

St Albans

2011 annual business confidence report



headlines

- The second half of 2011 saw a new record in company registrations in St Albans when compared to any previous second half year.
- December 2011 saw a new record in company closures in St Albans when compared to any previous December.

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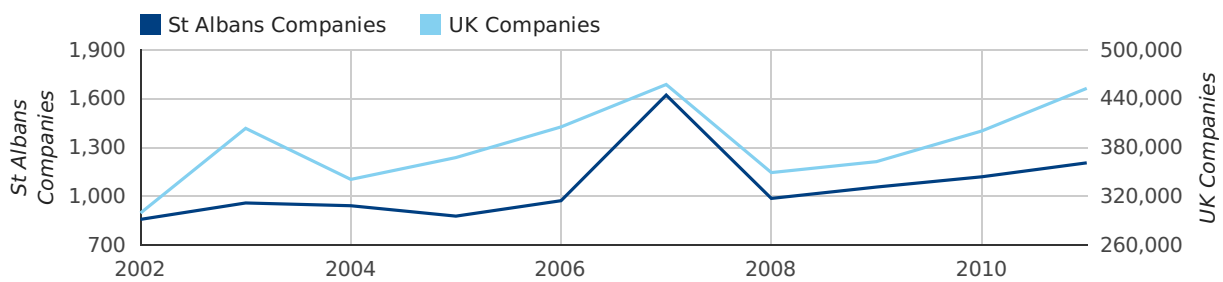
sic data

Annual Data (2011)

A total of 1,206 companies were formed in St Albans in 2011. This total is 7.7% higher than in 2010 and compares equally to the UK figure of a 13.1% growth compared to 400,358 the previous year.

YEAR	ST ALBANS	UK
2011	1,206	452,870
2010	1,120	400,358
2009	1,057	362,675
2008	987	349,203
2007	1,623	457,649
RECORD YEAR	2007 (1,623)	2007 (457,649)

new companies by year



Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

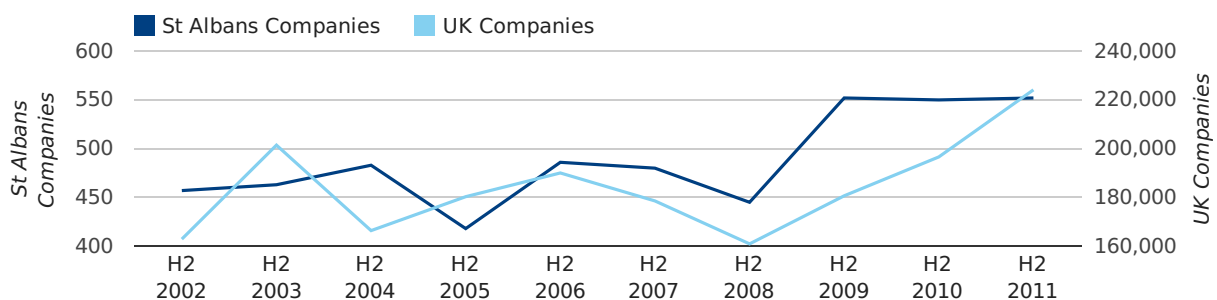
The second half of 2011 saw a new record in company registrations in St Albans when compared to any previous second half year.

In the second half of 2011 a total of 552 companies were formed in St Albans. This figure is 0.4% higher than last year, which compares badly to the UK wide figure of 14.0%.

The highest total for a second half year in St Albans occurred in 2011 when a total of 552 were formed.

HALF YEAR (JUL-DEC)	ST ALBANS	UK
2011	552	224,135
2010	550	196,609
% CHANGE	0.4%	14.0%
RECORD YEAR	2011 (552)	2011 (224,135)

new companies by half year



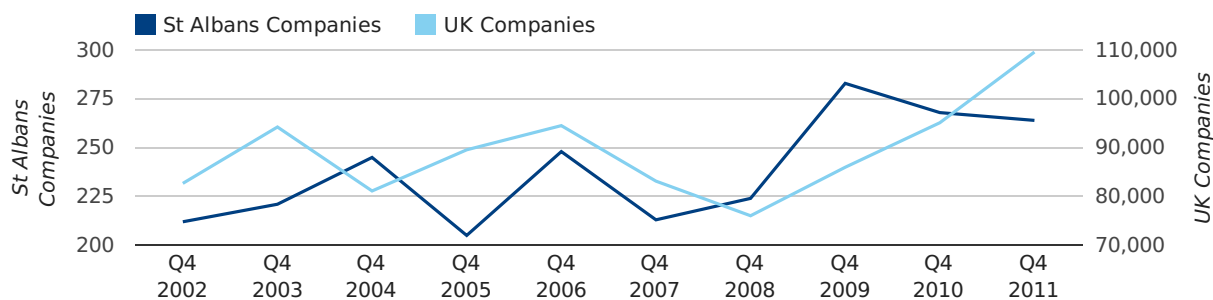
Quarterly Data (Q4 Oct-Dec 2011)

