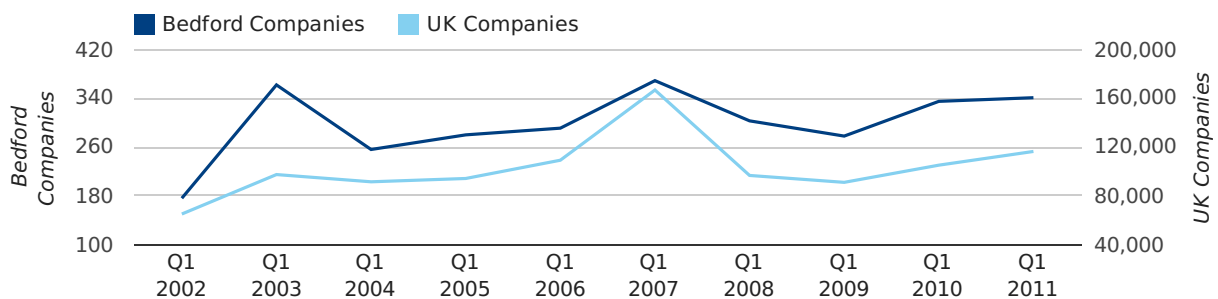
Quarterly Data (Q1 Jan-Mar 2011)

A total of 341 companies were registered in Bedford during the first quarter of 2011 (Jan 2011 - Mar 2011).

This figure is an increase of 1.8% versus the same period last year (Q1 2010). This figure compares badly to the UK as a whole, which saw an increase of 10.7% against the same period last year.

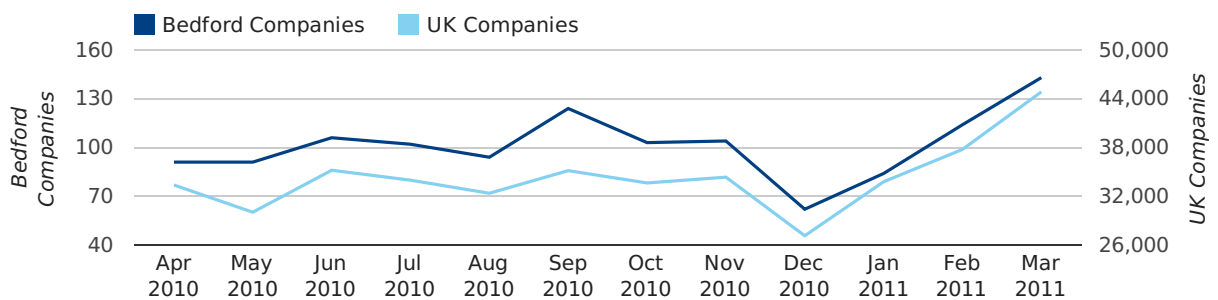
FIRST QUARTER (JAN 2011 - MAR 2011)	BEDFORD	UK
2011	341	116,391
2010	335	105,137
% CHANGE	1.8%	10.7%
RECORD YEAR	2007 (369)	2007 (166,814)

new companies by quarter



Monthly Data (Jan, Feb & Mar 2011)

new companies by month



	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
NEW COMPANIES IN 2011	84	114	143
NEW COMPANIES IN 2010	99	111	125
% CHANGE	-15.2%	2.7%	14.4%
RECORD YEAR	2007 (104)	2003 (122)	2007 (156)

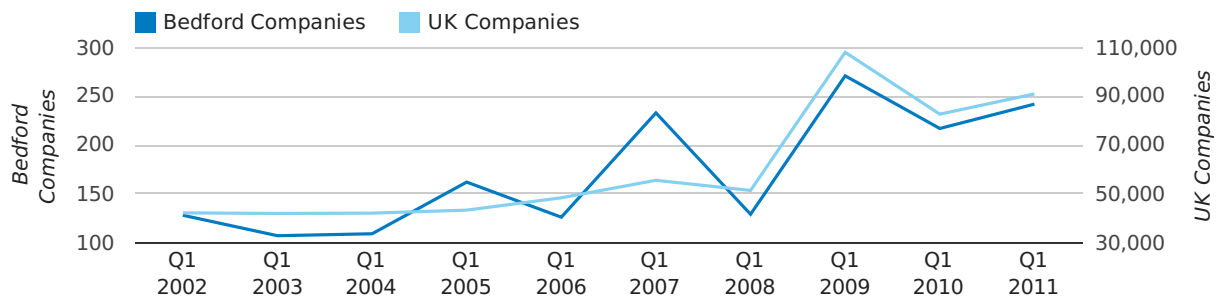
Quarterly Data (Q1 Jan-Mar 2011)

A total of 242 companies were dissolved in Bedford during the first quarter of 2011 (Jan 2011 - Mar 2011).

