

Cheshire

2012 half year business confidence report



headlines

- Q2 2012 saw a new record in company registrations in Cheshire when compared to any previous Q2.
- June 2012 saw a new record in company registrations in Cheshire when compared to any previous June.
- May 2012 saw a new record in company registrations in Cheshire when compared to any previous May.
- Q2 2012 saw a new record in net growth in Cheshire when compared to any previous Q2.
- May 2012 saw a new record in net growth in Cheshire when compared to any previous May.
- Q2 2012 saw a new record in UK company share in Cheshire when compared to any previous Q2.
- June 2012 saw a new record in UK company share in Cheshire when compared to any previous June.

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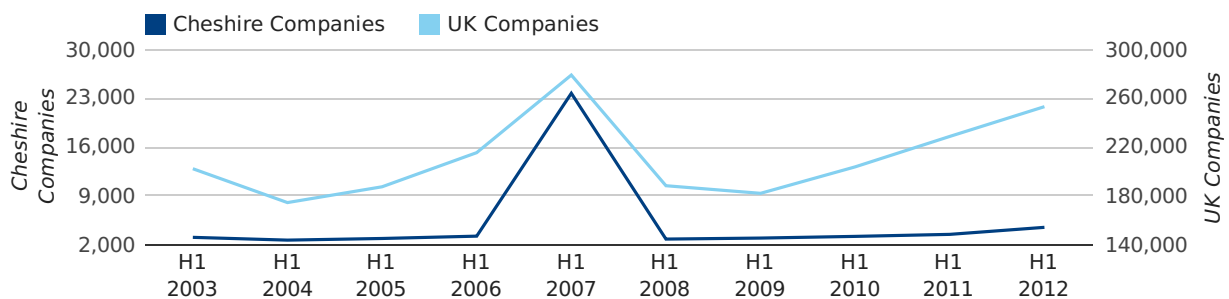
Half Year Data (Jan-Jun 2012)

In the first half of 2012 a total of 4,471 companies were formed in Cheshire. This figure is 29.2% higher than last year, which compares well to the UK wide figure of 10.7%.

The highest total for a first half year in Cheshire occurred in 2007 when a total of 23,722 were formed.

HALF YEAR (JAN-JUN)	CHESHIRE	UK
2012	4,471	253,150
2011	3,461	228,735
% CHANGE	29.2%	10.7%
RECORD YEAR	2007 (23,722)	2007 (279,097)

new companies by half year



Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2012)

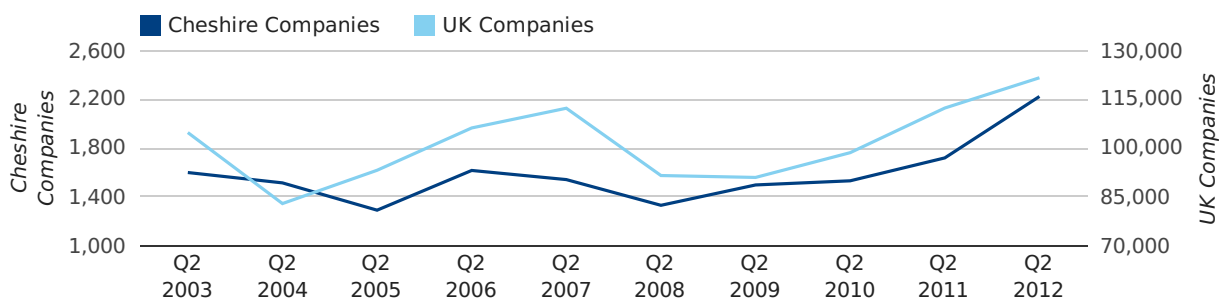
Q2 2012 saw a new record in company registrations in Cheshire when compared to any previous Q2.

A total of 2,224 companies were registered in Cheshire during the second quarter of 2012 (Apr 2012 - Jun 2012).

This figure is an increase of 29.3% versus the same period last year (Q2 2011). This figure compares well 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)	CHESHIRE	UK
2012	2,224	121,659
2011	1,720	112,344
% CHANGE	29.3%	8.3%
RECORD YEAR	2012 (2,224)	2012 (121,659)

new companies by quarter



Monthly Data (Apr, May & Jun 2012)

June 2012 saw a new record in company registrations in Cheshire when compared to any previous June.

