Croydon

2011 annual business confidence report



headlines

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

contents

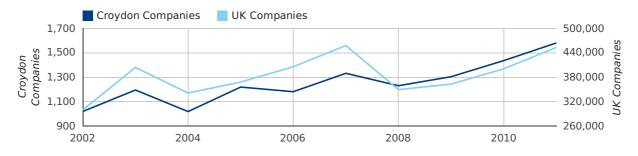
| new company registrations | |
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| closed companies (dissolved) | |
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2011 was a record year for company registrations in Croydon when compared to any year in history.

A total of 1,580 companies were formed in Croydon in 2011. This total is 10.1% higher than in 2010 and compares equally to the UK figure of a 13.1% growth compared to 400,358 the previous year.

| YEAR | CROYDON | UK |
|-------------|--------------|----------------|
| 2011 | 1,580 | 452,870 |
| 2010 | 1,435 | 400,358 |
| 2009 | 1,303 | 362,675 |
| 2008 | 1,229 | 349,203 |
| 2007 | 1,331 | 457,649 |
| RECORD YEAR | 2011 (1,580) | 2007 (457,649) |

new companies by year



Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

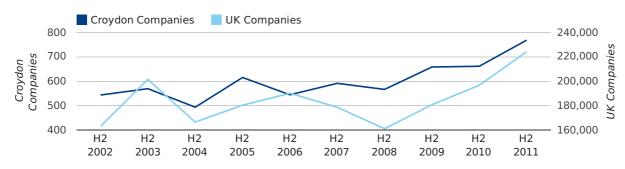
The second half of 2011 saw a new record in company registrations in Croydon when compared to any previous second half year.

In the second half of 2011 a total of 768 companies were formed in Croydon. This figure is 16.2% higher than last year, which compares well to the UK wide figure of 14.0%.

The highest total for a second half year in Croydon occurred in 2011 when a total of 768 were formed.

| HALF YEAR (JUL-DEC) | CROYDON | UK |
|---------------------|------------|----------------|
| 2011 | 768 | 224,135 |
| 2010 | 661 | 196,609 |
| % CHANGE | 16.2% | 14.0% |
| RECORD YEAR | 2011 (768) | 2011 (224,135) |

new companies by half year



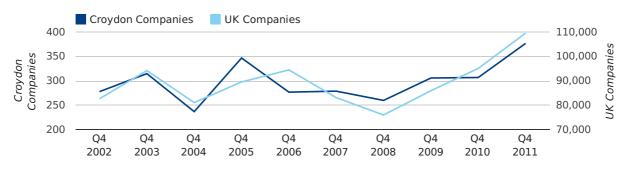
Q4 2011 saw a new record in company registrations in Croydon when compared to any previous Q4.

A total of 377 companies were registered in Croydon during the fourth quarter of 2011 (Oct 2011 - Dec 2011).

This figure is an increase of 22.8% versus the same period last year (Q4 2010). This figure compares equally 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) | CROYDON | UK |
|--------------------------------------|------------|----------------|
| 2011 | 377 | 109,623 |
| 2010 | 307 | 95,117 |
| % CHANGE | 22.8% | 15.3% |
| RECORD YEAR | 2011 (377) | 2011 (109,623) |

new companies by quarter



Monthly Data (Oct, Nov & Dec 2011)

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

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

Croydon Companies UK Companies 180 46,000 Croydon Companies UK Companies 42,000 160 140 38,000 120 34,000 100 30,000 Jan Feb Oct Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Nov Dec 2011 2011 2011 2011 2011 2011 2011 2011 2011 2011 2011 2011

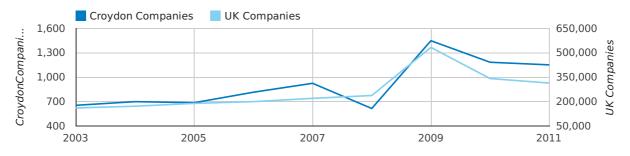
new companies by month

| | OCTOBER | NOVEMBER | DECEMBER |
|-----------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| NEW COMPANIES IN 2011 | 117 | 147 | 113 |
| NEW COMPANIES IN 2010 | 105 | 117 | 85 |
| % CHANGE | 11.4% | 25.6% | 32.9% |
| RECORD YEAR | 2005 (130) | 2011 (147) | 2011 (113) |

A total of 1,153 companies were dissolved in Croydon in 2011. This total is 2.7% lower than in 2010 and compares favourably to the UK figure of 8.1% decrease compared to the previous year.

| YEAR | CROYDON | UK |
|-------------|--------------|----------------|
| 2011 | 1,153 | 314,523 |
| 2010 | 1,185 | 342,232 |
| 2009 | 1,450 | 533,773 |
| 2008 | 616 | 237,901 |
| 2007 | 926 | 220,295 |
| RECORD YEAR | 2009 (1,450) | 2009 (533,773) |

dissolved companies by year



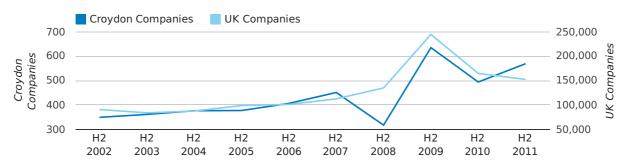
Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

In the second half of 2011 a total of 569 companies were dissolved in Croydon. This figure is 15.2% higher than last year, which compares badly to the UK wide change of -7.5%.

