

# Watford

2012 half year business confidence report



## headlines

- Q2 2012 saw a new record in company registrations in Watford when compared to any previous Q2.
- May 2012 saw a new record in company registrations in Watford when compared to any previous May.

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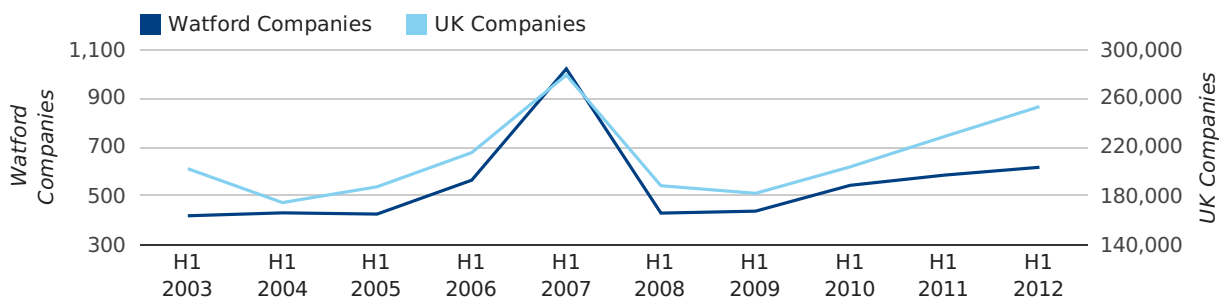
### Half Year Data (Jan-Jun 2012)

In the first half of 2012 a total of 617 companies were formed in Watford. This figure is 5.5% higher than last year, which compares badly to the UK wide figure of 10.7%.

The highest total for a first half year in Watford occurred in 2007 when a total of 1,021 were formed.

HALF YEAR (JAN-JUN)	WATFORD	UK
2012	617	253,150
2011	585	228,735
% CHANGE	5.5%	10.7%
RECORD YEAR	2007 (1,021)	2007 (279,097)

### new companies by half year



### Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2012)

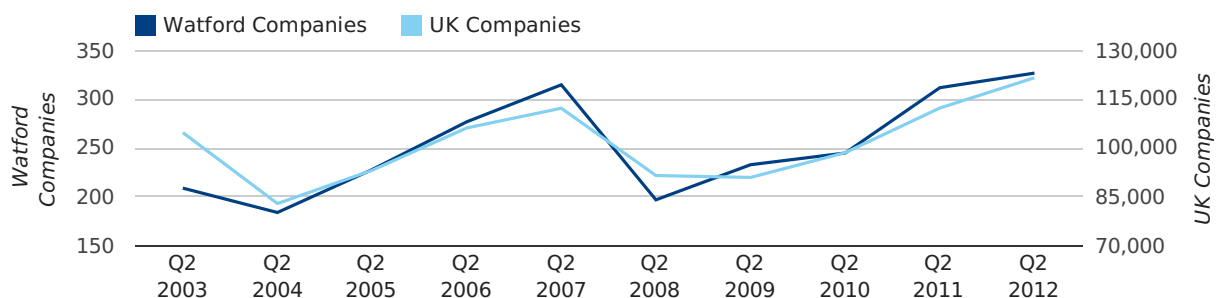
Q2 2012 saw a new record in company registrations in Watford when compared to any previous Q2.

A total of 327 companies were registered in Watford during the second quarter of 2012 (Apr 2012 - Jun 2012).

This figure is an increase of 4.8% versus the same period last year (Q2 2011). This figure compares badly to the UK as a whole, which saw an increase of 8.3% against the same period last year.

SECOND QUARTER (APR 2012 - JUN 2012)	WATFORD	UK
2012	327	121,659
2011	312	112,344
% CHANGE	4.8%	8.3%
RECORD YEAR	2012 (327)	2012 (121,659)

### new companies by quarter



## Monthly Data (Apr, May & Jun 2012)

May 2012 saw a new record in company registrations in Watford when compared to any previous May.

