

Bedford

2011 half year business confidence report



headlines

- The first half of 2011 saw a new record in company registrations in Bedford when compared to any previous first half year.
- The first half of 2011 was a record first half year for company registrations in Bedford when compared to any half year in history.
- Q2 2011 saw a new record in company registrations in Bedford when compared to any previous Q2.
- June 2011 saw a new record in company registrations in Bedford when compared to any previous June.
- April 2011 saw a new record in company registrations in Bedford when compared to any previous April.
- April 2011 saw a new record in net growth in Bedford when compared to any previous April.

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Half Year Data (Jan-Jun 2011)

The first half of 2011 saw a new record in company registrations in Bedford when compared to any previous first half year.

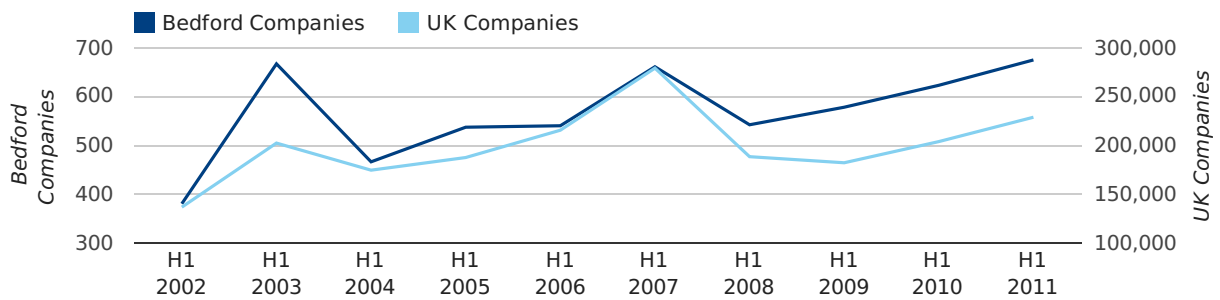
The first half of 2011 was a record first half year for company registrations in Bedford when compared to any half year in history.

In the first half of 2011 a total of 675 companies were formed in Bedford. This figure is 8.3% higher than last year, which compares badly to the UK wide figure of 12.3%.

The highest total for a first half year in Bedford occurred in 2011 when a total of 675 were formed.

HALF YEAR (JAN-JUN)	BEDFORD	UK
2011	675	228,735
2010	623	203,749
% CHANGE	8.3%	12.3%
RECORD YEAR	2011 (675)	2007 (279,097)

new companies by half year



Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2011)

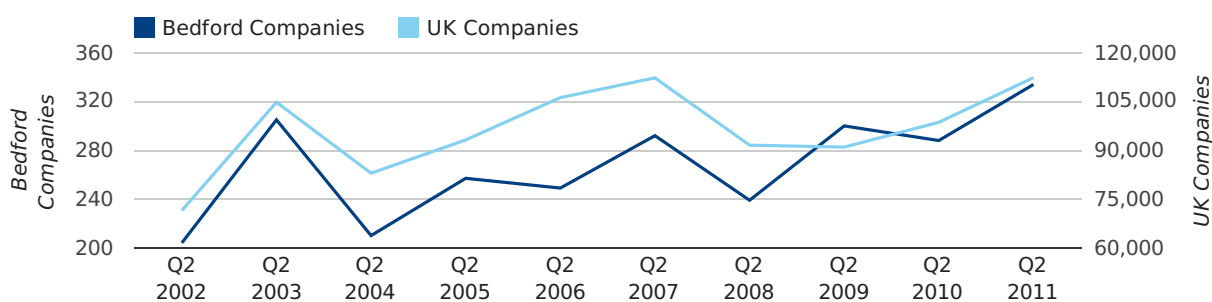
Q2 2011 saw a new record in company registrations in Bedford when compared to any previous Q2.

A total of 334 companies were registered in Bedford during the second quarter of 2011 (Apr 2011 - Jun 2011).

