Hitchin

2011 half year business confidence report



headlines

- Q2 2011 saw a new record in company registrations in Hitchin when compared to any previous Q2.
- June 2011 saw a new record in company registrations in Hitchin when compared to any previous June.
- Q2 2011 saw a new record in net growth in Hitchin when compared to any previous Q2.
- April 2011 saw a new record in net growth in Hitchin when compared to any previous April.

contents

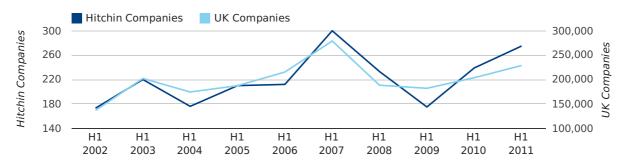
new company registrations
closed companies (dissolved)
net company growth
uk company share
director age
director gender
naming trends
sic data

In the first half of 2011 a total of 275 companies were formed in Hitchin. This figure is 15.1% higher than last year, which compares well to the UK wide figure of 12.3%.

The highest total for a first half year in Hitchin occurred in 2007 when a total of 300 were formed.

HALF YEAR (JAN-JUN)	HITCHIN	UK
2011	275	228,735
2010	239	203,749
% CHANGE	15.1%	12.3%
RECORD YEAR	2007 (300)	2007 (279,097)

new companies by half year



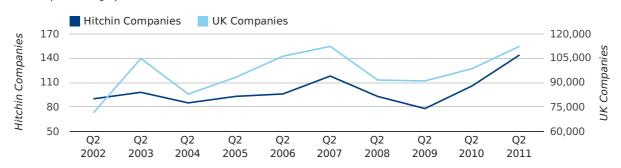
Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2011)

Q2 2011 saw a new record in company registrations in Hitchin when compared to any previous Q2.

A total of 144 companies were registered in Hitchin during the second quarter of 2011 (Apr 2011 - Jun 2011).

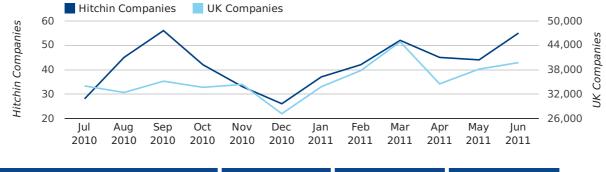
This figure is an increase of 35.8% versus the same period last year (Q2 2010). This figure compares well to the UK as a whole, which saw an increase of 13.9% against the same period last year.

SECOND QUARTER (APR 2011 - JUN 2011)	HITCHIN	UK
2011	144	112,344
2010	106	98,612
% CHANGE	35.8%	13.9%
RECORD YEAR	2011 (144)	2011 (112,344)



new companies by quarter

June 2011 saw a new record in company registrations in Hitchin when compared to any previous June.



new companies by month

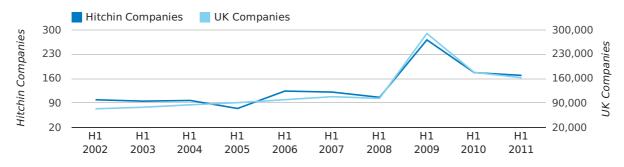
	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
NEW COMPANIES IN 2011	45	44	55
NEW COMPANIES IN 2010	48	31	27
% CHANGE	-6.3%	41.9%	103.7%
RECORD YEAR	2010 (48)	2007 (50)	2011 (55)

In the first half of 2011 a total of 169 companies were dissolved in Hitchin. This figure is 4.5% lower than last year, which compares badly to the UK wide change of -8.6%.

The highest total for a first half year in Hitchin occurred in 2009 when a total of 271 were closed.

HALF YEAR (JAN-JUN)	HITCHIN	UK
2011	169	162,310
2010	177	177,631
% CHANGE	-4.5%	-8.6%
RECORD YEAR	2009 (271)	2009 (289,236)

dissolved companies by half year



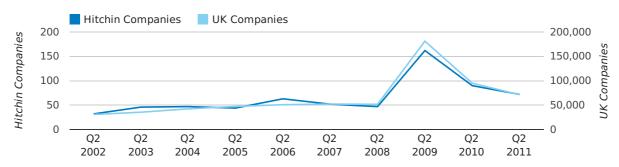
Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2011)

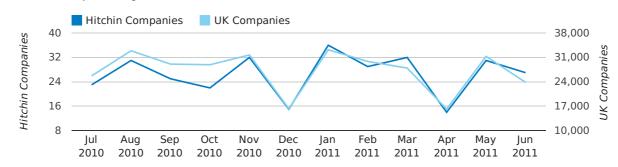
A total of 72 companies were dissolved in Hitchin during the second quarter of 2011 (Apr 2011 - Jun 2011).

