

Report Price: £3085.18 | \$3995.00 | €3666.43

The above prices are correct at the time of publication, but are subject to change due to currency fluctuations.



The soup category continues to struggle, driven by sales declines in RTS (ready-to-serve) wet and condensed soup.

Michael Averbook, Food & Drink Analyst

This report looks at the following areas:

- Struggling category kept afloat by small segments
- Packaged soup struggles with image
- · Cooking enthusiasm impacts the category
- Lack of interest in soup innovation

Despite the maturity of the category there are opportunities for growth. Refrigerated soup may find continued success, as consumers are ditching the center of the store for the perimeter in hopes of finding products they may perceive as fresh and healthy. Soups that use recognizable ingredients, highlight free-from claims, and innovate in exciting flavors may capture consumers' attention, while convenient packaging that is microwavable or resealable may increase the situations and occasions for soup consumption.

BUY THIS REPORT NOW

VISIT: store.mintel.com

CALL: EMEA +44 (0) 20 7606 4533

> Brazil 0800 095 9094

Americas +1 (312) 943 5250

China +86 (21) 6032 7300

APAC +61 (0) 2 8284 8100

EMAIL: reports@mintel.com

DID YOU KNOW?

This report is part of a series of reports, produced to provide you with a more holistic view of this market



Report Price: £3085.18 | \$3995.00 | €3666.43

The above prices are correct at the time of publication, but are subject to change due to currency fluctuations.

Table of Contents

Overview

What you need to know

Definition

Executive Summary

The issues

Struggling category kept afloat by small segments

Figure 1: Total US sales and fan chart forecast of soup, at current prices, 2012-22

Packaged soup struggles with image

Figure 2: Soup attitudes, soup comparisons, March 2017

Cooking enthusiasm impacts the category

Figure 3: Soup attitudes, made from scratch, March 2017

Lack of interest in soup innovation

Figure 4: Soup innovation, March 2017

The opportunities

Refrigerated soup shows promise

Figure 5: MULO sales of refrigerated fresh soup, rolling 52 weeks 2016 and 2017

Focus on the positives and the lack of negatives $% \left(1\right) =\left(1\right) \left(1$

Figure 6: Soup attributes, health attributes, March 2017

Convenience packaging broadens opportunity

Figure 7: Soup innovation, microwavable and resealable packaging, March 2017

Growth opportunities to come from diversity in occasion

Figure 8: Soup behavior, season, weather, and when sick, March 2017

What it means

The Market - What You Need to Know

Soup sales projected to remain stationary

Refrigerated/frozen soups, wet broth/stock, are areas of opportunity $\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{2} \right) \left(\frac{1}$

Foodservice soup part competition, part inspiration for packaged soup

Some packaged soups shunned for high sodium content, processed perception

In-store positioning hurts RTS wet and condensed soup, helps refrigerated

Market Size and Forecast

Soup sales remain stagnant

Figure 9: Total US sales and fan chart forecast of soup, at current prices, 2012-22

Figure 10: Total US retail sales and forecast of soup, at current prices, 2012-22

Figure 11: Total US retail sales and forecast of soup, at inflation-adjusted prices, 2012-22

Market Breakdown

Category sales hurt by RTS wet and condensed declines

BUY THIS REPORT NOW VISIT: store.mintel.com

CALL: EMEA +44 (0) 20 7606 4533 | Brazil 0800 095 9094 Americas +1 (312) 943 5250 | China +86 (21) 6032 7300



Report Price: £3085.18 | \$3995.00 | €3666.43

The above prices are correct at the time of publication, but are subject to change due to currency fluctuations.

