West Midlands

q1 2012 business confidence report



contents

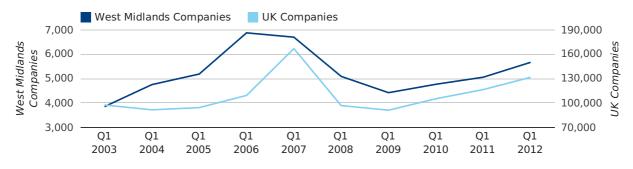
new company registrations	
closed companies (dissolved)	
net company growth	
uk company share	
director age	
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naming trends	
sic data	

A total of 5,664 companies were registered in West Midlands during the first quarter of 2012 (Jan 2012 - Mar 2012).

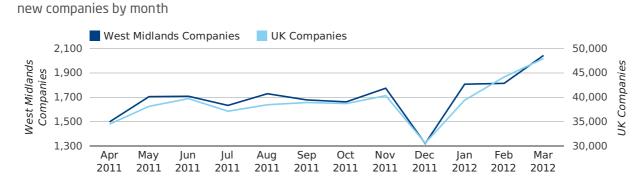
This figure is an increase of 12.1% versus the same period last year (Q1 2011). This figure compares equally to the UK as a whole, which saw an increase of 13.0% against the same period last year.

FIRST QUARTER (JAN 2012 - MAR 2012)	WEST MIDLANDS	UK
2012	5,664	131,491
2011	5,054	116,391
% CHANGE	12.1%	13.0%
RECORD YEAR	2006 (6,874)	2007 (166,814)

new companies by quarter



Monthly Data (Jan, Feb & Mar 2012)



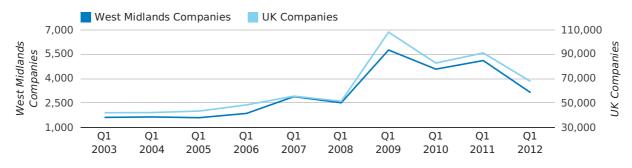
	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
NEW COMPANIES IN 2012	1,807	1,814	2,043
NEW COMPANIES IN 2011	1,462	1,583	2,009
% CHANGE	23.6%	14.6%	1.7%
RECORD YEAR	2006 (2,122)	2006 (2,085)	2007 (2,850)

A total of 3,131 companies were dissolved in West Midlands during the first quarter of 2012 (Jan 2012 - Mar 2012).

This figure is a decrease of 38.7% versus the same period last year (Q1 2011). This figure compares well to the UK as a whole, which saw a decrease of 25.7% against the same period last year.

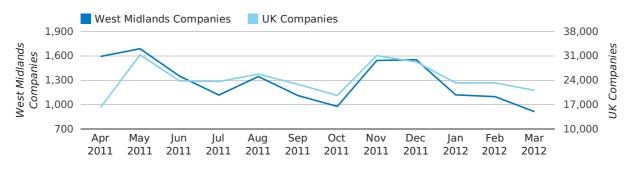
FIRST QUARTER (JAN 2012 - MAR 2012)	WEST MIDLANDS	UK
2012	3,131	67,576
2011	5,107	90,986
% CHANGE	-38.7%	-25.7%
RECORD YEAR	2009 (5,754)	2009 (108,060)

dissolved companies by quarter



Monthly Data (Jan, Feb & Mar 2012)

dissolved companies by month



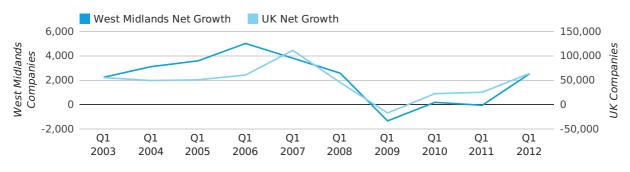
	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2012	1,120	1,098	913
CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2011	2,210	1,452	1,445
% CHANGE	-49.3%	-24.4%	-37%
RECORD YEAR	2011 (2,210)	2011 (1,452)	2009 (3,567)

Net company growth for West Midlands during the first quarter of 2012 (Jan 2012 - Mar 2012) was 2,533 companies.

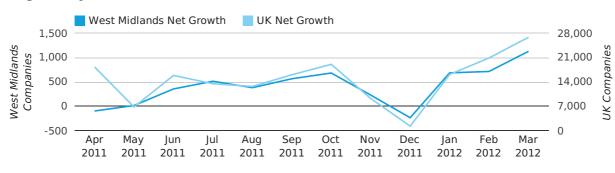
This represents an increase of 4,879.2% on the same period last year.

