

County Durham

q1 2012 business confidence report



headlines

- Q1 2012 saw a new record in company registrations in County Durham when compared to any previous Q1.
- Q1 2012 was a record quarter for company registrations in County Durham when compared to any quarter in history.
- February 2012 saw a new record in company registrations in County Durham when compared to any previous February.
- January 2012 saw a new record in company registrations in County Durham when compared to any previous January.

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Q1 2012 saw a new record in company registrations in County Durham when compared to any previous Q1.

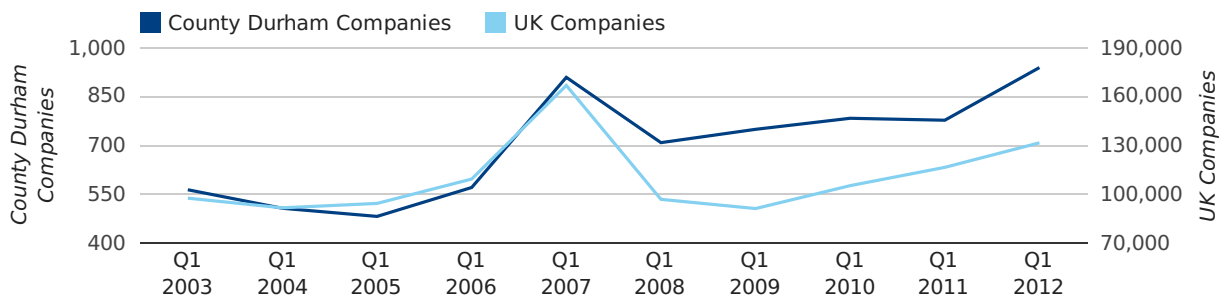
Q1 2012 was a record quarter for company registrations in County Durham when compared to any quarter in history.

A total of 939 companies were registered in County Durham during the first quarter of 2012 (Jan 2012 - Mar 2012).

This figure is an increase of 20.8% 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)	COUNTY DURHAM	UK
2012	939	131,491
2011	777	116,391
% CHANGE	20.8%	13.0%
RECORD YEAR	2012 (939)	2007 (166,814)

new companies by quarter

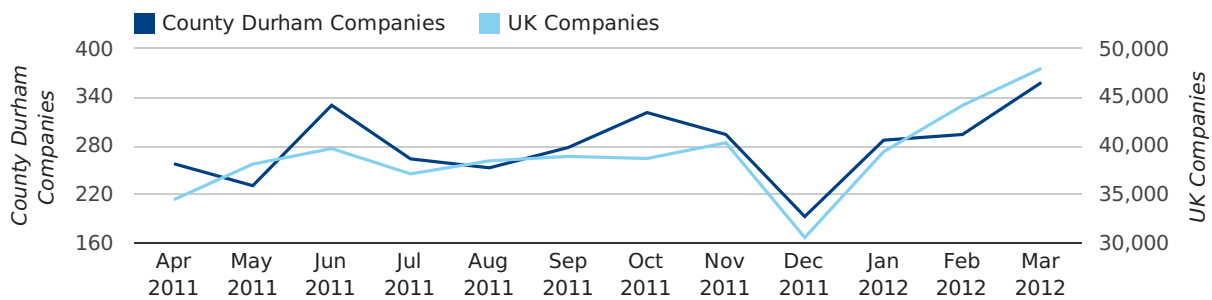


Monthly Data (Jan, Feb & Mar 2012)

February 2012 saw a new record in company registrations in County Durham when compared to any previous February.

January 2012 saw a new record in company registrations in County Durham when compared to any previous January.

new companies by month



	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
NEW COMPANIES IN 2012	287	294	358
NEW COMPANIES IN 2011	229	238	310
% CHANGE	25.3%	23.5%	15.5%
RECORD YEAR	2012 (287)	2012 (294)	2007 (391)

