Halstead

2011 annual business confidence report





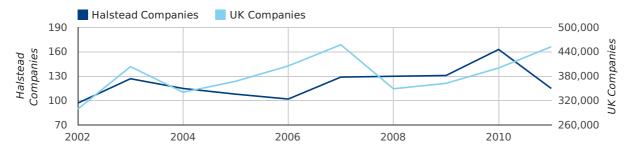
contents

| new company registrations | |
|------------------------------|--|
| closed companies (dissolved) | |
| net company growth | |
| uk company share | |
| director age | |
| director gender | |
| naming trends | |
| sic data | |

A total of 115 companies were formed in Halstead in 2011. This total is 29.4% lower than in 2010 and compares favourably to the UK figure of a 13.1% growth compared to 400,358 the previous year.

| YEAR | HALSTEAD | UK |
|-------------|------------|----------------|
| 2011 | 115 | 452,870 |
| 2010 | 163 | 400,358 |
| 2009 | 131 | 362,675 |
| 2008 | 130 | 349,203 |
| 2007 | 129 | 457,649 |
| RECORD YEAR | 2010 (163) | 2007 (457,649) |

new companies by year



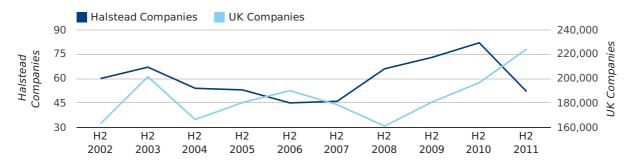
Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

In the second half of 2011 a total of 52 companies were formed in Halstead. This figure is 36.6% lower than last year, which compares badly to the UK wide figure of 14.0%.

The highest total for a second half year in Halstead occurred in 2010 when a total of 82 were formed.

| HALF YEAR (JUL-DEC) | HALSTEAD | UK |
|---------------------|-----------|----------------|
| 2011 | 52 | 224,135 |
| 2010 | 82 | 196,609 |
| % CHANGE | -36.6% | 14.0% |
| RECORD YEAR | 2010 (82) | 2011 (224,135) |

new companies by half year

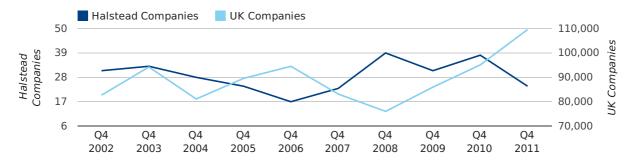


A total of 24 companies were registered in Halstead during the fourth quarter of 2011 (Oct 2011 - Dec 2011).

This figure is a decrease of 36.8% versus the same period last year (Q4 2010). This figure compares badly to the UK as a whole, which saw an increase of 15.3% against the same period last year.

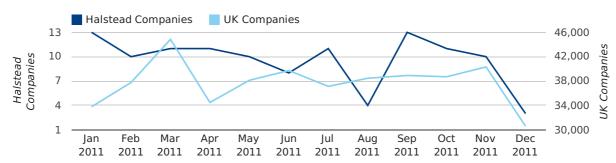
| FOURTH QUARTER (OCT 2011 - DEC 2011) | HALSTEAD | UK |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|----------------|
| 2011 | 24 | 109,623 |
| 2010 | 38 | 95,117 |
| % CHANGE | -36.8% | 15.3% |
| RECORD YEAR | 2008 (39) | 2011 (109,623) |

new companies by quarter



Monthly Data (Oct, Nov & Dec 2011)

new companies by month

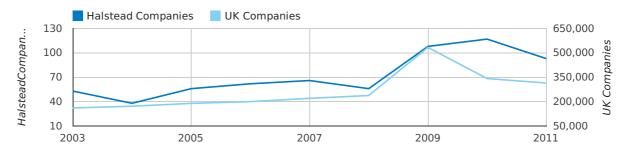


| | OCTOBER | NOVEMBER | DECEMBER |
|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| NEW COMPANIES IN 2011 | 11 | 10 | 3 |
| NEW COMPANIES IN 2010 | 19 | 14 | 5 |
| % CHANGE | -42.1% | -28.6% | -40.0% |
| RECORD YEAR | 2010 (19) | 2010 (14) | 2008 (12) |

