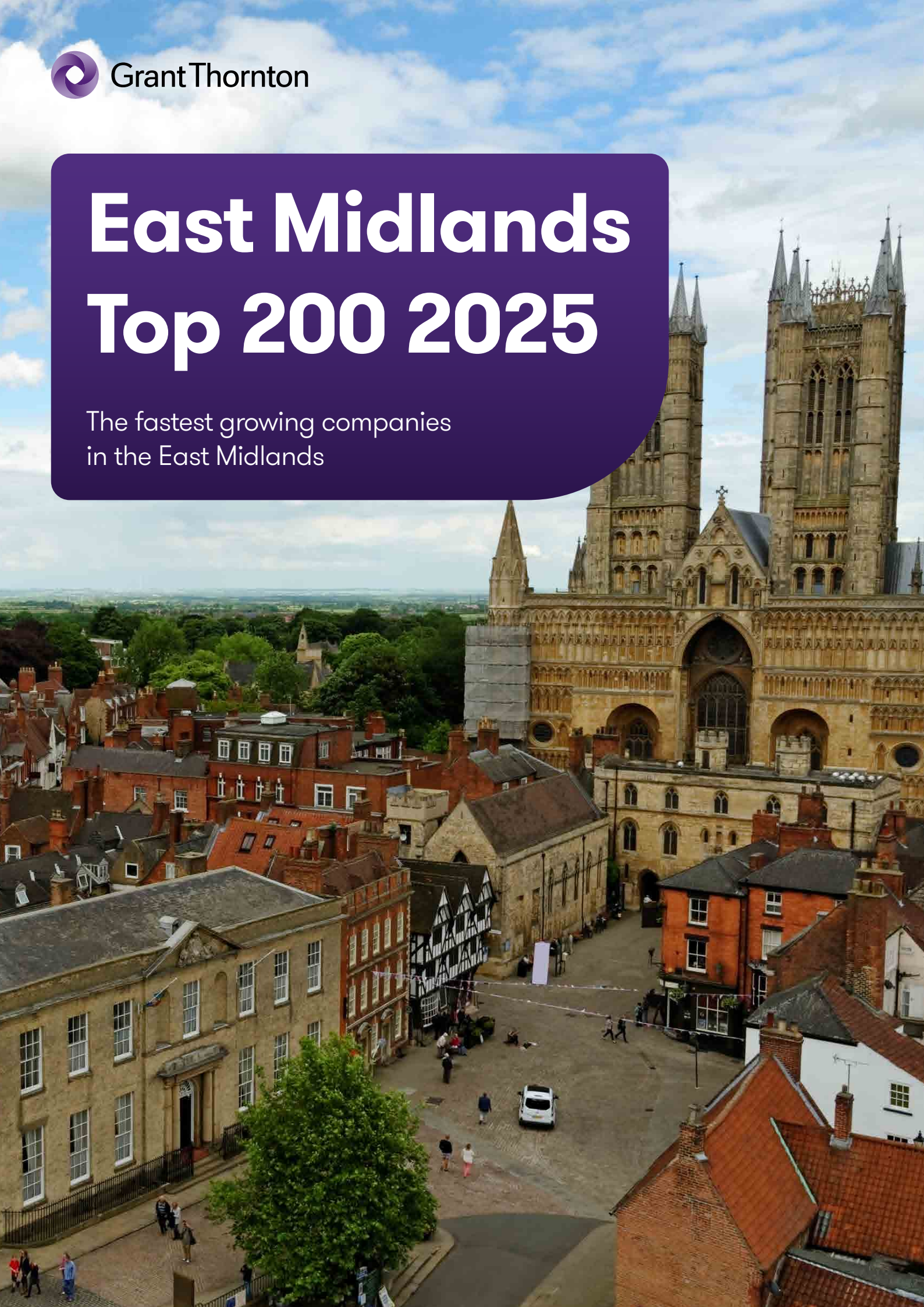




Grant Thornton

East Midlands Top 200 2025

The fastest growing companies
in the East Midlands



Foreword

It is our pleasure to present the East Midlands 200 2025—a celebration of the region’s most dynamic and fastest-growing businesses. The 2025 edition marks the 10th anniversary of our report and shines a spotlight on the remarkable resilience, innovation, and entrepreneurial spirit that defines the East Midlands.

