

January 2016

Contract Catering - UK

“Contract caterers are displaying varied performances dependent on individual market conditions. Many are, however, looking to make further internal cost savings to help buoy profits and improve competitiveness to gain further contracts. In this environment, companies can benefit from differentiating their food offer with brands and menus inspired by retail ...

December 2015

Consumers and the Economic Outlook: Quarterly Update - UK

"Mintel's key measures of consumer confidence show that people are still wary. Although the improvements in sentiment that accompanied the end of the income squeeze have been sustained, 2015 has been a year of consolidation, rather than one of soaring consumer spirits. Earlier in the year, the election added ...

RTD Alcoholic Beverages - US

"RTD (ready-to-drink) alcoholic beverages are in a time of transition, and, as such, are seeing both ups and downs. FMBs (flavored malt beverages) experienced strong volume sales growth of 57% from 2010-15, due to a Millennial consumer base with a bit of a sweet tooth, as well as to innovation ...

Fish and Shellfish - UK

“That fish is rarely seen as versatile is holding the market back from capitalising fully on the scratch cooking trend. Encouraging, however, is consumers’ interest in more recipe suggestions for oily fish and for using fish in ethnic-style dishes, highlighting recipe inspiration as a route to driving more experimentation in ...

Condiments, Dressings and Seasonings - UK

Brand Loyalty in Food - Ireland

“When looking at the Irish market as a whole, consumers show a slightly stronger preference towards brands when it comes to indulgence items such as chocolate, spreads and alcohol. With staple foods (eg fruit and vegetables) however, consumers appear to have no preference or lean more towards own-label.”

– ...

Sugar and Gum Confectionery - UK

“While the impact of the sugar debate on the sugar confectionary market has so far been limited, the public focus on sugar continues to pose a threat. Consumers’ openness to sugar-free variants and positive views of alternatives to refined sugar suggests these as potential areas to explore.”

– Anita ...

Coffee Shops - UK

“The out-of-home hot drinks market continues to attract attention from non-specialists, putting pressure on specialist coffee shop operators to offer a point of difference. As such, the larger specialist players are refreshing their offer with a renewed focus on food, technology and store formats in order to increase their competitive ...

Beer - UK

Food and Drink - International

“There is scope for growth in the table sauces and seasonings market by appealing to the increasingly varied tastes of UK consumers, namely interest in food trends such as American-style (eg barbecue sauce) and ethnic cuisines.

With changing consumer eating habits driving growth in less traditional segments of thin sauces ...

Cooking and Pasta Sauces, Marinades - US

"Sales in the total cooking sauces, pasta sauces, and marinades category have been growing and are expected to continue growing. Marinades, the smallest segment, had the strongest gains and drove category growth, likely due to new launches of convenient, versatile products, as well as increasing interest in cooking at home."

The Budget Shopper - US

"Several years after the recession, the economy is stronger, and people are beginning to work, to buy and to live more freely again. Unfortunately for retailers looking to make a profit, consumers' expectations for fair prices have not waned."

Coffee Houses and Tea Shops - US

"Coffee remains one of America's most popular beverages and the influence of coffee houses are still growing. These chains are using more technology than ever before, testing the delivery waters, and are adopting some of the practices of the third wave coffee chains. While still coffee dominates, tea has slowing ...

Innovations in Soft Drinks - Ireland

"The soft drinks industry has seen a period of strong innovation, with low-calorie and sugar trends helping to drive the market. Moving forward, with more pressure being exerted on the industry over the sugar content of some drinks, this will likely see companies doing more to reformulate their products to ...

Fruit Juice, Juice Drinks and Smoothies - UK

"That only 29% of beer drinkers are prepared to spend more than £4 per pint reflects the enduring price-sensitivity of the out-of-home beer market."

Dark Spirits - US

"Growth has been small but consistent year-over-year from 2011 to 2015 (est). Overall sales are expected to continue gradually upward at a similar pace, as dark spirits add some growth through trending consumer interest – particularly the straight and Irish whiskey and brandy segments – while white spirits see small ...

Condiments and Dressings - US

"Both the condiments and dressings categories have struggled to grow sales in recent years, impacted by competition from other categories including dips and sauces, and minimal innovation overall."

White Spirits and RTDs - UK

"Brands innovating with flavour should focus on the premium tier and try to resist gimmicky variants such as those which have harmed the flavoured vodka category in the US."

– Chris Wisson, Senior Drinks Analyst

Ready Meals - Ireland

"Times are tough for the ready meals market in Ireland, with consumers still fearful from the 2013 horsemeat scandal, coupled with the growing trend amongst Irish consumers towards scratch cooking. Going forward, the ready meals market is expected to witness 2.2% growth in 2015"

“Concerns around sugar are affecting the fruit juice, juice drinks and smoothies market. 36% of those buying less/not buying do so because of concerns over sugar content. Boding well for NPD is that 40% are interested in variants with reduced sugar and no sweeteners, and 24% in reduced sugar ...

November 2015

Pizza and Pasta Restaurants - UK

“Discounting continues to be a double-edged sword for this market. Whilst it remains a key venue differentiator, the expectation of promotions is hindering players’ ability to capitalise on the improving economic climate. The cut-price image sees consumers look to more exciting eating out options.”

Supermarkets - UK

“The grocery superstores are losing market share and the main focus of this report is to examine why. We think that there are underlying socio-economic changes taking place which allied to the growth of the hard discounters, Aldi and Lidl, is leading to growth in more frequent shopping trips and ...

Cooking Enthusiasts - US

"Although the share of Cooking Enthusiasts is stable in 2015 versus 2014, the drop from 2013 indicates a longer-term trend which is also reflected in slight declines in the proportion of people who say they cook three or more times per week."

