

Southport

q1 2012 business confidence report



headlines

- Q1 2012 saw a new record in company registrations in Southport when compared to any previous Q1.
- Q1 2012 was a record quarter for company registrations in Southport when compared to any quarter in history.
- February 2012 saw a new record in company registrations in Southport when compared to any previous February.
- January 2012 saw a new record in company registrations in Southport when compared to any previous January.

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Quarterly Data (Q1 Jan-Mar 2012)

Q1 2012 saw a new record in company registrations in Southport when compared to any previous Q1.

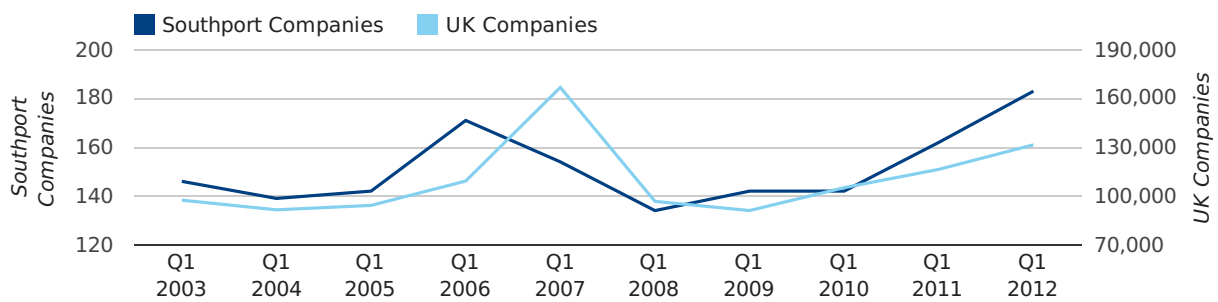
Q1 2012 was a record quarter for company registrations in Southport when compared to any quarter in history.

A total of 183 companies were registered in Southport during the first quarter of 2012 (Jan 2012 - Mar 2012).

This figure is an increase of 13.0% versus the same period last year (Q1 2011). This figure compares equally to the UK as a whole, which saw an increase of 13.0% against the same period last year.

FIRST QUARTER (JAN 2012 - MAR 2012)	SOUTHPORT	UK
2012	183	131,491
2011	162	116,391
% CHANGE	13.0%	13.0%
RECORD YEAR	2012 (183)	2007 (166,814)

new companies by quarter

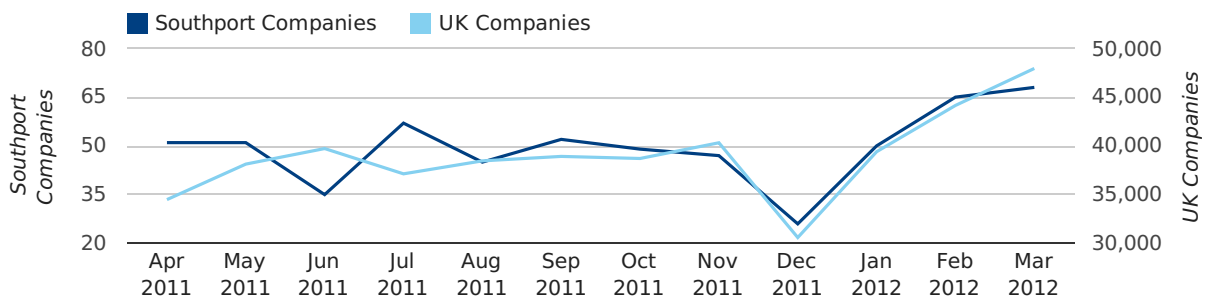


Monthly Data (Jan, Feb & Mar 2012)

February 2012 saw a new record in company registrations in Southport when compared to any previous February.

January 2012 saw a new record in company registrations in Southport when compared to any previous January.

new companies by month



	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
NEW COMPANIES IN 2012	50	65	68
NEW COMPANIES IN 2011	43	53	66
% CHANGE	16.3%	22.6%	3.0%
RECORD YEAR	2012 (50)	2012 (65)	2006 (75)

