Darlington

2011 annual business confidence report





headlines

- 2011 was a record year for company registrations in Darlington when compared to any year in history.
- The second half of 2011 saw a new record in company registrations in Darlington when compared to any previous second half year.
- The second half of 2011 was a record second half year for company registrations in Darlington when compared to any half year in history.
- Q4 2011 saw a new record in company registrations in Darlington when compared to any previous Q4.
- Q4 2011 was a record quarter for company registrations in Darlington when compared to any quarter in history.
- December 2011 saw a new record in company registrations in Darlington when compared to any previous December.
- October 2011 saw a new record in company registrations in Darlington when compared to any previous October.
- October 2011 was a record month for company registrations in Darlington when compared to any month in history.
- Q4 2011 saw a new record in company closures in Darlington when compared to any previous Q4.
- December 2011 saw a new record in company closures in Darlington when compared to any previous December.
- November 2011 saw a new record in company closures in Darlington when compared to any previous November.
- Q4 2011 saw a new record in net growth in Darlington when compared to any previous Q4.
- October 2011 saw a new record in net growth in Darlington when compared to any previous October.
- October 2011 was a record month for net growth in Darlington when compared to any month in history.

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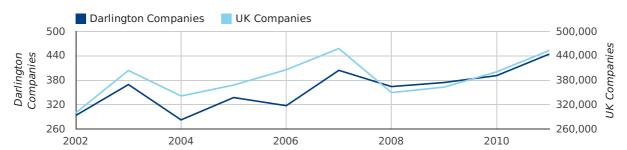
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2011 was a record year for company registrations in Darlington when compared to any year in history.

A total of 444 companies were formed in Darlington in 2011. This total is 13.6% higher than in 2010 and compares equally to the UK figure of a 13.1% growth compared to 400,358 the previous year.

YEAR	DARLINGTON	UK
2011	444	452,870
2010	391	400,358
2009	374	362,675
2008	364	349,203
2007	404	457,649
RECORD YEAR	2011 (444)	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 Darlington when compared to any previous second half year.

The second half of 2011 was a record second half year for company registrations in Darlington when compared to any half year in history.

In the second half of 2011 a total of 228 companies were formed in Darlington. This figure is 23.9% higher than last year, which compares well to the UK wide figure of 14.0%.

The highest total for a second half year in Darlington occurred in 2011 when a total of 228 were formed.

HALF YEAR (JUL-DEC)	DARLINGTON	UK
2011	228	224,135
2010	184	196,609
% CHANGE	23.9%	14.0%
RECORD YEAR	2011 (228)	2011 (224,135)

new companies by half year



Quarterly Data (Q4 Oct-Dec 2011)

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

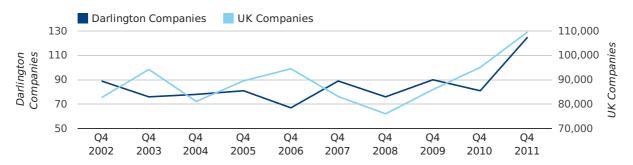
Q4 2011 was a record quarter for company registrations in Darlington when compared to any quarter in history.

A total of 125 companies were registered in Darlington during the fourth quarter of 2011 (Oct 2011 - Dec 2011).

This figure is an increase of 54.3% versus the same period last year (Q4 2010). This figure compares well 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)	DARLINGTON	UK
2011	125	109,623
2010	81	95,117
% CHANGE	54.3%	15.3%
RECORD YEAR	2011 (125)	2011 (109,623)

new companies by quarter



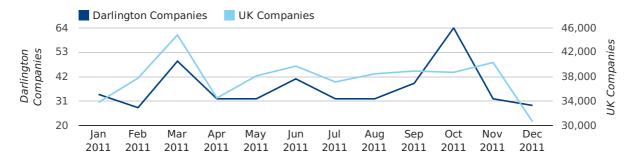
Monthly Data (Oct, Nov & Dec 2011)

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

October 2011 saw a new record in company registrations in Darlington when compared to any previous October.

October 2011 was a record month for company registrations in Darlington when compared to any month in history.

new companies by month

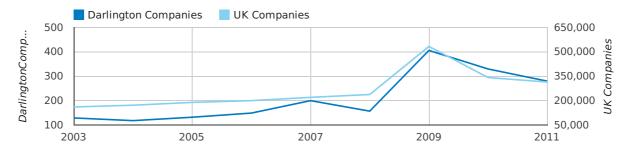


	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
NEW COMPANIES IN 2011	64	32	29
NEW COMPANIES IN 2010	21	34	26
% CHANGE	204.8%	-5.9%	11.5%
RECORD YEAR	2011 (64)	2009 (46)	2011 (29)

A total of 280 companies were dissolved in Darlington in 2011. This total is 15.2% lower than in 2010 and compares unfavourably to the UK figure of 8.1% decrease compared to the previous year.