This figure is a decrease of 20.0% versus the same period last year (Q2 2010). This figure compares poorly to the UK as a whole, which saw a decrease of 24.9% against the same period last year.

SECOND QUARTER (APR 2011 - JUN 2011)	HITCHIN	UK
2011	72	71,324
2010	90	94,954
% CHANGE	-20.0%	-24.9%
RECORD YEAR	2009 (162)	2009 (181,176)

dissolved companies by quarter





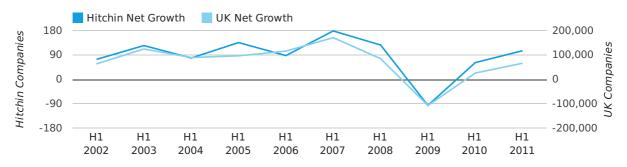
	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2011	14	31	27
CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2010	18	39	33
% CHANGE	-22.2%	-20.5%	-18%
RECORD YEAR	2009 (48)	2009 (70)	2009 (44)

dissolved companies by month

In the first half of 2011 the company register for Hitchin increased by 106 companies. This figure is 71.0% higher than last year, which compares badly to a UK increase of 154.3%.

HALF YEAR (JAN-JUN)	HITCHIN	UK
2011	106	66,425
2010	62	26,118
% CHANGE	71.0%	154.3%
RECORD YEAR	2007 (179)	2007 (171,296)

net growth by half year



Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2011)

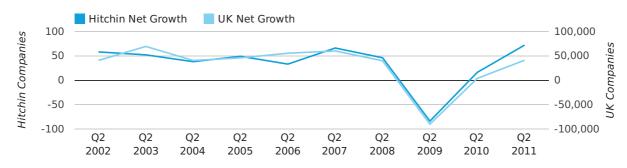
Q2 2011 saw a new record in net growth in Hitchin when compared to any previous Q2.

Net company growth for Hitchin during the second quarter of 2011 (Apr 2011 - Jun 2011) was 72 companies.

This represents an increase of 350.0% on the same period last year.

SECOND QUARTER (APR 2011 - JUN 2011)	HITCHIN	UK
2011	72	41,020
2010	16	3,658
% CHANGE	350.0%	1,021.4%
RECORD YEAR	2011 (72)	2003 (69,274)

net growth by quarter



April 2011 saw a new record in net growth in Hitchin when compared to any previous April.

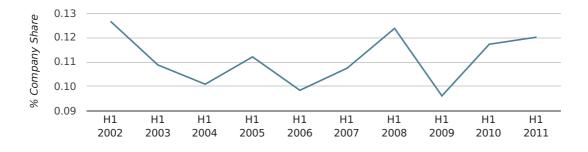


net growth by month

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

HALF YEAR (JAN-JUN)	HITCHIN
2011	0.1%
2010	0.1%
2009	0.1%
2008	0.1%
2007	0.1%
RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960)	1974 (0.2%)

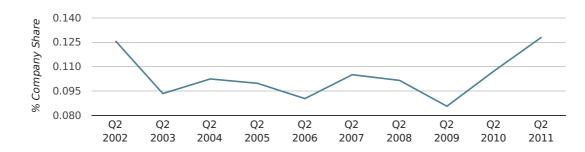
company share by half year



Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2011)

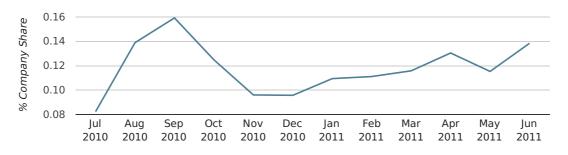
In the second quarter of 2011, Hitchin formed 0.1% of all UK companies.

SECOND QUARTER (APR 2011 - JUN 2011)	HITCHIN
2011	0.1%
2010	0.1%
2009	0.1%
2008	0.1%
2007	0.1%
RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960)	1974 (0.3%)



company share by quarter

company share by month



	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2011	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%
UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2010	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%
% CHANGE	-9.2%	11.8%	80.6%
RECORD YEAR	1976 (0.4%)	1965 (0.3%)	1974 (0.5%)

12 9

6

3 0 % Under 25

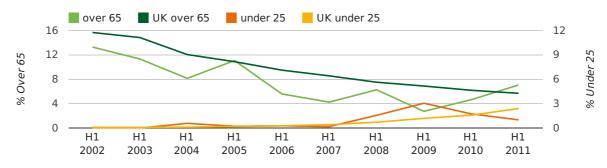
Half Year Data (Jan-Jun 2011)

The average age of a director in the first half of 2011 was 47.2.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 1.0% compared to the UK figure of 3.2%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 7.1% compared to the UK figure of 4.3%.

director age by half year



Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2011)

The average age of a director in the second quarter of 2011 was 46.4.

