

Bedford

q3 2011 business confidence report



headlines

- August 2011 saw a new record in company registrations in Bedford when compared to any previous August.
- August 2011 saw a new record in net growth in Bedford when compared to any previous August.

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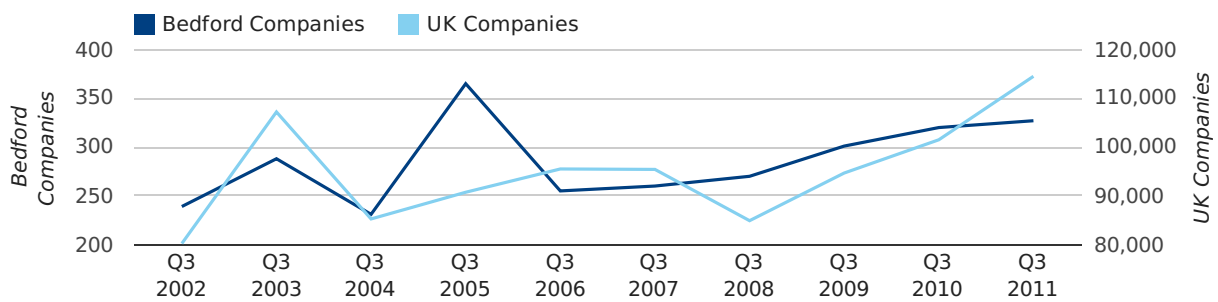
Quarterly Data (Q3 Jul-Sep 2011)

A total of 327 companies were registered in Bedford during the third quarter of 2011 (Jul 2011 - Sep 2011).

This figure is an increase of 2.2% versus the same period last year (Q3 2010). This figure compares badly to the UK as a whole, which saw an increase of 12.8% against the same period last year.

THIRD QUARTER (JUL 2011 - SEP 2011)	BEDFORD	UK
2011	327	114,512
2010	320	101,492
% CHANGE	2.2%	12.8%
RECORD YEAR	2005 (365)	2011 (114,512)

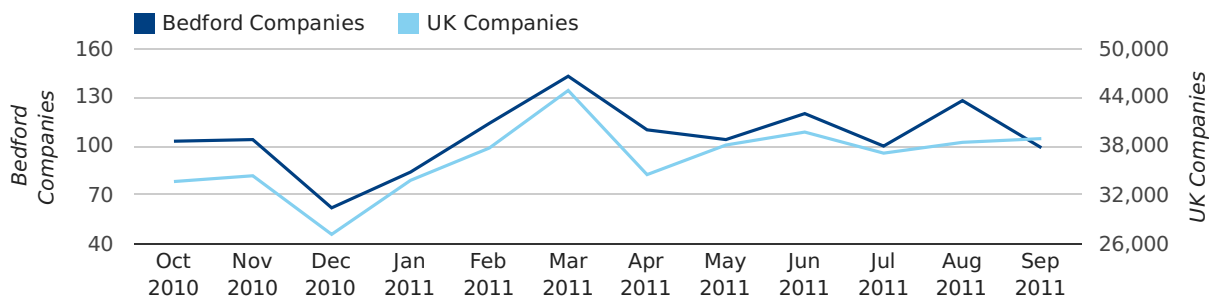
new companies by quarter



Monthly Data (Jul, Aug & Sep 2011)

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

new companies by month



	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER
NEW COMPANIES IN 2011	100	128	99
NEW COMPANIES IN 2010	102	94	124
% CHANGE	-2.0%	36.2%	-20.2%
RECORD YEAR	2005 (146)	2011 (128)	2005 (127)

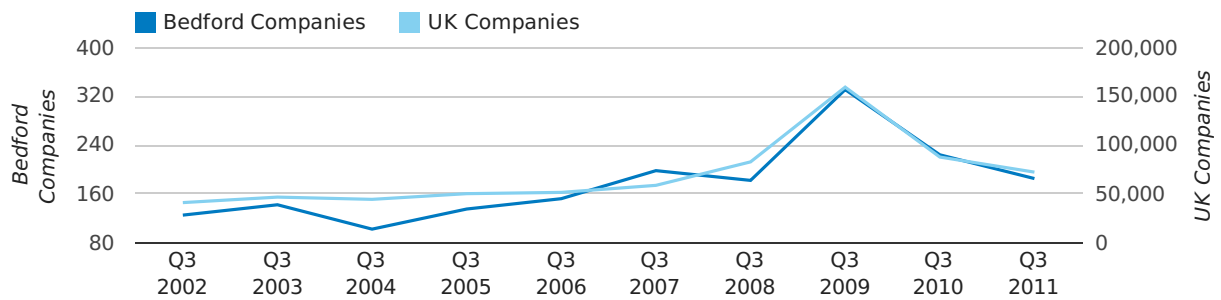
Quarterly Data (Q3 Jul-Sep 2011)

A total of 185 companies were dissolved in Bedford during the third quarter of 2011 (Jul 2011 - Sep 2011).

