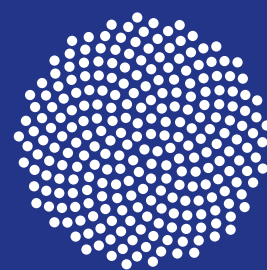


Food Drink Ireland Business Monitor

Key retail, economic,
and consumer trends

Issue 2 2026



Contents

Welcome 3

Snapshot 5

Domestic market 6

Food prices 7

Consumer prices for food in Ireland and UK 8

Food retail and consumer sentiment 9

Transport fuels 10

Macro trends 11

Sterling/dollar exchange rates 12

Food commodity indices 13

Inflation – harmonised index of consumer prices 15

Global crude oil price 16

Global LNG price 17

Trade 18

Irish monthly food trade 19

Contact us 20



Welcome

Linda Stuart-Trainor,
Deputy Director, Food Drink Ireland



Welcome to Issue 2 of the 2026 Food Drink Ireland Business Monitor.

The Food Drink Ireland (FDI) Business Monitor brings you the latest insights into the retail, economic, and consumer trends shaping Ireland's food and drink sector.

This edition of the Monitor comes at a time of significant cost pressures on the sector. Geopolitical friction, particularly the ongoing conflict in the Middle East, continues to drive persistently high crude oil costs, which inevitably cascade down to high energy and fuel costs for businesses in Ireland.

continued



However, the current input cost increases extend far beyond energy and transport, to all of the main cost headings, including labour, raw materials and packaging. The impact of these increases on consumer prices will likely be seen in future editions of the FDI Business Monitor.

FDI continues to engage directly with government bodies and key stakeholders to ensure the sector is robustly represented in policy discussions, actively working to mitigate these external pressures and safeguard our industry's competitiveness.

In response to member feedback, we have expanded our analysis to include a more comprehensive view of food commodity indices, alongside critical data on gas, oil, and transport fuel prices. To maximise accessibility, our redesigned format now features clear explainers for every metric tracked, ensuring the data is as actionable as possible.

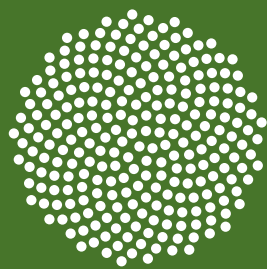
We welcome your continued feedback on the Monitor's evolution and invite suggestions for additional metrics that could bring further value to your business.



Snapshot

	Aug 2026	July 2026	June 2026	May 2026	April 2026	March 2026	Feb 2026
Retail Trade (YOY %)	4.93	5.20	3.22	3.25	2.69	0.86	2.70
Food Exports (YOY %)	<i>Publication pending</i>	13.98	3.72	-6.07	-7.18	-9.17	-0.14
Retail Sale of Food (YOY %)	3.37	3.60	4.00	1.46	1.55	2.41	3.23
CPI (YOY %)	3.75	3.03	3.28	3.70	3.78	3.22	2.60
UK Food Retail (YOY %)	-18.22	2.32	25.57	3.89	4.49	27.34	3.35
Unemployment Rate – Ireland	5.00	5.00	4.90	4.90	4.90	5.00	5.00
Crude Oil Spot Price (YOY %)	32.75	19.77	9.14	49.79	84.02	43.77	2.64