The East Midlands is one of the UK’s most diverse and strategically positioned regions. Home to over 4.8 million people and a rich mix of urban centres and rural landscapes, it boasts a thriving business ecosystem supported by world-class universities, a skilled workforce, and excellent transport links. The region is a vital contributor to the UK economy, with strengths in advanced manufacturing, logistics, food production, healthcare, and emerging technologies.

This year, the East Midlands 200 companies have collectively generated over £10 billion in revenue, employed more than 43,000 people, and delivered an average profitability growth of 33%. These achievements are particularly impressive given the challenges businesses have faced in recent years. The lingering effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, inflationary pressures, supply chain disruptions, and labour shortages have tested the resilience of even the most established companies. In addition, navigating the post-Brexit regulatory landscape and adapting to the accelerating pace of digital transformation have required agility and strategic foresight. Despite these headwinds, the businesses featured in this report have not only endured—they have thrived. Their success reflects a deep-rooted commitment to innovation, investment in people and technology, and a strong sense of regional identity.

This momentum is set to accelerate further with the unveiling of one of the UK’s most ambitious development visions for the East Midlands. The plan aims to inject £4.6 billion into the regional economy, create 100,000 jobs, and deliver 52,000 new homes. Spearheaded by the East Midlands Combined County Authority and supported by the team behind the Battersea Power Station regeneration, the vision includes transformative projects such as the Trent Arc, the Canal Corridor, and the Supercluster of decommissioned power stations. These initiatives are designed to unlock 4.2 million square metres of commercial space and build on the region’s industrial strengths, aligning perfectly with the growth and ambition demonstrated by the businesses in this report.

I would like to congratulate all of the businesses that feature and as we move forward, I hope this report not only informs but also inspires continued collaboration, investment, and innovation across this vibrant and ambitious region.



Nick Gillott

Partner
Head of Midlands Corporate Finance
Grant Thornton UK Advisory & Tax LLP



How is the East Midlands 200 compiled?

The East Midlands 200 is a snapshot of the businesses which have delivered the greatest growth in reported EBITDA. Our ranking is based on reported EBITDA Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) over a three-year period, with a minimum threshold of EBITDA of c. £1m in their latest accounting period. The report has been compiled using the most recent publicly available accounts of companies which have their principal place of business and management in the East Midlands.

This report spans the 'Covid years' and consideration has been given to exceptional profits and the suitability of businesses sitting amongst a peer group which should be reflective of normalised EBITDA growth.

Companies that are owned by overseas parent companies or where management and strategic decision makers are based outside the East Midlands have been excluded for the purpose of this report. This approach provides a more accurate picture of the wealth creation and importantly, the retention and reinvestment of profits in the East Midlands. This is fundamental to the continued success of the local economy. We have excluded 'not for profit' organisations, due to the purpose of these entities.

The report has certain limitations, as the list was created based on businesses that have a track record of reporting and submitting audited accounts for the past 3 years. Therefore, businesses that have experienced strong growth after this period may have been omitted.

