

Bedfordshire

2012 half year business confidence report



headlines

- The first half of 2012 saw a new record in company registrations in Bedfordshire when compared to any previous first half year.
- The first half of 2012 was a record first half year for company registrations in Bedfordshire when compared to any half year in history.
- Q2 2012 saw a new record in company registrations in Bedfordshire when compared to any previous Q2.
- May 2012 saw a new record in company registrations in Bedfordshire when compared to any previous May.
- April 2012 saw a new record in company registrations in Bedfordshire when compared to any previous April.

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Half Year Data (Jan-Jun 2012)

The first half of 2012 saw a new record in company registrations in Bedfordshire when compared to any previous first half year.

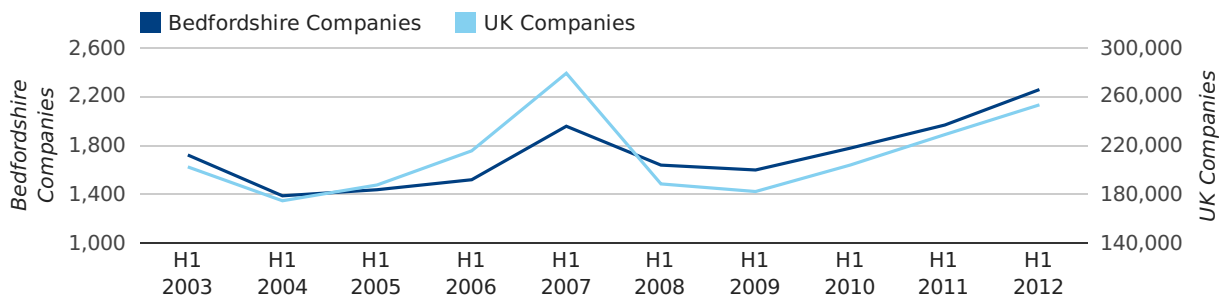
The first half of 2012 was a record first half year for company registrations in Bedfordshire when compared to any half year in history.

In the first half of 2012 a total of 2,257 companies were formed in Bedfordshire. This figure is 14.8% higher than last year, which compares equally to the UK wide figure of 10.7%.

The highest total for a first half year in Bedfordshire occurred in 2012 when a total of 2,257 were formed.

HALF YEAR (JAN-JUN)	BEDFORDSHIRE	UK
2012	2,257	253,150
2011	1,966	228,735
% CHANGE	14.8%	10.7%
RECORD YEAR	2012 (2,257)	2007 (279,097)

new companies by half year



Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2012)

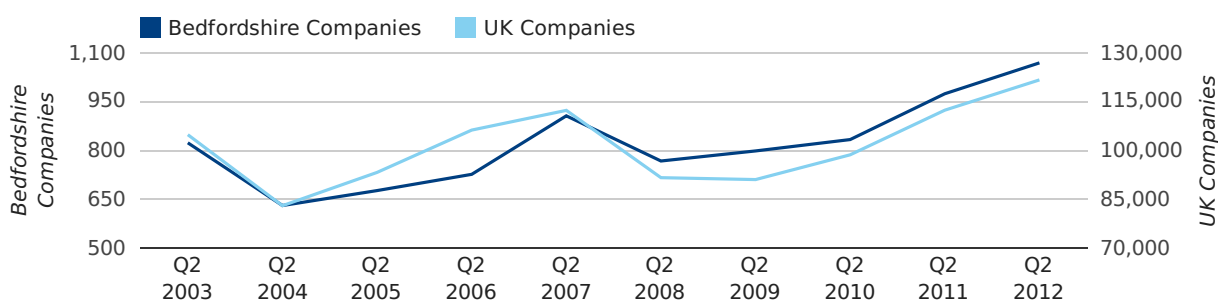
Q2 2012 saw a new record in company registrations in Bedfordshire when compared to any previous Q2.

A total of 1,069 companies were registered in Bedfordshire during the second quarter of 2012 (Apr 2012 - Jun 2012).