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

new companies by month



	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
NEW COMPANIES IN 2012	735	784	705
NEW COMPANIES IN 2011	603	533	584
% CHANGE	21.9%	47.1%	20.7%
RECORD YEAR	2004 (836)	2012 (784)	2012 (705)

Half Year Data (Jan-Jun 2012)

In the first half of 2012 a total of 1,889 companies were dissolved in Cheshire. This figure is 15.0% lower than last year, which compares badly to the UK wide change of -8.9%.

The highest total for a first half year in Cheshire occurred in 2009 when a total of 7,404 were closed.

HALF YEAR (JAN-JUN)	CHESHIRE	UK
2012	1,889	147,793
2011	2,222	162,310
% CHANGE	-15.0%	-8.9%
RECORD YEAR	2009 (7,404)	2009 (289,236)

dissolved companies by half year



Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2012)

A total of 1,014 companies were dissolved in Cheshire during the second quarter of 2012 (Apr 2012 - Jun 2012).

This figure is a decrease of 1.6% versus the same period last year (Q2 2011). This figure compares well 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)	CHESHIRE	UK
2012	1,014	80,217
2011	1,030	71,324
% CHANGE	-1.6%	12.5%
RECORD YEAR	2009 (5,574)	2009 (181,176)

dissolved companies by quarter



Monthly Data (Apr, May & Jun 2012)

dissolved companies by month



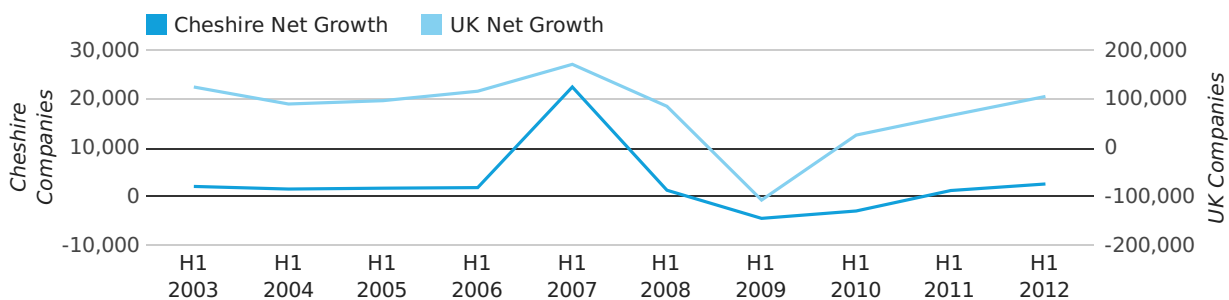
	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2012	308	391	315
CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2011	207	539	284
% CHANGE	48.8%	-27.5%	11%
RECORD YEAR	2009 (2,342)	2009 (2,575)	2009 (657)

Half Year Data (Jan-Jun 2012)

In the first half of 2012 the company register for Cheshire increased by 2,582 companies. This figure is 108.4% higher than last year, which compares well to a UK increase of 58.6%.

HALF YEAR (JAN-JUN)	CHESHIRE	UK
2012	2,582	105,357
2011	1,239	66,425
% CHANGE	108.4%	58.6%
RECORD YEAR	2007 (22,485)	2007 (171,296)

net growth by half year



Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2012)

