

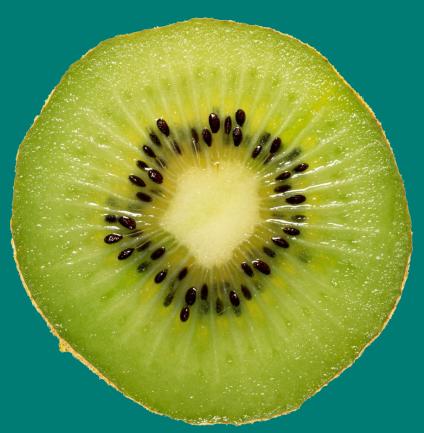
### Consumer Insights Tracker

#### April – June 2025

The Consumer Insights Tracker is an online monthly tracking survey commissioned by the Food Standards Agency (FSA). It monitors the behaviour and attitudes of adult consumers aged 16+ in England, Wales and Northern Ireland in relation to food.

This report presents findings for topics we track regularly including consumer concerns in relation to food, food affordability, and confidence in the FSA as a regulator.

It also includes questions on cell cultivated products (CCPs) and Cannabidiol (CDB) that were included in April 2025 and June 2025 respectively. Findings for all questions are also available in the accompanying data tables.



#### Background

#### Method

- This research was conducted online using the YouGov panel which gives access to 400,000 active panel members in the UK.
- This report presents findings from April – June 2025. Where appropriate, comparisons are made to previous waves since July 2023.
- Across England, Wales and Northern Ireland 2,120 people took part in the survey in April (4<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>), 2,153 in May (2<sup>nd</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>) and 2,143 in June 2025 (6<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup>).
- Quotas were set by age, gender, education and region. The data is also weighted to be representative of the population by these demographic variables. All results are based on final weighted data.

#### **Survey topics**

- This report presents findings for topics we track regularly including consumer concerns in relation to food, food affordability, and confidence in the FSA as a regulator.
- The core questions in this survey underwent review before the launch of the April 2025 survey. Some new questions and/or statements were introduced, resulting in a new timeseries for some questions/ statements. Please see the notes on each slide for further information.
- Between April and June 2025, questions were also asked about consumer views on food regulations (April), cell-cultivated products (CCPs - April), Antimicrobial resistance (May) and CBD products (June).
- Findings for CCPs and CBD products can be found in this report. Data for all topical questions can be found in the accompanying data tables.

#### **Notes for interpretation**

- Reporting convention (↑ / ↓ on graphs): The Consumer Insights Tracker uses t-tests to assess differences over time and between groups, and highlights those where the p value is <0.05. Due to the quota sampling methodology used this is not an exact test of whether differences are statistically significant and indicative of real changes in wider population. However, they may highlight where there could be shifts in behaviour or attitudes and further research would be required to assess if these changes are real.
- Online panel survey: As respondents are selected from an online panel, people without internet access are not represented.
- Percentages: Figures may not add up to 100% on graphs due to figures being rounded to the nearest whole number, or because in some questions, respondents were able to select multiple answers. In some cases, rounding may make changes appear smaller or larger than they are in the underlying data. Statistical tests have been conducted using the unrounded figures.

#### **Key findings for April-June 2025**

#### **Food affordability**

22%

Approximately a fifth (22%) were worried about being able to afford food in June 2025.

This is in line with May (22%) and March (21%) but is slightly lower than the 25% recorded in April 2025.

#### **Food affordability**



The most reported money saving behaviour in June 2025 is eating food past its use by date (66%), up from 63% in May.

63% reported eating leftovers that had been kept in the fridge for more than two days and 55% said they had cut down on the amount of food bought.

#### **Food concerns**



Food prices were the top food concern from April to June 2025, as in previous waves. This was followed by a range of other concerns such as food waste and the amount of salt, sugar, fat or calories in food (both of which were added to the tracker in April).

