Birmingham

2011 annual business confidence report





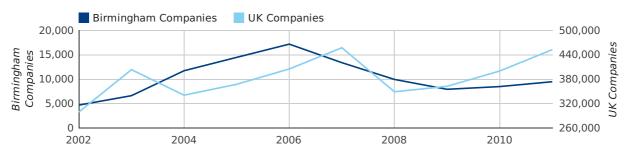
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A total of 9,499 companies were formed in Birmingham in 2011. This total is 11.7% higher than in 2010 and compares equally to the UK figure of a 13.1% growth compared to 400,358 the previous year.

| YEAR | BIRMINGHAM | UK |
|-------------|---------------|----------------|
| 2011 | 9,499 | 452,870 |
| 2010 | 8,504 | 400,358 |
| 2009 | 7,946 | 362,675 |
| 2008 | 9,969 | 349,203 |
| 2007 | 13,410 | 457,649 |
| RECORD YEAR | 2006 (17,211) | 2007 (457,649) |

new companies by year



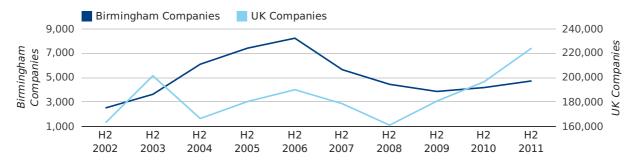
Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

In the second half of 2011 a total of 4,722 companies were formed in Birmingham. This figure is 13.0% higher than last year, which compares badly to the UK wide figure of 14.0%.

The highest total for a second half year in Birmingham occurred in 2006 when a total of 8,227 were formed.

| HALF YEAR (JUL-DEC) | BIRMINGHAM | UK |
|---------------------|--------------|----------------|
| 2011 | 4,722 | 224,135 |
| 2010 | 4,178 | 196,609 |
| % CHANGE | 13.0% | 14.0% |
| RECORD YEAR | 2006 (8,227) | 2011 (224,135) |

new companies by half year

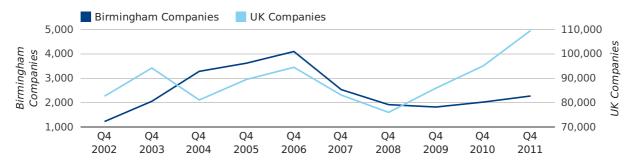


A total of 2,276 companies were registered in Birmingham during the fourth quarter of 2011 (Oct 2011 - Dec 2011).

This figure is an increase of 12.3% 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.

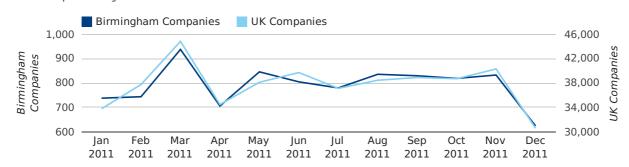
| FOURTH QUARTER (OCT 2011 - DEC 2011) | BIRMINGHAM | UK |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|----------------|
| 2011 | 2,276 | 109,623 |
| 2010 | 2,026 | 95,117 |
| % CHANGE | 12.3% | 15.3% |
| RECORD YEAR | 2006 (4,101) | 2011 (109,623) |

new companies by quarter



Monthly Data (Oct, Nov & Dec 2011)

new companies by month

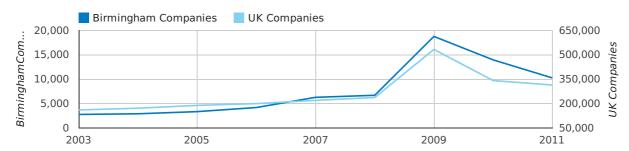


| | OCTOBER | NOVEMBER | DECEMBER |
|-----------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| NEW COMPANIES IN 2011 | 819 | 833 | 624 |
| NEW COMPANIES IN 2010 | 754 | 684 | 588 |
| % CHANGE | 8.6% | 21.8% | 6.1% |
| RECORD YEAR | 2006 (1,384) | 2006 (1,561) | 2005 (1,197) |

A total of 10,281 companies were dissolved in Birmingham in 2011. This total is 26.5% lower than in 2010 and compares unfavourably to the UK figure of 8.1% decrease compared to the previous year.

| YEAR | BIRMINGHAM | UK |
|-------------|---------------|----------------|
| 2011 | 10,281 | 314,523 |
| 2010 | 13,986 | 342,232 |
| 2009 | 18,790 | 533,773 |
| 2008 | 6,715 | 237,901 |
| 2007 | 6,298 | 220,295 |
| RECORD YEAR | 2009 (18,790) | 2009 (533,773) |

dissolved companies by year



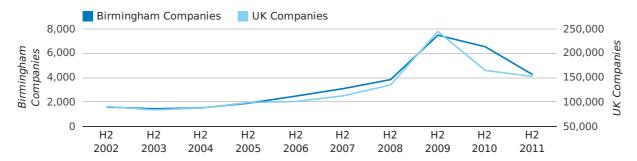
Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

In the second half of 2011 a total of 4,241 companies were dissolved in Birmingham. This figure is 35.0% lower than last year, which compares well to the UK wide change of -7.5%.

