

Hertfordshire

2012 half year business confidence report



headlines

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

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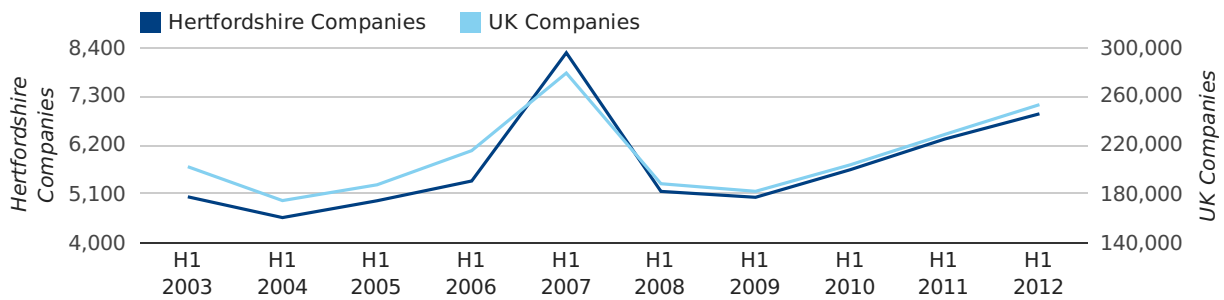
Half Year Data (Jan-Jun 2012)

In the first half of 2012 a total of 6,905 companies were formed in Hertfordshire. This figure is 9.0% higher than last year, which compares equally to the UK wide figure of 10.7%.

The highest total for a first half year in Hertfordshire occurred in 2007 when a total of 8,283 were formed.

HALF YEAR (JAN-JUN)	HERTFORDSHIRE	UK
2012	6,905	253,150
2011	6,336	228,735
% CHANGE	9.0%	10.7%
RECORD YEAR	2007 (8,283)	2007 (279,097)

new companies by half year



Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2012)

A total of 3,357 companies were registered in Hertfordshire during the second quarter of 2012 (Apr 2012 - Jun 2012).

This figure is an increase of 7.3% versus the same period last year (Q2 2011). This figure compares equally 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)	HERTFORDSHIRE	UK
2012	3,357	121,659
2011	3,128	112,344
% CHANGE	7.3%	8.3%
RECORD YEAR	2007 (3,519)	2012 (121,659)

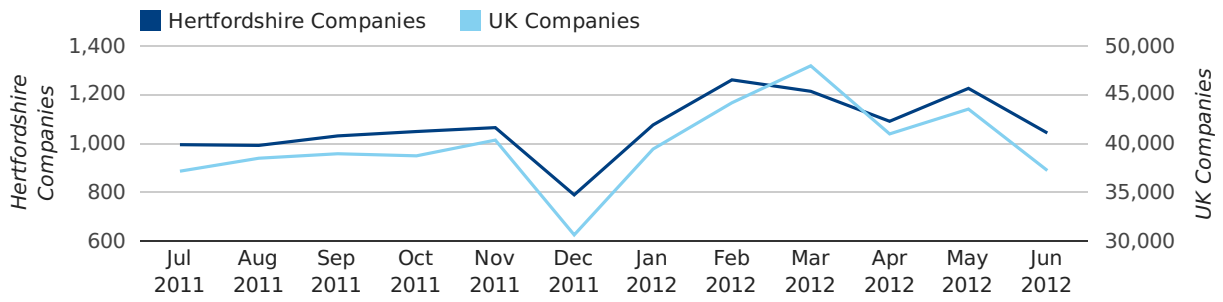
new companies by quarter



Monthly Data (Apr, May & Jun 2012)

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

new companies by month



	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
NEW COMPANIES IN 2012	1,090	1,225	1,042
NEW COMPANIES IN 2011	974	973	1,181
% CHANGE	11.9%	25.9%	-11.8%
RECORD YEAR	2007 (1,493)	2012 (1,225)	2011 (1,181)