This figure is an increase of 9.8% versus the same period last year (Q2 2011). This figure compares equally to the UK as a whole, which saw an increase of 8.3% against the same period last year.

SECOND QUARTER (APR 2012 - JUN 2012)	BEDFORDSHIRE	UK
2012	1,069	121,659
2011	974	112,344
% CHANGE	9.8%	8.3%
RECORD YEAR	2012 (1,069)	2012 (121,659)

new companies by quarter

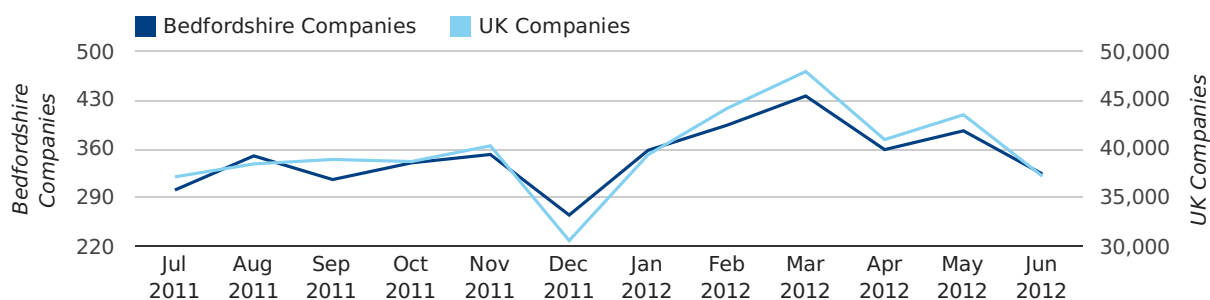


Monthly Data (Apr, May & Jun 2012)

May 2012 saw a new record in company registrations in Bedfordshire when compared to any previous May.

April 2012 saw a new record in company registrations in Bedfordshire when compared to any previous April.

new companies by month



	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
NEW COMPANIES IN 2012	359	386	324
NEW COMPANIES IN 2011	307	331	336
% CHANGE	16.9%	16.6%	-3.6%
RECORD YEAR	2012 (359)	2012 (386)	2011 (336)

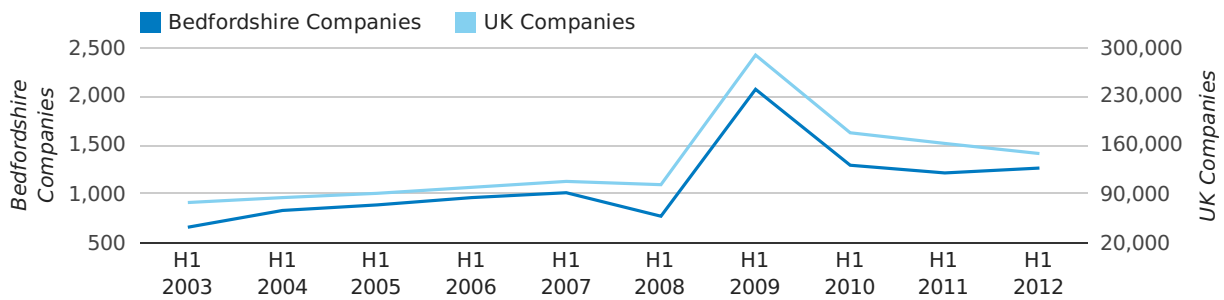
Half Year Data (Jan-Jun 2012)

In the first half of 2012 a total of 1,264 companies were dissolved in Bedfordshire. This figure is 4.1% higher than last year, which compares well to the UK wide change of -8.9%.

The highest total for a first half year in Bedfordshire occurred in 2009 when a total of 2,072 were closed.

