

Bedford

2011 annual business confidence report



headlines

- 2011 was a record year for company registrations in Bedford when compared to any year in history.
- Q4 2011 saw a new record in company registrations in Bedford when compared to any previous Q4.

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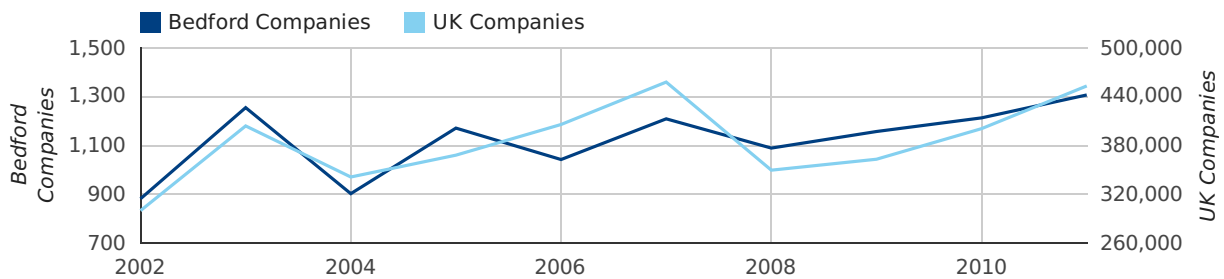
Annual Data (2011)

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

A total of 1,306 companies were formed in Bedford in 2011. This total is 7.8% higher than in 2010 and compares equally to the UK figure of a 13.1% growth compared to 400,358 the previous year.

YEAR	BEDFORD	UK
2011	1,306	452,870
2010	1,212	400,358
2009	1,156	362,675
2008	1,088	349,203
2007	1,208	457,649
RECORD YEAR	2011 (1,306)	2007 (457,649)

new companies by year



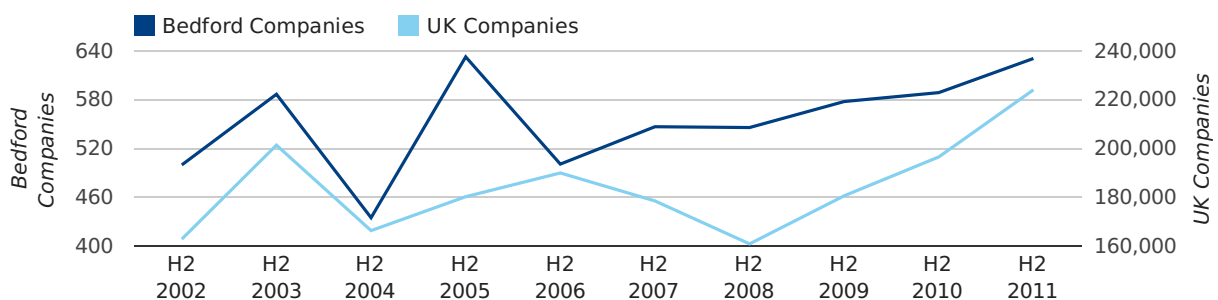
Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

In the second half of 2011 a total of 631 companies were formed in Bedford. This figure is 7.1% higher than last year, which compares badly to the UK wide figure of 14.0%.

The highest total for a second half year in Bedford occurred in 2005 when a total of 633 were formed.

HALF YEAR (JUL-DEC)	BEDFORD	UK
2011	631	224,135
2010	589	196,609
% CHANGE	7.1%	14.0%
RECORD YEAR	2005 (633)	2011 (224,135)

new companies by half year



Quarterly Data (Q4 Oct-Dec 2011)

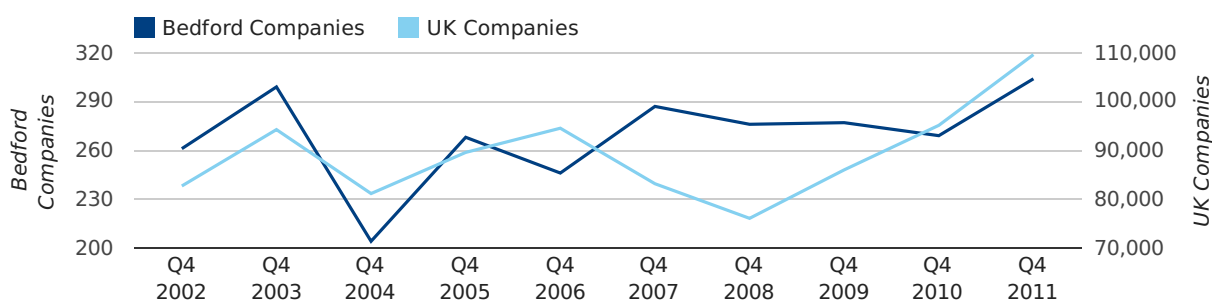
Q4 2011 saw a new record in company registrations in Bedford when compared to any previous Q4.

