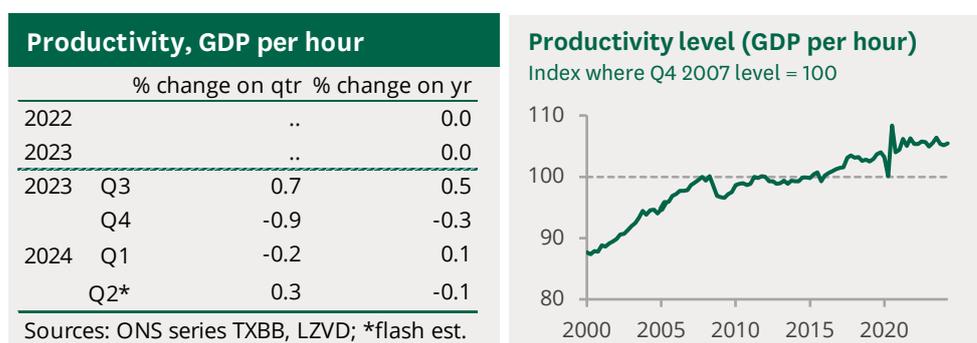


A4: Productivity

One of the most important factors in determining living standards over the long term is productivity – how much output is produced for a given input (such as an hour of work).

UK labour productivity

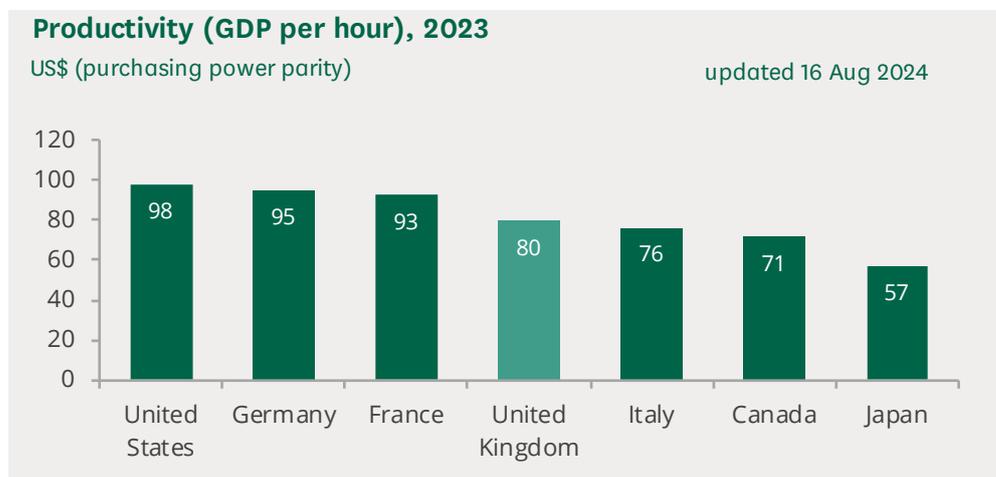
In Q2 2024, productivity was estimated to be 0.1% lower compared with a year ago (Q2 2023), according to the [latest ONS flash estimate](#). Productivity was up by 0.3% compared with the previous quarter and was 1.4% higher compared to before the pandemic in Q4 2019.



Historically, UK labour productivity has grown by around 2% per year but since the 2008/2009 recession it has [risen more slowly](#) (see chart above). The [effects of the pandemic](#) presented [significant challenges](#) in the measurement of productivity, but it appears the pre-pandemic trend of sluggish productivity growth has continued.

International comparisons

In 2023, ranked on [GDP per hour worked](#), the UK came fourth highest out of the G7 countries, with the US highest and Japan lowest. UK productivity was around 18% below the US.



Subject Specialist

Daniel Harari

Updates

ONS, [Productivity flash estimate and overview, UK](#) 15 Nov

OECD, [G7 labour productivity levels](#)