



UK Red Meat Market Update

March 2025

Global Market Insights



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10 Key factors affecting the UK food and drink market

Key:  Positive impact  Negative impact  Neutral impact



Eating in

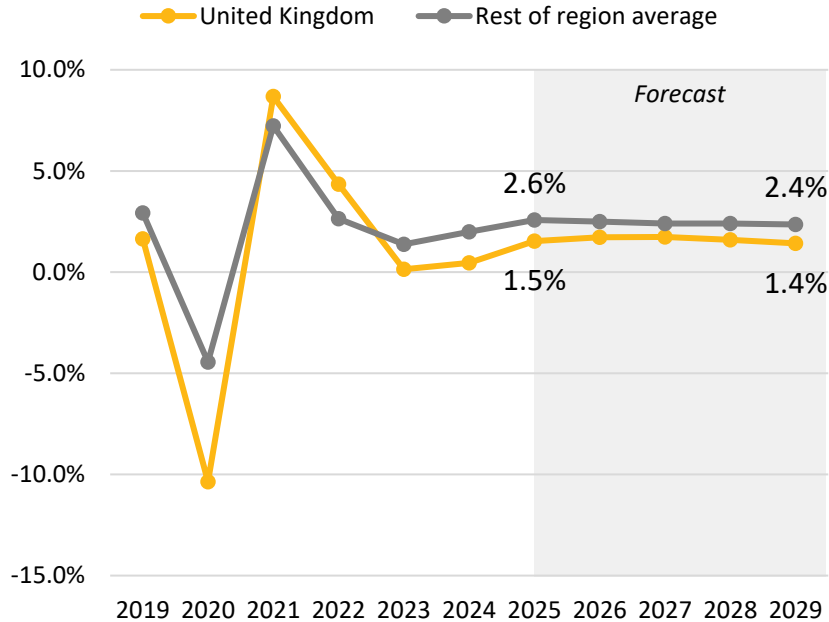
Eating out

Impact Timing

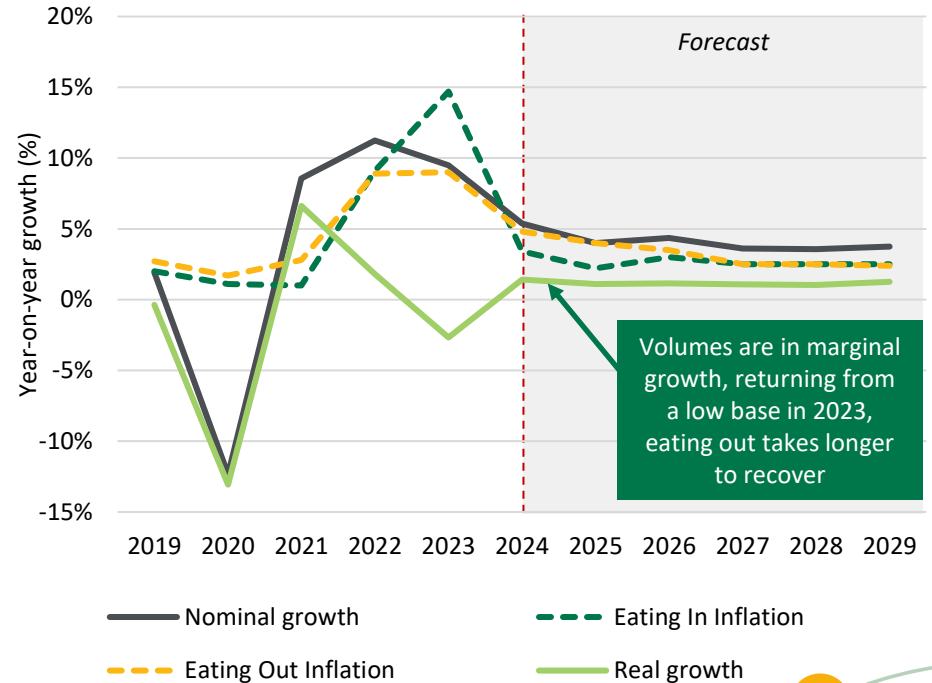
		Eating in	Eating out	Impact Timing
1	New year, new government			Through 2025
2	Summer of sport – London Athletics Meet, Wimbledon, Euro 2025			Through 2025
3	Continued squeeze on consumers disposable income			Ease through 2025
4	Workers return to offices			Now to next few years
5	Increasing labour costs, forcing further price increases in service channels			Next few years
6	Inflation continues to fall and interest rates decline resulting in more disposable income for many			Next few years
7	More inbound tourism, but fewer staycations			Ongoing into the future
8	Retailers premium ranges of dining at home solutions			Ongoing into the future
9	Increase and improvement in food-to-go ranges within Convenience			Ongoing into the future
10	Change in population demographics – ageing population			Long term

UK is moving into a slow recovery phase with modest growth and lower inflation – total food and drinks sales in growth from 2024 onwards

