In Partnership with DataGardener (XMA)



May 2025

Business Insights

A lot can change in just one month — and May was no exception.

New businesses started, others closed, and key trends began to take shape across the UK. To help you keep up, we've put together DataGardener's May 2025 Business Insights Report — full of clear facts, useful updates, and

market shifts you need to know.

Whether you're growing a company or watching the market, this report gives you a simple view of what's really happening in UK business.

Business Overview

As of May 2025, over 60K new businesses had been started, more than 8K County Court Judgments (CCJs) had been filed, and 10K+ charges had been registered. These figures reflect a dynamic start to the year, offering a snapshot of the evolving business landscape.



Company Registered

Charges Registered

CCJs Filed

Company Dissolutions May 2025 vs April 2025

In May 2025, 56K+ companies were dissolved, a significant decrease compared to the 81K+ closures in April 2025. The economy, or how businesses work, can affect company closures.



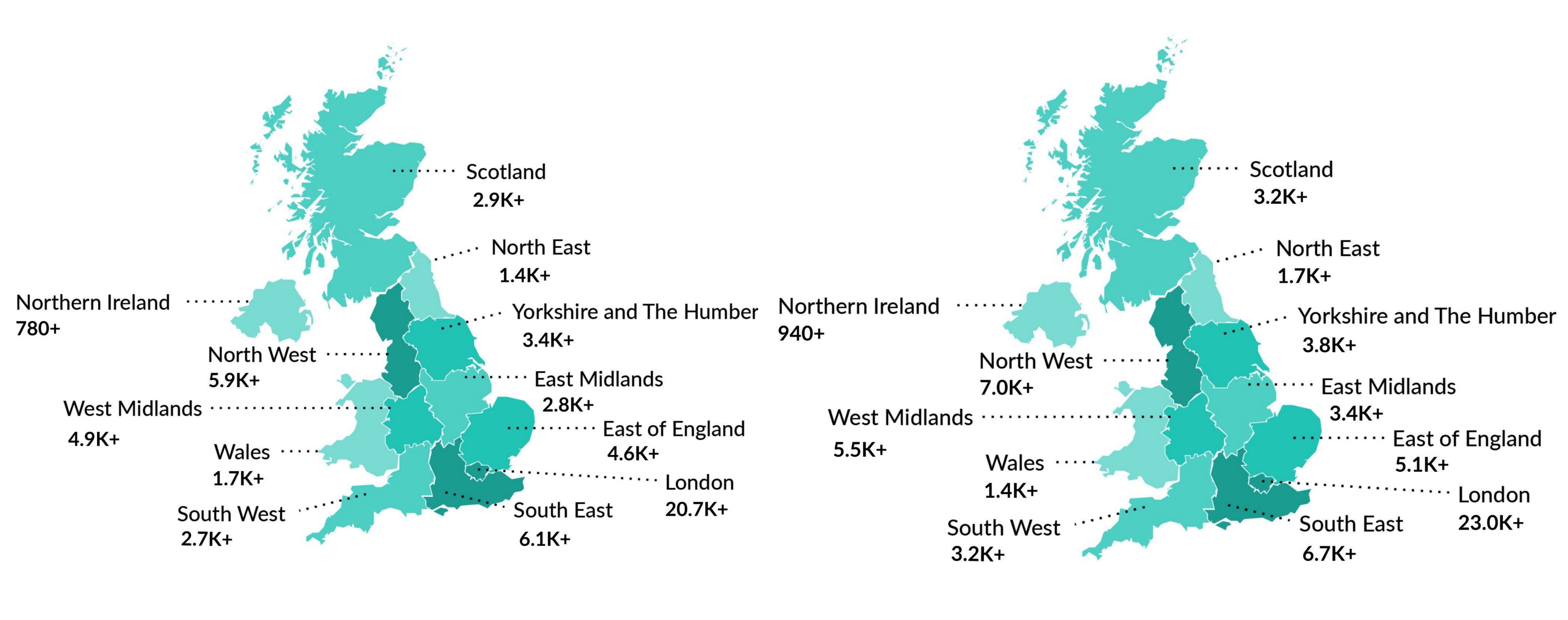




Businesses Incorporated in the UK May 2025 vs April 2025

In May 2025, **60K+** new companies were incorporated, marking a **decrease of 11.76%** compared to April 2025, when **68K+** companies were incorporated.

Regional Distribution



May 2025



The regional distribution of companies across the UK presents a diverse economic landscape. London stands out as the commercial heart, hosting **47K+** companies, **34.09%** of the total. This is a significant lead over other regions, reflecting London's status as a business hub.