A total of 304 companies were registered in Bedford during the fourth quarter of 2011 (Oct 2011 - Dec 2011).

This figure is an increase of 13.0% versus the same period last year (Q4 2010). This figure compares badly to the UK as a whole, which saw an increase of 15.3% against the same period last year.

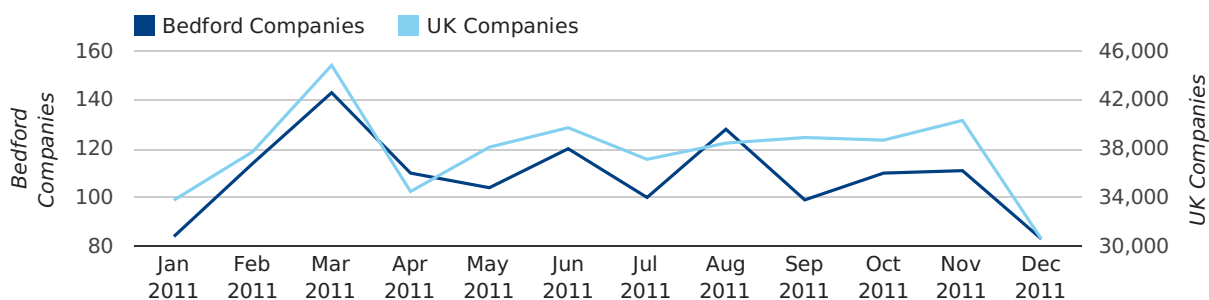
FOURTH QUARTER (OCT 2011 - DEC 2011)	BEDFORD	UK
2011	304	109,623
2010	269	95,117
% CHANGE	13.0%	15.3%
RECORD YEAR	2011 (304)	2011 (109,623)

new companies by quarter



Monthly Data (Oct, Nov & Dec 2011)

new companies by month



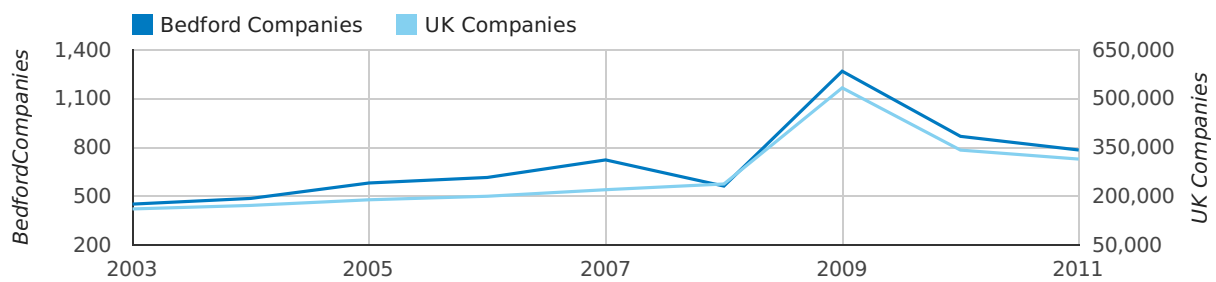
	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
NEW COMPANIES IN 2011	110	111	83
NEW COMPANIES IN 2010	103	104	62
% CHANGE	6.8%	6.7%	33.9%
RECORD YEAR	2005 (116)	2009 (119)	2008 (84)

Annual Data (2011)

A total of 785 companies were dissolved in Bedford in 2011. This total is 9.7% lower than in 2010 and compares unfavourably to the UK figure of 8.1% decrease compared to the previous year.