A total of 93 companies were dissolved in Halstead in 2011. This total is 20.5% lower than in 2010 and compares unfavourably to the UK figure of 8.1% decrease compared to the previous year.

| YEAR | HALSTEAD | UK |
|-------------|------------|----------------|
| 2011 | 93 | 314,523 |
| 2010 | 117 | 342,232 |
| 2009 | 108 | 533,773 |
| 2008 | 56 | 237,901 |
| 2007 | 66 | 220,295 |
| RECORD YEAR | 2010 (117) | 2009 (533,773) |

dissolved companies by year



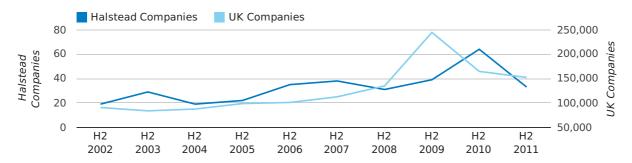
Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

In the second half of 2011 a total of 33 companies were dissolved in Halstead. This figure is 48.4% lower than last year, which compares well to the UK wide change of -7.5%.

The highest total for a second half year in Halstead occurred in 2010 when a total of 64 were closed.

| HALF YEAR (JUL-DEC) | HALSTEAD | UK |
|---------------------|-----------|----------------|
| 2011 | 33 | 152,213 |
| 2010 | 64 | 164,601 |
| % CHANGE | -48.4% | -7.5% |
| RECORD YEAR | 2010 (64) | 2009 (244,537) |

dissolved companies by half year

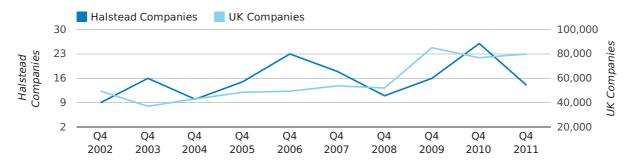


A total of 14 companies were dissolved in Halstead during the fourth quarter of 2011 (Oct 2011 - Dec 2011).

This figure is a decrease of 46.2% versus the same period last year (Q4 2010). This figure compares well to the UK as a whole, which saw an increase of 4.0% against the same period last year.

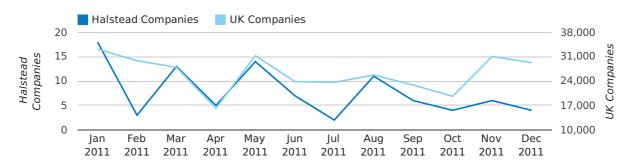
| FOURTH QUARTER (OCT 2011 - DEC 2011) | HALSTEAD | UK |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|---------------|
| 2011 | 14 | 79,983 |
| 2010 | 26 | 76,896 |
| % CHANGE | -46.2% | 4.0% |
| RECORD YEAR | 2010 (26) | 2009 (85,136) |

dissolved companies by quarter



Monthly Data (Oct, Nov & Dec 2011)

dissolved companies by month



| | OCTOBER | NOVEMBER | DECEMBER |
|--------------------------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2011 | 4 | 6 | 4 |
| CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2010 | 11 | 11 | 4 |
| % CHANGE | -63.6% | -45.5% | 0% |
| RECORD YEAR | 2006 (14) | 2010 (11) | 2009 (8) |

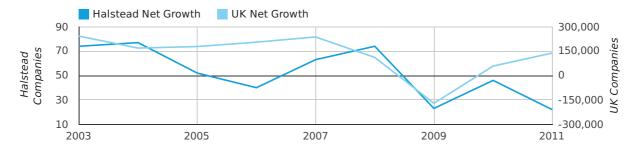
A total of 22 companies were added to the company register for Halstead in 2011. This number represents growth of 13.5% which compares unfavourably to the UK figure of 34.6%.