The South East also plays a significant role, with **13K+** companies making up **10.03%** of the total, indicating a substantial economic presence.

On the lower end, Wales and Northern Ireland have the smallest numbers, with **2.6K+** (2.03%) and **1.7K+** (1.33%) companies, pointing to a more modest business density in these areas.

New Companies Registered in May 2025

Industrial Distribution

Top 10 Industries with Highest Company Registrations in May 2025







Wholesale And Retail Trade	11,730	19.54
Real Estate Activities	6,256	10.42
Professional, Scientific And Technical Activities	5,744	9.57
Construction	4,644	7.73
Information And Communication	4,651	7.75
Accommodation And Food Service Activities	4,219	7.03
Administrative And Support Service Activities	3,918	6.53
Financial And Insurance Activities	2,101	3.5
Other Service Activities	2,653	4.42
Human Health And Social Work Activities	2,218	3.69
Others	11,911	19.85

The analysis of the Standard Industrial Classification reveals a diverse array of industries, each contributing to the overall landscape of the company registered.

The Wholesale/Retail Trade sector leads with **19.54%** of registered companies, followed by Real Estate Activities and Professional, Scientific, and Technical

Activities, both of which account for over **9-10%** of registered companies.

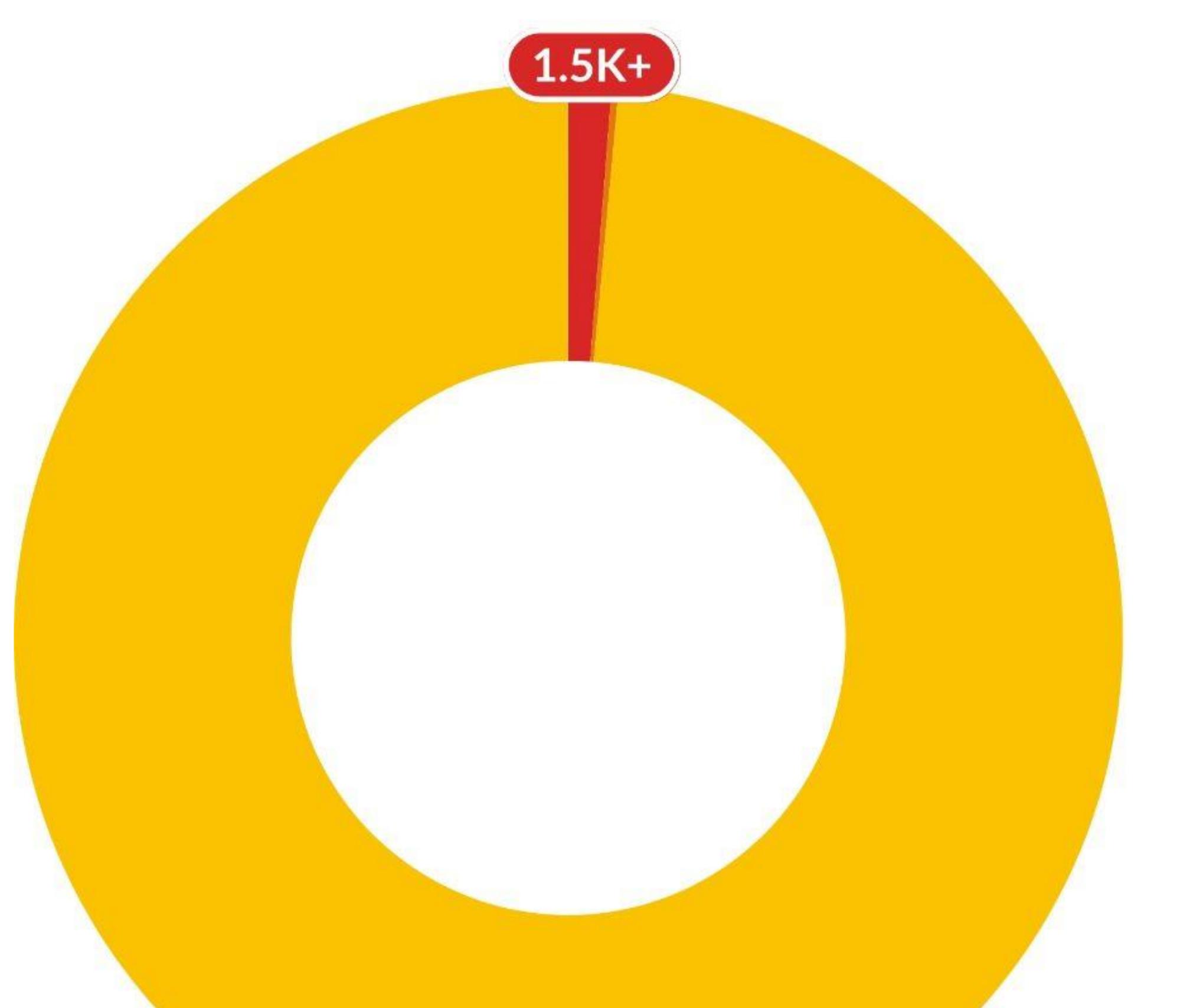
Construction and Information/Communication also have a notable share, each around 7-8%.