The highest total for a second half year in Birmingham occurred in 2009 when a total of 7,473 were closed.

| HALF YEAR (JUL-DEC) | BIRMINGHAM | UK |
|---------------------|--------------|----------------|
| 2011 | 4,241 | 152,213 |
| 2010 | 6,525 | 164,601 |
| % CHANGE | -35.0% | -7.5% |
| RECORD YEAR | 2009 (7,473) | 2009 (244,537) |

dissolved companies by half year

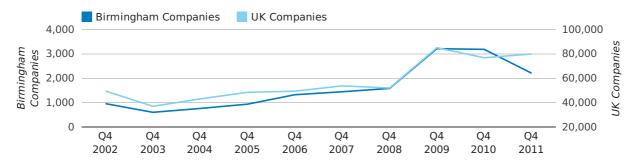


A total of 2,211 companies were dissolved in Birmingham during the fourth quarter of 2011 (Oct 2011 - Dec 2011).

This figure is a decrease of 30.7% 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.

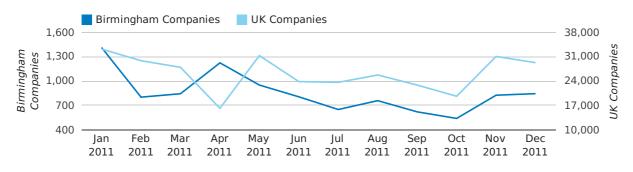
| FOURTH QUARTER (OCT 2011 - DEC 2011) | BIRMINGHAM | UK |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|---------------|
| 2011 | 2,211 | 79,983 |
| 2010 | 3,189 | 76,896 |
| % CHANGE | -30.7% | 4.0% |
| RECORD YEAR | 2009 (3,217) | 2009 (85,136) |

dissolved companies by quarter



Monthly Data (Oct, Nov & Dec 2011)

dissolved companies by month



| | OCTOBER | NOVEMBER | DECEMBER |
|--------------------------|--------------|--------------|------------|
| CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2011 | 540 | 826 | 845 |
| CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2010 | 1,130 | 1,538 | 521 |
| % CHANGE | -52.2% | -46.3% | 62% |
| RECORD YEAR | 2009 (1,424) | 2010 (1,538) | 2009 (930) |

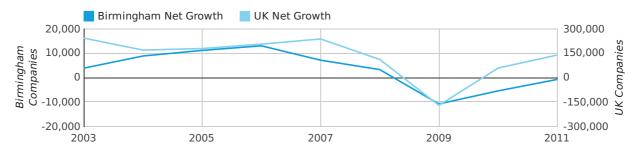
A total of -782 companies were removed to the company register for Birmingham in 2011. This number represents decline of 9.2% which compares unfavourably to the UK figure of 34.6%.

This number is 4,700 companies higher than the previous year.

The highest net company growth figure ever seen in one year came in 2006 when the Birmingham company register grew by 13,003 companies.

| YEAR | BIRMINGHAM | UK |
|-------------|---------------|----------------|
| 2011 | -782 | 138,347 |
| 2010 | -5,482 | 58,126 |
| 2009 | -10,844 | -171,098 |
| 2008 | 3,254 | 111,302 |
| 2007 | 7,112 | 237,354 |
| RECORD YEAR | 2006 (13,003) | 2003 (242,543) |

net growth by year

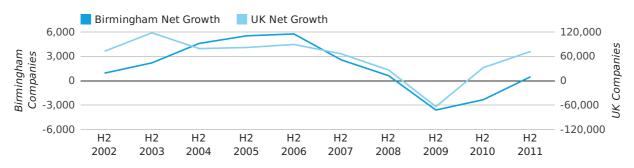


Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

In the second half of 2011 the company register for Birmingham increased by 481 companies. This figure is 120.5% lower than last year, which compares badly to a UK increase of 124.7%.

| HALF YEAR (JUL-DEC) | BIRMINGHAM | UK |
|---------------------|--------------|----------------|
| 2011 | 481 | 71,922 |
| 2010 | -2,347 | 32,008 |
| % CHANGE | -120.5% | 124.7% |
| RECORD YEAR | 2006 (5,749) | 2003 (117,772) |

net growth by half year

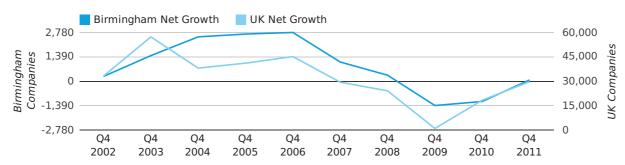


Net company growth for Birmingham during the fourth quarter of 2011 (Oct 2011 - Dec 2011) was 65 companies.

