

Worcester

q1 2012 business confidence report



headlines

- March 2012 saw a new record in company registrations in Worcester when compared to any previous March.
- March 2012 was a record month for company registrations in Worcester when compared to any month in history.
- February 2012 saw a new record in net growth in Worcester 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

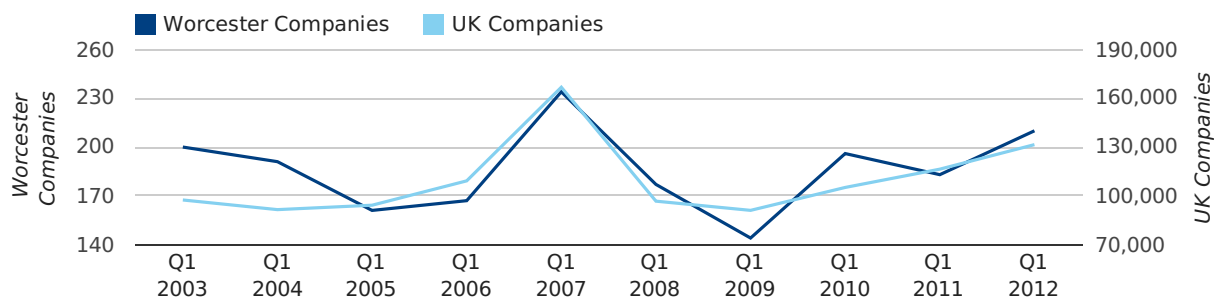
Quarterly Data (Q1 Jan-Mar 2012)

A total of 210 companies were registered in Worcester during the first quarter of 2012 (Jan 2012 - Mar 2012).

This figure is an increase of 14.8% 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)	WORCESTER	UK
2012	210	131,491
2011	183	116,391
% CHANGE	14.8%	13.0%
RECORD YEAR	2007 (234)	2007 (166,814)

new companies by quarter

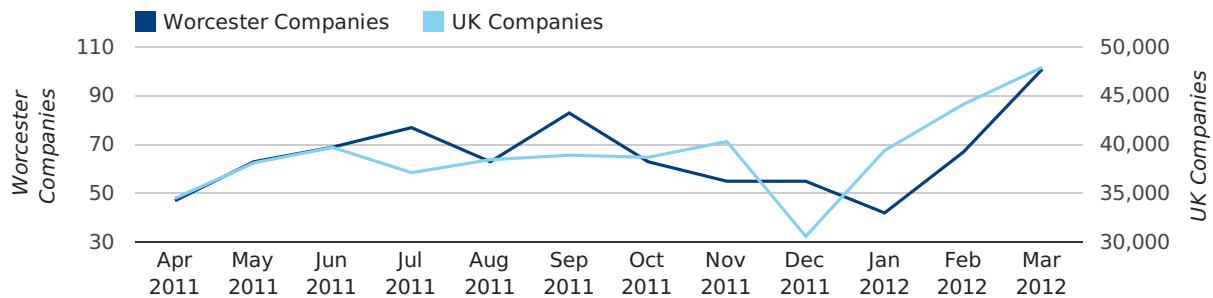


Monthly Data (Jan, Feb & Mar 2012)

March 2012 saw a new record in company registrations in Worcester when compared to any previous March.

March 2012 was a record month for company registrations in Worcester when compared to any month in history.

new companies by month



	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
NEW COMPANIES IN 2012	42	67	101
NEW COMPANIES IN 2011	54	56	73
% CHANGE	-22.2%	19.6%	38.4%
RECORD YEAR	2007 (69)	2004 (73)	2012 (101)

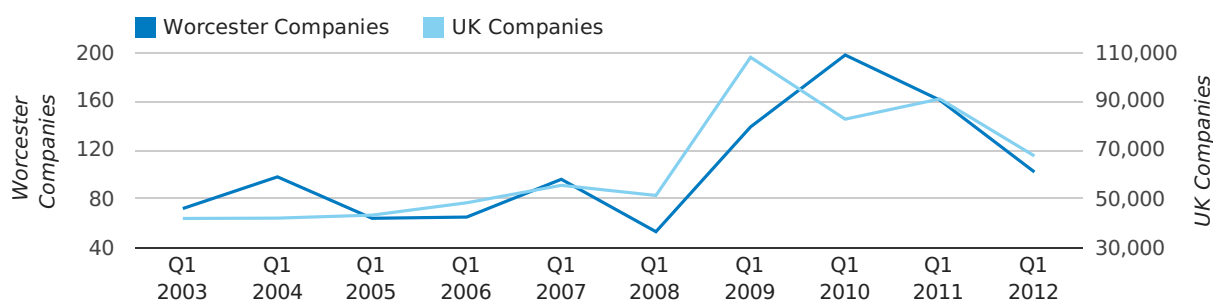
Quarterly Data (Q1 Jan-Mar 2012)

A total of 102 companies were dissolved in Worcester during the first quarter of 2012 (Jan 2012 - Mar 2012).