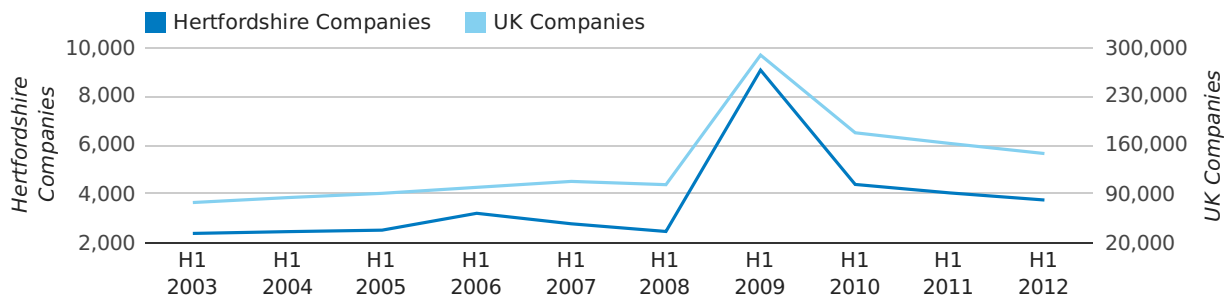
Half Year Data (Jan-Jun 2012)

In the first half of 2012 a total of 3,745 companies were dissolved in Hertfordshire. This figure is 7.2% lower than last year, which compares well to the UK wide change of -8.9%.

The highest total for a first half year in Hertfordshire occurred in 2009 when a total of 9,075 were closed.

HALF YEAR (JAN-JUN)	HERTFORDSHIRE	UK
2012	3,745	147,793
2011	4,036	162,310
% CHANGE	-7.2%	-8.9%
RECORD YEAR	2009 (9,075)	2009 (289,236)

dissolved companies by half year



Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2012)

A total of 2,027 companies were dissolved in Hertfordshire during the second quarter of 2012 (Apr 2012 - Jun 2012).

This figure is an increase of 16.4% versus the same period last year (Q2 2011). This figure compares poorly 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)	HERTFORDSHIRE	UK
2012	2,027	80,217
2011	1,741	71,324
% CHANGE	16.4%	12.5%
RECORD YEAR	2009 (5,212)	2009 (181,176)

dissolved companies by quarter



Monthly Data (Apr, May & Jun 2012)

dissolved companies by month



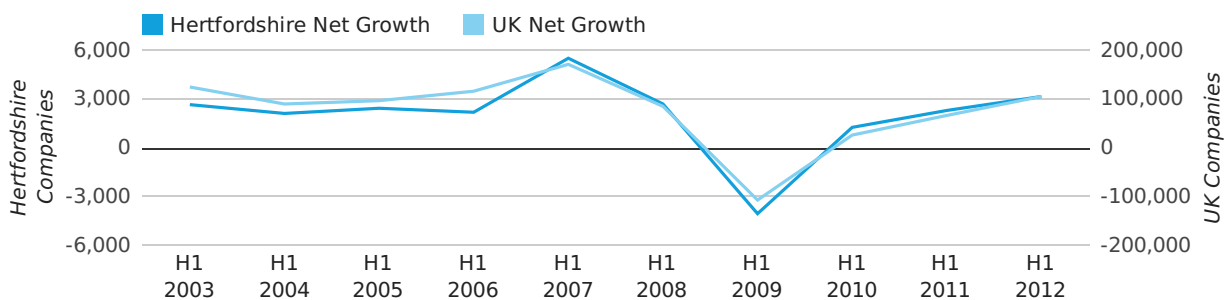
	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2012	599	775	653
CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2011	366	784	591
% CHANGE	63.7%	-1.1%	10%
RECORD YEAR	2009 (1,448)	2009 (2,382)	2009 (1,382)

Half Year Data (Jan-Jun 2012)

In the first half of 2012 the company register for Hertfordshire increased by 3,160 companies. This figure is 37.4% higher than last year, which compares badly to a UK increase of 58.6%.