HALF YEAR (JAN-JUN)	BEDFORDSHIRE	UK
2012	1,264	147,793
2011	1,214	162,310
% CHANGE	4.1%	-8.9%
RECORD YEAR	2009 (2,072)	2009 (289,236)

dissolved companies by half year



Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2012)

A total of 654 companies were dissolved in Bedfordshire during the second quarter of 2012 (Apr 2012 - Jun 2012).

This figure is an increase of 27.2% versus the same period last year (Q2 2011). This figure compares poorly to the UK as a whole, which saw an increase of 12.5% against the same period last year.

SECOND QUARTER (APR 2012 - JUN 2012)	BEDFORDSHIRE	UK
2012	654	80,217
2011	514	71,324
% CHANGE	27.2%	12.5%
RECORD YEAR	2009 (1,289)	2009 (181,176)

dissolved companies by quarter



Monthly Data (Apr, May & Jun 2012)

dissolved companies by month



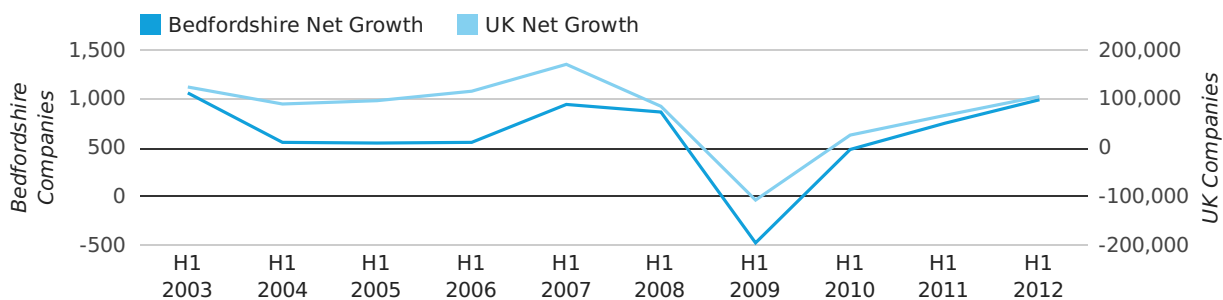
	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2012	210	232	212
CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2011	118	242	154
% CHANGE	78.0%	-4.1%	38%
RECORD YEAR	2009 (382)	2009 (577)	2009 (330)

Half Year Data (Jan-Jun 2012)

In the first half of 2012 the company register for Bedfordshire increased by 993 companies. This figure is 32.0% higher than last year, which compares badly to a UK increase of 58.6%.

HALF YEAR (JAN-JUN)	BEDFORDSHIRE	UK
2012	993	105,357
2011	752	66,425
% CHANGE	32.0%	58.6%
RECORD YEAR	2003 (1,063)	2007 (171,296)

net growth by half year



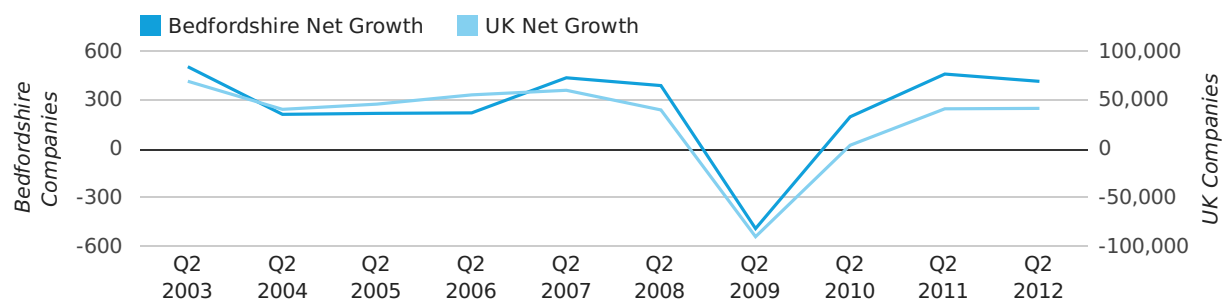
Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2012)

Net company growth for Bedfordshire during the second quarter of 2012 (Apr 2012 - Jun 2012) was 415 companies.