Domestic market

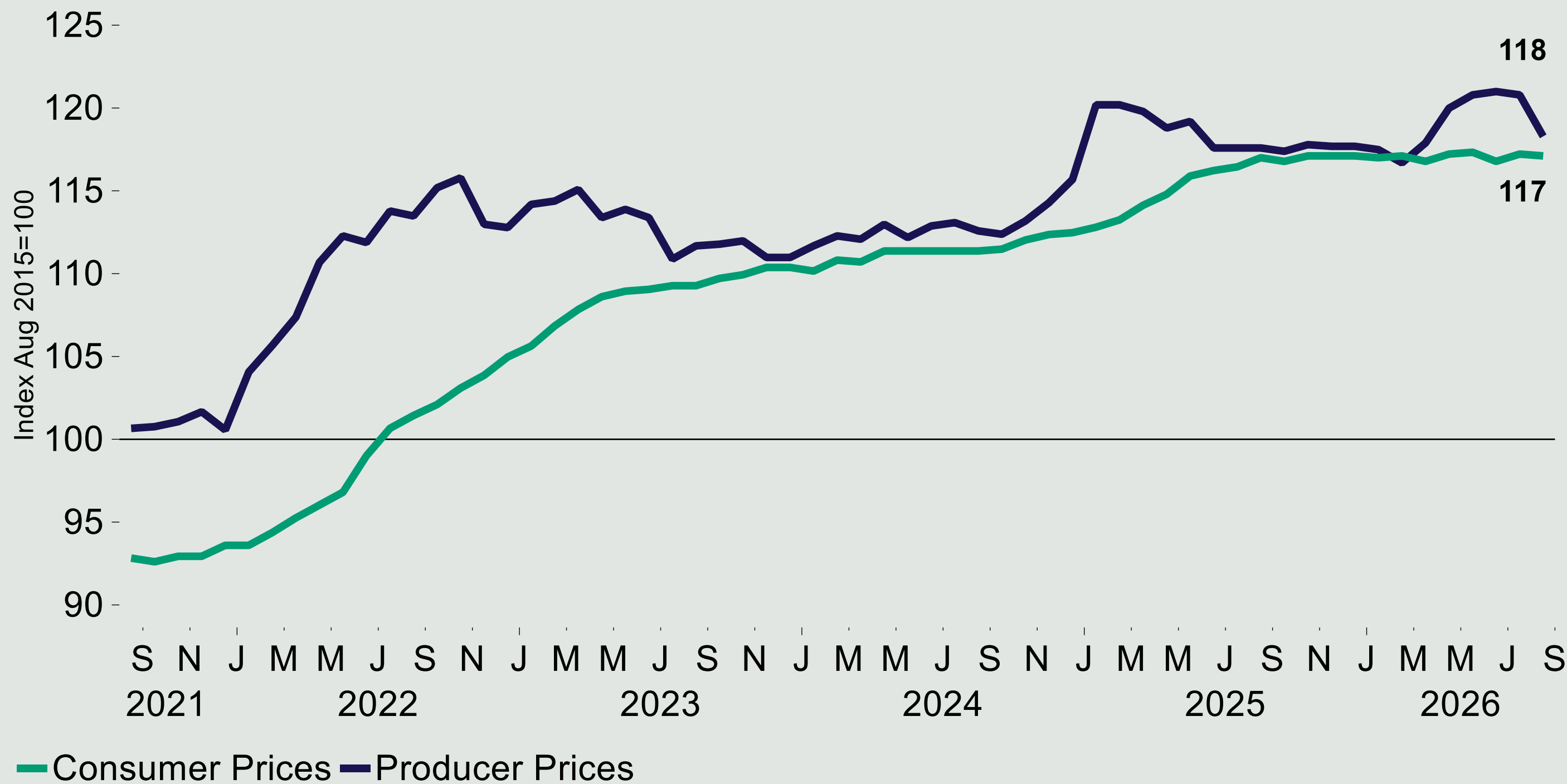


FD Food
Drink
Ireland
Ibec



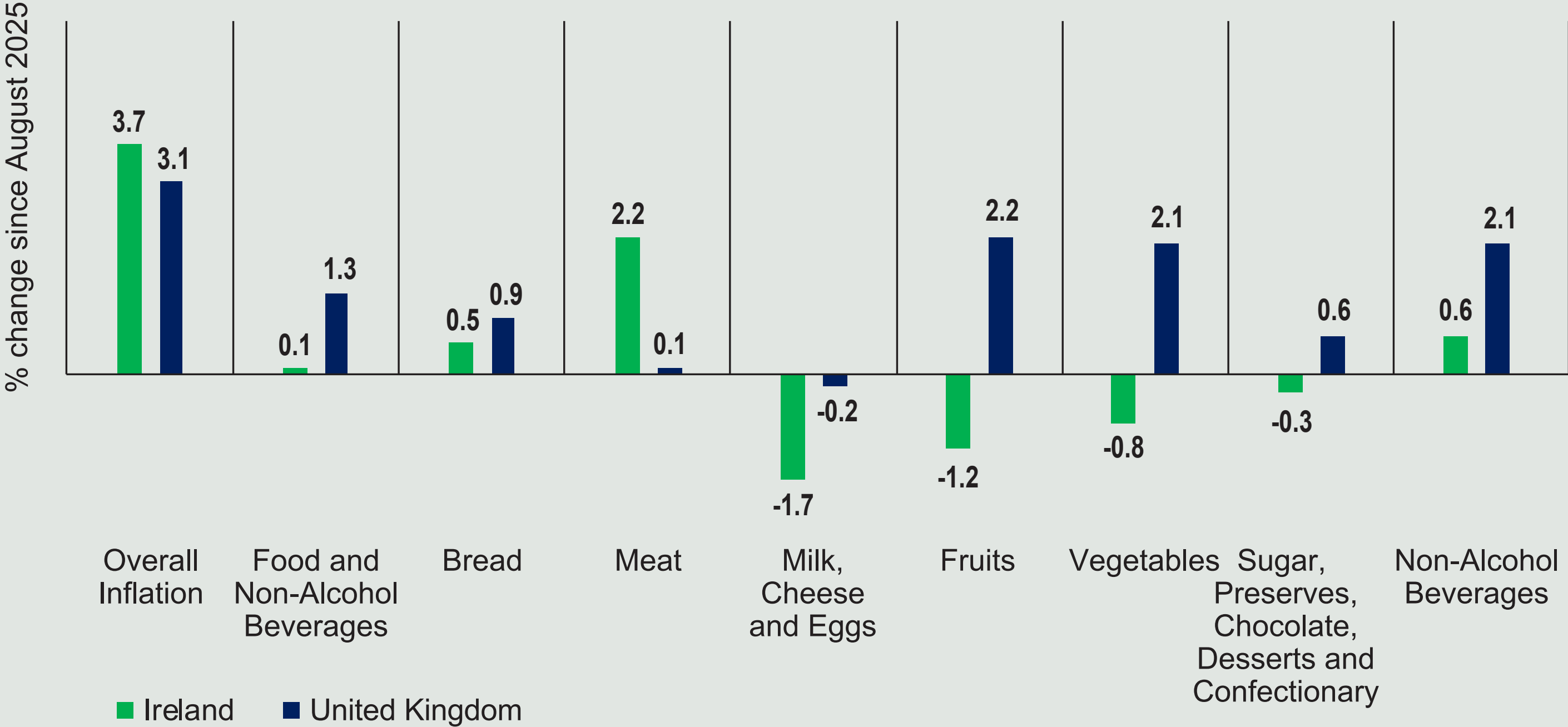
Food prices

Change in consumer and producer prices of food, using 2015 as a baseline.