This data suggests that these sectors are more likely to register companies due to their operational scale and regulatory requirements, providing critical insights for risk management and identifying market opportunities.

Risk Assessment of Companies Incorporated

April 2025 to May 2025

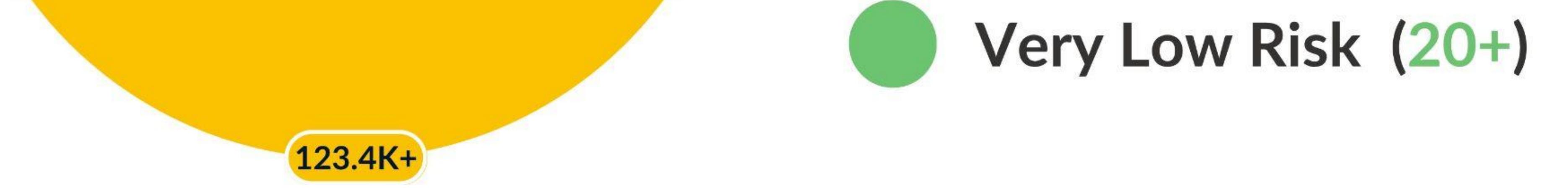
The assessment of company risk profiles reveals a varied landscape within the region's business sector.











In the business risk landscape, most companies are positioned in the moderate-risk category, with 98.63% demonstrating a balanced approach to risk management. This significant proportion indicates a preference for stability and calculated risk-taking in business operations.

Very high-risk entities comprise 1.18%, while high-risk companies constitute 0.18%. These figures represent businesses that may engage in high-stakes ventures, necessitating sophisticated risk mitigation strategies.

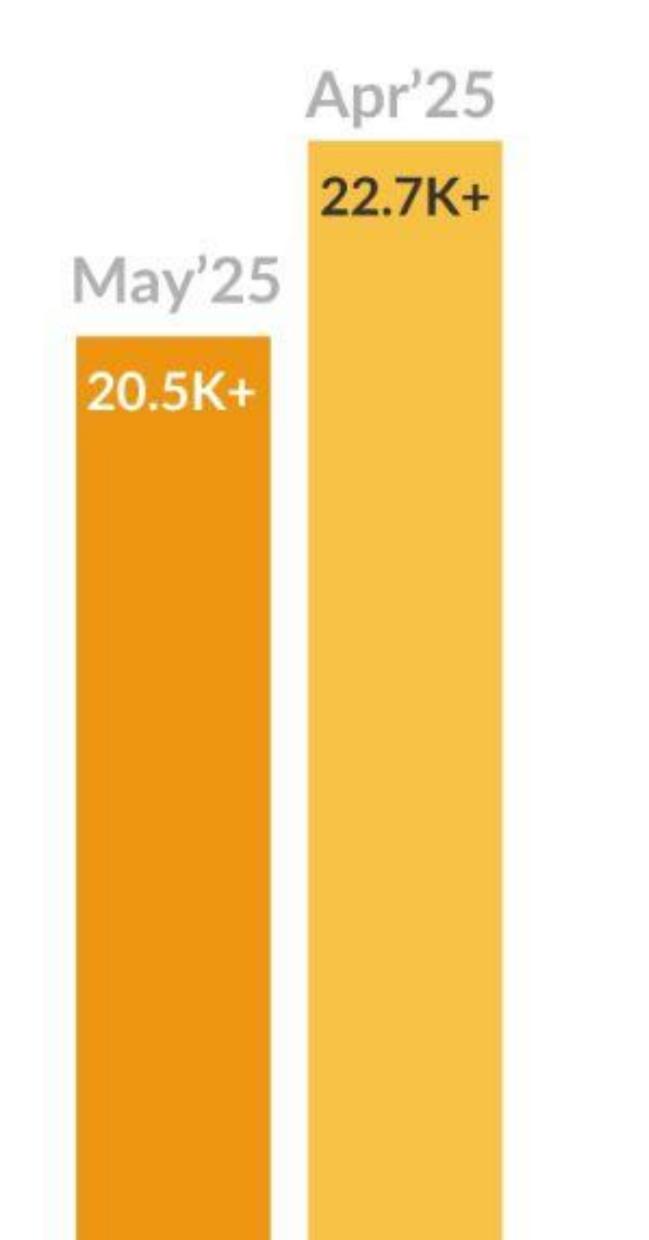
On the safer end of the spectrum, very low-risk companies account for a mere 0.02%, reflecting a cautious stance in the market.

