

Chester

2012 half year business confidence report



headlines

- June 2012 saw a new record in company registrations in Chester when compared to any previous June.
- May 2012 saw a new record in company registrations in Chester when compared to any previous May.
- June 2012 saw a new record in net growth in Chester when compared to any previous June.

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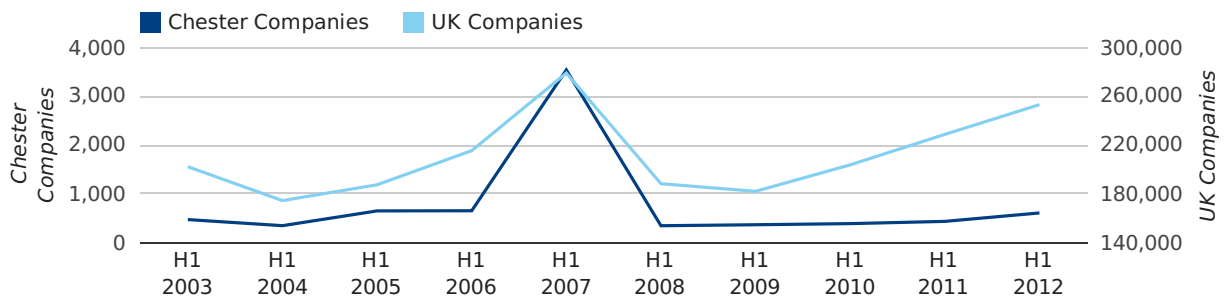
Half Year Data (Jan-Jun 2012)

In the first half of 2012 a total of 607 companies were formed in Chester. This figure is 39.9% higher than last year, which compares well to the UK wide figure of 10.7%.

The highest total for a first half year in Chester occurred in 2007 when a total of 3,541 were formed.

HALF YEAR (JAN-JUN)	CHESTER	UK
2012	607	253,150
2011	434	228,735
% CHANGE	39.9%	10.7%
RECORD YEAR	2007 (3,541)	2007 (279,097)

new companies by half year



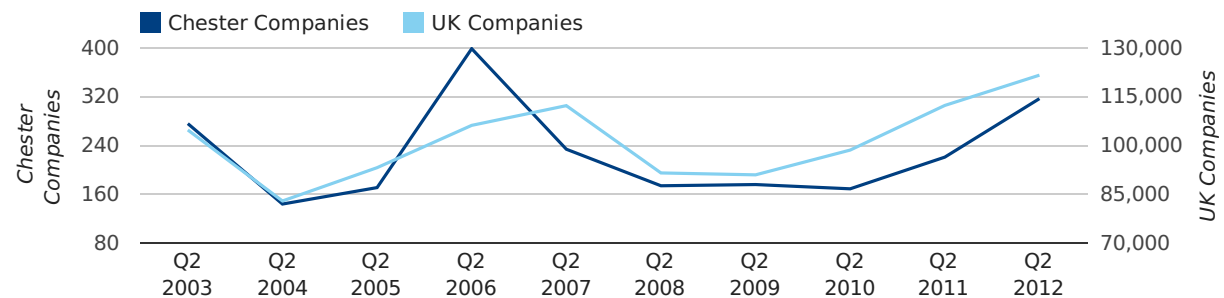
Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2012)

A total of 317 companies were registered in Chester during the second quarter of 2012 (Apr 2012 - Jun 2012).

This figure is an increase of 43.4% 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)	CHESTER	UK
2012	317	121,659
2011	221	112,344
% CHANGE	43.4%	8.3%
RECORD YEAR	2006 (399)	2012 (121,659)

