

Report Price: £3254.83 | \$4395.00 | €3662.99

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



Dollar sales of snack, nutrition, and performance bars saw steady year-over-year growth from 2012-17 (+20% overall). 2017 represents a slight slowdown, with an estimated 2.6% increase over 2016 (0.1% when adjusted for inflation). While consumer interest in snacking, protein, and functional foods positively impacts the category, a growing array of snack options, some of which promise functional deliverables, with cleaner formulations, challenges bars.

This report looks at the following areas:

This slower pace of growth is expected to continue in the near future. While product innovation is on track, category players will need to emphasize bar strengths (eg convenience, indulgence) and address challenges (eg high sugar content).

- Dollar sales of bars grow 20% from 2012-17, slower growth projected through 2022
- Future growth projected to slow in most segments
- A third of adults think bars are too high in sugar

# 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

<sub>АРАС</sub> +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: £3254.83 | \$4395.00 | €3662.99

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 Dollar sales of bars grow 20% from 2012-17, slower growth projected through 2022 Figure 1: Total US sales and fan chart forecast of snack, nutrition, and performance bars, at current prices, 2012-22 Future growth projected to slow in most segments Figure 2: Sales of snack, nutrition and performance bars, by segment, 2012-22 A third of adults think bars are too high in sugar Figure 3: Attitudes toward bars - Challenges, by bar consumption, February 2018 The opportunities Two thirds of US adults eat bars Figure 4: Bar consumption, February 2018 Three quarters of consumers turn to bars for snacks Figure 5: Reasons for consumption – Any bar, February 2018 Protein amount is second only to good taste as a bar attribute of interest Figure 6: Important attributes, February 2018 What it means The Market - What You Need to Know Dollar sales of bars grow 20% from 2012-17, slower growth projected through 2022 Snack bars lead; performance bars gain share Convenience store sales see strongest growth from 2012-17 Competing categories make a play for cleaner functionality **Market Size and Forecast** Dollar sales of bars grow 20% from 2012-17, slower growth projected through 2022

Figure 7: Total US sales and fan chart forecast of snack, nutrition, and performance bars, at current prices, 2012-22

Figure 8: Total US retail sales and forecast of snack, nutrition, and performance bars, at current prices, 2012-22

Figure 9: Total US retail sales and forecast of snack, nutrition and performance bars, at inflation-adjusted prices, 2012-22

# **Market Breakdown**

## Snack bars lead, performance bars gain share

Figure 10: Sales of snack, nutrition, and performance bars, by segment share, 2012-17

#### Future growth projected to slow in most segments

Figure 11: Sales of snack, nutrition, and performance bars, by segment, 2012-22

#### Convenience store sales see strongest growth from 2012-17

Figure 12: Total US retail sales of snack, nutrition and performance bars, by channel, at current prices, 2012-17

# BUY THIS REPORT NOW



Report Price: £3254.83 | \$4395.00 | €3662.99

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

#### **Market Perspective**

Competing categories successfully make a play for functionality

#### **Market Factors**

#### America's love of snacking benefits snack categories Figure 13: Snacking frequency, March 2017

Close to half of consumers eat breakfast on-the-go or skip altogether Figure 14: Weekday and weekend behaviors, May 2016

Three quarters of adults are currently managing their weight

Figure 15: Weight management status, July 2017

# Diet health may be a stronger focus than exercise

Figure 16: Lifestyle statements, February 2018

# 84% of consumers are limiting the amount of sugar in their diet

Legislation grows less sweet on sugar

#### Aging population may justify need for functional nutrition

Figure 17: Share of population by age, 2013-23

#### Key Players – What You Need to Know

General Mills controls 25% of MULO dollar sales of bars

Smaller brands gain big in the nutritional and performance segments

Chocolate dominates across all segments

Protein claims continue to climb in most segments

# **Company and Brand Sales of Snack, Nutrition, and Performance Bars**

# General Mills controls 25% of MULO dollar sales of bars

#### Sales of snack, nutrition, and performance bars by company

Figure 18: Share of Multi-Outlet sales of snack, nutrition, and performance bars, by leading companies, 52 weeks ending Dec 31, 2017

Figure 19: Multi-Outlet sales of snack, nutrition, and performance bars, by leading companies, rolling 52 weeks 2016 and 2017

### What's Working?

#### General Mills brands represent more than a third of MULO sales of snack bars Figure 20: Multi-Outlet sales of snack bars, by leading companies and brands, rolling 52 weeks 2016 and 2017