The distribution of risk underscores the importance of tailored risk management practices for effectively navigating the complexities of the business world.

Private Sector Business Data Overview May 2025 vs. April 2025

In May 2025, 59K+ new private sector companies were incorporated, reflecting an 11.66% decrease compared to April 2025, which saw 67K+ new incorporations.

Regional Distribution of Private Sector Companies Incorporated







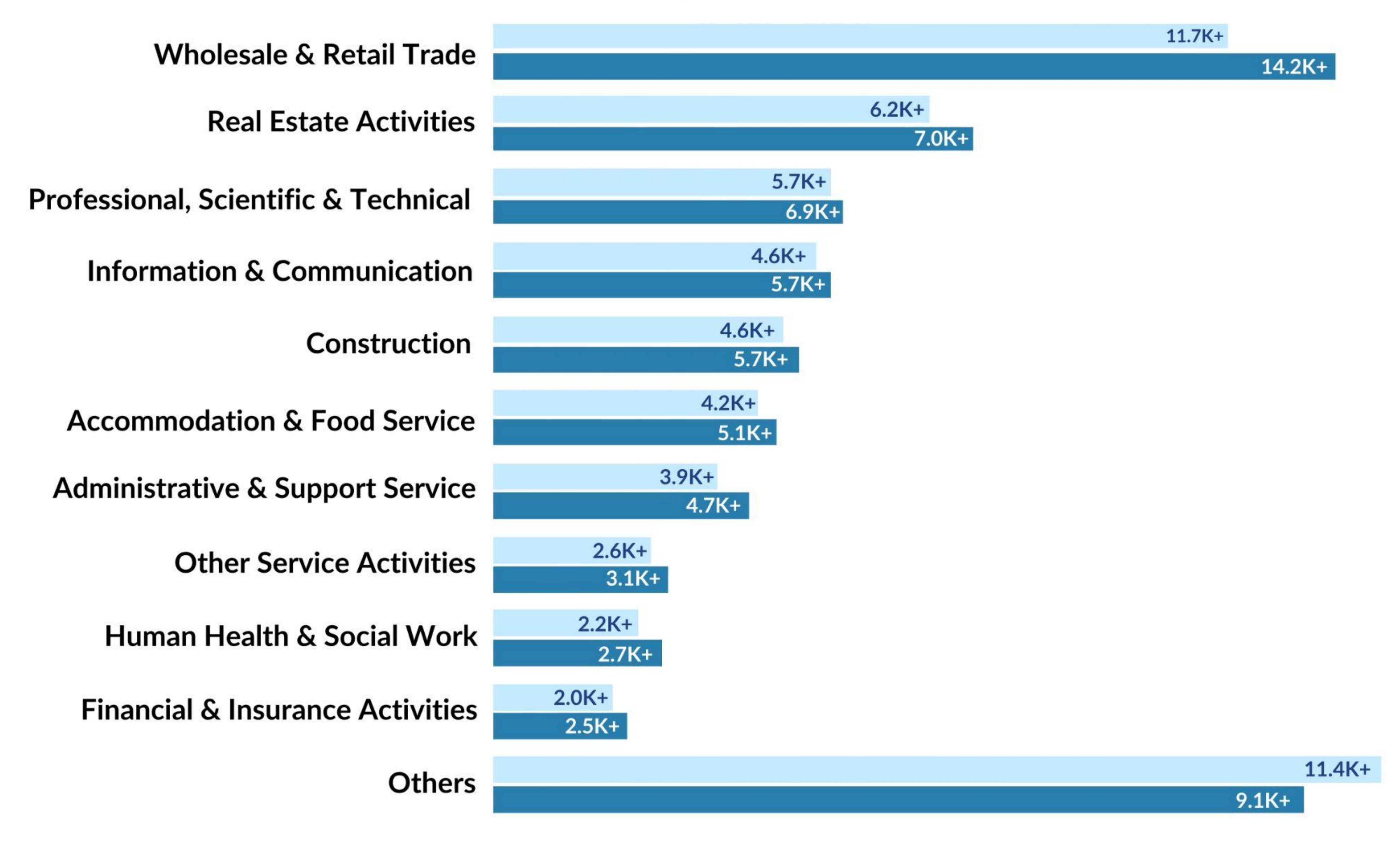
In May 2025, London remained the leading region with 34.58% of new incorporations, a slight increase from 33.84% in April. The South East (10.29%) and North West (10.06%) followed closely, maintaining steady momentum. Regions such as the West Midlands (8.36%) and the East of England (7.75%) also showed slight growth. While Yorkshire and the Humber, as well as Scotland, saw minor changes, overall trends suggest continued business activity across key regions. This reflects sustained investor interest, regional resilience, and a well-distributed pattern of entrepreneurial growth.