new companies by quarter

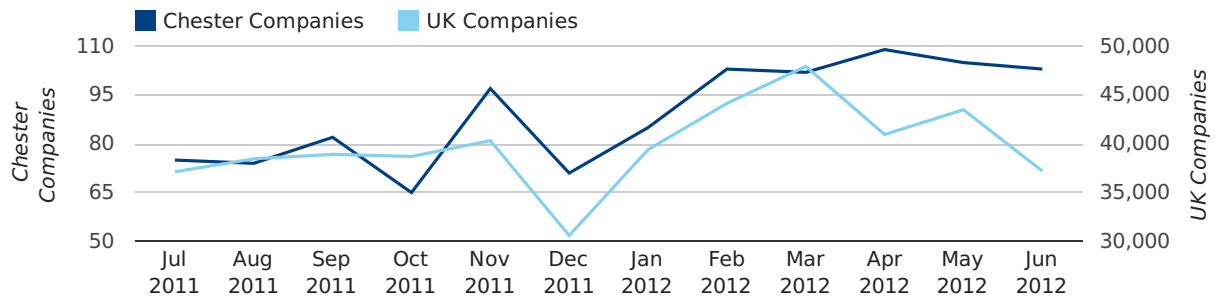


Monthly Data (Apr, May & Jun 2012)

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

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

new companies by month



	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
NEW COMPANIES IN 2012	109	105	103
NEW COMPANIES IN 2011	69	84	68
% CHANGE	58.0%	25.0%	51.5%
RECORD YEAR	2006 (279)	2012 (105)	2012 (103)

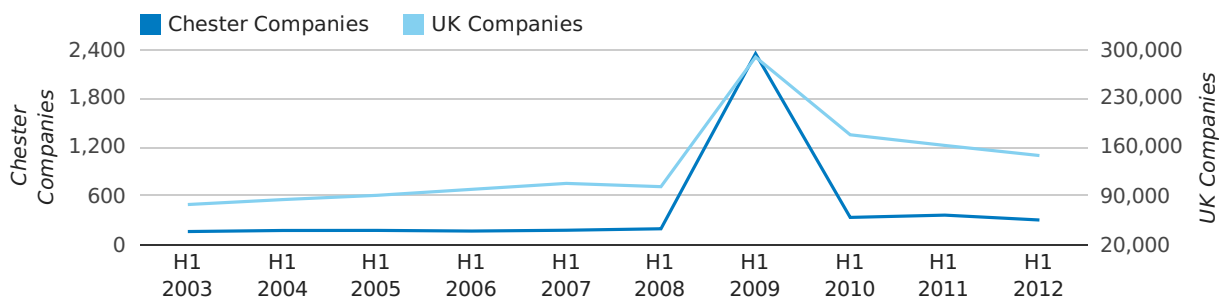
Half Year Data (Jan-Jun 2012)

In the first half of 2012 a total of 302 companies were dissolved in Chester. This figure is 16.6% lower than last year, which compares well to the UK wide change of -8.9%.

The highest total for a first half year in Chester occurred in 2009 when a total of 2,350 were closed.

HALF YEAR (JAN-JUN)	CHESTER	UK
2012	302	147,793
2011	362	162,310
% CHANGE	-16.6%	-8.9%
RECORD YEAR	2009 (2,350)	2009 (289,236)

dissolved companies by half year



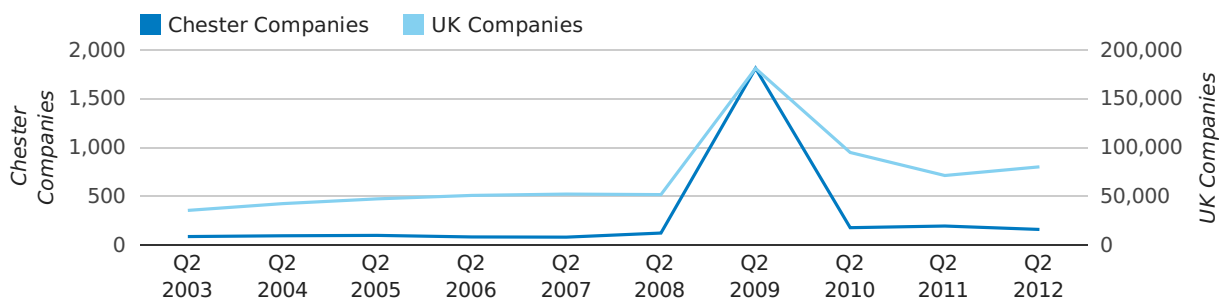
Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2012)

A total of 160 companies were dissolved in Chester during the second quarter of 2012 (Apr 2012 - Jun 2012).

