Blackburn

2011 annual business confidence report





headlines

- 2011 was a record year for company registrations in Blackburn when compared to any year in history.
- The second half of 2011 saw a new record in company registrations in Blackburn when compared to any previous second half year.
- Q4 2011 saw a new record in company registrations in Blackburn when compared to any previous Q4.
- December 2011 saw a new record in company registrations in Blackburn when compared to any previous December.
- November 2011 saw a new record in company registrations in Blackburn when compared to any previous November.
- October 2011 saw a new record in company registrations in Blackburn when compared to any previous October.
- Q4 2011 saw a new record in company closures in Blackburn when compared to any previous Q4.
- December 2011 saw a new record in company closures in Blackburn when compared to any previous December.
- November 2011 saw a new record in company closures in Blackburn when compared to any previous November.
- 2011 was a record year for net growth in Blackburn when compared to any year in history.
- The second half of 2011 saw a new record in net growth in Blackburn when compared to any previous second half year.
- October 2011 saw a new record in net growth in Blackburn when compared to any previous October.

contents

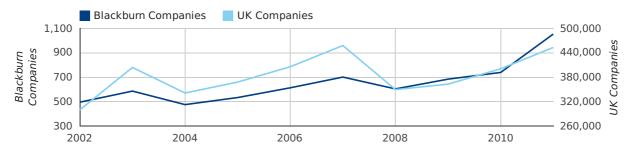
| | new company registrations |
|-----------|------------------------------|
| = | |
| | closed companies (dissolved) |
| = | |
| | net company growth |
| = | |
| | uk company share |
| \succeq | |
| | director age |
| \succeq | |
| | director gender |
| \succeq | |
| | naming trends |
| | |
| | sic data |
| | |

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

A total of 1,053 companies were formed in Blackburn in 2011. This total is 42.7% higher than in 2010 and compares poorly to the UK figure of a 13.1% growth compared to 400,358 the previous year.

| YEAR | BLACKBURN | UK |
|-------------|--------------|----------------|
| 2011 | 1,053 | 452,870 |
| 2010 | 738 | 400,358 |
| 2009 | 683 | 362,675 |
| 2008 | 603 | 349,203 |
| 2007 | 700 | 457,649 |
| RECORD YEAR | 2011 (1,053) | 2007 (457,649) |

new companies by year



Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

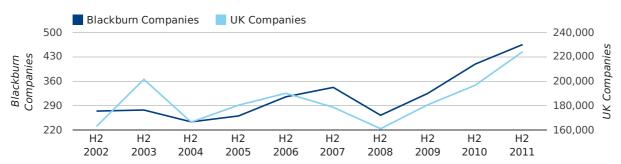
The second half of 2011 saw a new record in company registrations in Blackburn when compared to any previous second half year.

In the second half of 2011 a total of 465 companies were formed in Blackburn. This figure is 13.7% higher than last year, which compares badly to the UK wide figure of 14.0%.

The highest total for a second half year in Blackburn occurred in 2011 when a total of 465 were formed.

| HALF YEAR (JUL-DEC) | BLACKBURN | UK |
|---------------------|------------|----------------|
| 2011 | 465 | 224,135 |
| 2010 | 409 | 196,609 |
| % CHANGE | 13.7% | 14.0% |
| RECORD YEAR | 2011 (465) | 2011 (224,135) |

new companies by half year



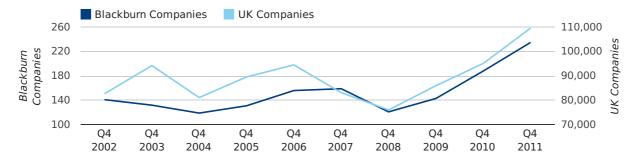
Q4 2011 saw a new record in company registrations in Blackburn when compared to any previous Q4.

A total of 235 companies were registered in Blackburn during the fourth quarter of 2011 (Oct 2011 - Dec 2011).

