

## Several Food Companies Continue To See Increased Profits Off The Backs Of Further Price Hikes In Q1 2024

In March 2024, The U.S. Department Of Agriculture (USDA) Projected Food Prices Would Climb 2.5% During 2024, Including Food-At-Home Expected To Increase 1.6%, While A March 2024 Report Found Many Of The Top Fast Food Chains Have Hiked Prices Well Above The National Rate Of Inflation, With McDonald's Increasing Its Prices 100% Since 2014.

**The U.S. Department Of Agriculture (USDA) Expects Food Prices To Jump 2.5% During 2024, With "Food-At-Home" Expected To Also Climb 1.6%.**

March 2024: The U.S. Department Of Agriculture (USDA) Released Its 2024 Forecast Estimating That Food Prices Will Increase 2.5% With Food-At-Home Going Up 1.6%. "The rate of food inflation for food at home is expected to slow as the year goes on, but prices in most categories will still rise. The U.S. Department of Agriculture has released its forecast for 2024 that shows all food prices are expected to increase 2.5% while food-at-home prices are predicted to go up 1.6%." [Supermarket News, [03/28/24](#)]

**Meanwhile, A March 2024 Report From FinanceBuzz Found That Fast Food Chains Have Significantly Hiked Prices Over The Previous Decade, Well Above The National Rate Of Inflation At 31%, With Staples Like McDonald's, Popeyes, And Taco Bell Hiking Prices By 100%, 86%, And 81%, Respectively.**

March 2024: A Report From FinanceBuzz Found That The Prices For Fast Food Chains Over The Past Ten Years Have Risen Significantly Higher Than The Rate Of Inflation, With McDonald's Hiking Prices Three Times Higher Than The National Rate Of Inflation. " Recently, personal finance outlet FinanceBuzz collected and compared several major fast food chain's prices over the past decade — to find which fast food restaurants raised prices the most. Price increases were also compared against the overall inflation of the same time period, which was a 31% rise in the cost of goods since 2014. [...] As FinanceBuzz explains, over the past 10 years, prices at the restaurants studied grew at nearly double the national rate of inflation. In the case of the first five chains that ranked at the top, prices increased at more than double — and McDonald's prices grew more than three times —the national rate of inflation." [Fox 59, [03/29/24](#)]

**Other Companies That Hiked Prices At High Rates Include Popeyes, Taco Bell, Chipotle And Many Other Fast Food Chains:**

Here's the rate of inflation at fast food restaurants seen since 2014:

- McDonald's — 100%
- Popeyes — 86%
- Taco Bell — 81%
- Chipotle — 75%
- Jimmy John's — 62%
- Arby's, Burger King, Chick-fil-A and Wendy's — 55%
- Panera — 54%
- Subway and Starbucks — 39%

[Fox 59, [03/29/24](#)]

**McDonald's CEO Chris Kempczinski Touted The Company's "30% Growth Over The Last 4 Years" After Price Increases Helped The Chain To Increase Its Net Income By 7% YoY To \$1.9 Billion While It Rewarded Shareholders With \$2.1 Billion Through A Combination Of Stock Buybacks And Cash Dividends.**

**In Q1 2024, McDonald's Saw Its Net Income Increase 7% YoY To \$1.9 Billion As The Company Spent A Combined \$2.1 Billion On Its Shareholders Through A Combination Of Cash Dividends And Stock Buybacks, With CEO Chris Kempczinski Touting The Company's "30% Growth Over The Last 4 Years."**

**In Its Q1 2024 Earnings Release, McDonald's CEO Chris Kempczinski Touted The Company's "13 Consecutive Quarters Of Positive Comparable Sales Growth With 30% Growth Over The Last 4 Years."** "Our global comparable sales growth in the first quarter marks 13 consecutive quarters of positive comparable sales growth with 30% growth over the last 4 years,' said CEO Chris Kempczinski." [McDonald's, [04/30/24](#)]

**During Q1 2024, McDonald's Saw Its Net Income Increase 7% To Over \$1.9 Billion, With Its Revenues Increasing 5% To Over \$6.1 Billion:**

	2024	2023	Inc/ (Dec)
Revenues	\$ 6,169	\$ 5,898	5 %
Operating income	2,736	2,532	8
Net income	1,929	1,802	7

[McDonald's, [04/30/24](#)]

