Washington

2011 half year business confidence report



headlines

- Q2 2011 saw a new record in company registrations in Washington when compared to any previous Q2.
- May 2011 saw a new record in company registrations in Washington when compared to any previous May.
- April 2011 saw a new record in net growth in Washington when compared to any previous April.

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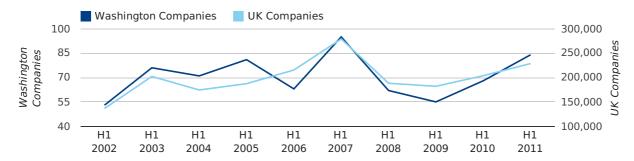
| new company registrations | |
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In the first half of 2011 a total of 84 companies were formed in Washington. This figure is 23.5% higher than last year, which compares well to the UK wide figure of 12.3%.

The highest total for a first half year in Washington occurred in 2007 when a total of 95 were formed.

| HALF YEAR (JAN-JUN) | WASHINGTON | UK |
|---------------------|------------|----------------|
| 2011 | 84 | 228,735 |
| 2010 | 68 | 203,749 |
| % CHANGE | 23.5% | 12.3% |
| RECORD YEAR | 2007 (95) | 2007 (279,097) |

new companies by half year



Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2011)

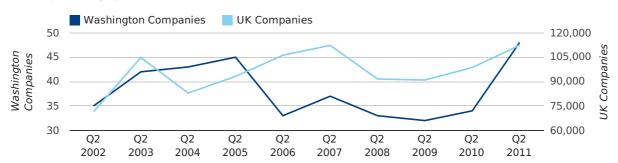
Q2 2011 saw a new record in company registrations in Washington when compared to any previous Q2.

A total of 48 companies were registered in Washington during the second quarter of 2011 (Apr 2011 - Jun 2011).

This figure is an increase of 41.2% versus the same period last year (Q2 2010). This figure compares well to the UK as a whole, which saw an increase of 13.9% against the same period last year.

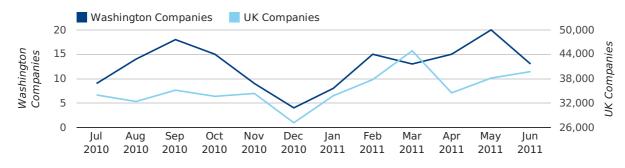
| SECOND QUARTER (APR 2011 - JUN 2011) | WASHINGTON | UK |
|--------------------------------------|------------|----------------|
| 2011 | 48 | 112,344 |
| 2010 | 34 | 98,612 |
| % CHANGE | 41.2% | 13.9% |
| RECORD YEAR | 2011 (48) | 2011 (112,344) |

new companies by quarter



May 2011 saw a new record in company registrations in Washington when compared to any previous May.

new companies by month



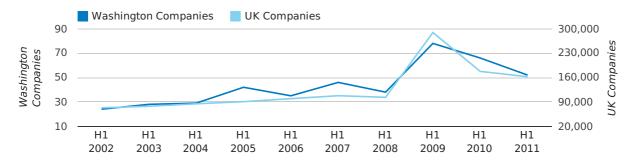
| | APRIL | MAY | JUNE |
|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| NEW COMPANIES IN 2011 | 15 | 20 | 13 |
| NEW COMPANIES IN 2010 | 9 | 12 | 13 |
| % CHANGE | 66.7% | 66.7% | 0.0% |
| RECORD YEAR | 2008 (18) | 2011 (20) | 2004 (22) |

In the first half of 2011 a total of 52 companies were dissolved in Washington. This figure is 21.2% lower than last year, which compares well to the UK wide change of -8.6%.