This represents a decrease of 9.8% on the same period last year.

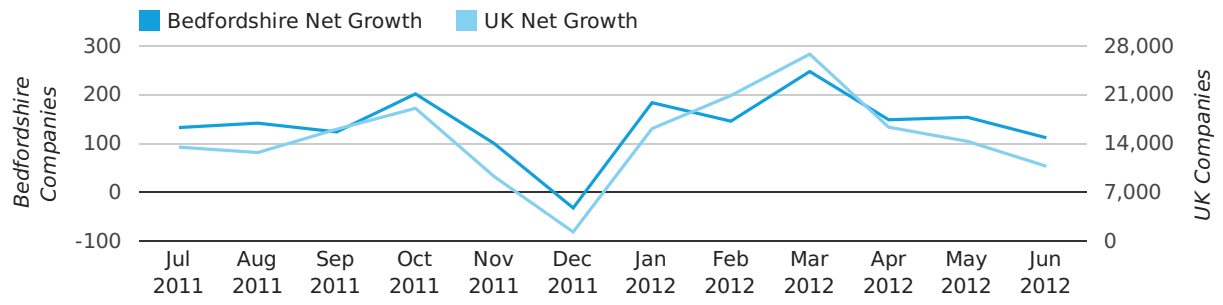
SECOND QUARTER (APR 2012 - JUN 2012)	BEDFORDSHIRE	UK
2012	415	41,442
2011	460	41,020
% CHANGE	-9.8%	1.0%
RECORD YEAR	2003 (505)	2003 (69,274)

net growth by quarter



Monthly Data (Apr, May & Jun 2012)

net growth by month



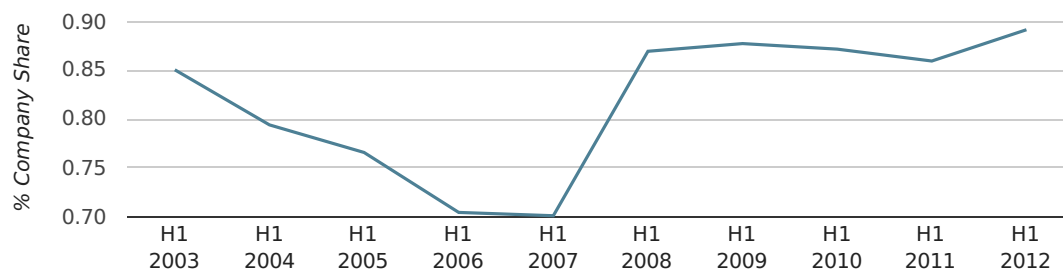
	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
NET GROWTH IN 2012	149	154	112
NET GROWTH IN 2011	189	89	182
% CHANGE	-21.2%	73.0%	-38.5%
RECORD YEAR	1997 (272)	2003 (162)	2008 (250)

Half Year Data (Jan-Jun 2012)

In the first half of 2012 Bedfordshire formed 0.9% of all UK companies. This is the same as the 2011 figure of 0.9%.

HALF YEAR (JAN-JUN)	BEDFORDSHIRE
2012	0.9%
2011	0.9%
2010	0.9%
2009	0.9%
2008	0.9%
RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960)	1968 (1.3%)

company share by half year

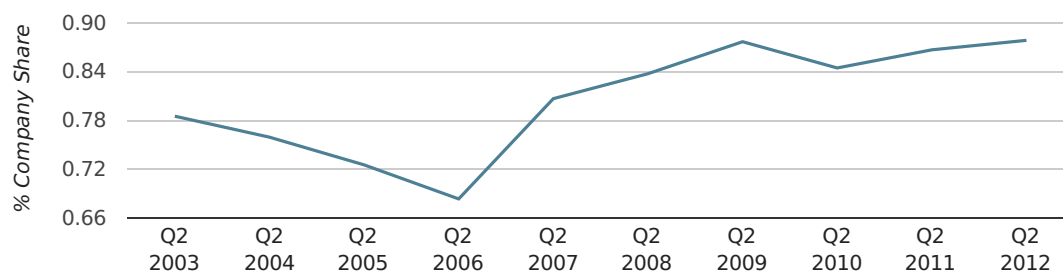


Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2012)

In the second quarter of 2012, Bedfordshire formed 0.9% of all UK companies.