Consumer prices for food in Ireland and UK

Annual Consumer Price Index change in the prices of selected food and drink categories.

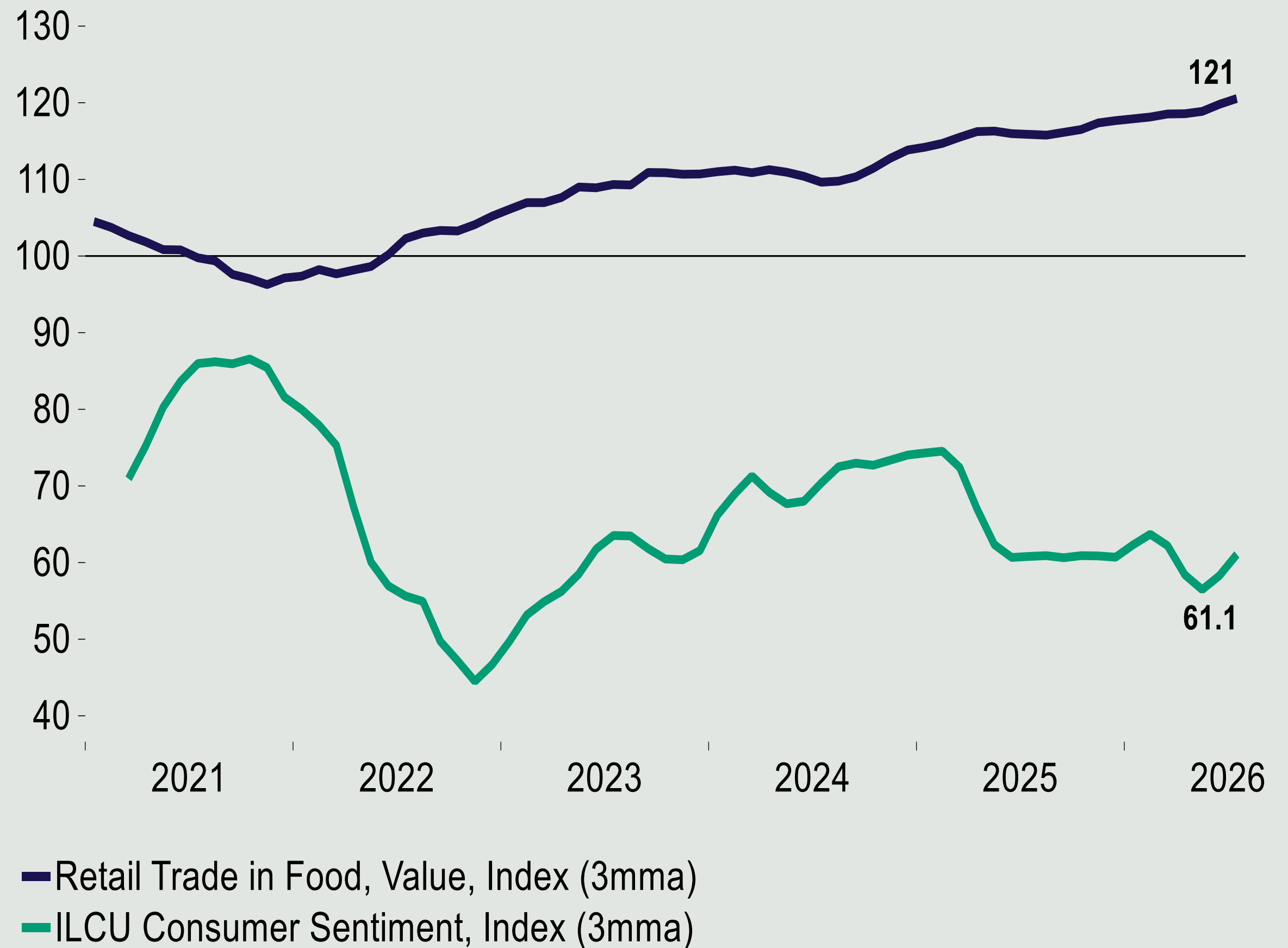


Sources: Central Statistics Office/Office of National Statistics

Food retail and consumer sentiment

(i) Turnover for food trade in the retail sector in Ireland.

(ii) Monthly survey of a nationally representative sample of 1,000 adults, measuring changes in general consumer feeling about the economy.

