## UK Labour Market **Update**

April 2024

**Jack Kennedy** 

Senior Economist





## Hiring Lab Economic Research by Indeed



#### **Outlook has turned more positive**

GDP: Economy grew in February increasing hopes UK is out of recession

③ 12 April · ₱ Comments

UK consumers' confidence in their personal finances highest since 2021

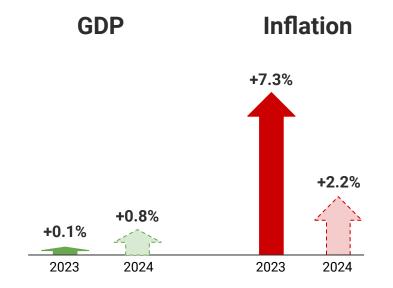
Closely watched GfK survey also points to household caution about inflation

Recessionary Pressures Receding in the Rearview Mirror as UK Economy Gains Momentum

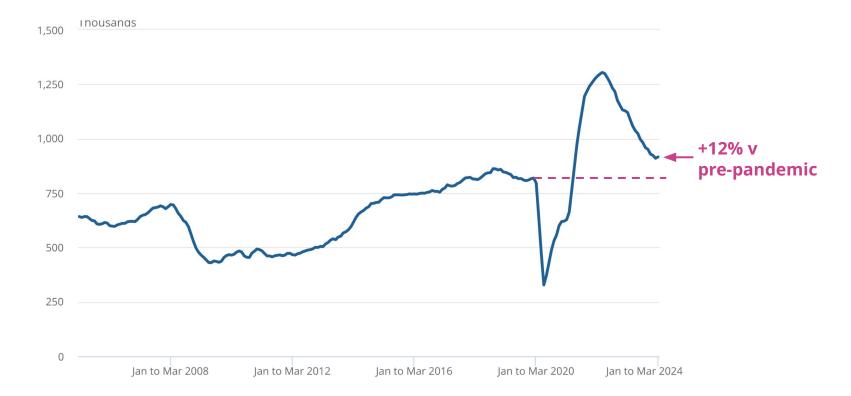
**UK** inflation

UK inflation could stay near 2% target for three years, says BoE rate-setter

#### Forecasts point to modest positive growth and normalising inflation



#### **Gradual normalisation of vacancies**



#### Labour market still somewhat tight

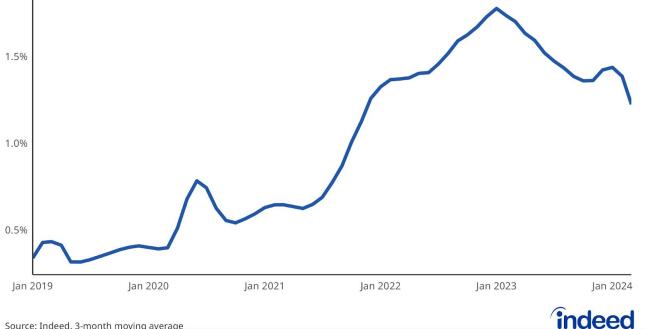
Number of unemployed people per vacancy (UK exc Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing) 8 6 2 1.6 0 2001 2002 2004 2005 2006 2008 2009 2011 2012 2014 2015 2016 2018 2019 2021 2022 2023 DEC-DEC-APR-SEP-FEB-JUL-SEP MAY-OCT-MAR-AUG-JAN-JUN-NOV-APR-SEP-FEB-**IUL-SEP** JUN NOV APR FEB JUL DEC OCT MAR AUG IUN NOV APR FEB MAY IAN

- Number of unemployed people per vacancy (UK exc Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing)

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#### Signing bonuses have dipped

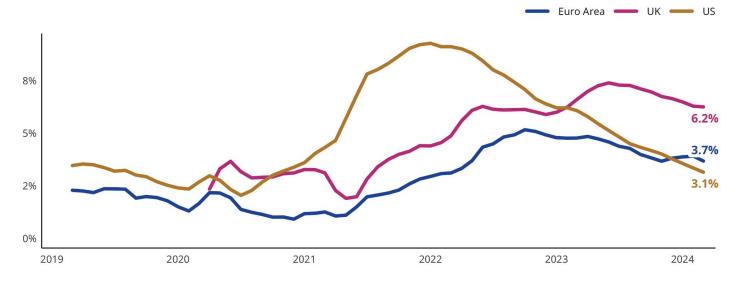
% of job postings on Indeed advertising a signing bonus



Source: Indeed. 3-month moving average

#### UK posted wage growth has eased but still high

Year-on-year growth in posted wages to Mar 2024



indeed

Source: Indeed Wage Tracker (github.com/hiring-lab/indeed-wage-tracker)

The data are monthly median year-on-year growth rates in advertised wages and salaries across job title-region-salary type combinations. The euro area series is an employment-weighted average of France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands and Spain.

#### **Strong wage growth in lower-paid categories**

Change in UK posted wages, selected categories

	y/y growth in
	posted wages,
Occupation	Mar-24
Childcare	9.2%
Retail	8.5%
Cleaning & Sanitation	7.7%
Production & Manufacturing	7.4%
Installation & Maintenance	7.1%
Food Preparation & Service	7.1%
Education & Instruction	7.0%
All jobs	6.2%
Legal	4.5%
Human Resources	4.4%
Project Management	4.3%
Marketing	2.9%
Information Design & Documentation	2.5%
Medical Technician	2.1%
Software Development	0.1%

Source: Indeed Wage Tracker

# Soft landing?

#### On track for a soft landing? Three things to watch

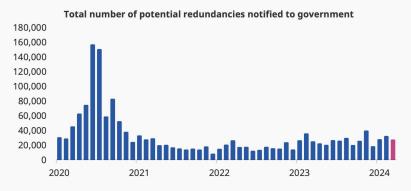
### **01** Layoffs Need to

Need to stay low to keep unemployment in check

Vacancies Continued gradual softening

**Geopolitics** A constant source of risk for the global economy

#### Redundancy notifications remain modest



### Takeaways

**Tight labour market (still)** We're past the peak but normalising, not crashing

Inflation and wage growth are falling but remain high Interest rates likely to stay higher, longer

Lower paid categories see strongest pay growth Hiring in some sectors remains challenging