**Meanwhile, McDonald's Spent \$1.2 Billion On Shareholder Dividends And \$921 Million On Stock Buybacks.** "During the quarter, the Company paid a quarterly dividend of \$1.67 per share, or \$1.2 billion. Additionally, the Company repurchased 3.2 million shares of stock for \$921 million." [Securities and Exchange Commission, [04/30/24](#)]

## **During Its Q1 2024 Earnings Call, McDonald's Told Investors It Lost Some Of Its Low-Income Customers To Price Hikes, With A March 2024 Report Finding That McDonald's Has Hiked Its Prices More Than Three Times The National Rate Of Inflation Since 2014.**

**During Its Q1 2024 Earnings Call, McDonald's Said That The "Average Check Grew Thanks To Higher Menu Prices," But Warned Some Price Hikes Lost The Company Low-Income Consumers.** "McDonald's reported U.S. same-store sales growth of 2.5%, missing expectations of 2.6%. The chain said that the average check grew thanks to higher menu prices. But by raising prices, McDonald's has also scared away some of its low-income customers." [CNBC, [04/30/24](#)]

**March 2024: According To FinanceBuzz, McDonald's Has Hiked Menu Prices More Than Three Times The National Rate Of Inflation Since 2014.** "As FinanceBuzz explains, over the past 10 years, prices at the restaurants studied grew at nearly double the national rate of inflation. In the case of the first five chains that ranked at the top, prices increased at more than double — and McDonald's prices grew more than three times —the national rate of inflation." [Fox 59, [03/29/24](#)]

**Popular Items At McDonald's Have Climbed Exorbitantly, Including The McChicken Which Is Nearly 200% More Expensive Than In 2014 And A Medium Fry Costing 138% More In 2024:**

Restaurant item	2014 Price	2024 Price	Difference	Percent increase
McDonald's McChicken sandwich	\$1.00	\$2.99	+\$1.99	+199%
McDonald's Quarter Pounder with cheese meal	\$5.39	\$11.99	+\$6.60	+122%
McDonald's 10-piece chicken nugget meal	\$5.99	\$10.99	+\$5.00	+83%
McDonald's Filet-O-Fish	\$3.49	\$5.49	+\$2.00	+57%
McDonald's Big Mac	\$3.99	\$5.99	+\$2.00	+50%
McDonald's medium fries	\$1.59	\$3.79	+\$2.20	+138%

[Fox 59, [03/29/24](#)]

**Domino's Pizza—Which Previously Announced Plans To Hike Prices "In The Low-Single-Digit Percentage Range"—Saw Its Net Income For Q1 2024 Increase 20% YoY To \$125.8 Million, With The Company Rewarding Shareholders With \$368 Million Through A Combination Of Cash Dividends And Stock Buybacks.**

**During Q1 2024, Domino's Pizza Saw Its Net Income Climb By 20% YoY To \$125.8 Million, As The Company Spent \$343 Million On Shareholder Dividends And An Additional \$25 Million On Stock Buybacks.**

**During Q1 2024, Domino's Saw Its Net Income Jump By 20% To \$125.8 Million, A 20% Increase YoY:**

	First Quarter		
	2024	2023	Increase/ (Decrease)
[...]			
Net income	\$125.8	\$104.8	+ 20.1%

[Domino's Pizza, [04/29/24](#)]

**During Q1 2024, Domino's Rewarded Its Shareholders With \$343 Million In Dividends, Up By \$254 Million From Q1 2023:**

	Fiscal Quarter Ended	
	March 24, 2024	March 26, 2023
[...]		
Payments of common stock dividends and equivalents	(343)	(89)

[Domino's Pizza, [04/29/24](#)]

**Domino's Also Spent \$25 Million On Stock Buybacks, With A Remaining \$1.12 Billion Left On Its Share Repurchase Program:**

**Share Repurchases**

During the first quarter of 2024, the Company repurchased and retired 56,372 shares of common stock for a total of \$25.0 million. As of March 24, 2024, the Company had a total remaining authorized amount for share repurchases of \$1.12 billion.