This figure is an increase of 11.5% versus the same period last year (Q1 2010). This figure compares poorly to the UK as a whole, which saw an increase of 10.0% against the same period last year.

FIRST QUARTER (JAN 2011 - MAR 2011)	BEDFORD	UK
2011	242	90,986
2010	217	82,677
% CHANGE	11.5%	10.0%
RECORD YEAR	2009 (271)	2009 (108,060)

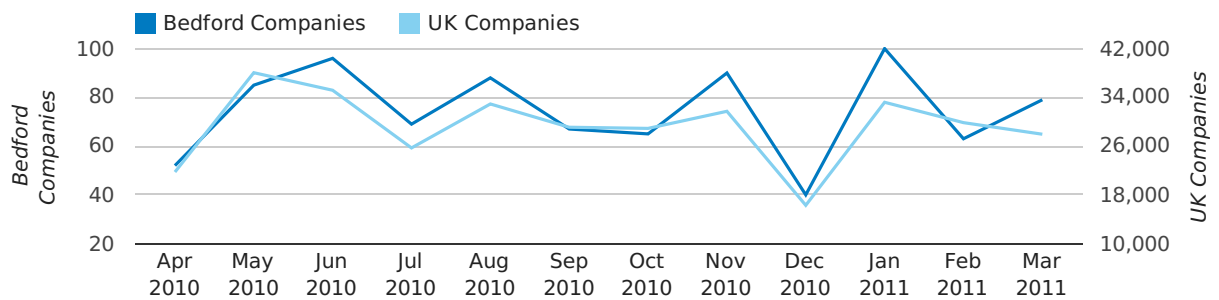
dissolved companies by quarter



Monthly Data (Jan, Feb & Mar 2011)

January 2011 saw a new record in company closures in Bedford when compared to any previous January.

dissolved companies by month



	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2011	100	63	79
CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2010	72	61	84
% CHANGE	38.9%	3.3%	-6%
RECORD YEAR	2011 (100)	2007 (85)	2009 (183)

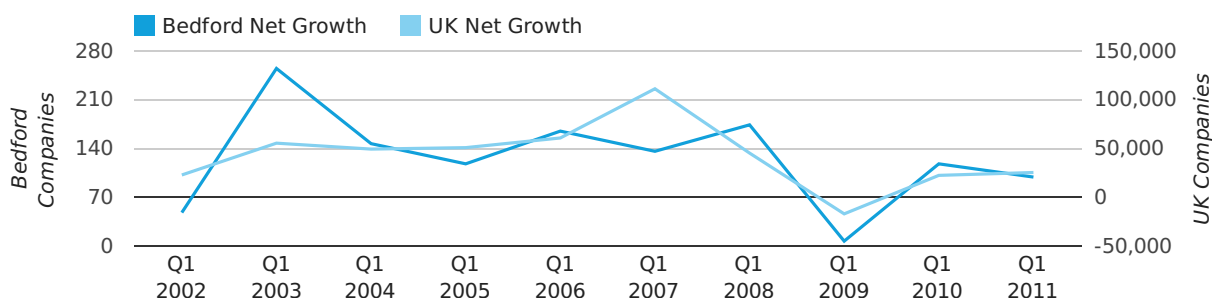
Quarterly Data (Q1 Jan-Mar 2011)

Net company growth for Bedford during the first quarter of 2011 (Jan 2011 - Mar 2011) was 99 companies.

This represents a decrease of 16.1% on the same period last year.

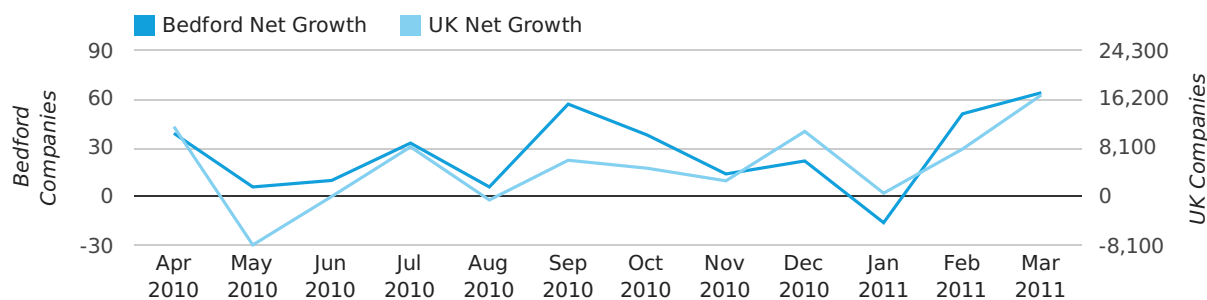
FIRST QUARTER (JAN 2011 - MAR 2011)	BEDFORD	UK
2011	99	25,405
2010	118	22,460
% CHANGE	-16.1%	13.1%
RECORD YEAR	2003 (255)	2007 (111,282)

