

Manchester

2012 half year business confidence report



headlines

- The first half of 2012 saw a new record in company registrations in Manchester when compared to any previous first half year.
- The first half of 2012 was a record first half year for company registrations in Manchester when compared to any half year in history.
- Q2 2012 saw a new record in company registrations in Manchester when compared to any previous Q2.
- June 2012 saw a new record in company registrations in Manchester when compared to any previous June.
- May 2012 saw a new record in company registrations in Manchester when compared to any previous May.
- April 2012 saw a new record in company registrations in Manchester when compared to any previous April.
- The first half of 2012 saw a new record in net growth in Manchester when compared to any previous first half year.
- The first half of 2012 was a record first half year for net growth in Manchester when compared to any half year in history.
- Q2 2012 saw a new record in net growth in Manchester when compared to any previous Q2.

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Half Year Data (Jan-Jun 2012)

The first half of 2012 saw a new record in company registrations in Manchester when compared to any previous first half year.

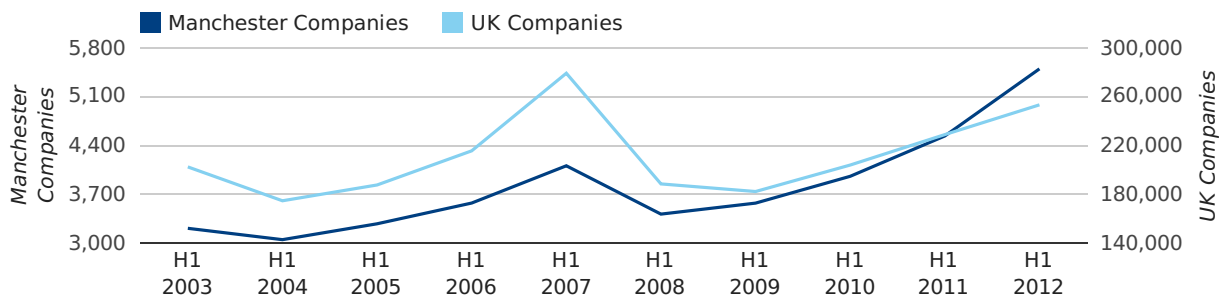
The first half of 2012 was a record first half year for company registrations in Manchester when compared to any half year in history.

In the first half of 2012 a total of 5,497 companies were formed in Manchester. This figure is 21.3% higher than last year, which compares well to the UK wide figure of 10.7%.

The highest total for a first half year in Manchester occurred in 2012 when a total of 5,497 were formed.

| HALF YEAR (JAN-JUN) | MANCHESTER | UK |
|---------------------|--------------|----------------|
| 2012 | 5,497 | 253,150 |
| 2011 | 4,533 | 228,735 |
| % CHANGE | 21.3% | 10.7% |
| RECORD YEAR | 2012 (5,497) | 2007 (279,097) |

new companies by half year



Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2012)

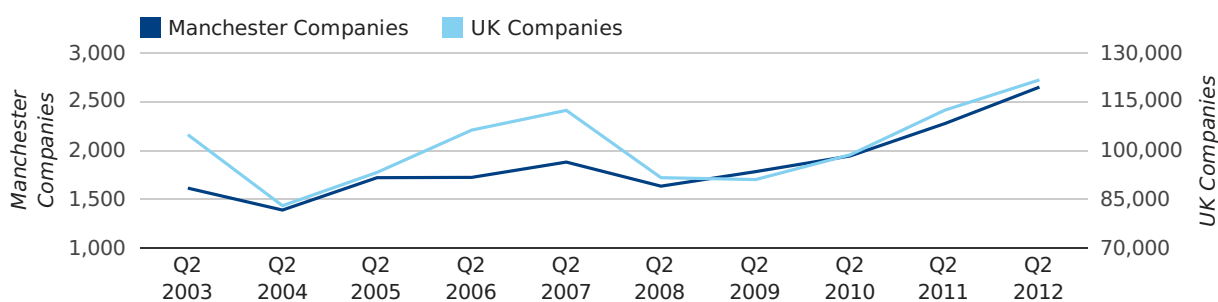
Q2 2012 saw a new record in company registrations in Manchester when compared to any previous Q2.