Real GDP Growth

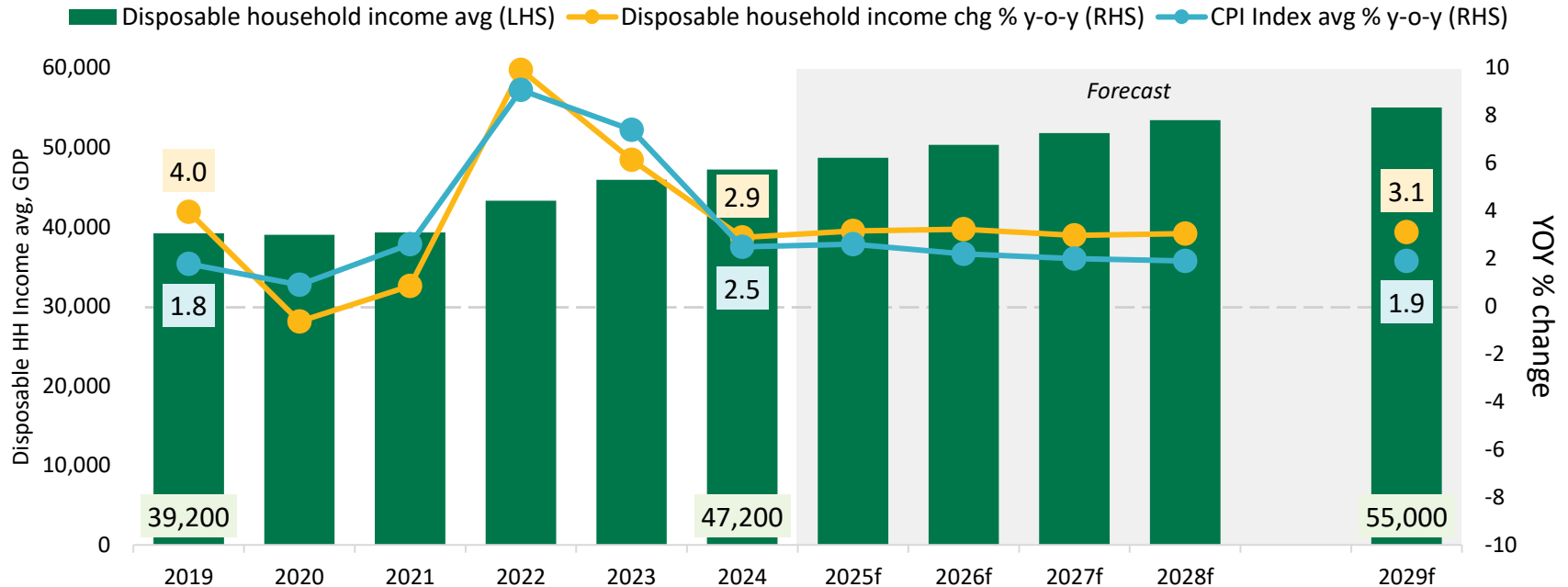


Total food sales % growth



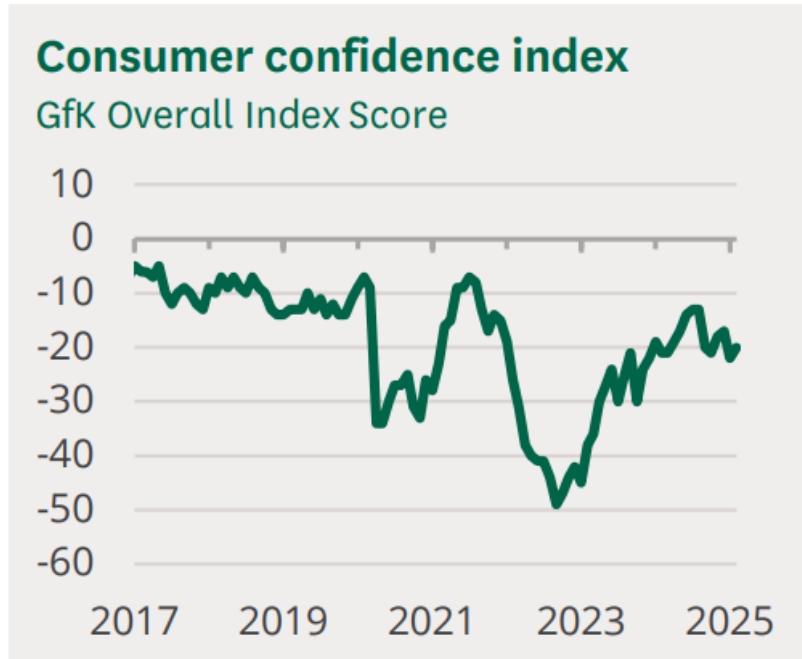
Average disposable household income in the UK has not increased significantly post-COVID but its growth is forecast to outpace inflation growth

Household income and CPI %



Sources: Fitch Solutions, data accessed March 2025

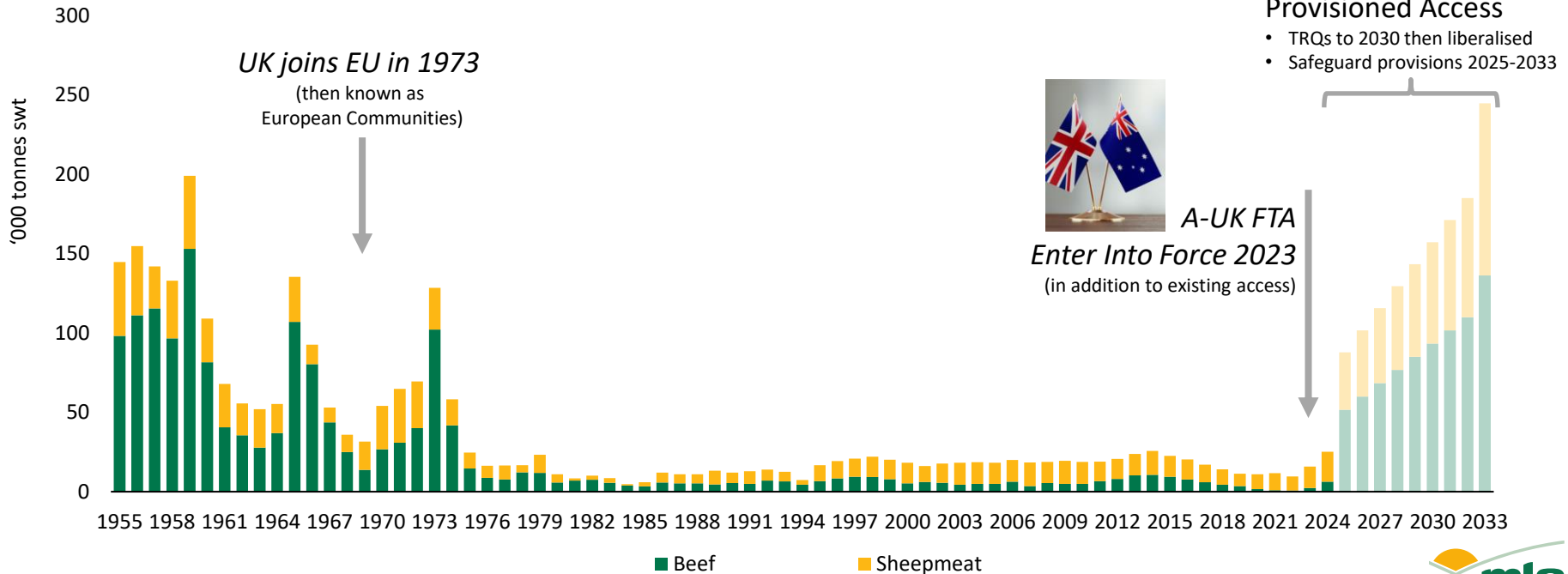
Despite lifts in consumer confidence, consumers remain concerned on sluggish economic growth and persistent inflation



- February 2025 saw slight improvement as households expressed more optimism about their personal finances and the broader economic outlook.
- Concerns remain about sluggish economic growth and persistent inflation, which could potentially lead to stagflation.
- UK economy grew at a near standstill in the second half of 2024, while inflation surged unexpectedly to a ten-month high of 3% in January.

A-UK FTA presents ongoing opportunities with Australian red meat exports volumes to UK reaching the highest in the last 10 years in 2024 – headroom for growth as total quota usage was at 2%