This figure is an increase of 16.0% 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)	BEDFORD	UK
2011	334	112,344
2010	288	98,612
% CHANGE	16.0%	13.9%
RECORD YEAR	2011 (334)	2011 (112,344)

new companies by quarter

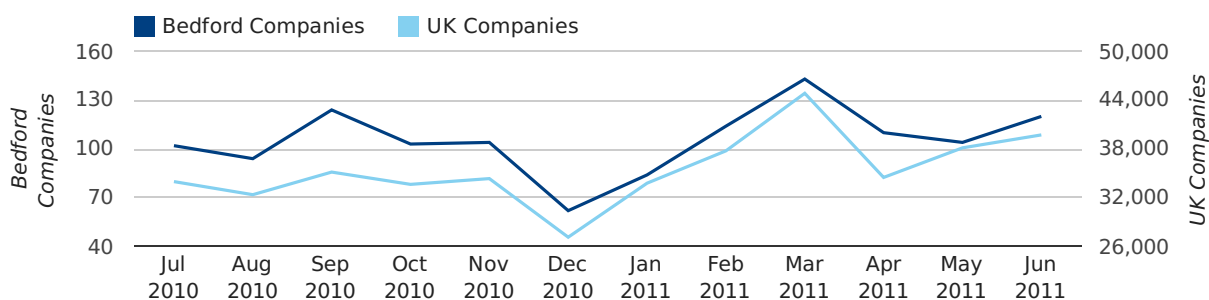


Monthly Data (Apr, May & Jun 2011)

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

April 2011 saw a new record in company registrations in Bedford when compared to any previous April.

new companies by month



	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
NEW COMPANIES IN 2011	110	104	120
NEW COMPANIES IN 2010	91	91	106
% CHANGE	20.9%	14.3%	13.2%
RECORD YEAR	2011 (110)	2003 (107)	2011 (120)

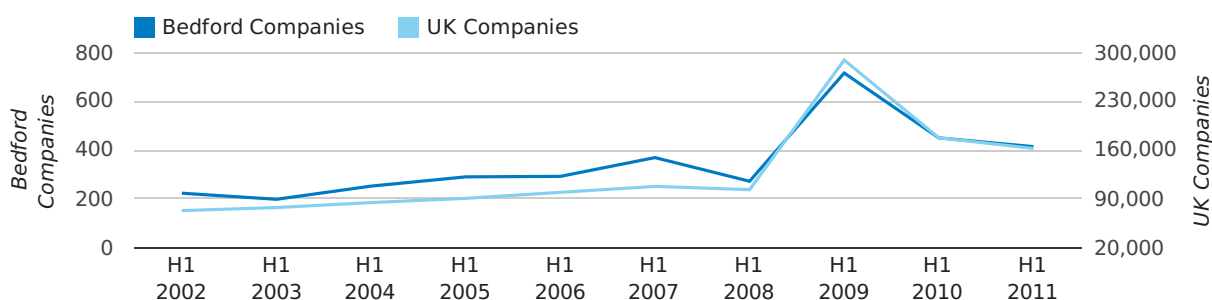
Half Year Data (Jan-Jun 2011)

In the first half of 2011 a total of 414 companies were dissolved in Bedford. This figure is 8.0% lower than last year, which compares badly to the UK wide change of -8.6%.

The highest total for a first half year in Bedford occurred in 2009 when a total of 716 were closed.