The highest total for a second half year in Croydon occurred in 2009 when a total of 635 were closed.

| HALF YEAR (JUL-DEC) | CROYDON | UK |
|---------------------|------------|----------------|
| 2011 | 569 | 152,213 |
| 2010 | 494 | 164,601 |
| % CHANGE | 15.2% | -7.5% |
| RECORD YEAR | 2009 (635) | 2009 (244,537) |

dissolved companies by half year

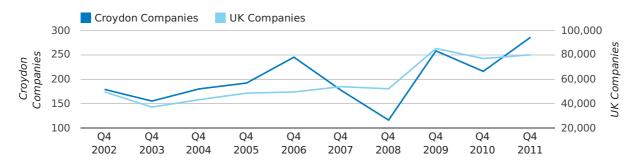


Q4 2011 saw a new record in company closures in Croydon when compared to any previous Q4.

A total of 286 companies were dissolved in Croydon during the fourth quarter of 2011 (Oct 2011 - Dec 2011).

This figure is an increase of 32.4% 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.

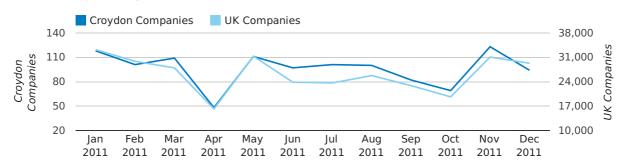
| FOURTH QUARTER (OCT 2011 - DEC 2011) | CROYDON | UK |
|--------------------------------------|------------|---------------|
| 2011 | 286 | 79,983 |
| 2010 | 216 | 76,896 |
| % CHANGE | 32.4% | 4.0% |
| RECORD YEAR | 2011 (286) | 2009 (85,136) |



dissolved companies by quarter

Monthly Data (Oct, Nov & Dec 2011)

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



dissolved companies by month

| | OCTOBER | NOVEMBER | DECEMBER |
|--------------------------|-----------|------------|-----------|
| CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2011 | 69 | 123 | 94 |
| CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2010 | 86 | 87 | 43 |
| % CHANGE | -19.8% | 41.4% | 119% |
| RECORD YEAR | 2010 (86) | 2006 (125) | 2011 (94) |

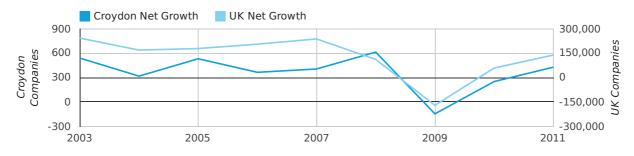
A total of 427 companies were added to the company register for Croydon in 2011. This number represents growth of 29.8% which compares unfavourably to the UK figure of 34.6%.

This number is 177 companies higher than the previous year.

The highest net company growth figure ever seen in one year came in 2008 when the Croydon company register grew by 613 companies.

| YEAR | CROYDON | UK |
|-------------|------------|----------------|
| 2011 | 427 | 138,347 |
| 2010 | 250 | 58,126 |
| 2009 | -147 | -171,098 |
| 2008 | 613 | 111,302 |
| 2007 | 405 | 237,354 |
| RECORD YEAR | 2008 (613) | 2003 (242,543) |

net growth by year

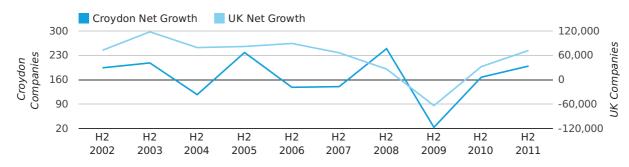


Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

In the second half of 2011 the company register for Croydon increased by 199 companies. This figure is 19.2% higher than last year, which compares badly to a UK increase of 124.7%.

| HALF YEAR (JUL-DEC) | CROYDON | UK |
|---------------------|------------|----------------|
| 2011 | 199 | 71,922 |
| 2010 | 167 | 32,008 |
| % CHANGE | 19.2% | 124.7% |
| RECORD YEAR | 1995 (290) | 2003 (117,772) |

net growth by half year

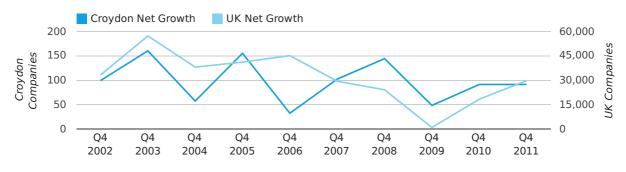


Net company growth for Croydon during the fourth quarter of 2011 (Oct 2011 - Dec 2011) was 91 companies.