Top SIC Industry

Classifications of Newly Incorporated

The table below shows private sector businesses by industry in the UK.





Analysing newly incorporated businesses by Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) reveals a broad mix of industries driving business growth. In May 2025, Wholesale & Retail Trade remained dominant at 19.77%, though slightly down from 21.2% in

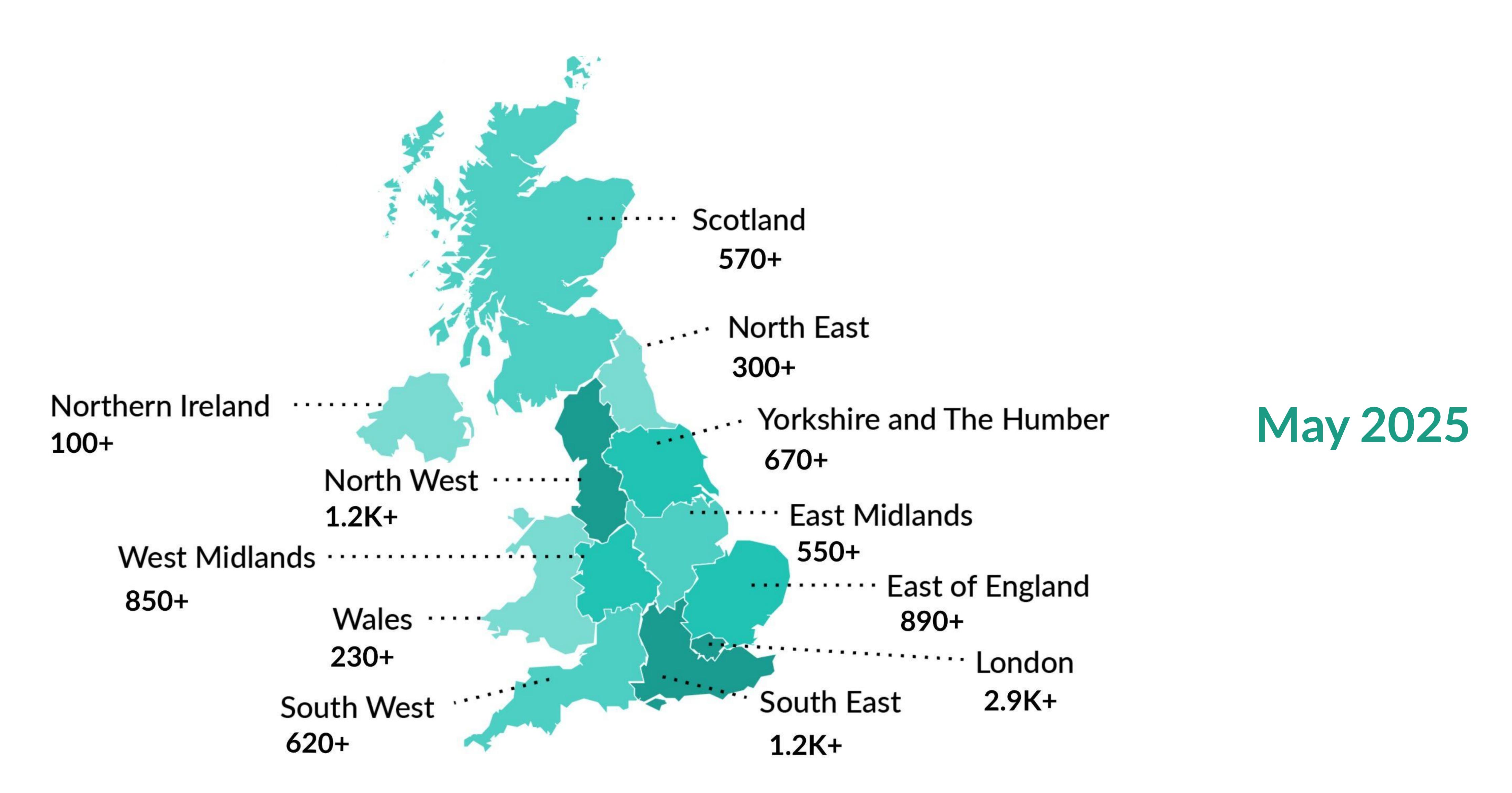
April. Real Estate Activities (10.54%) and Professional, Scientific & Technical Activities (9.68%) followed, both showing minor declines. Information & Communication (7.84%) and Construction (7.83%) remained resilient, reflecting ongoing demand in the digital and infrastructure sectors. Accommodation & Food Services (7.11%) and Administrative & Support Services (6.6%) dipped slightly, while Financial & Insurance Activities (3.53%) also declined. The rise in the 'Others' category to 18.88% suggests growing diversity in business types. The data indicates continued interest in service-led and consumer-focused sectors, alongside emerging entrepreneurial diversity.