A total of 2,648 companies were registered in Manchester 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 well 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) | MANCHESTER | UK |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|----------------|
| 2012 | 2,648 | 121,659 |
| 2011 | 2,274 | 112,344 |
| % CHANGE | 16.4% | 8.3% |
| RECORD YEAR | 2012 (2,648) | 2012 (121,659) |

new companies by quarter



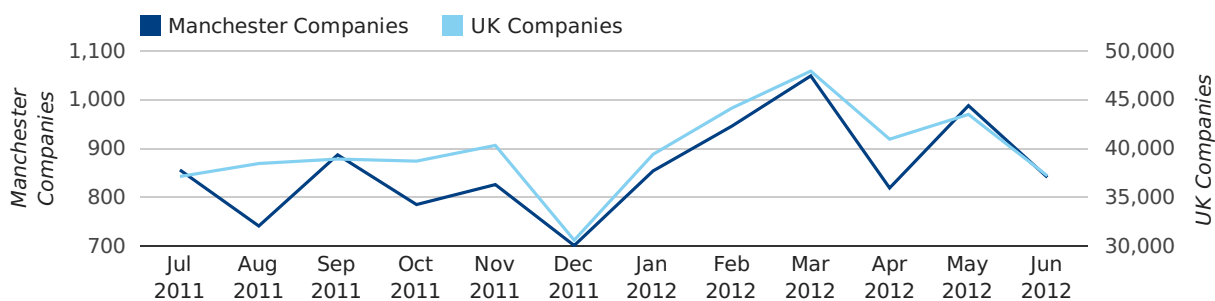
Monthly Data (Apr, May & Jun 2012)

June 2012 saw a new record in company registrations in Manchester when compared to any previous June.

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

April 2012 saw a new record in company registrations in Manchester when compared to any previous April.

new companies by month



| | APRIL | MAY | JUNE |
|-----------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| NEW COMPANIES IN 2012 | 819 | 988 | 841 |
| NEW COMPANIES IN 2011 | 679 | 805 | 790 |
| % CHANGE | 20.6% | 22.7% | 6.5% |
| RECORD YEAR | 2012 (819) | 2012 (988) | 2012 (841) |

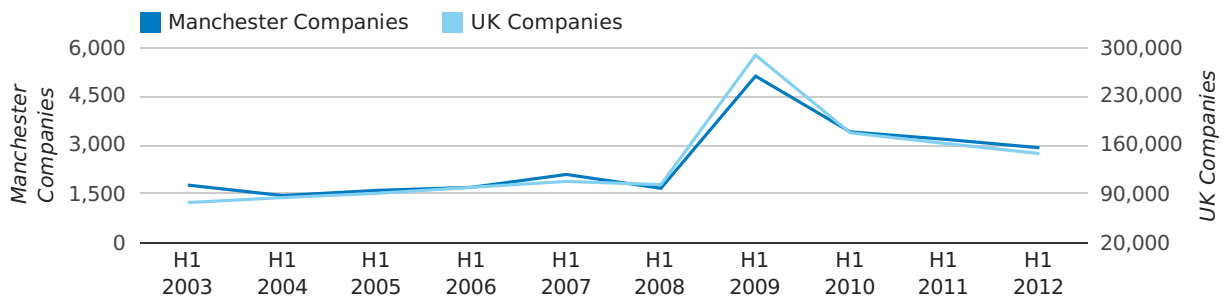
Half Year Data (Jan-Jun 2012)

In the first half of 2012 a total of 2,917 companies were dissolved in Manchester. This figure is 8.2% lower than last year, which compares badly to the UK wide change of -8.9%.