This figure is a decrease of 17.4% versus the same period last year (Q3 2010). This figure compares poorly to the UK as a whole, which saw a decrease of 17.6% against the same period last year.

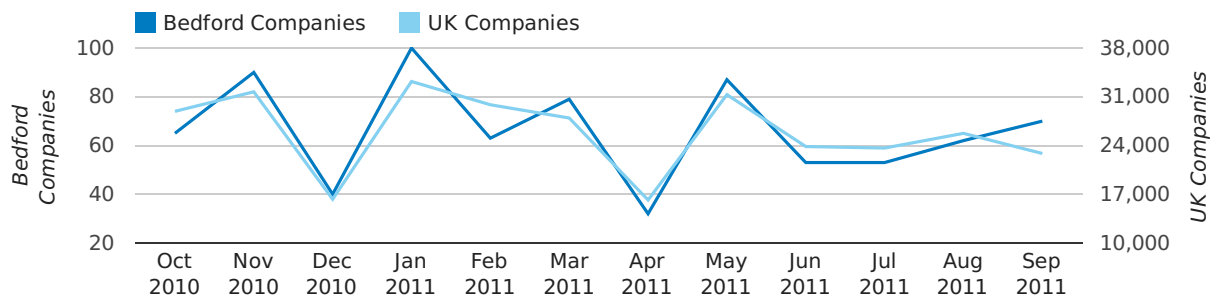
THIRD QUARTER (JUL 2011 - SEP 2011)	BEDFORD	UK
2011	185	72,230
2010	224	87,705
% CHANGE	-17.4%	-17.6%
RECORD YEAR	2009 (331)	2009 (159,401)

dissolved companies by quarter



Monthly Data (Jul, Aug & Sep 2011)

dissolved companies by month



	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER
CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2011	53	62	70
CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2010	69	88	67
% CHANGE	-23.2%	-29.5%	4%
RECORD YEAR	2009 (84)	2008 (141)	2009 (147)

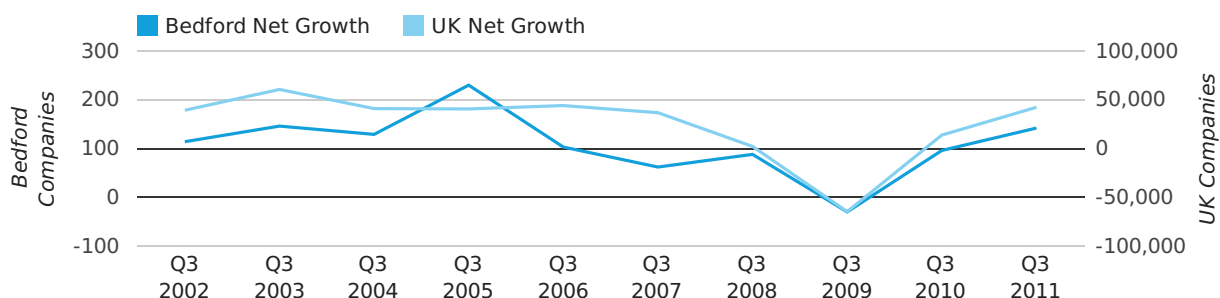
Quarterly Data (Q3 Jul-Sep 2011)

Net company growth for Bedford during the third quarter of 2011 (Jul 2011 - Sep 2011) was 142 companies.

This represents an increase of 47.9% on the same period last year.

THIRD QUARTER (JUL 2011 - SEP 2011)	BEDFORD	UK
2011	142	42,282
2010	96	13,787
% CHANGE	47.9%	206.7%
RECORD YEAR	2005 (230)	2003 (60,597)