A total of 264 companies were registered in St Albans during the fourth quarter of 2011 (Oct 2011 - Dec 2011).

This figure is a decrease of 1.5% versus the same period last year (Q4 2010). This figure compares badly to the UK as a whole, which saw an increase of 15.3% against the same period last year.

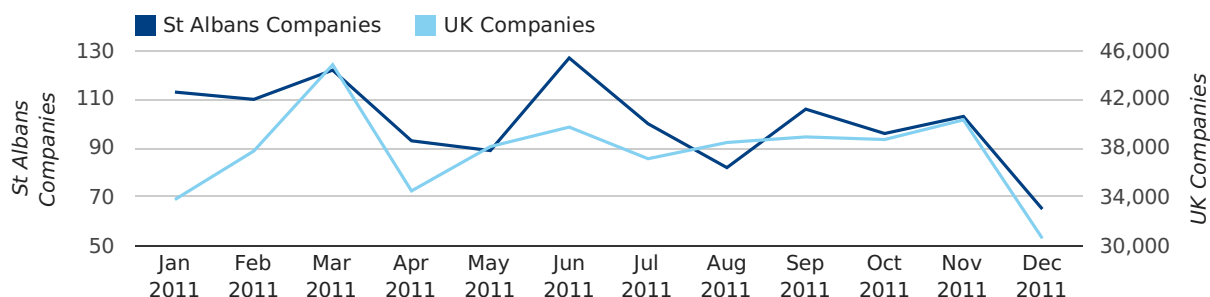
FOURTH QUARTER (OCT 2011 - DEC 2011)	ST ALBANS	UK
2011	264	109,623
2010	268	95,117
% CHANGE	-1.5%	15.3%
RECORD YEAR	2009 (283)	2011 (109,623)

new companies by quarter



Monthly Data (Oct, Nov & Dec 2011)

new companies by month



	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
NEW COMPANIES IN 2011	96	103	65
NEW COMPANIES IN 2010	94	104	70
% CHANGE	2.1%	-1.0%	-7.1%
RECORD YEAR	2006 (103)	2009 (108)	2009 (86)

Annual Data (2011)

A total of 855 companies were dissolved in St Albans in 2011. This total is 6.6% lower than in 2010 and compares favourably to the UK figure of 8.1% decrease compared to the previous year.

YEAR	ST ALBANS	UK
2011	855	314,523
2010	915	342,232
2009	1,286	533,773
2008	659	237,901
2007	572	220,295
RECORD YEAR	2009 (1,286)	2009 (533,773)

dissolved companies by year



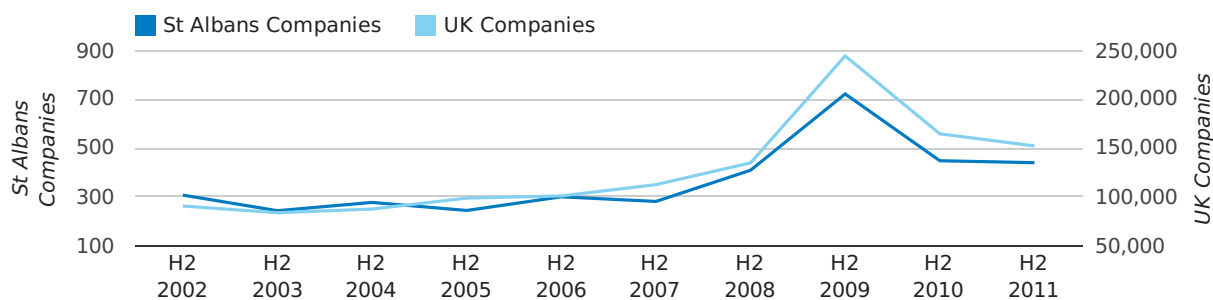
Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

In the second half of 2011 a total of 440 companies were dissolved in St Albans. This figure is 1.8% lower than last year, which compares badly to the UK wide change of -7.5%.

