

Statistics in the media

Robert Cuffe

@robertcuffe

Head of statistics

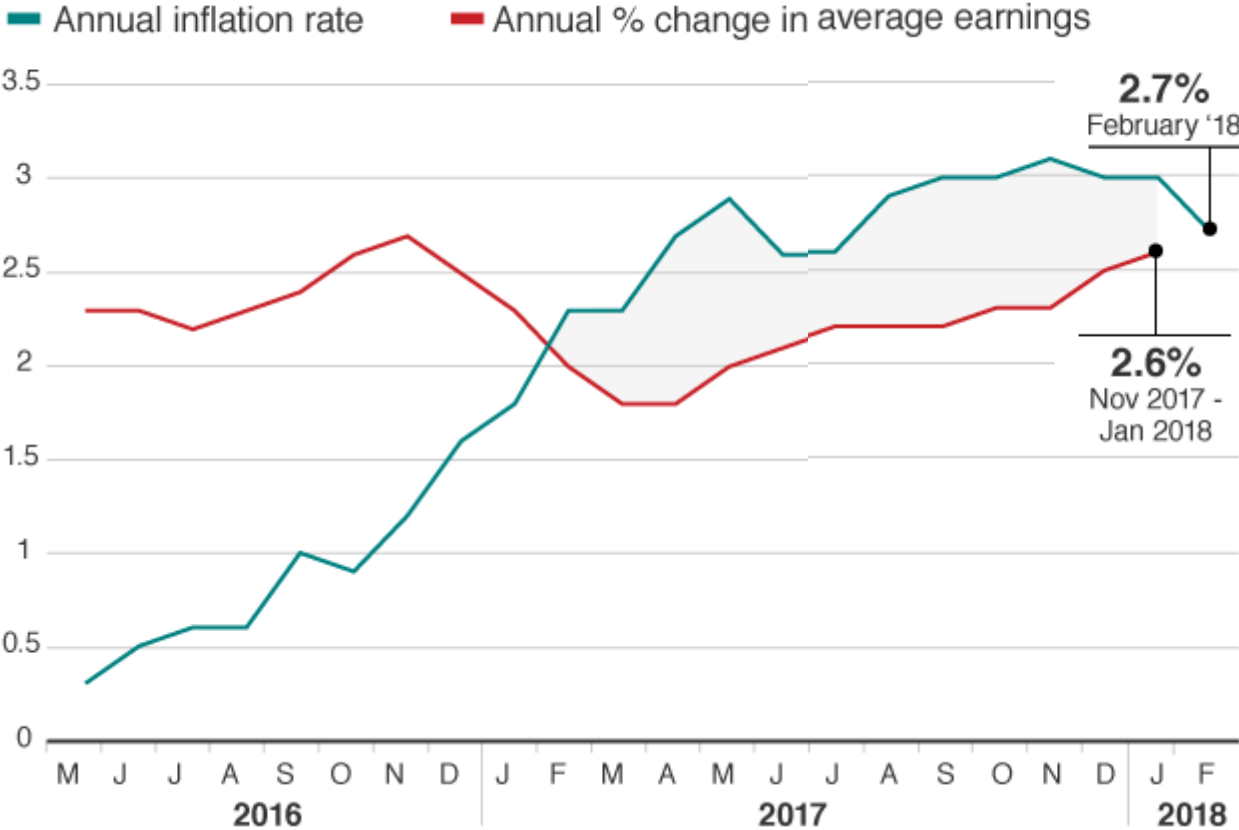
- Help journalists find and tell better stories with numbers
- Help editors judge quality of evidence
- Communicate the BBC's commitment to stats/evidence
- Bridge to the statistical community

Inspirational quote



You are the newsdesk

How inflation compares to wage growth



Household squeeze shows signs of easing as wages rise

21 March 2018

[f](#) [w](#) [t](#) [e](#) [Share](#)

How inflation compares to wage growth



Wage growth has picked up and unemployment has edged lower, according to the latest official data.

The Office for National Statistics said that, compared with a year earlier, earnings grew by 2.6%, for the three months to the end of January.

Example:
Sept 2018

Statistical bulletin:

UK labour market: September 2018

Estimates of employment, unemployment, economic inactivity and other employment-related statistics for the UK.