This figure is a decrease of 17.9% 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)	CHESTER	UK
2012	160	80,217
2011	195	71,324
% CHANGE	-17.9%	12.5%
RECORD YEAR	2009 (1,813)	2009 (181,176)

dissolved companies by quarter



Monthly Data (Apr, May & Jun 2012)

dissolved companies by month



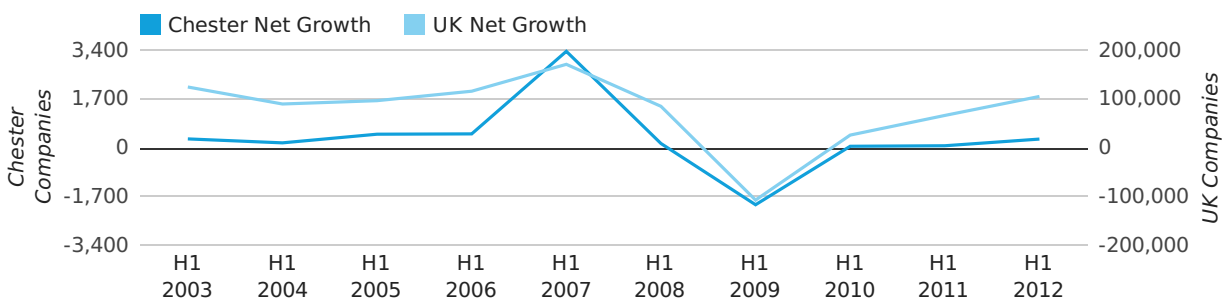
	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2012	59	58	43
CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2011	34	119	42
% CHANGE	73.5%	-51.3%	2%
RECORD YEAR	2009 (486)	2009 (1,227)	2009 (100)

Half Year Data (Jan-Jun 2012)

In the first half of 2012 the company register for Chester increased by 305 companies. This figure is 323.6% higher than last year, which compares well to a UK increase of 58.6%.

HALF YEAR (JAN-JUN)	CHESTER	UK
2012	305	105,357
2011	72	66,425
% CHANGE	323.6%	58.6%
RECORD YEAR	2007 (3,365)	2007 (171,296)

net growth by half year



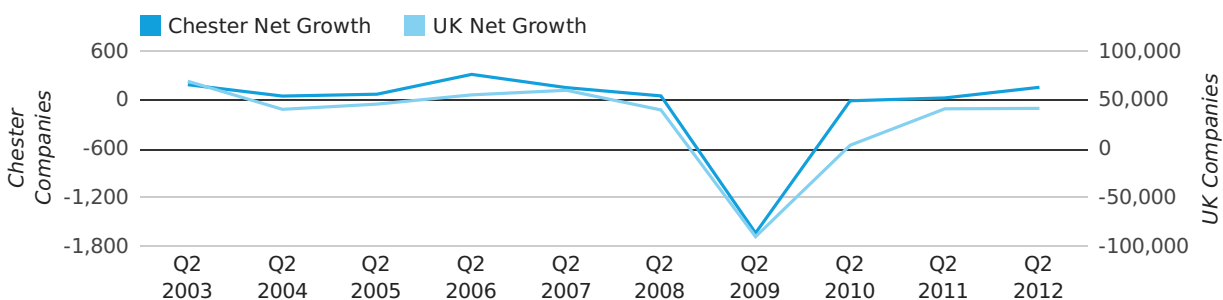
Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2012)

Net company growth for Chester during the second quarter of 2012 (Apr 2012 - Jun 2012) was 157 companies.

This represents an increase of 503.8% on the same period last year.