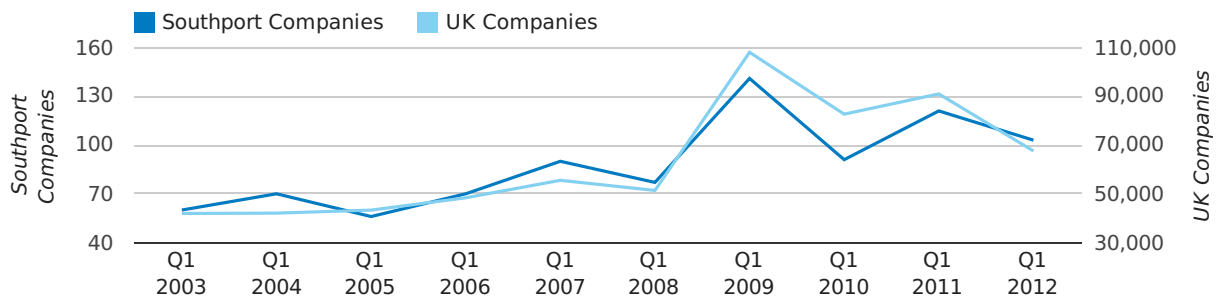
Quarterly Data (Q1 Jan-Mar 2012)

A total of 103 companies were dissolved in Southport during the first quarter of 2012 (Jan 2012 - Mar 2012).

This figure is a decrease of 14.9% versus the same period last year (Q1 2011). This figure compares poorly to the UK as a whole, which saw a decrease of 25.7% against the same period last year.

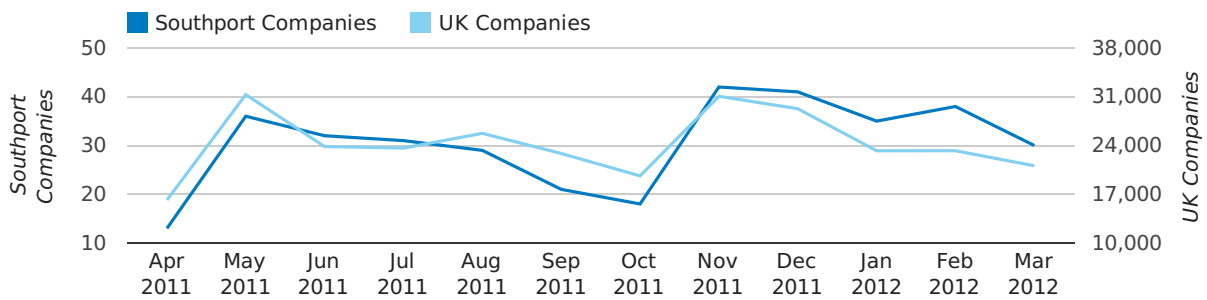
FIRST QUARTER (JAN 2012 - MAR 2012)	SOUTHPORT	UK
2012	103	67,576
2011	121	90,986
% CHANGE	-14.9%	-25.7%
RECORD YEAR	2009 (141)	2009 (108,060)

dissolved companies by quarter



Monthly Data (Jan, Feb & Mar 2012)

dissolved companies by month



	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2012	35	38	30
CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2011	46	43	32
% CHANGE	-23.9%	-11.6%	-6%
RECORD YEAR	2011 (46)	2008 (49)	2009 (90)

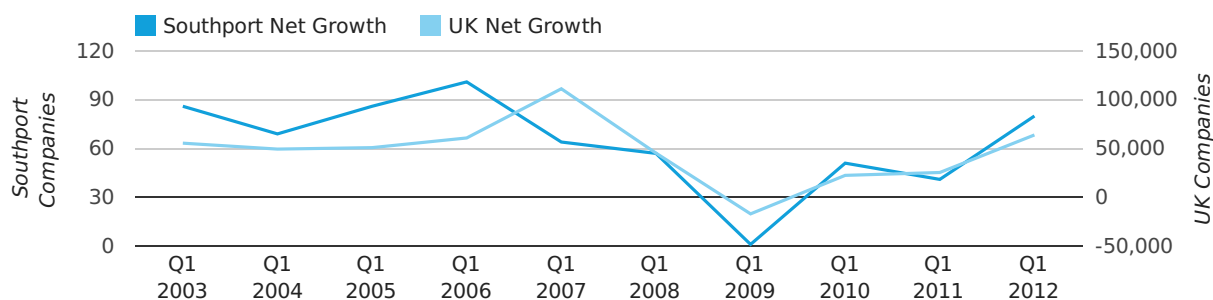
Quarterly Data (Q1 Jan-Mar 2012)

Net company growth for Southport during the first quarter of 2012 (Jan 2012 - Mar 2012) was 80 companies.

This represents an increase of 95.1% on the same period last year.

