Sheffield

q1 2011 business confidence report



headlines

- Q1 2011 saw a new record in company registrations in Sheffield when compared to any previous Q1.
- Q1 2011 was a record quarter for company registrations in Sheffield when compared to any quarter in history.
- February 2011 saw a new record in company registrations in Sheffield when compared to any previous February.
- January 2011 saw a new record in company registrations in Sheffield when compared to any previous January.
- Q1 2011 saw a new record in company closures in Sheffield when compared to any previous Q1.
- February 2011 saw a new record in company closures in Sheffield when compared to any previous February.
- January 2011 saw a new record in company closures in Sheffield when compared to any previous January.

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Q1 2011 saw a new record in company registrations in Sheffield when compared to any previous Q1.

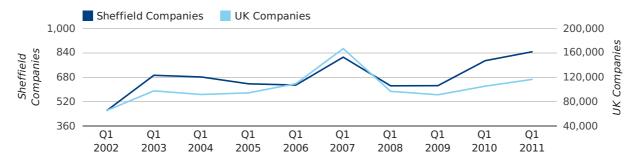
Q1 2011 was a record quarter for company registrations in Sheffield when compared to any quarter in history.

A total of 847 companies were registered in Sheffield during the first quarter of 2011 (Jan 2011 - Mar 2011).

This figure is an increase of 7.5% versus the same period last year (Q1 2010). This figure compares equally to the UK as a whole, which saw an increase of 10.7% against the same period last year.

| FIRST QUARTER (JAN 2011 - MAR 2011) | SHEFFIELD | UK |
|-------------------------------------|------------|----------------|
| 2011 | 847 | 116,391 |
| 2010 | 788 | 105,137 |
| % CHANGE | 7.5% | 10.7% |
| RECORD YEAR | 2011 (847) | 2007 (166,814) |

new companies by quarter

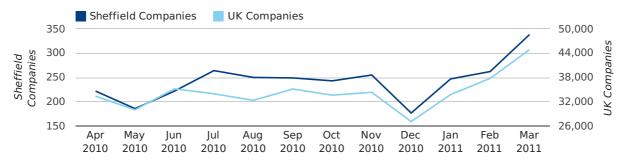


Monthly Data (Jan, Feb & Mar 2011)

February 2011 saw a new record in company registrations in Sheffield when compared to any previous February.

January 2011 saw a new record in company registrations in Sheffield when compared to any previous January.

new companies by month



| | JANUARY | FEBRUARY | MARCH |
|-----------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| NEW COMPANIES IN 2011 | 247 | 262 | 338 |
| NEW COMPANIES IN 2010 | 209 | 251 | 328 |
| % CHANGE | 18.2% | 4.4% | 3.0% |
| RECORD YEAR | 2011 (247) | 2011 (262) | 2007 (355) |

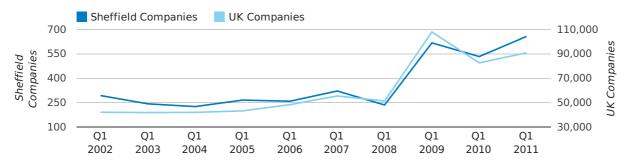
Q1 2011 saw a new record in company closures in Sheffield when compared to any previous Q1.

A total of 658 companies were dissolved in Sheffield during the first quarter of 2011 (Jan 2011 - Mar 2011).

This figure is an increase of 23.2% versus the same period last year (Q1 2010). This figure compares poorly to the UK as a whole, which saw an increase of 10.0% against the same period last year.

| FIRST QUARTER (JAN 2011 - MAR 2011) | SHEFFIELD | UK |
|-------------------------------------|------------|----------------|
| 2011 | 658 | 90,986 |
| 2010 | 534 | 82,677 |
| % CHANGE | 23.2% | 10.0% |
| RECORD YEAR | 2011 (658) | 2009 (108,060) |

dissolved companies by quarter

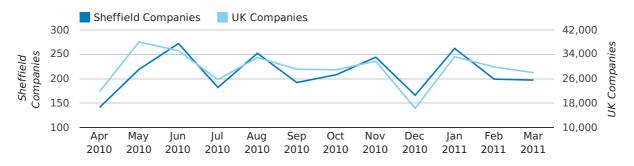


Monthly Data (Jan, Feb & Mar 2011)

February 2011 saw a new record in company closures in Sheffield when compared to any previous February.