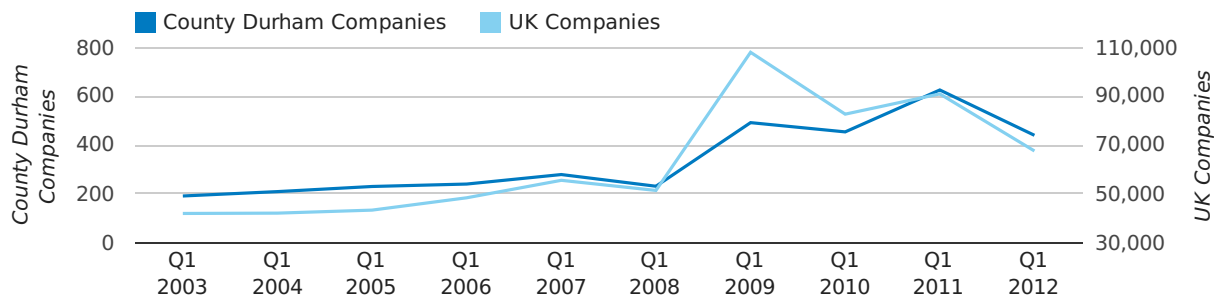
Quarterly Data (Q1 Jan-Mar 2012)

A total of 440 companies were dissolved in County Durham during the first quarter of 2012 (Jan 2012 - Mar 2012).

This figure is a decrease of 29.7% versus the same period last year (Q1 2011). This figure compares well to the UK as a whole, which saw a decrease of 25.7% against the same period last year.

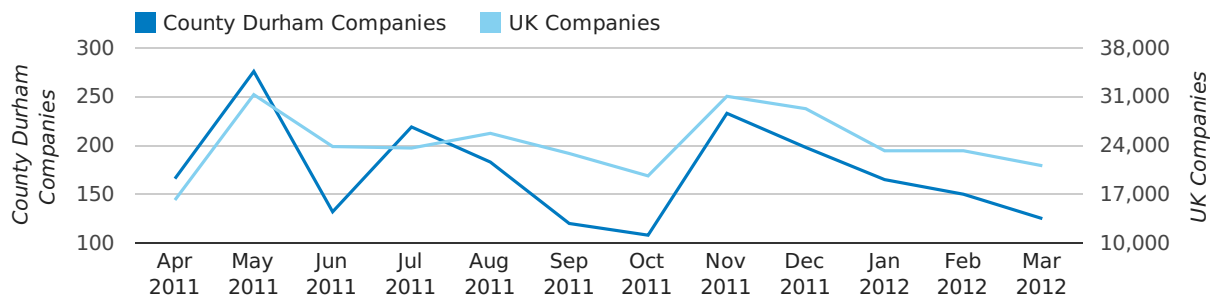
FIRST QUARTER (JAN 2012 - MAR 2012)	COUNTY DURHAM	UK
2012	440	67,576
2011	626	90,986
% CHANGE	-29.7%	-25.7%
RECORD YEAR	2011 (626)	2009 (108,060)

dissolved companies by quarter



Monthly Data (Jan, Feb & Mar 2012)

dissolved companies by month



	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2012	165	150	125
CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2011	247	177	202
% CHANGE	-33.2%	-15.3%	-38%
RECORD YEAR	2011 (247)	2011 (177)	2009 (257)

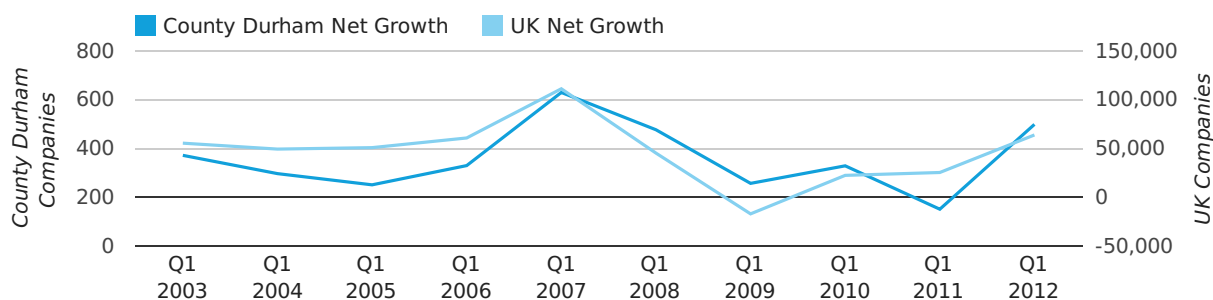
Quarterly Data (Q1 Jan-Mar 2012)

Net company growth for County Durham during the first quarter of 2012 (Jan 2012 - Mar 2012) was 499 companies.