YEAR	BEDFORD	UK
2011	785	314,523
2010	869	342,232
2009	1,270	533,773
2008	563	237,901
2007	724	220,295
RECORD YEAR	2009 (1,270)	2009 (533,773)

dissolved companies by year



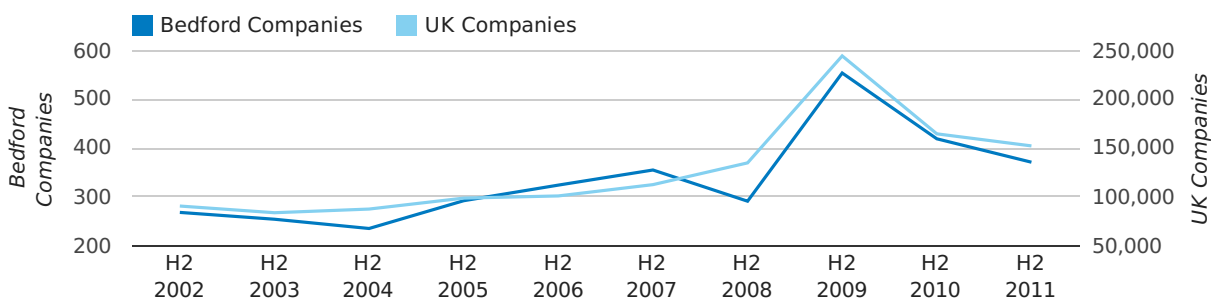
Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

In the second half of 2011 a total of 371 companies were dissolved in Bedford. This figure is 11.5% lower than last year, which compares well to the UK wide change of -7.5%.

The highest total for a second half year in Bedford occurred in 2009 when a total of 554 were closed.

HALF YEAR (JUL-DEC)	BEDFORD	UK
2011	371	152,213
2010	419	164,601
% CHANGE	-11.5%	-7.5%
RECORD YEAR	2009 (554)	2009 (244,537)

dissolved companies by half year



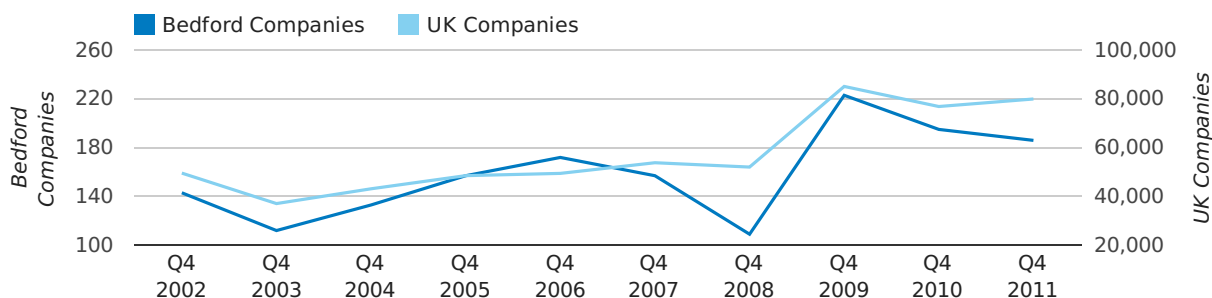
Quarterly Data (Q4 Oct-Dec 2011)

A total of 186 companies were dissolved in Bedford during the fourth quarter of 2011 (Oct 2011 - Dec 2011).

This figure is a decrease of 4.6% versus the same period last year (Q4 2010). This figure compares well to the UK as a whole, which saw an increase of 4.0% against the same period last year.

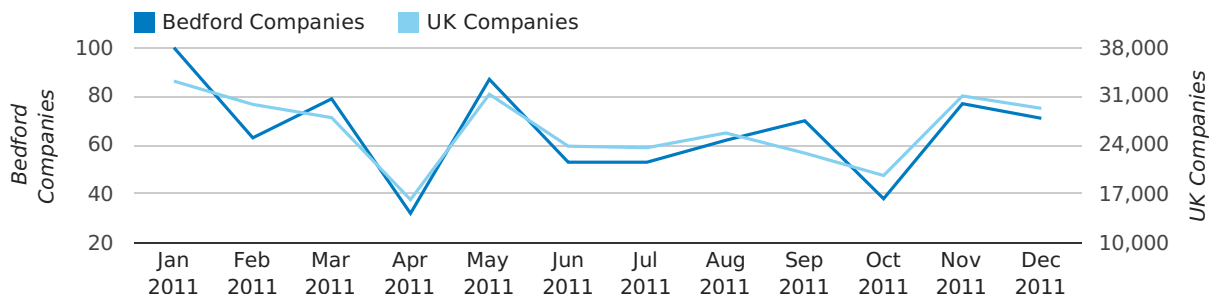
FOURTH QUARTER (OCT 2011 - DEC 2011)	BEDFORD	UK
2011	186	79,983
2010	195	76,896
% CHANGE	-4.6%	4.0%
RECORD YEAR	2009 (223)	2009 (85,136)

dissolved companies by quarter



Monthly Data (Oct, Nov & Dec 2011)

dissolved companies by month



	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2011	38	77	71
CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2010	65	90	40
% CHANGE	-41.5%	-14.4%	78%
RECORD YEAR	2009 (70)	2010 (90)	2009 (86)

