

## B1: Inflation

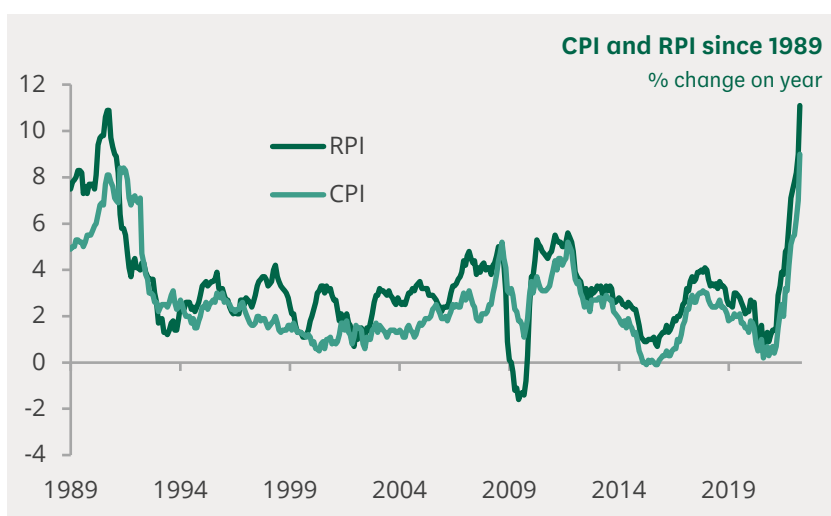
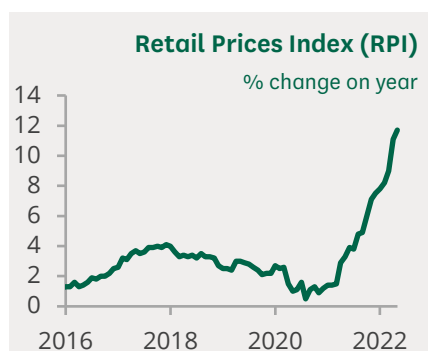
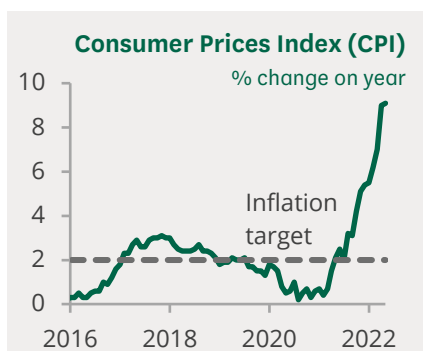
The Consumer Prices Index (CPI) is the main measure of inflation. It is produced in line with international standards and is the measure used for the Bank of England's 2% inflation target. The Retail Prices Index (RPI) is no longer classified as a National Statistic as the way it is calculated does not meet international standards. It is included here as it is well-known and is the longest running measure of inflation.

Price indices		% change on a year ago	
		CPI	RPI
2019	May	2.0	3.0
2020	May	0.5	1.0
2021	May	2.1	3.3
2022	Mar	7.0	9.0
	Apr	9.0	11.1
	May	9.1	11.7

The CPI inflation rate was 9.1% in May 2022, up from 9.0% in April. This is the highest rate on record, and the ONS estimates it is now higher than at any time since around 1982.

The RPI inflation rate was 11.7% in May 2022, up from 11.1% in April.

Much of the increase in the CPI rate was due to the rising prices for food and non-alcoholic beverages and partly offset by the sector of culture and recreation.



**Subject specialist**  
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**Update**  
ONS, [Consumer Price Inflation](#),  
20 July 2022