The highest total for a second half year in St Albans occurred in 2009 when a total of 722 were closed.

HALF YEAR (JUL-DEC)	ST ALBANS	UK
2011	440	152,213
2010	448	164,601
% CHANGE	-1.8%	-7.5%
RECORD YEAR	2009 (722)	2009 (244,537)

dissolved companies by half year



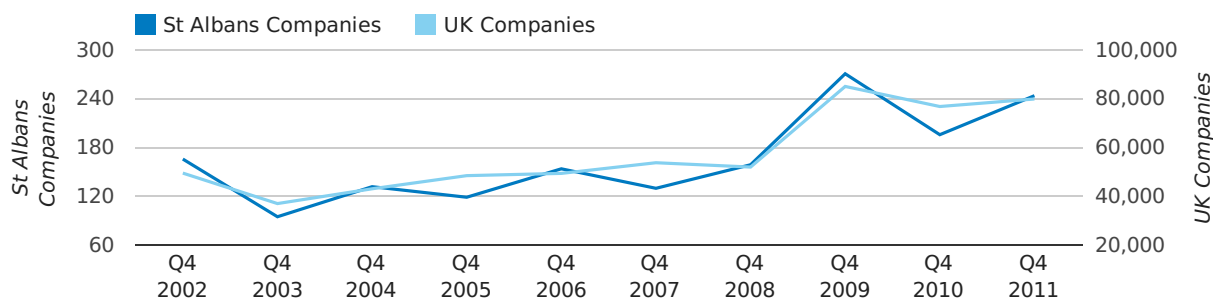
Quarterly Data (Q4 Oct-Dec 2011)

A total of 244 companies were dissolved in St Albans during the fourth quarter of 2011 (Oct 2011 - Dec 2011).

This figure is an increase of 24.5% versus the same period last year (Q4 2010). This figure compares poorly to the UK as a whole, which saw an increase of 4.0% against the same period last year.

FOURTH QUARTER (OCT 2011 - DEC 2011)	ST ALBANS	UK
2011	244	79,983
2010	196	76,896
% CHANGE	24.5%	4.0%
RECORD YEAR	2009 (271)	2009 (85,136)

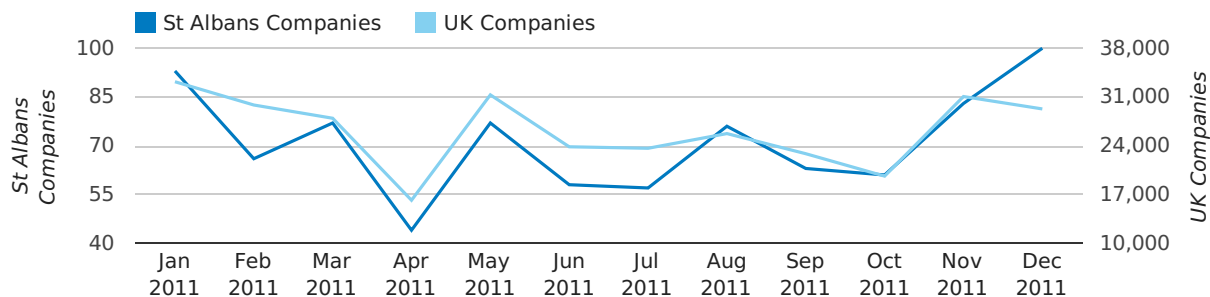
dissolved companies by quarter



Monthly Data (Oct, Nov & Dec 2011)

December 2011 saw a new record in company closures in St Albans when compared to any previous December.

dissolved companies by month



	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2011	61	83	100
CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2010	52	90	54
% CHANGE	17.3%	-7.8%	85%
RECORD YEAR	2009 (104)	2010 (90)	2011 (100)

Annual Data (2011)