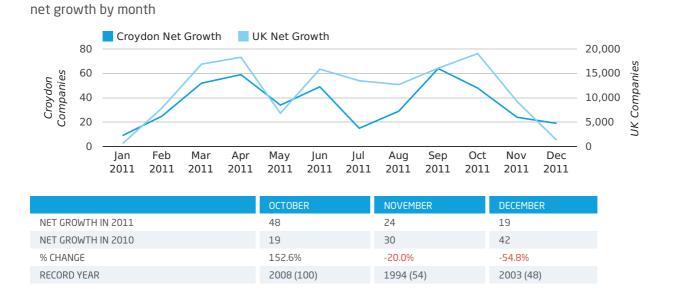
This represents an increase of 0.0% on the same period last year.

| FOURTH QUARTER (OCT 2011 - DEC 2011) | CROYDON | UK |
|--------------------------------------|------------|---------------|
| 2011 | 91 | 29,640 |
| 2010 | 91 | 18,221 |
| % CHANGE | 0.0% | 62.7% |
| RECORD YEAR | 2003 (160) | 2003 (57,175) |

net growth by quarter



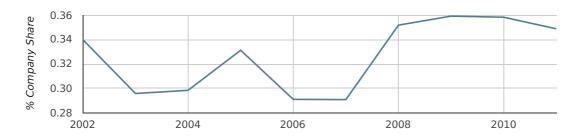
Monthly Data (Oct, Nov & Dec 2011)



In 2011 Croydon formed 0.3% of all UK companies. This is a decline on 2010 when Croydon was responsible for 0.4% of all UK companies.

| YEAR | CROYDON |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| 2011 | 0.3% |
| 2010 | 0.4% |
| 2009 | 0.4% |
| 2008 | 0.4% |
| 2007 | 0.3% |
| RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960) | 1970 (0.6%) |

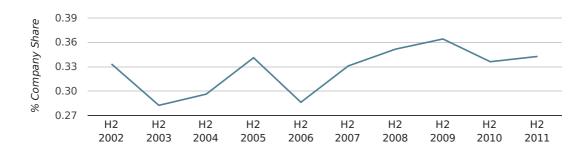
company share by year



Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

In the second half of 2011 Croydon formed 0.3% of all UK companies. This is the same as the 2010 figure of 0.3%.

| HALF YEAR (JUL-DEC) | CROYDON |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| 2011 | 0.3% |
| 2010 | 0.3% |
| 2009 | 0.4% |
| 2008 | 0.4% |
| 2007 | 0.3% |
| RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960) | 1970 (0.6%) |

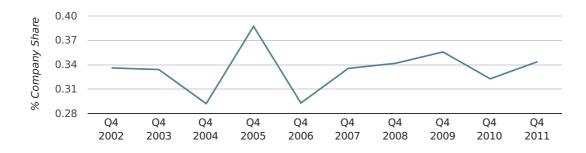


company share by half year

In the fourth quarter of 2011, Croydon formed 0.3% of all UK companies.

| FOURTH QUARTER (OCT 2011 - DEC 2011) | CROYDON |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| 2011 | 0.3% |
| 2010 | 0.3% |
| 2009 | 0.4% |
| 2008 | 0.3% |
| 2007 | 0.3% |
| RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960) | 1966 (0.6%) |

company share by quarter



Monthly Data (Oct, Nov & Dec 2011)



company share by month

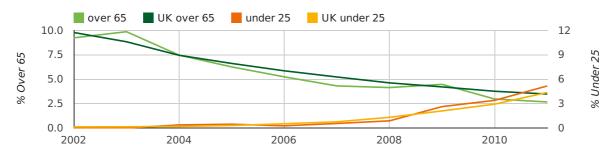
| | OCTOBER | NOVEMBER | DECEMBER |
|----------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2011 | 0.3% | 0.4% | 0.4% |
| UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2010 | 0.3% | 0.3% | 0.3% |
| % CHANGE | -3.2% | 7.0% | 17.9% |
| RECORD YEAR | 1970 (0.9%) | 1966 (0.9%) | 1975 (0.7%) |

The average age of a director in 2011 was 40.6.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 5.2% compared to the UK figure of 3.7%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 2.7% compared to the UK figure of 4.2%.

director age by year



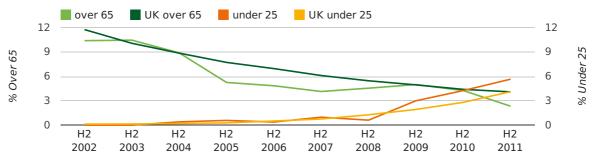
Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

The average age of a director in the second half of 2011 was 40.3.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 5.7% compared to the UK figure of 4.1%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 2.3% compared to the UK figure of 4.1%.



