

Statistical bulletin

Consumer trends, UK: January to March 2022

Household final consumption expenditure (HHFCE) for the UK, as a measure of economic growth. Includes all spending on goods and services by members of UK households.



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1 . Main points

- In Quarter 1 (January to March) 2022, household spending growth (adjusted for inflation) was positive 0.6% compared with Quarter 4 (October to December) 2021; when compared with Quarter 1 2021, household spending increased by positive 12.6%.
- When compared with Quarter 4 2021, the largest positive contribution to growth was from restaurants and hotels which increased by positive 6.7%.
- When compared with Quarter 4 2019 (pre-coronavirus (COVID-19)), household spending decreased by negative 0.4%.

2 . Consumer trends data

[Consumer trends: current price, not seasonally adjusted](#)

Dataset | Released 30 June 2022

Quarterly and annual data on household expenditure in the UK, current price, not seasonally adjusted. Estimates are consistent with Blue Book 2021.

[Consumer trends: current price, seasonally adjusted](#)

Dataset | Released 30 June 2022

Quarterly and annual data on household expenditure in the UK, current price, seasonally adjusted. Estimates are consistent with Blue Book 2021.

[Consumer trends: chained volume measure, not seasonally adjusted](#)

Dataset | Released 30 June 2022

Quarterly and annual data on household expenditure in the UK, chained volume measure, not seasonally adjusted. Estimates are consistent with Blue Book 2021.

[Consumer trends: chained volume measure, seasonally adjusted](#)

Dataset | Released 30 June 2022

Quarterly and annual data on household expenditure in the UK, chained volume measure, seasonally adjusted. Estimates are consistent with Blue Book 2021.

[Consumer trends: implied deflator, not seasonally adjusted](#)

Dataset | Released 30 June 2022

Quarterly and annual data on household expenditure in the UK, implied deflator, not seasonally adjusted. Estimates are consistent with Blue Book 2021.

[Consumer trends: implied deflator, seasonally adjusted](#)

Dataset | Released 30 June 2022

Quarterly and annual data on household expenditure in the UK, implied deflator, seasonally adjusted. Estimates are consistent with Blue Book 2021.

3 . Measuring the data

The quarterly consumer trends data are typically published around 90 days after the end of the quarter.

This release contains data that are consistent with the UK National Accounts, The Blue Book: 2021, released on 29 October 2021. As such, data for all periods within this release are subject to revision in line with the [National Accounts Revisions Policy](#).

The Blue Book is the UK's annual compendium of national accounts data and incorporates a number of improvements to methods and sources into the UK's National Accounts. Details of improvements introduced in Bluebook 2021, which affect household expenditure and revisions to the previous publication, can be found in our [User guide to consumer trends methodology, published 30 September 2021](#).

The reference year and last base year for all chained volume measure estimates is 2019.

Further information on latest developments and changes implemented in Blue Book 2021 can be found in our [Proposed changes to be implemented in Blue Book and Pink Book 2021 article](#).

Household final consumption expenditure (HHFCE) includes spending on goods and services except for:

- buying or extending a house
- investment in valuables (for example, paintings and antiques)
- purchasing second-hand goods

Explanations for these exceptions and the related concepts are available in our [Consumer trends guidance and methodology, published 30 September 2019](#).

Quality

More quality and methodology information on strengths, limitations, appropriate uses, and how the data were created is available in our Consumer trends QMI, published 30 September 2019.

More about economy, business and jobs

- All ONS analysis, summarised in our [economy, business and jobs roundup](#).
- Explore the latest trends in employment, prices and trade in our [economic dashboard](#).
- View [all economic data](#).

Impact of coronavirus (COVID-19)

From Quarter 1 (Jan to Mar) 2020, estimates of HHFCE, along with other components of gross domestic product (GDP), are subject to more uncertainty than usual as a result of the challenges we faced in collecting the data under government-imposed public health restrictions. In the case of HHFCE, these challenges have been compounded by the suspension of data collection for the [International Passenger Survey \(IPS\)](#) between March 2020 and January 2021, and the temporary suspension of the Living Costs and Food survey (LCF) between March 16 and April 14 2020.

4 . Related links

[GDP quarterly national accounts, UK: January to March 2022](#)

Bulletin | Released 30 June 2022

Revised quarterly estimate of gross domestic product (GDP) for the UK. Uses additional data to provide a more precise indication of economic growth than the first estimate.

[Quarterly sector accounts, UK: January to March 2022](#)

Bulletin | Released 30 June 2022

Detailed estimates of quarterly sector accounts that can be found in the UK Economic Accounts (UKEA).

[Retail sales, Great Britain: May 2022](#)

Bulletin | Released 24 June 2022

A first estimate of retail sales in volume and value terms, seasonally and non-seasonally adjusted.

[Family spending in the UK: April 2019 to March 2020](#)

Bulletin | Released 16 March 2021

Average weekly household expenditure on goods and services in the UK, by age, income, economic status, socio-economic class, household composition and region.

[Impact of Blue Book 2021 changes on current price and volume estimates of gross domestic product](#)

Article | Released 28 June 2021

Released on 28 June 2021 Methodological and data improvements that affect current price and chain volume measure of gross domestic product (GDP), 1997 to 2019.

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) and its effects on household consumption, UK: January 2020 to December 2021](#)

Article | Released 6 April 2022

The impact of coronavirus on household final consumption expenditure (HHFCE), as a measure of economic growth. Includes all spending of goods and services by members of UK households.