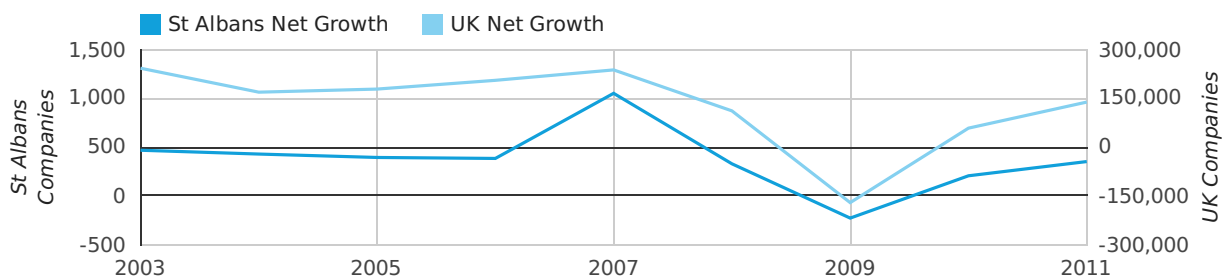
A total of 351 companies were added to the company register for St Albans in 2011. This number represents growth of 31.3% which compares unfavourably to the UK figure of 34.6%.

This number is 146 companies higher than the previous year.

The highest net company growth figure ever seen in one year came in 2007 when the St Albans company register grew by 1,051 companies.

YEAR	ST ALBANS	UK
2011	351	138,347
2010	205	58,126
2009	-229	-171,098
2008	328	111,302
2007	1,051	237,354
RECORD YEAR	2007 (1,051)	2003 (242,543)

net growth by year

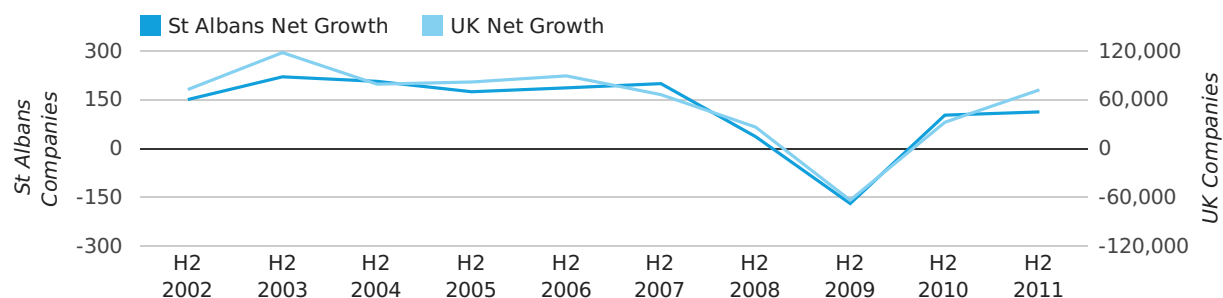


Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

In the second half of 2011 the company register for St Albans increased by 112 companies. This figure is 9.8% higher than last year, which compares badly to a UK increase of 124.7%.

HALF YEAR (JUL-DEC)	ST ALBANS	UK
2011	112	71,922
2010	102	32,008
% CHANGE	9.8%	124.7%
RECORD YEAR	1994 (295)	2003 (117,772)

net growth by half year



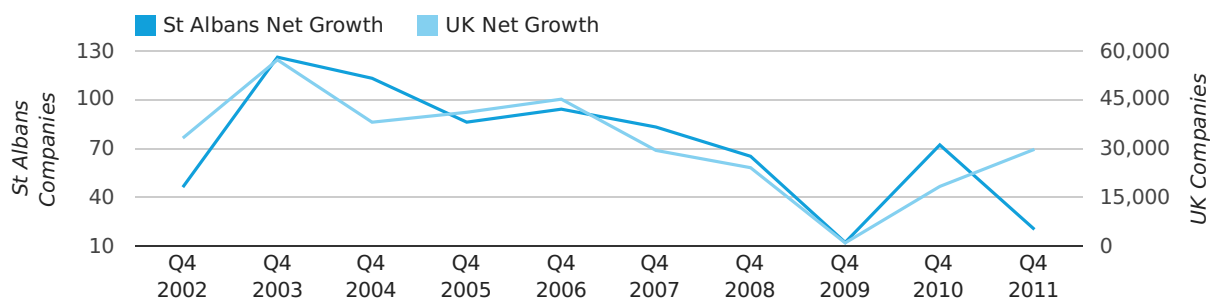
Quarterly Data (Q4 Oct-Dec 2011)

Net company growth for St Albans during the fourth quarter of 2011 (Oct 2011 - Dec 2011) was 20 companies.

This represents a decrease of 72.2% on the same period last year.