Annual Data (2011)

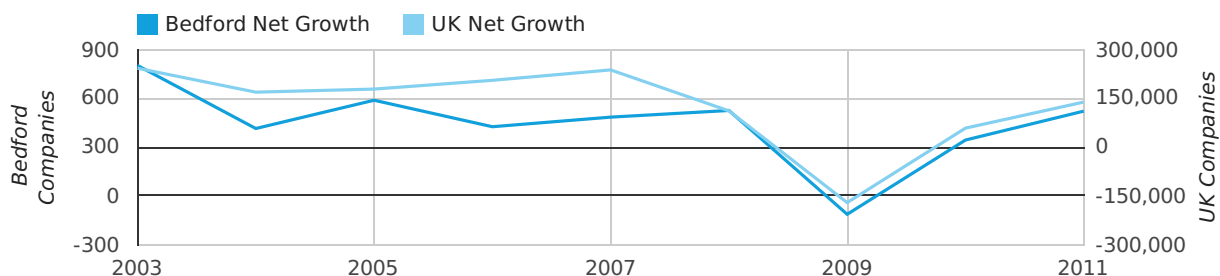
A total of 521 companies were added to the company register for Bedford in 2011. This number represents growth of 43.0% which compares favourably to the UK figure of 34.6%.

This number is 178 companies higher than the previous year.

The highest net company growth figure ever seen in one year came in 2003 when the Bedford company register grew by 802 companies.

YEAR	BEDFORD	UK
2011	521	138,347
2010	343	58,126
2009	-114	-171,098
2008	525	111,302
2007	484	237,354
RECORD YEAR	2003 (802)	2003 (242,543)

net growth by year

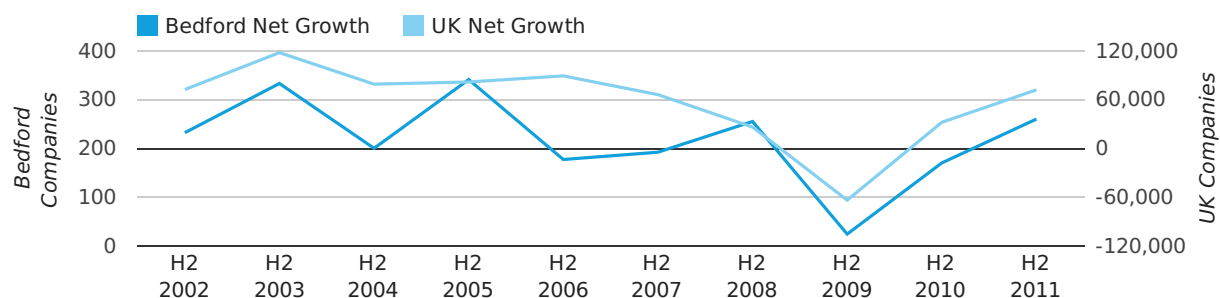


Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

In the second half of 2011 the company register for Bedford increased by 260 companies. This figure is 52.9% higher than last year, which compares badly to a UK increase of 124.7%.

HALF YEAR (JUL-DEC)	BEDFORD	UK
2011	260	71,922
2010	170	32,008
% CHANGE	52.9%	124.7%
RECORD YEAR	2005 (341)	2003 (117,772)

net growth by half year



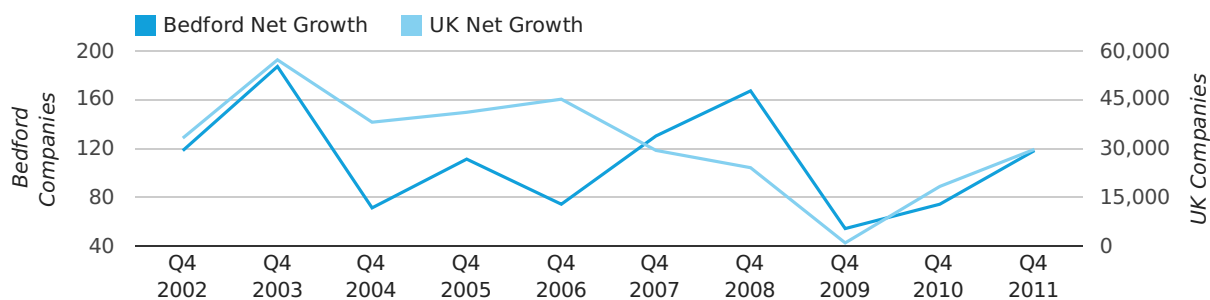
Quarterly Data (Q4 Oct-Dec 2011)

Net company growth for Bedford during the fourth quarter of 2011 (Oct 2011 - Dec 2011) was 118 companies.