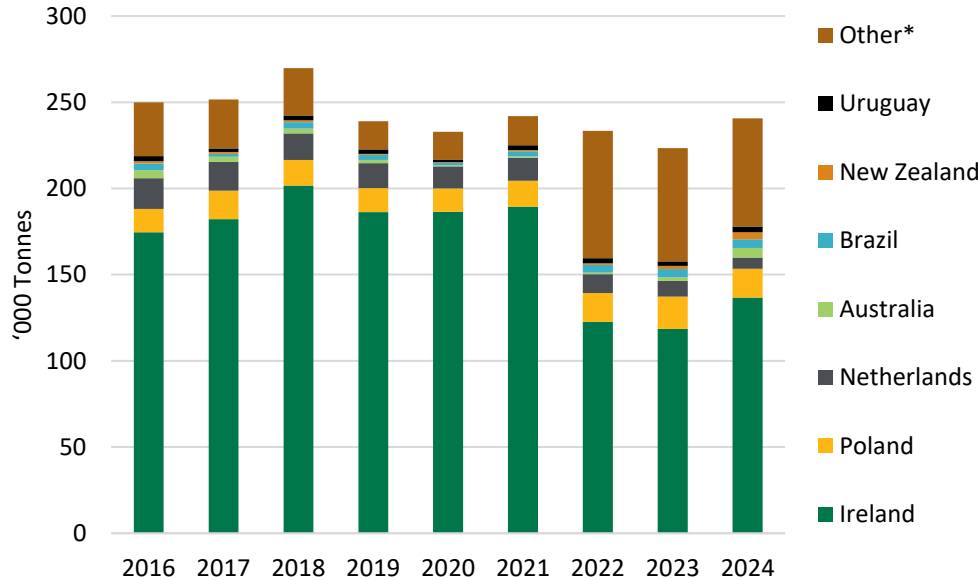
Australian red meat exports to the UK



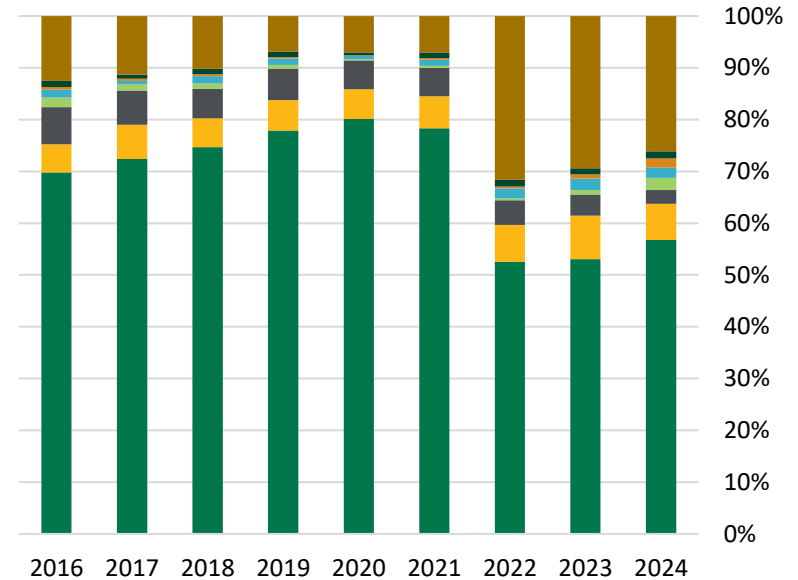


Australia represents the 4th largest supplier of beef to the UK but only holds 2.2% market share, Ireland making up 57% of total beef imports

United Kingdom Beef Imports



Market Share of Major Exporters of beef to the UK



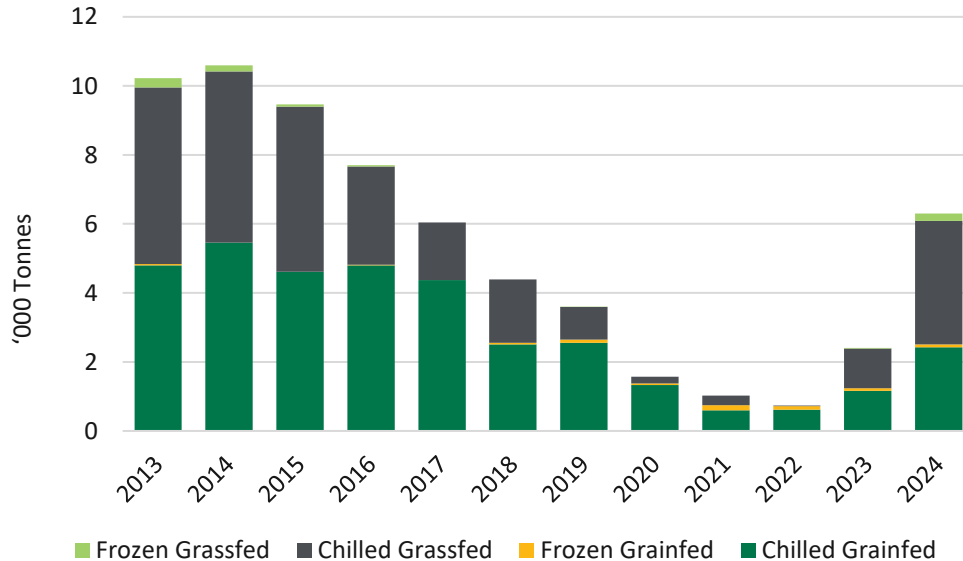
For the most up to date import stats, head to [Global Trade Watch](#) section on [Aussie Meat Trade Hub](#)

Source: Trade Data Monitor (TDM). *Note on Other: Previously country of origin was not collected for UK imports from EU and country of dispatch used instead. From 2022 onwards, country of origin is now used instead with exception of Northern Ireland which still uses country of dispatch and thus grouped into 'other' as origin is not clear.



While current Australian beef exports to UK are mainly chilled grainfed, historically chilled grassfed and grainfed volumes were equally split suggesting headroom to grow with the realisation of the A-UK FTA

Australian Beef Exports to UK¹



Majority (87%) of commercial beef produced in the United Kingdom is from grass-fed cattle²

UK produces very little grain fed beef so the majority sold in the UK is imported

MLA estimates the vast majority of Australian beef exported to the UK is utilised in the foodservice sector.

2024 demonstrates growth across all segments of beef and a resurgence in frozen grass-fed beef (+1022% vs LY)

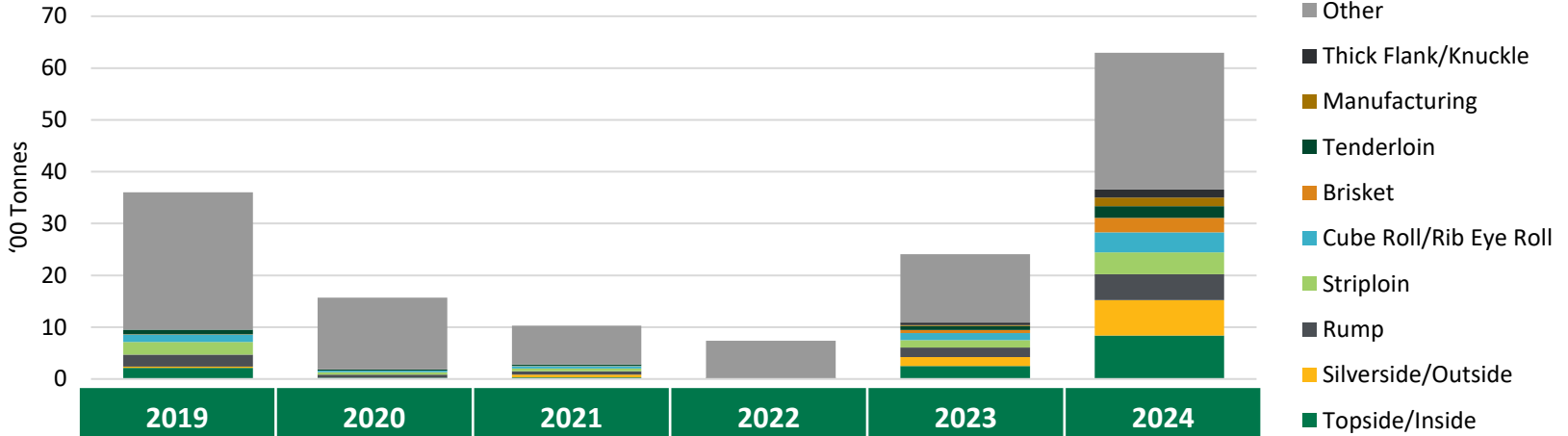


For the most up to date export stats, head to ***Global Trade Watch*** section on **Aussie Meat Trade Hub**