Grocery Retailing - US

"Retailers across channels are battling for a share of wallets and cash registers, creating what might be the most “crowded” segment in retail. Consumers are enjoying these options and fulfilling their grocery shopping needs by bouncing around to multiple stores that most definitely include nonsupermarkets."

Soup - US

Private Label Food and Non-alcoholic Drink - UK

“That three in 10 shoppers would like to have a say in new products being added to own-label ranges, indicates this an a valuable route for own-brands to canvas the opinions of shoppers whilst also helping to build engagement and loyalty.”

Juice, Juice Drinks and Smoothies - US

"Total US retail sales of 100% juice, juice drinks, and smoothies are estimated to grow by less than 1% in 2015, continuing the flatlining seen in recent years. Strong growth in the small, smoothies segment, driven by positive health perception and consumer interest in healthy snacking, has tempered losses seen ...

Pizza Restaurants - US

"Pizza has a long history in the United States as a favorite dish for diners of all ages. And while pizza restaurants are ubiquitous, there has been a surge in activity in recent years as fast casual pizza restaurants have emerged on the scene and other, established, pizza restaurants are ...

Prepared Meals and Sides - US

Frozen and refrigerated meals and side dishes are convenient, easy, and diverse, all attributes long popular among consumers.

Cheese: Spotlight on Natural - US

Food and Drink - International

Sales in the total soup category have been flat and are expected to remain flat through 2020. Sales of refrigerated and frozen soups, as well as broths and stocks, are anticipated to grow on account of their less-processed nature and consumers' interest in cooking. Canned and dry soup brands, which ...

Cereal - Ireland

"With sugar increasingly coming under scrutiny from health groups, government organisations and consumers themselves, we can expect to see cereal brands moving forward doing more to reduce their sugar usage – with a key challenge being to assure consumers that less sugar does not necessarily mean less taste."

– ...

October 2015

Cheese - UK

"On the whole, the cheese category is expected to see only slight volume growth in 2015, largely due to the largest segment, cheddar's, lacklustre performance. In contrast, strong volume performance from recipe and territorial cheeses suggests consumers may be seeking greater variety in their cheese purchases."

Poultry and Game Meat - UK

"There is a need for tangible and easily comparable information on different welfare schemes in the poultry market. Helping shoppers to make an informed choice should help to unlock the added value of these initiatives in the eyes of the shoppers to drive demand."

Craft Beer - US

"As beer sales stagnate, craft is a small bright spot preventing a loss of share to wine and spirits. Mintel estimates craft growth in 2015, and continued growth through 2020, though at a slowing rate."

White Spirits - US

The \$23.2 billion cheese category continues to perform well, boosted by consumer preferences for natural foods and increased snacking occasions. The strong natural cheese segment remains key for overall growth, especially as processed cheese sales and consumption remain rather stagnant.

Red Meat - UK

"Inflation has been the primary driver of value growth in the red meat market in recent year. With wage growth outpacing inflation since late 2014, this should facilitate both volume growth and trading up in the red meat market"

Bread and Baked Goods - UK

"Health-related concerns are amongst the key barriers to more frequent usage of packaged sliced bread among infrequent users. Among these concerns, carbohydrates and calorie content are on a par."

- **Amy Price, Senior Food and Drink Analyst**

Poultry - US

"Poultry has enjoyed steady sales increases since 2010 with continued growth through 2020, largely based on consumers' interest in eating better with leaner protein, and due to the increasing cost of beef. Other poultry – including turkey, duck, and other fowl – has had the strongest growth of all poultry ...

Sandwiches, Subs and Wrap Concepts - US

"This report explores consumer dining, market and culinary trends in the fast food (QSR) and fast casual segments of sandwich, sub and wrap restaurants. The report covers consumer attitudes regarding the type of restaurant they visit and during which daypart, desired attributes of the foods they order, attitudes toward the ...

Innovation on the Menu - US

Food and Drink - International

"Growth has been small but consistent year-over-year from 2011 to estimated 2015, with low, single-digit growth. Overall sales are expected to continue upward at a similar pace, as dark spirits trend and vodka, the largest spirits segment, continues to post small but positive gains."

Diet Trends - US

"Consumers are somewhat skeptical about diet products, and instead of purchasing traditional diet-specific products they are turning to a well-balanced diet and products that support it."

Still, Sparkling and Fortified Wine - UK

"With limited plantings and uncertain harvests, demand for Prosecco may outstrip supply in the near future, helping to push up prices but also creating opportunities for other sparkling wines such as Crémant and English Sparkling Wine to capitalise upon."

– Chris Wisson, Senior Drinks Analyst

January 1970

Attitudes Towards Lunchtime Foods - UK

"Wage increases have finally started to outpace inflation. This should translate to a greater willingness to buy lunch out of home more often, to trade up to premium options, and to buy extras such as snacks, drinks and desserts. However, the long slowdown means that frugal spending habits have become ...

"Consumers have unprecedented choice when dining out, and all restaurant segments are constantly vying for attention. Restaurant owners must keep in touch with what is currently happening in the foodservice industry and understand some of the emerging trends."

Pizza - US

"Retail pizza sales are consistent, if not spectacular, as consumers turn to the options most often out of the need for a convenient, value-conscious option for their families. Brands seeking to lure new or current consumers in the category should bear in mind the notable interest in customizable options and ...

Gluten-free Foods - US

"While some consumers view the gluten-free diet as a fad, gluten-free food consumption continues to trend upward, fueled mostly by its general health halo, and also as a treatment for those with celiac disease or gluten sensitivity. Market competition continues to heat up as manufacturers both large and small enter ...