This is the latest release

[View previous releases](#)



Contact:
Richard Clegg

Release date:
11 September 2018

Next release:
16 October 2018

Table of contents

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Main points for May to July 2018 | 10. Unemployment |
| 2. Summary of latest labour market statistics | 11. Economic inactivity |
| 3. Things you need to know about this release | 12. Young people in the labour market |
| 4. Employment | 13. Redundancies |

Print this statistical bulletin 

Download as PDF 

Three roles

- Desk editor
 - Manage the others, tell the main news desk what the top line is
- Economics correspondent
 - Write a TV cue for your appearance on the channel
- Online writer
 - Write a 50 character headline for the story.

Things you know but they don't

Online writer

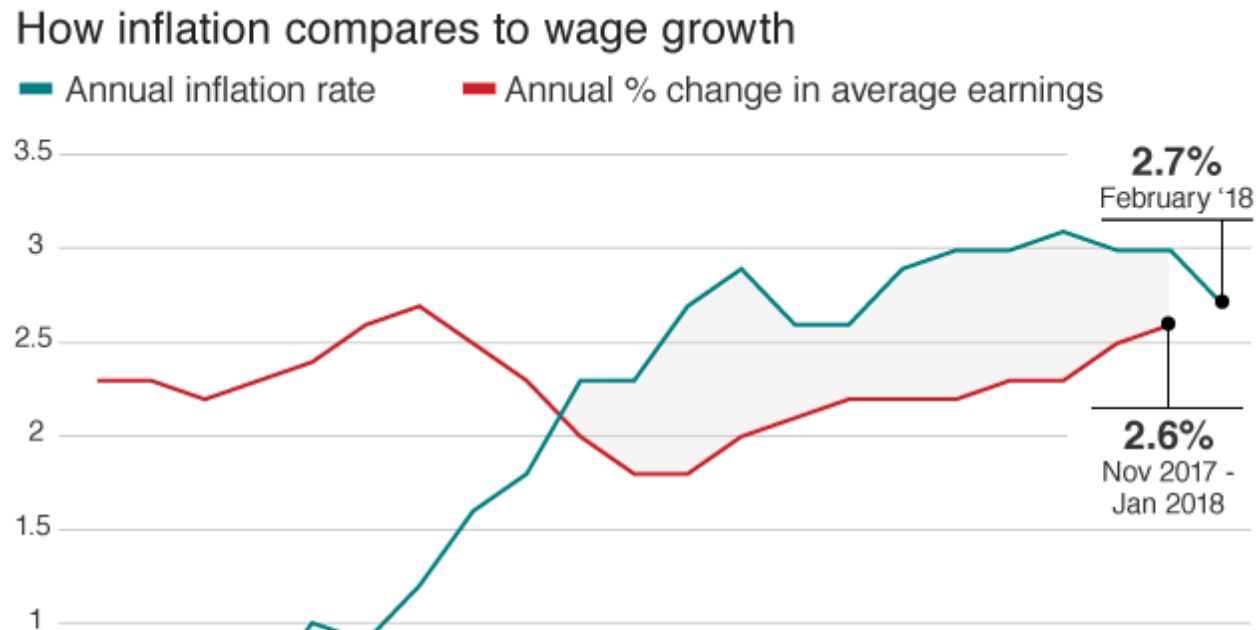
We should look at wages EXCLUDING bonuses

Economic correspondent

- The Bank of England uses CPI. So the BBC uses CPI. Do these figures use CPI?

Editor

- Someone wrote in last month and said we should not use a single month's inflation.
- Now we have to use the average inflation over the last three months.



The release

<https://bit.ly/2H7hWr7>

@robertcuffe

Inflation

- <https://bit.ly/2qF30pT>

17 Apr
2018
09:36

Cost of living squeeze eases as pay overtakes inflation

BREAKING: Pay increases in the UK have finally overtaken inflation, after a year-long wage squeeze.

Basic earnings rose by 2.8% per year in the three months to February, new figures from the Office for National Statistics show.

That means they rose a little faster than inflation, which dipped to 2.7% in February.

This is the first time in around a year that wages have risen faster than the cost of living - and means real wages are now rising by 0.1%.

That's a small but important step towards ending the cost of living squeeze.