2003

2002

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 0.0% compared to the UK figure of 3.4%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 4.1% compared to the UK figure of 4.3%.

2004

2005

director age by quarter UK over 65 under 25 UK under 25 over 65 20 15 % Over 65 10 5 0 Q2 Q2 Q2 Q2 Q2 Q2 Q2 Q2 Q2 Q2

2006

2007

2008

2009

2010

2011

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

28.8% of all director appointments in Hitchin in the first half of 2011 were female. This compares to a UK average of 25.7% for the same period.

director gender by half year



Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2011)

The record second quarter for female directors in Hitchin was in 1866 when 66.7% of all directors were female.

35.0% of all director appointments in Hitchin in the second quarter of 2011 were female. This compares to a UK average of 26.1% for the same period.

Hitchin % Female Directors UK % Female Directors 40 35 % Female Directors 30 25 20 Q2 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011

director gender by quarter

Previous 12 months (Jun 2010-Jun 2011)

Excluding: LIMITED, LTD, &, UK, SERVICES, THE, (UK), AND, LTD., A, LLP, SOLUTIONS, COMPANY, OF.

WORD	PERCENTAGE	UK WORD	UK PERCENTAGE
CONSULTING	2.10%	CONSULTING	5.09%
MANAGEMENT	1.77%	MANAGEMENT	4.86%
TRADING	1.11%	CONSULTANCY	3.17%
DESIGN	1.00%	PROPERTY	2.43%
BUSINESS	0.88%	TRADING	2.05%
М	0.66%	DESIGN	1.94%
PROPERTY	0.55%	ASSOCIATES	1.92%
ASSOCIATES	0.55%	BUSINESS	1.87%
SYSTEMS	0.55%	CONSTRUCTION	1.77%
MAYDENCROFT	0.44%	CONSULTANTS	1.76%
Т	0.44%	MEDIA	1.73%
TRUST	0.44%	ENGINEERING	1.67%
INTERIORS	0.44%	LONDON	1.60%
CONSTRUCTION	0.44%	GLOBAL	1.46%
MEDIA	0.44%	J	1.44%
PARTNERS	0.44%	CARE	1.44%
R	0.44%	INVESTMENTS	1.42%
AVIATION	0.44%	IT	1.39%
RECRUITMENT	0.44%	BUILDING	1.32%
MATRIX	0.44%	PROPERTIES	1.31%
ELECTRICAL	0.44%	ELECTRICAL	1.30%
INTERNATIONAL	0.44%	М	1.27%
PROJECT	0.44%	S	1.23%
HERTS	0.44%	ENTERPRISES	1.20%
C	0.44%	SYSTEMS	1.20%



Previous 36 months, excluding companies less than 12 months old

None Supplied 7487 - Other business activities 82990 - Other business support service activities not elsewhere classified 9999 - Dormant Company 7499 - Non-trading company 74990 - Non-trading company	172 49 45 28 23 21 21	202,072 60,758 30,647 20,111 10,955 8,481
 82990 - Other business support service activities not elsewhere classified 9999 - Dormant Company 7499 - Non-trading company 74990 - Non-trading company 	45 28 23 21 21	30,647 20,111 10,955 8,481
9999 - Dormant Company 7499 - Non-trading company 74990 - Non-trading company	28 23 21 21	20,111 10,955 8,481
7499 - Non-trading company 74990 - Non-trading company	23 21 21	10,955 8,481
74990 - Non-trading company	21 21	8,481
	21	
70229 - Management consultancy activities other than financial management		16,419
62020 - Information technology consultancy activities	20	10,545
74909 - Other professional, scientific and technical activities not elsewhere classified	19	7,835
7414 - Business & management consultancy	15	13,053
96090 - Other service activities not elsewhere classified	15	10,322
7260 - Other computer related activities	14	7,849
99999 - Dormant Company	14	18,918
62090 - Other information technology service activities	13	7,095
7222 - Other software consultancy and supply	13	7,143
9305 - Other service activities	9	9,063
7032 - Manage real estate, fee or contract	6	2,208
96020 - Hairdressing and other beauty treatment	6	2,091
7450 - Labour recruitment	5	2,304
5530 - Restaurants	5	5,086