HALF YEAR (JAN-JUN)	BEDFORD	UK
2011	414	162,310
2010	450	177,631
% CHANGE	-8.0%	-8.6%
RECORD YEAR	2009 (716)	2009 (289,236)

dissolved companies by half year



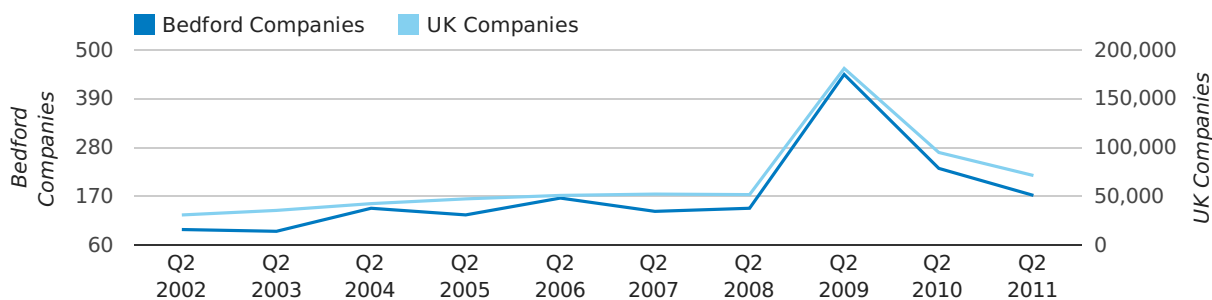
Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2011)

A total of 172 companies were dissolved in Bedford during the second quarter of 2011 (Apr 2011 - Jun 2011).

This figure is a decrease of 26.2% versus the same period last year (Q2 2010). This figure compares well to the UK as a whole, which saw a decrease of 24.9% against the same period last year.

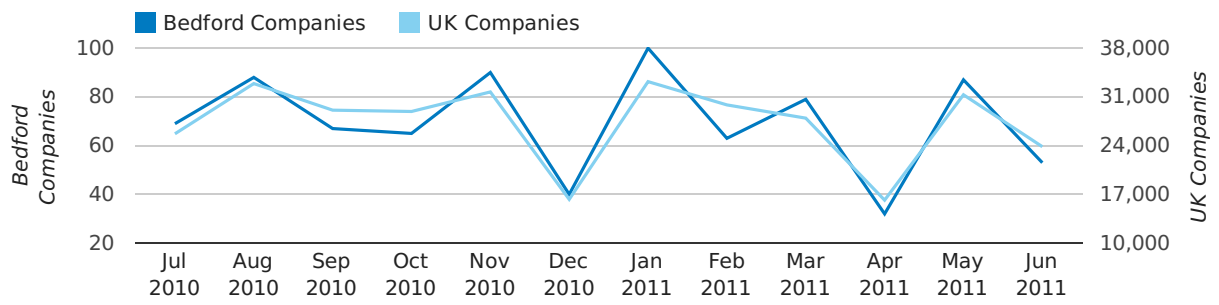
SECOND QUARTER (APR 2011 - JUN 2011)	BEDFORD	UK
2011	172	71,324
2010	233	94,954
% CHANGE	-26.2%	-24.9%
RECORD YEAR	2009 (445)	2009 (181,176)

dissolved companies by quarter



Monthly Data (Apr, May & Jun 2011)

dissolved companies by month



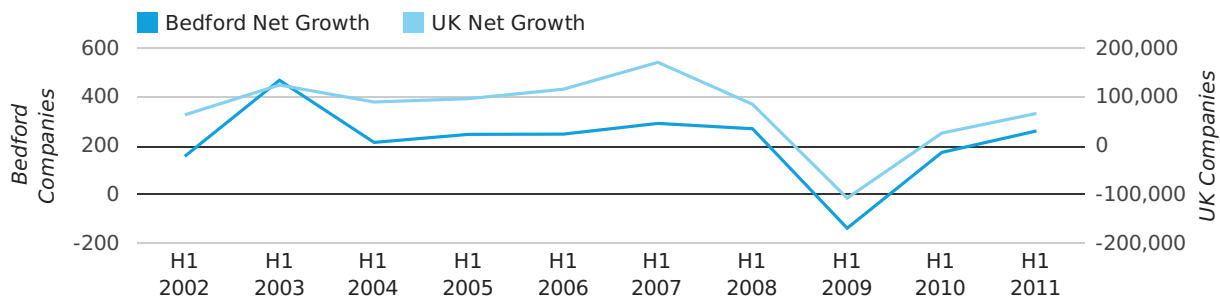
	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2011	32	87	53
CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2010	52	85	96
% CHANGE	-38.5%	2.4%	-45%
RECORD YEAR	2009 (129)	2009 (195)	2009 (121)