SECOND QUARTER (APR 2012 - JUN 2012)	BEDFORDSHIRE
2012	0.9%
2011	0.9%
2010	0.8%
2009	0.9%
2008	0.8%
RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960)	1970 (1.3%)

company share by quarter



Monthly Data (Apr, May & Jun 2012)

company share by month



	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2012	0.9%	0.9%	0.9%
UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2011	0.9%	0.9%	0.8%
% CHANGE	-1.5%	2.2%	3.0%
RECORD YEAR	1997 (1.3%)	1977 (1.5%)	1970 (2.0%)

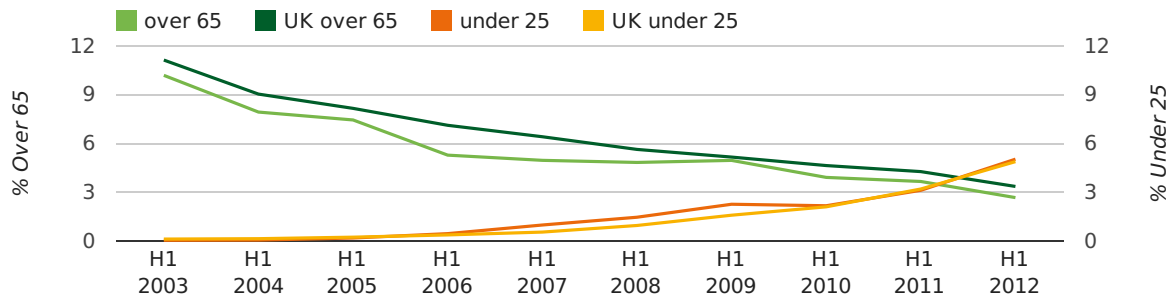
Half Year Data (Jan-Jun 2012)

The average age of a director in the first half of 2012 was 41.8.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 5.0% compared to the UK figure of 4.9%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 2.7% compared to the UK figure of 3.4%.

director age by half year



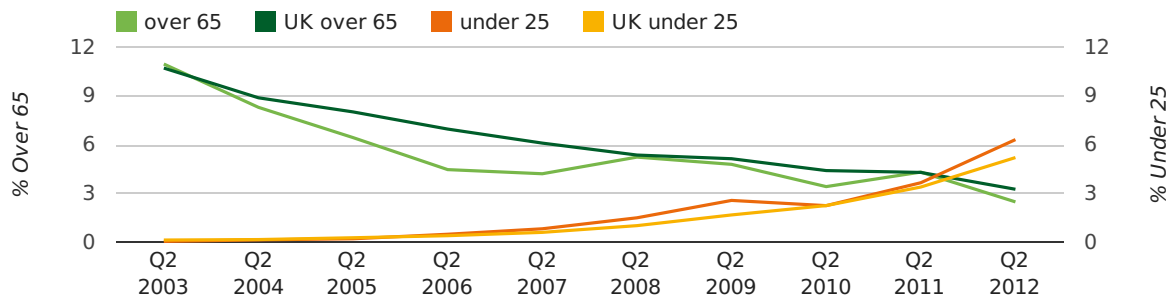
Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2012)

The average age of a director in the second quarter of 2012 was 41.1.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 6.3% compared to the UK figure of 5.2%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 2.5% compared to the UK figure of 3.3%.