Please click the headings to be directed to the specific section of the report

#### **The FSA**

Among those with some knowledge of the FSA, the proportion who trust the FSA to do its job rose from 61% in April 2025 to 66% in May (the highest figure seen across the time series), before returning to comparable levels to March 2025 (64%) in June (64%).

This continues the upward trend seen since December 2024.

#### **CBD** products

In June 2025, one in nine reported having used CBD products in the last 6 months (11%), consistent with December 2024.

Of those who had used CBD products in the last 6 months, 32% said they typically consumed 1-10mg a day.

#### **Cell-cultivated products**

Close to four in five (79%) were aware of the term 'lab grown meat' in April 2025, an increase from 72% in October 2024.

In the same period, the proportion who think cell-cultivated meat should be on sale in the future (31% Oct 24, 32% Apr 25) and would be willing to include it in their diet (26% Oct 24, 28% Apr 25) has remained consistent.

Q3m. To what extent, if at all, are you worried you/your household will not be able to afford food in the next month?

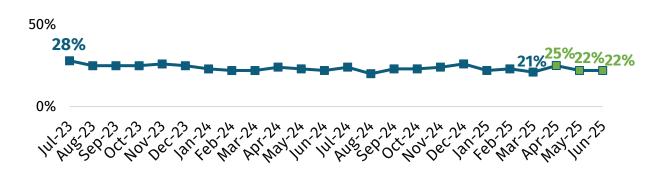
Base: All in June 2025 (n=2,143), May (n=2,153), April (n=2,120), March (n=2,051), February (n=2,097), January (n=2,080), December (n=2,036), November (n=2,022), October (n=2,008), September (n=2,014), August (n=2,008), July (n=2,070), June (n=2,056), May (n=2,067), April (n=2,061), March (n=2,015), February (n=2,066), January 2024 (n=2,038), December (n=2,026), November (n=2,064), October (n=2,062), September (n=2,057), August (n=2,044) and July 2023 (n=2,085)

The new data points (from April to June) are shown in a different colour

**Food affordability** 

Proportion who reported worrying about their household not being able to afford food in the next month

100%

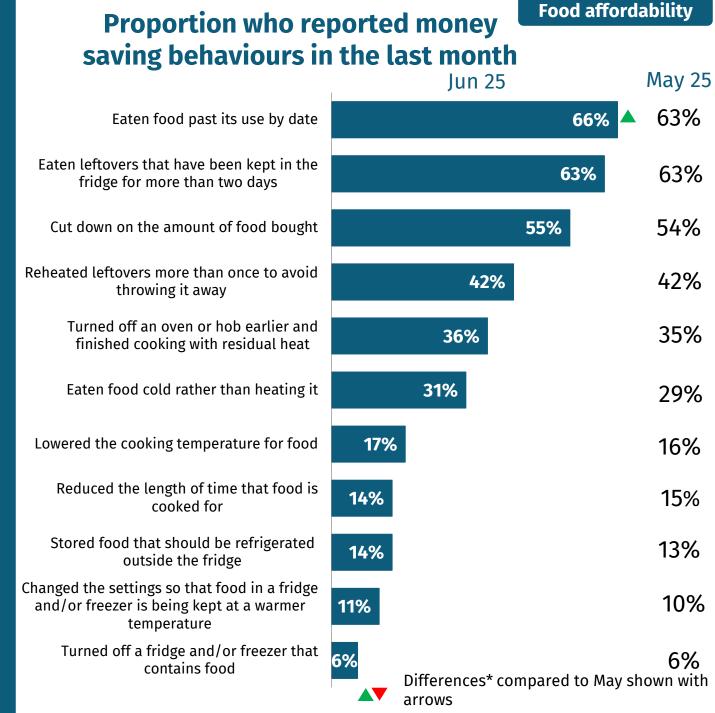


## The proportion who reported eating food past its use by date increased in June 2025 to 66% to become the most reported money saving behaviour

Q6\_NEW1. The next question is about behaviours you have done to save money, for example to reduce your food shopping costs or energy bills. In the last month, which, if any, of the following have you or someone in your household done to save money?