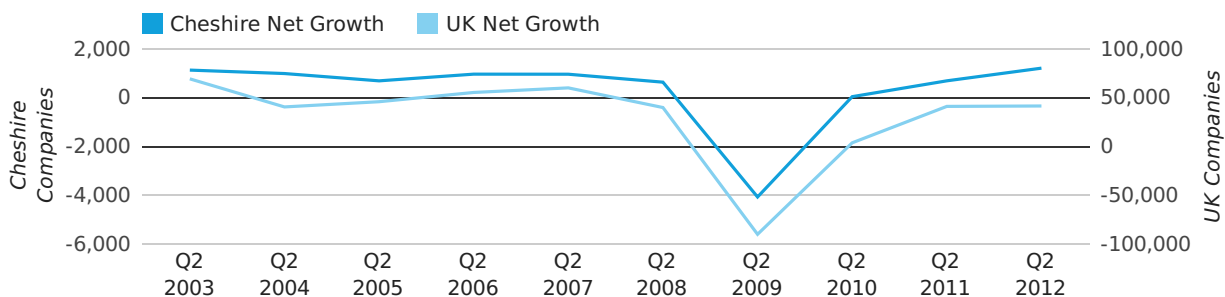
Q2 2012 saw a new record in net growth in Cheshire when compared to any previous Q2.

Net company growth for Cheshire during the second quarter of 2012 (Apr 2012 - Jun 2012) was 1,210 companies.

This represents an increase of 75.4% on the same period last year.

SECOND QUARTER (APR 2012 - JUN 2012)	CHESHIRE	UK
2012	1,210	41,442
2011	690	41,020
% CHANGE	75.4%	1.0%
RECORD YEAR	2012 (1,210)	2003 (69,274)

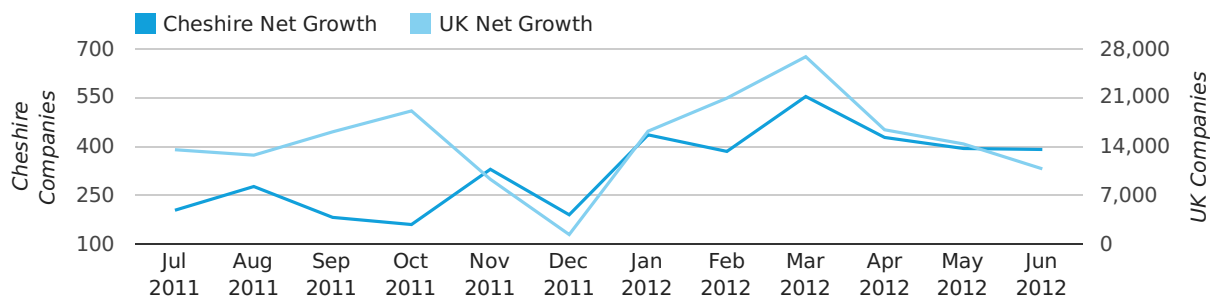
net growth by quarter



Monthly Data (Apr, May & Jun 2012)

May 2012 saw a new record in net growth in Cheshire when compared to any previous May.

net growth by month



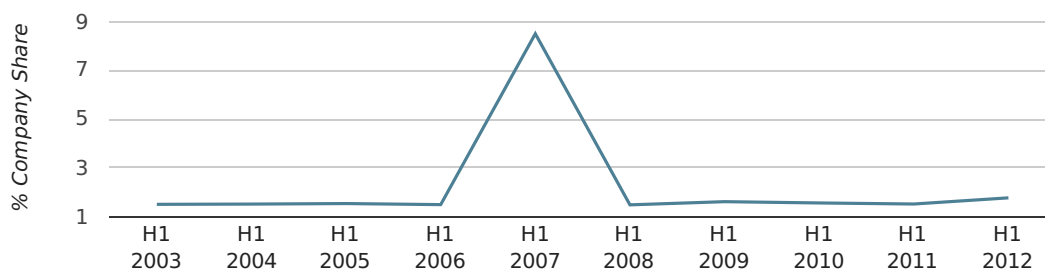
	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
NET GROWTH IN 2012	427	393	390
NET GROWTH IN 2011	396	-6	300
% CHANGE	7.8%	-6,650.0%	30.0%
RECORD YEAR	2004 (664)	2012 (393)	2003 (401)

Half Year Data (Jan-Jun 2012)

In the first half of 2012 Cheshire formed 1.8% of all UK companies. This is more than the 2011 figure of 1.5%.