SECOND QUARTER (APR 2012 - JUN 2012)	CHESTER	UK
2012	157	41,442
2011	26	41,020
% CHANGE	503.8%	1.0%
RECORD YEAR	2006 (316)	2003 (69,274)

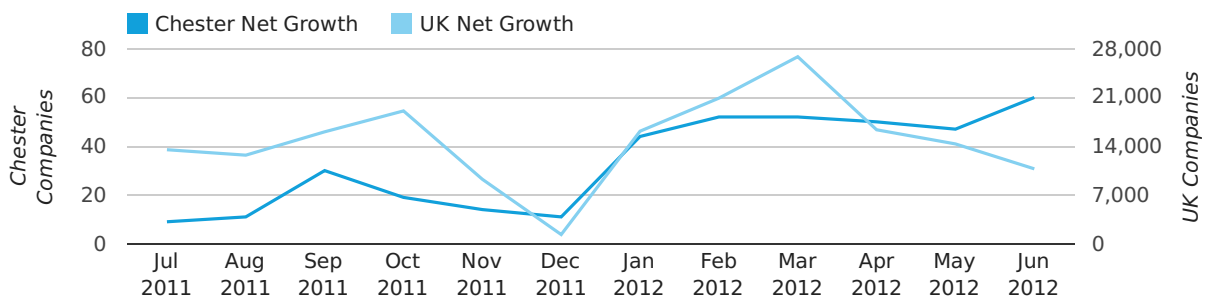
net growth by quarter



Monthly Data (Apr, May & Jun 2012)

June 2012 saw a new record in net growth in Chester when compared to any previous June.

net growth by month



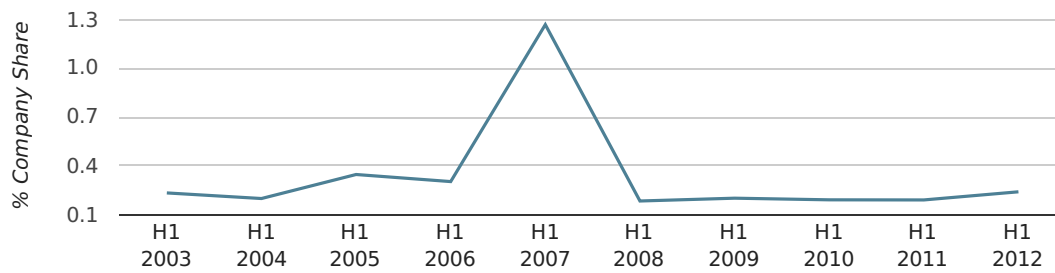
	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
NET GROWTH IN 2012	50	47	60
NET GROWTH IN 2011	35	-35	26
% CHANGE	42.9%	-234.3%	130.8%
RECORD YEAR	2006 (253)	2003 (75)	2012 (60)

Half Year Data (Jan-Jun 2012)

In the first half of 2012 Chester formed 0.2% of all UK companies. This is the same as the 2011 figure of 0.2%.

HALF YEAR (JAN-JUN)	CHESTER
2012	0.2%
2011	0.2%
2010	0.2%
2009	0.2%
2008	0.2%
RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960)	2007 (1.3%)

company share by half year

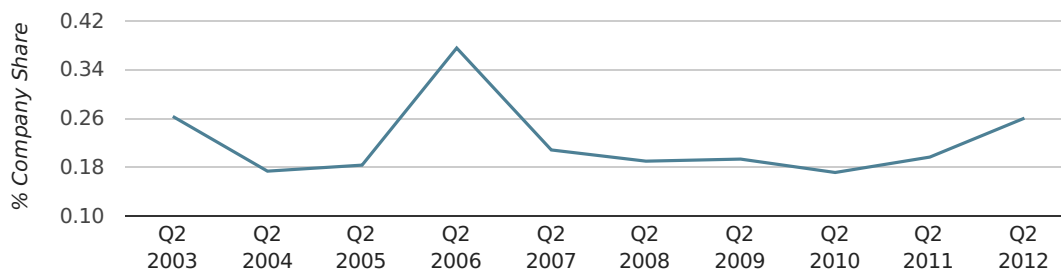


Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2012)

In the second quarter of 2012, Chester formed 0.3% of all UK companies.