The highest total for a first half year in Manchester occurred in 2009 when a total of 5,123 were closed.

| HALF YEAR (JAN-JUN) | MANCHESTER | UK |
|---------------------|--------------|----------------|
| 2012 | 2,917 | 147,793 |
| 2011 | 3,177 | 162,310 |
| % CHANGE | -8.2% | -8.9% |
| RECORD YEAR | 2009 (5,123) | 2009 (289,236) |

dissolved companies by half year



Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2012)

A total of 1,586 companies were dissolved in Manchester during the second quarter of 2012 (Apr 2012 - Jun 2012).

This figure is an increase of 11.0% versus the same period last year (Q2 2011). This figure compares well 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) | MANCHESTER | UK |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|----------------|
| 2012 | 1,586 | 80,217 |
| 2011 | 1,429 | 71,324 |
| % CHANGE | 11.0% | 12.5% |
| RECORD YEAR | 2009 (3,189) | 2009 (181,176) |

dissolved companies by quarter



Monthly Data (Apr, May & Jun 2012)

dissolved companies by month



| | APRIL | MAY | JUNE |
|--------------------------|--------------|--------------|------------|
| CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2012 | 478 | 561 | 547 |
| CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2011 | 323 | 597 | 509 |
| % CHANGE | 48.0% | -6.0% | 7% |
| RECORD YEAR | 2009 (1,073) | 2009 (1,298) | 2009 (818) |

Half Year Data (Jan-Jun 2012)

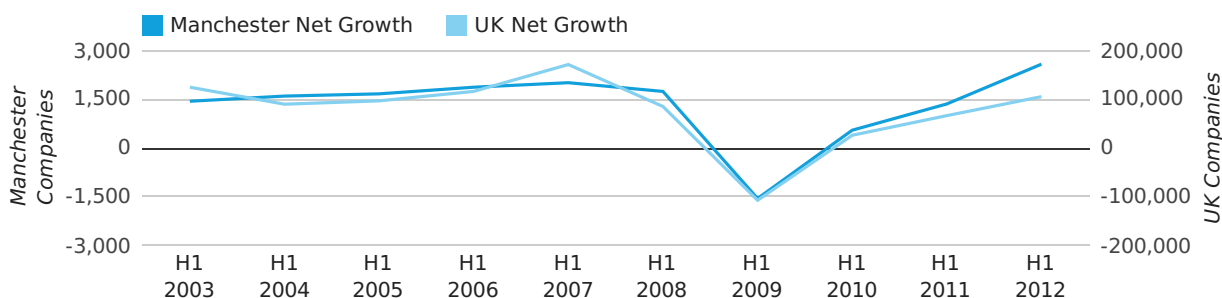
The first half of 2012 saw a new record in net growth in Manchester when compared to any previous first half year.

The first half of 2012 was a record first half year for net growth in Manchester when compared to any half year in history.

In the first half of 2012 the company register for Manchester increased by 2,580 companies. This figure is 90.3% higher than last year, which compares well to a UK increase of 58.6%.

| HALF YEAR (JAN-JUN) | MANCHESTER | UK |
|---------------------|--------------|----------------|
| 2012 | 2,580 | 105,357 |
| 2011 | 1,356 | 66,425 |
| % CHANGE | 90.3% | 58.6% |
| RECORD YEAR | 2012 (2,580) | 2007 (171,296) |

net growth by half year



Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2012)