### new companies by month



	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
NEW COMPANIES IN 2012	87	137	103
NEW COMPANIES IN 2011	85	113	114
% CHANGE	2.4%	21.2%	-9.6%
RECORD YEAR	2007 (119)	2012 (137)	2011 (114)

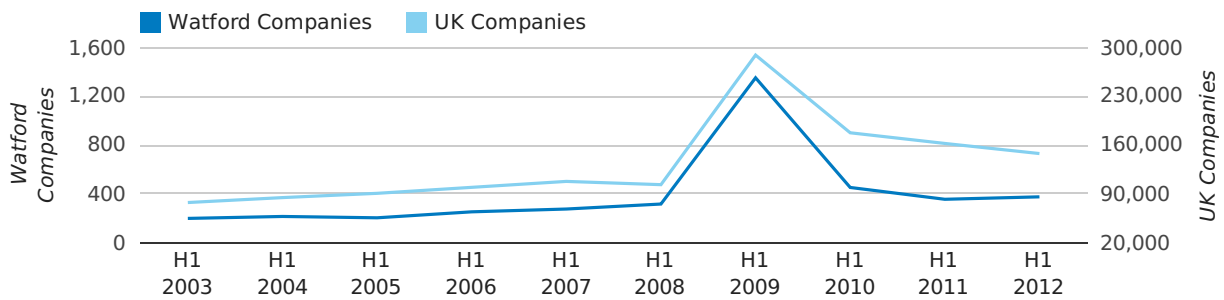
### Half Year Data (Jan-Jun 2012)

In the first half of 2012 a total of 375 companies were dissolved in Watford. This figure is 5.6% higher than last year, which compares badly to the UK wide change of -8.9%.

The highest total for a first half year in Watford occurred in 2009 when a total of 1,352 were closed.

HALF YEAR (JAN-JUN)	WATFORD	UK
2012	375	147,793
2011	355	162,310
% CHANGE	5.6%	-8.9%
RECORD YEAR	2009 (1,352)	2009 (289,236)

### dissolved companies by half year



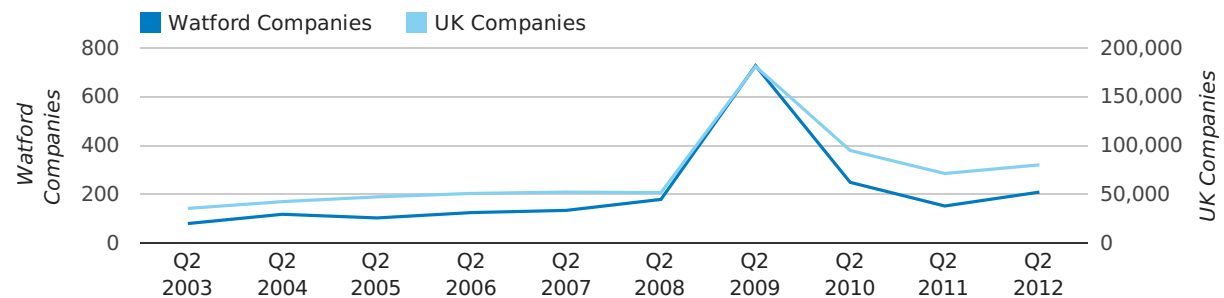
### Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2012)

A total of 209 companies were dissolved in Watford during the second quarter of 2012 (Apr 2012 - Jun 2012).

This figure is an increase of 37.5% versus the same period last year (Q2 2011). This figure compares poorly to the UK as a whole, which saw an increase of 12.5% against the same period last year.

SECOND QUARTER (APR 2012 - JUN 2012)	WATFORD	UK
2012	209	80,217
2011	152	71,324
% CHANGE	37.5%	12.5%
RECORD YEAR	2009 (728)	2009 (181,176)