This number is 24 companies lower than the previous year.

The highest net company growth figure ever seen in one year came in 2004 when the Halstead company register grew by 77 companies.

| YEAR | HALSTEAD | UK |
|-------------|-----------|----------------|
| 2011 | 22 | 138,347 |
| 2010 | 46 | 58,126 |
| 2009 | 23 | -171,098 |
| 2008 | 74 | 111,302 |
| 2007 | 63 | 237,354 |
| RECORD YEAR | 2004 (77) | 2003 (242,543) |

net growth by year

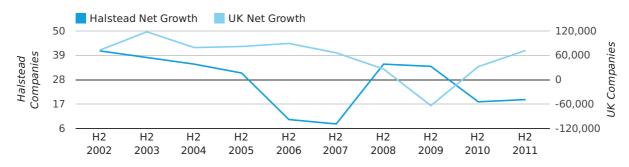


Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

In the second half of 2011 the company register for Halstead increased by 19 companies. This figure is 5.6% higher than last year, which compares badly to a UK increase of 124.7%.

| HALF YEAR (JUL-DEC) | HALSTEAD | UK |
|---------------------|-----------|----------------|
| 2011 | 19 | 71,922 |
| 2010 | 18 | 32,008 |
| % CHANGE | 5.6% | 124.7% |
| RECORD YEAR | 2002 (41) | 2003 (117,772) |

net growth by half year

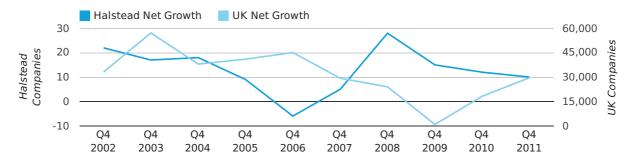


Net company growth for Halstead during the fourth quarter of 2011 (Oct 2011 - Dec 2011) was 10 companies.

This represents a decrease of 16.7% on the same period last year.

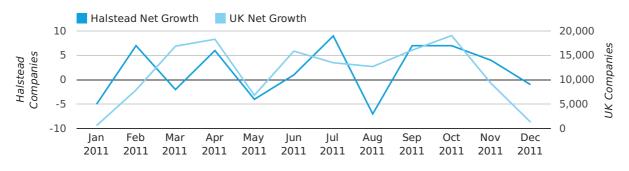
| FOURTH QUARTER (OCT 2011 - DEC 2011) | HALSTEAD | UK |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|---------------|
| 2011 | 10 | 29,640 |
| 2010 | 12 | 18,221 |
| % CHANGE | -16.7% | 62.7% |
| RECORD YEAR | 2008 (28) | 2003 (57,175) |

net growth by quarter



Monthly Data (Oct, Nov & Dec 2011)

net growth by month

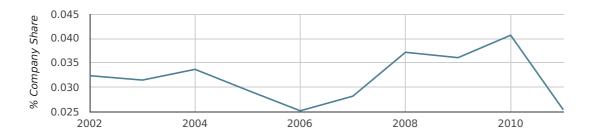


| | OCTOBER | NOVEMBER | DECEMBER |
|--------------------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| NET GROWTH IN 2011 | 7 | 4 | -1 |
| NET GROWTH IN 2010 | 8 | 3 | 1 |
| % CHANGE | -12.5% | 33.3% | -200.0% |
| RECORD YEAR | 2003 (12) | 2004 (10) | 2008 (9) |

In 2011 Halstead formed 0.0% of all UK companies. This is no change on 2010 when Halstead was responsible for 0.0% of all UK companies.