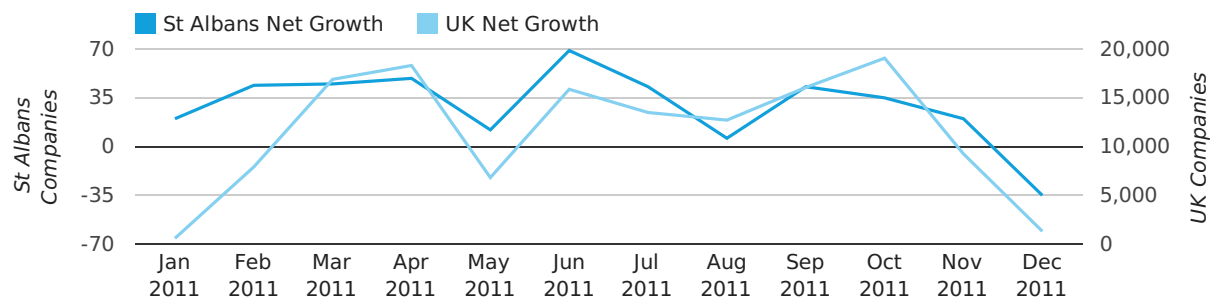
FOURTH QUARTER (OCT 2011 - DEC 2011)	ST ALBANS	UK
2011	20	29,640
2010	72	18,221
% CHANGE	-72.2%	62.7%
RECORD YEAR	1994 (158)	2003 (57,175)

net growth by quarter



Monthly Data (Oct, Nov & Dec 2011)

net growth by month



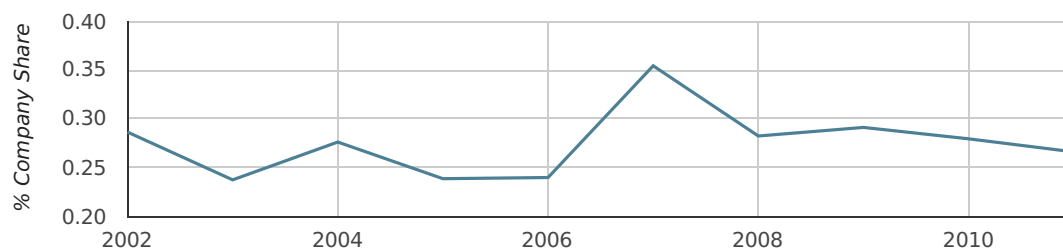
	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
NET GROWTH IN 2011	35	20	-35
NET GROWTH IN 2010	42	14	16
% CHANGE	-16.7%	42.9%	-318.8%
RECORD YEAR	2003 (55)	2004 (53)	1994 (43)

Annual Data (2011)

In 2011 St Albans formed 0.3% of all UK companies. This is no change on 2010 when St Albans was responsible for 0.3% of all UK companies.

YEAR	ST ALBANS
2011	0.3%
2010	0.3%
2009	0.3%
2008	0.3%
2007	0.4%
RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960)	1967 (0.6%)

company share by year

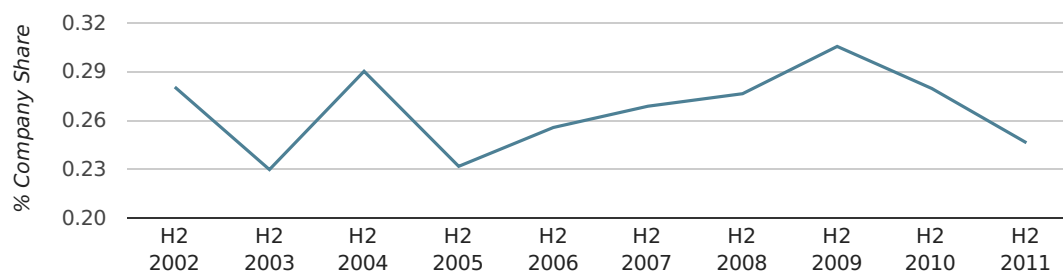


Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

In the second half of 2011 St Albans formed 0.2% of all UK companies. This is less than the 2010 figure of 0.3%.