Top 200 at a glance



£10.1bn
reported revenue



22% average
revenue growth*



£1bn
reported profitability



33% average
profitability growth*



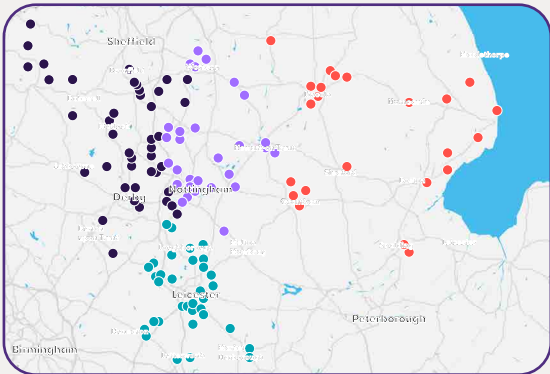
43,372
employed by top 200



25% average
employee
headcount growth*

Note: compound annual growth rate over a three year period

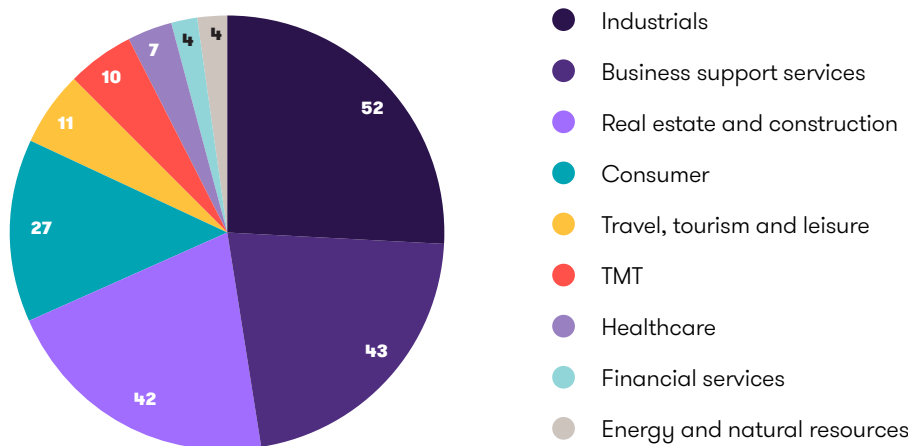
Businesses in each county



61
Nottinghamshire
54
Leicestershire

55
Derbyshire
30
Lincolnshire

Top 200 sector breakdown



The 200

Our Top 200 2025 list is compiled using the most recent publicly available accounts (as of April-25) and is based on those businesses which are both owned and managed within the East Midlands.

1	Yü Energy Retail Limited
2	True Lens Services Limited
3	Earthworks Plant Hire and Waste Ltd
4	Brayford Hotels Holdings Ltd
5	Bradgate Containers Limited
6	Bridge Farm Group Limited
7	Pilgrim Foodservice Limited
8	Merlin 997 Limited
9	Wright Brothers Industrial Services Limited
10	Bridge Aluminium Limited
11	Kingfield Electronics Limited
12	UKWS Limited
13	NJDR Group Ltd
14	Wefco (Gainsborough) Limited
15	Mellors Group (Holdings) Limited
16	Bridgebank Limited
17	Koru Topco Limited
18	Mercia Power Limited
19	Morris Vermaport Limited
20	Ivolve Care Holdings Limited
21	European Support Services (UK) Limited
22	A.F. Switchgear (Holdings) Limited
23	Evolution Funding Limited
24	Harboro Enterprises Limited
25	Sales Assistance Limited

26	2097 Holdings Limited
27	Barker Ross Group Limited
28	W B Power Services Limited
29	Owen Taylor And Sons Holdings Limited
30	Linsco Limited
31	Geary's Bakeries Holdings Limited
32	Healthnet Homecare (UK) Limited
33	A.B. Hotels Limited
34	Derbyshire Aggregates Limited
35	GLW Feeds Limited
36	M J Robinson Structures Limited
37	Ballards Removals Holdings Limited
38	Imagesound Limited
39	Savoy Cinemas Limited
40	IST Power Holdings Limited
41	NK Motorgroup Ltd
42	Maurice Hill Transport Limited
43	SHD Holdings Limited
44	Grangers International Limited
45	Chilled Pubs Limited
46	Impact Creative Group Limited
47	Yew Lodge Limited
48	Monro Limited
49	Pall-Ex Investments Limited
50	Cloudbass Multimedia Limited

The 200 continued

51	Harmor Limited
52	W.E. Hewitt & Son Limited
53	N T Killingley Ltd
54	Johns of Nottingham Limited
55	United Health Group 2 Limited
56	Kent P.H.K. Limited
57	The Valve & Actuation Group Limited
58	Fernwood Group Limited
59	Straightset Limited
60	HGV Direct Limited
61	Westbrook Holdings Limited
62	Hammonds Fitted Furniture Group Limited
63	Taylor Lindsey Limited
64	Brady Solicitors Limited
65	BPX Group Limited
66	Roofbase Limited
67	Lasershape Limited
68	Xeinz Group Limited
69	Vision Automotive (UK) Group Ltd
70	Jessops (Holdings) Limited
71	Mobile Services Holdings Limited
72	Chase Pharmacy Limited
73	SJC 15 Limited
74	IH (Topco) Limited
75	Namco Finance Limited