Half Year Data (Jan-Jun 2011)

In the first half of 2011 the company register for Bedford increased by 261 companies. This figure is 50.9% higher than last year, which compares badly to a UK increase of 154.3%.

HALF YEAR (JAN-JUN)	BEDFORD	UK
2011	261	66,425
2010	173	26,118
% CHANGE	50.9%	154.3%
RECORD YEAR	2003 (469)	2007 (171,296)

net growth by half year



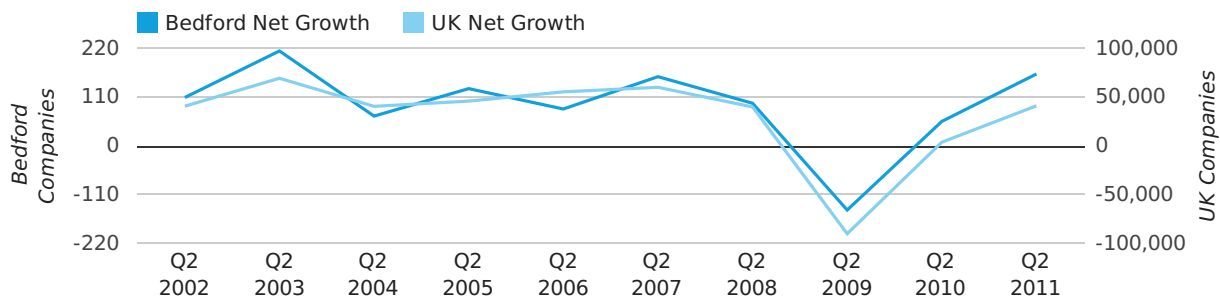
Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2011)

Net company growth for Bedford during the second quarter of 2011 (Apr 2011 - Jun 2011) was 162 companies.

This represents an increase of 194.5% on the same period last year.

SECOND QUARTER (APR 2011 - JUN 2011)	BEDFORD	UK
2011	162	41,020
2010	55	3,658
% CHANGE	194.5%	1,021.4%
RECORD YEAR	2003 (214)	2003 (69,274)

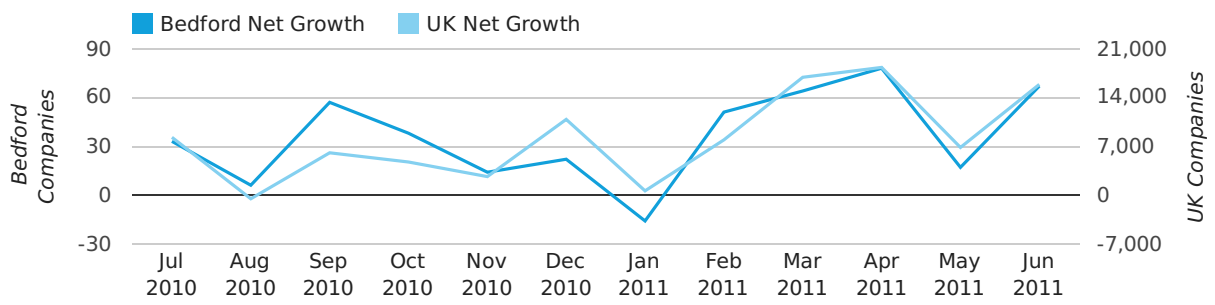
net growth by quarter



Monthly Data (Apr, May & Jun 2011)

April 2011 saw a new record in net growth in Bedford when compared to any previous April.