HALF YEAR (JUL-DEC)	ST ALBANS
2011	0.2%
2010	0.3%
2009	0.3%
2008	0.3%
2007	0.3%
RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960)	1962 (0.7%)

company share by half year

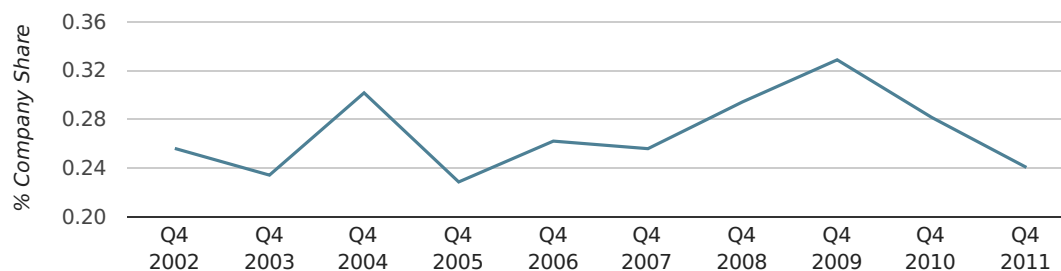


Quarterly Data (Q4 Oct-Dec 2011)

In the fourth quarter of 2011, St Albans formed 0.2% of all UK companies.

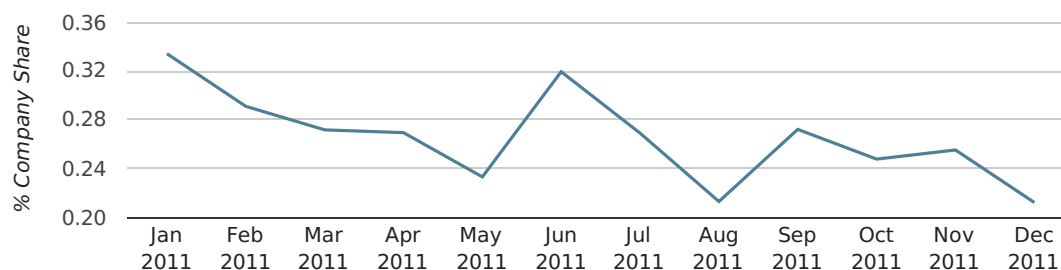
FOURTH QUARTER (OCT 2011 - DEC 2011)	ST ALBANS
2011	0.2%
2010	0.3%
2009	0.3%
2008	0.3%
2007	0.3%
RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960)	1960 (0.7%)

company share by quarter



Monthly Data (Oct, Nov & Dec 2011)

company share by month



	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2011	0.2%	0.3%	0.2%
UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2010	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%
% CHANGE	-11.3%	-15.6%	-17.7%
RECORD YEAR	1966 (1.0%)	1972 (1.1%)	1961 (1.0%)

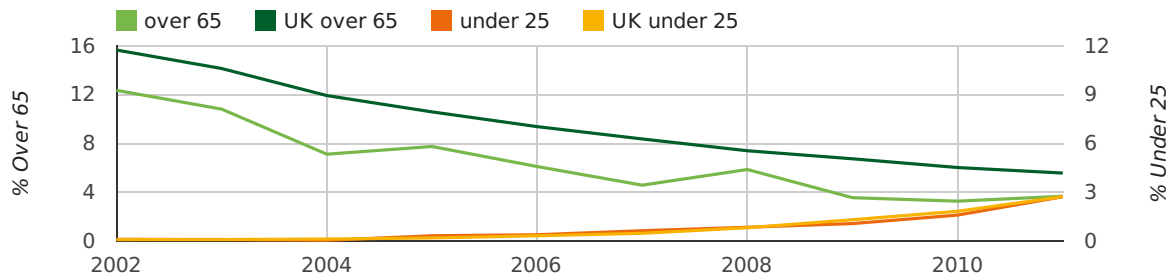
Annual Data (2011)

The average age of a director in 2011 was 44.0.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 2.7% compared to the UK figure of 3.7%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 3.7% compared to the UK figure of 4.2%.

director age by year



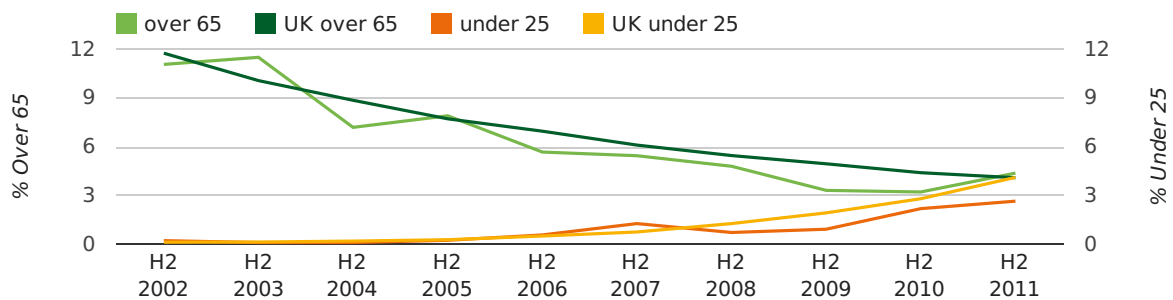
Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