Figure 12: Total US retail sales and forecast of soup, by segment, at current prices, 2012-22

Figure 13: Total US retail sales of soup, by segment share, at current prices, 2017

Soups in natural supermarkets finding success

Figure 14: Natural supermarket sales of soup, by total and by category, at current prices, rolling 52-weeks ending 3/22/15 and 3/19/17

Figure 15: Natural supermarket sales of soup, by labeling/claims on packaging, at current prices, % change, rolling 52-weeks ending 3/22/15 and 3/19/17

Market Perspective

Foodservice soup part competition, part inspiration

Figure 16: Soup menu items, cuisine types, and ingredients, by menu incidence change from Q1 2015-17

Market Factors

Migration away from center of store hurts certain soup segments

Interest in health

Figure 17: Crude percentages of selected circulatory diseases among adults aged 18 and over, by all types of heart disease and hypertension – United States, 2013-15

Simple ingredients, free-from claims influencing food shoppers

Figure 18: Lifestyle statements: attitudes/opinions about food – Any agree, by look for organic/natural and preference for food without artificial additives

Consumers interested in trying international foods

Figure 19: Lifestyle statements: attitudes/opinions about food - Any agree, by enjoy eating foreign foods

Consumer interest in cooking can help and hurt category

Figure 20: Lifestyle statements: attitudes/opinions about food - Any agree, by like to try new recipes

Soup with room to be positioned as a snack

Figure 21: Soup attitudes, March 2017

Key Players - What You Need to Know

Top companies driving soup category decline

Broth and dry soup likely benefiting from home cooking

Frozen soup sales continue to plummet

Despite small size, bone broth has potential to continue rapid growth

Brand Sales of Soup

Top three soup manufacturers struggle, drive decline in category

Figure 22: MULO sales of soup, by leading companies, rolling 52 weeks 2016 and 2017

Both Campbell's and General Mills struggle in RTS wet soup segment

Figure 23: MULO sales of ready to serve wet soup, by leading companies and brands, rolling 52 weeks 2016 and 2017

Ramen falters, dry broth/stock flourishes

Figure 24: Online video - "Spicy Beef & Broccoli" - Better Than Bouillon

Figure 25: MULO sales of dry soup, by leading companies and brands, rolling 52 weeks 2016 and 2017

Sales of refrigerated soups heat up

Figure 26: MULO sales of refrigerated fresh soup/ frozen soup, by leading companies and brands, rolling 52 weeks 2016 and 2017

Campbell's dominates wet broth/stock segment, yet smaller brands grow

Figure 27: TV Advertisement – "Get Inspired" – College Inn Broth

Figure 28: MULO sales of wet broth/stock, by leading companies and brands, rolling 52 weeks 2016 and 2017

BUY THIS REPORT NOW

VISIT: store.mintel.com

CALL: EMEA +44 (0) 20 7606 4533 | Brazil 0800 095 9094 Americas +1 (312) 943 5250 | China +86 (21) 6032 7300

APAC +61 (0) 2 8284 8100

EMAIL: reports@mintel.com



Report Price: £3085.18 | \$3995.00 | €3666.43

The above prices are correct at the time of publication, but are subject to change due to currency fluctuations.

What's Working?

Interest in cooking, making soup from scratch benefits broth and dry soup

Flavor innovation and convenient packaging drive refrigerated growth

Figure 29: Online video - "Recipe: Butternut Squash mac & Cheese" - Boulder Organic!

Success in multiple segments leads to private label soup growth

Figure 30: MULO sales of private label soup, total soup, and segments, by change from rolling 52 weeks 2016 to 2017

Figure 31: Purchase intent, by private label soup and national branded soup, April 2017

Focus on free-from claims, simple ingredients

Figure 32: Soup launches, by organic and free-from claims, 2014-16

Figure 33: Online video - "Blount Organic Broccoli Cheddar Soup" - Blount Fine Foods

What's Struggling?

Campbell's and Progresso struggle with healthy, premium soup lines

Frozen soup free fall driven by location in store, processed perception, and inconvenient packaging

Maruchan bagged ramen struggles

Lack of innovation

Figure 34: New soup launches, 2014-16

What's Next?