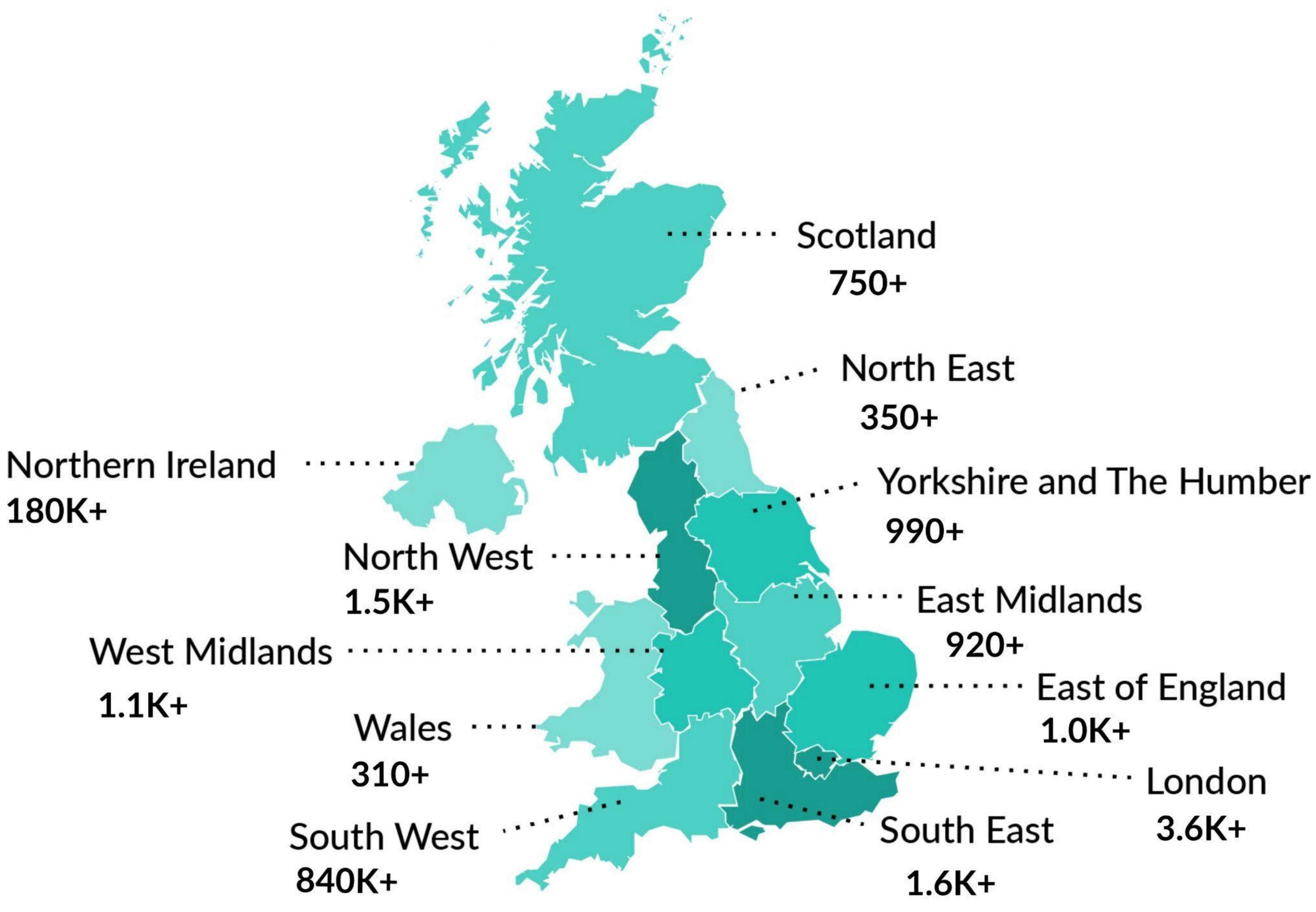
Charges Registered May 2025 vs April 2025

In May 2025, **10K+** outstanding charges were registered, decreasing from the **13K+** charges registered in April 2025.



