

Chester

q1 2012 business confidence report



contents

new company registrations

closed companies (dissolved)

net company growth

uk company share

director age

director gender

naming trends

sic data

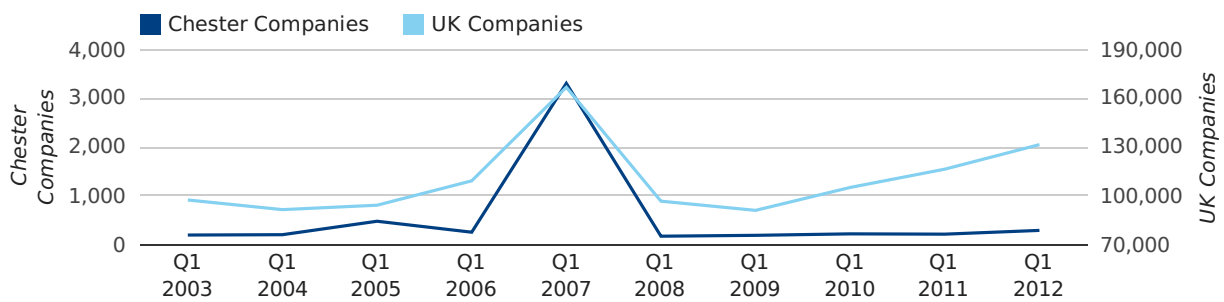
Quarterly Data (Q1 Jan-Mar 2012)

A total of 290 companies were registered in Chester during the first quarter of 2012 (Jan 2012 - Mar 2012).

This figure is an increase of 36.2% versus the same period last year (Q1 2011). This figure compares well to the UK as a whole, which saw an increase of 13.0% against the same period last year.

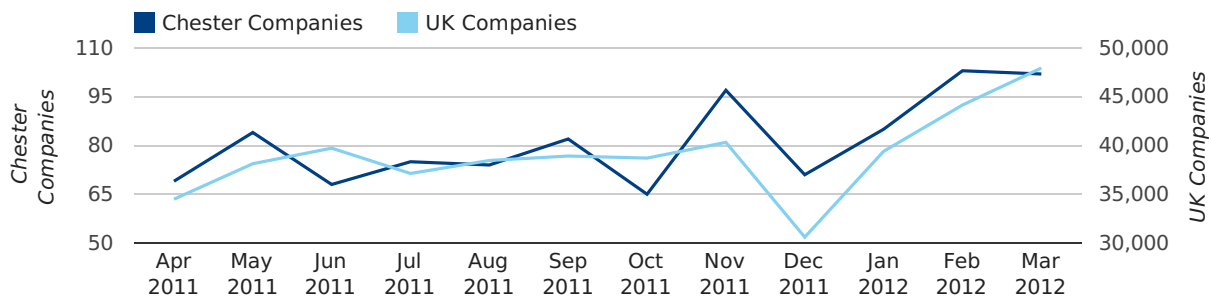
FIRST QUARTER (JAN 2012 - MAR 2012)	CHESTER	UK
2012	290	131,491
2011	213	116,391
% CHANGE	36.2%	13.0%
RECORD YEAR	2007 (3,307)	2007 (166,814)

new companies by quarter



Monthly Data (Jan, Feb & Mar 2012)

new companies by month



	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
NEW COMPANIES IN 2012	85	103	102
NEW COMPANIES IN 2011	74	70	69
% CHANGE	14.9%	47.1%	47.8%
RECORD YEAR	2007 (95)	2007 (561)	2007 (2,651)

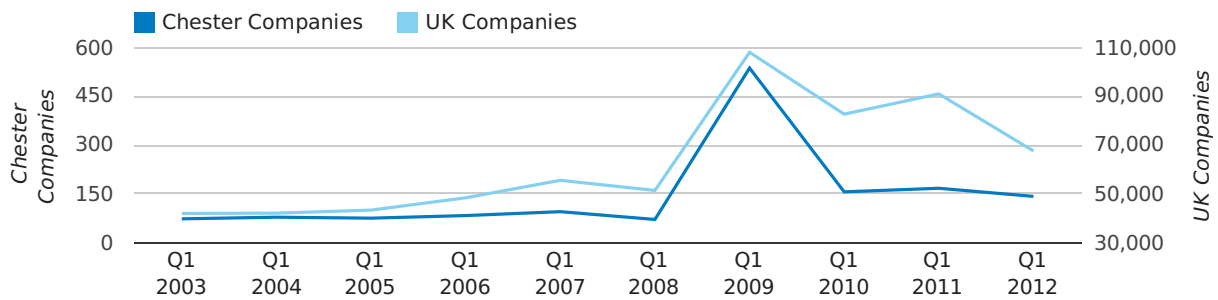
Quarterly Data (Q1 Jan-Mar 2012)

A total of 142 companies were dissolved in Chester during the first quarter of 2012 (Jan 2012 - Mar 2012).