This figure is an increase of 25.0% versus the same period last year (Q4 2010). This figure compares well 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) | BLACKBURN | UK |
|--------------------------------------|------------|----------------|
| 2011 | 235 | 109,623 |
| 2010 | 188 | 95,117 |
| % CHANGE | 25.0% | 15.3% |
| RECORD YEAR | 2011 (235) | 2011 (109,623) |

new companies by quarter



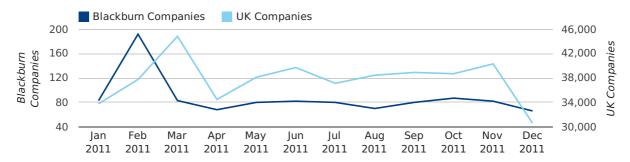
Monthly Data (Oct, Nov & Dec 2011)

December 2011 saw a new record in company registrations in Blackburn when compared to any previous December.

November 2011 saw a new record in company registrations in Blackburn when compared to any previous November.

October 2011 saw a new record in company registrations in Blackburn when compared to any previous October.

new companies by month

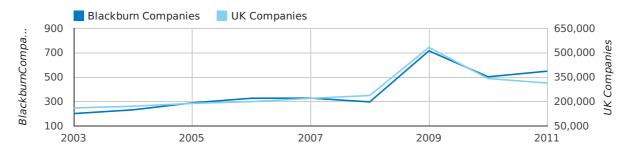


| | OCTOBER | NOVEMBER | DECEMBER |
|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| NEW COMPANIES IN 2011 | 87 | 82 | 66 |
| NEW COMPANIES IN 2010 | 74 | 63 | 51 |
| % CHANGE | 17.6% | 30.2% | 29.4% |
| RECORD YEAR | 2011 (87) | 2011 (82) | 2011 (66) |

A total of 550 companies were dissolved in Blackburn in 2011. This total is 9.1% higher than in 2010 and compares favourably to the UK figure of 8.1% decrease compared to the previous year.

| YEAR | BLACKBURN | UK |
|-------------|------------|----------------|
| 2011 | 550 | 314,523 |
| 2010 | 504 | 342,232 |
| 2009 | 717 | 533,773 |
| 2008 | 298 | 237,901 |
| 2007 | 329 | 220,295 |
| RECORD YEAR | 2009 (717) | 2009 (533,773) |

dissolved companies by year



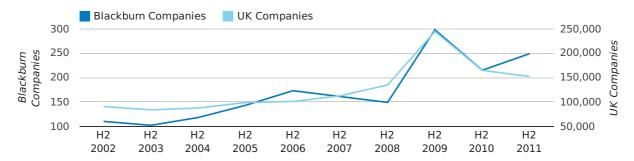
Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

In the second half of 2011 a total of 249 companies were dissolved in Blackburn. This figure is 15.8% higher than last year, which compares badly to the UK wide change of -7.5%.

The highest total for a second half year in Blackburn occurred in 2009 when a total of 298 were closed.

| HALF YEAR (JUL-DEC) | BLACKBURN | UK |
|---------------------|------------|----------------|
| 2011 | 249 | 152,213 |
| 2010 | 215 | 164,601 |
| % CHANGE | 15.8% | -7.5% |
| RECORD YEAR | 2009 (298) | 2009 (244,537) |

dissolved companies by half year



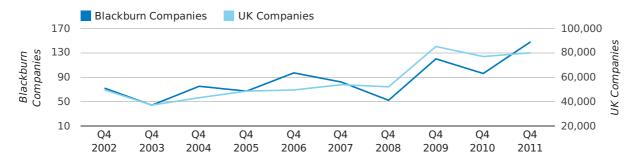
Q4 2011 saw a new record in company closures in Blackburn when compared to any previous Q4.

A total of 148 companies were dissolved in Blackburn during the fourth quarter of 2011 (Oct 2011 - Dec 2011).

This figure is an increase of 54.2% versus the same period last year (Q4 2010). This figure compares poorly 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) | BLACKBURN | UK |
|--------------------------------------|------------|---------------|
| 2011 | 148 | 79,983 |
| 2010 | 96 | 76,896 |
| % CHANGE | 54.2% | 4.0% |
| RECORD YEAR | 2011 (148) | 2009 (85,136) |

dissolved companies by quarter

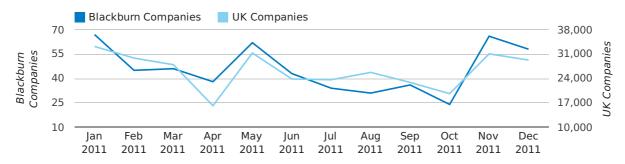


Monthly Data (Oct, Nov & Dec 2011)

December 2011 saw a new record in company closures in Blackburn when compared to any previous December.