This figure is a decrease of 36.6% 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.

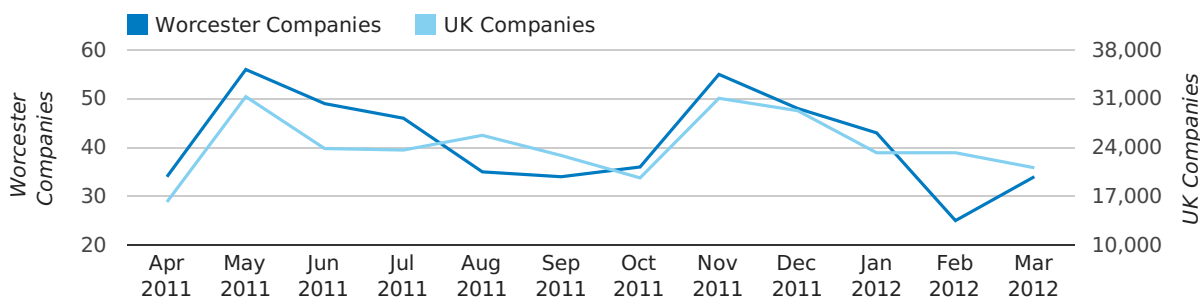
FIRST QUARTER (JAN 2012 - MAR 2012)	WORCESTER	UK
2012	102	67,576
2011	161	90,986
% CHANGE	-36.6%	-25.7%
RECORD YEAR	2010 (198)	2009 (108,060)

dissolved companies by quarter



Monthly Data (Jan, Feb & Mar 2012)

dissolved companies by month



	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2012	43	25	34
CLOSED COMPANIES IN 2011	73	35	53
% CHANGE	-41.1%	-28.6%	-36%
RECORD YEAR	2011 (73)	2010 (73)	2010 (76)

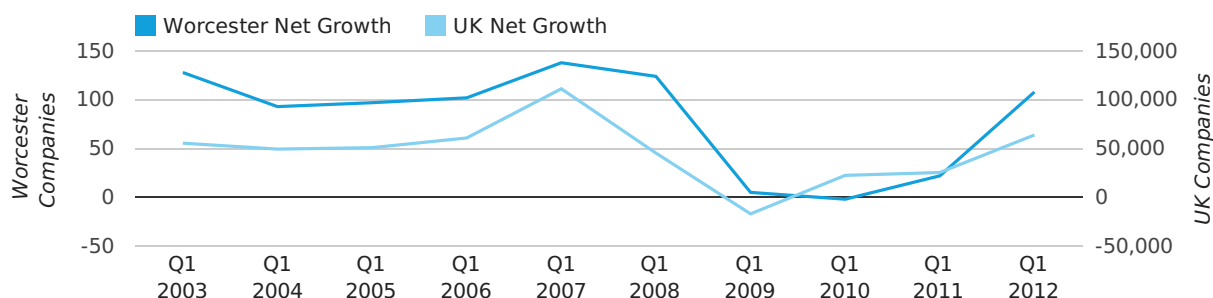
Quarterly Data (Q1 Jan-Mar 2012)

Net company growth for Worcester during the first quarter of 2012 (Jan 2012 - Mar 2012) was 108 companies.

This represents an increase of 390.9% on the same period last year.

FIRST QUARTER (JAN 2012 - MAR 2012)	WORCESTER	UK
2012	108	63,915
2011	22	25,405
% CHANGE	390.9%	151.6%
RECORD YEAR	2007 (138)	2007 (111,282)