net growth by month



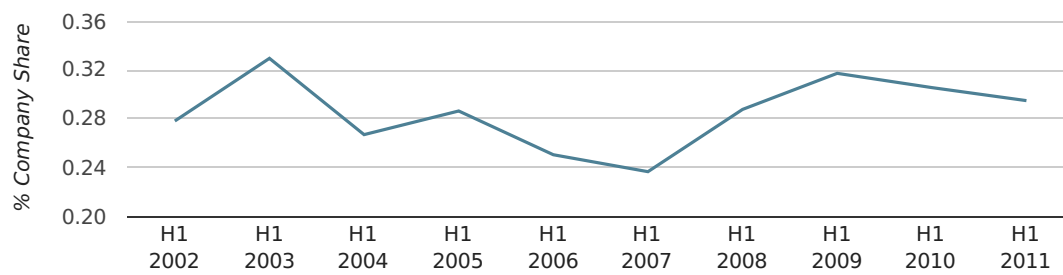
	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
NET GROWTH IN 2011	78	17	67
NET GROWTH IN 2010	39	6	10
% CHANGE	100.0%	183.3%	570.0%
RECORD YEAR	2011 (78)	2003 (77)	2008 (70)

Half Year Data (Jan-Jun 2011)

In the first half of 2011 Bedford formed 0.3% of all UK companies. This is the same as the 2010 figure of 0.3%.

HALF YEAR (JAN-JUN)	BEDFORD
2011	0.3%
2010	0.3%
2009	0.3%
2008	0.3%
2007	0.2%
RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960)	1970 (0.5%)

company share by half year

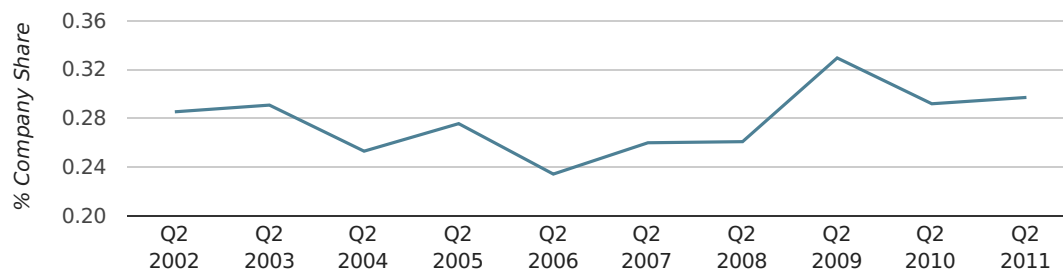


Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2011)

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

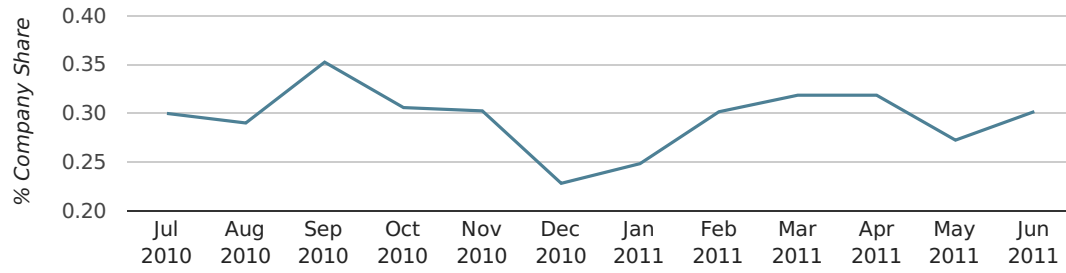
SECOND QUARTER (APR 2011 - JUN 2011)	BEDFORD
2011	0.3%
2010	0.3%
2009	0.3%
2008	0.3%
2007	0.3%
RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960)	1970 (0.6%)

company share by quarter



Monthly Data (Apr, May & Jun 2011)

company share by month



	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2011	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%
UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2010	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%
% CHANGE	17.0%	-10.0%	0.3%
RECORD YEAR	1968 (1.0%)	1971 (0.9%)	1970 (0.8%)

