Economic Impact Report Summary



UK flour milling is an essential sector, underpinning UK food security, food safety and a thriving food industry.

A study into the economic impact of the UK flour milling industry by Policy Points found milling is one of the most productive industries in the UK. Milling's gross economic value added GVA per employee of £141,000, outstrips sectors such as manufacturing and construction; it is more than double the £64,000 GVA for the economy overall. This productivity is sustained by innovation, allied to substantial and ongoing investment in new mills and new technologies amounting to £250 million in the last decade alone.

The key findings from the study are:

£2 billion

GENERATED IN ANNUAL TURNOVER

£700 million

CREATED IN VALUE ADD TO THE ECONOMY

9,000 people

EMPLOYED DIRECTLY AND INDIRECTLY

£270 million

DELIVERED IN TAX TO THE EXCHEQUER (DIRECT AND INDIRECT)

Policy priorities

To underpin this key sector for the future, policy support is needed in:



Food security



International competitiveness



Innovation



Ongoing energy transition

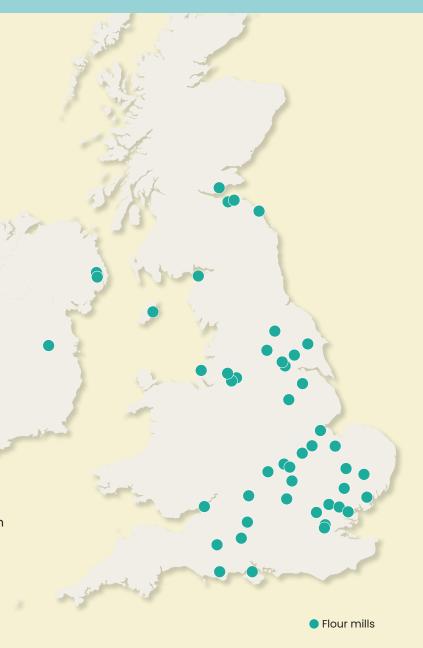


Training

About the UK flour milling industry

Our members' mills operate 24 hours a day, seven days a week, supplying bakeries, food manufacturers, restaurants and retailers with the flour and cereal based products needed to feed the nation.

Flour millers in the UK are spread from Edinburgh to Belfast, Whitley Bridge to the Isle of Wight. Collectively, we are the biggest single customer for British wheat farmers: more than 80% of the wheat we mill is home grown.



The flour milling supply chain – a UK production process



Farmers use land, raw materials and machinery to grow milling wheat; UK millers buy £800 million worth of home grown wheat

*figures shown are for 2023 harvest

Flour millers use capital intensive equipment to make flour; more than £250 million invested in last decade

Bakeries use flour to produce bread, cakes, biscuits and export; a £5.6 billion industry Flour is a versatile and nutritious staple food. Packed with vitamins and minerals it is an essential part of a healthy daily diet



Production Inputs

Availability of these three inputs are essential within each part of the supply chain

Skilled workers

Transportation

Energy







Standards

Homegrown wheat is all assured to high production standards under Red Tractor and Scottish Quality Crops.

We produce safe flour, tested across significant due diligence monitoring programmes.