Source: ¹ DAFF, ² Department of Environment Food & Rural Affairs Cattle Farm Practices Survey 2019



Australian grassfed exports to UK and Top Cuts



Top 8 Cuts

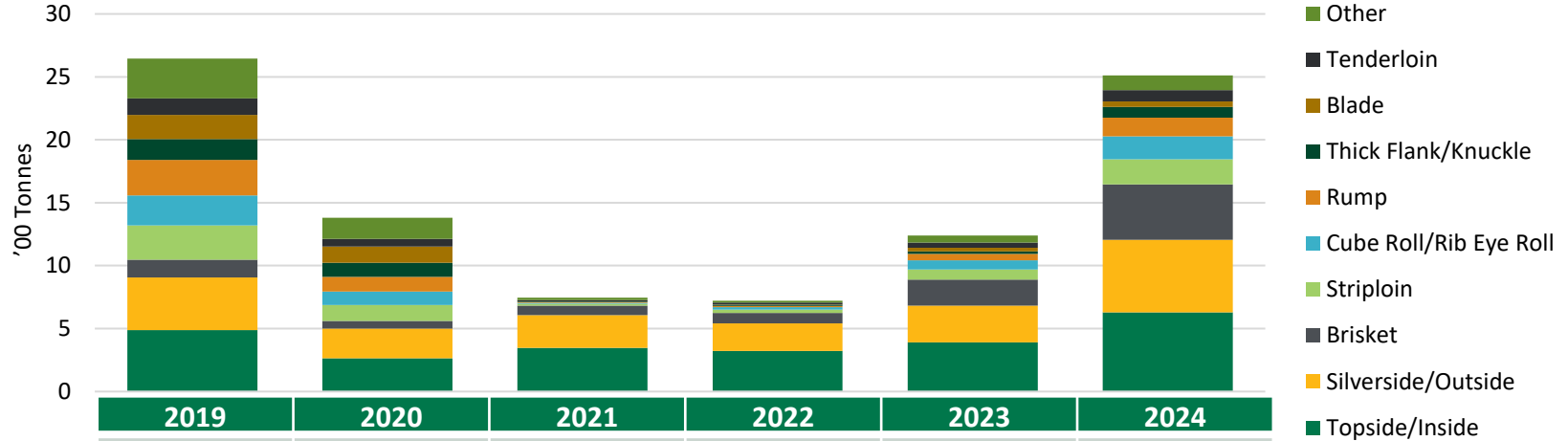
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
	Striploin	Rump	Rump	Striploin	Topside/inside	Topside/inside
	Rump	Striploin	Silverside/outside	Ribs prepared	Rump	Silverside/outside
	Topside/inside	Cube roll/rib eye roll	Cube roll/rib eye roll	Tenderloin	Silverside/outside	Rump
	Cube roll/rib eye roll	Topside/inside	Striploin	Cube roll/rib eye roll	Striploin	Striploin
	Tenderloin	Tenderloin	Topside/inside	Rump	Cube roll/rib eye roll	Cube roll/rib eye roll
	Silverside/outside	Flank steak	Tenderloin	Brisket	Tenderloin	Brisket
	Brisket	Skirt	Brisket	Chuck roll	Brisket	Tenderloin
	Flank steak	Ribs prepared	Chuck	Neck	Thick flank/knuckle	Manufacturing



See the most up to date export stats, on **Global Trade Watch** on **Aussie Meat Trade Hub**



Australian grainfed exports to UK and Top Cuts



Top 8 Cuts

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Topside/Inside	Topside/Inside	Topside/Inside	Topside/Inside	Topside/Inside	Topside/Inside	Topside/Inside
Silverside/Outside	Silverside/Outside	Silverside/Outside	Silverside/Outside	Silverside/Outside	Silverside/Outside	Silverside/Outside
Rump	Blade	Blade	Brisket	Brisket	Brisket	Brisket
Striploin	Striploin	Striploin	Striploin	Striploin	Striploin	Striploin
Cube roll/rib eye roll	Rump	Rump	Tenderloin	Cube roll/rib eye roll	Cube roll/rib eye roll	Cube roll/rib eye roll
Blade	Thick flank/Knuckle	Thick flank/Knuckle	Ribs prepared	Tenderloin	Rump	Rump
Thick flank/Knuckle	Cube roll/rib eye roll	Cube roll/rib eye roll	Rump	Thick flank/knuckle	Tenderloin	Tenderloin
Chuck roll	Chuck roll	Chuck roll	Cube roll/rib eye roll	Rump	Blade	Thick flank/Knuckle

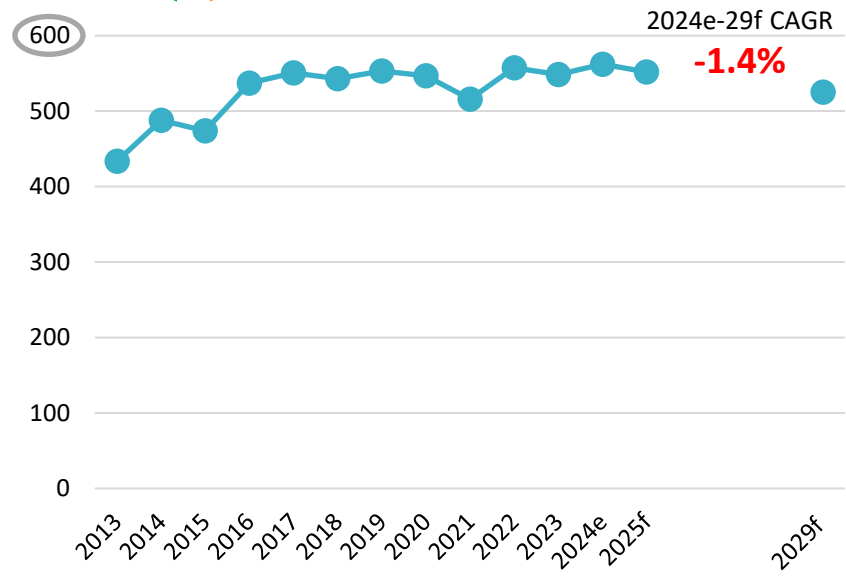
See the most up to date export stats, on **Global Trade Watch** on **Aussie Meat Trade Hub**