This represents an increase of 105.6% on the same period last year.

| FOURTH QUARTER (OCT 2011 - DEC 2011) | BIRMINGHAM | UK |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|---------------|
| 2011 | 65 | 29,640 |
| 2010 | -1,163 | 18,221 |
| % CHANGE | -105.6% | 62.7% |
| RECORD YEAR | 2006 (2,773) | 2003 (57,175) |

net growth by quarter



Monthly Data (Oct, Nov & Dec 2011)

net growth by month

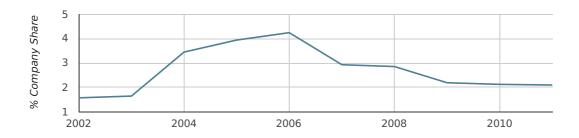


| | OCTOBER | NOVEMBER | DECEMBER |
|--------------------|------------|--------------|------------|
| NET GROWTH IN 2011 | 279 | 7 | -221 |
| NET GROWTH IN 2010 | -376 | -854 | 67 |
| % CHANGE | -174.2% | -100.8% | -429.9% |
| RECORD YEAR | 2006 (871) | 2006 (1,036) | 2005 (884) |

In 2011 Birmingham formed 2.1% of all UK companies. This is no change on 2010 when Birmingham was responsible for 2.1% of all UK companies.

| YEAR | BIRMINGHAM |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| 2011 | 2.1% |
| 2010 | 2.1% |
| 2009 | 2.2% |
| 2008 | 2.9% |
| 2007 | 2.9% |
| RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960) | 2006 (4.2%) |

company share by year

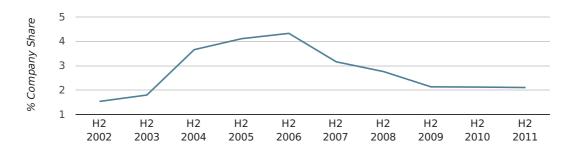


Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

In the second half of 2011 Birmingham formed 2.1% of all UK companies. This is the same as the 2010 figure of 2.1%.

| HALF YEAR (JUL-DEC) | BIRMINGHAM |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| 2011 | 2.1% |
| 2010 | 2.1% |
| 2009 | 2.1% |
| 2008 | 2.8% |
| 2007 | 3.2% |
| RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960) | 2006 (4.3%) |

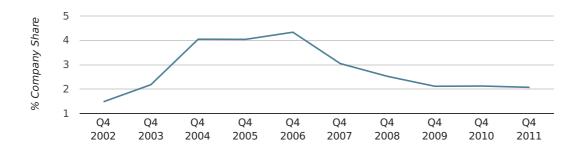
company share by half year



In the fourth quarter of 2011, Birmingham formed 2.1% of all UK companies.

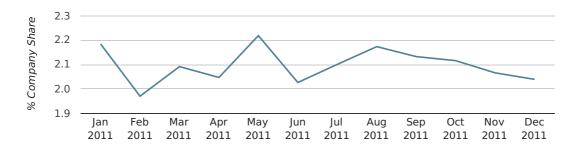
| FOURTH QUARTER (OCT 2011 - DEC 2011) | BIRMINGHAM |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| 2011 | 2.1% |
| 2010 | 2.1% |
| 2009 | 2.1% |
| 2008 | 2.5% |
| 2007 | 3.1% |
| RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960) | 2006 (4.3%) |

company share by quarter



Monthly Data (Oct, Nov & Dec 2011)

company share by month



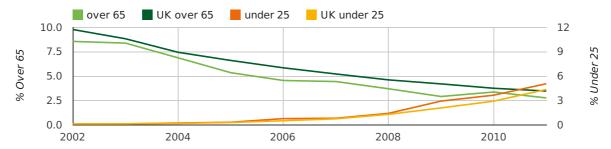
| | OCTOBER | NOVEMBER | DECEMBER |
|----------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2011 | 2.1% | 2.1% | 2.0% |
| UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2010 | 2.2% | 2.0% | 2.2% |
| % CHANGE | -5.6% | 3.7% | -5.9% |
| RECORD YEAR | 2006 (3.9%) | 2006 (4.6%) | 2005 (4.9%) |

The average age of a director in 2011 was 41.2.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 5.1% compared to the UK figure of 3.7%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 2.8% compared to the UK figure of 4.2%.

