

Stevenage

q1 2012 business confidence report



headlines

- February 2012 saw a new record in company closures in Stevenage when compared to any previous February.

contents

new company registrations

closed companies (dissolved)

net company growth

uk company share

director age

director gender

naming trends

sic data

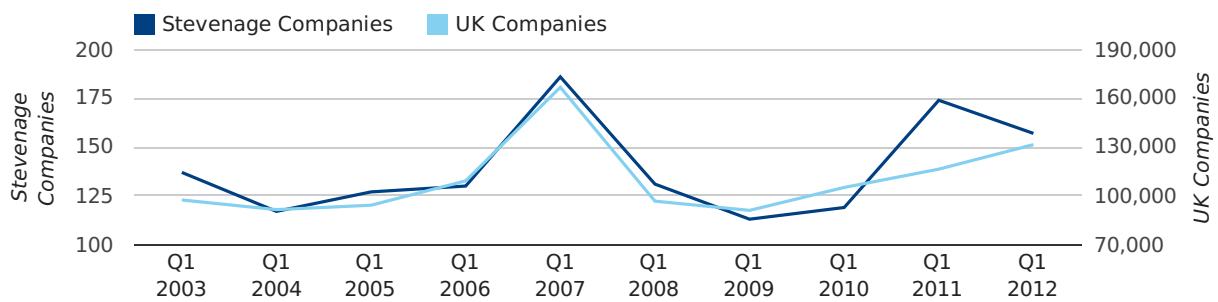
Quarterly Data (Q1 Jan-Mar 2012)

A total of 157 companies were registered in Stevenage during the first quarter of 2012 (Jan 2012 - Mar 2012).

This figure is a decrease of 9.8% versus the same period last year (Q1 2011). This figure compares badly to the UK as a whole, which saw an increase of 13.0% against the same period last year.

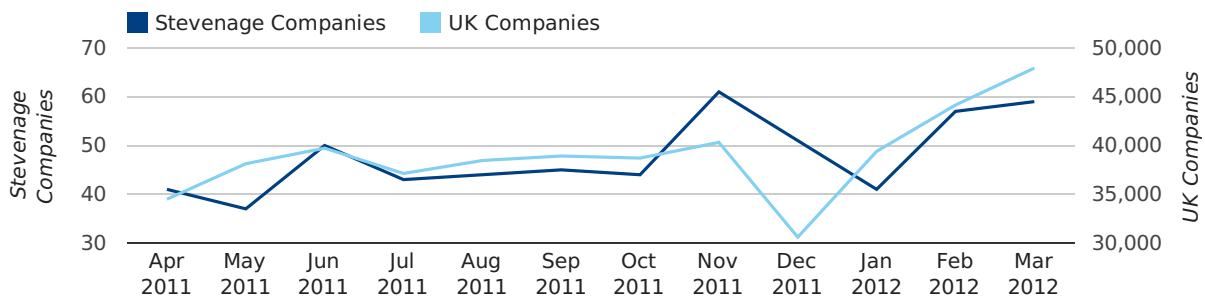
FIRST QUARTER (JAN 2012 - MAR 2012)	STEVENAGE	UK
2012	157	131,491
2011	174	116,391
% CHANGE	-9.8%	13.0%
RECORD YEAR	2007 (186)	2007 (166,814)

new companies by quarter



Monthly Data (Jan, Feb & Mar 2012)

new companies by month



	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
NEW COMPANIES IN 2012	41	57	59
NEW COMPANIES IN 2011	51	55	68
% CHANGE	-19.6%	3.6%	-13.2%
RECORD YEAR	2011 (51)	2007 (61)	2007 (84)

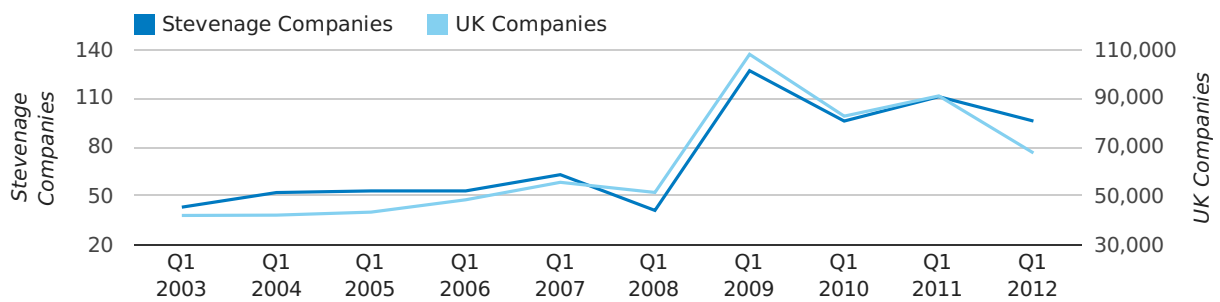
Quarterly Data (Q1 Jan-Mar 2012)

A total of 96 companies were dissolved in Stevenage during the first quarter of 2012 (Jan 2012 - Mar 2012).