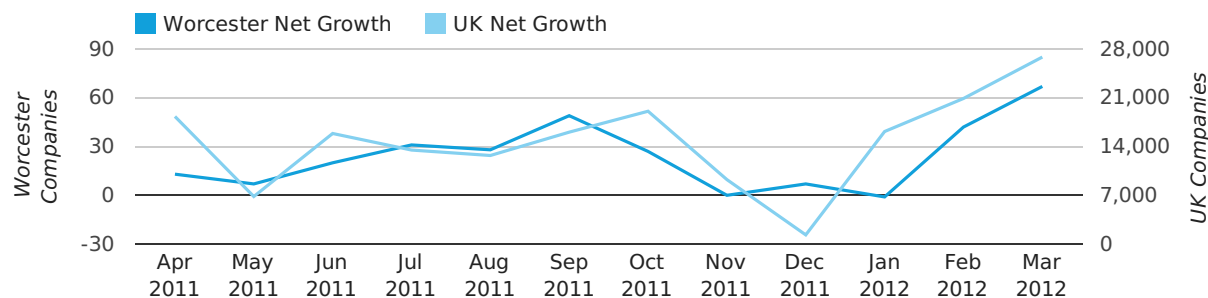
net growth by quarter



Monthly Data (Jan, Feb & Mar 2012)

February 2012 saw a new record in net growth in Worcester when compared to any previous February.

net growth by month



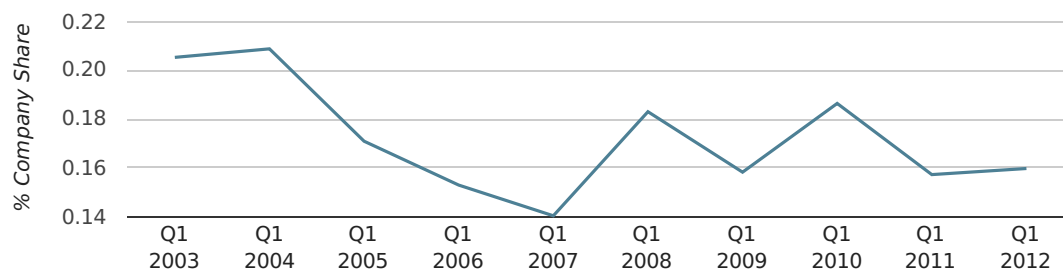
	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
NET GROWTH IN 2012	-1	42	67
NET GROWTH IN 2011	-19	21	20
% CHANGE	-94.7%	100.0%	235.0%
RECORD YEAR	2008 (46)	2012 (42)	2007 (68)

Quarterly Data (Q1 Jan-Mar 2012)

In the first quarter of 2012, Worcester formed 0.2% of all UK companies.

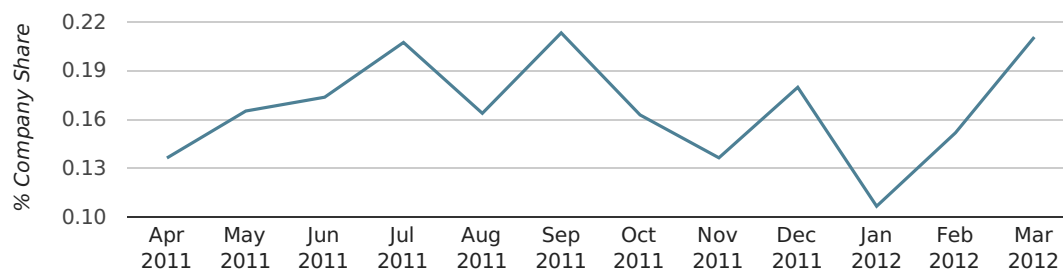
FIRST QUARTER (JAN 2012 - MAR 2012)	WORCESTER
2012	0.2%
2011	0.2%
2010	0.2%
2009	0.2%
2008	0.2%
RECORD YEAR (SINCE 1960)	1964 (0.4%)

company share by quarter



Monthly Data (Jan, Feb & Mar 2012)

company share by month



	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2012	0.1%	0.2%	0.2%
UK FORMATION SHARE IN 2011	0.2%	0.1%	0.2%
% CHANGE	-33.3%	2.4%	29.4%
RECORD YEAR	1975 (0.5%)	1969 (0.9%)	1964 (0.6%)

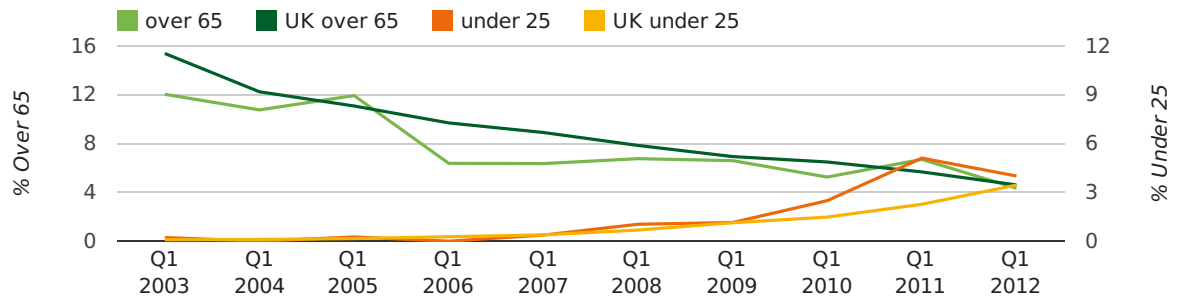
Quarterly Data (Q1 Jan-Mar 2012)

The average age of a director in the first quarter of 2012 was 46.1.