| YEAR | HALSTEAD |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| 2011 | 0.0% |
| 2010 | 0.0% |
| 2009 | 0.0% |
| 2008 | 0.0% |
| 2007 | 0.0% |
| RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960) | 1978 (0.1%) |

company share by year

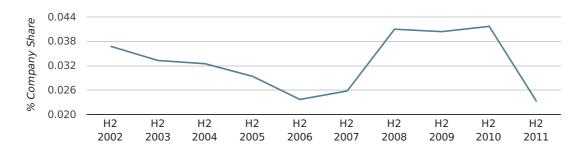


Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

In the second half of 2011 Halstead formed 0.0% of all UK companies. This is the same as the 2010 figure of 0.0%.

| HALF YEAR (JUL-DEC) | HALSTEAD |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| 2011 | 0.0% |
| 2010 | 0.0% |
| 2009 | 0.0% |
| 2008 | 0.0% |
| 2007 | 0.0% |
| RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960) | 1965 (0.1%) |

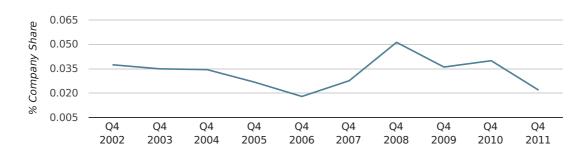
company share by half year



In the fourth quarter of 2011, Halstead formed 0.0% of all UK companies.

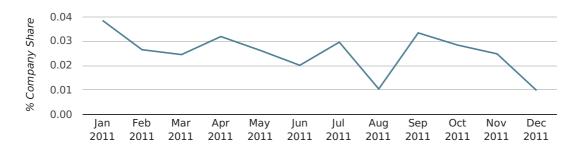
| FOURTH QUARTER (OCT 2011 - DEC 2011) | HALSTEAD |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| 2011 | 0.0% |
| 2010 | 0.0% |
| 2009 | 0.0% |
| 2008 | 0.1% |
| 2007 | 0.0% |
| RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960) | 1978 (0.1%) |

company share by quarter



Monthly Data (Oct, Nov & Dec 2011)

company share by month



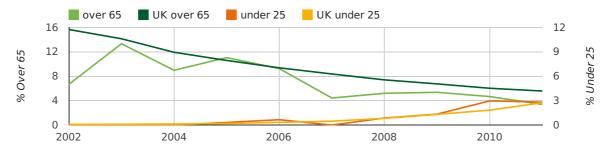
| | OCTOBER | NOVEMBER | DECEMBER |
|----------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2011 | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2010 | 0.1% | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| % CHANGE | -49.7% | -39.2% | -46.7% |
| RECORD YEAR | 1962 (0.2%) | 1973 (0.2%) | 1969 (0.2%) |

The average age of a director in 2011 was 44.3.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 2.8% compared to the UK figure of 3.7%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 3.4% compared to the UK figure of 4.2%.

director age by year



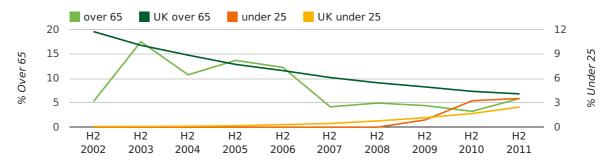
Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

The average age of a director in the second half of 2011 was 45.3.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 3.5% compared to the UK figure of 4.1%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 5.9% compared to the UK figure of 4.1%.

director age by half year

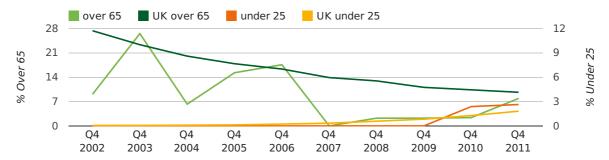


The average age of a director in the fourth quarter of 2011 was 45.3.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 2.6% 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%.