The highest total for a first half year in Washington occurred in 2009 when a total of 78 were closed.

| HALF YEAR (JAN-JUN) | WASHINGTON | UK |
|---------------------|------------|----------------|
| 2011 | 52 | 162,310 |
| 2010 | 66 | 177,631 |
| % CHANGE | -21.2% | -8.6% |
| RECORD YEAR | 2009 (78) | 2009 (289,236) |

dissolved companies by half year



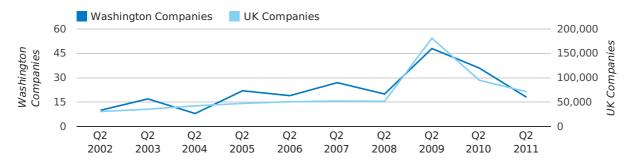
Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2011)

A total of 18 companies were dissolved in Washington during the second quarter of 2011 (Apr 2011 - Jun 2011).

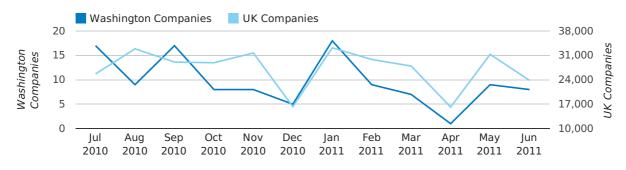
This figure is a decrease of 50.0% versus the same period last year (Q2 2010). This figure compares well to the UK as a whole, which saw a decrease of 24.9% against the same period last year.

| SECOND QUARTER (APR 2011 - JUN 2011) | WASHINGTON | UK |
|--------------------------------------|------------|----------------|
| 2011 | 18 | 71,324 |
| 2010 | 36 | 94,954 |
| % CHANGE | -50.0% | -24.9% |
| RECORD YEAR | 2009 (48) | 2009 (181,176) |

dissolved companies by quarter



dissolved companies by month

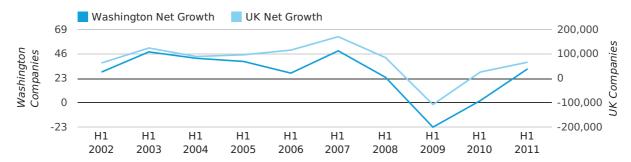


| | APRIL | MAY | JUNE |
|--------------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2011 | 1 | 9 | 8 |
| CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2010 | 6 | 11 | 19 |
| % CHANGE | -83.3% | -18.2% | -58% |
| RECORD YEAR | 2008 (9) | 2009 (20) | 2009 (21) |

In the first half of 2011 the company register for Washington increased by 32 companies. This figure is 1,500.0% higher than last year, which compares well to a UK increase of 154.3%.

| HALF YEAR (JAN-JUN) | WASHINGTON | UK |
|---------------------|------------|----------------|
| 2011 | 32 | 66,425 |
| 2010 | 2 | 26,118 |
| % CHANGE | 1,500.0% | 154.3% |
| RECORD YEAR | 2007 (49) | 2007 (171,296) |

net growth by half year



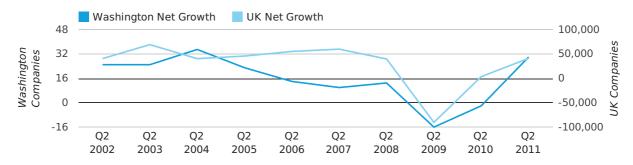
Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2011)

Net company growth for Washington during the second quarter of 2011 (Apr 2011 - Jun 2011) was 30 companies.

This represents an increase of 1,600.0% on the same period last year.

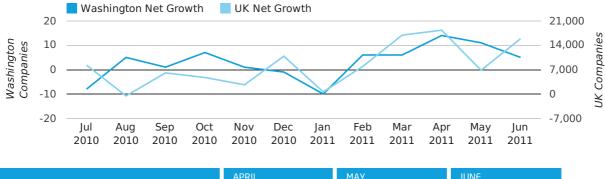
| SECOND QUARTER (APR 2011 - JUN 2011) | WASHINGTON | UK |
|--------------------------------------|------------|---------------|
| 2011 | 30 | 41,020 |
| 2010 | -2 | 3,658 |
| % CHANGE | -1,600.0% | 1,021.4% |
| RECORD YEAR | 2004 (35) | 2003 (69,274) |

net growth by quarter



April 2011 saw a new record in net growth in Washington when compared to any previous April.