This figure is a decrease of 13.5% 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)	STEVENAGE	UK
2012	96	67,576
2011	111	90,986
% CHANGE	-13.5%	-25.7%
RECORD YEAR	2009 (127)	2009 (108,060)

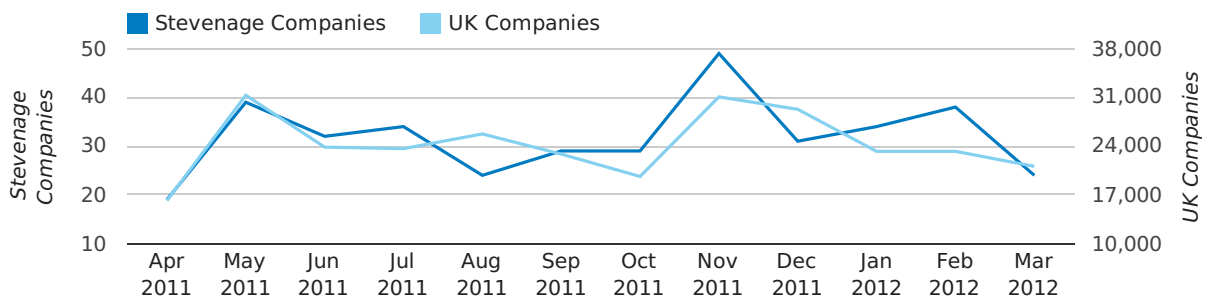
dissolved companies by quarter



Monthly Data (Jan, Feb & Mar 2012)

February 2012 saw a new record in company closures in Stevenage when compared to any previous February.

dissolved companies by month



	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2012	34	38	24
CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2011	52	24	35
% CHANGE	-34.6%	58.3%	-31%
RECORD YEAR	2011 (52)	2012 (38)	2009 (83)

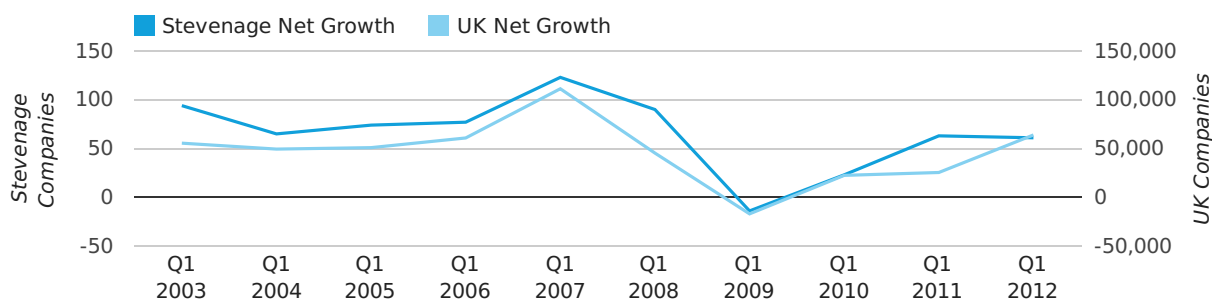
Quarterly Data (Q1 Jan-Mar 2012)

Net company growth for Stevenage during the first quarter of 2012 (Jan 2012 - Mar 2012) was 61 companies.

This represents a decrease of 3.2% on the same period last year.