HALF YEAR (JAN-JUN)	HERTFORDSHIRE	UK
2012	3,160	105,357
2011	2,300	66,425
% CHANGE	37.4%	58.6%
RECORD YEAR	2007 (5,514)	2007 (171,296)

net growth by half year



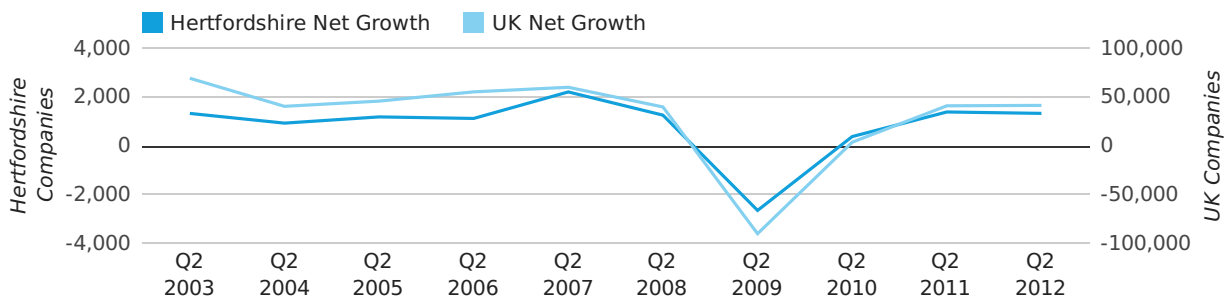
Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2012)

Net company growth for Hertfordshire during the second quarter of 2012 (Apr 2012 - Jun 2012) was 1,330 companies.

This represents a decrease of 4.1% on the same period last year.

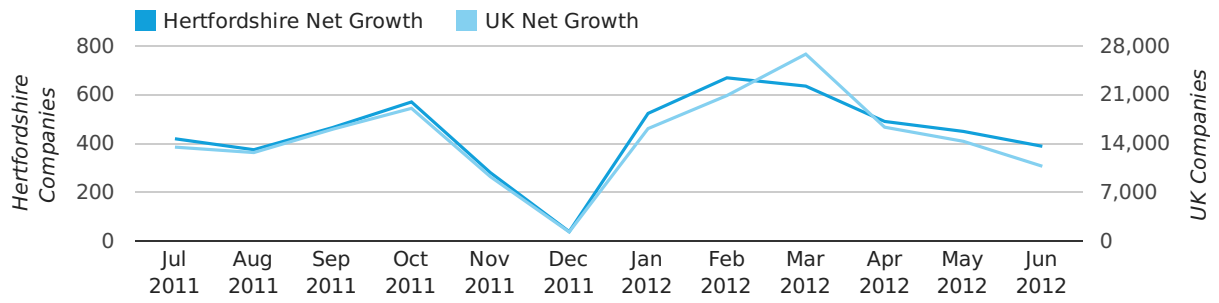
SECOND QUARTER (APR 2012 - JUN 2012)	HERTFORDSHIRE	UK
2012	1,330	41,442
2011	1,387	41,020
% CHANGE	-4.1%	1.0%
RECORD YEAR	2007 (2,210)	2003 (69,274)

net growth by quarter



Monthly Data (Apr, May & Jun 2012)

net growth by month



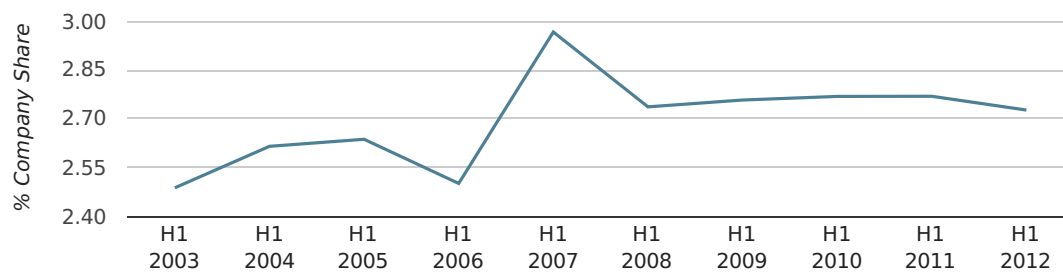
	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
NET GROWTH IN 2012	491	450	389
NET GROWTH IN 2011	608	189	590
% CHANGE	-19.2%	138.1%	-34.1%
RECORD YEAR	2007 (1,203)	2007 (535)	2008 (672)

Half Year Data (Jan-Jun 2012)

In the first half of 2012 Hertfordshire formed 2.7% of all UK companies. This is less than the 2011 figure of 2.8%.