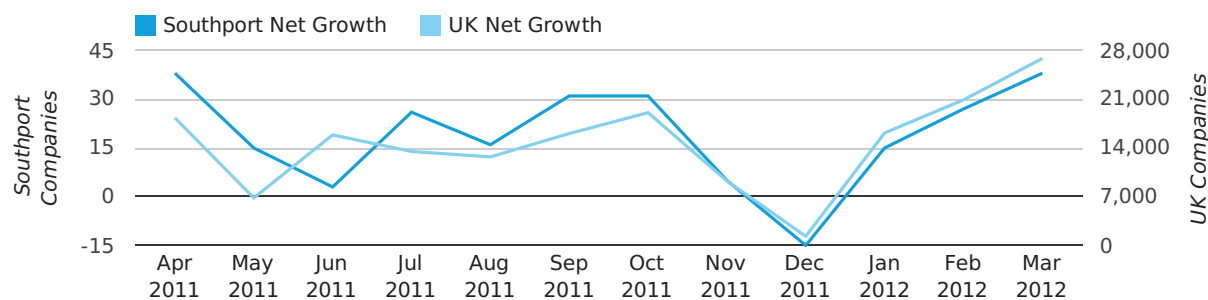
FIRST QUARTER (JAN 2012 - MAR 2012)	SOUTHPORT	UK
2012	80	63,915
2011	41	25,405
% CHANGE	95.1%	151.6%
RECORD YEAR	2006 (101)	2007 (111,282)

net growth by quarter



Monthly Data (Jan, Feb & Mar 2012)

net growth by month



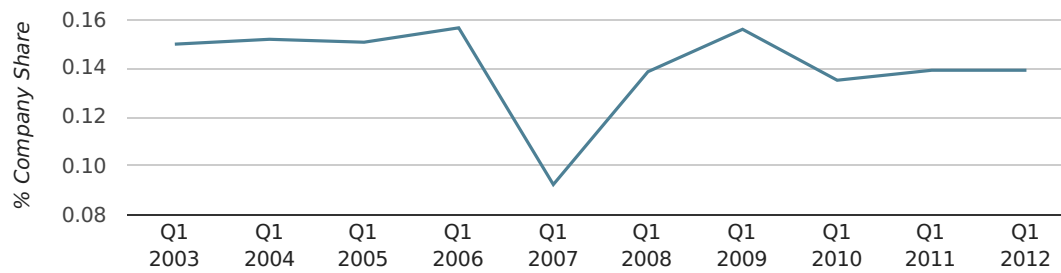
	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
NET GROWTH IN 2012	15	27	38
NET GROWTH IN 2011	-3	10	34
% CHANGE	-600.0%	170.0%	11.8%
RECORD YEAR	2005 (28)	2007 (33)	2006 (57)

Quarterly Data (Q1 Jan-Mar 2012)

In the first quarter of 2012, Southport formed 0.1% of all UK companies.

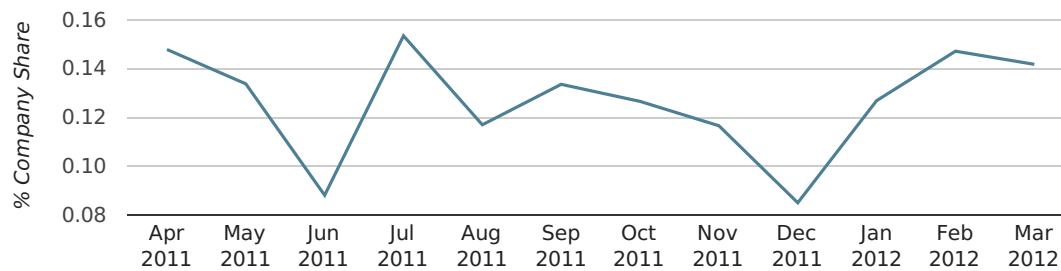
FIRST QUARTER (JAN 2012 - MAR 2012)	SOUTHPORT
2012	0.1%
2011	0.1%
2010	0.1%
2009	0.2%
2008	0.1%
RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960)	1971 (0.3%)

company share by quarter



Monthly Data (Jan, Feb & Mar 2012)

company share by month



	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2012	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%
UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2011	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%
% CHANGE	-0.3%	4.8%	-3.7%
RECORD YEAR	1966 (0.4%)	1967 (0.6%)	1968 (0.4%)

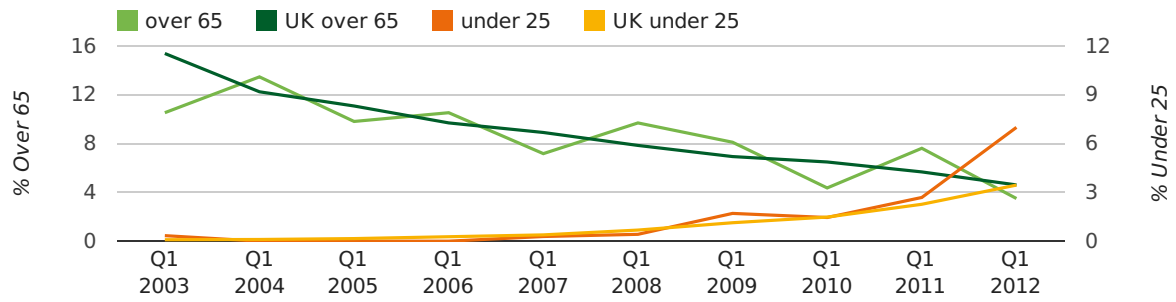
Quarterly Data (Q1 Jan-Mar 2012)

