

Food Statistics Pocketbook

Users and uses of these statistics

The Pocketbook is a compendium providing a roundup of statistics on food covering the economic, social and environmental aspects of the food we eat. It is intended to be an accessible quick reference guide to key data and trends across the food chain. Within Defra it is used regularly by policy teams for a variety of reasons, including to support policy thinking, answer public questions and contribute to briefing for Ministers and others.

The Pocketbook also performs this function for external users. It is extensively distributed and used by people with an interest in food and nutrition, from members of the public to industry experts. The uses of the publication are as varied as the readership – for example we have evidence that it has been used to support funding applications and public marketing campaigns.

The Pocketbook content remains broadly the same each year, with a small amount of material either removed or added to maintain its usefulness and relevance, with practical size constraints. Content is refreshed based on feedback received from both within Defra and external users throughout the year. For example the Pocketbook 2012 contained more analysis looking at the effect of the higher food prices on low income households at the request of Defra's Policy team.

Feedback

We are always keen to receive feedback from users on any aspect of food statistics: requests for different analyses or presentation, suggestions for improvements, or simply to tell us about what you have done with this data. We can be reached at familyfood@defra.gsi.gov.uk, telephone 01904 455067 or via Twitter [@DefraStats](https://twitter.com/DefraStats).

The Food Statistics Team