YEAR	DARLINGTON	UK
2011	280	314,523
2010	330	342,232
2009	406	533,773
2008	157	237,901
2007	200	220,295
RECORD YEAR	2009 (406)	2009 (533,773)

dissolved companies by year



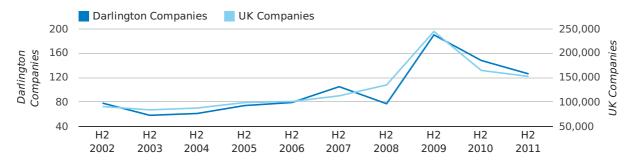
Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

In the second half of 2011 a total of 126 companies were dissolved in Darlington. This figure is 14.9% lower than last year, which compares well to the UK wide change of -7.5%.

The highest total for a second half year in Darlington occurred in 2009 when a total of 190 were closed.

HALF YEAR (JUL-DEC)	DARLINGTON	UK
2011	126	152,213
2010	148	164,601
% CHANGE	-14.9%	-7.5%
RECORD YEAR	2009 (190)	2009 (244,537)

dissolved companies by half year



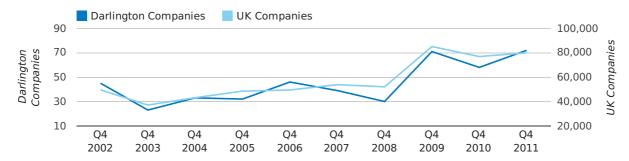
Q4 2011 saw a new record in company closures in Darlington when compared to any previous Q4.

A total of 72 companies were dissolved in Darlington during the fourth quarter of 2011 (Oct 2011 - Dec 2011).

This figure is an increase of 24.1% 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)	DARLINGTON	UK
2011	72	79,983
2010	58	76,896
% CHANGE	24.1%	4.0%
RECORD YEAR	2011 (72)	2009 (85,136)

dissolved companies by quarter

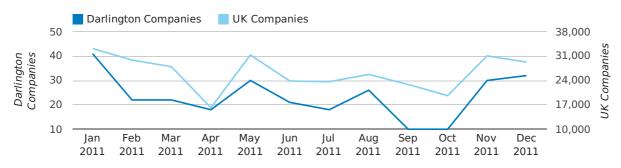


Monthly Data (Oct, Nov & Dec 2011)

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

November 2011 saw a new record in company closures in Darlington when compared to any previous November.

dissolved companies by month



	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2011	10	30	32
CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2010	22	19	17
% CHANGE	-54.5%	57.9%	88%
RECORD YEAR	2009 (26)	2011 (30)	2011 (32)

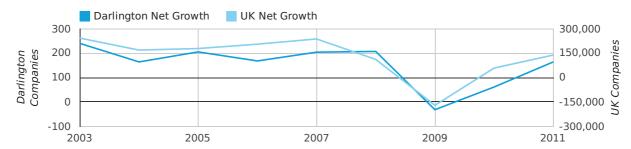
A total of 164 companies were added to the company register for Darlington in 2011. This number represents growth of 41.9% which compares favourably to the UK figure of 34.6%.

This number is 103 companies higher than the previous year.

The highest net company growth figure ever seen in one year came in 2003 when the Darlington company register grew by 240 companies.

YEAR	DARLINGTON	UK
2011	164	138,347
2010	61	58,126
2009	-32	-171,098
2008	207	111,302
2007	204	237,354
RECORD YEAR	2003 (240)	2003 (242,543)

net growth by year

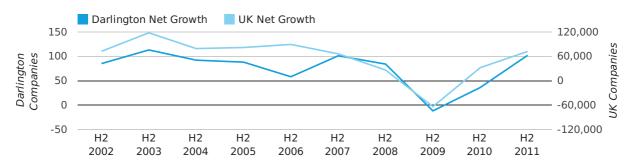


Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

In the second half of 2011 the company register for Darlington increased by 102 companies. This figure is 183.3% higher than last year, which compares well to a UK increase of 124.7%.