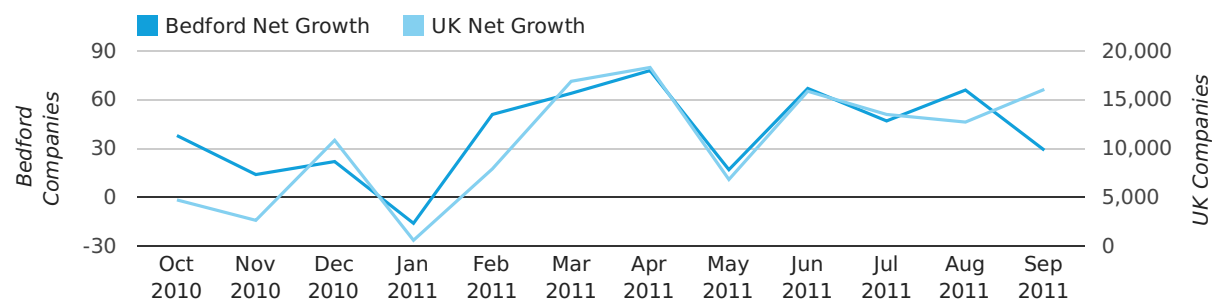
net growth by quarter



Monthly Data (Jul, Aug & Sep 2011)

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

net growth by month



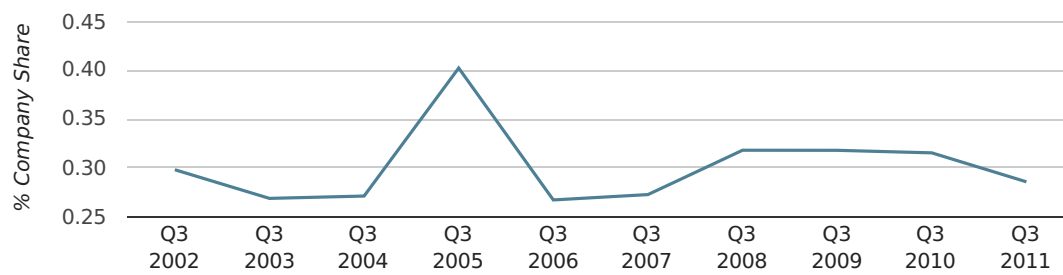
	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER
NET GROWTH IN 2011	47	66	29
NET GROWTH IN 2010	33	6	57
% CHANGE	42.4%	1,000.0%	-49.1%
RECORD YEAR	2005 (107)	2011 (66)	2005 (85)

Quarterly Data (Q3 Jul-Sep 2011)

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

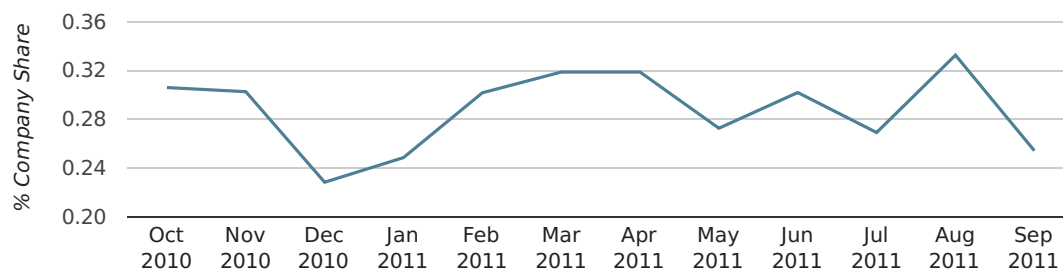
THIRD QUARTER (JUL 2011 - SEP 2011)	BEDFORD
2011	0.3%
2010	0.3%
2009	0.3%
2008	0.3%
2007	0.3%
RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960)	1965 (0.9%)

company share by quarter



Monthly Data (Jul, Aug & Sep 2011)

company share by month



	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER
UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2011	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%
UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2010	0.3%	0.3%	0.4%
% CHANGE	-10.3%	14.6%	-27.9%
RECORD YEAR	1965 (0.6%)	1965 (1.4%)	1969 (1.4%)

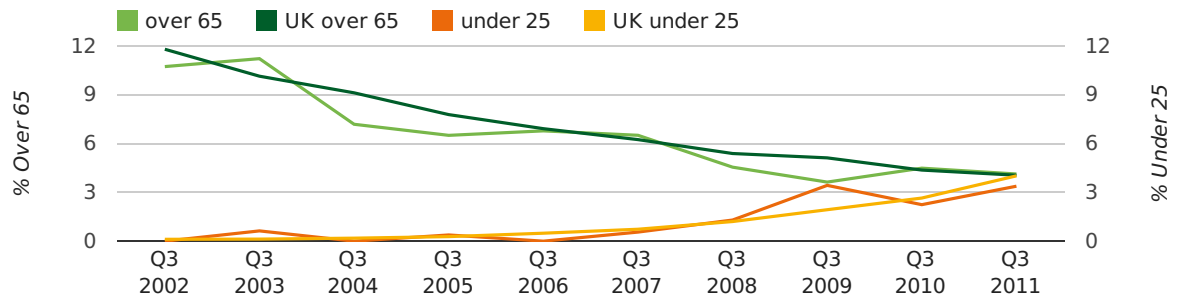
Quarterly Data (Q3 Jul-Sep 2011)

The average age of a director in the third quarter of 2011 was 44.5.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 3.4% compared to the UK figure of 4.0%.