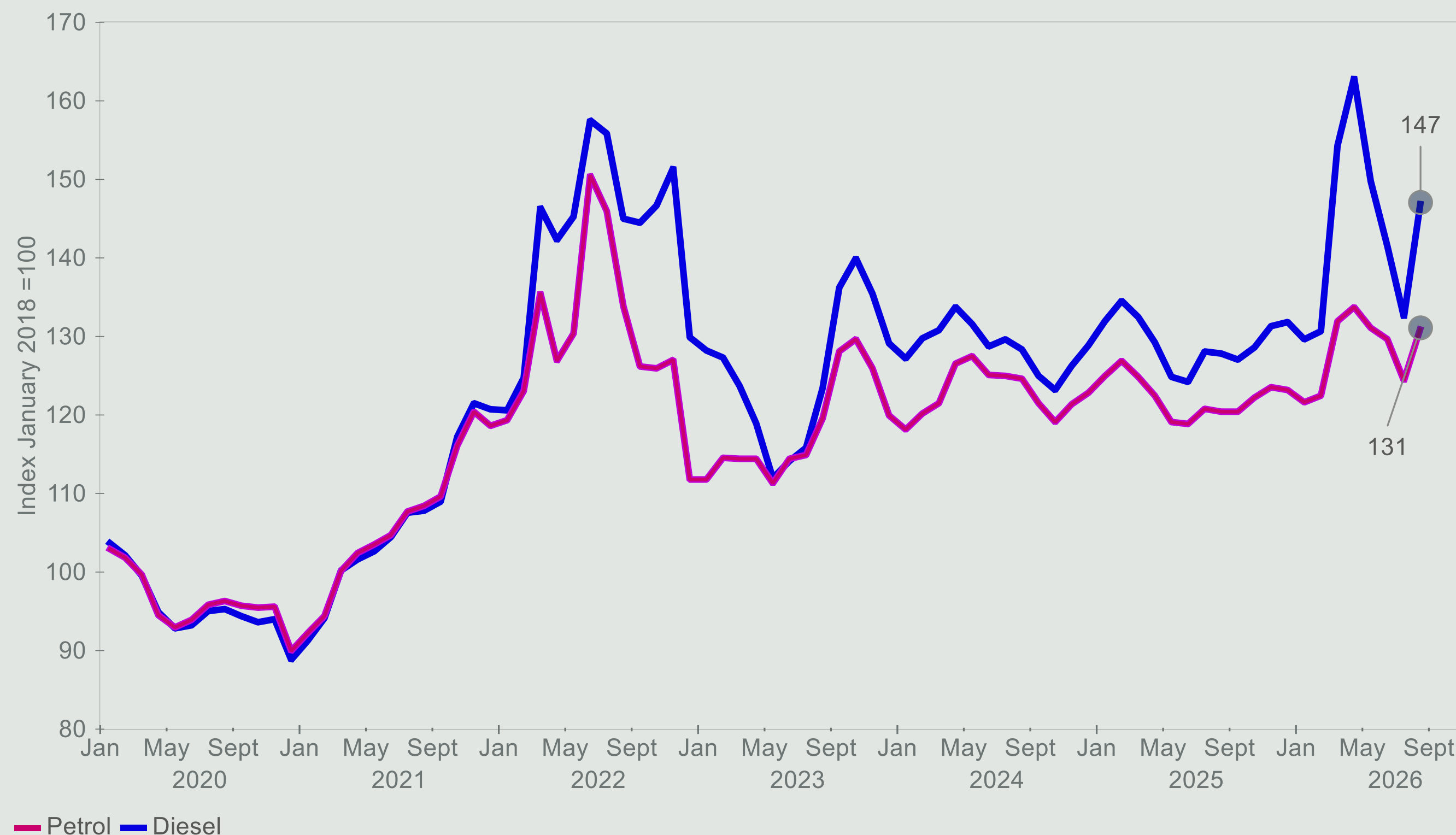


Sources: CSO Food Price Index/ILCU Consumer Sentiment Index

NEW

Transport fuels

Measures changes in the average retail price of petrol and diesel in Ireland.