net growth by month

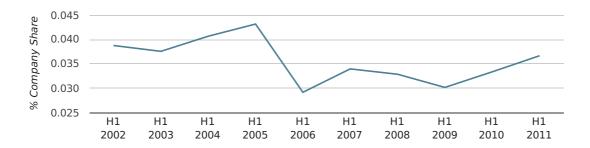


| | APRIL | MAY | JUNE |
|--------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| NET GROWTH IN 2011 | 14 | 11 | 5 |
| NET GROWTH IN 2010 | 3 | 1 | -6 |
| % CHANGE | 366.7% | 1,000.0% | -183.3% |
| RECORD YEAR | 2011 (14) | 2006 (11) | 2004 (17) |

In the first half of 2011 Washington formed 0.0% of all UK companies. This is the same as the 2010 figure of 0.0%.

| HALF YEAR (JAN-JUN) | WASHINGTON |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| 2011 | 0.0% |
| 2010 | 0.0% |
| 2009 | 0.0% |
| 2008 | 0.0% |
| 2007 | 0.0% |
| RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960) | 1980 (0.1%) |

company share by half year

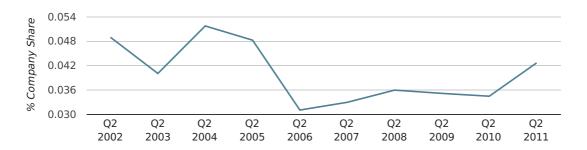


Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2011)

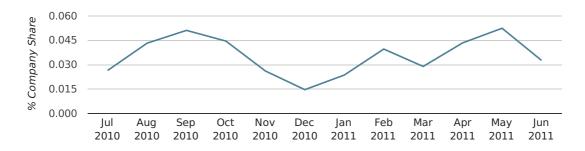
In the second quarter of 2011, Washington formed 0.0% of all UK companies.

| SECOND QUARTER (APR 2011 - JUN 2011) | WASHINGTON |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| 2011 | 0.0% |
| 2010 | 0.0% |
| 2009 | 0.0% |
| 2008 | 0.0% |
| 2007 | 0.0% |
| RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960) | 1970 (0.1%) |

company share by quarter



company share by month



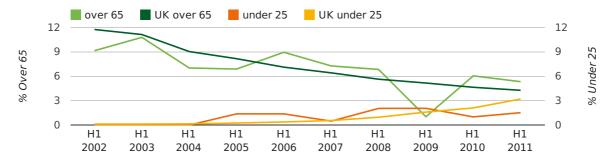
| | APRIL | MAY | JUNE |
|----------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2011 | 0.0% | 0.1% | 0.0% |
| UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2010 | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| % CHANGE | 61.1% | 31.3% | -11.4% |
| RECORD YEAR | 1966 (0.2%) | 1968 (0.2%) | 1978 (0.1%) |

The average age of a director in the first half of 2011 was 46.8.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 1.5% compared to the UK figure of 3.2%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 5.3% compared to the UK figure of 4.3%.

director age by half year



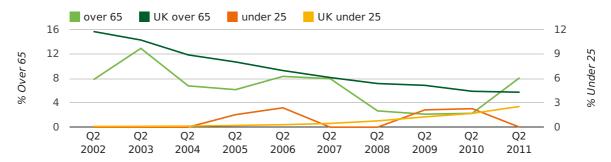
Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2011)

The average age of a director in the second quarter of 2011 was 48.0.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 0.0% compared to the UK figure of 3.4%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 8.1% compared to the UK figure of 4.3%.

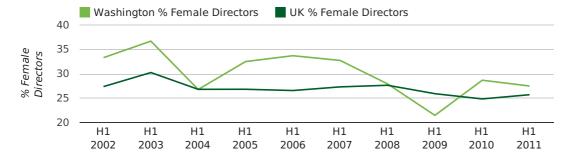
director age by quarter



The record first half year for female directors in Washington was 1857 when 40.0% of all directors were female.

