

Report Price: £2463.80 | \$3990.00 | €3129.79

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



"The current bottled water market is at a more sustainable stage driven by rapid expansion in the low end, with a volume sales advantage and a small high-end market with escalating growth and high profit margins. While low-end brands are competing on price, high-end brands are rivalling with premium associations such as high-quality water sources and packaging."

Lei Li, Research Analyst

# This report looks at the following areas:

- How domestic products maintain competitiveness and consumer confidence
- · What does premiumisation mean to consumers?
- · The opportunities for e-commerce to target online shoppers

### What you need to know

Despite the fact that China's economic expansion is slowing, the bottled water market remains moderately stable. Chinese consumers have a growing thirst for the most basic of beverages – bottled water, mainly due to pollution fears that are driving the Chinese towards bottled water consumption and expensive branded waters. The market posts a giant opportunity for premium bottled waters.

# Products/themes covered in this report

For the purposes of this Report, Mintel has used the following definitions:

The bottled water market covers:

- All packaged still, sparkling and flavoured water. Also, natural and purified water.
- Market size is based on retail (off-trade) sales and non-retail (on-trade) sales.
- All bottled water for human consumption, including bulk containers, bottled water sold to consumers, and all catering and institutions including bulk supplies to business.
- · Any bottled water used by processors to make other products.

# 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: £2463.80 | \$3990.00 | €3129.79

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

Products/themes covered in this report

# **Executive Summary**

#### The market

Figure 1: Best- and worst-case forecast of china retail sales of bottled water, by value, 2010-20

Figure 2: Best- and worst-case forecast of china retail sales of bottled water, by volume, 2010-20

#### Key players

Figure 3: Value market share of leading brands, 2015

Figure 4: Volume market share of leading brands, 2015

#### The consumer

#### Unflavoured still has the highest penetration

Figure 5: Preference of different bottled water types, November 2014 versus December 2015

#### Domestic dominates while international appeals to high earners

Figure 6: Preferences for domestic and international bottled water products, by netting, December 2015

### Gender is a key influential on purchasing channels

Figure 7: Channels used when purchasing bottled water, by gender and age, December 2015

#### Lower city tier residents have higher premium brand awareness

Figure 8: Attitudes associated with premium bottled water, by cities, December 2015

# What we think

# Issues and Insights

How domestic products maintain competitiveness and consumer confidence

The facts

The implications

What does premiumisation mean to consumers?

The facts

The implications

The opportunities for e-commerce to target online shoppers

The facts

The implications

# The Market – What You Need to Know

Overall upward trend and market upturn projects growth

Future market posts certain growth

Water pollution drives bottled water consumption

Implementation of bottled water regulatory

Market Size and Forecast



VISIT: store.mintel.com

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

APAC +61 (0) 2 8284 8100



Report Price: £2463.80 | \$3990.00 | €3129.79

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

Figure 9: Best- and worst-case forecast of china retail sales of bottled water, by value, 2010-20

Figure 10: Best- and worst-case forecast of china retail sales of bottled water, by volume, 2010-20

Figure 11: Value and volume retail sales for bottled water in China, 2010-20

#### Market Drivers

Water pollution drives consumption

Implementation of the existing regulatory system overhaul

Online shopping boom provides an abundant source

Key Players - What You Need to Know

Purified bottled water dominates the market

Market players focus on competing with price and packaging

Beauty claims to attract females

Innovations of consumer-specific waters

#### Market Share

The leading players

Master Kong

Wahaha

Nongfu

C'est Bon

Runtian

Figure 12: Value market share of leading brands, 2015

Figure 13: Volume market share of leading brands, 2015

# Market structure of bottled water and brand representatives

Figure 14: China's market structure of bottled water by volume share, 2015

# Competitive Strategies

The price war

Compete with packaging

Glass bottled and consumer segment specific – Nongfu Spring

Mineral water packaging change - Master Kong

Ethical and environment claims via packaging - 5100

#### Who's Innovating?

Not just water - Beauty enhancing

China market - Flower extract (rose)