director age by year



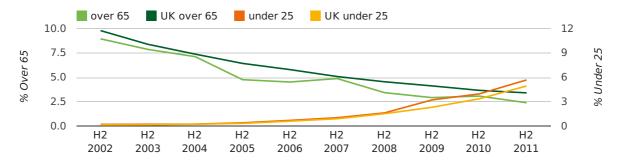
Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

The average age of a director in the second half of 2011 was 40.5.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 5.7% compared to the UK figure of 4.1%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 2.4% compared to the UK figure of 4.1%.

director age by half year

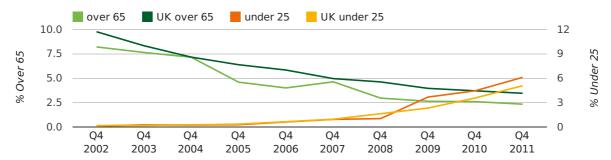


The average age of a director in the fourth quarter of 2011 was 40.4.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 6.1% compared to the UK figure of 4.2%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 2.3% compared to the UK figure of 4.1%.

director age by quarter



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

The percentage of female directors in Birmingham in 2011 was 23.1%. The average for the UK during this time was 28.6%

director gender by year

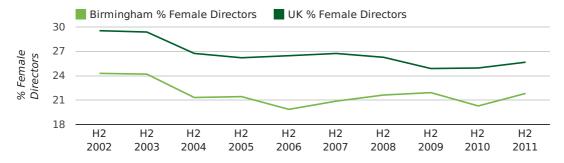


Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

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

21.8% of all director appointments in Birmingham 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



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

22.1% of all director appointments in Birmingham 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 | 2.02% | CONSULTING | 5.07% |
| TRADING | 1.27% | MANAGEMENT | 4.74% |
| CONSULTANCY | 1.18% | CONSULTANCY | 3.26% |
| BIRMINGHAM | 1.07% | PROPERTY | 2.37% |
| CONSULTING | 1.07% | TRADING | 2.07% |
| PROPERTY | 1.07% | DESIGN | 1.92% |
| CARE | 0.98% | ASSOCIATES | 1.86% |
| M | 0.92% | ENGINEERING | 1.78% |
| (30) | 0.83% | BUSINESS | 1.78% |
| GLOBAL | 0.75% | CONSULTANTS | 1.76% |
| S | 0.72% | CONSTRUCTION | 1.73% |
| HOUSE | 0.72% | MEDIA | 1.71% |
| J | 0.71% | LONDON | 1.63% |
| MEDIA | 0.70% | J | 1.51% |
| BUSINESS | 0.69% | INVESTMENTS | 1.48% |
| CONSTRUCTION | 0.66% | GLOBAL | 1.46% |
| DESIGN | 0.65% | IT | 1.41% |
| D | 0.64% | CARE | 1.39% |
| K | 0.61% | PROPERTIES | 1.29% |
| CENTRE | 0.61% | ELECTRICAL | 1.29% |
| SECURITY | 0.60% | М | 1.27% |
| DEVELOPMENT | 0.60% | BUILDING | 1.26% |
| CIC | 0.59% | ENERGY | 1.25% |
| COMMUNITY | 0.59% | S | 1.20% |
| (GB) | 0.58% | ENTERPRISES | 1.20% |

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Previous 36 months, excluding companies less than 12 months old

| SIC CODE | NUMBER OF COMPANIES | UK COMPANIES |
|--|------------------------|-----------------|
| None Supplied | 4,947 | 205,525 |
| 7487 - Other business activities | 2,043 | 57,052 |
| 82990 - Other business support service activities not elsewhere classified | 1,500 | 32,483 |
| 99999 - Dormant Company | 359 | 21,846 |
| 9999 - Dormant Company | 351 | 20,199 |
| 5227 - Other retail food etc. specialised | 262 | 1,120 |
| 56103 - Take-away food shops and mobile food stands | 219 | 2,264 |
| 5530 - Restaurants | 200 | 5,013 |
| 9305 - Other service activities | 193 | 9,492 |
| 96090 - Other service activities not elsewhere classified | 174 | 11,768 |
| 7499 - Non-trading company | 167 | 9,957 |
| 70229 - Management consultancy activities other than financial management | 161 | 17,765 |
| 7414 - Business & management consultancy | 142 | 13,034 |
| 86900 - Other human health activities | 124 | 4,457 |
| 74990 - Non-trading company | 124 | 8,929 |
| 62020 - Information technology consultancy activities | 114 | 12,072 |
| 7260 - Other computer related activities | 100 | 7,667 |
| 74909 - Other professional, scientific and technical activities not elsewhere classified | 91 | 8,671 |
| 62090 - Other information technology service activities | 88 | 7,493 |
| 7222 - Other software consultancy and supply | 82 | 7,398 |