This figure is a decrease of 15.0% versus the same period last year (Q1 2011). This figure compares poorly to the UK as a whole, which saw a decrease of 25.7% against the same period last year.

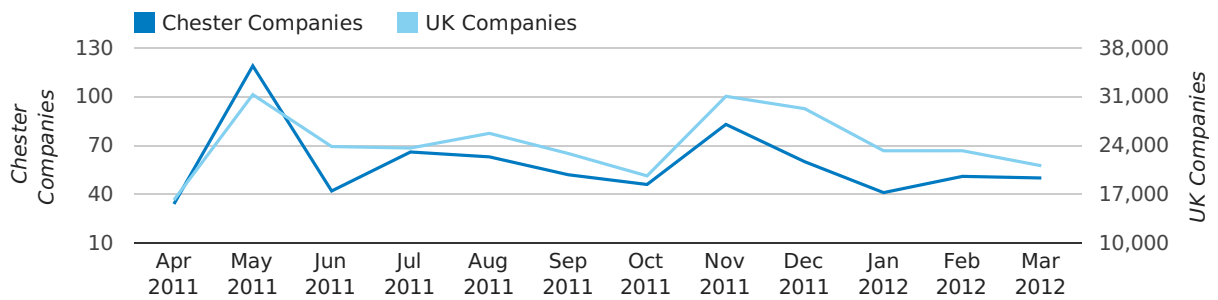
FIRST QUARTER (JAN 2012 - MAR 2012)	CHESTER	UK
2012	142	67,576
2011	167	90,986
% CHANGE	-15.0%	-25.7%
RECORD YEAR	2009 (537)	2009 (108,060)

dissolved companies by quarter



Monthly Data (Jan, Feb & Mar 2012)

dissolved companies by month



	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2012	41	51	50
CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2011	58	66	43
% CHANGE	-29.3%	-22.7%	16%
RECORD YEAR	2011 (58)	2011 (66)	2009 (482)

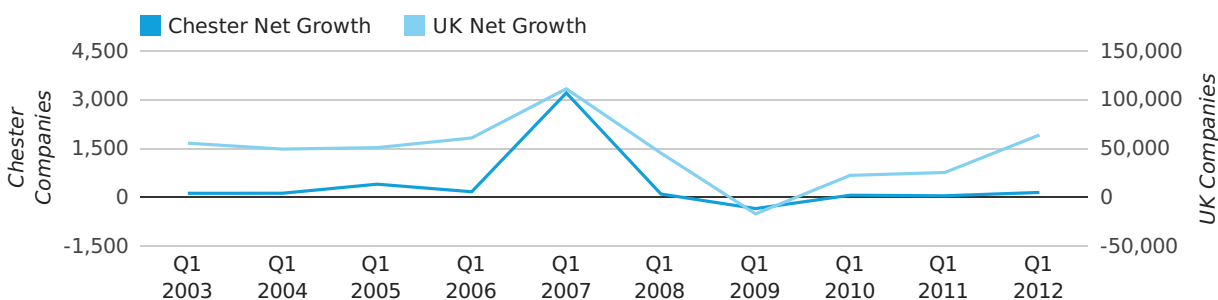
Quarterly Data (Q1 Jan-Mar 2012)

Net company growth for Chester during the first quarter of 2012 (Jan 2012 - Mar 2012) was 148 companies.

This represents an increase of 221.7% on the same period last year.

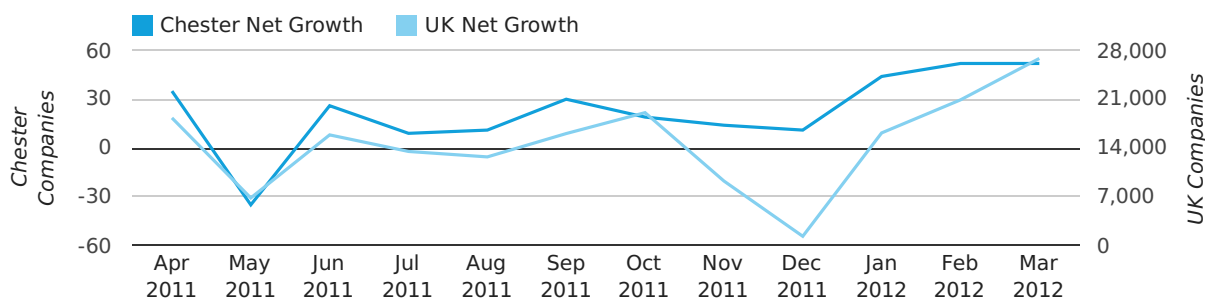
FIRST QUARTER (JAN 2012 - MAR 2012)	CHESTER	UK
2012	148	63,915
2011	46	25,405
% CHANGE	221.7%	151.6%
RECORD YEAR	2007 (3,212)	2007 (111,282)