27.5% of all director appointments in Washington in the first half of 2011 were female. This compares to a UK average of 25.7% for the same period.

director gender by half year

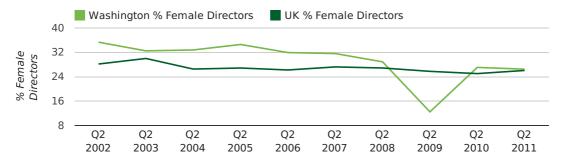


Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2011)

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

26.5% of all director appointments in Washington in the second quarter of 2011 were female. This compares to a UK average of 26.1% for the same period.

director gender by quarter



Previous 12 months (Jun 2010-Jun 2011)

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

| WORD | PERCENTAGE | UK WORD | UK PERCENTAGE |
|--------------|------------|--------------|---------------|
| DESIGN | 1.92% | CONSULTING | 5.09% |
| MAINTENANCE | 1.60% | MANAGEMENT | 4.86% |
| NORTH | 1.60% | CONSULTANCY | 3.17% |
| NE | 1.28% | PROPERTY | 2.43% |
| EAST | 0.96% | TRADING | 2.05% |
| COMMUNITY | 0.96% | DESIGN | 1.94% |
| RESTAURANT | 0.96% | ASSOCIATES | 1.92% |
| INTEREST | 0.96% | BUSINESS | 1.87% |
| (NE) | 0.96% | CONSTRUCTION | 1.77% |
| EXPRESS | 0.96% | CONSULTANTS | 1.76% |
| CONSULTANTS | 0.96% | MEDIA | 1.73% |
| BASE2 | 0.96% | ENGINEERING | 1.67% |
| PREMIER | 0.96% | LONDON | 1.60% |
| GATES | 0.64% | GLOBAL | 1.46% |
| TRAINING | 0.64% | J | 1.44% |
| AOV | 0.64% | CARE | 1.44% |
| ELECTRICAL | 0.64% | INVESTMENTS | 1.42% |
| PLASTICS | 0.64% | IT | 1.39% |
| ROOM | 0.64% | BUILDING | 1.32% |
| IT | 0.64% | PROPERTIES | 1.31% |
| THERAPY | 0.64% | ELECTRICAL | 1.30% |
| LEARNING | 0.64% | M | 1.27% |
| PRECISION | 0.64% | S | 1.23% |
| (WASHINGTON) | 0.64% | ENTERPRISES | 1.20% |
| NORTHERN | 0.64% | SYSTEMS | 1.20% |

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Previous 36 months, excluding companies less than 12 months old

| SIC CODE | NUMBER OF COMPANIES | UK COMPANIES |
|--|------------------------|-----------------|
| None Supplied | 53 | 202,072 |
| 7487 - Other business activities | 23 | 60,758 |
| 99999 - Dormant Company | 10 | 18,918 |
| 9999 - Dormant Company | 7 | 20,111 |
| 5540 - Bars | 6 | 2,141 |
| 82990 - Other business support service activities not elsewhere classified | 6 | 30,647 |
| 96090 - Other service activities not elsewhere classified | 5 | 10,322 |
| 32990 - Other manufacturing not elsewhere classified | 4 | 1,427 |
| 62020 - Information technology consultancy activities | 4 | 10,545 |
| 47990 - Other retail sale not in stores, stalls or markets | 4 | 2,324 |
| 4521 - General construction & civil engineering | 4 | 5,928 |
| 5530 - Restaurants | 4 | 5,086 |
| 86900 - Other human health activities | 4 | 4,154 |
| 6024 - Freight transport by road | 3 | 2,316 |
| 68100 - Buying and selling of own real estate | 3 | 2,543 |
| 43910 - Roofing activities | 3 | 558 |
| 70229 - Management consultancy activities other than financial management | 3 | 16,419 |
| 56302 - Public houses and bars | 3 | 1,900 |
| 7414 - Business & management consultancy | 3 | 13,053 |
| 46499 - Wholesale of household goods (other than musical instruments) not elsewhere classified | 2 | 276 |