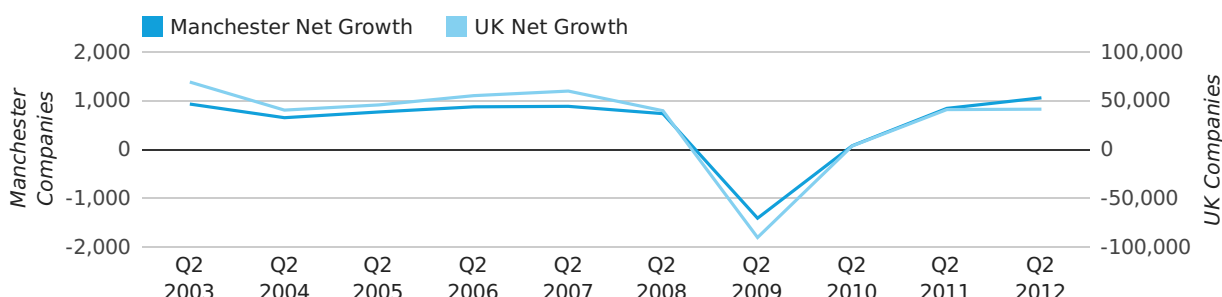
Q2 2012 saw a new record in net growth in Manchester when compared to any previous Q2.

Net company growth for Manchester during the second quarter of 2012 (Apr 2012 - Jun 2012) was 1,062 companies.

This represents an increase of 25.7% on the same period last year.

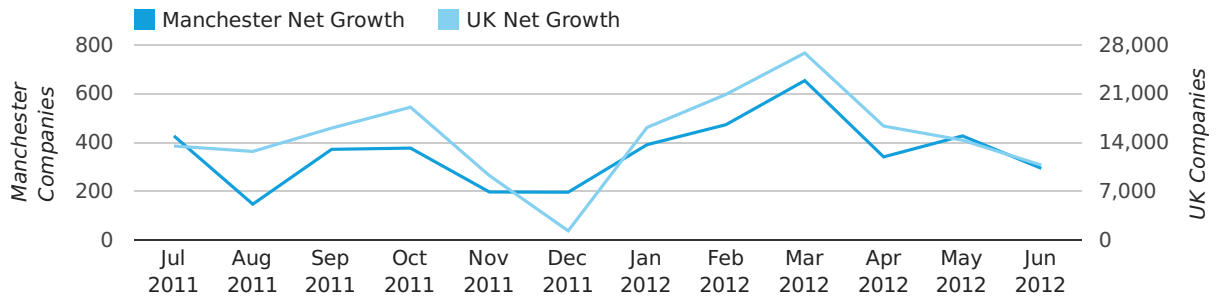
| SECOND QUARTER (APR 2012 - JUN 2012) | MANCHESTER | UK |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|---------------|
| 2012 | 1,062 | 41,442 |
| 2011 | 845 | 41,020 |
| % CHANGE | 25.7% | 1.0% |
| RECORD YEAR | 2012 (1,062) | 2003 (69,274) |

net growth by quarter



Monthly Data (Apr, May & Jun 2012)

net growth by month



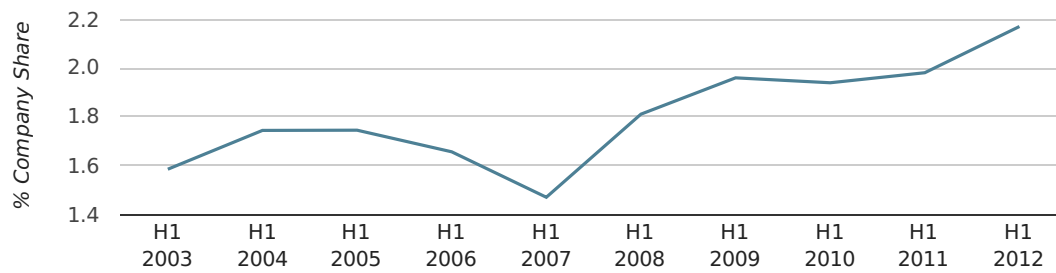
| | APRIL | MAY | JUNE |
|--------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| NET GROWTH IN 2012 | 341 | 427 | 294 |
| NET GROWTH IN 2011 | 356 | 208 | 281 |
| % CHANGE | -4.2% | 105.3% | 4.6% |
| RECORD YEAR | 2007 (411) | 2003 (429) | 2008 (480) |

Half Year Data (Jan-Jun 2012)