Michael Hewson 
@mhewson_CMC 

So wages to Feb at 2.8% now above CPI for Feb which was 2.7%.
It's only 0.1% but symbolic nonetheless... [#gbp](#)

9:33 AM - Apr 17, 2018

 2  See Michael Hewson 's other Tweets 

The Office for National Statistics says:

/// Latest estimates show that average weekly earnings for employees in Great Britain in real terms (that is, adjusted for price inflation) increased by 0.2% excluding bonuses, and by 0.1% including bonuses, compared with a year earlier.

More to follow....

Business

Economy | Companies | Opinion | Open economy | Markets | Alex | Telegraph Comm

Business

Pay squeeze is over: Wage rises outstrip prices for the first time in a year



Save 2



Winning at last: pay growth is back as the pressure from inflation fades, giving British households something to celebrate CREDIT: MATTHEW CHILDS/REUTERS

Bloomberg

Markets

U.K. Wages Rise Most Since 2015 as End to Squeeze Nears

By [Jill Ward](#)

17 April 2018, 09:30 BST *Updated on 17 April 2018, 10:31 BST*

- ▶ Stronger wage growth, slower inflation is good for consumers
- ▶ Unemployment declines to 4.2%, lowest rate since 1975

IMPORTANT INFORMATION



ALLIANCEBERNSTEIN

Road to Brexit

Economy

North Korea Revealed

The Trump Effect

Imprisoned in Myanmar

The Future of Cars

Techn



ECONOMY APRIL 17, 2018 / 9:35 AM / 5 MONTHS AGO

Lowest jobless rate since 1975 fails to spur wage growth

David Milliken, William Schomberg

5 MIN READ



LONDON (Reuters) - British workers' pay is still rising by less than inflation despite the lowest unemployment rate since 1975, official data showed on Tuesday, but weaker-than-expected wage growth is unlikely to stop interest rates rising next month.

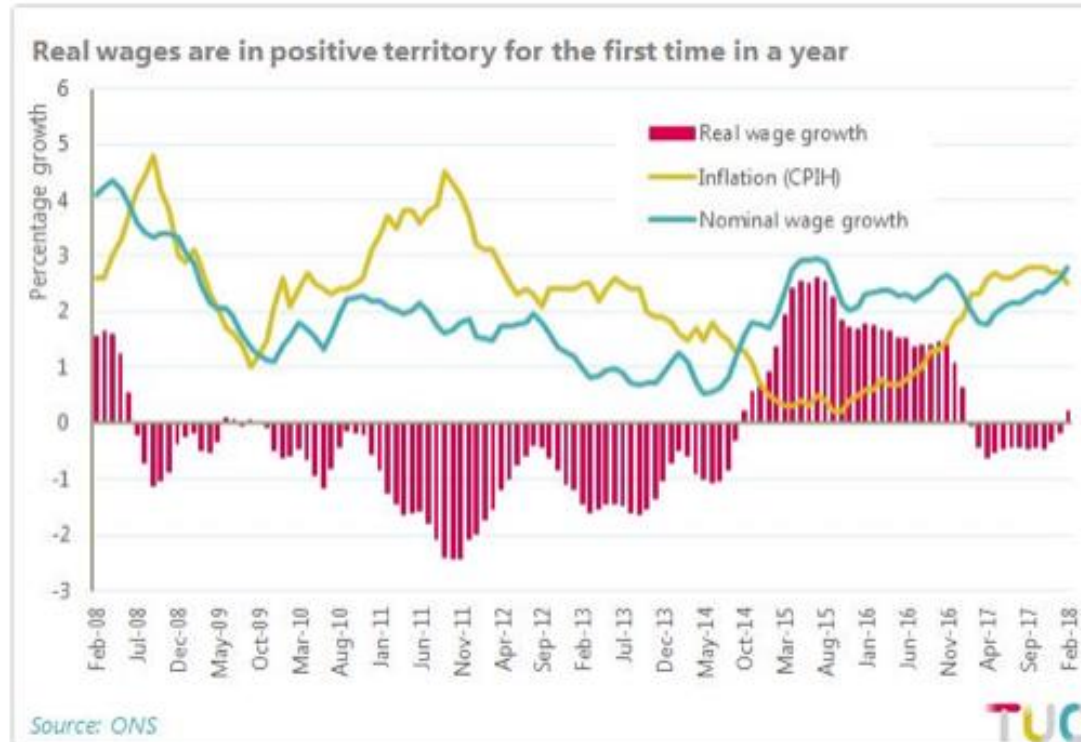


TUC Economics and Social Affairs

@TUCEconomics

Follow

The latest ONS figures show real pay growing for the first time in a year. After months of decline, real wages have grown by 0.2%.