Figures shown in chart are the proportion 'Yes, I or someone in my household have done this every week', 'Yes, I or someone in my household have done this some weeks but not every week' and 'Yes, I or someone in my household have done this just one week in the last month'

This question was introduced in May 2025. Base: All in June 2025 (n=2,143) and May (n=2,153)



<sup>\*</sup>Please see background slide for more information

Q12. Thinking about food in the UK in general. At the moment, how concerned, if at all, do you feel about each of the following topics?

Some statements were introduced in April 2025, for others wording was slightly updated. Base: All in June 2025 (n=2,143), May (n=2,153) and April (n=2,120)

Respondents were shown all of the topics listed and asked how concerned, if at all, they felt about each. Figures shown in chart are the proportion 'highly concerned' or 'somewhat concerned'.

#### rtion who reported concerns

Total

Proportion who reported concern about food by topic

<b>~.</b>	sout rood by top.	Total	Total	Total
■ Highly concerned	■ Somewhat concerned	Jun 25	May 25	Apr 25
Food prices	54% 37%	91%	90%	91%
Food waste in the food chain	34% 44%	77%	78%	78%
Ultra-processed food	40% 36%	76%	78%	78%
Animal welfare in the food industry	36% 40%	76%	75%	73%
The amount of salt, sugar, fat, or calories in food	30% 46%	76%	78%	76%
The quality of food	30% 46%	76% 🔺	72%	72%
Food poverty and food inequality	39% 37%	75%	78%	76%
The amount of food packaging	32% 42%	74%	75%	72%
People being able to eat a healthy diet	28% 46%	74%	75%	73%
The use of pesticides in food production	32% 38%	70%	71%	71%
Food hygiene when eating out/ordering takeaways	30% 39%	70%	71%	68%
The use of additives in food	27% 42%	69%	72%	71%
Food being produced sustainability	22% 45%	66%	66%	64%
Food poisoning	25% 32%	57%	57%	54%
Food fraud or crime	24% 33%	57%	58%	58%
Food shortages	18% 38%	55%	55%	54%
Genetically modified (GM) food	26% 28%	54% <b>V</b>	58%	58%
Food allergen information	16% 31% p.:«	47%	47%	45%
Differences* compared to May chown with				

Differences\* compared to May shown with arrows

<sup>\*</sup>Please see background slide for more information

Since December 2024 (57%), trust has been trending upwards

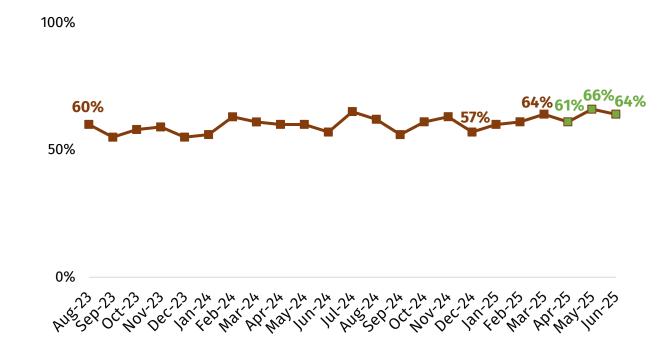
Q16. The Food Standards Agency (FSA) is the Government Agency responsible for food safety in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. How much do you trust or distrust the Food Standards Agency to do its job? That is to make sure that food is safe and what it says it is.

Base: Those who know a little / a lot about the FSA in June 2025 (n=1,346), May (n=1,324), April (n=1,343), March (n=1,138), February (n=1,190), January (n=1,231), December 2024 (n=1,193), November (n=1,139), October (n=1,173) September (n=1,063), August (n=1,109), July (n=1,140), June (n=1,163), May (n=1,161), April (n=1,137), March (n=1,137), February (n=1,127) January (n=1,168) December (n=1,134), November (n=1,183), October (n=1,175), September (n=1,161) and August 2023 (n=1,126)

