

April 2024

UK Key Market Movers (CPI)

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a key measure of inflation in the UK. Movements in CPI give a high-level overview of the key categories experiencing inflation. Below is a monthly snapshot of the top food commodity price inflation movements impacting the UK. The data is from Office for National Statistics (ONS).

Item	Percentage Change over 12 months
Milk, Cheese and Eggs	-0.3%
Oils and Fats	6.6%
Breads and Cereals	4%
Vegetables	6.6%
Meat	3.1%
Sugar, Jam, Syrups, Chocolate and Confectionary	8%
Fish	-2.2%
Fruit	3.6%



Fish and Seafood

Haddock stocks are facing pressure due to the recent ban by Biden on all Russian-Origin fish. This has caused an intensified demand for Norwegian Haddock from the US market.

The fishing ban from 1 February to 31 March aimed at stock preservation has led to elevated prices for Sea Bass. The market has moved towards frozen farmed options with no fresh wild-caught available, leading to inflation throughout fresh and frozen.

Cornish Monkfish has also reached significant price hikes caused by current market conditions. High winds and cold weather have disrupted landings, contributing to supply-driven inflation.

Meat and Poultry

Poultry prices remain steady however, small increases in Red Tractor chickens from the UK has been observed as demand for Poultry remains high. Bird Flu outbreaks in Poland are impacting prices of Polish Chicken and Turkey, especially fillets and Turkey breast.

After a 6-month decline, EU pig prices have started to increase due to a rise in demand alongside continued tightening of supply. UK pig prices have not increased resulting in a reduction of the differential between UK and EU prices.

Fruit and Vegetables

The availability of Potato continues to decline and is beginning to become more pressing.

Berry yields and size have been impacted by lower temperatures observed in Morocco with challenges expected to continue over the next two weeks. The UK season is anticipated to commence in early May which could improve availability.

Spring Greens availability is of concern due to wet weather conditions impacting fields. This could potentially lead to a gap in supply until the next fields are ready in a few weeks.

Tea and Coffee

The tea and coffee category has shown increases due to a combination of increased production costs and bad weather conditions.

Prolonged droughts in Vietnam, the top global producer of Robusta Coffee has impacted production.

Increased input costs are also negatively impacting profit margins for tea manufacturers. Therefore, we would expect manufacturers to start passing on these costs.