HALF YEAR (JUL-DEC)	DARLINGTON	UK
2011	102	71,922
2010	36	32,008
% CHANGE	183.3%	124.7%
RECORD YEAR	2003 (113)	2003 (117,772)

net growth by half year



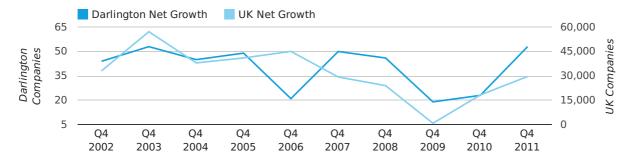
Q4 2011 saw a new record in net growth in Darlington when compared to any previous Q4.

Net company growth for Darlington during the fourth quarter of 2011 (Oct 2011 - Dec 2011) was 53 companies.

This represents an increase of 130.4% on the same period last year.

FOURTH QUARTER (OCT 2011 - DEC 2011)	DARLINGTON	UK
2011	53	29,640
2010	23	18,221
% CHANGE	130.4%	62.7%
RECORD YEAR	2003 (53)	2003 (57,175)

net growth by quarter

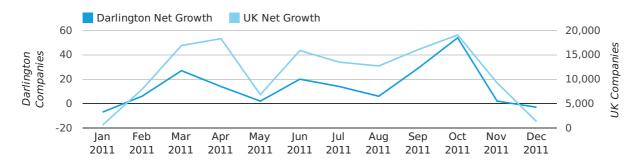


Monthly Data (Oct, Nov & Dec 2011)

October 2011 saw a new record in net growth in Darlington when compared to any previous October.

October 2011 was a record month for net growth in Darlington when compared to any month in history.

net growth by month

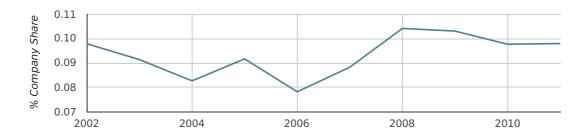


	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
NET GROWTH IN 2011	54	2	-3
NET GROWTH IN 2010	-1	15	9
% CHANGE	-5,500.0%	-86.7%	-133.3%
RECORD YEAR	2011 (54)	2009 (24)	2004 (16)

In 2011 Darlington formed 0.1% of all UK companies. This is no change on 2010 when Darlington was responsible for 0.1% of all UK companies.

YEAR	DARLINGTON
2011	0.1%
2010	0.1%
2009	0.1%
2008	0.1%
2007	0.1%
RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960)	1967 (0.1%)

company share by year

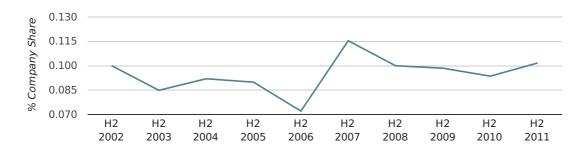


Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

In the second half of 2011 Darlington formed 0.1% of all UK companies. This is the same as the 2010 figure of 0.1%.

HALF YEAR (JUL-DEC)	DARLINGTON
2011	0.1%
2010	0.1%
2009	0.1%
2008	0.1%
2007	0.1%
RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960)	1968 (0.2%)

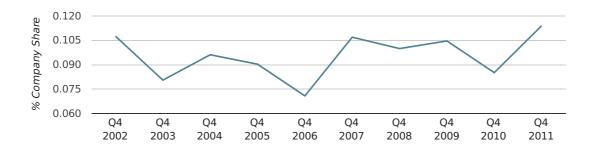
company share by half year



In the fourth quarter of 2011, Darlington formed 0.1% of all UK companies.

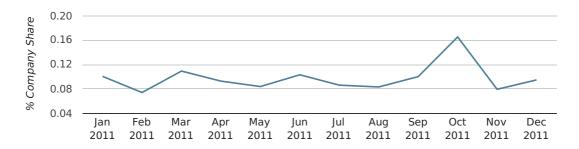
FOURTH QUARTER (OCT 2011 - DEC 2011)	DARLINGTON
2011	0.1%
2010	0.1%
2009	0.1%
2008	0.1%
2007	0.1%
RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960)	1968 (0.3%)

company share by quarter



Monthly Data (Oct, Nov & Dec 2011)

company share by month



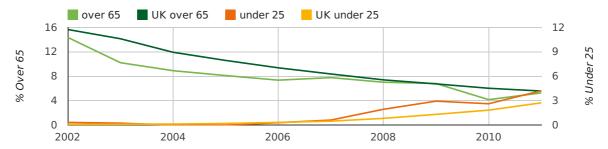
	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2011	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%
UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2010	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%
% CHANGE	164.9%	-19.8%	-1.0%
RECORD YEAR	1966 (0.5%)	1968 (0.5%)	1968 (0.4%)

The average age of a director in 2011 was 45.5.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 4.2% compared to the UK figure of 3.7%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 5.3% compared to the UK figure of 4.2%.

director age by year



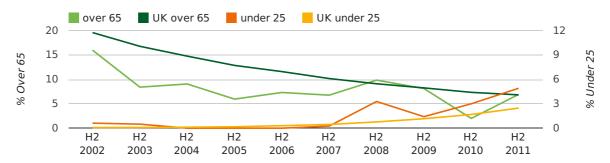
Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

The average age of a director in the second half of 2011 was 45.9.

