Our Industry at a Glance

2022



The food and drink industry is the biggest UK manufacturing sector, larger than automotive and aerospace combined

Over 97% of the 12,460 food and drink manufacturing businesses are SMEs

Industry Insights

Industry's output was valued at £33bn ▲ 8.0%

with a total turnover of £128bn

▲ 14.4%



and domestic sales of £113bn

▲ 13.2%

The food and drink industry provided 456,000 jobs ▲ 0.1%



across every region and nation, with 4.3m workers in the farm-tofork food chain



Percentage Increase/ Decrease from previous year

The industry's total business investment was £3.1bn ▼ -22.7%

Over half of our members identified new products and healthy food as investment opportunities



Food and drink exports were valued at £25bn ▲ 22.5%

Sold to over 220 export countries, of which the top export markets are Ireland, France, USA

Diet & Health

Kantar Worldpanel Take Home data for FDF members, total nutrient volumes in 2022 vs 2015

FDF member products contributed



fewer sugars to the average shopping basket, compared to 2015

FDF member products contributed





less salt to the average shopping basket, compared to 2015

FDF member products contributed



fewer calories to the average shopping basket, compared to 2015

FDF member products contributed



less total fat to the average shopping basket, compared to 2015

Environmental Sustainability

FDF members reported an absolute reduction of 61.4% in CO₂ emissions



from their use of energy in manufacturing operations in 2021 compared to the 1990 baseline



FDF members are committed to the shared ambition of achieving Net Zero by 2040 across the farm-tofork supply chain



Sector delivered a reduction in food waste of over 30% on a per capita basis since 2011



members achieved 39% reduction in water consumption since 2007