Source: DAFF

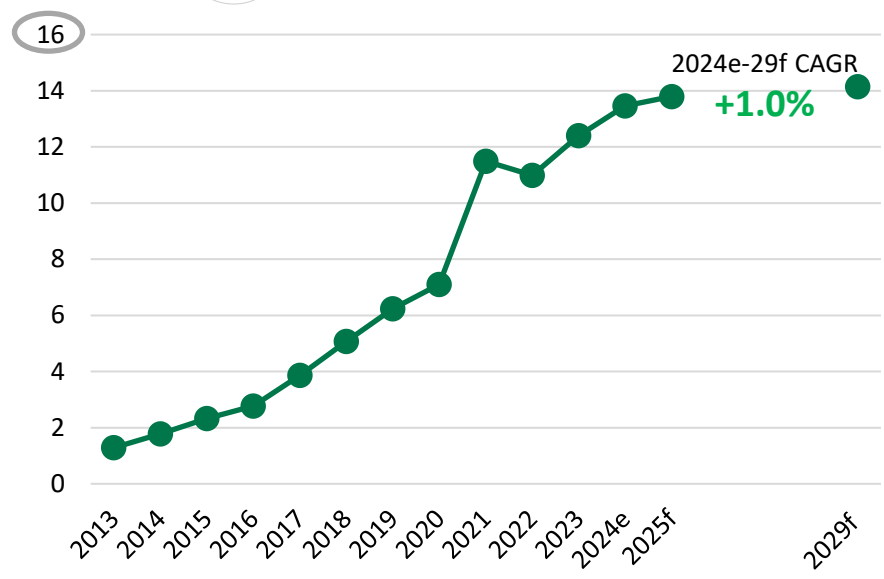
Ireland beef exports are forecast to decline in the coming years meaning softer competitor for Australian grassfed beef while growth in Japan beef exports could mean increased competition in wagyu segment



Ireland global beef exports



Japan global beef exports

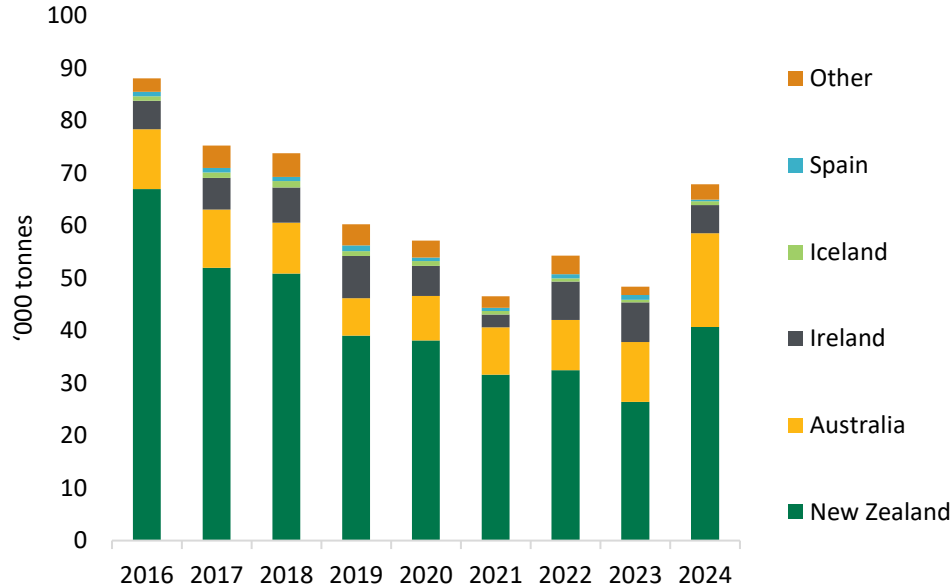


Source: GIRA GMC2024. Note different scale here. Includes beef and veal

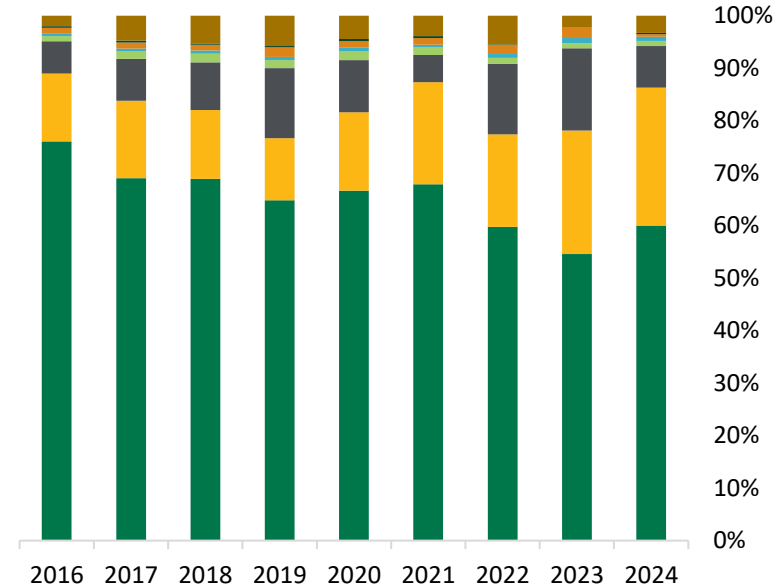


While Australia is second largest supplier of imported sheepmeat to UK, it's well behind NZ volumes – potential to win share with A-UK FTA in place

UK Sheepmeat Imports



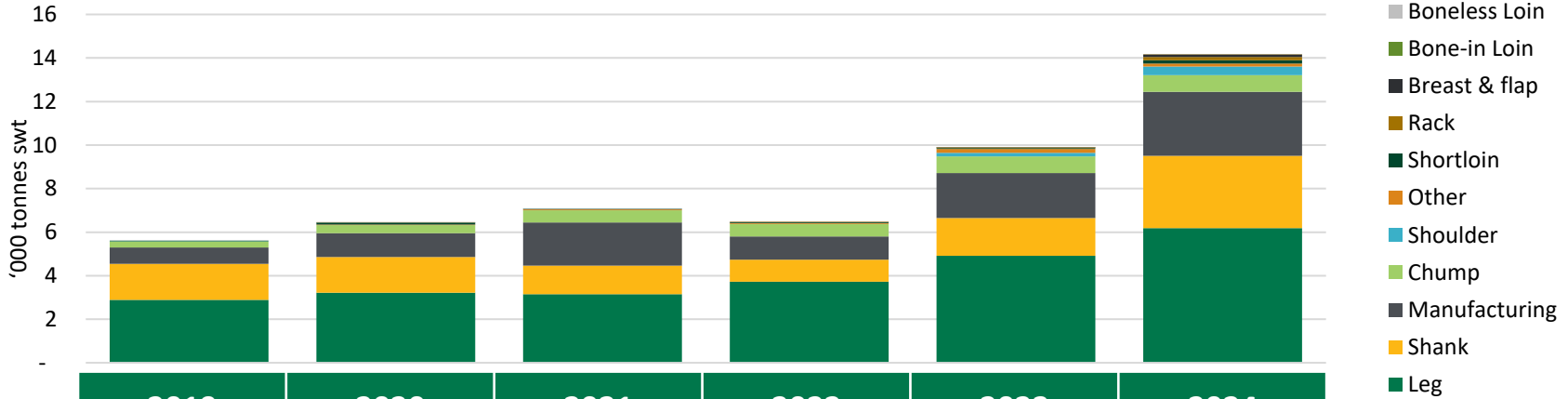
Market share of major exporters of sheep meat to UK



For the most up to date import stats, head to [Global Trade Watch](#) section on **Aussie Meat Trade Hub**