This represents an increase of 59.5% on the same period last year.

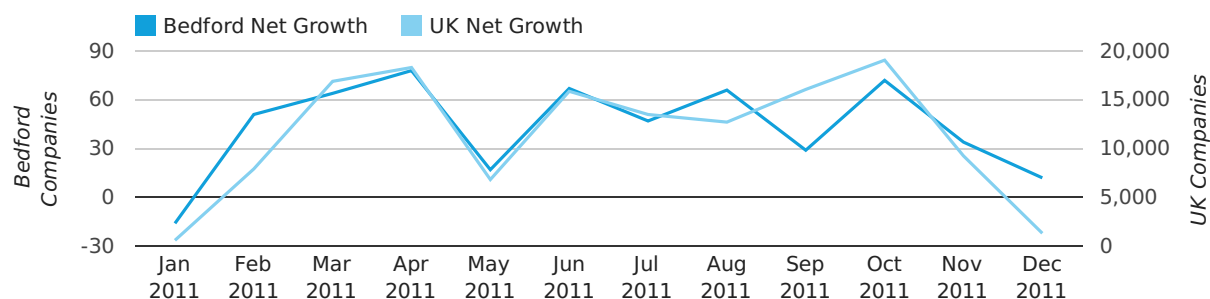
FOURTH QUARTER (OCT 2011 - DEC 2011)	BEDFORD	UK
2011	118	29,640
2010	74	18,221
% CHANGE	59.5%	62.7%
RECORD YEAR	2003 (187)	2003 (57,175)

net growth by quarter



Monthly Data (Oct, Nov & Dec 2011)

net growth by month



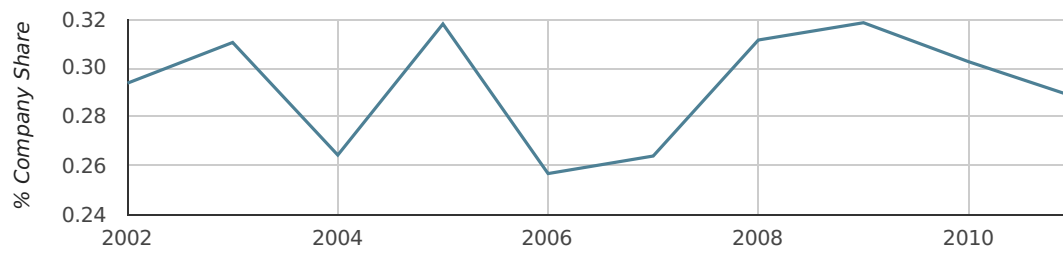
	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
NET GROWTH IN 2011	72	34	12
NET GROWTH IN 2010	38	14	22
% CHANGE	89.5%	142.9%	-45.5%
RECORD YEAR	2008 (83)	2003 (66)	2003 (54)

Annual Data (2011)

In 2011 Bedford formed 0.3% of all UK companies. This is no change on 2010 when Bedford was responsible for 0.3% of all UK companies.

YEAR	BEDFORD
2011	0.3%
2010	0.3%
2009	0.3%
2008	0.3%
2007	0.3%
RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960)	1965 (0.5%)

company share by year

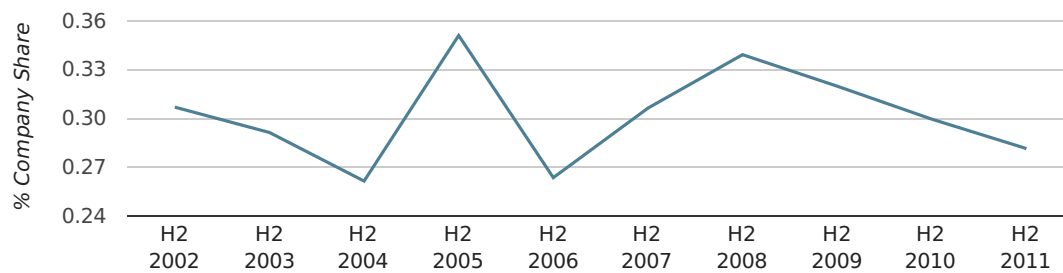


Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

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

HALF YEAR (JUL-DEC)	BEDFORD
2011	0.3%
2010	0.3%
2009	0.3%
2008	0.3%
2007	0.3%
RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960)	1965 (0.7%)