net growth by quarter



Monthly Data (Jan, Feb & Mar 2011)

net growth by month



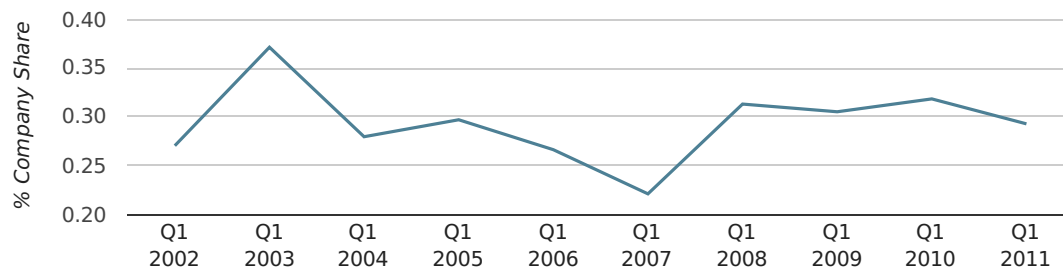
	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
NET GROWTH IN 2011	-16	51	64
NET GROWTH IN 2010	27	50	41
% CHANGE	-159.3%	2.0%	56.1%
RECORD YEAR	2003 (65)	2003 (91)	2008 (104)

Quarterly Data (Q1 Jan-Mar 2011)

In the first quarter of 2011, Bedford formed 0.3% of all UK companies.

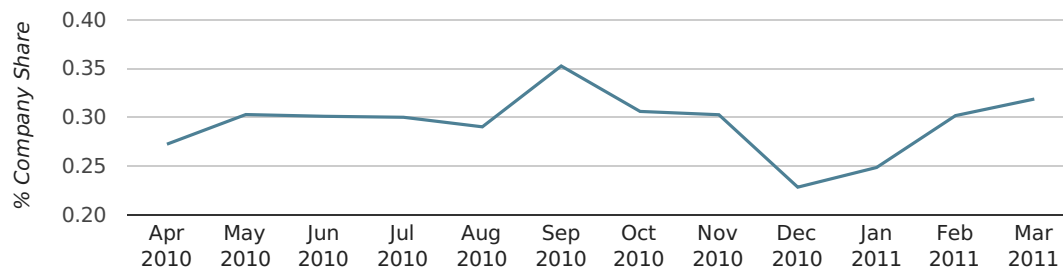
FIRST QUARTER (JAN 2011 - MAR 2011)	BEDFORD
2011	0.3%
2010	0.3%
2009	0.3%
2008	0.3%
2007	0.2%
RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960)	1965 (0.6%)

company share by quarter



Monthly Data (Jan, Feb & Mar 2011)

company share by month



	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2011	0.2%	0.3%	0.3%
UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2010	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%
% CHANGE	-26.8%	-9.7%	9.1%
RECORD YEAR	1982 (0.7%)	1965 (0.9%)	1970 (0.7%)

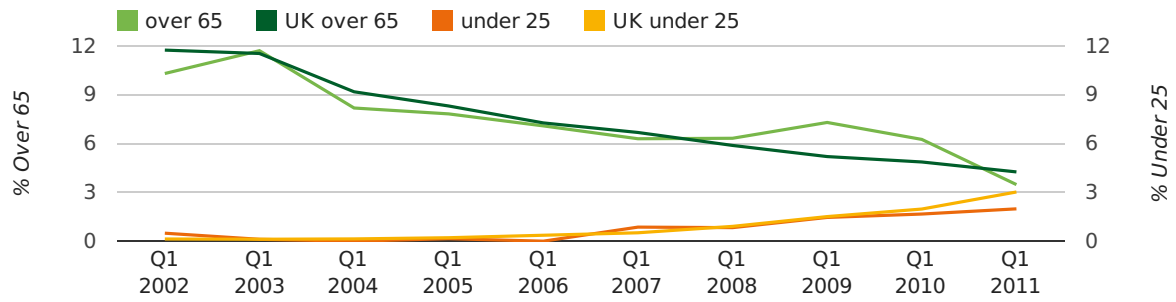
Quarterly Data (Q1 Jan-Mar 2011)