This represents an increase of 230.5% on the same period last year.

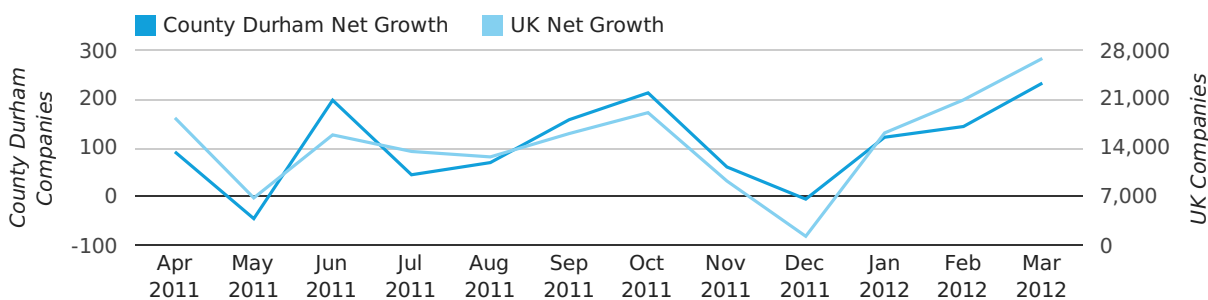
FIRST QUARTER (JAN 2012 - MAR 2012)	COUNTY DURHAM	UK
2012	499	63,915
2011	151	25,405
% CHANGE	230.5%	151.6%
RECORD YEAR	2007 (630)	2007 (111,282)

net growth by quarter



Monthly Data (Jan, Feb & Mar 2012)

net growth by month



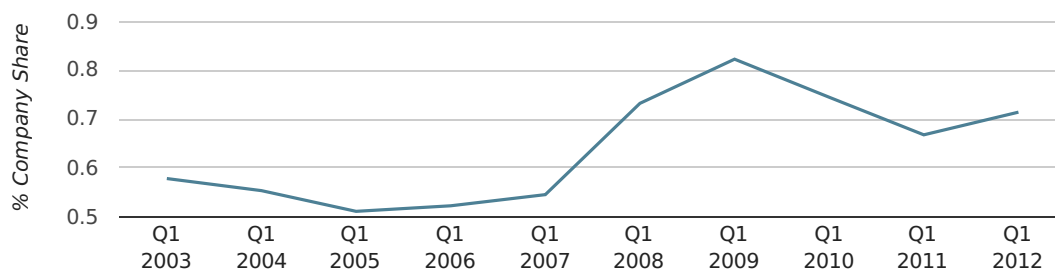
	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
NET GROWTH IN 2012	122	144	233
NET GROWTH IN 2011	-18	61	108
% CHANGE	-777.8%	136.1%	115.7%
RECORD YEAR	2007 (131)	2007 (196)	2007 (303)

Quarterly Data (Q1 Jan-Mar 2012)

In the first quarter of 2012, County Durham formed 0.7% of all UK companies.

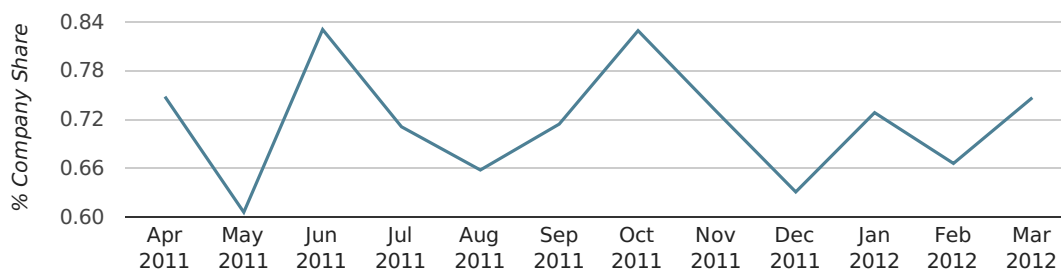
FIRST QUARTER (JAN 2012 - MAR 2012)	COUNTY DURHAM
2012	0.7%
2011	0.7%
2010	0.7%
2009	0.8%
2008	0.7%
RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960)	2009 (0.8%)

company share by quarter



Monthly Data (Jan, Feb & Mar 2012)

company share by month



	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2012	0.7%	0.7%	0.7%
UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2011	0.7%	0.6%	0.7%
% CHANGE	7.4%	5.6%	8.0%
RECORD YEAR	1965 (1.1%)	1981 (1.1%)	2000 (1.2%)