HALF YEAR (JAN-JUN)	CHESHIRE
2012	1.8%
2011	1.5%
2010	1.6%
2009	1.6%
2008	1.5%
RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960)	2007 (8.5%)

company share by half year

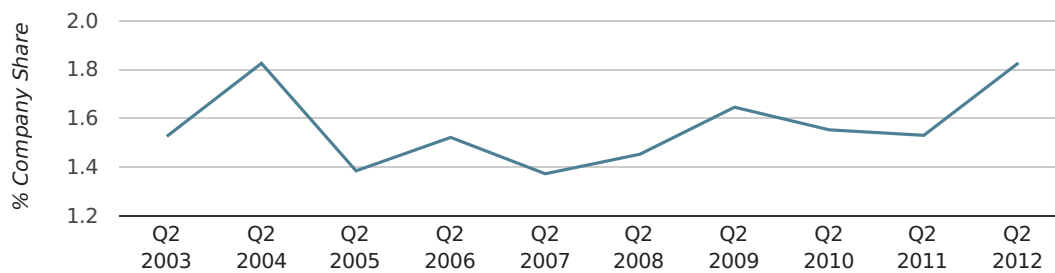


Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2012)

In the second quarter of 2012, Cheshire formed 1.8% of all UK companies.

SECOND QUARTER (APR 2012 - JUN 2012)	CHESHIRE
2012	1.8%
2011	1.5%
2010	1.6%
2009	1.6%
2008	1.5%
RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960)	2012 (1.8%)

company share by quarter



Q2 2012 saw a new record in UK company share in Cheshire when compared to any previous Q2.

Monthly Data (Apr, May & Jun 2012)

June 2012 saw a new record in UK company share in Cheshire when compared to any previous June.

company share by month



	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2012	1.8%	1.8%	1.9%
UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2011	1.7%	1.4%	1.5%
% CHANGE	2.6%	28.9%	28.9%
RECORD YEAR	2004 (2.9%)	1978 (2.3%)	2012 (1.9%)

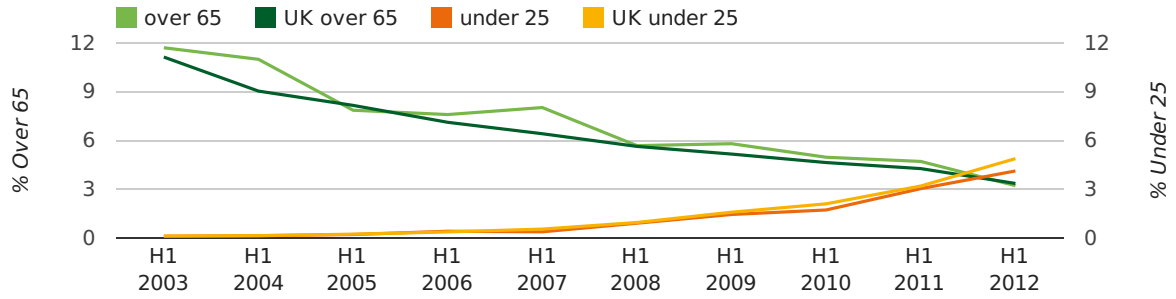
Half Year Data (Jan-Jun 2012)

The average age of a director in the first half of 2012 was 44.0.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 4.1% compared to the UK figure of 4.9%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 3.2% compared to the UK figure of 3.4%.

director age by half year



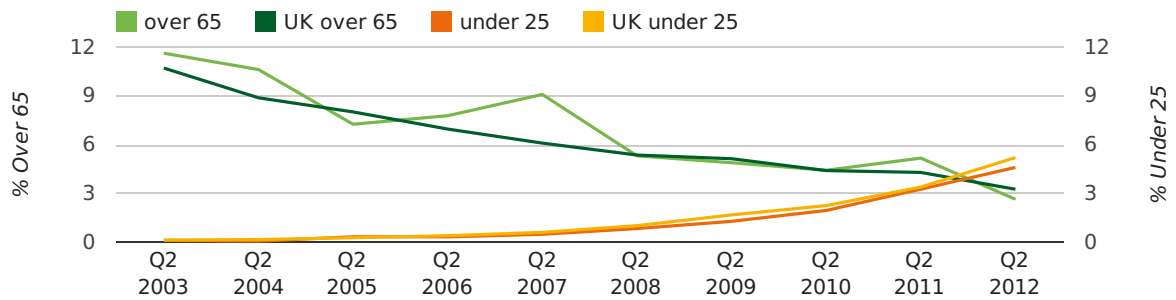
Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2012)