The new data points (from April to June) are shown in a different colour

#### Proportion who trust the FSA to do its job

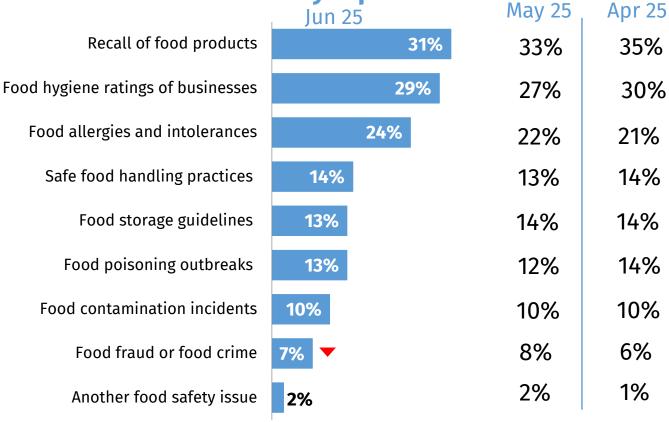
(among those with knowledge of the FSA)



NEWC1. In the past month, which, if any, of the following food) asafety topics have you seen, read or heard any information about? This could have been in the news, on social media, via word. Not displaying none of these. Base: All in June 2025 (n=2,143), May (n=2,153nd April (n=2,120)

This question was introduced in April 2025. NEWC2. In the past month, where have you seen, read or heard something about these food safety topics? Base: All those who have seen, read or heard of any information about the food safety topics in June-April 2025 (n=3,844)

Proportion who were aware of food safety topics



Across the quarter, respondents most commonly said they had seen, read or heard something about any of these topics in the news (52%) on social media (36%) and word of mouth (24%)



Differences\* compared to May shown with arrows

**Food safety** 

In June 2025, 1 in 9 (11%) reported they had consumed CBD in the last 6 months.

Of those who reported they had consumed CBD, close to a third (32%) reported they consumed 1-10mg on a typical day. 42% said they do not know how much they consume

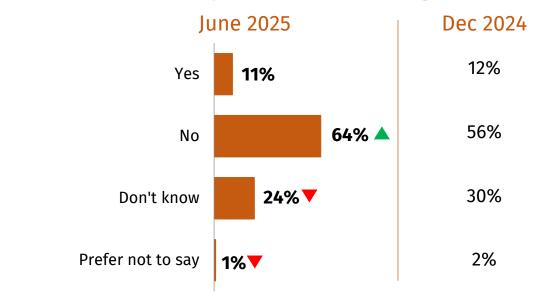
QCBD1. Have you used or consumed products containing CBD in the last 6 months? Base: All in June 2025 (n=2,143), December 2024 (n=2,036)

QCBD4. When you consume CBD, how much would you typically consume in a day? If this varies, please select the average amount.

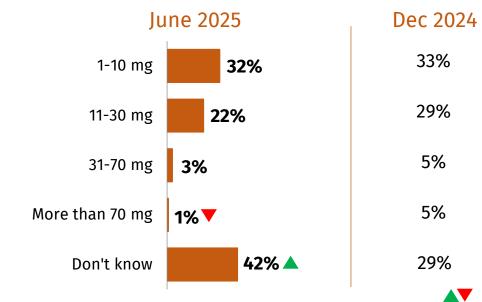
Base: All who have consumed CBD June 2025 (n=220) and December 2024 (n=237)

\*Please see background slide for more information

#### Proportion who have reported consuming CBD in the last 6 months



#### **Amount of CBD consumed in a typical day**



Differences\* compared to
December shown with arrows

Most (54%) who reported they had consumed CBD in the last 6 months said they decide on a suitable dose by following the instructions on the packaging

This has remained consistent since December 2024 (53%)

QCBD3. When using or consuming products containing CBD, typically how do you decide what a suitable dose or serving is? Please select all that apply

Base: All who have consumed CBD June 2025 (n=220) and December (n=237)