1:37 AM - 17 Apr 2018



2



7



7



What happened?

Live page

9:32 BREAKING: Wage growth steady at 2.8%...

9:33 BREAKING: Unemployment falls...

9:36 BREAKING: Employment at record high...

....

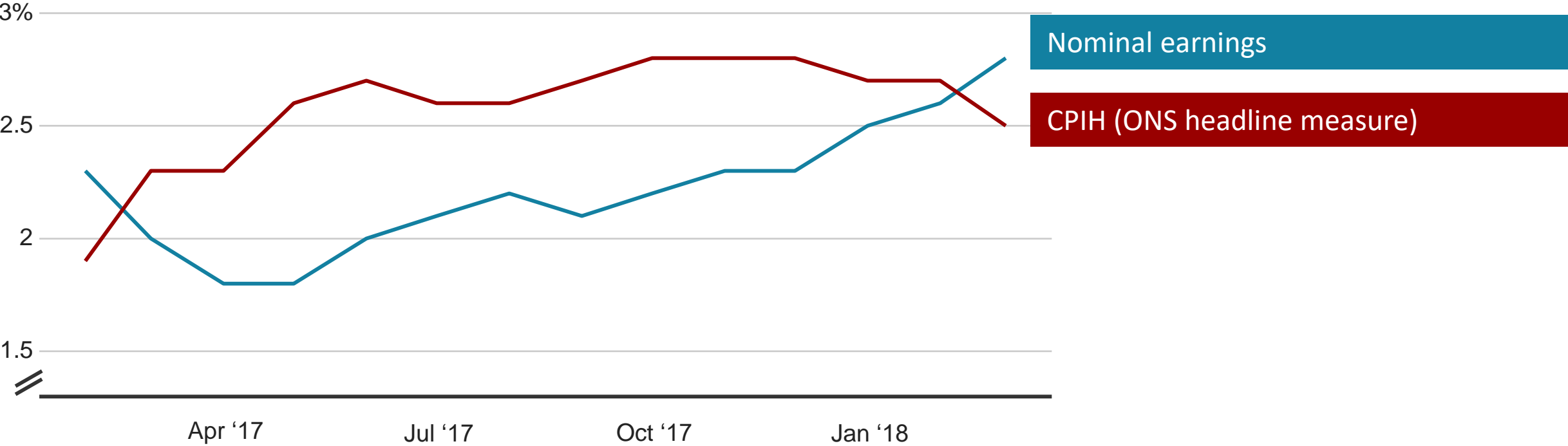
9:56 Quote from Fidelity International

"Real wage growth has turned positive for the first time since January 2017"

10:17 Quote from Hargreaves Lansdown

"The squeeze on incomes isn't quite over, as prices rose at an annual rate of 2.9%... it looks certain we'll see real wages start to grow again in the coming months"