company share by half year

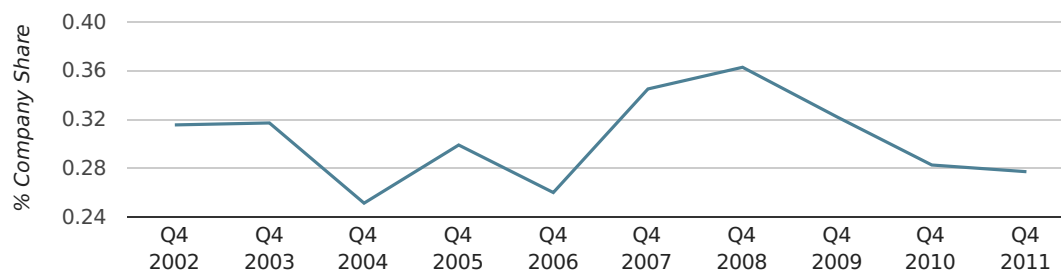


Quarterly Data (Q4 Oct-Dec 2011)

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

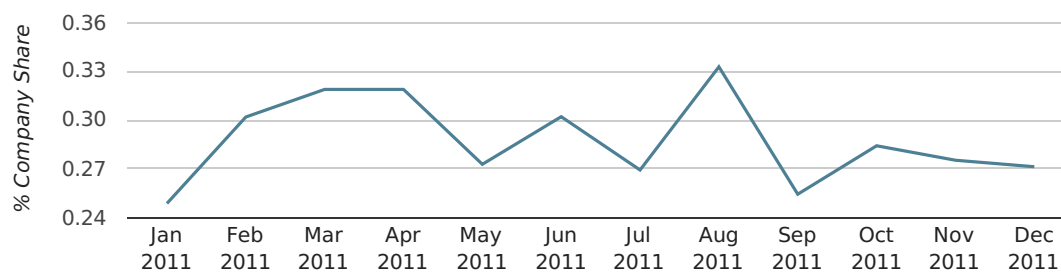
FOURTH QUARTER (OCT 2011 - DEC 2011)	BEDFORD
2011	0.3%
2010	0.3%
2009	0.3%
2008	0.4%
2007	0.3%
RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960)	1968 (0.6%)

company share by quarter



Monthly Data (Oct, Nov & Dec 2011)

company share by month



	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2011	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%
UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2010	0.3%	0.3%	0.2%
% CHANGE	-7.2%	-9.1%	18.7%
RECORD YEAR	1968 (0.9%)	1965 (0.8%)	1962 (0.8%)

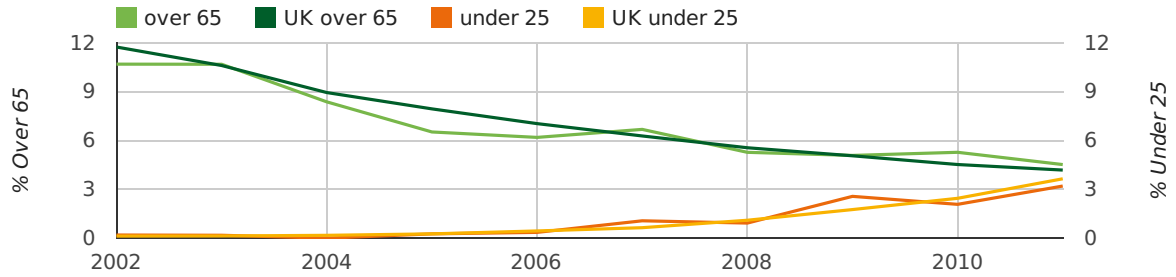
Annual Data (2011)

The average age of a director in 2011 was 44.8.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 3.2% compared to the UK figure of 3.7%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 4.5% compared to the UK figure of 4.2%.