Regional Distribution





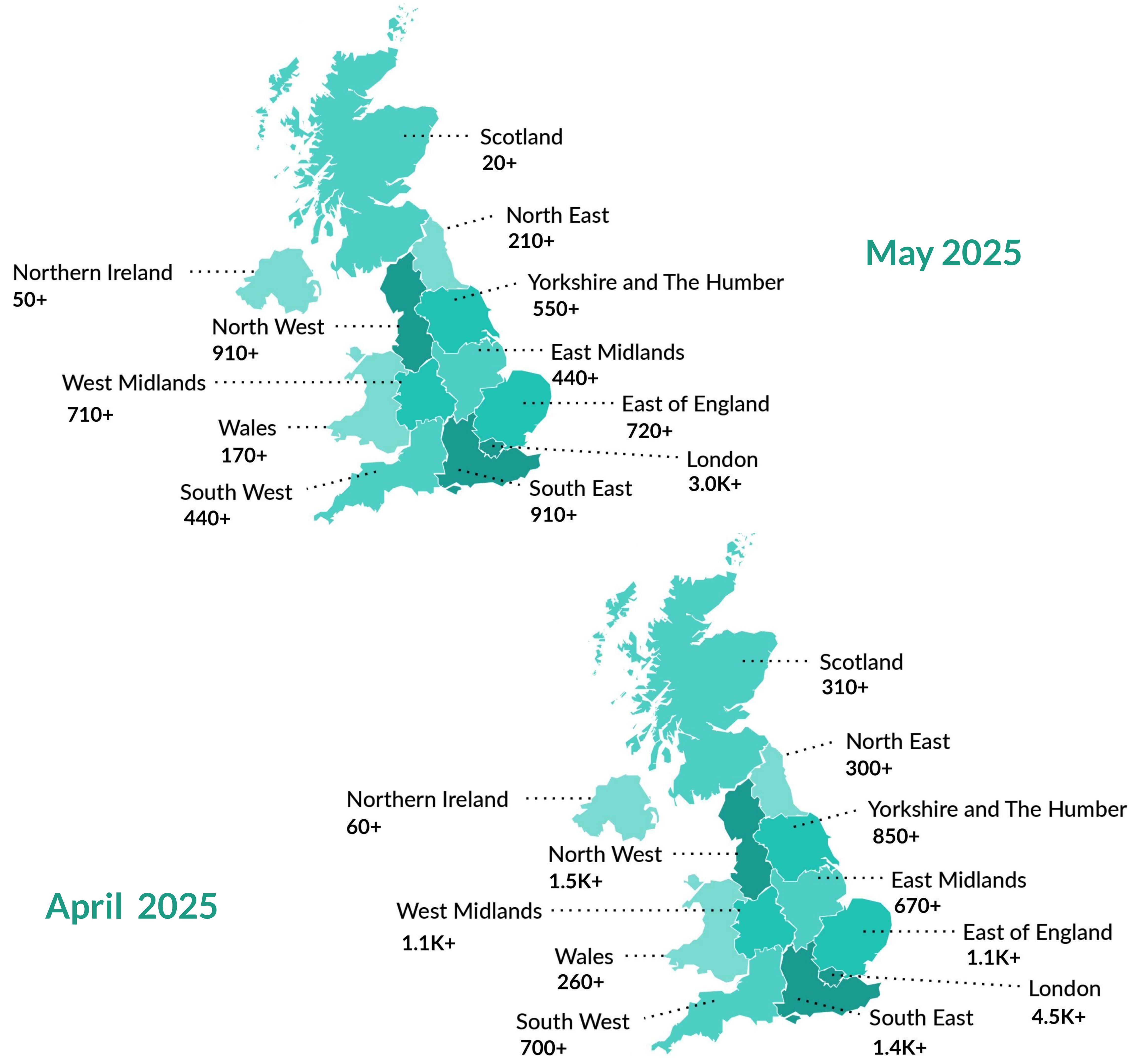


County Court Judgements (CCJs) Filed

May 2025 Vs April 2025

In May 2025, 8K+ CCJs were filed, which is lower than the 13K+ CCJs filed in April 2025.