The average age of a director in the second half of 2011 was 44.4.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 2.7% compared to the UK figure of 4.1%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 4.4% compared to the UK figure of 4.1%.

director age by half year



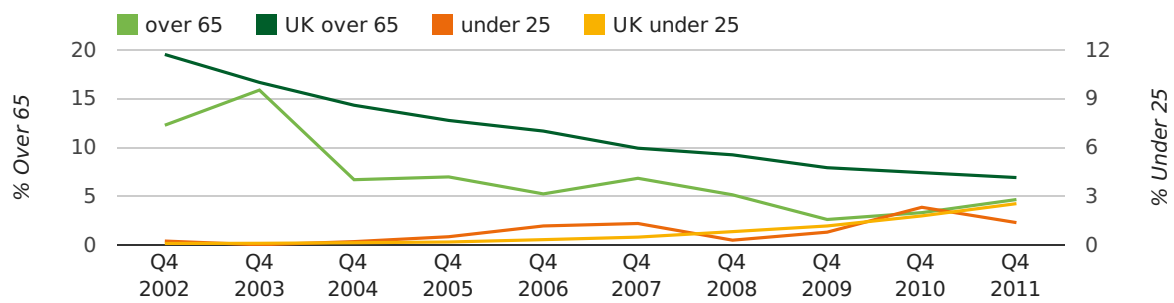
Quarterly Data (Q4 Oct-Dec 2011)

The average age of a director in the fourth quarter of 2011 was 44.7.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 1.4% compared to the UK figure of 4.2%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 4.6% compared to the UK figure of 4.1%.

director age by quarter

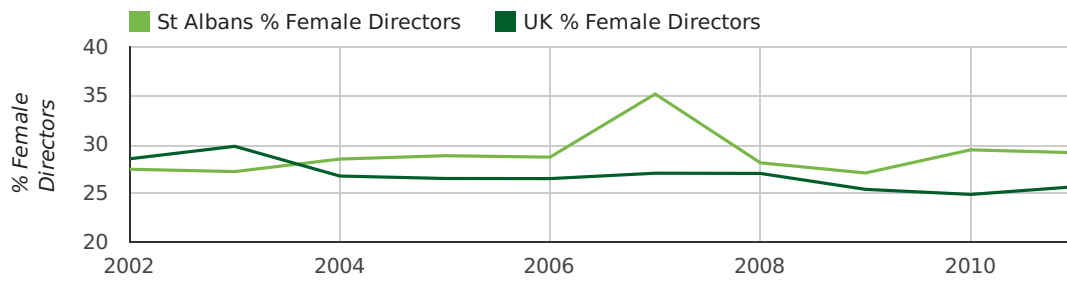


Annual Data (2011)

The record year for female directors in St Albans was 1857 when 36.4% of all directors were female.

The percentage of female directors in St Albans in 2011 was 27.5%. The average for the UK during this time was 28.6%

director gender by year

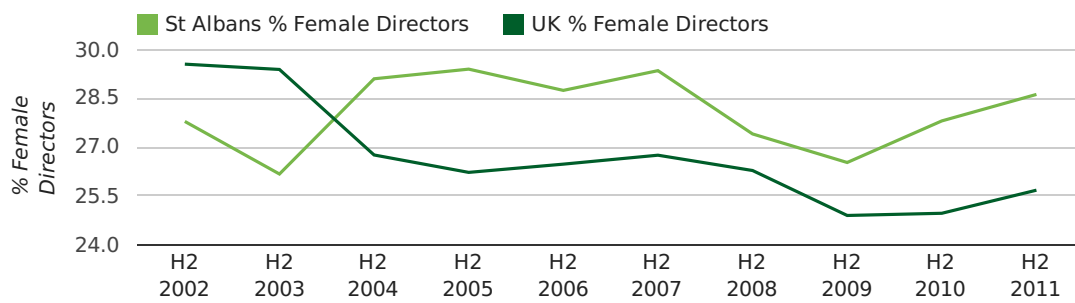


Half Year Data (Jul-Dec 2011)

The record second half year for female directors in St Albans was 1860 when 42.9% of all directors were female.