76	Bradshaw Taylor Ltd.
77	Everards Brewery Limited
78	Kandore Properties Limited
79	McAndrew Utilities Limited
80	Ashfield Extrusion Limited
81	Unique Window Systems Ltd
82	Neal Brothers (Leicester) Limited
83	Fabrikat (Nottingham) Limited
84	P J Towey Holdings Limited
85	Mobius Networks Limited
86	Rillatech Limited
87	Devol Kitchens Limited
88	Celebrity Motion Furniture Limited
89	Endee Limited
90	John Pye & Sons Holdings Limited
91	Richford Holdings Limited
92	Caunton Holdings Limited
93	Direct Leisure Supplies Limited
94	Stuart Plumbing & Heating Supplies Limited
95	Dryad Creative Limited
96	Vista Engineering Limited
97	Josewin Limited
98	HD Sharman Group Limited
99	Bailey Trailers Limited
100	Manthorpe Holdings Limited

The 200 continued

*

101	Autoclenz Holdings Limited
102	Delta Global Source Holdings Limited
103	Conniston Care Limited
104	Davis Wagon Services Limited
105	A & V Squires Holdings Limited
106	MF Group Holdings Ltd
107	Total Reclaims Demolition Limited
108	Eoth Limited
109	D J Swallow Holdings Limited
110	Lowdham Leisureworld Ltd
111	Avant Homes (England) Limited
112	Measom (Dryline) Limited
113	Seventy Seven Company Limited
114	Mark Harris (Holdings) Limited
115	J C Balls & Sons Limited
116	Johnson Bros (Tours) Limited
117	Ashmere Derbyshire Limited
118	Payplan Limited
119	Crouch Corporate Limited
120	URA Ventures Limited
121	Walker & Son (Hauliers) Limited
122	Wellglade Holdings Limited
123	Rm217 Limited
124	Pentagon Investments Limited
125	B.T.E. Plant Sales Limited

126	Stevens Vehicles Holdings Limited
127	Lindum Group Limited
128	Q.K. (Holdings) Limited
129	Tennant Metallurgical Group Holdings Limited
130	E.E.Blyth & Co Limited
131	FDBC Holdings Limited
132	Bramble Foods Limited
133	Parkers Motor Services (Syston) Limited
134	Norder Associates Limited
135	Garner Holdings Limited
136	SPE Holdings Limited
137	UK Tool Hire Group Limited
138	Aero Fabrications Limited
139	Lomas Distribution Limited
140	M & O Building Contractors Limited
141	HBB Relocation Services Limited
142	Knights Care Limited
143	Comex 2000 (UK) Limited
144	Alliance Group Solutions Ltd
145	H (Lincs) Limited
146	Armstrong Logistics Limited
147	Pinelog Group Limited
148	FPCR Environment And Design Limited
149	Prince Petroleum Limited
150	Fold Hill Foods Limited

The 200 continued

151	Weavers Close Limited
152	Momentum Broker Solutions Ltd
153	McCann Group Limited
154	Camper UK Limited
155	Mansfield Sand Company Limited
156	Webro Cables And Connectors Limited
157	Utility Management Group Ltd
158	Mutual Clothing & Supply Company Limited
159	Streason Limited
160	H.W. Coates Limited
161	Rilmac Holdings Limited
162	JPT Subaru Ltd
163	Plater Chemicals Limited
164	Crowfoots Transport Group Limited
165	Nova Bio-Pharma Holdings Limited
166	Broad oak Systems Limited
167	Pennell's Holdings Limited
168	Gates Family Holdings Ltd
169	Smith Brothers (Leicester) Limited
170	Synchemicals Limited
171	Prestige Brick & Stone Ltd
172	Marcol Limited
173	Willoughby (30) Limited
174	M.Markovitz Limited
175	Milner Holdings (Matlock) Ltd

176	Millenium Site Services (UK) Limited
177	Chandlers (Farm Equipment) Limited
178	Chestnut Homes Limited
179	Copley Holdings Limited
180	Murphy & Son International Limited
181	Dea Holdings Limited
182	WJL Group Limited
183	J.L. Priestley & Co. Limited
184	The RH Group Ltd
185	L.J. Fairburn and Son Limited
186	Prisma Colour (Holdings) Limited
187	Total Aggregates Limited
188	Funeral Partners Holdco Limited
189	C3 Construction Limited
190	Aspex UK Limited
191	Little Fish (UK) Limited
192	Daniel Charles Group Limited
193	Refrigerated Delivery Services Limited
194	First Developments Holding Limited
195	C.J. Upton Holdings Ltd.
196	R Bagg Limited
197	NG25 Limited
198	CMS Cepcor (Holdings) Limited
199	Flint Holdings Limited
200	B.A.Bush & Son Limited