### dissolved companies by quarter



# Monthly Data (Apr, May & Jun 2012)

## dissolved companies by month



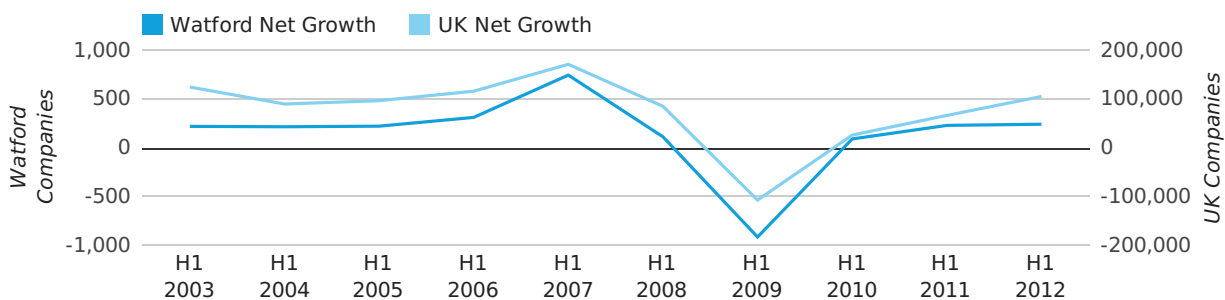
	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2012	51	85	73
CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2011	26	67	59
% CHANGE	96.2%	26.9%	24%
RECORD YEAR	2009 (226)	2009 (395)	2009 (107)

### Half Year Data (Jan-Jun 2012)

In the first half of 2012 the company register for Watford increased by 242 companies. This figure is 5.2% higher than last year, which compares badly to a UK increase of 58.6%.

HALF YEAR (JAN-JUN)	WATFORD	UK
2012	242	105,357
2011	230	66,425
% CHANGE	5.2%	58.6%
RECORD YEAR	2007 (746)	2007 (171,296)

### net growth by half year



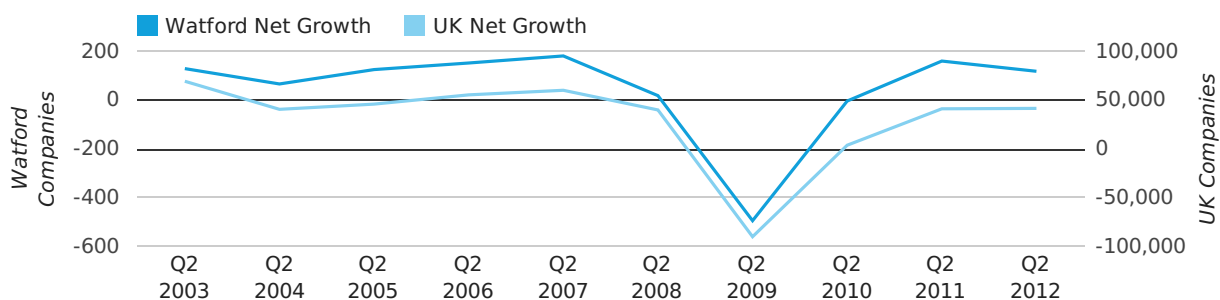
### Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2012)

Net company growth for Watford during the second quarter of 2012 (Apr 2012 - Jun 2012) was 118 companies.

This represents a decrease of 26.3% on the same period last year.

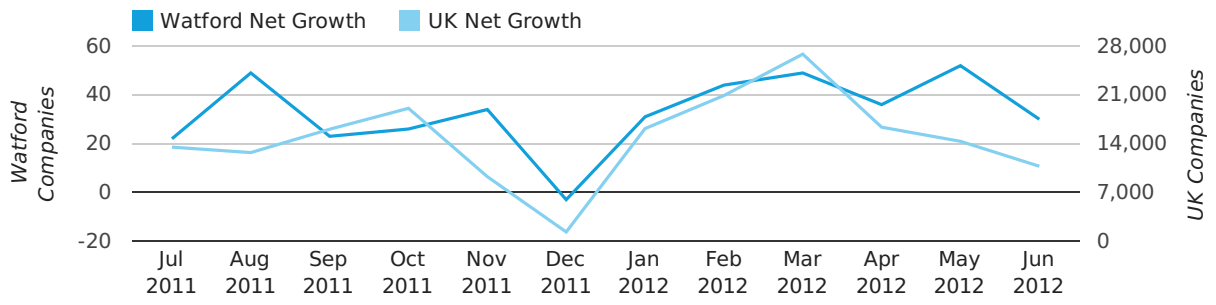
SECOND QUARTER (APR 2012 - JUN 2012)	WATFORD	UK
2012	118	41,442
2011	160	41,020
% CHANGE	-26.3%	1.0%
RECORD YEAR	2007 (181)	2003 (69,274)