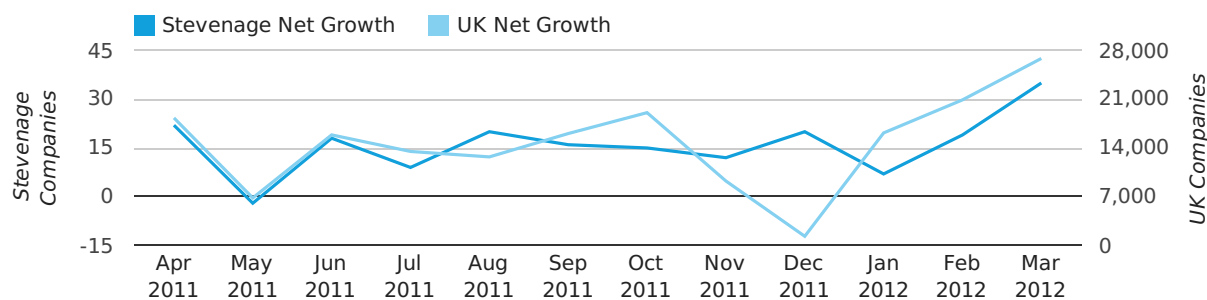
FIRST QUARTER (JAN 2012 - MAR 2012)	STEVENAGE	UK
2012	61	63,915
2011	63	25,405
% CHANGE	-3.2%	151.6%
RECORD YEAR	2007 (123)	2007 (111,282)

net growth by quarter



Monthly Data (Jan, Feb & Mar 2012)

net growth by month



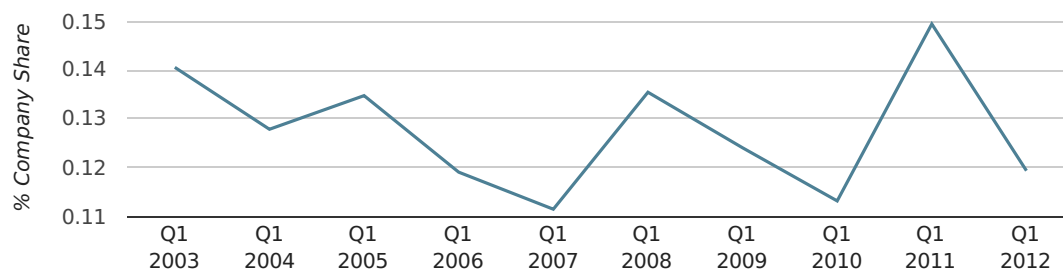
	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
NET GROWTH IN 2012	7	19	35
NET GROWTH IN 2011	-1	31	33
% CHANGE	-800.0%	-38.7%	6.1%
RECORD YEAR	2003 (35)	2007 (41)	2007 (64)

Quarterly Data (Q1 Jan-Mar 2012)

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

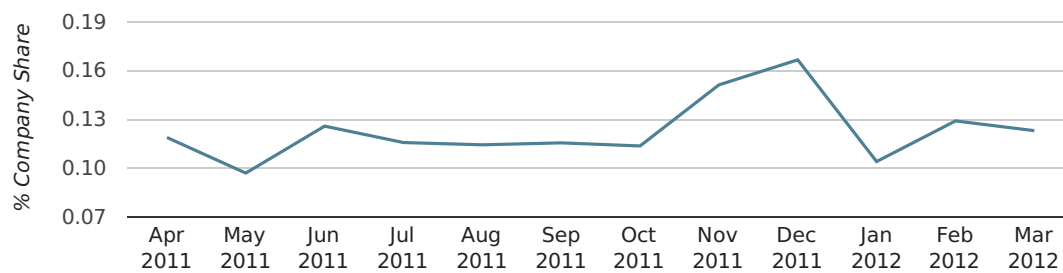
FIRST QUARTER (JAN 2012 - MAR 2012)	STEVENAGE
2012	0.1%
2011	0.1%
2010	0.1%
2009	0.1%
2008	0.1%
RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960)	1967 (0.2%)

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	0.2%	0.1%	0.2%
% CHANGE	-31.1%	-11.3%	-18.8%
RECORD YEAR	1967 (0.5%)	1974 (0.4%)	1978 (0.3%)

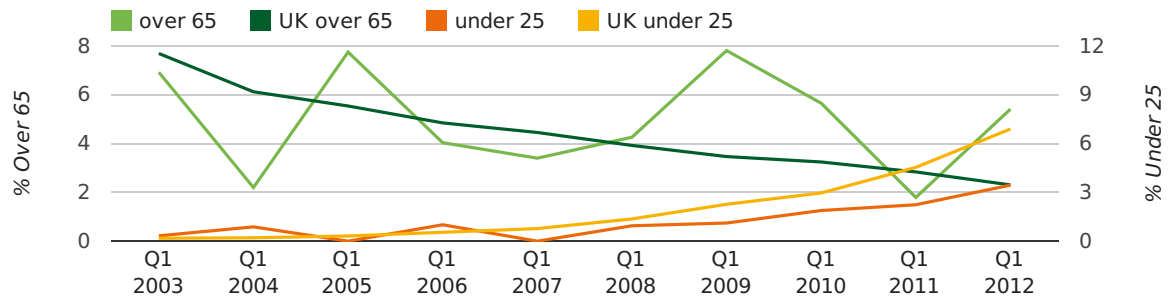
Quarterly Data (Q1 Jan-Mar 2012)