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

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 7.0% compared to the UK figure of 4.6%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 3.5% compared to the UK figure of 3.5%.

director age by quarter

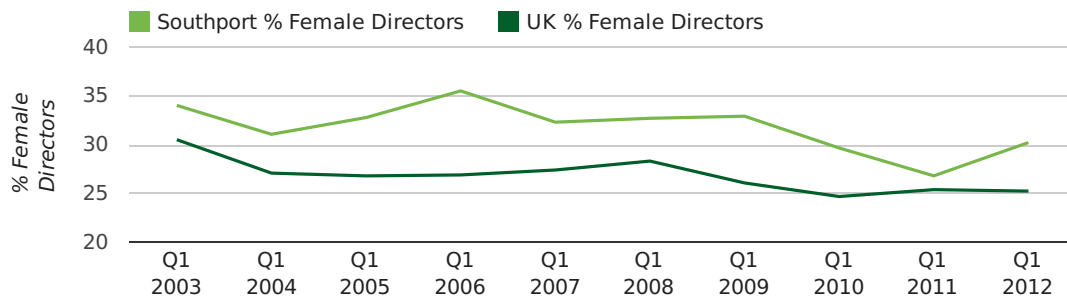


Quarterly Data (Q1 Jan-Mar 2012)

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

30.2% of all director appointments in Southport in the first quarter of 2012 were female. This compares to a UK average of 25.3% for the same period.

director gender by quarter



Previous 12 months (Mar 2011-Mar 2012)

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

WORD	PERCENTAGE	UK WORD	UK PERCENTAGE
MANAGEMENT	1.99%	CONSULTING	5.07%
SOUTHPORT	1.60%	MANAGEMENT	4.74%
HOUSE	1.10%	CONSULTANCY	3.30%
BUILDING	1.10%	PROPERTY	2.37%
PROPERTY	1.00%	TRADING	2.07%
S	0.90%	DESIGN	1.93%
M	0.80%	ENGINEERING	1.86%
CONSULTANCY	0.70%	ASSOCIATES	1.84%
J	0.70%	CONSULTANTS	1.79%
ASSOCIATES	0.70%	BUSINESS	1.73%
TRAINING	0.70%	MEDIA	1.72%
CARE	0.70%	CONSTRUCTION	1.72%
NEWS	0.60%	LONDON	1.66%
CONSULTING	0.60%	J	1.54%
DEVELOPMENTS	0.60%	INVESTMENTS	1.51%
ELECTRICAL	0.60%	GLOBAL	1.50%
WORLD	0.60%	IT	1.40%
STREET	0.50%	CARE	1.34%
ESTATES	0.50%	PROPERTIES	1.31%
PROPERTIES	0.50%	ELECTRICAL	1.27%
TRANSPORT	0.50%	M	1.27%
WEST)	0.50%	BUILDING	1.24%
CO	0.50%	ENERGY	1.20%
D	0.50%	S	1.20%
(NORTH	0.50%	ENTERPRISES	1.19%

Previous 36 months, excluding companies less than 12 months old

SIC CODE	NUMBER OF COMPANIES	UK COMPANIES
None Supplied	283	216,665
7487 - Other business activities	59	52,735
99999 - Dormant Company	55	25,084
82990 - Other business support service activities not elsewhere classified	38	35,233
70229 - Management consultancy activities other than financial management	27	19,704
9305 - Other service activities	19	8,818
9999 - Dormant Company	19	18,617
86210 - General medical practice activities	17	2,594
7414 - Business & management consultancy	16	12,113
96090 - Other service activities not elsewhere classified	15	13,637
5530 - Restaurants	13	4,633
5540 - Bars	13	1,978
74909 - Other professional, scientific and technical activities not elsewhere classified	11	9,892
8512 - Medical practice activities	10	2,116
68209 - Other letting and operating of own or leased real estate	10	4,427
74990 - Non-trading company	9	9,729
41100 - Development of building projects	9	4,984
98000 - Residents property management	9	3,050
7260 - Other computer related activities	8	7,154
85590 - Other education not elsewhere classified	8	2,786