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

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 6.9% compared to the UK figure of 4.1%.

director age by half year

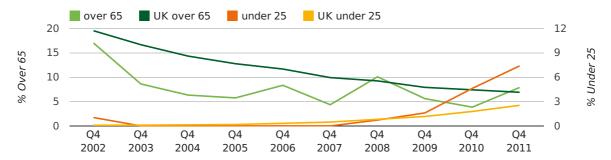


The average age of a director in the fourth quarter of 2011 was 44.5.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 7.4% compared to the UK figure of 4.2%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 7.9% compared to the UK figure of 4.1%.

director age by quarter



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

The percentage of female directors in Darlington in 2011 was 32.2%. The average for the UK during this time was 28.6%

director gender by year

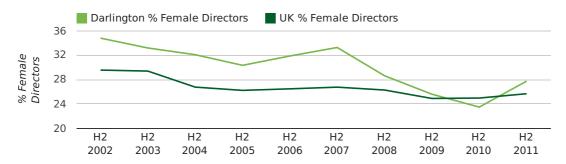


Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

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

27.7% of all director appointments in Darlington 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



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

27.6% of all director appointments in Darlington 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



naming trends $\operatorname{duport} \omega$

Previous 12 months (Dec 2010-Dec 2011)

 ${\sf Excluding: LIMITED, LTD, \&, UK, SERVICES, THE, (UK), AND, LTD., A, LLP, SOLUTIONS, COMPANY, OF.}\\$

WORD	PERCENTAGE	UK WORD	UK PERCENTAGE
MAINTENANCE	2.12%	CONSULTING	5.07%
TALBOT	2.00%	MANAGEMENT	4.74%
NORTH	1.50%	CONSULTANCY	3.26%
EAST	1.25%	PROPERTY	2.37%
(DARLINGTON)	1.12%	TRADING	2.07%
CONSULTING	0.87%	DESIGN	1.92%
FITNESS	0.75%	ASSOCIATES	1.86%
MANAGEMENT	0.75%	ENGINEERING	1.78%
ACADEMY	0.75%	BUSINESS	1.78%
DESIGN	0.75%	CONSULTANTS	1.76%
ENERGY	0.75%	CONSTRUCTION	1.73%
TRAINING	0.75%	MEDIA	1.71%
DARLINGTON	0.75%	LONDON	1.63%
COMMUNITY	0.62%	J	1.51%
CONSULTANCY	0.62%	INVESTMENTS	1.48%
J	0.62%	GLOBAL	1.46%
(NE)	0.62%	IT	1.41%
G	0.62%	CARE	1.39%
ASSOCIATES	0.62%	PROPERTIES	1.29%
BUSINESS	0.62%	ELECTRICAL	1.29%
ROOFING	0.50%	M	1.27%
BUILDING	0.50%	BUILDING	1.26%
TRUST	0.50%	ENERGY	1.25%
DEVELOPMENT	0.50%	S	1.20%
EDUCATION	0.50%	ENTERPRISES	1.20%

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Previous 36 months, excluding companies less than 12 months old

SIC CODE	NUMBER OF COMPANIES	UK COMPANIES
None Supplied	153	205,525
7487 - Other business activities	60	57,052
82990 - Other business support service activities not elsewhere classified	21	32,483
70229 - Management consultancy activities other than financial management	17	17,765
9999 - Dormant Company	17	20,199
99999 - Dormant Company	15	21,846
7414 - Business & management consultancy	11	13,034
96090 - Other service activities not elsewhere classified	11	11,768
62020 - Information technology consultancy activities	10	12,072
74909 - Other professional, scientific and technical activities not elsewhere classified	9	8,671
7260 - Other computer related activities	9	7,667
9305 - Other service activities	9	9,492
7499 - Non-trading company	8	9,957
5530 - Restaurants	8	5,013
8514 - Other human health activities	7	2,637
82110 - Combined office administrative service activities	7	756
5248 - Other retail specialised stores	6	1,968
71129 - Other engineering activities	6	1,823
7222 - Other software consultancy and supply	6	7,398
68320 - Management of real estate on a fee or contract basis	6	3,194