November 2011 saw a new record in company closures in Blackburn when compared to any previous November.

dissolved companies by month



| | OCTOBER | NOVEMBER | DECEMBER |
|--------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2011 | 24 | 66 | 58 |
| CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2010 | 37 | 37 | 22 |
| % CHANGE | -35.1% | 78.4% | 164% |
| RECORD YEAR | 2009 (41) | 2011 (66) | 2011 (58) |

2011 was a record year for net growth in Blackburn when compared to any year in history.

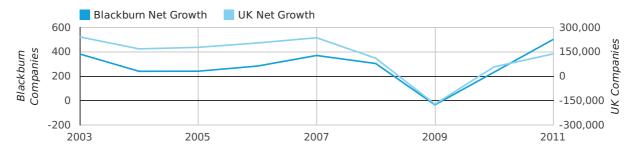
A total of 503 companies were added to the company register for Blackburn in 2011. This number represents growth of 68.2% which compares favourably to the UK figure of 34.6%.

This number is 269 companies higher than the previous year.

The highest net company growth figure ever seen in one year came in 2011 when the Blackburn company register grew by 503 companies.

| YEAR | BLACKBURN | UK |
|-------------|------------|----------------|
| 2011 | 503 | 138,347 |
| 2010 | 234 | 58,126 |
| 2009 | -34 | -171,098 |
| 2008 | 305 | 111,302 |
| 2007 | 371 | 237,354 |
| RECORD YEAR | 2011 (503) | 2003 (242,543) |

net growth by year



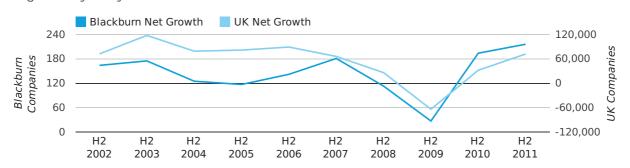
Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

The second half of 2011 saw a new record in net growth in Blackburn when compared to any previous second half year.

In the second half of 2011 the company register for Blackburn increased by 216 companies. This figure is 11.3% higher than last year, which compares badly to a UK increase of 124.7%.

| HALF YEAR (JUL-DEC) | BLACKBURN | UK |
|---------------------|------------|----------------|
| 2011 | 216 | 71,922 |
| 2010 | 194 | 32,008 |
| % CHANGE | 11.3% | 124.7% |
| RECORD YEAR | 2011 (216) | 2003 (117,772) |

net growth by half year

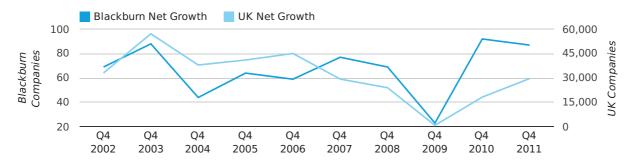


Net company growth for Blackburn during the fourth quarter of 2011 (Oct 2011 - Dec 2011) was 87 companies.

This represents a decrease of 5.4% on the same period last year.

| FOURTH QUARTER (OCT 2011 - DEC 2011) | BLACKBURN | UK |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|---------------|
| 2011 | 87 | 29,640 |
| 2010 | 92 | 18,221 |
| % CHANGE | -5.4% | 62.7% |
| RECORD YEAR | 2010 (92) | 2003 (57,175) |

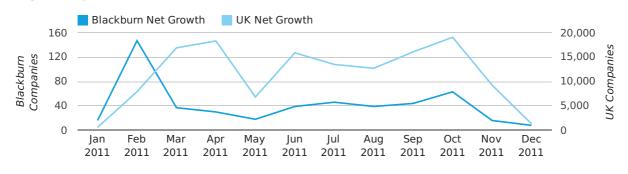
net growth by quarter



Monthly Data (Oct, Nov & Dec 2011)

October 2011 saw a new record in net growth in Blackburn when compared to any previous October.

net growth by month

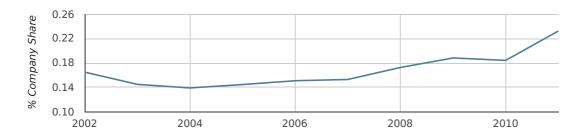


| | OCTOBER | NOVEMBER | DECEMBER |
|--------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| NET GROWTH IN 2011 | 63 | 16 | 8 |
| NET GROWTH IN 2010 | 37 | 26 | 29 |
| % CHANGE | 70.3% | -38.5% | -72.4% |
| RECORD YEAR | 2011 (63) | 2002 (31) | 2010 (29) |