Australian lamb exports to UK and Top Cuts



Top 5 Cuts

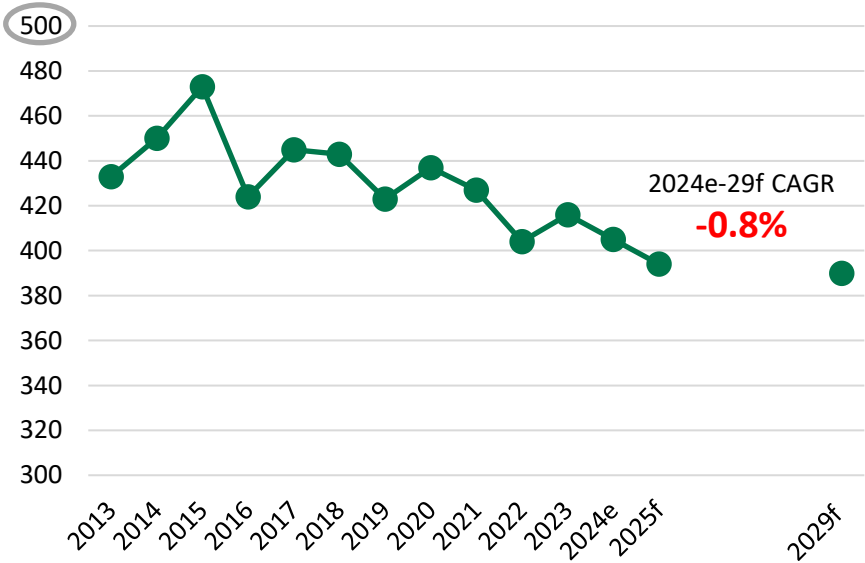
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Leg	Leg	Leg	Leg	Leg	Leg	Leg
Shank	Shank	Shank	Manufacturing	Manufacturing	Manufacturing	Shank
Manufacturing	Manufacturing	Manufacturing	Shank	Shank	Shank	Manufacturing
Chump	Chump	Chump	Chump	Chump	Chump	Chump
Other	Other	Other	Other	Other	Shoulder	Shoulder

See the most up to date export stats, on **Global Trade Watch** on **Aussie Meat Trade Hub**

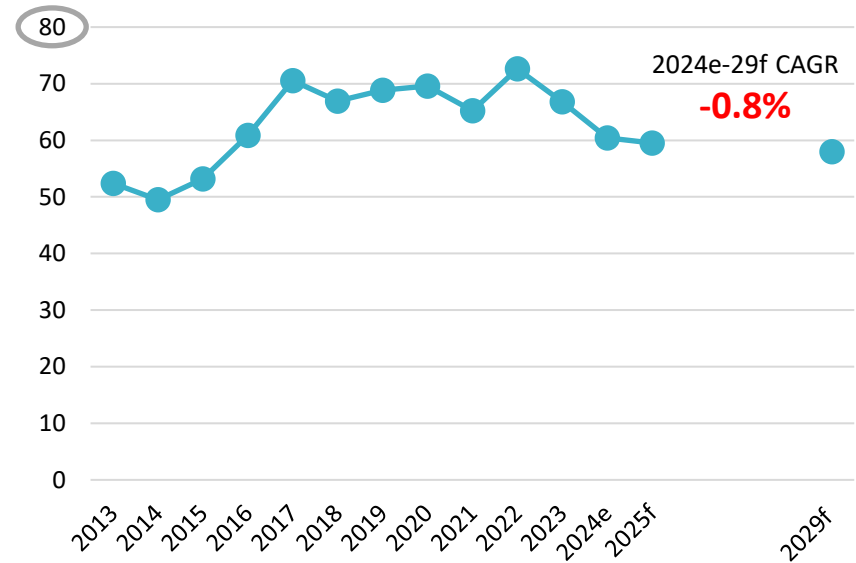
New Zealand and Ireland sheepmeat exports are forecast to continue to decline in the coming years out to 2029, just as Australian supply increases



NZ global sheepmeat exports



Ireland global sheepmeat exports



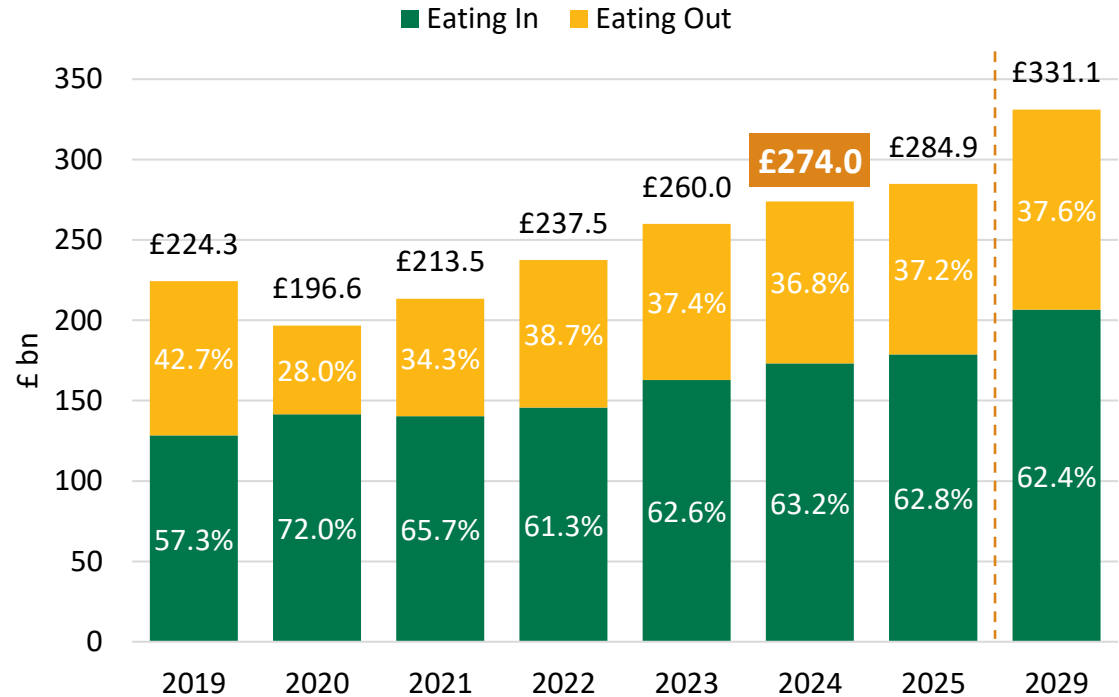
Source: GIRA GMC2024. Note different scale here. Includes sheepmeat and goat

Eating in reclaims share in the short-term

The total food and drink consumption market is forecast to continue gradual upward trajectory will continue in 2025 by +4%.

- Although eating out has recovered since COVID, economic conditions have allowed retailers to maintain their strong position while **consumers remain cautious** about how and where they spend their money
- **Retail channels won share of stomach back from foodservice in 2023 and continued in 2024.** Retailers provided tempting, affordable alternatives to eating out options
- In the **longer term, as disposable spend levels improve, there will be a gradual switch back into eating out.** However, sticky consumer habits will mean levels will unlikely return to those seen pre-pandemic

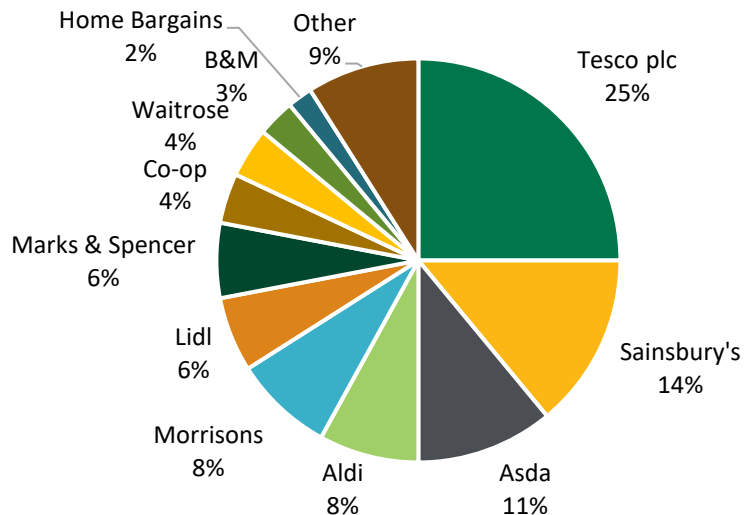
Total UK food and drink market (£ bn)