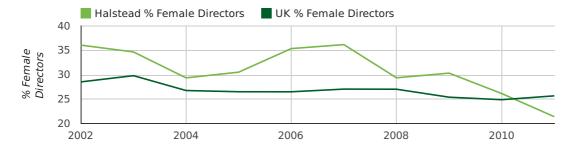
director age by quarter



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

The percentage of female directors in Halstead in 2011 was 36.1%. The average for the UK during this time was 28.6%

director gender by year

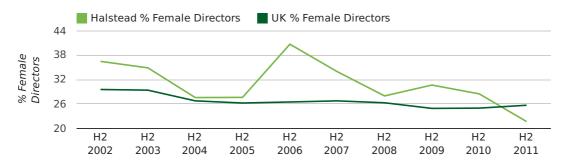


Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

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

21.6% of all director appointments in Halstead 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



Т

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

22.9% of all director appointments in Halstead 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)

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

| WORD | PERCENTAGE | UK WORD | UK PERCENTAGE |
|--------------|------------|--------------|---------------|
| SECURITY | 1.59% | CONSULTING | 5.07% |
| CONSULTANCY | 1.59% | MANAGEMENT | 4.74% |
| ELECTRICAL | 1.19% | CONSULTANCY | 3.26% |
| MY | 1.19% | PROPERTY | 2.37% |
| CONSTRUCTION | 1.19% | TRADING | 2.07% |
| MANAGEMENT | 1.19% | DESIGN | 1.92% |
| COUNTRYSIDE | 1.19% | ASSOCIATES | 1.86% |
| DESIGN | 0.79% | ENGINEERING | 1.78% |
| 1 | 0.79% | BUSINESS | 1.78% |
| PROJECT | 0.79% | CONSULTANTS | 1.76% |
| SYSTEMS | 0.79% | CONSTRUCTION | 1.73% |
| SCAFFOLD | 0.79% | MEDIA | 1.71% |
| E | 0.79% | LONDON | 1.63% |
| GRAYSONS | 0.79% | J | 1.51% |
| R | 0.79% | INVESTMENTS | 1.48% |
| GREEN | 0.79% | GLOBAL | 1.46% |
| K | 0.79% | IT | 1.41% |
| JOINERY | 0.79% | CARE | 1.39% |
| COMMERCIAL | 0.79% | PROPERTIES | 1.29% |
| HEALTH | 0.79% | ELECTRICAL | 1.29% |
| CONSULTING | 0.79% | М | 1.27% |
| OAK | 0.79% | BUILDING | 1.26% |
| HIGH | 0.79% | ENERGY | 1.25% |
| BUTLER | 0.79% | S | 1.20% |
| UP | 0.79% | ENTERPRISES | 1.20% |

 $\operatorname{duport} \varnothing$

Previous 36 months, excluding companies less than 12 months old

| SIC CODE | NUMBER OF COMPANIES | UK COMPANIES |
|--|------------------------|-----------------|
| None Supplied | 58 | 205,525 |
| 7487 - Other business activities | 17 | 57,052 |
| 9999 - Dormant Company | 15 | 20,199 |
| 99999 - Dormant Company | 13 | 21,846 |
| 70229 - Management consultancy activities other than financial management | 9 | 17,765 |
| 7414 - Business & management consultancy | 6 | 13,034 |
| 4521 - General construction & civil engineering | 5 | 5,558 |
| 74990 - Non-trading company | 4 | 8,929 |
| 5530 - Restaurants | 4 | 5,013 |
| 56302 - Public houses and bars | 4 | 2,308 |
| 7499 - Non-trading company | 4 | 9,957 |
| 9305 - Other service activities | 4 | 9,492 |
| 96090 - Other service activities not elsewhere classified | 4 | 11,768 |
| 68320 - Management of real estate on a fee or contract basis | 4 | 3,194 |
| 43210 - Electrical installation | 3 | 3,175 |
| 74909 - Other professional, scientific and technical activities not elsewhere classified | 3 | 8,671 |
| 4525 - Other special trades construction | 3 | 1,651 |
| 64999 - Financial intermediation not elsewhere classified | 3 | 2,946 |
| 62090 - Other information technology service activities | 3 | 7,493 |
| 7415 - Holding companies including head offices | 3 | 1,653 |