COUNTY SNAPSHOT

Derbyshire

55

total number
of companies

£3.5bn

total
revenue

35%

profitability
growth*

31.4%

headcount
growth*

14,762

number of
employees

Top 5 companies by EBITDA CAGR

Merlin 997 Limited

Kingfield Electronics Limited

UKWS Limited

Ivolve Care Holdings Limited

Evolution Funding Limited

Top 5 companies by revenue

Healthnet Homecare (UK) Limited

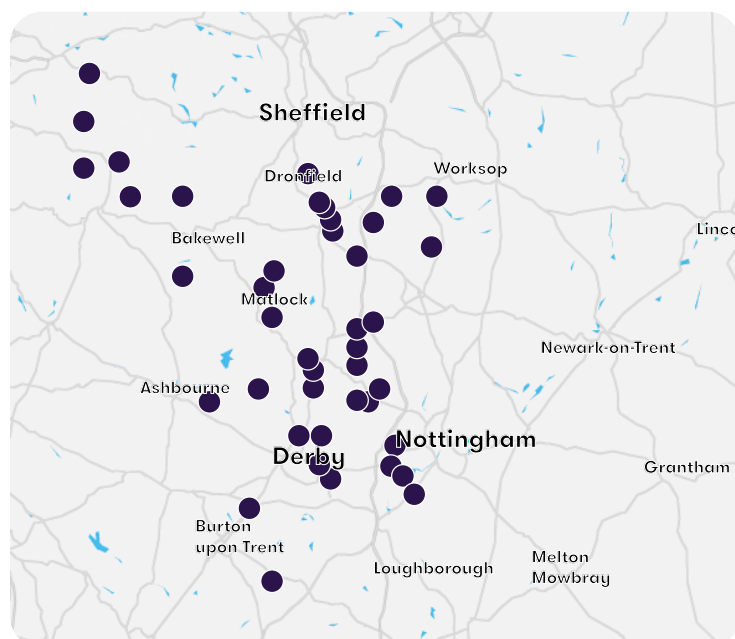
Avant Homes (England) Limited

Pentagon Investments Limited

Ivolve Care Holdings Limited

W B Power Services Limited

Map of Derbyshire businesses



Derbyshire sector breakdown

Consumer products	7
Financial services	1
Healthcare	2
Industrial products	16
Real estate and construction	11
Services	10
Technology, media and telecommunication	3
Travel, tourism and leisure	5