Macro trends

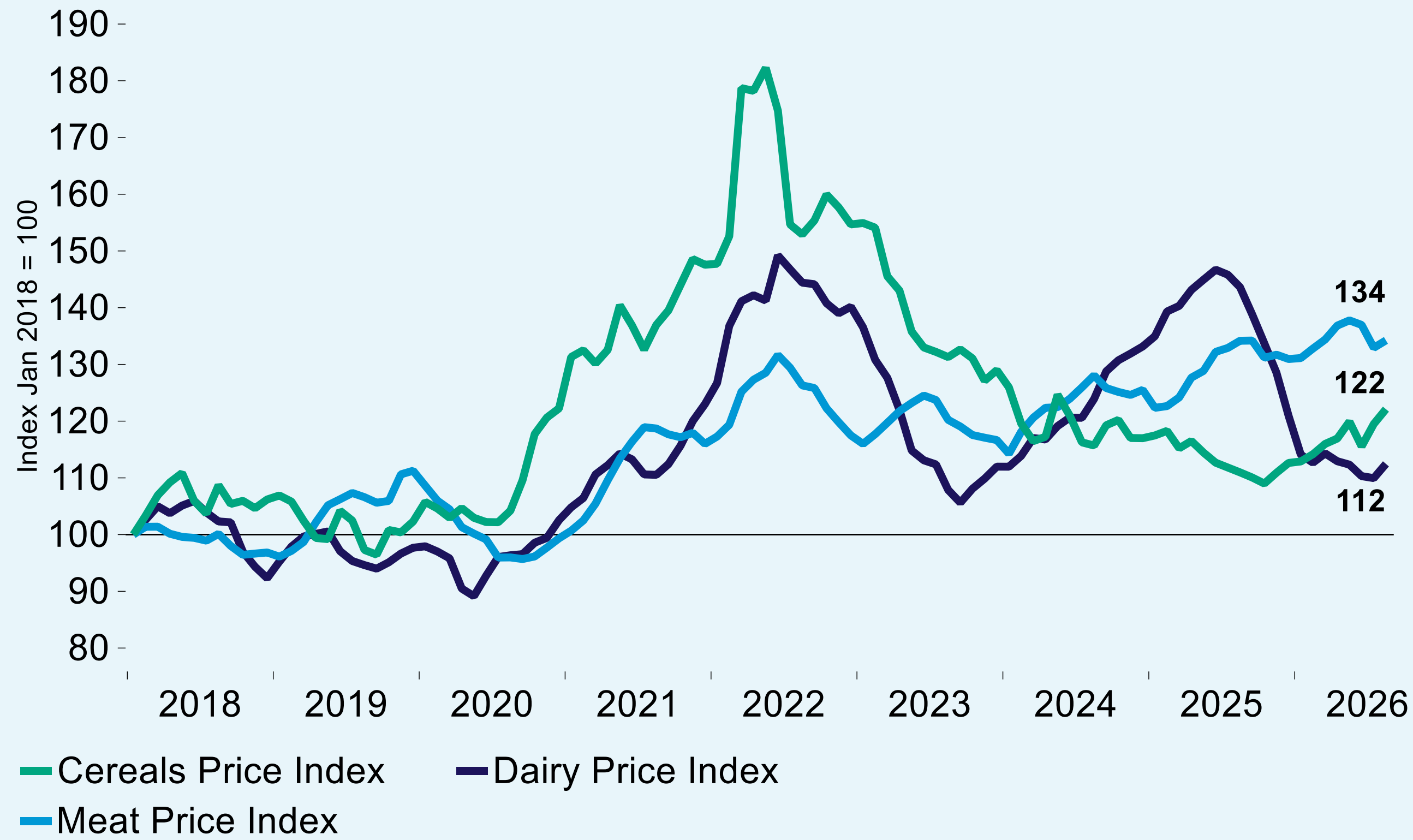
Sterling/ dollar exchange rates

Change in value of
the Euro relative
to Pound Sterling
and US Dollar.



Food commodity indices

Monthly international price changes for cereals, dairy and meat.

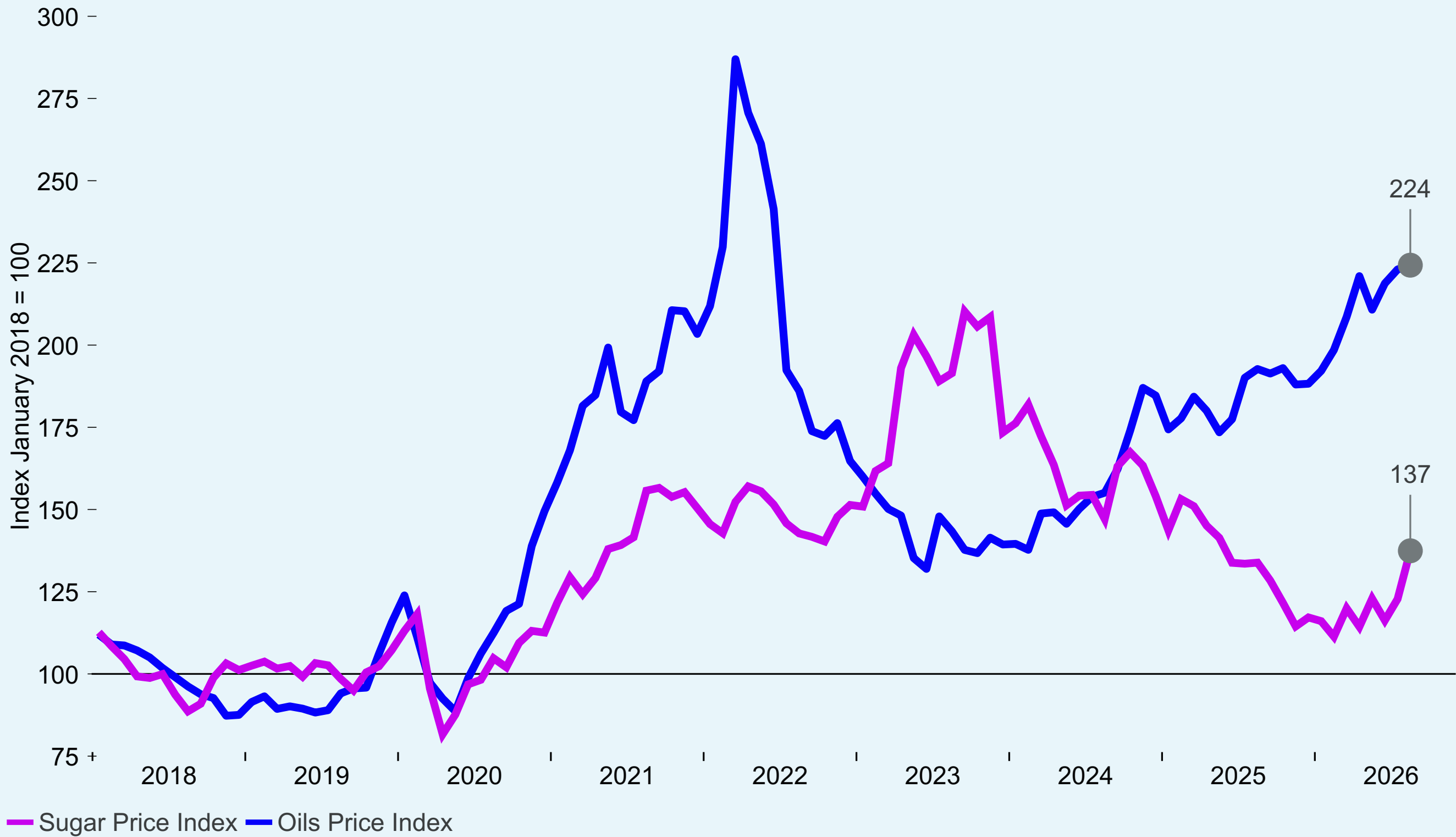


Sources: United Nations Food & Agriculture Organisation/United Nations Trade and Development

NEW

Food commodity indices

Monthly international price changes for sugars and oils.