director age by year



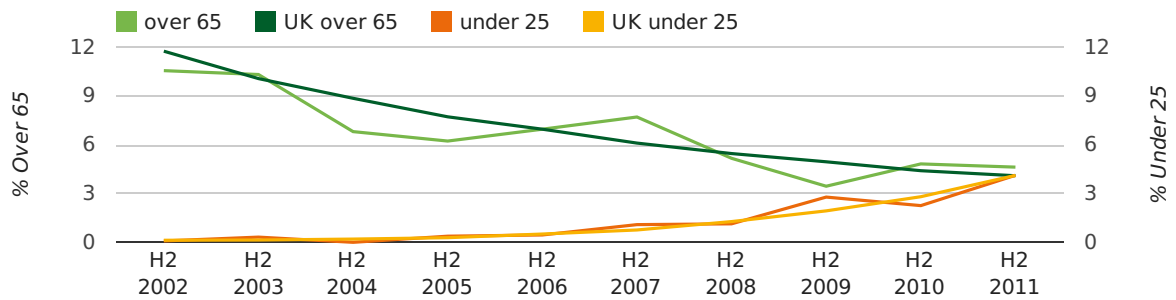
Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

The average age of a director in the second half of 2011 was 44.6.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 4.1% compared to the UK figure of 4.1%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 4.6% compared to the UK figure of 4.1%.

director age by half year



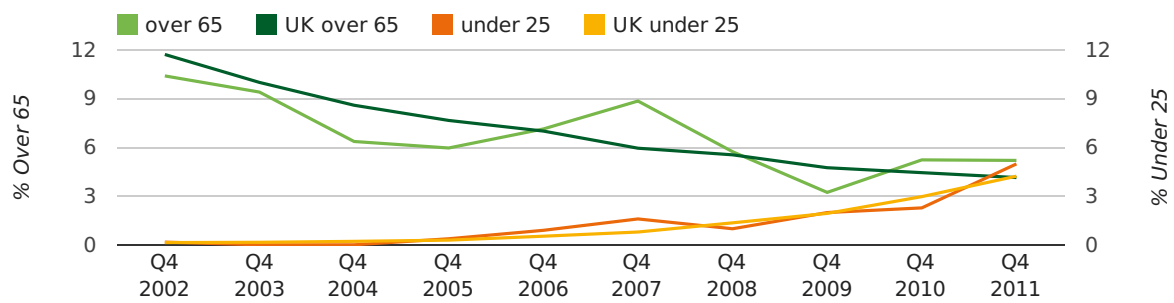
Quarterly Data (Q4 Oct-Dec 2011)

The average age of a director in the fourth quarter of 2011 was 44.7.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 5.0% compared to the UK figure of 4.2%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 5.2% compared to the UK figure of 4.1%.

director age by quarter

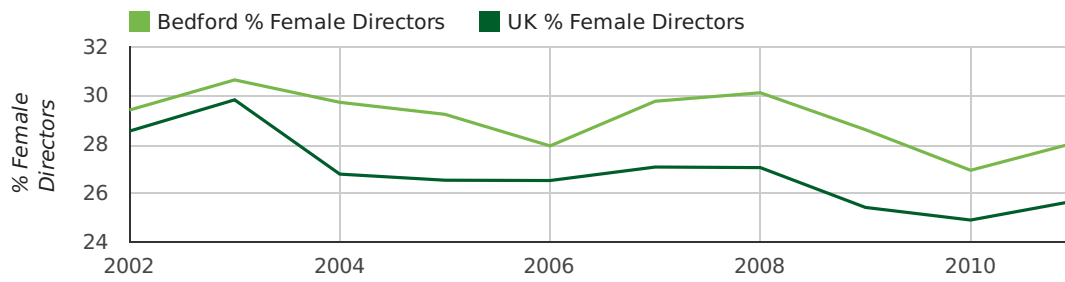


Annual Data (2011)

The record year for female directors in Bedford was 1857 when 36.4% of all directors were female.

The percentage of female directors in Bedford in 2011 was 29.4%. The average for the UK during this time was 28.6%

director gender by year

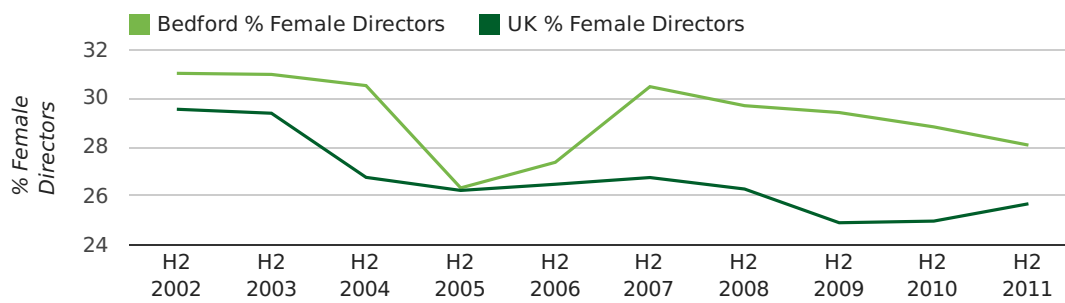


Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

The record second half year for female directors in Bedford was 1860 when 42.9% of all directors were female.