### net growth by quarter



# Monthly Data (Apr, May & Jun 2012)

## net growth by month



	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
NET GROWTH IN 2012	36	52	30
NET GROWTH IN 2011	59	46	55
% CHANGE	-39.0%	13.0%	-45.5%
RECORD YEAR	2007 (102)	2000 (53)	2011 (55)

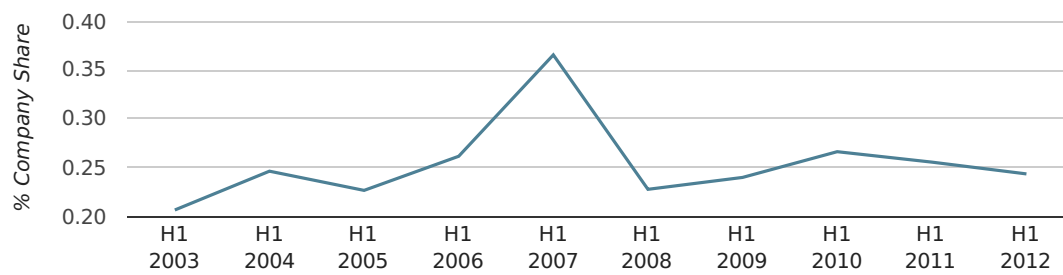


### Half Year Data (Jan-Jun 2012)

In the first half of 2012 Watford formed 0.2% of all UK companies. This is less than the 2011 figure of 0.3%.

HALF YEAR (JAN-JUN)	WATFORD
2012	0.2%
2011	0.3%
2010	0.3%
2009	0.2%
2008	0.2%
RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960)	1966 (0.6%)

#### company share by half year

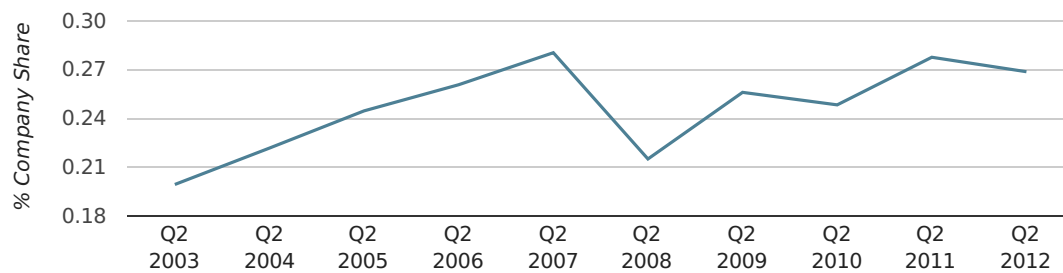


### Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2012)

In the second quarter of 2012, Watford formed 0.3% of all UK companies.

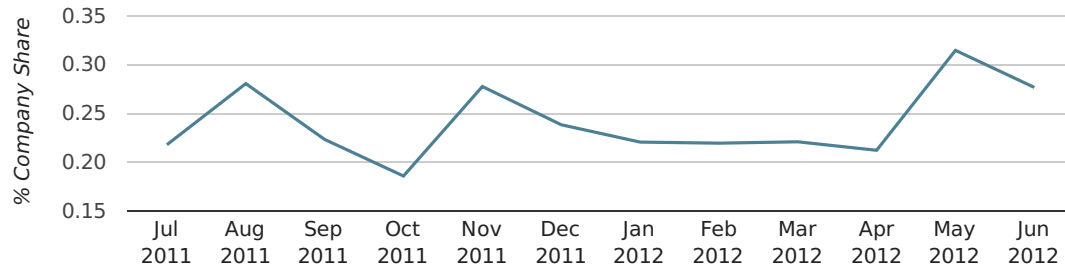
SECOND QUARTER (APR 2012 - JUN 2012)	WATFORD
2012	0.3%
2011	0.3%
2010	0.2%
2009	0.3%
2008	0.2%
RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960)	1960 (0.8%)