In 2011 Blackburn formed 0.2% of all UK companies. This is no change on 2010 when Blackburn was responsible for 0.2% of all UK companies.

| YEAR | BLACKBURN |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| 2011 | 0.2% |
| 2010 | 0.2% |
| 2009 | 0.2% |
| 2008 | 0.2% |
| 2007 | 0.2% |
| RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960) | 1961 (0.3%) |

company share by year

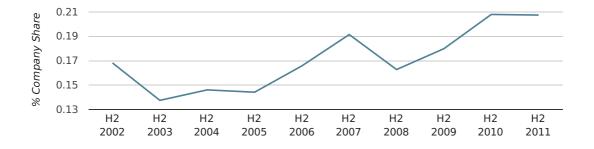


Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

In the second half of 2011 Blackburn formed 0.2% of all UK companies. This is the same as the 2010 figure of 0.2%.

| HALF YEAR (JUL-DEC) | BLACKBURN |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| 2011 | 0.2% |
| 2010 | 0.2% |
| 2009 | 0.2% |
| 2008 | 0.2% |
| 2007 | 0.2% |
| RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960) | 1969 (0.3%) |

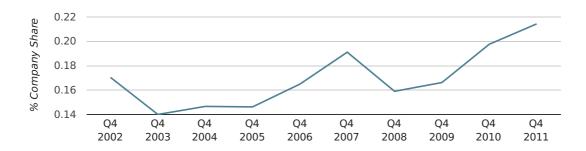
company share by half year



In the fourth quarter of 2011, Blackburn formed 0.2% of all UK companies.

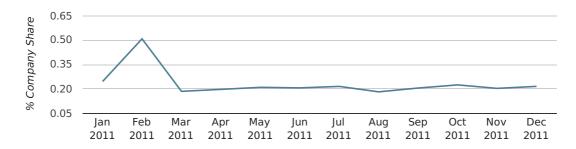
| FOURTH QUARTER (OCT 2011 - DEC 2011) | BLACKBURN |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| 2011 | 0.2% |
| 2010 | 0.2% |
| 2009 | 0.2% |
| 2008 | 0.2% |
| 2007 | 0.2% |
| RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960) | 1960 (0.4%) |

company share by quarter



Monthly Data (Oct, Nov & Dec 2011)

company share by month



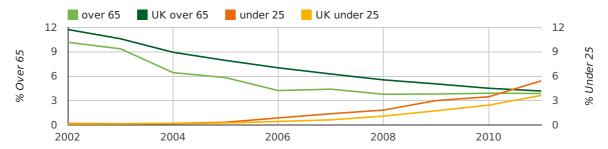
| | OCTOBER | NOVEMBER | DECEMBER |
|----------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2011 | 0.2% | 0.2% | 0.2% |
| UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2010 | 0.2% | 0.2% | 0.2% |
| % CHANGE | 2.2% | 10.9% | 14.7% |
| RECORD YEAR | 1960 (1.0%) | 1961 (0.3%) | 1983 (0.4%) |

The average age of a director in 2011 was 42.2.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 5.4% compared to the UK figure of 3.7%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 3.9% compared to the UK figure of 4.2%.

director age by year



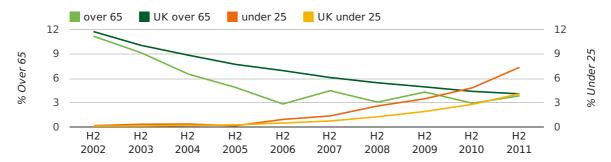
Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

The average age of a director in the second half of 2011 was 41.9.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 7.4% compared to the UK figure of 4.1%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 3.9% compared to the UK figure of 4.1%.

director age by half year

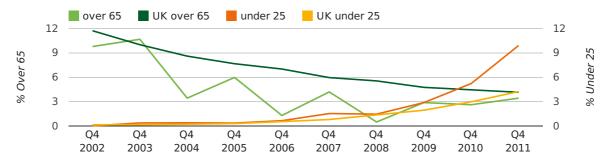


The average age of a director in the fourth quarter of 2011 was 41.0.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 9.9% compared to the UK figure of 4.2%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 3.4% compared to the UK figure of 4.1%.