Figure 15: The Rose Water (Hua Yu Man Tian) in China, November 2014; Rose Water (Jiu Duo Mei Gui) in China, December 2012; the Red Rose Water Drink (Hong Mei Gui) in China, July 2010

# International market – Anti-ageing

Figure 16: Beauty Water Vortex Minuman Kecantikan in Indonesia, October 2015; VitalZing Collagen Morning beautiful tropical flavoured water, and evening beautiful peach flavoured water in New Zealand, February 2015

Not just water – Consumer specific

China market - Baby water and teen water

Figure 17: The Nongfu Spring baby water in China, May 2015

BUY THIS REPORT NOW VISIT: store.mintel.com

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

APAC +61 (0) 2 8284 8100



Report Price: £2463.80 | \$3990.00 | €3129.79

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

Figure 18: The Nongfu Spring teen water in China, May 2015

#### International market - Health water

Figure 19: Assist Water in Japan, January 2016, and Detox Strawberry Kiwi Flavoured Water in India, December 2014

#### The Consumer - What You Need to Know

Unflavoured still has the highest penetration

Majority prefer domestic while high earners prefer international

Gender is an influential on purchasing channels

High-quality water sources as the most premium association

Lower city tier residents have higher premium awareness

Meet the Mintropolitans

#### Preference of Different Bottled Water Types

### Unflavoured still water has the highest penetration

#### Flavour is a key differentiator for still water while income is for sparkling

Figure 20: Preference of different bottled water types, November 2014 versus December 2015

Figure 21: Preference of sparkling bottled water, by monthly household income, December 2015

### Competitions among Domestic and International Bottled Water

Majority favour domestic bottled water with Nongfu being the most aware

Higher earners have greater tendency to consume international waters

### Mineral water is the most consumed type among all

Figure 22: Preferences for domestic and international bottled water products, by netting, December 2015

Figure 23: Preferences of domestic and international bottled water products, by gender and monthly household income, December 2015

# Channels Used When Purchasing Bottled Water

# Offline channels especially supermarkets still preferred by overall consumers

Gender as a main influential on purchasing channels

# Home delivery service is most significant for online consumers

Figure 24: Channels used when purchasing bottled water, December 2015

Figure 25: Channels used when purchasing bottled water, by gender and age, December 2015

Figure 26: Reasons to purchase bottled water online, December 2015

# Attitudes Associated with Premium Bottled Water

# High-quality water sources associated the most with premium

Lower city tier residents have higher premium brand awareness

### Gender is a premium differentiator on function and ingredient preferences

Figure 27: Attitudes associated with premium bottled water, December 2015

Figure 28: Attitudes associated with premium bottled water, by cities, December 2015

Figure 29: Attitudes associated with premium bottled water, by gender, December 2015

# Cluster Analysis

Group 1 – Premium Drinkers



VISIT: store.mintel.com

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

APAC +61 (0) 2 8284 8100



Report Price: £2463.80 | \$3990.00 | €3129.79

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

Demographics and characteristics

Opportunity

Group 2 - Domestic Brand Lovers

Demographics and characteristics

Opportunity

Group 3 - Conspicuous Devotees

Demographics and characteristics

Opportunity

Group 4 - Take-all Converters

Demographics and characteristics

Opportunity

Figure 30: perceptions about bottled water from different consumer groups, by cluster groups, December 2015

### Mintropolitans

### Demographics and characteristics

### Lifestyle

Figure 31: demographic profile of Mintropolitans versus non-Mintropolitans, by gender, age, and monthly household income, December 2015

Figure 32: demographic profile of Mintropolitans versus non-Mintropolitans, by children in household, city tier, and education level, December 2015

December 2015

# Appendix – Methodology and Definitions

Methodology

Fan chart forecast

Mintropolitans - Definition

Abbreviations

APAC +61 (0) 2 8284 8100 | EMAIL: reports@mintel.com