SECOND QUARTER (APR 2012 - JUN 2012)	CHESTER
2012	0.3%
2011	0.2%
2010	0.2%
2009	0.2%
2008	0.2%
RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960)	2006 (0.4%)

company share by quarter



Monthly Data (Apr, May & Jun 2012)

company share by month



	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2012	0.3%	0.2%	0.3%
UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2011	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%
% CHANGE	33.0%	9.6%	61.7%
RECORD YEAR	2006 (0.7%)	1971 (0.4%)	1967 (0.4%)

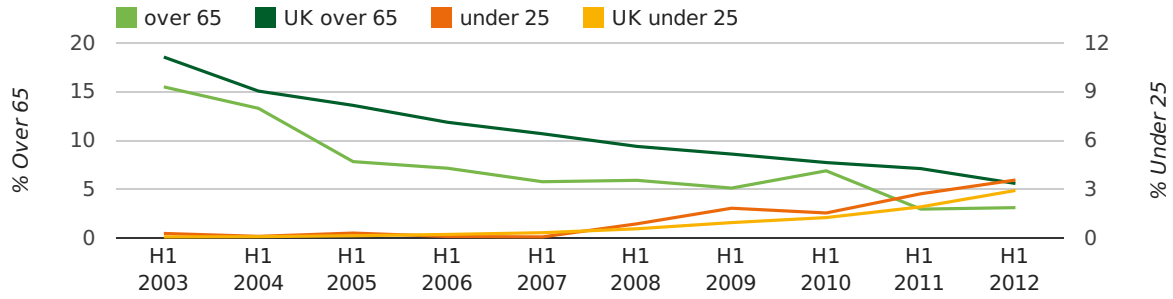
Half Year Data (Jan-Jun 2012)

The average age of a director in the first half of 2012 was 43.1.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 3.6% compared to the UK figure of 4.9%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 3.1% compared to the UK figure of 3.4%.

director age by half year



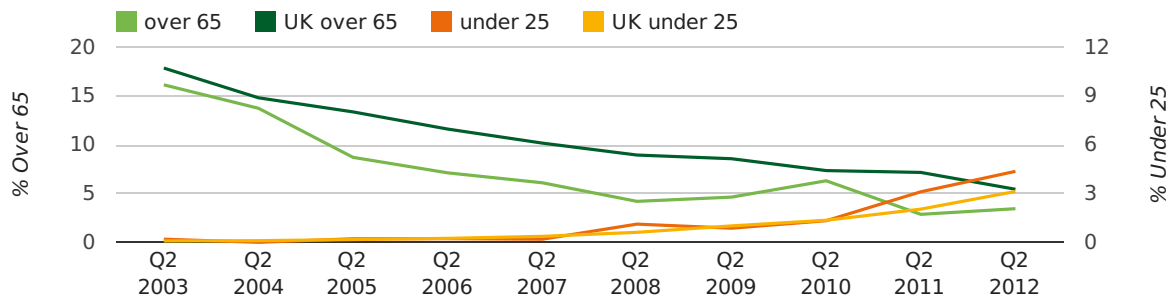
Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2012)

The average age of a director in the second quarter of 2012 was 42.1.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 4.4% compared to the UK figure of 5.2%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 3.4% compared to the UK figure of 3.3%.

director age by quarter

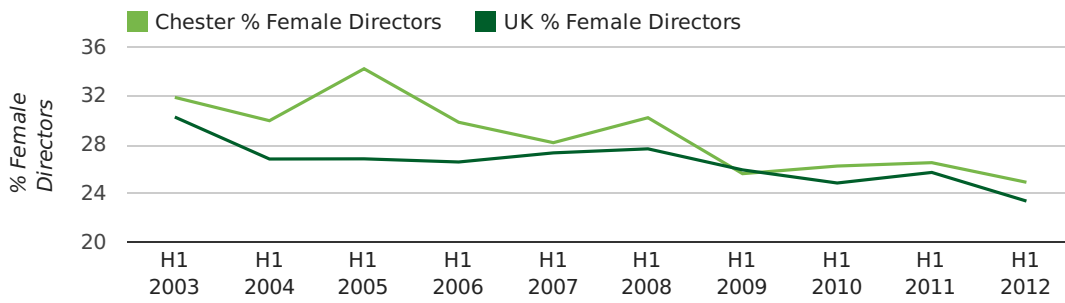


Half Year Data (Jan-Jun 2012)