The average age of a director in the first quarter of 2011 was 44.8.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 2.0% compared to the UK figure of 3.0%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 3.5% compared to the UK figure of 4.3%.

director age by quarter

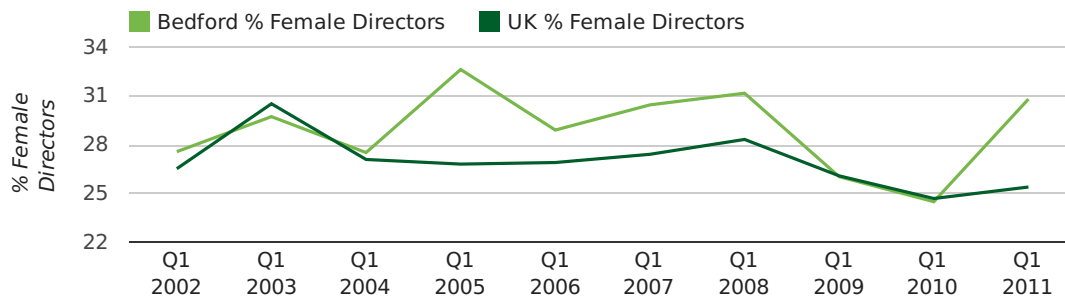


Quarterly Data (Q1 Jan-Mar 2011)

The record first quarter for female directors in Bedford was in 1861 when 40.0% of all directors were female.

30.8% of all director appointments in Bedford in the first quarter of 2011 were female. This compares to a UK average of 25.4% for the same period.

director gender by quarter



Previous 12 months (Mar 2010-Mar 2011)

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

WORD	PERCENTAGE	UK WORD	UK PERCENTAGE
MANAGEMENT	1.37%	CONSULTING	5.04%
VENTURES	1.11%	MANAGEMENT	4.97%
(BEDFORD)	0.90%	CONSULTANCY	3.16%
CONSULTING	0.85%	PROPERTY	2.38%
PROPERTY	0.85%	TRADING	2.10%
BEDFORD	0.79%	DESIGN	1.93%
M	0.74%	ASSOCIATES	1.92%
CONSULTANTS	0.74%	BUSINESS	1.87%
J	0.69%	CONSTRUCTION	1.80%
CARE	0.63%	CONSULTANTS	1.76%
IT	0.53%	MEDIA	1.69%
DESIGN	0.53%	ENGINEERING	1.61%
CONSTRUCTION	0.53%	LONDON	1.60%
INTERIORS	0.53%	CARE	1.45%
ASSOCIATES	0.53%	J	1.45%
T	0.53%	GLOBAL	1.44%
CLEANING	0.53%	INVESTMENTS	1.43%
MEDIA	0.48%	IT	1.41%
TRADING	0.48%	PROPERTIES	1.36%
BUSINESS	0.48%	BUILDING	1.34%
BUILDING	0.48%	M	1.30%
CENTRE	0.48%	ELECTRICAL	1.28%
DEVELOPMENTS	0.42%	S	1.24%
S	0.42%	INTERNATIONAL	1.23%
D	0.42%	SYSTEMS	1.23%

Previous 36 months, excluding companies less than 12 months old

SIC CODE	NUMBER OF COMPANIES	UK COMPANIES
None Supplied	518	202,798
7487 - Other business activities	143	60,968
99999 - Dormant Company	72	18,336
70229 - Management consultancy activities other than financial management	66	16,150
82990 - Other business support service activities not elsewhere classified	65	30,253
9999 - Dormant Company	57	19,765
7414 - Business & management consultancy	53	12,916
7260 - Other computer related activities	35	7,789
62020 - Information technology consultancy activities	33	10,246
62090 - Other information technology service activities	33	6,996
96090 - Other service activities not elsewhere classified	30	10,085
74990 - Non-trading company	27	8,695
7499 - Non-trading company	23	11,316
9305 - Other service activities	23	8,740
4521 - General construction & civil engineering	22	6,183
7222 - Other software consultancy and supply	21	7,000
5530 - Restaurants	20	4,898
74909 - Other professional, scientific and technical activities not elsewhere classified	20	7,788
69201 - Accounting and auditing activities	18	3,436
41100 - Development of building projects	17	3,921