#### Dec 2024 June 2025 Following the instructions on 54% 53% the packaging or label By monitoring the effect it has on me and increasing/ reducing 30% 33% the dose as desired Researching about the topic on 23% 31% the internet This isn't something I think 17% 13% about Following the advice from a pharmacist, shop assistant or 14% **V** 23% online retailer Following the daily 9% consumption advice from the 15% Food Standards Agency (FSA) Using information from the Food Standards Agency (FSA) 6%**▼** 17% public list of CBD products 2% Other 1%

**Deciding on a suitable dose** 

Differences\* compared to December shown with arrows

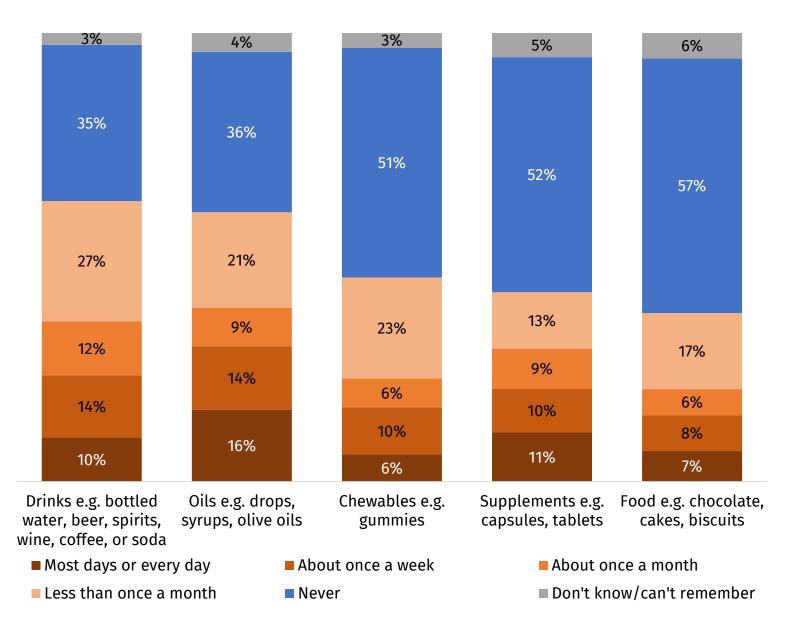
Drinks (63%) and oils (60%) are the products that respondents were most likely to report using in the last 6 months in June 2025

Oils were the product used most often with 16% reporting that they used them most days or everyday

QCBD2. How often, if at all, have you used or consumed the following products containing CBD in the last 6 months? Please select one answer only for each statement

Base: All who have consumed CBD June 2025 (n=220)

#### **Frequency of CBD consumption by product**



Awareness of the term 'lab grown meat' was highest in April 2025 (79%); an increase since October 2024 (72%)

Awareness of cellcultivated meat and products remained stable between October 2024 and April 2025

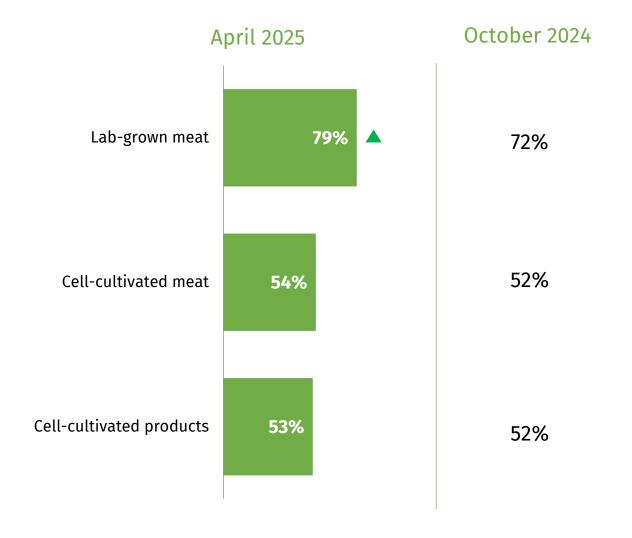
QCCP1. Before taking part in this survey had you heard of the following terms:

Figures shown in chart are the proportion 'Yes, and I knew what it was' and 'Yes, but I didn't know what it was'