In the first half of 2012 Manchester formed 2.2% of all UK companies. This is more than the 2011 figure of 2.0%.

| HALF YEAR (JAN-JUN) | MANCHESTER |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| 2012 | 2.2% |
| 2011 | 2.0% |
| 2010 | 1.9% |
| 2009 | 2.0% |
| 2008 | 1.8% |
| RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960) | 1982 (2.8%) |

company share by half year

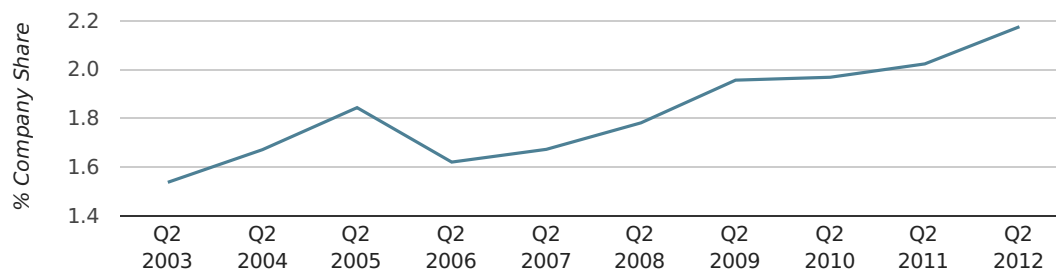


Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2012)

In the second quarter of 2012, Manchester formed 2.2% of all UK companies.

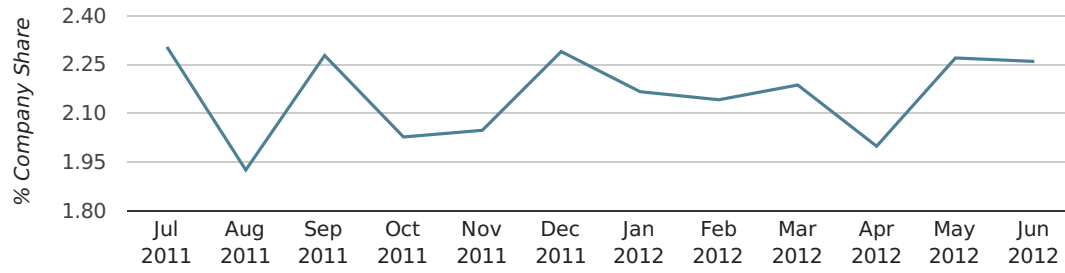
| SECOND QUARTER (APR 2012 - JUN 2012) | MANCHESTER |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| 2012 | 2.2% |
| 2011 | 2.0% |
| 2010 | 2.0% |
| 2009 | 2.0% |
| 2008 | 1.8% |
| RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960) | 1965 (3.2%) |

company share by quarter



Monthly Data (Apr, May & Jun 2012)

company share by month



| | APRIL | MAY | JUNE |
|----------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2012 | 2.0% | 2.3% | 2.3% |
| UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2011 | 2.0% | 2.1% | 2.0% |
| % CHANGE | 1.6% | 7.6% | 13.7% |
| RECORD YEAR | 1965 (3.9%) | 1969 (3.5%) | 1982 (3.0%) |

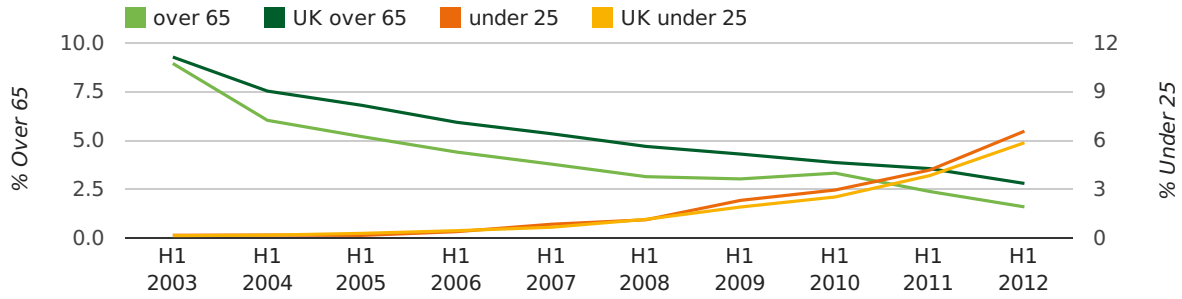
Half Year Data (Jan-Jun 2012)

