

FOOD AND DRINK NORTH EAST

Boiling Point Survey

In Spring 2023, Food and Drink North East (FADNE) consulted its network of food and drink businesses with a survey designed as an ongoing temperature test of the agricultural, food, drink, manufacturing and hospitality sectors in the North East. The survey asked about the issues and challenges that were affecting businesses, as well as the successes they had achieved so far in 2023.

56%

Although **56%** of businesses said they had been negatively affected by the cost of living crisis...

30%

... **30%** said they had matched or exceeded profits compared to the first financial quarter of 2022, with **27%** saying they have taken on new members of staff, and **22%** reporting they are thriving despite the economic climate.

41%

41% percent of businesses say that they have had to change the way they operate in order to survive.

88%

88% of businesses are growing in size or have stayed the same in the last 4-6 months.

70%

A rise in the **cost of ingredients** has impacted businesses the most, followed by **supply chain costs**, a **rise in utility bills** and **fuel/ transportation increases**.

69%

69% of businesses said that financial supports like grants, funding or loans would be beneficial to their business. **42%** said they would love networking events and opportunities, while **24%** are in need of educational or training resources.



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