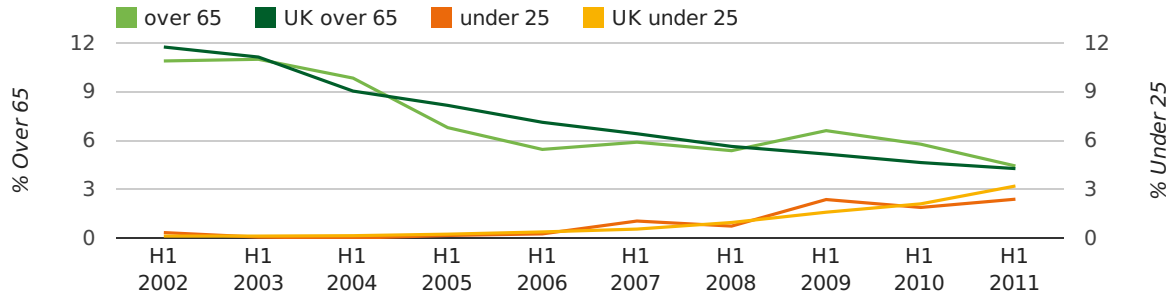
Half Year Data (Jan-Jun 2011)

The average age of a director in the first half of 2011 was 45.1.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 2.4% compared to the UK figure of 3.2%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 4.4% compared to the UK figure of 4.3%.

director age by half year



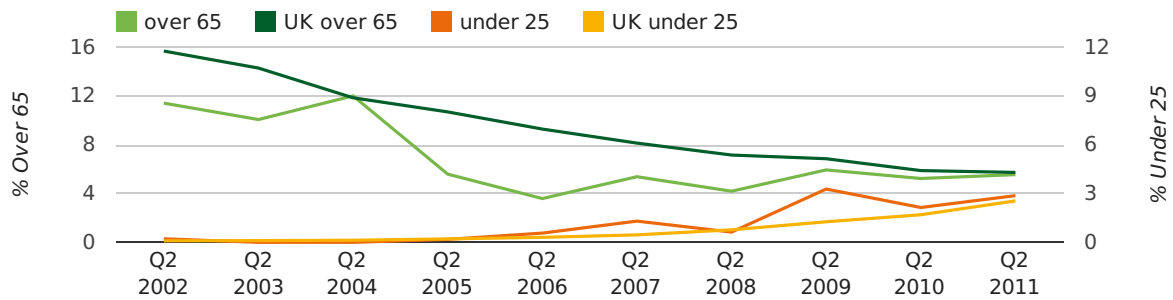
Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2011)

The average age of a director in the second quarter of 2011 was 45.4.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 2.9% compared to the UK figure of 3.4%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 5.6% compared to the UK figure of 4.3%.

director age by quarter

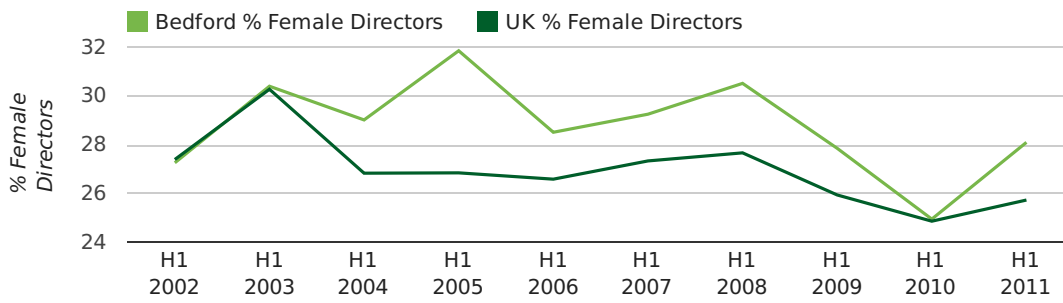


Half Year Data (Jan-Jun 2011)