The average age of a director in the first half of 2012 was 39.7.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 6.6% compared to the UK figure of 4.9%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 1.6% compared to the UK figure of 3.4%.

director age by half year



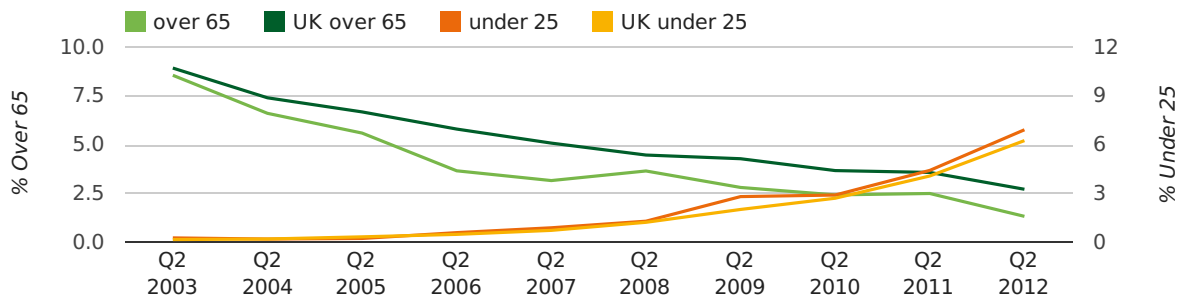
Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2012)

The average age of a director in the second quarter of 2012 was 39.3.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 6.9% compared to the UK figure of 5.2%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 1.3% compared to the UK figure of 3.3%.

director age by quarter

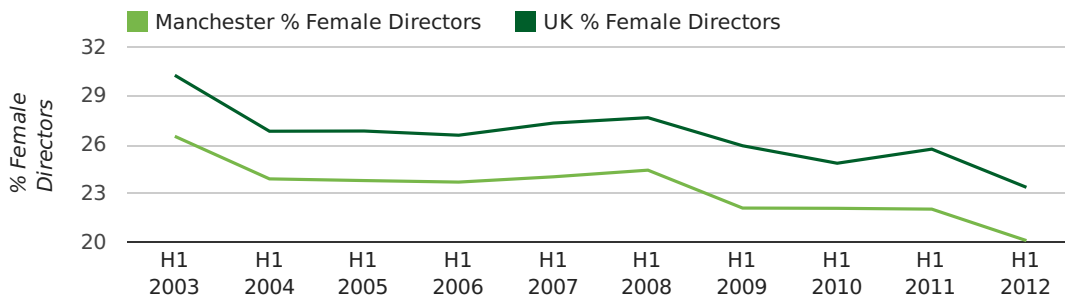


Half Year Data (Jan-Jun 2012)

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

20.1% of all director appointments in Manchester 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

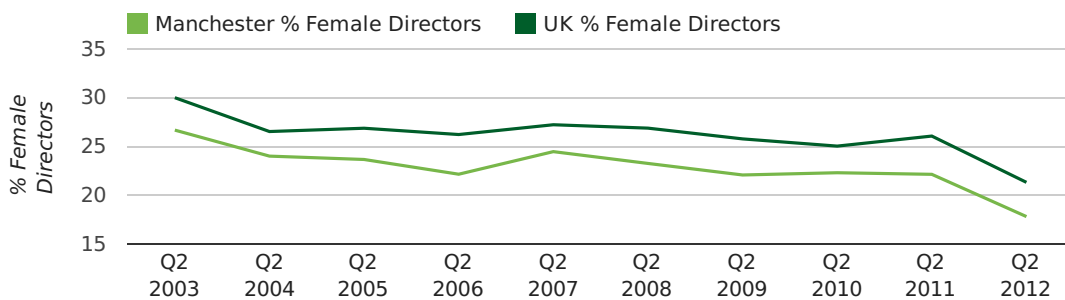


Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2012)