#### company share by quarter



## Monthly Data (Apr, May & Jun 2012)

company share by month



	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2012	0.2%	0.3%	0.3%
UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2011	0.2%	0.3%	0.3%
% CHANGE	-13.8%	6.2%	-3.5%
RECORD YEAR	1960 (1.0%)	1965 (0.9%)	1967 (1.1%)

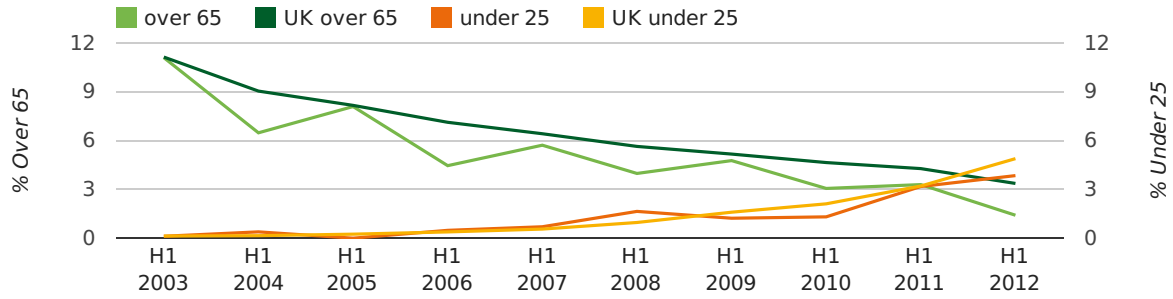
### Half Year Data (Jan-Jun 2012)

The average age of a director in the first half of 2012 was 41.0.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 3.9% compared to the UK figure of 4.9%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 1.4% compared to the UK figure of 3.4%.

#### director age by half year



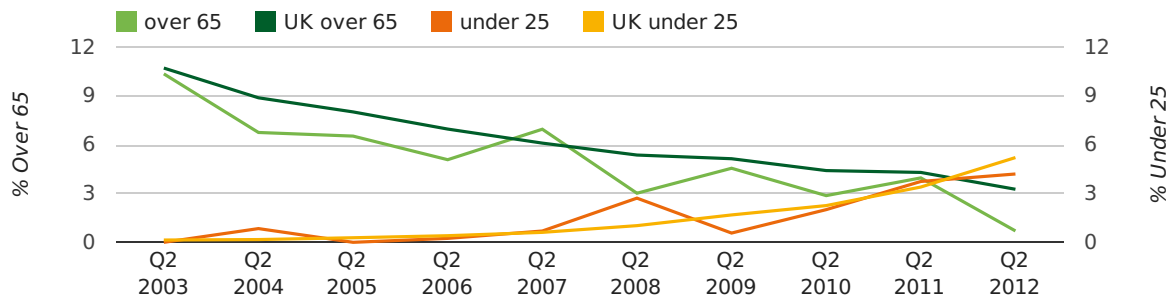
### Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2012)

The average age of a director in the second quarter of 2012 was 41.3.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 4.2% compared to the UK figure of 5.2%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 0.7% compared to the UK figure of 3.3%.

#### director age by quarter

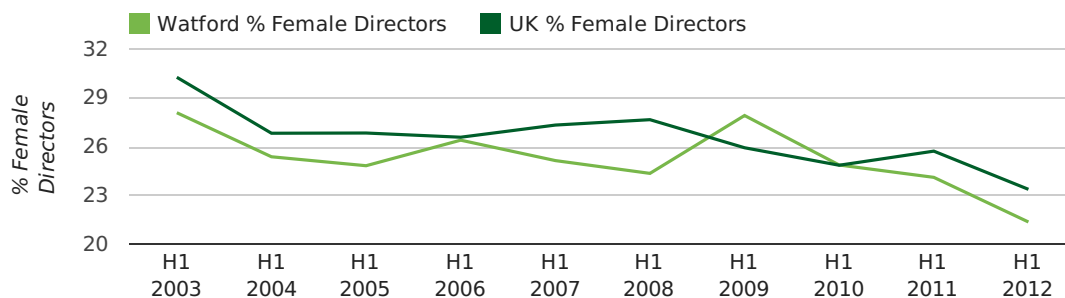


### Half Year Data (Jan-Jun 2012)

The record first half year for female directors in Watford was 1861 when 40.0% of all directors were female.