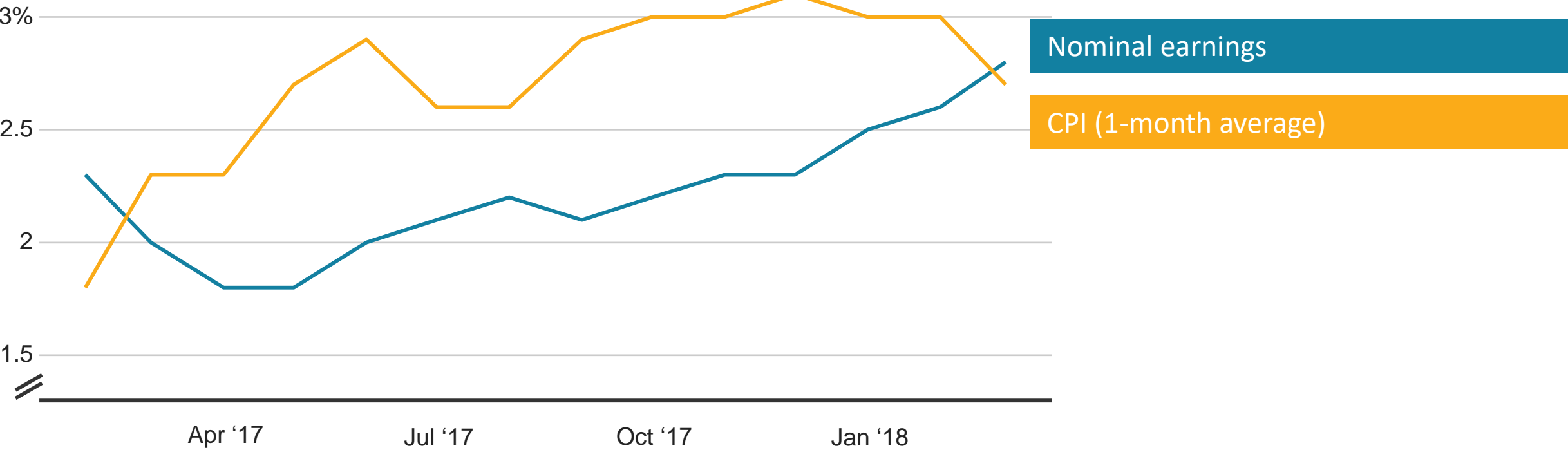
Earnings vs inflation: the results



Source: Office for National Statistics

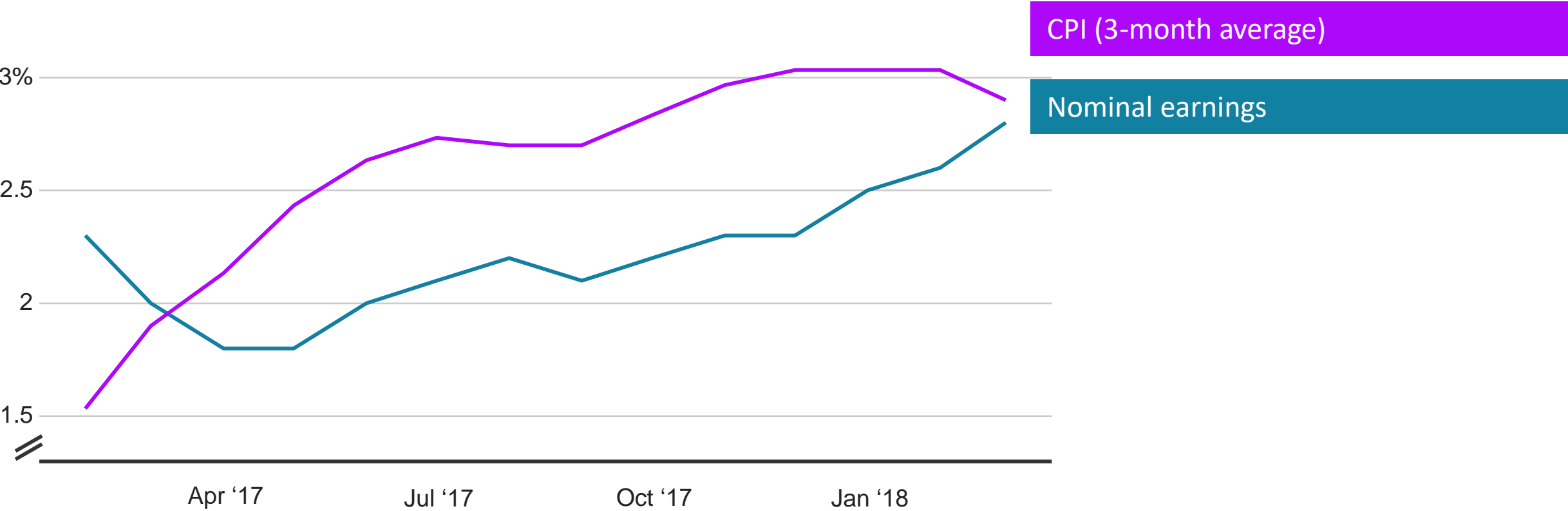


Earnings vs inflation: the results



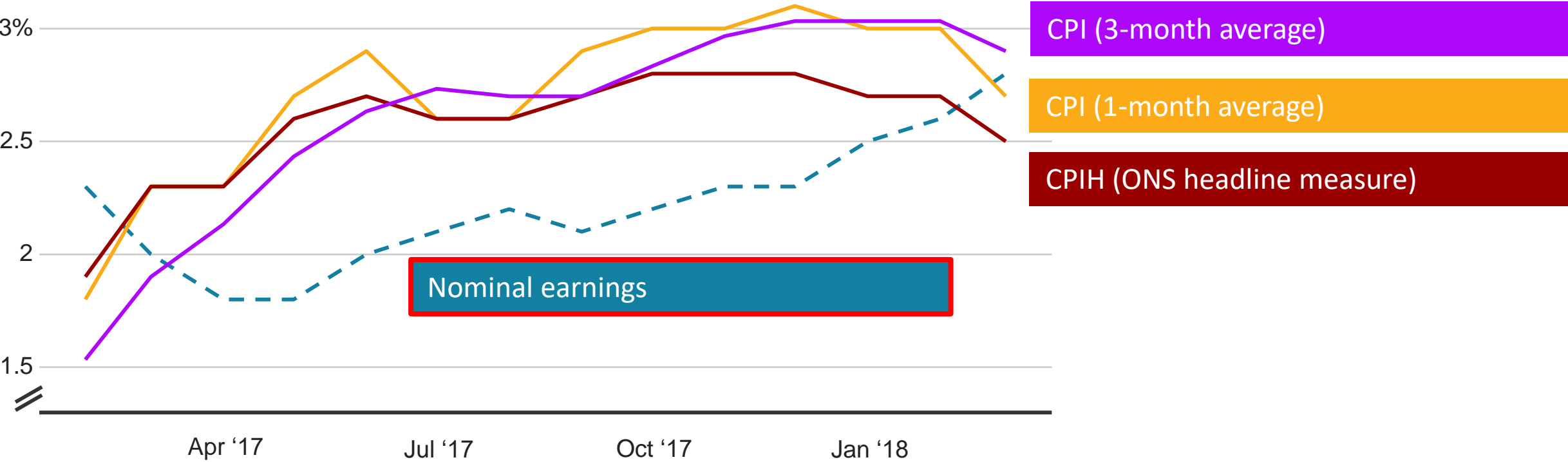
Source: Office for National Statistics

Earnings vs inflation: the results



Source: Office for National Statistics

Earnings vs inflation: the results



Source: Office for National Statistics

So what's the headline?

Year-long wage squeeze nearing an end

🕒 17 April 2018 | 📄

f 🗨️ 🐦 ✉️ 🔄 Share



The year-long squeeze on wages is nearing an end, official figures for the three months to February suggest.

Using the consumer prices index (CPI) average wages went up by 2.8%, still below the 2.9% inflation rate.

But the Office for National Statistics said when wages are compared with their new measure of inflation, including housing costs (CPIH), average weekly earnings rose by 0.2% year-on-year.

ONS figures on coronavirus death registrations

Robert Cuffe <robert.cuffe@bbc.co.uk>

To: Rachael Payne

Cc: Amrit Cheema; Felicity Baker; Isabella Allen; Matthew Grant; Victoria Derbyshire; QuickFireJPortalMail; NewsG Health; Reality Check; Visual Journalism Editorial

On: Tuesday, 5 May 2020 at 09:34

[Hide Details](#)

Figures from the Office for National Statistics for England and Wales show that in the week ending 24th April 2020

TOTAL DEATHS (ANY CAUSE)

21,997 deaths were registered.

This is the first decrease during the epidemic but barely different to the previous week (down by 354).

CORONAVIRUS DEATHS

8,237 deaths mentioned coronavirus on the death certificate.

That is 37% of all deaths.

That proportion is slightly down from last week when 39% of all deaths mentioned coronavirus on the death certificate

CORONAVIRUS DEATHS IN CARE HOMES

2,335 deaths in care homes mentioned coronavirus on the death certificate.

Care homes accounted for 22% of coronavirus deaths.