[Domino's Pizza, [04/29/24](#)]

**In February 2024, Domino's CFO Sandeep Reddy Told Investors That The Company Would Hike Prices "In The Low-Single-Digit Percentage Range," With Reddy Later Saying In April Domino's Would Hike Them By "High-Single Digits" In California After The State Raised The Minimum Wage For Fast Food Workers.**

**February 2024:** During Its Q4 And FY 2023 Earnings Call, Domino's Chief Financial Officer Sandeep Reddy Said The Company Would Plan To Hike Prices "In The Low-Single-Digit Percentage Range" In 2024. "The company also plans to raise prices in the low-single-digits percentage range in the U.S. this year, CFO Sandeep Reddy said, in a bid to shield margins from the impact of the wage raises set to take effect in California in April." [Reuters, [02/26/24](#)]

**April 2024:** Reddy Said That Domino's Would Hike Prices By "High-Single Digits" In California After The Passage Of Its Minimum Wage Increase For Fast Food Workers. "So, we essentially would have had to -- we had to increase our prices in California to address the wage increases that we saw over there. Our price

increase is probably in the high-single digits, but we will modify it if we need to actually adjust to what the competitors are doing." [Seeking Alpha, [04/29/24](#)]

**Yum! Brands—Operator Of Popular Fast Food Chains KFC, Pizza Hut, And Taco Bell—Saw Its Net Income Increase To \$314 Million During Q1 2024, A 5% Increase YoY And Spent \$189 Million On Shareholder Dividends, As A Recent March 2024 Analysis Found Taco Bell Has Hiked Its Prices 81% Since 2014.**

**Yum! Brands Operates Popular Fast Food Chains KFC, Pizza Hut, Taco Bell And The Habit Burger Grill.**

Yum! Brands Owns Popular Fast Food Chains KFC, Pizza Hut, Taco Bell And The Habit Burger Grill:



[Yum! Brands, accessed [05/01/24](#)]

**During Q1 2024, Yum! Brands Saw Its Net Income Increase To \$314 Million, A 5% Increase YoY, While It Spent \$189 Million On Cash Dividends.**

During Its Q1 2024, Yum! Brands Saw Its Net Income Increase 5% YoY To \$314 Million:

	Quarter ended		% Change B/(W)
	3/31/24	3/31/23	
Net Income	\$ 314	\$ 300	5

[Yum! Brands, [05/01/24](#)]

Meanwhile, Yum! Spent \$189 Million On Shareholder Dividends:

	Quarter ended	
	3/31/24	3/31/23
Dividends paid on Common Stock	(189)	(169)

[Yum! Brands, [05/01/24](#)]

**A March 2024 Analysis Found That Taco Bell Has Hiked Its Prices 81% Since 2014, Well Above The National Rate Of Inflation.**

Since 2014, Taco Bell Has Hiked Prices The Third Highest Of Any Fast Food Restaurant, With Prices Increasing 81%, Well Above The National Rate Of Inflation:

Here's the rate of inflation at fast food restaurants seen since 2014:

- McDonald's — 100%
- Popeyes — 86%
- Taco Bell — 81%

[Fox 59, [03/29/24](#)]

**During Q1 2024, Coca-Cola Saw Its Net Income Climb Slightly, After The Company Hiked Prices By 13% YoY, Netting \$3.18 Billion In Income While Spending \$801 Million On Its Shareholders Through A Combination Of Dividends And Share Repurchases.**

**During Q1 2024, Coca-Cola Saw Its Net Income Climb Slightly To \$3.18 Billion While It Rewarded Shareholders With \$801 Million Through A Combination Of Stock Buybacks And Cash Dividends.**

During Q1 2024, Coca-Cola's Net Income Increased Slightly To \$3.18 Billion:

	Three Months Ended	
	March 29, 2024	March 31, 2023
Operating Activities		
Consolidated net income	\$ 3,185	\$ 3,113

[Coca Cola, [04/30/24](#)]

During Q1 2024, Coca-Cola Rewarded Shareholders With \$801 Million Through A Combination Of Stock Buybacks And Cash Dividends:

	Three Months Ended	
	March 29, 2024	March 31, 2023
[...]		
Purchases of stock for treasury	(702)	(848)
Dividends	(99)	(101)

[Coca Cola, [04/30/24](#)]

**At The End Of Q1 2024, Coca-Cola's Prices Increased 13% From Q1 2023, With The Company Expecting "Organic Revenue Growth Of 8% To 9%, Up From Its Prior Range Of 6% To 7%."**

At The End Of Q1 2024, Coca-Cola's Prices Were Up 13% From Q1 2023, With The Company Expecting Organic Revenue Growth Of 8% To 9%, Up From Its Prior Range Of 6% To 7%. "Coke's overall prices were up 13% compared with the year-ago period, but about half of that came from hyperinflation in certain markets, like Argentina. For the full year, Coke is now expecting organic revenue growth of 8% to 9%, up from

its prior range of 6% to 7%. The company said it anticipates price hikes in certain markets experiencing 'intense inflation,' leading in part to its new outlook." [CNBC, [04/30/24](#)]