Portioning and resealable packaging

Figure 35: Soup launches, by packaging type, 2014-16

Bone broth is booming

Figure 36: New soup launches, by bone broth, 2014-16

Authentic Asian and Asian inspired soups

Figure 37: New soup launches, by Asian soups, 2014-16

Scratch fast

New directions

Figure 38: TV Advertisement - "New Well Yes! Soups" - Campbell's Soup

The Consumer - What You Need to Know

Soup purchase is universal

Soup regarded by consumers as generally nutritious, versatile

Good in, bad out

Desired innovation center on packaging

Soup Purchase

Soup is a household staple

Figure 39: Soup purchase, any purchase, March 2017

Soup purchased infrequently

Figure 40: Soup purchase, purchase frequency, March 2017

Men eat a variety of soups

Figure 41: Soup purchase, any purchase, by gender, March 2017

BUY THIS REPORT NOW VISIT: store.mintel.com

CALL: EMEA +44 (0) 20 7606 4533 | Brazil 0800 095 9094 Americas +1 (312) 943 5250 | China +86 (21) 6032 7300



Report Price: £3085.18 | \$3995.00 | €3666.43

The above prices are correct at the time of publication, but are subject to change due to currency fluctuations.

Figure 42: Soup purchase, more than once a month, by gender, March 2017

Age and lifestage influence soup purchase

Older Millennials are new core canned soup consumers

Figure 43: Soup purchase, any purchase of wet, restaurant branded, or ready-to-eat soup, by age, March 2017

Younger consumers most likely to purchase broth and dry soup

Figure 44: Soup purchase, any purchase of any broth or any dry soup, by age, March 2017

Younger Millennials are core consumers of refrigerated and frozen soups

Figure 45: Soup purchase, any purchase of refrigerated, frozen, or chilled bottled soup, by age, March 2017

Parents beat non-parents in purchase across soup types

Figure 46: Soup purchase, any purchase, by parental status, March 2017

Soup Behavior

Consumption of soup increases in the winter, when sick

Figure 47: Soup behavior, season, weather, and when sick, March 2017

Adding toppings to soup, preparing from scratch popular soup behaviors

Figure 48: Soup behavior, toppings and soup from scratch, March 2017

Looking for new soup flavors may influence increased soup purchase

Figure 49: Soup behavior, purchase and looking for new flavors, March 2017

Soup a popular at-home pairing

Figure 50: Soup behavior, toppings, and soup from scratch, March 2017

Women focus on soup occasion; men value convenience, new flavors

Figure 51: Soup behavior, by gender, March 2017

Behavioral differences between younger and older consumers

Older consumers more likely to eat soup in winter, prepared from scratch

Figure 52: Soup behavior, season, and prepare from scratch, by age, March 2017

Younger consumers purchasing more soup as they look for new flavors

Figure 53: Soup behavior, soup uses, when sick, looking for new flavors, and purchase, by age, March 2017

Soup Attributes

Taste and flavor most important soup attributes

Figure 54: Soup attributes, taste, flavor, and texture, March 2017

Low/no sodium leads soup health attributes

Figure 55: Soup attributes, health attributes, March 2017

Older consumers most likely to regard taste as important attribute

Figure 56: Soup attributes, taste and texture, by age, March 2017

Older females value free-from claims, younger men look for soup with added health benefits

Figure 57: Soup attributes, free-from claims, by gender and age, March 2017

Figure 58: Soup attributes, health claims, by gender and age, March 2017

Soup Attitudes

Soup enjoys several positive reputations, but can't seem to get over particular health concerns

BUY THIS REPORT NOW VISIT: store.mintel.com

CALL: EMEA +44 (0) 20 7606 4533 | Brazil 0800 095 9094 Americas +1 (312) 943 5250 | China +86 (21) 6032 7300



Report Price: £3085.18 | \$3995.00 | €3666.43

The above prices are correct at the time of publication, but are subject to change due to currency fluctuations.