Base: All in April 2025 (n=2,120) and October 2024 (n=2,009)

#### \*Please see background slide for more information

#### **Awareness of cultivated product terms**



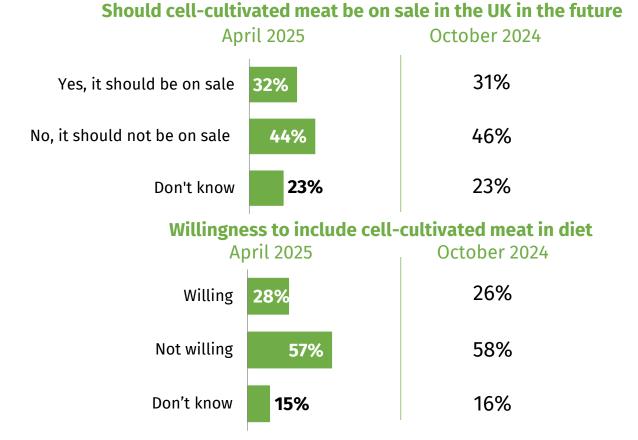
# In April 2025, respondents were more likely to think cell-cultivated meat should not be on sale (44%) than to think it should be on sale (32%) in the UK in the future.

## Similarly, they were more likely to say they are not willing to include it in their diet (57%) than to say they are willing (28%)

QCCP2. Do you think that cell-cultivated meat should or should not be on sale in the UK in the future?

QCCP3. If it was authorised for sale in the UK, how willing or unwilling would you be to include cell-cultivated meat in your diet? Figures shown in chart are the proportion 'very' and 'somewhat' willing/unwilling

QCCP6. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement: I am confident that regulation will prevent unsafe cell-cultivated meat being sold in the UK Figures shown in chart are the proportion 'Strongly agree' and 'agree'/ 'Strongly disagree' and 'disagree'



#### 'I am confident that regulation will prevent unsafe cell-cultivated meat being sold in the UK'



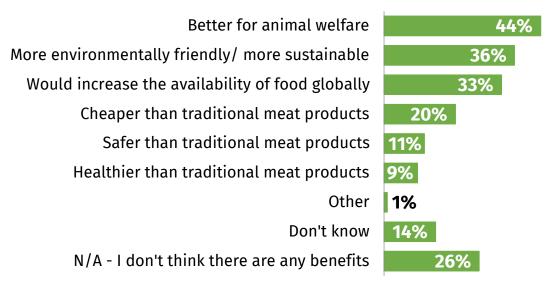
Animal welfare (44%) and sustainability (36%) were the most common perceived benefits of cell-cultivated meat in April 2025, while common concerns included safety (53%) and a perception of cell-cultivated meat being 'unnatural' (49%)

QCCP4. What benefits, if any, do you think cell-cultivated meat could offer compared to traditional meat products? Select all that apply

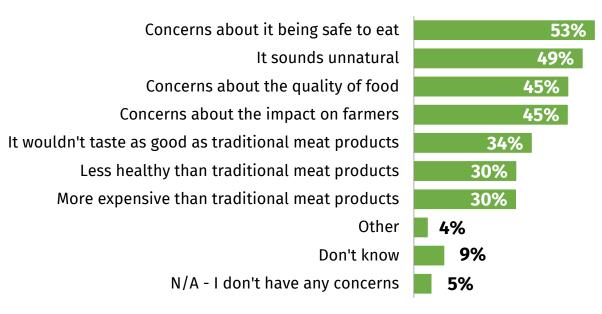
QCCP5. What concerns, if any, do you have about cell-cultivated meat? Select all that apply

Base: All in April 2025 (n=2,120)

#### Perceived benefits of cell-cultivated meat



#### **Concerns around cell-cultivated meat**



### For more information:

Visit our <u>Consumer Insights Tracker Webpage</u>

View the **Consumer Insights Tracker data tables** 

Or please contact the FSA Social Science team (analysis@food.gov.uk)