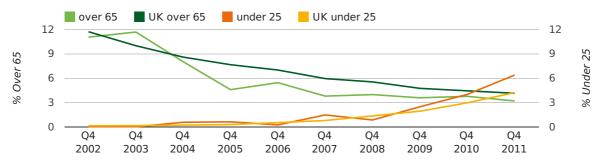


The average age of a director in the fourth quarter of 2011 was 40.8.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 6.4% compared to the UK figure of 4.2%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 3.2% compared to the UK figure of 4.1%.

director age by quarter



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

The percentage of female directors in Croydon in 2011 was 24.4%. The average for the UK during this time was 28.6%

director gender by year

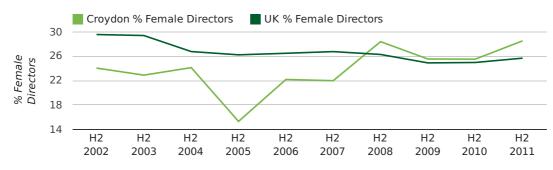


Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

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

28.5% of all director appointments in Croydon 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



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

27.4% of all director appointments in Croydon 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 |
|--------------|------------|--------------|---------------|
| CONSULTING | 2.13% | CONSULTING | 5.07% |
| MANAGEMENT | 1.96% | MANAGEMENT | 4.74% |
| CONSULTANTS | 1.11% | CONSULTANCY | 3.26% |
| LONDON | 1.02% | PROPERTY | 2.37% |
| CONSTRUCTION | 0.94% | TRADING | 2.07% |
| CLEANING | 0.81% | DESIGN | 1.92% |
| CONSULTANCY | 0.77% | ASSOCIATES | 1.86% |
| PROPERTY | 0.77% | ENGINEERING | 1.78% |
| CARE | 0.73% | BUSINESS | 1.78% |
| BUILDING | 0.73% | CONSULTANTS | 1.76% |
| ENTERPRISES | 0.68% | CONSTRUCTION | 1.73% |
| TRADING | 0.68% | MEDIA | 1.71% |
| S | 0.64% | LONDON | 1.63% |
| CROYDON | 0.60% | J | 1.51% |
| GLOBAL | 0.60% | INVESTMENTS | 1.48% |
| MEDIA | 0.56% | GLOBAL | 1.46% |
| IT | 0.56% | IT | 1.41% |
| DEVELOPMENT | 0.51% | CARE | 1.39% |
| J | 0.51% | PROPERTIES | 1.29% |
| INVESTMENTS | 0.47% | ELECTRICAL | 1.29% |
| BUSINESS | 0.43% | М | 1.27% |
| TECHNOLOGY | 0.43% | BUILDING | 1.26% |
| TRAINING | 0.43% | ENERGY | 1.25% |
| TECHNOLOGIES | 0.38% | S | 1.20% |
| G | 0.38% | ENTERPRISES | 1.20% |

Previous 36 months, excluding companies less than 12 months old

| SIC CODE | NUMBER OF COMPANIES | UK COMPANIES |
|--|------------------------|-----------------|
| None Supplied | 796 | 205,525 |
| 7487 - Other business activities | 186 | 57,052 |
| 82990 - Other business support service activities not elsewhere classified | 88 | 32,483 |
| 99999 - Dormant Company | 58 | 21,846 |
| 9999 - Dormant Company | 56 | 20,199 |
| 62020 - Information technology consultancy activities | 55 | 12,072 |
| 9305 - Other service activities | 55 | 9,492 |
| 96090 - Other service activities not elsewhere classified | 49 | 11,768 |
| 7414 - Business & management consultancy | 45 | 13,034 |
| 62090 - Other information technology service activities | 41 | 7,493 |
| 7260 - Other computer related activities | 39 | 7,667 |
| 70229 - Management consultancy activities other than financial management | 38 | 17,765 |
| 7222 - Other software consultancy and supply | 36 | 7,398 |
| 74909 - Other professional, scientific and technical activities not elsewhere classified | 32 | 8,671 |
| 4521 - General construction & civil engineering | 28 | 5,558 |
| 86900 - Other human health activities | 27 | 4,457 |
| 98000 - Residents property management | 25 | 2,874 |
| 74990 - Non-trading company | 23 | 8,929 |
| 5530 - Restaurants | 21 | 5,013 |
| 41100 - Development of building projects | 20 | 4,331 |