HALF YEAR (JAN-JUN)	HERTFORDSHIRE
2012	2.7%
2011	2.8%
2010	2.8%
2009	2.8%
2008	2.7%
RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960)	1960 (3.7%)

company share by half year

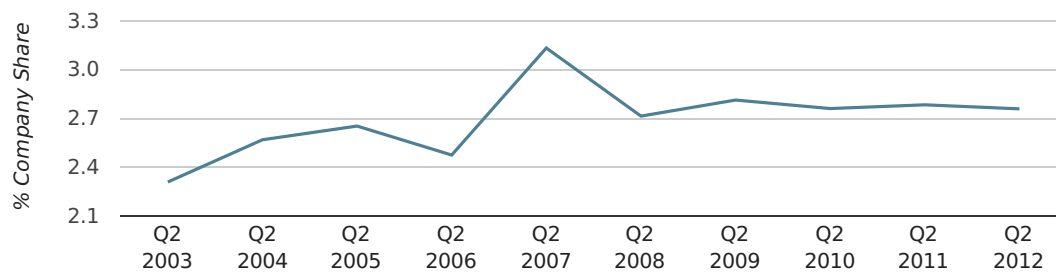


Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2012)

In the second quarter of 2012, Hertfordshire formed 2.8% of all UK companies.

SECOND QUARTER (APR 2012 - JUN 2012)	HERTFORDSHIRE
2012	2.8%
2011	2.8%
2010	2.8%
2009	2.8%
2008	2.7%
RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960)	1960 (3.9%)

company share by quarter



Monthly Data (Apr, May & Jun 2012)

company share by month



	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2012	2.7%	2.8%	2.8%
UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2011	2.8%	2.6%	3.0%
% CHANGE	-5.8%	10.4%	-5.8%
RECORD YEAR	1960 (5.0%)	1965 (3.9%)	1974 (3.9%)

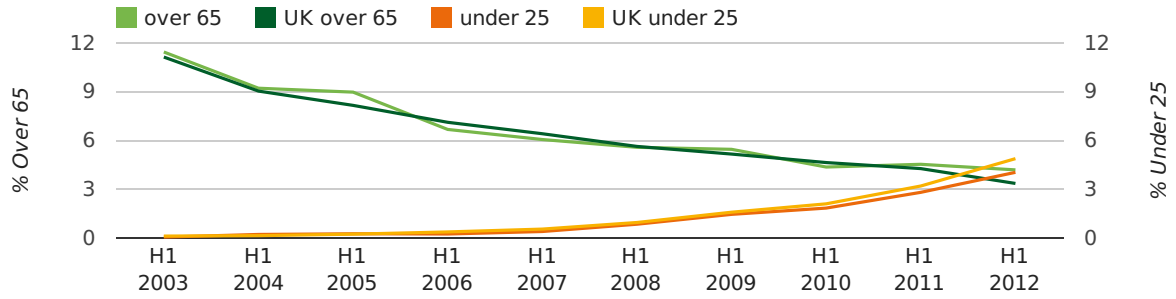
Half Year Data (Jan-Jun 2012)

The average age of a director in the first half of 2012 was 43.5.

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

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

director age by half year



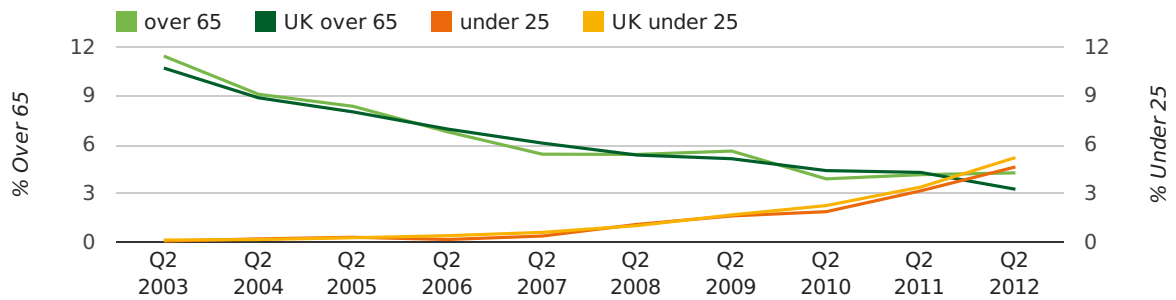
Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2012)