Previous week's figures (ie week ending 17th April)

Deaths from any cause: 22,351

Deaths mentioning coronavirus on the death certificate: 8,758

Deaths in care homes mentioning coronavirus on the death certificate: 2,050

Inbox

By: Conversations

Today

- 30 Toby Castle
- 33 3Newlist Thursday 27th August and z... 14:50
Zoom: https://bbc.zoom.us/j/95603619308 27 Au...
- 1216 Fiona Lethbridge
SMC Roundup V2: ISARIC 4C study on ch... 14:20
Science Media Centre Roundup VERSION 2 EMBA...
- 30 Fiona Fox
SMC News Briefing Invite: Report launch f... 14:12
Science Media Centre News Briefing UNDER EMB...
- 3 Centre for Policy Studies
EMBARGOED: How to fix the social care c... 13:12
EMBARGOED to 00.01, Sunday 30th August 2020...
- 10 Poppy Hodgson, David Brown, Maryam A...
New 6&10 chart 13:05
- 2569 Thank you – I have given it to the designer. Hopin...
- 3 Chartbeat
How newsrooms adapt to change | Comin... 11:46
Insights from El Tiempo + The Independent (UK)...
- 2 Callum May
Universities UK staff 11:44
From: Press Office <pressoffice@universitiesuk.a...
- 9 Danny Shaw
Fwd: Collapse in migration to the UK after... 11:43
Sent from my iPad Begin forwarded message: Fro...
- 1 James McKenzie Meetings Team
Phone meeting availability for September 11:36
Good morning, We hope you are well and keeping...
- 2239 Nick Trigg, Richard Warry-ONLINE
One of you able to put copy into system o... 11:31
Yep sure am – doing that now From: Richard Warr...
- 1 Joseph Winter
Libya map update 11:29

SMC Roundup V2: ISARIC 4C study on children

Fiona Lethbridge <lethbridge@sciemcer>
Fiona Lethbridge
Thursday, 27 August 2020 at 14:20
[Show Details](#)

Science Media Centre Roundup

EMBARGOED UNTIL 23:30 UK time on Thursday 27 August 21

Expert reaction to ISARIC 4C study on clinic in the UK, as published in the BMJ*

NEW COMMENT Dr Liz Whittaker, Infectious Disease Lead at Paediatric Infectious Diseases and Immunology, Imperial Col

"This study comprises a prospective collection of data on chil comprehensive, the data are very reflective of clinicians' expe

"The study is reassuring. It echoes other studies which have i paediatric population of 16 million). Very low numbers of chi – particularly in comparison to adults, but also in comparison sepsis, etc.) and other causes of childhood death (e.g. road tr:

"The researchers identified a sub-set of the children with the new characteristics which would help with diagnosis of this co cohort becoming unwell and requiring critical care, the outco

"Also as previously described, the children in this study met tl inflammation) and also had non-specific symptoms as previo children with PIMS were more likely to have those symptoms well the majority of children with SARS-CoV-2 infection are, a:

"Flu-like symptoms are extremely common in children with in not included in the WHO criteria as they do not help clinician: common childhood conditions. The RCPCH has produced gui [linked-syndrome-affecting-children-information-families](#).

"As in other studies, those children of Black ethnicity are mor

D-19, accounting for 36.7% of all deaths registered in Wales.

Get the words about the numbers right

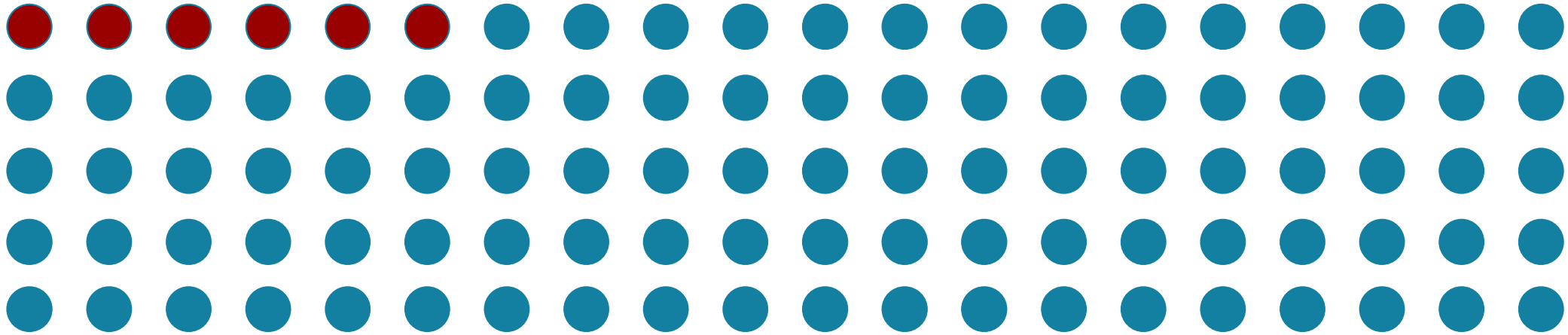
- Be clear on signal size and strength of evidence