Figure 59: Soup attitudes, March 2017

Older consumers agree soup is nutritious, younger consumers prefer premium and restaurant soups

Figure 60: Soup attitudes, by age, March 2017

Parents most likely to agree across soup attitudes

Figure 61: Soup attitudes, by parental status, March 2017

Parents interested in organic soup are most likely to pay more for premium soups

Figure 62: Soup attitudes about premium soups - CHAID analysis - tree output, March 2017

Refrigerated and Frozen Soup Attitudes

Refrigerated soups appear to have slight advantage in reputation for taste, health

Figure 63: Refrigerated and frozen soup attitudes, March 2017

Fathers have most favorable views on refrigerated soups

Figure 64: Refrigerated soup attitudes, by parental status and gender, March 2017

Soup Innovation

Consumers desire convenient packaging

Figure 65: Soup innovation, packaging, March 2017

Nearly a quarter of consumers interested in international soups, functional benefits

Figure 66: Soup innovation, ingredients, March 2017

iGeneration/Millennials especially interested in packaging innovations

Figure 67: Soup innovation, packaging, by generation March 2017

Soup brands have potential to capture Hispanics with exciting innovation

Figure 68: Soup innovation, ingredients, by Hispanic origin, March 2017

Consumer Segmentation

Figure 69: Soup clusters, March 2017

Souper Fans

Soup Sticklers

Apathetic Soup Shoppers

Appendix - Data Sources and Abbreviations

Data sources

Sales data

Fan chart forecast

Consumer survey data

Abbreviations and terms

Abbreviations

Terms

Appendix - CHAID

Figure 70: Soup attitudes - CHAID - Table output, March 2017

Appendix - The Market

BUY THIS REPORT NOW VISIT: store.mintel.com

CALL: EMEA +44 (0) 20 7606 4533 | Brazil 0800 095 9094

Americas +1 (312) 943 5250 | China +86 (21) 6032 7300 APAC +61 (0) 2 8284 8100 |

EMAIL: reports@mintel.com



Report Price: £3085.18 | \$3995.00 | €3666.43

The above prices are correct at the time of publication, but are subject to change due to currency fluctuations.

Figure 71: Total US retail sales and forecast of soup, by segment, at current prices, 2012-22

Figure 72: Total US retail sales of soup, by segment, at current prices, 2015 and 2017

Figure 73: Total US retail sales and forecast of ready-to-serve wet soup, at current prices, 2012-22

Figure 74: Total US retail sales and forecast of ready-to-serve wet soup, at inflation-adjusted prices, 2012-22

Figure 75: Total US retail sales and forecast of condensed wet soup, at current prices, 2012-22

Figure 76: Total US retail sales and forecast of condensed wet soup, at inflation-adjusted prices, 2012-22

Figure 77: Total US retail sales and forecast of dry soup, at current prices, 2012-22

Figure 78: Total US retail sales and forecast of dry soup, at inflation-adjusted prices, 2012-22

Figure 79: Total US retail sales and forecast of wet broth/stock, at current prices, 2012-22

Figure 80: Total US retail sales and forecast of wet broth/stock, at inflation-adjusted prices, 2012-22

Figure 81: Total US retail sales and forecast of refrigerated fresh soup/frozen soup, at current prices, 2012-22

Figure 82: Total US retail sales and forecast of refrigerated fresh soup/frozen soup, at inflation-adjusted prices, 2012-22

Figure 83: Total US retail sales of soup, by channel, at current prices, 2012-2017

Figure 84: Total US retail sales of soup, by channel, at current prices, 2015 and 2017

Figure 85: US supermarket sales of soup, at current prices, 2012-17

Figure 86: US sales of soup through other retail channels, at current prices, 2012-17

Appendix - Key Players

Figure 87: MULO sales of condensed wet soup, by leading companies and brands, rolling 52 weeks 2016 and 2017