21.4% of all director appointments in Watford in the first half of 2012 were female. This compares to a UK average of 23.4% for the same period.

#### director gender by half year

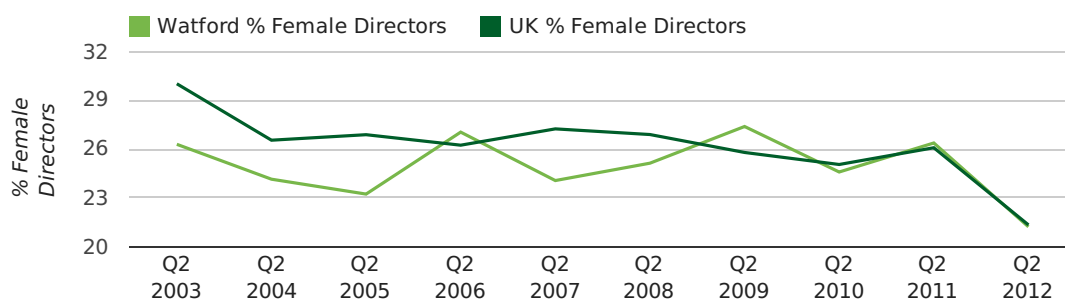


### Quarterly Data (Q2 Apr-Jun 2012)

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

21.2% of all director appointments in Watford in the second quarter of 2012 were female. This compares to a UK average of 21.3% for the same period.

#### director gender by quarter



## Previous 12 months (Jun 2011-Jun 2012)

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

WORD	PERCENTAGE	UK WORD	UK PERCENTAGE
MANAGEMENT	2.19%	CONSULTING	5.07%
CONSULTING	2.14%	MANAGEMENT	4.74%
CONSULTANCY	1.56%	CONSULTANCY	3.28%
WATFORD	1.04%	PROPERTY	2.35%
PROPERTY	0.92%	TRADING	2.10%
CONSULTANTS	0.87%	DESIGN	1.89%
INVESTMENTS	0.81%	ENGINEERING	1.87%
BUSINESS	0.75%	ASSOCIATES	1.82%
IT	0.75%	CONSULTANTS	1.78%
TRADING	0.69%	CONSTRUCTION	1.71%
ASSOCIATES	0.69%	BUSINESS	1.70%
CONSTRUCTION	0.63%	MEDIA	1.69%
TECHNOLOGY	0.52%	LONDON	1.68%
MAINTENANCE	0.52%	J	1.57%
TECHNOLOGIES	0.52%	GLOBAL	1.51%
CARE	0.46%	INVESTMENTS	1.48%
MEDIA	0.40%	IT	1.42%
TEST	0.40%	CARE	1.31%
MY	0.40%	PROPERTIES	1.31%
PROFESSIONAL	0.40%	M	1.26%
PLAN	0.40%	ELECTRICAL	1.23%
SERVICE	0.40%	BUILDING	1.23%
MARK	0.35%	SECURITY	1.19%
FINANCIAL	0.35%	S	1.18%
CLUB	0.35%	ENTERPRISES	1.17%

## Previous 36 months, excluding companies less than 12 months old

SIC CODE	NUMBER OF COMPANIES	UK COMPANIES
None Supplied	578	244,457
70229 - Management consultancy activities other than financial management	113	20,390
7487 - Other business activities	84	47,029
62020 - Information technology consultancy activities	64	15,280
82990 - Other business support service activities not elsewhere classified	59	35,447
7414 - Business & management consultancy	46	10,978
7222 - Other software consultancy and supply	41	6,356
9999 - Dormant Company	37	16,469
62090 - Other information technology service activities	37	8,258
96090 - Other service activities not elsewhere classified	36	14,220
99999 - Dormant Company	36	26,088
69201 - Accounting and auditing activities	28	4,295
74909 - Other professional, scientific and technical activities not elsewhere classified	25	10,271
7260 - Other computer related activities	25	6,456
74990 - Non-trading company	18	9,706
9305 - Other service activities	18	7,926
7499 - Non-trading company	17	8,023
43210 - Electrical installation	13	3,557
62012 - Business and domestic software development	12	4,742
86900 - Other human health activities	11	5,222