The average age of a director in the second quarter of 2012 was 43.2.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 4.6% compared to the UK figure of 5.2%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 4.3% compared to the UK figure of 3.3%.

director age by quarter

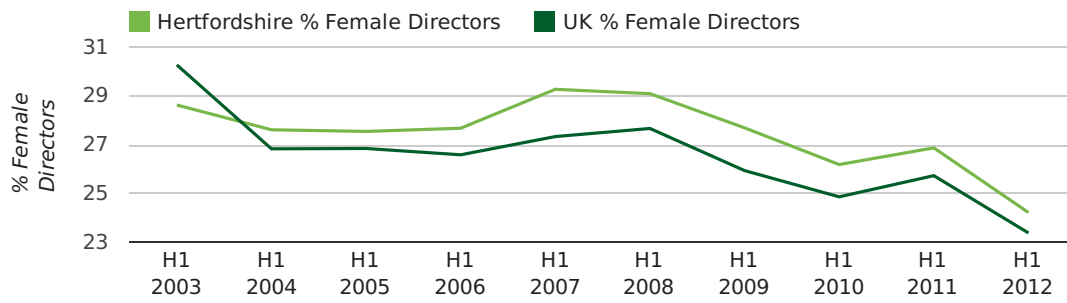


Half Year Data (Jan-Jun 2012)

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

24.2% of all director appointments in Hertfordshire 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



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
CONSULTING	3.02%	CONSULTING	5.07%
MANAGEMENT	2.77%	MANAGEMENT	4.74%
CONSULTANCY	1.74%	CONSULTANCY	3.28%
ASSOCIATES	1.19%	PROPERTY	2.35%
PROPERTY	1.13%	TRADING	2.10%
CONSTRUCTION	1.09%	DESIGN	1.89%
CONSULTANTS	0.95%	ENGINEERING	1.87%
SALES	0.87%	ASSOCIATES	1.82%
BUSINESS	0.87%	CONSULTANTS	1.78%
LONDON	0.80%	CONSTRUCTION	1.71%
J	0.79%	BUSINESS	1.70%
IT	0.79%	MEDIA	1.69%
TRADING	0.77%	LONDON	1.68%
DESIGN	0.74%	J	1.57%
MEDIA	0.74%	GLOBAL	1.51%
GLOBAL	0.71%	INVESTMENTS	1.48%
INVESTMENTS	0.71%	IT	1.42%
M	0.66%	CARE	1.31%
ENTERPRISES	0.61%	PROPERTIES	1.31%
SYSTEMS	0.59%	M	1.26%
PROPERTIES	0.56%	ELECTRICAL	1.23%
MEDICAL	0.56%	BUILDING	1.23%
CAPITAL	0.55%	SECURITY	1.19%
CARE	0.55%	S	1.18%
BUILDING	0.54%	ENTERPRISES	1.17%

Previous 36 months, excluding companies less than 12 months old

SIC CODE	NUMBER OF COMPANIES	UK COMPANIES
None Supplied	6,026	244,457
7487 - Other business activities	1,246	47,029
82990 - Other business support service activities not elsewhere classified	951	35,447
70229 - Management consultancy activities other than financial management	837	20,390
62020 - Information technology consultancy activities	672	15,280
99999 - Dormant Company	594	26,088
96090 - Other service activities not elsewhere classified	419	14,220
7414 - Business & management consultancy	399	10,978
9999 - Dormant Company	345	16,469
74909 - Other professional, scientific and technical activities not elsewhere classified	329	10,271
7222 - Other software consultancy and supply	305	6,356
74990 - Non-trading company	293	9,706
62090 - Other information technology service activities	267	8,258
9305 - Other service activities	222	7,926
7499 - Non-trading company	208	8,023
7260 - Other computer related activities	178	6,456
98000 - Residents property management	170	3,001
41100 - Development of building projects	144	5,149
62012 - Business and domestic software development	141	4,742
4521 - General construction & civil engineering	136	4,644