Sources: United Nations Food & Agriculture Organisation/United Nations Trade and Development

NEW

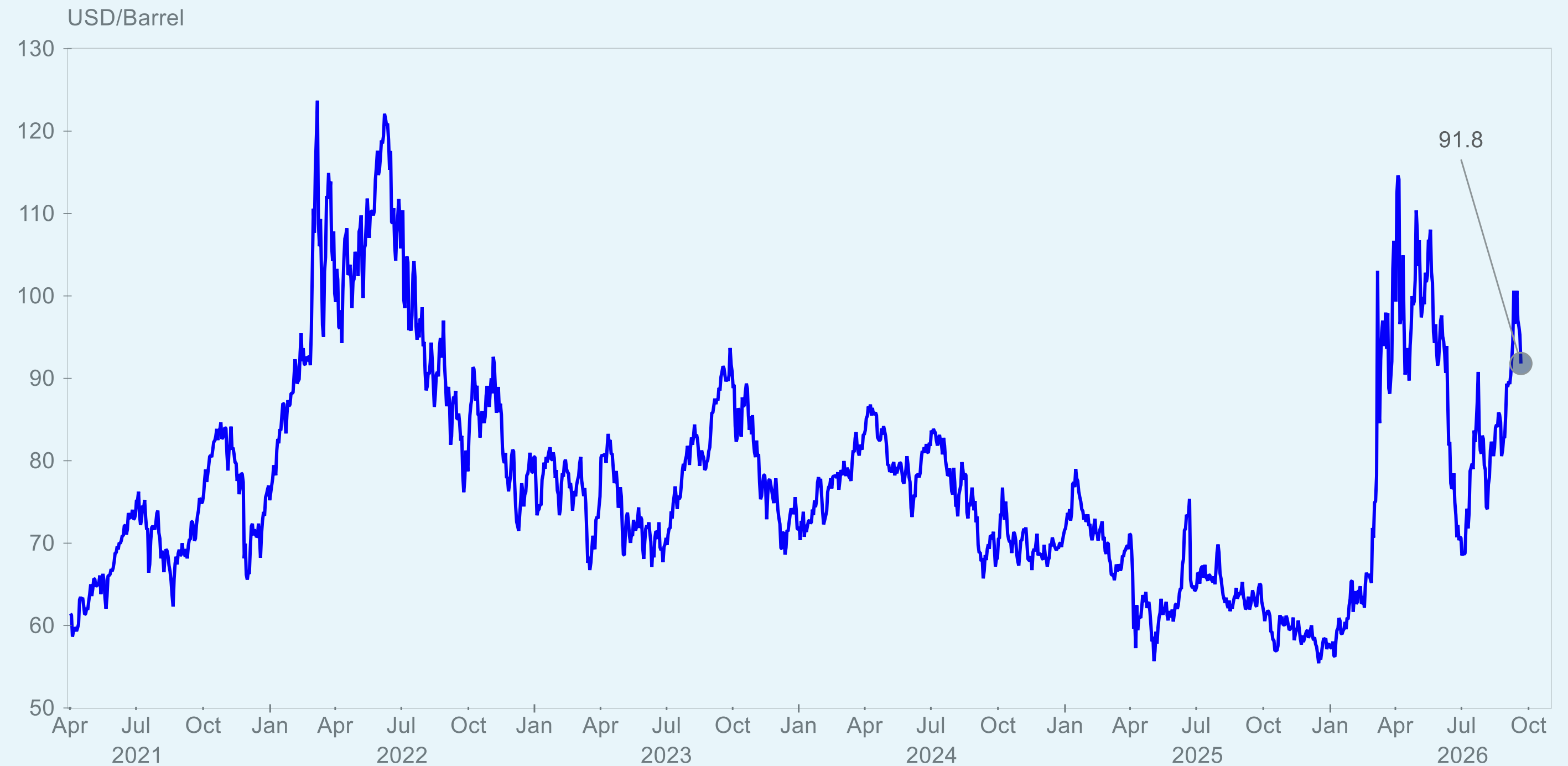
Inflation – harmonised index of consumer prices

Assesses price stability
across Ireland, Euro area,
and United Kingdom using
a harmonised methodology.
It is not intended to be a
cost-of-living index.