COUNTY SNAPSHOT

Nottinghamshire

61

total number
of companies

£2.6bn

total
revenue

36.6%

profitability
growth*

30.5%

headcount
growth*

11,148

number of
employees

Top 5 companies by EBITDA CAGR

Yü Energy Retail Limited

Wright Brothers Industrial Services Limited

Mellors Group (Holdings) Limited

Bridgebank Limited

Koru Topco Limited

Top 5 companies by revenue

Yü Energy Retail Limited

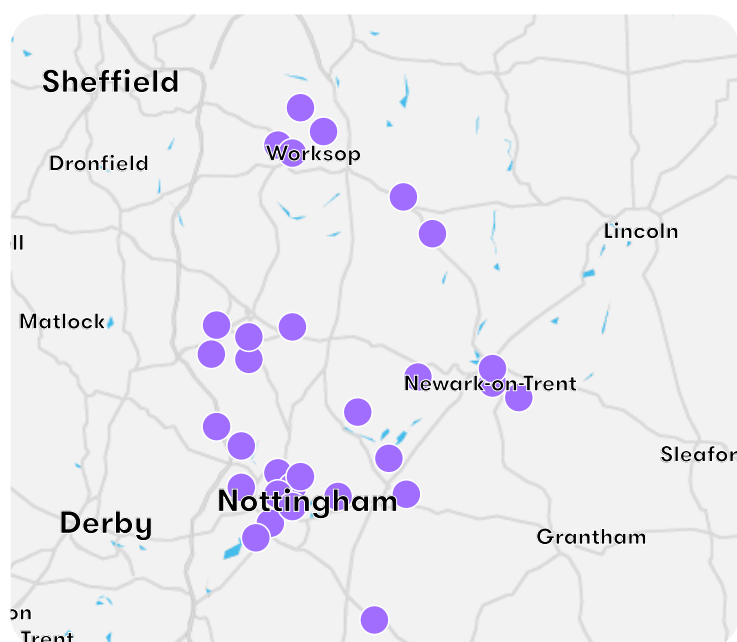
WJL Group Limited

Mercia Power Limited

Sales Assistance Limited

Vision Automotive (UK) Group Ltd

Map of Nottinghamshire businesses



Nottinghamshire sector breakdown

Consumer products	3
Energy and natural resources	3
Healthcare	3
Industrial products	17
Real estate and construction	14
Services	15
Technology, media and telecommunication	4
Travel, tourism and leisure	2



54

total number
of companies

£2.8bn

total
revenue

27.6%

profitability
growth*

14.1%

headcount
growth*

12,100

number of
employees

Top 5 companies by EBITDA CAGR

True Lens Services Limited

Earthworks Plant Hire and Waste Ltd

Bradgate Containers Limited

Bridge Aluminium Limited

NJDR Group Ltd

Top 5 companies by revenue

Strevens Vehicles Holdings Limited

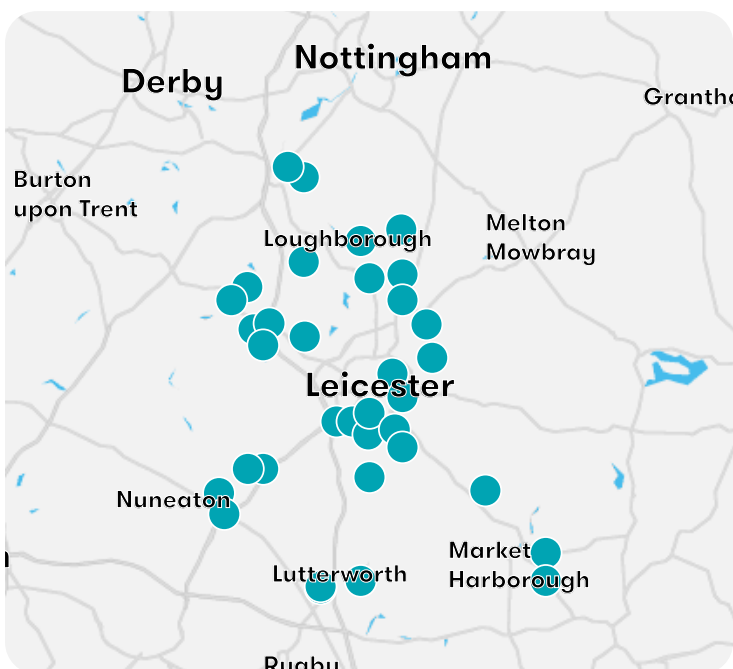
Smith Brothers (Leicester) Limited

GILW Feeds Limited

Pall-Ex Investments Limited

C.J. Upton Holdings Ltd.

Map of Leicestershire businesses



Leicestershire sector breakdown

Consumer products	11
Financial services	2
Healthcare	1
Industrial products	10
Real estate and construction	10
Services	15
Technology, media and telecommunication	3
Travel, tourism and leisure	2