FIRST QUARTER (JAN 2012 - MAR 2012)	WEST MIDLANDS	UK
2012	2,533	63,915
2011	-53	25,405
% CHANGE	-4,879.2%	151.6%
RECORD YEAR	2006 (5,021)	2007 (111,282)

net growth by quarter



Monthly Data (Jan, Feb & Mar 2012)



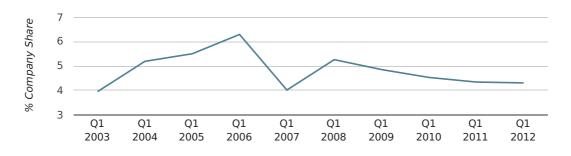
	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
NET GROWTH IN 2012	687	716	1,130
NET GROWTH IN 2011	-748	131	564
% CHANGE	-191.8%	446.6%	100.4%
RECORD YEAR	2006 (1,375)	2006 (1,545)	2006 (2,101)

net growth by month

In the first quarter of 2012, West Midlands formed 4.3% of all UK companies.

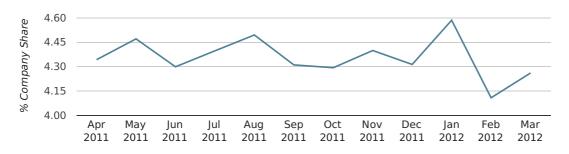
FIRST QUARTER (JAN 2012 - MAR 2012)	WEST MIDLANDS
2012	4.3%
2011	4.3%
2010	4.5%
2009	4.9%
2008	5.3%
RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960)	2006 (6.3%)

company share by quarter



Monthly Data (Jan, Feb & Mar 2012)

company share by month



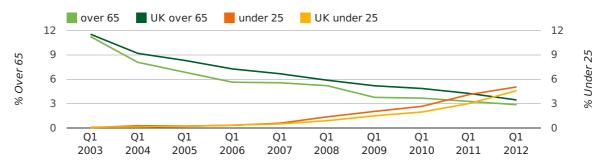
	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2012	4.6%	4.1%	4.3%
UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2011	4.3%	4.2%	4.5%
% CHANGE	6.0%	-2.0%	-4.9%
RECORD YEAR	1965 (6.9%)	1969 (7.4%)	1962 (6.4%)

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 5.1% compared to the UK figure of 4.6%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 2.9% compared to the UK figure of 3.5%.

director age 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	2.17%	CONSULTING	5.07%
CONSULTING	1.67%	MANAGEMENT	4.74%
CONSULTANCY	1.57%	CONSULTANCY	3.30%
PROPERTY	1.19%	PROPERTY	2.37%
TRADING	1.17%	TRADING	2.07%
CARE	1.09%	DESIGN	1.93%
S	1.06%	ENGINEERING	1.86%
М	1.02%	ASSOCIATES	1.84%
J	0.99%	CONSULTANTS	1.79%
DESIGN	0.95%	BUSINESS	1.73%
CONSTRUCTION	0.85%	MEDIA	1.72%
(MIDLANDS)	0.80%	CONSTRUCTION	1.72%
MIDLANDS	0.80%	LONDON	1.66%
TRANSPORT	0.80%	J	1.54%
BUSINESS	0.79%	INVESTMENTS	1.51%
ASSOCIATES	0.79%	GLOBAL	1.50%
BIRMINGHAM	0.79%	IT	1.40%
GLOBAL	0.78%	CARE	1.34%
SECURITY	0.77%	PROPERTIES	1.31%
PROPERTIES	0.75%	ELECTRICAL	1.27%
MEDIA	0.73%	М	1.27%
TRAINING	0.73%	BUILDING	1.24%
CONSULTANTS	0.73%	ENERGY	1.20%
R	0.72%	S	1.20%
COMMUNITY	0.71%	ENTERPRISES	1.19%

Previous 36 months, excluding companies less than 12 months old

SIC CODE	NUMBER OF COMPANIES	UK COMPANIES
None Supplied	10,172	216,665
7487 - Other business activities	2,796	52,735
82990 - Other business support service activities not elsewhere classified	2,060	35,233
99999 - Dormant Company	935	25,084
9999 - Dormant Company	699	18,617
70229 - Management consultancy activities other than financial management	589	19,704
62020 - Information technology consultancy activities	538	14,303
96090 - Other service activities not elsewhere classified	499	13,637
56103 - Take-away food shops and mobile food stands	382	2,902
9305 - Other service activities	374	8,818
7414 - Business & management consultancy	363	12,113
74990 - Non-trading company	348	9,729
74909 - Other professional, scientific and technical activities not elsewhere classified	341	9,892
7499 - Non-trading company	305	9,102
7260 - Other computer related activities	289	7,154
86900 - Other human health activities	274	5,066
62090 - Other information technology service activities	268	8,145
5227 - Other retail food etc. specialised	265	1,033
5530 - Restaurants	254	4,633
7222 - Other software consultancy and supply	230	6,934