The percentage of directors under the age of 25 was 4.0% compared to the UK figure of 4.6%.

The percentage of directors over the age of 65 was 4.3% compared to the UK figure of 3.5%.

director age by quarter

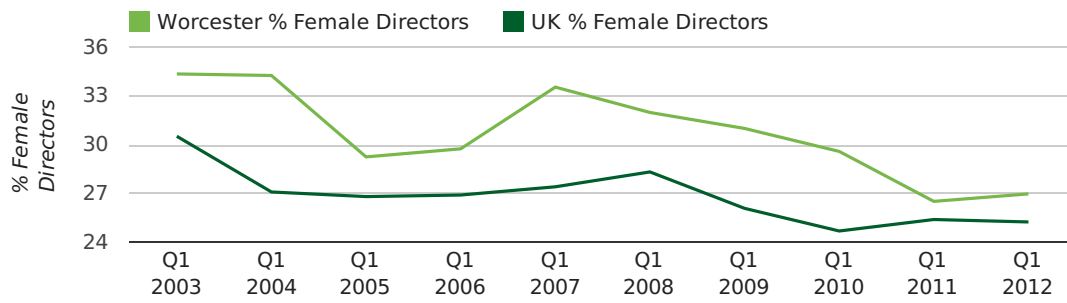


Quarterly Data (Q1 Jan-Mar 2012)

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

27.0% of all director appointments in Worcester 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
CONSULTING	1.51%	CONSULTING	5.07%
PROPERTY	1.36%	MANAGEMENT	4.74%
MANAGEMENT	1.36%	CONSULTANCY	3.30%
WORCESTER	1.13%	PROPERTY	2.37%
CONSULTANCY	1.06%	TRADING	2.07%
ASSOCIATES	0.83%	DESIGN	1.93%
HC	0.83%	ENGINEERING	1.86%
(WORCESTER)	0.76%	ASSOCIATES	1.84%
MEDIA	0.68%	CONSULTANTS	1.79%
GLOBAL	0.68%	BUSINESS	1.73%
ENTERPRISES	0.68%	MEDIA	1.72%
TRADING	0.61%	CONSTRUCTION	1.72%
INVESTMENTS	0.53%	LONDON	1.66%
TRAINING	0.53%	J	1.54%
BUSINESS	0.45%	INVESTMENTS	1.51%
DESIGN	0.45%	GLOBAL	1.50%
INN	0.45%	IT	1.40%
HOUSE	0.45%	CARE	1.34%
SCHOOL	0.45%	PROPERTIES	1.31%
ENGINEERING	0.45%	ELECTRICAL	1.27%
AMENITY	0.45%	M	1.27%
CLOTHING	0.38%	BUILDING	1.24%
B	0.38%	ENERGY	1.20%
CENTRE	0.38%	S	1.20%
TREE	0.38%	ENTERPRISES	1.19%

Previous 36 months, excluding companies less than 12 months old

SIC CODE	NUMBER OF COMPANIES	UK COMPANIES
None Supplied	257	216,665
7487 - Other business activities	56	52,735
99999 - Dormant Company	53	25,084
82990 - Other business support service activities not elsewhere classified	52	35,233
70229 - Management consultancy activities other than financial management	42	19,704
9999 - Dormant Company	33	18,617
7499 - Non-trading company	27	9,102
7414 - Business & management consultancy	24	12,113
74990 - Non-trading company	23	9,729
62020 - Information technology consultancy activities	23	14,303
74909 - Other professional, scientific and technical activities not elsewhere classified	17	9,892
62090 - Other information technology service activities	15	8,145
68209 - Other letting and operating of own or leased real estate	12	4,427
7260 - Other computer related activities	11	7,154
86900 - Other human health activities	11	5,066
96090 - Other service activities not elsewhere classified	11	13,637
4521 - General construction & civil engineering	10	5,169
43220 - Plumbing, heat and air-conditioning installation	9	2,693
43290 - Other construction installation	9	1,764
41202 - Construction of domestic buildings	9	3,052