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

28.1% of all director appointments in Bedford 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

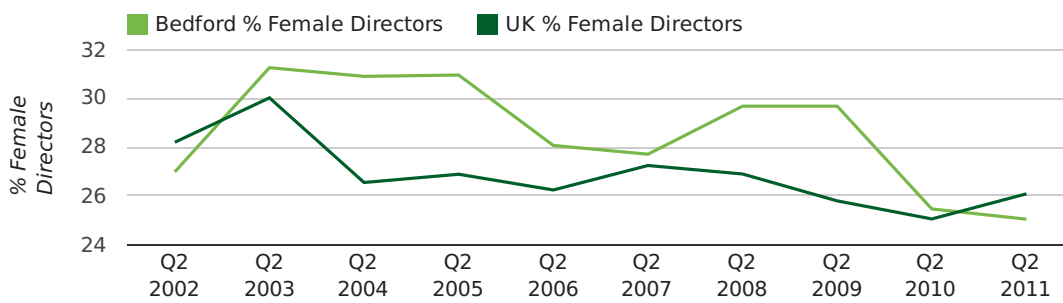


Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2011)

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

25.0% of all director appointments in Bedford 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	1.20%	CONSULTING	5.09%
MANAGEMENT	1.20%	MANAGEMENT	4.86%
VENTURES	1.15%	CONSULTANCY	3.17%
BEDFORD	0.99%	PROPERTY	2.43%
(BEDFORD)	0.89%	TRADING	2.05%
PROPERTY	0.78%	DESIGN	1.94%
CONSULTANTS	0.78%	ASSOCIATES	1.92%
M	0.78%	BUSINESS	1.87%
J	0.78%	CONSTRUCTION	1.77%
INTERNATIONAL	0.63%	CONSULTANTS	1.76%
CONSULTANCY	0.57%	MEDIA	1.73%
BUILDING	0.52%	ENGINEERING	1.67%
T	0.52%	LONDON	1.60%
ASSOCIATES	0.52%	GLOBAL	1.46%
BUSINESS	0.52%	J	1.44%
IT	0.52%	CARE	1.44%
B	0.47%	INVESTMENTS	1.42%
DESIGN	0.47%	IT	1.39%
CLEANING	0.47%	BUILDING	1.32%
HEATING	0.47%	PROPERTIES	1.31%
DEVELOPMENTS	0.47%	ELECTRICAL	1.30%
ENGINEERING	0.47%	M	1.27%
CONSTRUCTION	0.47%	S	1.23%
CARE	0.47%	ENTERPRISES	1.20%
TRADING	0.42%	SYSTEMS	1.20%

Previous 36 months, excluding companies less than 12 months old

SIC CODE	NUMBER OF COMPANIES	UK COMPANIES
None Supplied	518	202,072
7487 - Other business activities	146	60,758
70229 - Management consultancy activities other than financial management	75	16,419
99999 - Dormant Company	72	18,918
82990 - Other business support service activities not elsewhere classified	65	30,647
9999 - Dormant Company	63	20,111
7414 - Business & management consultancy	53	13,053
62020 - Information technology consultancy activities	35	10,545
7260 - Other computer related activities	32	7,849
62090 - Other information technology service activities	31	7,095
96090 - Other service activities not elsewhere classified	27	10,322
9305 - Other service activities	25	9,063
74990 - Non-trading company	23	8,481
7499 - Non-trading company	23	10,955
7222 - Other software consultancy and supply	22	7,143
4521 - General construction & civil engineering	20	5,928
5530 - Restaurants	19	5,086
74909 - Other professional, scientific and technical activities not elsewhere classified	19	7,835
5263 - Other non-store retail sale	17	1,858
43999 - Other specialised construction activities not elsewhere classified	17	3,050