The average age of a director in the first quarter of 2012 was 41.9.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 3.4% compared to the UK figure of 4.6%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 5.4% compared to the UK figure of 3.5%.

director age by quarter

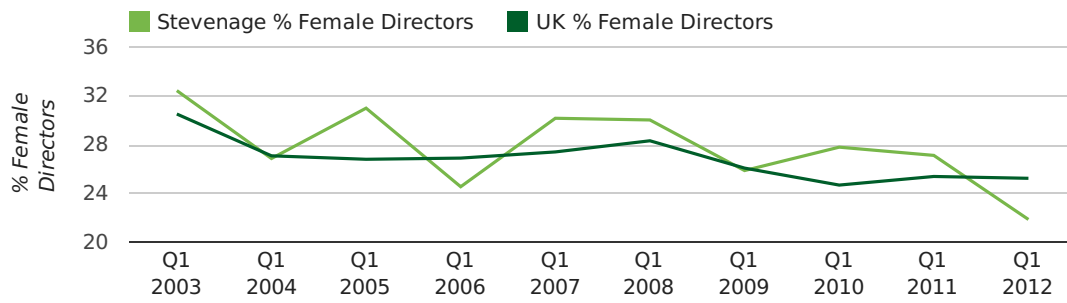


Quarterly Data (Q1 Jan-Mar 2012)

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

21.9% of all director appointments in Stevenage 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	1.97%	CONSULTING	5.07%
CONSULTING	1.28%	MANAGEMENT	4.74%
PROPERTY	0.99%	CONSULTANCY	3.30%
IT	0.89%	PROPERTY	2.37%
CONSULTANCY	0.79%	TRADING	2.07%
CONSULTANTS	0.79%	DESIGN	1.93%
STEVENAGE	0.69%	ENGINEERING	1.86%
BUILDING	0.69%	ASSOCIATES	1.84%
INVESTMENTS	0.69%	CONSULTANTS	1.79%
M	0.69%	BUSINESS	1.73%
MEDIA	0.59%	MEDIA	1.72%
BUSINESS	0.59%	CONSTRUCTION	1.72%
CONSTRUCTION	0.59%	LONDON	1.66%
TRAINING	0.59%	J	1.54%
CARE	0.59%	INVESTMENTS	1.51%
ENERGY	0.49%	GLOBAL	1.50%
ENGINEERING	0.49%	IT	1.40%
HERTFORDSHIRE	0.49%	CARE	1.34%
PRODUCTIONS	0.49%	PROPERTIES	1.31%
INTERNATIONAL	0.49%	ELECTRICAL	1.27%
MARKETING	0.49%	M	1.27%
J	0.49%	BUILDING	1.24%
ALLIANCE	0.49%	ENERGY	1.20%
GREEN	0.39%	S	1.20%
HERTS	0.39%	ENTERPRISES	1.19%

Previous 36 months, excluding companies less than 12 months old

SIC CODE	NUMBER OF COMPANIES	UK COMPANIES
None Supplied	243	216,665
7487 - Other business activities	76	52,735
82990 - Other business support service activities not elsewhere classified	49	35,233
70229 - Management consultancy activities other than financial management	46	19,704
99999 - Dormant Company	36	25,084
96090 - Other service activities not elsewhere classified	30	13,637
62020 - Information technology consultancy activities	28	14,303
9305 - Other service activities	21	8,818
74909 - Other professional, scientific and technical activities not elsewhere classified	19	9,892
7260 - Other computer related activities	19	7,154
9999 - Dormant Company	19	18,617
74990 - Non-trading company	18	9,729
62090 - Other information technology service activities	17	8,145
7414 - Business & management consultancy	15	12,113
7499 - Non-trading company	14	9,102
7222 - Other software consultancy and supply	12	6,934
4521 - General construction & civil engineering	10	5,169
62012 - Business and domestic software development	9	4,356
69201 - Accounting and auditing activities	9	4,132
41202 - Construction of domestic buildings	8	3,052