Global crude oil price

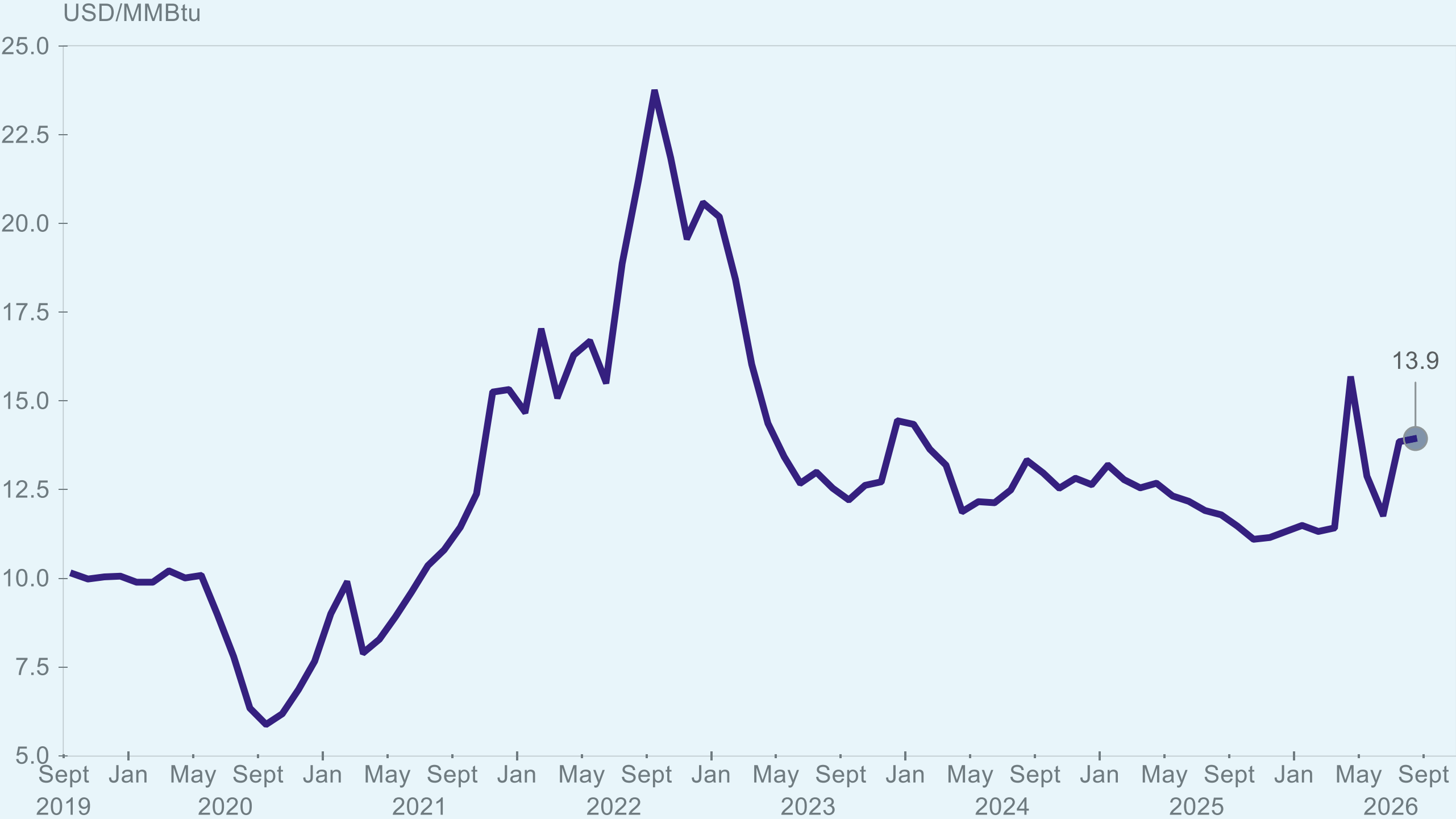
Pricing benchmark for crude oil, tracking global prices.



NEW

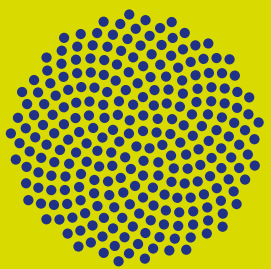
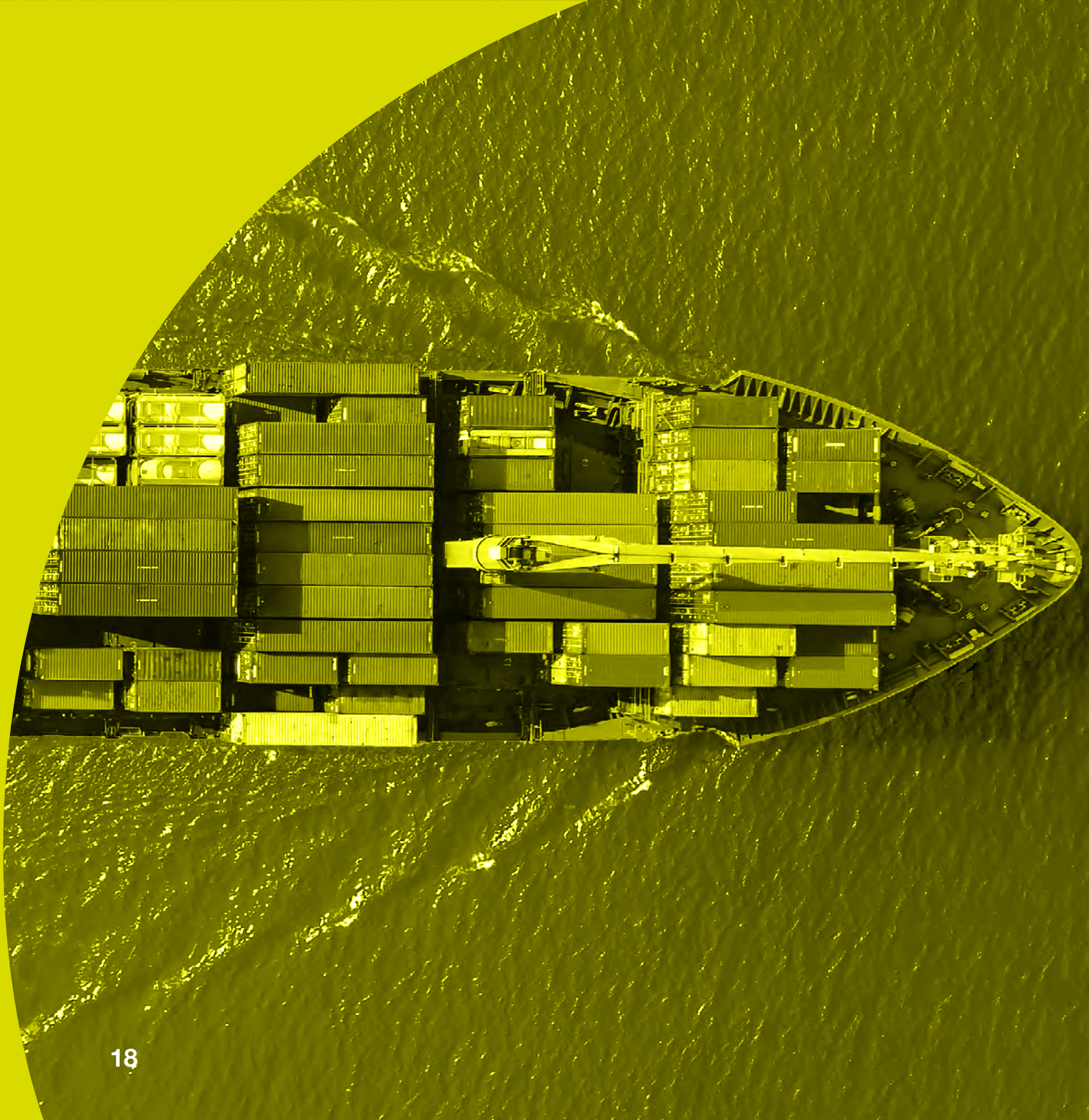
Global LNG price