January 2011 saw a new record in company closures in Sheffield when compared to any previous January.

dissolved companies by month



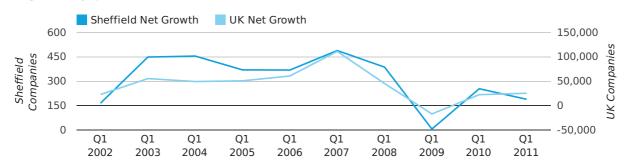
| JANUARY | FEBRUARY | MARCH |
|------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|
| 262 | 199 | 197 |
| 129 | 179 | 226 |
| 103.1% | 11.2% | -13% |
| 2011 (262) | 2011 (199) | 2009 (360) |
| | 262 129 103.1% | 262 199 129 179 103.1% 11.2% |

Net company growth for Sheffield during the first quarter of 2011 (Jan 2011 - Mar 2011) was 189 companies.

This represents a decrease of 25.6% on the same period last year.

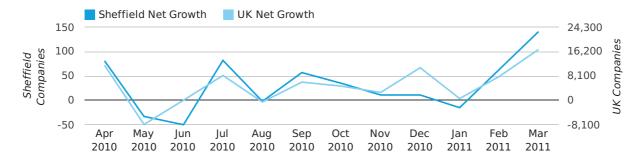
| FIRST QUARTER (JAN 2011 - MAR 2011) | SHEFFIELD | UK |
|-------------------------------------|------------|----------------|
| 2011 | 189 | 25,405 |
| 2010 | 254 | 22,460 |
| % CHANGE | -25.6% | 13.1% |
| RECORD YEAR | 2007 (489) | 2007 (111,282) |

net growth by quarter



Monthly Data (Jan, Feb & Mar 2011)

net growth by month

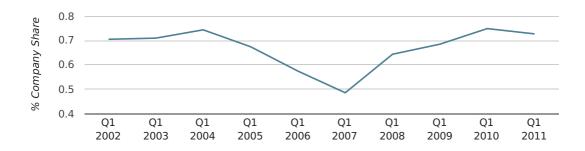


| | JANUARY | FEBRUARY | MARCH |
|--------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| NET GROWTH IN 2011 | -15 | 63 | 141 |
| NET GROWTH IN 2010 | 80 | 72 | 102 |
| % CHANGE | -118.8% | -12.5% | 38.2% |
| RECORD YEAR | 2003 (129) | 2004 (180) | 2000 (250) |

In the first quarter of 2011, Sheffield formed 0.7% of all UK companies.

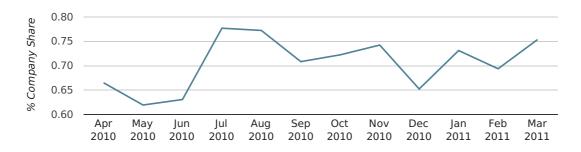
| FIRST QUARTER (JAN 2011 - MAR 2011) | SHEFFIELD |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| 2011 | 0.7% |
| 2010 | 0.7% |
| 2009 | 0.7% |
| 2008 | 0.6% |
| 2007 | 0.5% |
| RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960) | 1969 (1.4%) |

company share by quarter



Monthly Data (Jan, Feb & Mar 2011)

company share by month



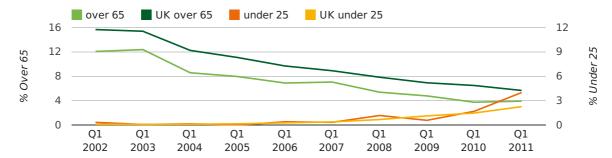
| | JANUARY | FEBRUARY | MARCH |
|----------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2011 | 0.7% | 0.7% | 0.8% |
| UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2010 | 0.7% | 0.8% | 0.8% |
| % CHANGE | 2.0% | -8.2% | -1.7% |
| RECORD YEAR | 1969 (1.8%) | 1977 (1.6%) | 1977 (1.4%) |

The average age of a director in the first quarter of 2011 was 43.8.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 4.0% compared to the UK figure of 3.0%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 3.9% compared to the UK figure of 4.3%.

director age by quarter



The record first quarter for female directors in Sheffield was in 1861 when 40.0% of all directors were female.