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

17.8% of all director appointments in Manchester in the second quarter of 2012 were female. This compares to a UK average of 21.3% for the same period.

director gender by quarter



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 |
|--------------|------------|--------------|---------------|
| MANAGEMENT | 1.86% | CONSULTING | 5.07% |
| MANCHESTER | 1.64% | MANAGEMENT | 4.74% |
| CONSULTANCY | 1.35% | CONSULTANCY | 3.28% |
| CONSULTING | 1.33% | PROPERTY | 2.35% |
| TRADING | 1.21% | TRADING | 2.10% |
| PROPERTY | 1.07% | DESIGN | 1.89% |
| PROPERTIES | 1.00% | ENGINEERING | 1.87% |
| GLOBAL | 0.82% | ASSOCIATES | 1.82% |
| DESIGN | 0.81% | CONSULTANTS | 1.78% |
| ENGINEERING | 0.80% | CONSTRUCTION | 1.71% |
| MEDIA | 0.76% | BUSINESS | 1.70% |
| CONSULTANTS | 0.74% | MEDIA | 1.69% |
| ASSOCIATES | 0.74% | LONDON | 1.68% |
| CONSTRUCTION | 0.71% | J | 1.57% |
| SECURITY | 0.69% | GLOBAL | 1.51% |
| INVESTMENTS | 0.68% | INVESTMENTS | 1.48% |
| MEDICAL | 0.64% | IT | 1.42% |
| (MANCHESTER) | 0.64% | CARE | 1.31% |
| BUSINESS | 0.61% | PROPERTIES | 1.31% |
| MARKETING | 0.57% | M | 1.26% |
| J | 0.56% | ELECTRICAL | 1.23% |
| S | 0.56% | BUILDING | 1.23% |
| DEVELOPMENTS | 0.56% | SECURITY | 1.19% |
| HOLDINGS | 0.55% | S | 1.18% |
| M | 0.55% | ENTERPRISES | 1.17% |

Previous 36 months, excluding companies less than 12 months old

| SIC CODE | NUMBER OF COMPANIES | UK COMPANIES |
|--|---------------------|--------------|
| None Supplied | 5,713 | 244,457 |
| 7487 - Other business activities | 754 | 47,029 |
| 82990 - Other business support service activities not elsewhere classified | 544 | 35,447 |
| 96090 - Other service activities not elsewhere classified | 466 | 14,220 |
| 99999 - Dormant Company | 425 | 26,088 |
| 9999 - Dormant Company | 306 | 16,469 |
| 9305 - Other service activities | 241 | 7,926 |
| 70229 - Management consultancy activities other than financial management | 225 | 20,390 |
| 74909 - Other professional, scientific and technical activities not elsewhere classified | 178 | 10,271 |
| 62020 - Information technology consultancy activities | 173 | 15,280 |
| 86210 - General medical practice activities | 169 | 2,657 |
| 74990 - Non-trading company | 168 | 9,706 |
| 68209 - Other letting and operating of own or leased real estate | 157 | 4,535 |
| 5530 - Restaurants | 142 | 4,037 |
| 7414 - Business & management consultancy | 130 | 10,978 |
| 7260 - Other computer related activities | 124 | 6,456 |
| 62090 - Other information technology service activities | 121 | 8,258 |
| 7499 - Non-trading company | 120 | 8,023 |
| 86900 - Other human health activities | 104 | 5,222 |
| 4521 - General construction & civil engineering | 103 | 4,644 |