Regional Distribution







Female Founders

In May 2025, over **7K** new companies were registered as owned by females, a significant decline from the **9K+** companies registered in April 2025.

Female-Owned Businesses Industrial Insights May 2025

Top 3 Industries With Female-Owned Businesses Count Wholesale And Retail Trade 1.5K+ Professional, Scientific And
Technical Activities 800+ Real Estate Activities 670+



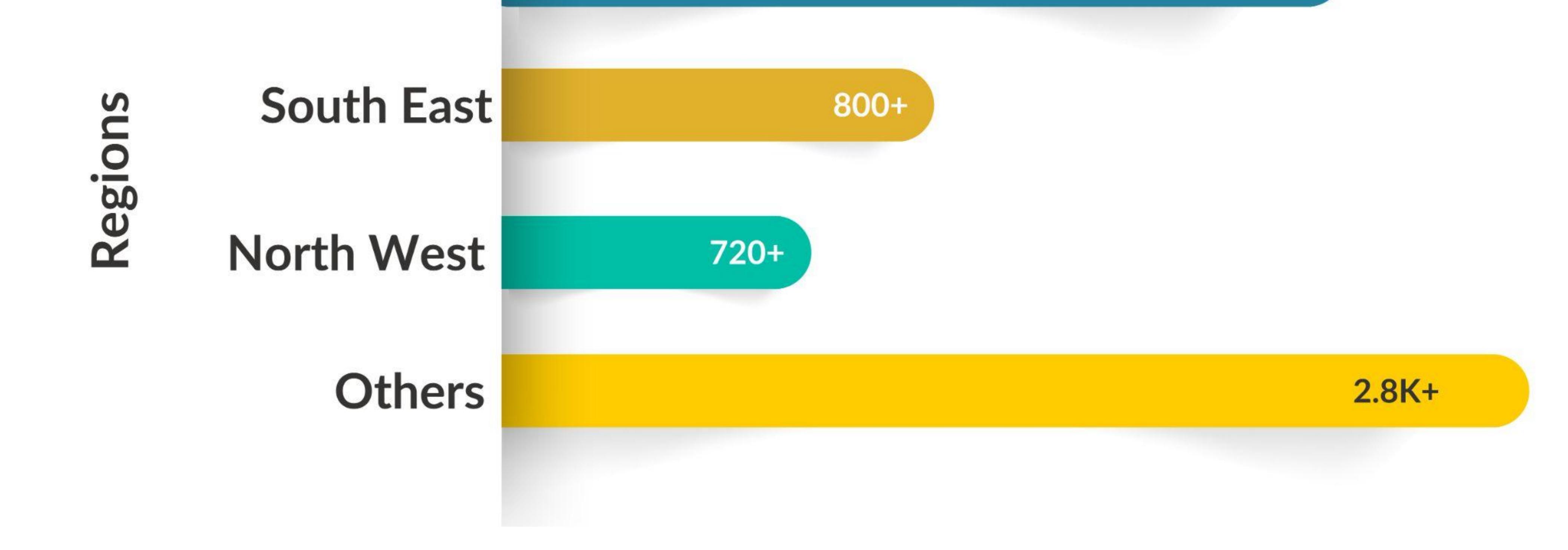
Regional Insights May 2025

Top 3 Regions With Female-Owned Businesses

Count







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Our Latest Articles

1. What does the Procurement Act 2023 say about supplier risk?

The Procurement Act 2023 has significantly reshaped the public procurement landscape in the UK, particularly in terms of supplier risk. Whether you're a public sector buyer or a supplier bidding for contracts, understanding how the new regulations impact supplier management is crucial. In this guide, we dive into how supplier risk is identified, handled, and mitigated under the Procurement Act 2023 and how you can ensure compliance.

Are You Ready to Manage Supplier Risk Under the Procurement Act 2023?





2. How Military Veteran-Owned Businesses Drive UK Growth

Military veterans possess remarkable discipline, resilience, and strategic thinking skills that seamlessly translate into business success. As military veteran-owned businesses expand across the UK, they make significant contributions to economic development, employment, and industry innovation.

But what is the landscape of military veteran-owned companies in the UK? Let's explore key insights and statistics that highlight their influence.

Read More



Note: Data sourced from DataGardener's April 2025 UK Business Insights report. For more detailed analysis and insights, visit DataGardener.com.

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Feel free to contact us with any questions or queries you have. If you require more details, you can also schedule a call to discuss your needs.

We are here to assist you!



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