net growth by quarter



Monthly Data (Jan, Feb & Mar 2012)

net growth by month



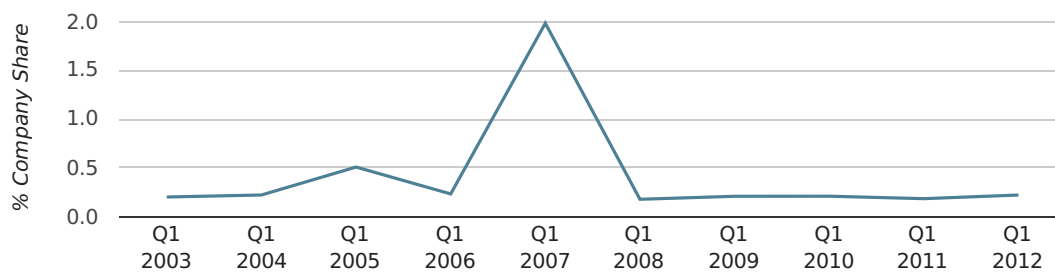
	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
NET GROWTH IN 2012	44	52	52
NET GROWTH IN 2011	16	4	26
% CHANGE	175.0%	1,200.0%	100.0%
RECORD YEAR	2007 (69)	2007 (533)	2007 (2,610)

Quarterly Data (Q1 Jan-Mar 2012)

In the first quarter of 2012, Chester formed 0.2% of all UK companies.

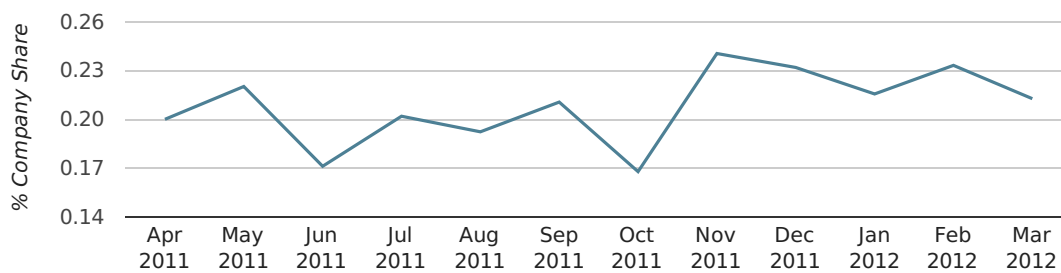
FIRST QUARTER (JAN 2012 - MAR 2012)	CHESTER
2012	0.2%
2011	0.2%
2010	0.2%
2009	0.2%
2008	0.2%
RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960)	2007 (2.0%)

company share by quarter



Monthly Data (Jan, Feb & Mar 2012)

company share by month



	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2012	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%
UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2011	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%
% CHANGE	-1.6%	25.8%	38.3%
RECORD YEAR	1962 (0.6%)	2007 (1.0%)	2007 (3.9%)

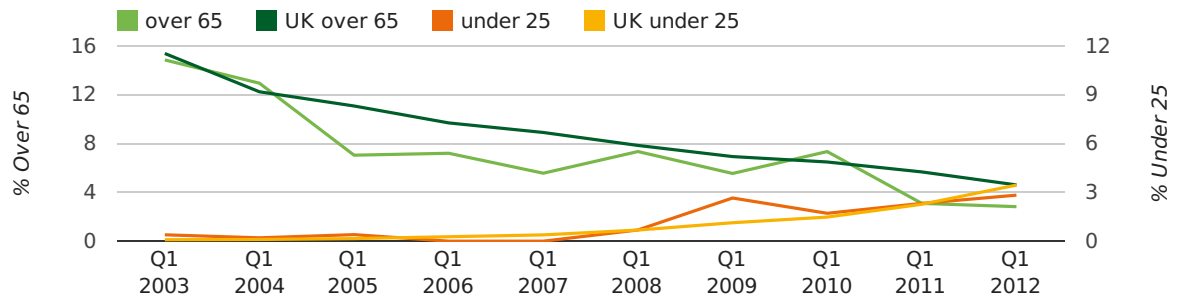
Quarterly Data (Q1 Jan-Mar 2012)