Communicating it clearly

- **Bacon is a definite carcinogen based on 800 studies**
- **70g of processed meats increases risk of colorectal cancer by 18%**

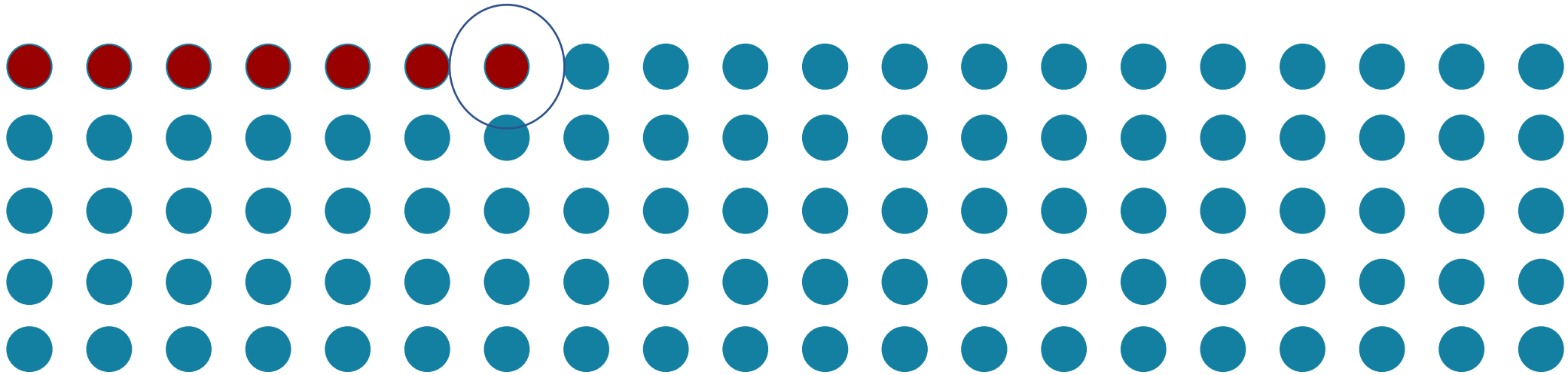
Communicating it clearly

- Bacon is a definite carcinogen based on 800 studies
- 70g of processed meats increases risk of colorectal cancer by 18%



Communicating it clearly

- Bacon is a definite carcinogen based on 800 studies
- 70g of processed meats increases risk of colorectal cancer by 18%



Mathematics

Maryam Mirzakhani: 'The more I spent time on maths, the more excited I got'

The first woman to win the prestigious Fields Medal prize discusses her life as a mathematician



This article is 3 years old

45,024 51

Wednesday 13 August 2014 02.30 BST



i Maryam Mirzakhani, professor of mathematics at Stanford University. She recently became the first woman to win the Fields Medal. Photograph: Stanford University

[Maryam Mirzakhani has become the first woman to win the Fields Medal](#), the most prestigious prize in mathematics. Mirzakhani, 37, is of Iranian descent and completed her PhD at Harvard in 2004. Her thesis showed how to compute the

Can you describe your research in accessible terms? Does it have applications within other areas?

Most problems I work on are related to geometric structures on surfaces and their deformations. In particular, I am interested in understanding hyperbolic surfaces. Sometimes properties of a fixed hyperbolic surface can be better understood by studying the moduli space that parameterises all hyperbolic structures on a given topological surface.

These moduli spaces have rich geometries themselves, and arise in natural and important ways in differential, hyperbolic, and algebraic geometry. There are also connections with theoretical physics, topology, and combinatorics. I find it fascinating that you can look at the same problem from different perspectives and approach it using different methods.

2,000,000,000

~~2,000,000,000~~

÷ 5

400,000,000

~~2,000,000,000~~

÷ 5

~~400,000,000~~

÷ 4,000,000

100