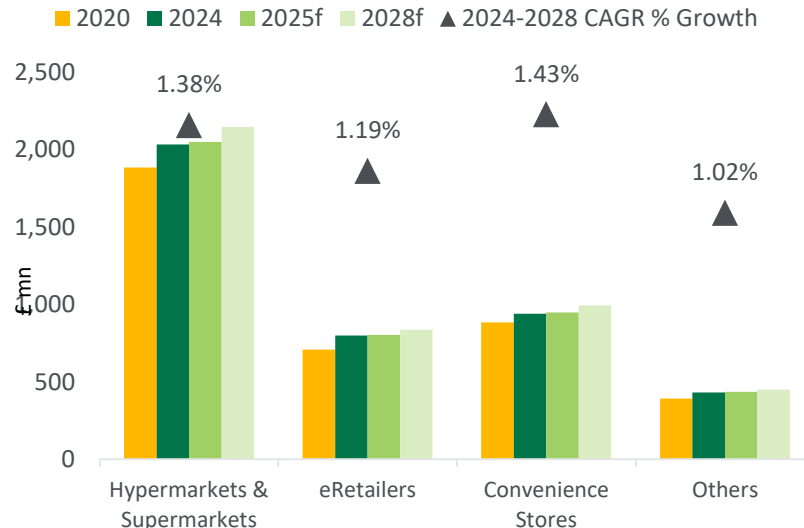
Good opportunities on the horizon in UK retail for red meat

- Total UK grocery retail value GBP 366 Bn in 2025f
- Discount retailers Aldi and Lidl are growing at 6% p.a. and less committed to Buy British
- Online grocery retail continues rapid growth

UK grocery retailer market share, 2025f



UK Meat Retail Sales by Channel



Source: IGD. % based on total grocery sales value of GBP 366 billion.

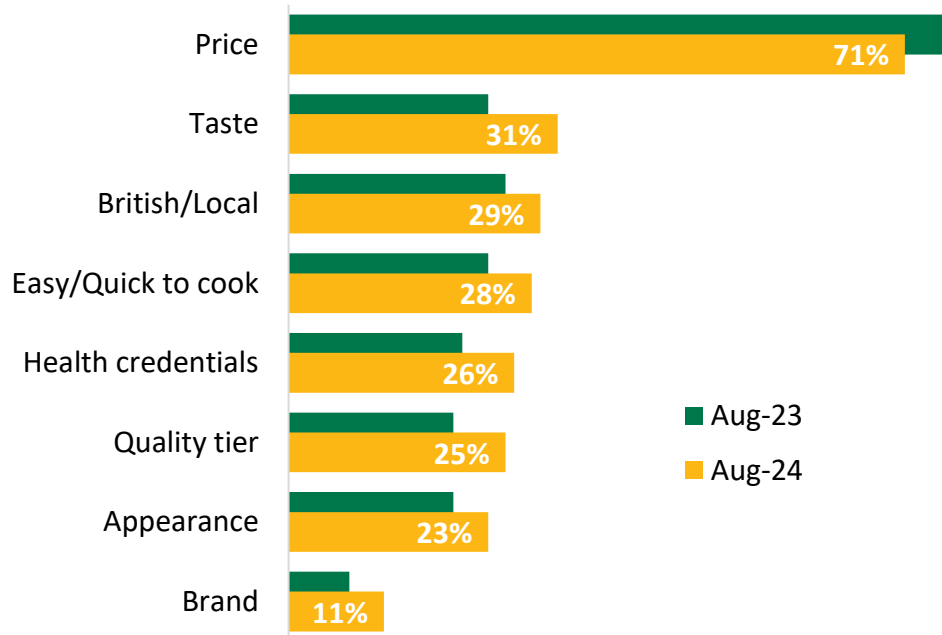
Source: GlobalData

*Meat includes: Ambient meat, Chilled Raw Packaged Meat

– Whole cuts and Processed, Fresh Meat (counter) and Frozen Meat






UK consumers are putting increasing importance on taste, quality, convenience, health credentials and local sourcing

Factors that have become more important to consumers when buying meat¹



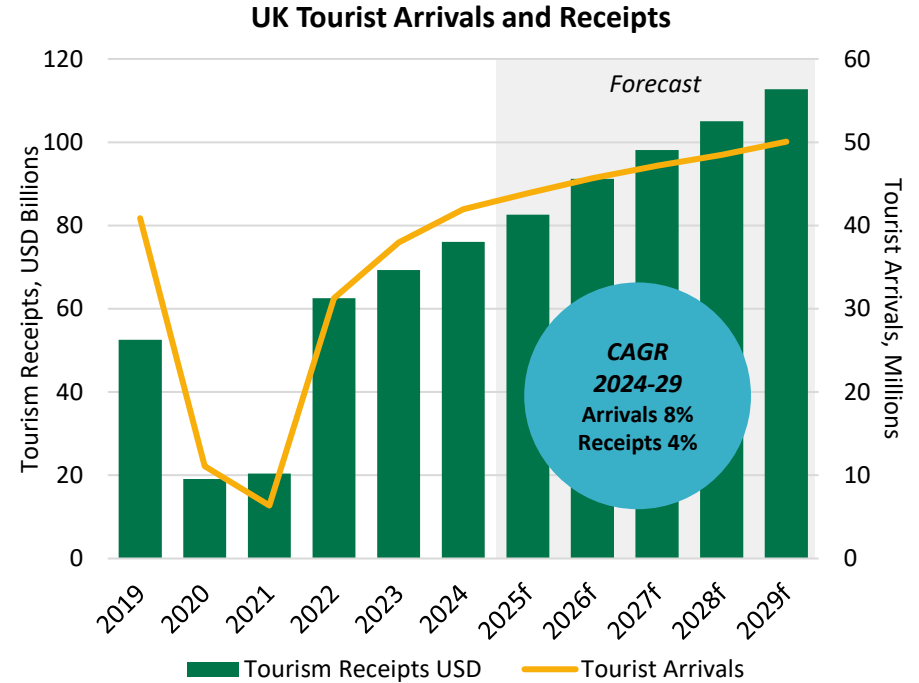
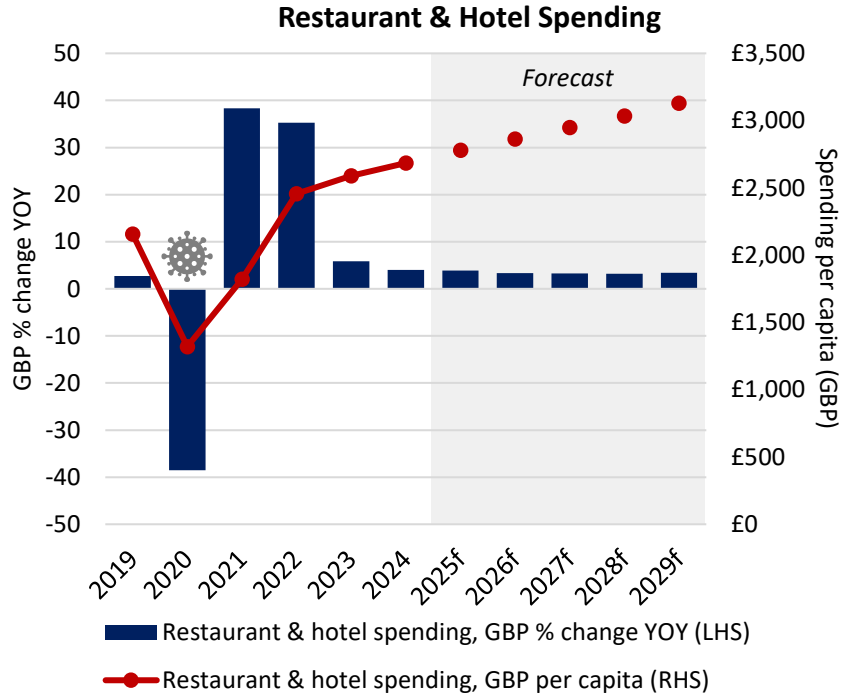
Price remains a large driving factor for consumers when buying meat but has become less important. Consumers are considering multiple factors to determine value - **taste, sourcing, convenience, health credentials and quality** are increasingly important. This is advantageous for **beef and lamb** which have stronger associations in these areas than pork and chicken.