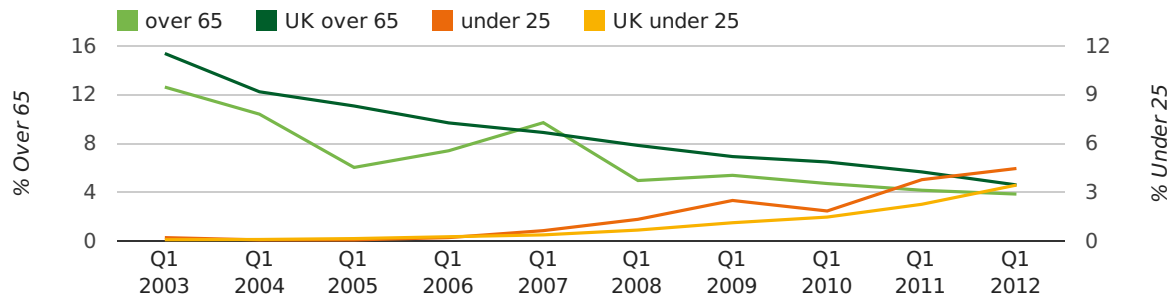
Quarterly Data (Q1 Jan-Mar 2012)

The average age of a director in the first quarter of 2012 was 44.3.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 4.5% compared to the UK figure of 4.6%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 3.9% compared to the UK figure of 3.5%.

director age 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	1.70%	CONSULTING	5.07%
ENGINEERING	1.61%	MANAGEMENT	4.74%
NORTH	1.41%	CONSULTANCY	3.30%
EAST	1.29%	PROPERTY	2.37%
CONSULTING	1.29%	TRADING	2.07%
CONSULTANCY	1.17%	DESIGN	1.93%
J	1.08%	ENGINEERING	1.86%
PROPERTY	1.08%	ASSOCIATES	1.84%
DURHAM	1.05%	CONSULTANTS	1.79%
TRAINING	0.96%	BUSINESS	1.73%
ELECTRICAL	0.89%	MEDIA	1.72%
DESIGN	0.86%	CONSTRUCTION	1.72%
(NORTH	0.86%	LONDON	1.66%
EAST)	0.84%	J	1.54%
(NE)	0.82%	INVESTMENTS	1.51%
COMMUNITY	0.82%	GLOBAL	1.50%
MAINTENANCE	0.79%	IT	1.40%
INSPECTION	0.74%	CARE	1.34%
ENERGY	0.72%	PROPERTIES	1.31%
D	0.70%	ELECTRICAL	1.27%
CONSULTANTS	0.70%	M	1.27%
LEISURE	0.65%	BUILDING	1.24%
DEVELOPMENTS	0.65%	ENERGY	1.20%
ASSOCIATES	0.65%	S	1.20%
M	0.65%	ENTERPRISES	1.19%

Previous 36 months, excluding companies less than 12 months old

SIC CODE	NUMBER OF COMPANIES	UK COMPANIES
None Supplied	1,107	216,665
7487 - Other business activities	817	52,735
82990 - Other business support service activities not elsewhere classified	296	35,233
70229 - Management consultancy activities other than financial management	134	19,704
99999 - Dormant Company	130	25,084
9999 - Dormant Company	105	18,617
74909 - Other professional, scientific and technical activities not elsewhere classified	92	9,892
7414 - Business & management consultancy	87	12,113
96090 - Other service activities not elsewhere classified	77	13,637
43999 - Other specialised construction activities not elsewhere classified	71	3,931
74990 - Non-trading company	59	9,729
9305 - Other service activities	56	8,818
86900 - Other human health activities	53	5,066
71129 - Other engineering activities	52	2,217
47910 - Retail sale via mail order houses or via Internet	52	3,439
7499 - Non-trading company	47	9,102
43210 - Electrical installation	47	3,573
62020 - Information technology consultancy activities	47	14,303
4521 - General construction & civil engineering	40	5,169
62090 - Other information technology service activities	37	8,145