COUNTY SNAPSHOT

Lincolnshire

30

total number
of companies

£1.3bn

total
revenue

31.2%

profitability
growth*

27.4%

headcount
growth*

5,360

number of
employees

Top 5 companies by EBITDA CAGR

Brayford Hotels Holdings Ltd

Bridge Farm Group Limited

Pilgrim Foodservice Limited

WEFCO (Gainsborough) Limited

European Support Services (UK) Limited

Top 5 companies by revenue

Lindum Group Limited

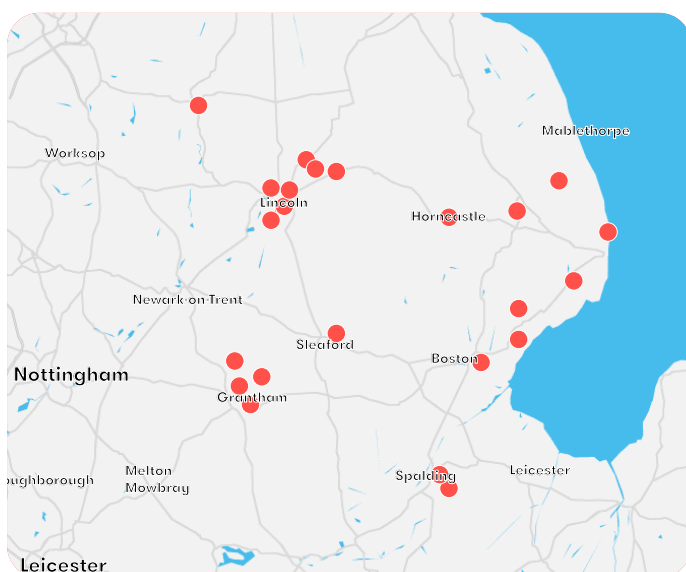
Chandlers (Farm Equipment) Limited

L.J. Fairburn and Son Limited

NG25 Limited

Harmor Limited

Map of Lincolnshire businesses



Lincolnshire sector breakdown

Consumer products	6
Energy and natural resources	1
Financial services	1
Healthcare	1
Industrial products	9
Real estate and construction	7
Services	3
Travel, tourism and leisure	2



Case study

Wright Brothers Industrial Services Limited

As part of creating this report, we met with Chris Boden-Hook, Managing Director at Wright Industrial, to discuss the company's impressive growth, strategic direction, and the exciting developments shaping its future. Our conversation provided valuable insights into how they are navigating economic challenges, embracing innovation, and positioning itself for long-term success

What do you believe has contributed to your growth and success over the past 12 months?

One of our core values is growth, but we've taken a slightly different approach to it. Rather than chasing scale for its own sake, we've focused on getting better—not just bigger. That shift in mindset has been key. By concentrating on improving our foundations and processes, growth has followed naturally as a byproduct. We've seen strong organic growth in financial terms—turnover, profitability, and so on—but it all stems from that internal focus on doing things better, not just doing more.

What are the specific advantages and challenges of operating your business within the East Midlands?

Geographically, we benefit from excellent motorway links, which is crucial for a national contracting business like ours. We can reach most parts of the UK within a reasonable time, which is a real advantage when you're moving large equipment and teams around. However, being semi-rural also presents challenges. Public transport links in Worksop aren't great, which makes it harder to attract new talent—something that's vital as we continue to grow. We've got a fantastic team and we invest heavily in upskilling, but as we grow, we constantly need to recruit. Given the work we do and where we are based, the local talent pool is also quite niche, especially compared to places like Manchester or London, where there's a broader base to recruit from.

How have global economic trends shaped your business strategies?

The UK's strong push toward decarbonisation has opened up a lot of opportunities for us—particularly in energy-from-waste, nuclear, and alternative fuels. The first scale fusion plant is planned for the East Midlands, and we've invested in that space.

The weaker pound has also helped us to some extent. Historically, we've faced competition from Eastern European labour, but the currency shift has made us more competitive domestically.

That said, the economic environment has been incredibly volatile. We've done a lot of feasibility work for clients, but many of those projects haven't moved forward due to uncertainty. We'll quote for a job, and then it gets shelved—sometimes for a year or more—because clients don't have the confidence to commit to major infrastructure investments.

We've tried to stay diversified and avoid overcommitting to any one market so that we can be adaptable.

Looking ahead, how do you plan to adapt your business to market changes over the next five years? Are there any exciting projects on the horizon?

Internally, we've set up a dedicated tech team to explore how we can harness AI. It can be daunting, but I believe the companies that embrace it will thrive. We see AI as a tool to assist with processes, not replace people. Ideally, it'll take over the mundane tasks and free up our talented team to focus on the things AI can't do—at least not yet.

As for projects, we've just been awarded our largest ever contract with Holcim UK for a new, state-of-the-art cement plant and terminal in Tilbury, London. Holcim is committed to making sustainable construction a reality, and this project will use cutting-edge technology to import, process, and manufacture both traditional and lower-carbon cementitious materials. It's a major step forward for sustainable construction in the UK—and a significant milestone for us, reflecting a scale of delivery that far exceeds where we were just a few years ago.

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