Pricing benchmark for Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG), tracking global prices.



Source: World Bank

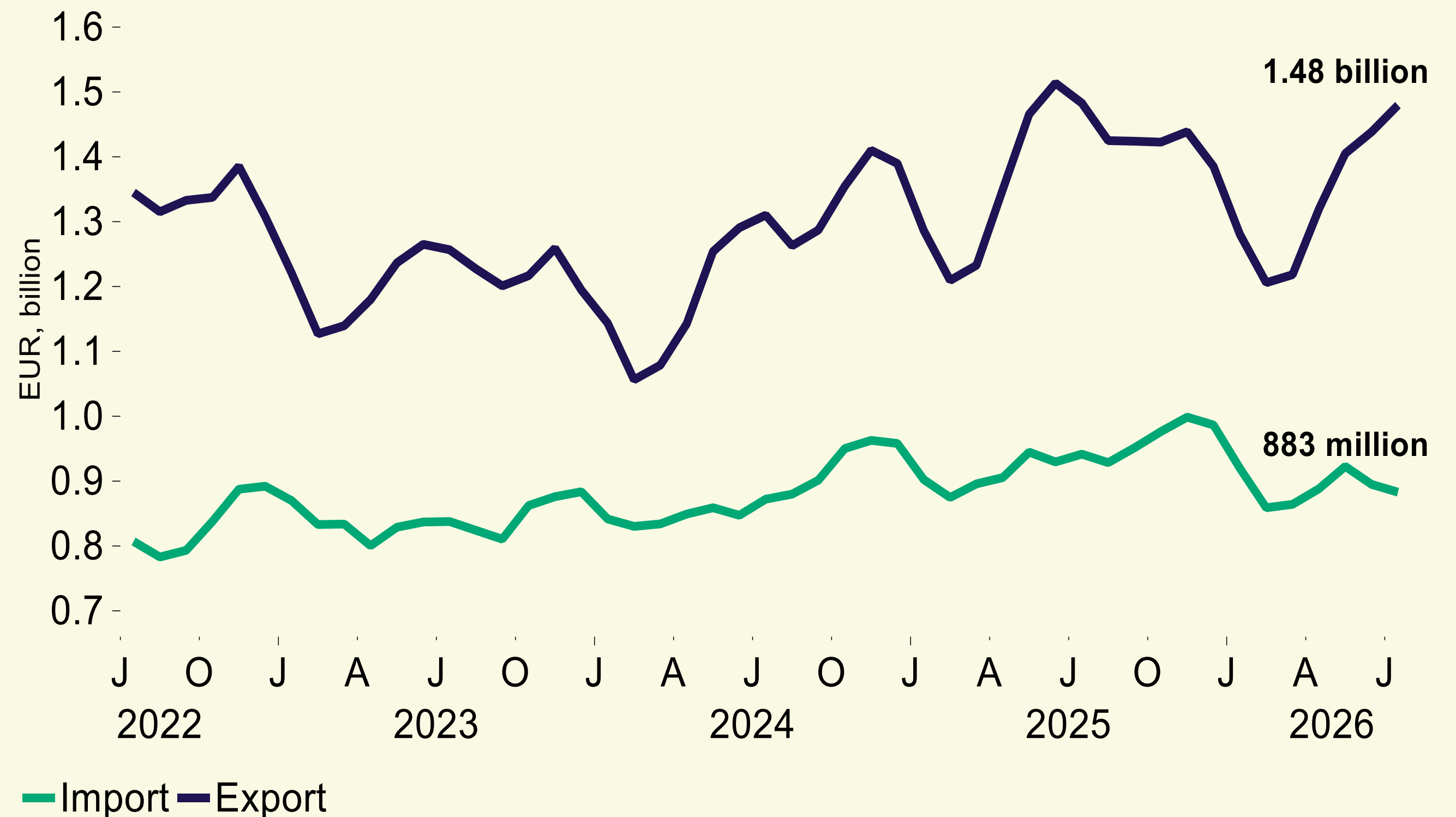
Trade



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Irish monthly food trade

Value of imports and exports of food products in Ireland.



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