The average age of a director in the second quarter of 2012 was 43.4.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 4.6% compared to the UK figure of 5.2%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 2.6% compared to the UK figure of 3.3%.

director age by quarter

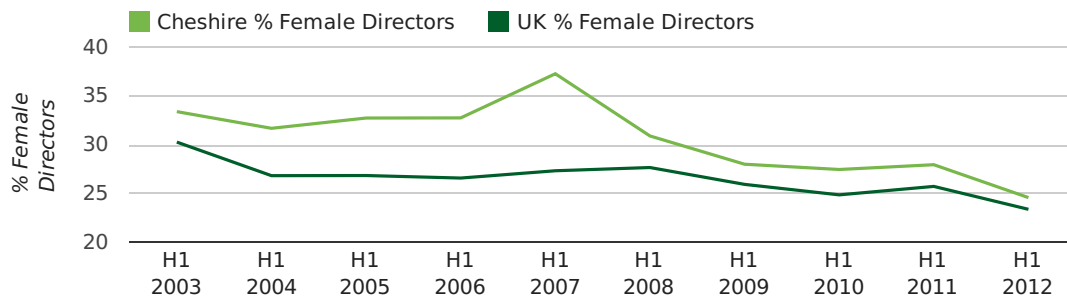


Half Year Data (Jan-Jun 2012)

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

24.6% of all director appointments in Cheshire 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
ENGINEERING	3.37%	CONSULTING	5.07%
CONSULTING	3.03%	MANAGEMENT	4.74%
MANAGEMENT	2.43%	CONSULTANCY	3.28%
CONSULTANCY	2.33%	PROPERTY	2.35%
DESIGN	1.80%	TRADING	2.10%
CONSULTANTS	1.24%	DESIGN	1.89%
CHESHIRE	1.20%	ENGINEERING	1.87%
ASSOCIATES	1.01%	ASSOCIATES	1.82%
CARE	0.91%	CONSULTANTS	1.78%
PROPERTY	0.89%	CONSTRUCTION	1.71%
IT	0.85%	BUSINESS	1.70%
PROJECT	0.81%	MEDIA	1.69%
J	0.77%	LONDON	1.68%
BUSINESS	0.72%	J	1.57%
FINANCIAL	0.70%	GLOBAL	1.51%
TRAINING	0.66%	INVESTMENTS	1.48%
ELECTRICAL	0.63%	IT	1.42%
M	0.62%	CARE	1.31%
SYSTEMS	0.58%	PROPERTIES	1.31%
CONSTRUCTION	0.55%	M	1.26%
ENERGY	0.53%	ELECTRICAL	1.23%
R	0.53%	BUILDING	1.23%
S	0.53%	SECURITY	1.19%
D	0.51%	S	1.18%
DEVELOPMENTS	0.51%	ENTERPRISES	1.17%

Previous 36 months, excluding companies less than 12 months old

SIC CODE	NUMBER OF COMPANIES	UK COMPANIES
None Supplied	2,941	244,457
82990 - Other business support service activities not elsewhere classified	1,292	35,447
7487 - Other business activities	963	47,029
70229 - Management consultancy activities other than financial management	560	20,390
99999 - Dormant Company	290	26,088
74909 - Other professional, scientific and technical activities not elsewhere classified	227	10,271
7414 - Business & management consultancy	226	10,978
62020 - Information technology consultancy activities	221	15,280
9999 - Dormant Company	210	16,469
96090 - Other service activities not elsewhere classified	163	14,220
62090 - Other information technology service activities	135	8,258
9305 - Other service activities	101	7,926
86220 - Specialists medical practice activities	101	2,003
7260 - Other computer related activities	95	6,456
74990 - Non-trading company	95	9,706
86900 - Other human health activities	87	5,222
41100 - Development of building projects	81	5,149
7499 - Non-trading company	81	8,023
4521 - General construction & civil engineering	75	4,644
7222 - Other software consultancy and supply	72	6,356