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

24.9% of all director appointments in Chester 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

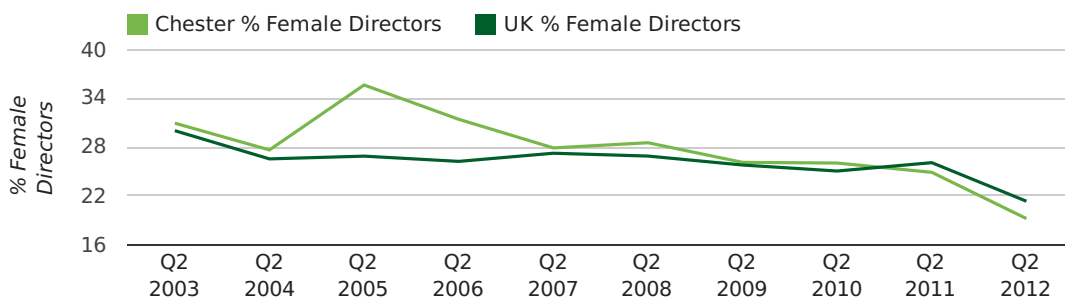


Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2012)

The record second quarter for female directors in Chester was in 1866 when 66.7% of all directors were female.

19.2% of all director appointments in Chester in the second quarter of 2012 were female. This compares to a UK average of 21.3% for the same period.

director gender by quarter



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	2.14%	CONSULTING	5.07%
CONSULTING	2.08%	MANAGEMENT	4.74%
CHESTER	1.41%	CONSULTANCY	3.28%
CONSULTANCY	1.29%	PROPERTY	2.35%
FINANCIAL	1.16%	TRADING	2.10%
ENGINEERING	1.10%	DESIGN	1.89%
HEALTHCARE	0.80%	ENGINEERING	1.87%
CONSULTANTS	0.80%	ASSOCIATES	1.82%
ASSOCIATES	0.80%	CONSULTANTS	1.78%
CONSTRUCTION	0.73%	CONSTRUCTION	1.71%
DESIGN	0.67%	BUSINESS	1.70%
IT	0.67%	MEDIA	1.69%
ENERGY	0.67%	LONDON	1.68%
ENTERPRISES	0.61%	J	1.57%
TRAINING	0.61%	GLOBAL	1.51%
T	0.61%	INVESTMENTS	1.48%
CATERING	0.61%	IT	1.42%
ELECTRICAL	0.61%	CARE	1.31%
PROPERTY	0.61%	PROPERTIES	1.31%
(CHESTER)	0.55%	M	1.26%
CHESHIRE	0.55%	ELECTRICAL	1.23%
CO	0.49%	BUILDING	1.23%
(NW)	0.49%	SECURITY	1.19%
SCHOOL	0.49%	S	1.18%
J	0.49%	ENTERPRISES	1.17%

Previous 36 months, excluding companies less than 12 months old

SIC CODE	NUMBER OF COMPANIES	UK COMPANIES
None Supplied	424	244,457
7487 - Other business activities	101	47,029
70229 - Management consultancy activities other than financial management	68	20,390
82990 - Other business support service activities not elsewhere classified	46	35,447
7414 - Business & management consultancy	42	10,978
74909 - Other professional, scientific and technical activities not elsewhere classified	35	10,271
99999 - Dormant Company	33	26,088
62020 - Information technology consultancy activities	27	15,280
9999 - Dormant Company	27	16,469
96090 - Other service activities not elsewhere classified	22	14,220
74990 - Non-trading company	20	9,706
62090 - Other information technology service activities	18	8,258
7260 - Other computer related activities	16	6,456
86900 - Other human health activities	15	5,222
56302 - Public houses and bars	13	2,913
43999 - Other specialised construction activities not elsewhere classified	13	4,091
7499 - Non-trading company	12	8,023
7222 - Other software consultancy and supply	12	6,356
4521 - General construction & civil engineering	11	4,644
5530 - Restaurants	10	4,037