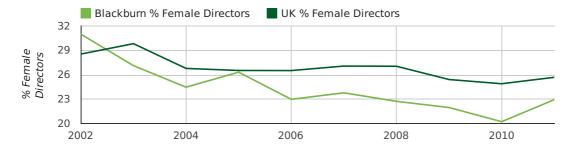
director age by quarter



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

The percentage of female directors in Blackburn in 2011 was 31.0%. The average for the UK during this time was 28.6%

director gender by year

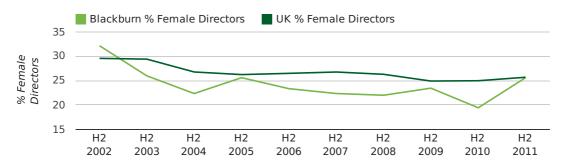


Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

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

25.6% of all director appointments in Blackburn 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



Т

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

24.0% of all director appointments in Blackburn 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 |
|--------------|------------|--------------|---------------|
| MSTAR | 6.41% | CONSULTING | 5.07% |
| MANAGEMENT | 1.27% | MANAGEMENT | 4.74% |
| BLACKBURN | 1.02% | CONSULTANCY | 3.26% |
| NORTH | 0.70% | PROPERTY | 2.37% |
| MEDICAL | 0.70% | TRADING | 2.07% |
| ENERGY | 0.70% | DESIGN | 1.92% |
| TRANSPORT | 0.70% | ASSOCIATES | 1.86% |
| CENTRE | 0.63% | ENGINEERING | 1.78% |
| WEST | 0.63% | BUSINESS | 1.78% |
| CARE | 0.63% | CONSULTANTS | 1.76% |
| (BLACKBURN) | 0.57% | CONSTRUCTION | 1.73% |
| SECURITY | 0.57% | MEDIA | 1.71% |
| CONSULTANCY | 0.57% | LONDON | 1.63% |
| BUSINESS | 0.51% | J | 1.51% |
| TRADING | 0.51% | INVESTMENTS | 1.48% |
| ASSOCIATES | 0.44% | GLOBAL | 1.46% |
| VALLEY | 0.44% | IT | 1.41% |
| SPORTS | 0.44% | CARE | 1.39% |
| R | 0.44% | PROPERTIES | 1.29% |
| CONSTRUCTION | 0.44% | ELECTRICAL | 1.29% |
| Н | 0.44% | М | 1.27% |
| HOLDINGS | 0.44% | BUILDING | 1.26% |
| HEALTHCARE | 0.44% | ENERGY | 1.25% |
| PROPERTY | 0.44% | S | 1.20% |
| (NW) | 0.44% | ENTERPRISES | 1.20% |

 $\operatorname{duport} \varnothing$

Previous 36 months, excluding companies less than 12 months old

| SIC CODE | NUMBER OF COMPANIES | UK COMPANIES |
|--|------------------------|-----------------|
| None Supplied | 439 | 205,525 |
| 7487 - Other business activities | 83 | 57,052 |
| 99999 - Dormant Company | 34 | 21,846 |
| 82990 - Other business support service activities not elsewhere classified | 33 | 32,483 |
| 96090 - Other service activities not elsewhere classified | 26 | 11,768 |
| 9999 - Dormant Company | 26 | 20,199 |
| 9305 - Other service activities | 23 | 9,492 |
| 74909 - Other professional, scientific and technical activities not elsewhere classified | 16 | 8,671 |
| 70100 - Activities of head offices | 16 | 2,662 |
| 70229 - Management consultancy activities other than financial management | 16 | 17,765 |
| 68209 - Other letting and operating of own or leased real estate | 15 | 4,082 |
| 86210 - General medical practice activities | 14 | 2,285 |
| 7260 - Other computer related activities | 13 | 7,667 |
| 62020 - Information technology consultancy activities | 12 | 12,072 |
| 74990 - Non-trading company | 11 | 8,929 |
| 7414 - Business & management consultancy | 11 | 13,034 |
| 86900 - Other human health activities | 10 | 4,457 |
| 4521 - General construction & civil engineering | 9 | 5,558 |
| 7499 - Non-trading company | 9 | 9,957 |
| 7020 - Letting of own property | 8 | 1,606 |