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

director age by quarter

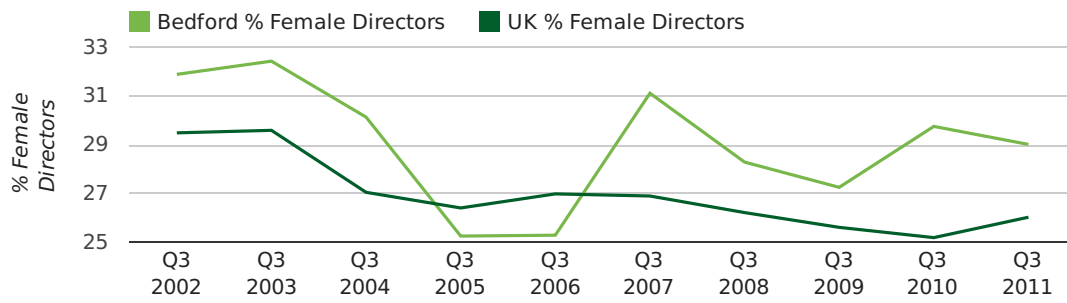


Quarterly Data (Q3 Jul-Sep 2011)

The record third quarter for female directors in Bedford was in 1862 when 50.0% of all directors were female.

29.0% of all director appointments in Bedford in the third quarter of 2011 were female. This compares to a UK average of 26.0% for the same period.

director gender by quarter



Previous 12 months (Sep 2010-Sep 2011)

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

WORD	PERCENTAGE	UK WORD	UK PERCENTAGE
CONSULTING	1.49%	CONSULTING	5.11%
MANAGEMENT	1.18%	MANAGEMENT	4.75%
J	1.03%	CONSULTANCY	3.19%
CONSULTANCY	0.87%	PROPERTY	2.41%
(BEDFORD)	0.87%	TRADING	2.06%
PROPERTY	0.77%	DESIGN	1.94%
BUILDING	0.77%	ASSOCIATES	1.85%
BEDFORD	0.77%	BUSINESS	1.82%
IT	0.72%	CONSULTANTS	1.76%
VENTURES	0.72%	ENGINEERING	1.74%
D	0.67%	MEDIA	1.72%
CONSULTANTS	0.62%	CONSTRUCTION	1.72%
ENGINEERING	0.62%	LONDON	1.63%
INTERNATIONAL	0.62%	J	1.47%
ACADEMY	0.57%	GLOBAL	1.46%
S	0.57%	INVESTMENTS	1.43%
ASSOCIATES	0.57%	CARE	1.42%
BUSINESS	0.51%	IT	1.38%
B	0.51%	BUILDING	1.30%
G	0.51%	PROPERTIES	1.28%
DESIGN	0.46%	ELECTRICAL	1.27%
SYSTEMS	0.46%	M	1.25%
M	0.46%	ENERGY	1.22%
SECURITY	0.41%	TRAINING	1.21%
CARS	0.41%	S	1.21%

Previous 36 months, excluding companies less than 12 months old

SIC CODE	NUMBER OF COMPANIES	UK COMPANIES
None Supplied	536	204,493
7487 - Other business activities	158	65,177
70229 - Management consultancy activities other than financial management	71	15,760
99999 - Dormant Company	70	18,281
9999 - Dormant Company	70	22,587
82990 - Other business support service activities not elsewhere classified	63	29,245
7414 - Business & management consultancy	57	14,755
7499 - Non-trading company	37	11,543
7260 - Other computer related activities	37	8,686
62020 - Information technology consultancy activities	35	10,137
62090 - Other information technology service activities	28	6,798
7222 - Other software consultancy and supply	27	8,345
9305 - Other service activities	26	10,525
96090 - Other service activities not elsewhere classified	25	10,018
74990 - Non-trading company	24	8,064
4521 - General construction & civil engineering	23	6,321
5530 - Restaurants	19	5,640
5263 - Other non-store retail sale	17	2,087
43390 - Other building completion and finishing	17	2,545
43999 - Other specialised construction activities not elsewhere classified	17	2,917