28.1% of all director appointments in Bedford in the second half of 2011 were female. This compares to a UK average of 25.7% for the same period.

director gender by half year

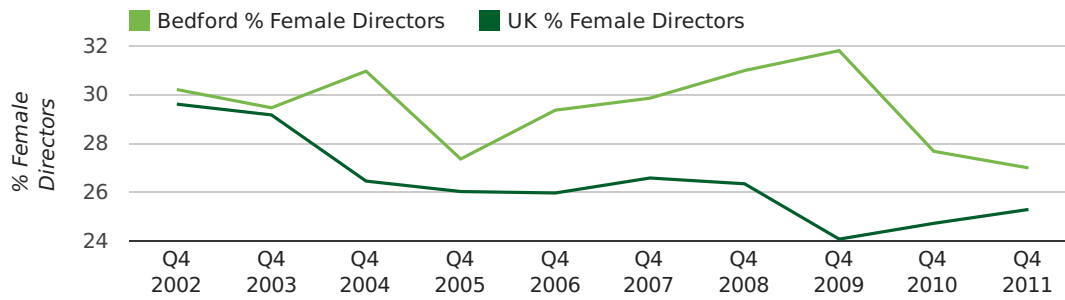


Quarterly Data (Q4 Oct-Dec 2011)

The record fourth quarter for female directors in Bedford was in 1977 when 31.1% of all directors were female.

27.0% of all director appointments in Bedford in the fourth quarter of 2011 were female. This compares to a UK average of 25.3% for the same period.

director gender by quarter



Previous 12 months (Dec 2010-Dec 2011)

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

WORD	PERCENTAGE	UK WORD	UK PERCENTAGE
MANAGEMENT	1.65%	CONSULTING	5.07%
CONSULTING	1.60%	MANAGEMENT	4.74%
CONSULTANCY	1.25%	CONSULTANCY	3.26%
J	1.10%	PROPERTY	2.37%
BEDFORD	0.85%	TRADING	2.07%
PROPERTY	0.85%	DESIGN	1.92%
VENTURES	0.70%	ASSOCIATES	1.86%
(BEDFORD)	0.70%	ENGINEERING	1.78%
D	0.65%	BUSINESS	1.78%
CONSULTANTS	0.65%	CONSULTANTS	1.76%
ENGINEERING	0.65%	CONSTRUCTION	1.73%
ASSOCIATES	0.65%	MEDIA	1.71%
DESIGN	0.60%	LONDON	1.63%
S	0.60%	J	1.51%
BUILDING	0.55%	INVESTMENTS	1.48%
CO	0.55%	GLOBAL	1.46%
ACADEMY	0.55%	IT	1.41%
IT	0.50%	CARE	1.39%
CARS	0.50%	PROPERTIES	1.29%
M	0.50%	ELECTRICAL	1.29%
INTERNATIONAL	0.45%	M	1.27%
B	0.45%	BUILDING	1.26%
SYSTEMS	0.45%	ENERGY	1.25%
SECURITY	0.40%	S	1.20%
TRADING	0.40%	ENTERPRISES	1.20%

Previous 36 months, excluding companies less than 12 months old

SIC CODE	NUMBER OF COMPANIES	UK COMPANIES
None Supplied	520	205,525
7487 - Other business activities	143	57,052
70229 - Management consultancy activities other than financial management	79	17,765
99999 - Dormant Company	77	21,846
82990 - Other business support service activities not elsewhere classified	73	32,483
9999 - Dormant Company	61	20,199
7414 - Business & management consultancy	49	13,034
62020 - Information technology consultancy activities	37	12,072
96090 - Other service activities not elsewhere classified	35	11,768
7499 - Non-trading company	34	9,957
62090 - Other information technology service activities	34	7,493
7260 - Other computer related activities	32	7,667
74990 - Non-trading company	27	8,929
7222 - Other software consultancy and supply	25	7,398
9305 - Other service activities	23	9,492
43220 - Plumbing, heat and air-conditioning installation	22	2,372
74909 - Other professional, scientific and technical activities not elsewhere classified	19	8,671
4521 - General construction & civil engineering	19	5,558
43390 - Other building completion and finishing	17	2,832
43999 - Other specialised construction activities not elsewhere classified	17	3,342