director age by quarter

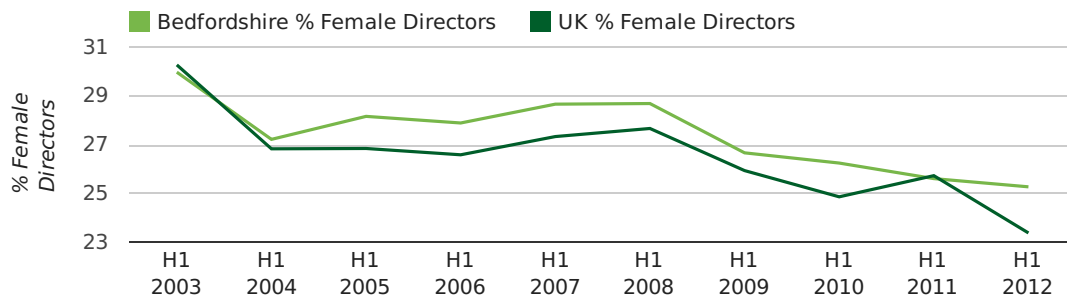


Half Year Data (Jan-Jun 2012)

The record first half year for female directors in Bedfordshire was 1857 when 40.0% of all directors were female.

25.3% of all director appointments in Bedfordshire in the first half of 2012 were female. This compares to a UK average of 23.4% for the same period.

director gender by half year



Previous 12 months (Jun 2011-Jun 2012)

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

WORD	PERCENTAGE	UK WORD	UK PERCENTAGE
MANAGEMENT	1.83%	CONSULTING	5.07%
CONSULTING	1.54%	MANAGEMENT	4.74%
CONSULTANCY	1.33%	CONSULTANCY	3.28%
PROPERTY	1.13%	PROPERTY	2.35%
ASSOCIATES	0.84%	TRADING	2.10%
BUILDING	0.82%	DESIGN	1.89%
J	0.82%	ENGINEERING	1.87%
M	0.80%	ASSOCIATES	1.82%
S	0.74%	CONSULTANTS	1.78%
CONSULTANTS	0.70%	CONSTRUCTION	1.71%
R	0.68%	BUSINESS	1.70%
CONSTRUCTION	0.68%	MEDIA	1.69%
LUTON	0.66%	LONDON	1.68%
MEDIA	0.66%	J	1.57%
IT	0.62%	GLOBAL	1.51%
ENTERPRISES	0.62%	INVESTMENTS	1.48%
ELECTRICAL	0.62%	IT	1.42%
DESIGN	0.61%	CARE	1.31%
SECURITY	0.59%	PROPERTIES	1.31%
TRADING	0.59%	M	1.26%
BUSINESS	0.59%	ELECTRICAL	1.23%
CENTRE	0.57%	BUILDING	1.23%
GLOBAL	0.57%	SECURITY	1.19%
D	0.57%	S	1.18%
TRAINING	0.57%	ENTERPRISES	1.17%

Previous 36 months, excluding companies less than 12 months old

SIC CODE	NUMBER OF COMPANIES	UK COMPANIES
None Supplied	2,087	244,457
7487 - Other business activities	305	47,029
70229 - Management consultancy activities other than financial management	223	20,390
82990 - Other business support service activities not elsewhere classified	214	35,447
99999 - Dormant Company	177	26,088
62020 - Information technology consultancy activities	163	15,280
9999 - Dormant Company	129	16,469
96090 - Other service activities not elsewhere classified	117	14,220
7414 - Business & management consultancy	106	10,978
62090 - Other information technology service activities	92	8,258
74909 - Other professional, scientific and technical activities not elsewhere classified	75	10,271
7222 - Other software consultancy and supply	73	6,356
7260 - Other computer related activities	73	6,456
74990 - Non-trading company	71	9,706
7499 - Non-trading company	64	8,023
9305 - Other service activities	62	7,926
49410 - Freight transport by road	57	2,912
5530 - Restaurants	49	4,037
86900 - Other human health activities	49	5,222
43999 - Other specialised construction activities not elsewhere classified	47	4,091