UK Consumer Associations of Different Proteins²

	 BEEF	 LAMB	 CHICKEN	 PORK	 SEAFOOD
Easy everyday	✓		✓	✓	
Trusted quality	✓	✓			
A bit special		✓			✓
Good for you					✓

Source: ¹ AHDB/YouGov, 52 weeks ending 1 December 2024, ² MLA Global Consumer Tracker 2022

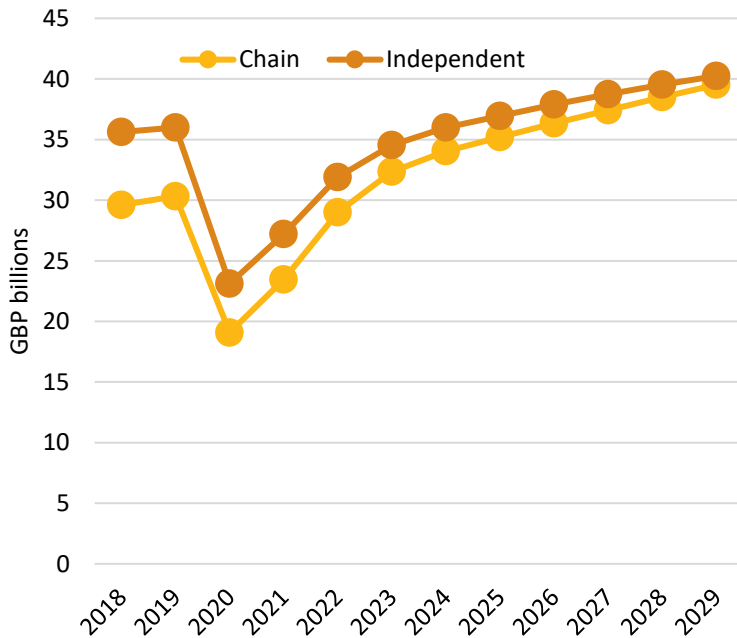
Growth in tourism and restaurant and hotel spending provides an opportunities for Australian red meat featured in foodservice



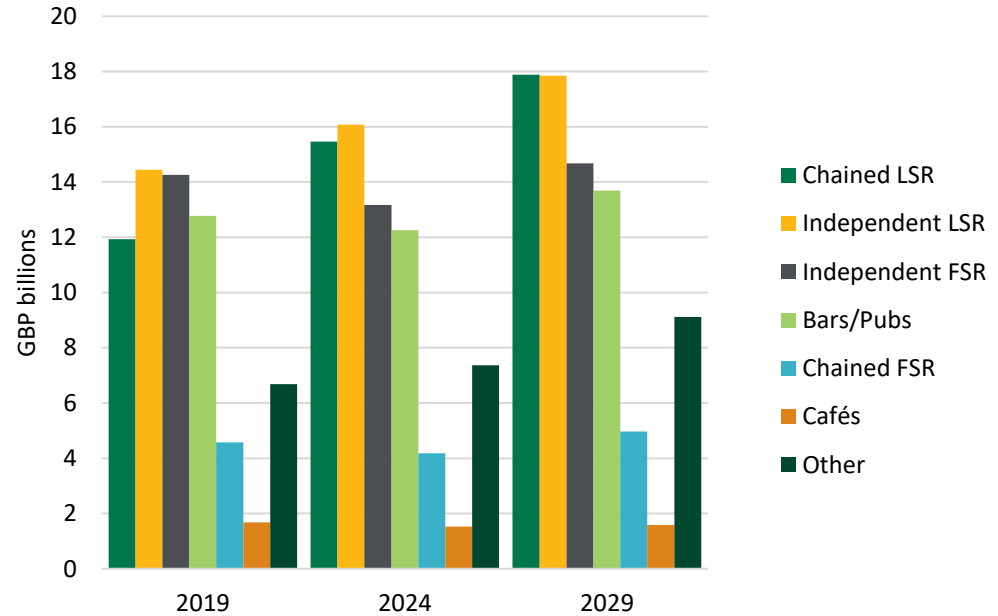
Source: GBP Per Household - Fitch Solutions, data accessed February 2025, UK Tourist Arrivals and Receipts – Fitch Solutions, data accessed February 2025

UK foodservice value is forecast to continue its growth trajectory, with chained and independent LSRs largely leading the increase in sales value

UK Foodservice value in RSP*



UK Foodservice value in RSP* by category



Source: Euromonitor International, includes forecast. *RSP = Retail Selling Price. FSR = Full-Service Restaurant. LSR = Limited-Service Restaurant (fast food + 100% home delivery/takeaway outlets). Cafés/Bars, Bars/Pubs and other include both Chained and Independent

MLA has identified the drivers of growth for different Australian red meat products in the UK market for the next several years

Peace of Mind	Natural Goodness	I Care	Best in Class	Ultimate Experience	New and Different	Easy Everyday
						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trusted safe and clean • Traceable • Authentic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural protein • Healthy balanced diet • Easy nutrition 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ethical • Sustainable • Guilt-free 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quality consistency by tier • Eating Quality attributes • Willingness to pay a premium if quality assured 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extra-ordinary experiences • Escape the every-day • Multi-sensory indulgence • Provenance stories 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enjoyment of new tastes • Discovery of red meat versatility and expanded repertoires • Taste the difference 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Easy, everyday solutions • Healthier options • Quality convenience



Learn more about **Red Meat Growth Drivers** in your key markets on **Aussie Meat Trade Hub**

MLA's UK red meat growth drivers apply to the United Kingdom which includes the 4 countries of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. This is the entity that signed up to the A-UK FTA.

THANK YOU

For further information or more UK market insights:

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Aussie Meat Trade Hub:



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