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CGA PRESTIGE FPi FOODSERVICE PRICE INDEX



NIQ Prestige **Foodservice Price Index (FPI)**

Snapshot Report - October 2026

Your source for accurate data, analysis and insights into today's food prices.

Monthly Snapshot..

Executive Summary

The UK Foodservice Price Index recorded a slight month-on-month decline of 0.2% in October 2026, offering hospitality operators a modest pause following the upward momentum seen in September. While this marginal easing provides welcome short-term relief, overall food and drink prices remain firmly above last year's levels, reflecting a persistently high structural cost base. The domestic dip broadly aligns with a softening in international food benchmarks, as the FAO Food Price Index edged lower due to declines across global cereals, dairy, and meat markets. However, these global reductions were partially offset by a marginal uptick in vegetable oils and another marked rise in sugar. Crucially, energy markets moved in the opposite direction, with global crude oil prices creeping higher once again, keeping freight, packaging, and processing expenses firmly elevated across the supply chain.

Downward movement within the UK basket was led by sweet goods, dairy, fresh vegetables, and cooking oils. The sugar, jam, syrups, and chocolate category recorded the most notable domestic reduction of the month, although this easing stands in stark contrast to international sugar markets, which have now climbed for four consecutive months following harvest disruptions in Brazil and weaker production forecasts across Europe and Asia.

Inflation Ups & Downs against September..

FRUIT ↑

Up 0.9%

MEAT & POULTRY ↑

Up 0.5%

MILK, CHEESE & EGGS ↓

Down 1.4%

SUGAR, JAM, SYRUPS & CHOCOLATE ↓

Down 1.6%

Milk, cheese, and eggs also fell noticeably alongside softer global butter and cheese quotations, yet tightening UK farmgate milk supplies and firmer cream markets suggest that domestic upward pressure is already beginning to rebuild. Vegetables delivered further short-term relief as seasonal harvesting boosted availability, keeping the category in annual deflation, though the lasting effects of an exceptionally hot and dry summer on potato, onion, and root vegetable yields point towards tighter supplies and firmer pricing as the market transitions to stored and imported produce. Oils and fats softened slightly despite resilient global demand for soybean and sunflower oils, while coffee, tea, and cocoa edged lower against a backdrop of structurally tight West African cocoa and weather-sensitive coffee markets. Meanwhile, mineral water, soft drinks, and juices held broadly flat, and fish dipped marginally, even as strict whitefish quotas kept seafood as the most inflationary category over the longer term.

Counteracting these pockets of relief, several key categories moved higher during October. Fruit prices climbed as the domestic growing season drew to a close, increasing reliance on imported produce and exposing buyers to higher international freight costs and currency fluctuations. Bread and cereal recorded a second consecutive month of growth as earlier grain market inflation continued to filter through milling and baking supply chains, despite global wheat and maize prices easing during the month. Meat and poultry also returned to positive monthly inflation; while international meat benchmarks softened, constrained UK and Irish cattle availability and elevated farmgate costs kept domestic beef pricing firm. Ultimately, October's slight dip represents a finely balanced moment rather than a sustained return to deflation. With crude oil prices remaining elevated, global sugar markets tightening, and winter supply risks mounting across domestic produce and dairy, procurement teams should use this brief period of relative calm to fortify supply lines and protect margins heading into 2027.

PRESTIGE PURCHASING

Prestige Purchasing are a leading expert in Value Chain. We provide knowledge, insight, and practical support to hospitality and foodservice businesses. We improve profitability by improving the way in which our clients source and manage what they sell.

Our services are tailored to allow us to assist businesses of any scale in the sector. Offering a bespoke consultancy based model we offer services contextualised in the statements below for our clients.

Supply Optimisation
For growing businesses that have not yet established a mature supply chain function we provide outsourced services that deliver profit improvement through the application of best in class techniques, using our team of experienced and capable buyers.

Procurement Transformation
For established businesses that have yet to establish "strategic procurement" and wish to introduce national, regional or global supply arrangements, often establishing their own team to develop and maintain them.

Procurement Support Services
A portfolio of services to support fully established procurement and supply chain teams in their mission to add value to their organisation. Services include Insight, Training, Analytics and Benchmarking.

Our services are 100% Transparent FIXED fee based and deliver between 2 and 7 times return on investment all backed up with financial guarantees.

We do not aggregate volume with other operators and build each project or service bespoke for each of our clients' needs delivering the maximum benefit to our clients bottom line.

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NielsenIQ (NYSE: NIQ) is a leading consumer intelligence company, delivering the most complete and trusted understanding of consumer buying behavior and revealing new pathways to growth. By combining an unmatched global data footprint and granular consumer and retail measurement with decades of AI modeling expertise, NIQ builds decision systems that help companies turn complex data into confident action.

With operations in more than 90 countries, NIQ covers approximately 82% of the world's population and more than $7.4 trillion in global consumer spend. Through cloud-based platforms, advanced analytics and AI-driven insights, NIQ delivers The Full View™—helping brands and retailers understand what consumers buy, why they buy it, and what to do next.

For more information, please visit www.niq.com

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