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

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 2.8% compared to the UK figure of 4.6%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 2.8% compared to the UK figure of 3.5%.

director age by quarter

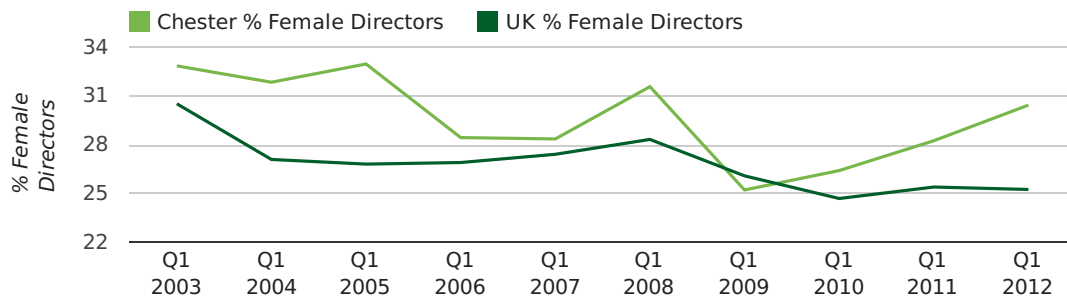


Quarterly Data (Q1 Jan-Mar 2012)

The record first quarter for female directors in Chester was in 1861 when 40.0% of all directors were female.

30.4% of all director appointments in Chester in the first quarter of 2012 were female. This compares to a UK average of 25.3% for the same period.

director gender by quarter



Previous 12 months (Mar 2011-Mar 2012)

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

WORD	PERCENTAGE	UK WORD	UK PERCENTAGE
MANAGEMENT	2.15%	CONSULTING	5.07%
CONSULTING	2.02%	MANAGEMENT	4.74%
CHESTER	1.82%	CONSULTANCY	3.30%
CONSULTANCY	1.35%	PROPERTY	2.37%
FINANCIAL	1.21%	TRADING	2.07%
ENGINEERING	1.14%	DESIGN	1.93%
ASSOCIATES	0.94%	ENGINEERING	1.86%
CONSULTANTS	0.81%	ASSOCIATES	1.84%
HEALTHCARE	0.81%	CONSULTANTS	1.79%
CHESHIRE	0.74%	BUSINESS	1.73%
(CHESTER)	0.74%	MEDIA	1.72%
CONSTRUCTION	0.67%	CONSTRUCTION	1.72%
CATERING	0.67%	LONDON	1.66%
DESIGN	0.61%	J	1.54%
PROPERTY	0.61%	INVESTMENTS	1.51%
TRAINING	0.61%	GLOBAL	1.50%
ENTERPRISES	0.61%	IT	1.40%
INVESTMENTS	0.54%	CARE	1.34%
MEDIA	0.54%	PROPERTIES	1.31%
T	0.54%	ELECTRICAL	1.27%
LOGISTICS	0.47%	M	1.27%
PROJECT	0.47%	BUILDING	1.24%
MEDICAL	0.47%	ENERGY	1.20%
ENERGY	0.47%	S	1.20%
(NW)	0.47%	ENTERPRISES	1.19%

Previous 36 months, excluding companies less than 12 months old

SIC CODE	NUMBER OF COMPANIES	UK COMPANIES
None Supplied	353	216,665
7487 - Other business activities	115	52,735
70229 - Management consultancy activities other than financial management	68	19,704
82990 - Other business support service activities not elsewhere classified	52	35,233
7414 - Business & management consultancy	44	12,113
74909 - Other professional, scientific and technical activities not elsewhere classified	41	9,892
99999 - Dormant Company	33	25,084
9999 - Dormant Company	30	18,617
62020 - Information technology consultancy activities	26	14,303
96090 - Other service activities not elsewhere classified	22	13,637
74990 - Non-trading company	21	9,729
7260 - Other computer related activities	18	7,154
62090 - Other information technology service activities	17	8,145
86900 - Other human health activities	16	5,066
7499 - Non-trading company	13	9,102
5530 - Restaurants	13	4,633
9305 - Other service activities	13	8,818
56302 - Public houses and bars	12	2,795
7222 - Other software consultancy and supply	12	6,934
4521 - General construction & civil engineering	12	5,169