

Key Labour Market Indicators – Mar 19

NB, figures below relate to % changes on the same period 12 months ago.

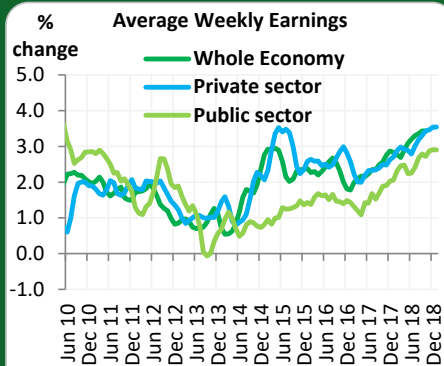
Key Labour Market Indicators are designed to provide headline figures on the wider economic and labour market conditions in the UK. This can be used as a quick reference guide when conducting periodic pay reviews for workers. This is the latest version. If you need to access previous editions, please visit [NFU Online](#).

Earnings in the Economy

+3.4%

Average Weekly Earnings (AWE)

UK wage growth in January was at a two year high in real terms with the number of people in employment at a record high, the latest data from the [ONS](#) shows. Year on year pay growth across the whole economy (excl bonuses & overtime) stood at 3.4% in the three months to January. The private sector regular average weekly earnings increased from £472 in January 2018 to £490 in January 2019. The public sector increased from £517 in January 2018 to £531 in January 2019.



Source: Office for National Statistics

Wage Rates

£8.21

Current NLW Rate

The [Government](#) has announced increases to wage rates. The new rates came into effect on 1st April 2019. The NLW paid to workers aged 25 or over increased from £7.83/hour to £8.21/hour in April. The NMW rate for 18-20 year olds rose by 4.2% to £6.15 while 21-24 year olds saw an increase of 4.3% to £7.70 respectively. The apprentice rate has been increased by 5.4% to £3.90. In addition the accommodation offset increased by 7.9% to £7.55 per day.

Rates from April 2019	
NLW 25+	£8.21
21-24 Year Old Rate	£7.70
18-20 Year Old Rate	£6.15
16-17 Year Old Rate	£4.35
Apprentice Rate	£3.90
Accommodation Offset	£7.55

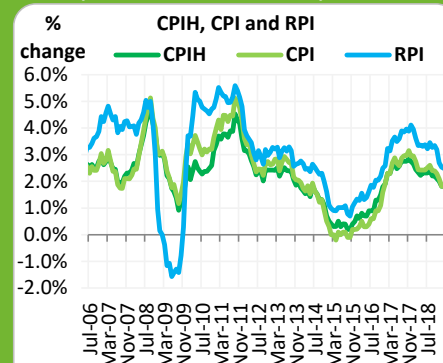
Source: Low Pay Commission

Cost of Living

+1.9%

Consumer Price Index (CPI)

Inflation increased slightly to 1.9% in February according to figures from the [ONS](#). It was the first increase since August 2018. Prices for food and non-alcoholic beverages went up by more from January to February this year than in the same period a year ago. The main upward contributions came from bread, cereals and vegetables. The Consumer Prices Index including owner-occupiers' housing costs (CPIH) – the ONS's preferred measure of inflation remained steady at 1.8% in February.

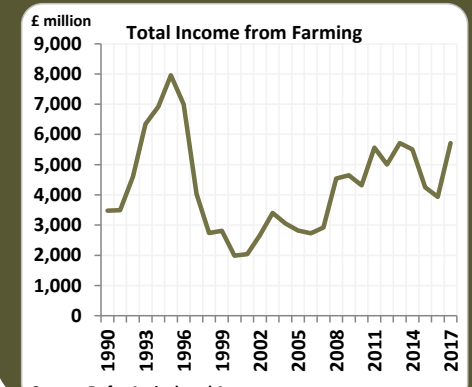


Farm Business Profitability

+45.1%

Total Income from Farming (TIFF)

[Defra](#) has published its final estimate of TIFF figures for 2017. The TIFF is a measure of the performance of the whole agricultural industry in the UK. The profitability of UK farming rose in 2017, up 45% to £5.7 billion. The significant recovery has been driven by a lower pound and improvement in the key markets, in particular dairy. Similarly, agriculture's contribution to the economy increased by 21% to £10.3 billion. The first estimate for 2018 will be published in early May.



Source: Defra Agricultural Accounts