28.6% of all director appointments in St Albans in the second half of 2011 were female. This compares to a UK average of 25.7% for the same period.

director gender by half year

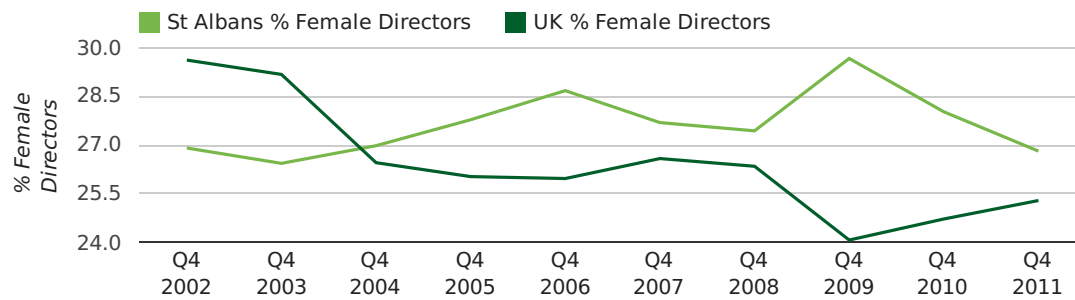


Quarterly Data (Q4 Oct-Dec 2011)

The record fourth quarter for female directors in St Albans was in 1977 when 31.1% of all directors were female.

26.8% of all director appointments in St Albans in the fourth quarter of 2011 were female. This compares to a UK average of 25.3% for the same period.

director gender by quarter



Previous 12 months (Dec 2010-Dec 2011)

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

WORD	PERCENTAGE	UK WORD	UK PERCENTAGE
CONSULTING	2.04%	CONSULTING	5.07%
MEDICAL	1.93%	MANAGEMENT	4.74%
CONSULTANCY	1.38%	CONSULTANCY	3.26%
MANAGEMENT	1.27%	PROPERTY	2.37%
ASSOCIATES	1.21%	TRADING	2.07%
J	0.94%	DESIGN	1.92%
PROPERTY	0.88%	ASSOCIATES	1.86%
CONSTRUCTION	0.77%	ENGINEERING	1.78%
CONSULTANTS	0.66%	BUSINESS	1.78%
ENTERPRISES	0.61%	CONSULTANTS	1.76%
ALBANS	0.61%	CONSTRUCTION	1.73%
ST	0.61%	MEDIA	1.71%
MEDIA	0.55%	LONDON	1.63%
GMA	0.55%	J	1.51%
RECRUITMENT	0.50%	INVESTMENTS	1.48%
TRADING	0.50%	GLOBAL	1.46%
SYSTEMS	0.50%	IT	1.41%
SALES	0.44%	CARE	1.39%
CARE	0.44%	PROPERTIES	1.29%
LONDON	0.44%	ELECTRICAL	1.29%
ALBAN	0.44%	M	1.27%
DESIGN	0.44%	BUILDING	1.26%
SCHOOL	0.44%	ENERGY	1.25%
PARK	0.39%	S	1.20%
DEVELOPMENTS	0.39%	ENTERPRISES	1.20%

Previous 36 months, excluding companies less than 12 months old

SIC CODE	NUMBER OF COMPANIES	UK COMPANIES
None Supplied	408	205,525
7487 - Other business activities	160	57,052
82990 - Other business support service activities not elsewhere classified	136	32,483
70229 - Management consultancy activities other than financial management	108	17,765
86101 - Hospital activities	70	1,216
74909 - Other professional, scientific and technical activities not elsewhere classified	68	8,671
99999 - Dormant Company	58	21,846
7414 - Business & management consultancy	58	13,034
8511 - Hospital activities	55	950
62020 - Information technology consultancy activities	51	12,072
9999 - Dormant Company	37	20,199
7222 - Other software consultancy and supply	34	7,398
4521 - General construction & civil engineering	25	5,558
62090 - Other information technology service activities	25	7,493
7260 - Other computer related activities	24	7,667
96090 - Other service activities not elsewhere classified	23	11,768
7499 - Non-trading company	22	9,957
43210 - Electrical installation	15	3,175
74990 - Non-trading company	14	8,929
69201 - Accounting and auditing activities	14	3,633