24.2% of all director appointments in Sheffield in the first quarter of 2011 were female. This compares to a UK average of 25.4% for the same period.

director gender by quarter



naming trends $\operatorname{duport} \omega$

Previous 12 months (Mar 2010-Mar 2011)

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

| WORD | PERCENTAGE | UK WORD | UK PERCENTAGE |
|---------------|------------|---------------|---------------|
| MANAGEMENT | 1.59% | CONSULTING | 5.04% |
| CONSULTING | 1.06% | MANAGEMENT | 4.97% |
| FEET | 0.93% | CONSULTANCY | 3.16% |
| APPY | 0.90% | PROPERTY | 2.38% |
| CO., | 0.87% | TRADING | 2.10% |
| CONSTRUCTION | 0.85% | DESIGN | 1.93% |
| DESIGN | 0.79% | ASSOCIATES | 1.92% |
| CARE | 0.74% | BUSINESS | 1.87% |
| PROPERTY | 0.71% | CONSTRUCTION | 1.80% |
| SHEFFIELD | 0.69% | CONSULTANTS | 1.76% |
| S | 0.69% | MEDIA | 1.69% |
| CONSULTANTS | 0.66% | ENGINEERING | 1.61% |
| YORKSHIRE | 0.66% | LONDON | 1.60% |
| ENGINEERING | 0.64% | CARE | 1.45% |
| CONSULTANCY | 0.64% | J | 1.45% |
| CARPETS | 0.64% | GLOBAL | 1.44% |
| INTERNATIONAL | 0.64% | INVESTMENTS | 1.43% |
| ASSOCIATES | 0.61% | IT | 1.41% |
| С | 0.61% | PROPERTIES | 1.36% |
| PROPERTIES | 0.58% | BUILDING | 1.34% |
| INVESTMENTS | 0.58% | М | 1.30% |
| TRADING | 0.56% | ELECTRICAL | 1.28% |
| DEVELOPMENTS | 0.56% | S | 1.24% |
| М | 0.56% | INTERNATIONAL | 1.23% |
| IT | 0.56% | SYSTEMS | 1.23% |

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Previous 36 months, excluding companies less than 12 months old

| SIC CODE | NUMBER OF COMPANIES | UK COMPANIES |
|--|------------------------|-----------------|
| None Supplied | 1,318 | 202,798 |
| 7487 - Other business activities | 344 | 60,968 |
| 82990 - Other business support service activities not elsewhere classified | 206 | 30,253 |
| 99999 - Dormant Company | 132 | 18,336 |
| 9999 - Dormant Company | 123 | 19,765 |
| 70229 - Management consultancy activities other than financial management | 85 | 16,150 |
| 7414 - Business & management consultancy | 85 | 12,916 |
| 7499 - Non-trading company | 64 | 11,316 |
| 74990 - Non-trading company | 64 | 8,695 |
| 96090 - Other service activities not elsewhere classified | 63 | 10,085 |
| 62020 - Information technology consultancy activities | 56 | 10,246 |
| 7260 - Other computer related activities | 53 | 7,789 |
| 9305 - Other service activities | 52 | 8,740 |
| 62090 - Other information technology service activities | 50 | 6,996 |
| 4521 - General construction & civil engineering | 48 | 6,183 |
| 7222 - Other software consultancy and supply | 48 | 7,000 |
| 74909 - Other professional, scientific and technical activities not elsewhere classified | 43 | 7,788 |
| 5530 - Restaurants | 37 | 4,898 |
| 43210 - Electrical installation | 37 | 3,172 |
| 86220 - Specialists medical practice activities | 31 | 1,120 |