#### Smaller brands make big gains in the nutritional bar segment

Figure 21: Multi-outlet sales of nutritional bars, by leading companies and brands, rolling 52 weeks 2016 and 2017

#### Chocolate dominates across all segments

Figure 22: Snack, nutrition, and performance bar launches, by leading flavors, 2014-18\*

Figure 23: Snack, nutrition, and performance bar launches, by growing flavors, 2014-18\*

#### Protein claims continue to climb in most segments

Figure 24: Snack, nutrition, and performance bar launches, by leading claims, 2014-18\*  $\,$ 

Figure 25: Snack, nutrition, and performance bar launches, by growing claims, 2014-18\*

#### Whey proteins appear among leaders in most segments

Figure 26: Snack, nutrition, and performance bar launches, by leading protein types, 2014-18\*

# BUY THIS REPORT NOW



# Report Price: £3254.83 | \$4395.00 | €3662.99

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

Figure 27: Snack, nutrition, and performance bar launches, by growing protein types, 2014-18\*

#### What's Struggling?

#### Dollar sales of weight-loss bars decline in MULO channels

Figure 28: Multi-Outlet sales of weight-loss bars, by leading companies and brands, rolling 52 weeks 2016 and 2017

#### Volatility seen in MULO sales of performance bars

Figure 29: Multi-Outlet sales of performance bars, by leading companies and brands, rolling 52 weeks 2016 and 2017

#### White sugar leads as sweetener type across segments

Figure 30: Snack, nutrition, and performance bar launches, by leading sweetener types, 2014-18\*

# What's Next?

Goina areen

Embracing indulgence

Getting your fill

Nuts about cashews

### The Consumer – What You Need to Know

Two thirds of US adults eat bars

Three quarters of consumers turn to bars for snacks

Protein amount is second only to good taste as a bar attribute of interest

The majority of bar buyers purchase multi-packs

A third of adults think bars are too high in sugar

#### **Bar Consumption**

#### Two thirds of US adults eat bars

Figure 31: Bar consumption, February 2018

#### Men make up the majority of performance bar eaters

Figure 32: Share of bar consumption, by gender, February 2018

#### Performance bars find strongest appeal among young adults

Figure 33: Share of bar consumption, by age, February 2018

#### **Reasons for Consumption**

Three quarters of consumers turn to bars for snacks Figure 34: Reasons for consumption – Any bar, February 2018

## Men are more likely to eat bars for functional outcomes

Figure 35: Reasons for consumption – Any bar, by gender, February 2018

#### Bars don't need to be all things to all people

Figure 36: Correspondence analysis – Reasons for consumption, February 2018

Figure 37: Reasons for consumption, February 2018

## **Important Attributes**

Protein amount is second only to good taste as a bar attribute of interest Figure 38: Important attributes, February 2018

# BUY THIS REPORT NOW



# Report Price: £3254.83 | \$4395.00 | €3662.99

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

Figure 39: Important attributes, by bar type, February 2018

Women are more likely than men to be concerned about sugar totals Figure 40: Important attributes, by gender, February 2018

# Older consumers look closer at nutritional information

Figure 41: Important attributes, by age, February 2018

#### **Bar Formats**

## Pack size

#### The majority of bar buyers purchase multi-packs

Figure 42: Bar formats - Pack size, February 2018

Figure 43: Bar formats - Pack size, by bar type, February 2018

### Men are significantly more likely than women to purchase single bars

Figure 44: Bar formats – Pack size, by gender, February 2018

#### Multi-packs have stronger appeal among older shoppers

Figure 45: Bar formats – Pack size, by age, February 2018

#### Protein amount

#### 23% of bar consumers choose base with 20+ grams of protein

Figure 46: Bar formats - Protein, February 2018

Figure 47: Bar formats - Protein, by bar type, February 2018

#### Texture

#### The majority of bar eaters associate bars with being chewy

Figure 48: texture associations - Any bar, February 2018

#### Consumers associate snack bars with more decadent features

Figure 49: Correspondence analysis - Texture associations, February 2018

Figure 50: texture associations, February 2018

## **Attitudes toward Bars**

### Efficacy

# Only 10% of consumers think bars deliver on promised claims

Figure 51: Attitudes toward bars – Efficacy, February 2018

Figure 52: Attitudes toward bars - "They deliver on promised claims", February 2018

## Challenges

#### A third of adults think bars are too high in sugar

Figure 53: Attitudes toward bars, February 2018

#### Women are more skeptical of bars than are men

Figure 54: Attitudes toward bars, by gender, February 2018

#### Older shoppers are more likely to be ingredient-conscious

Figure 55: Attitudes toward bars, by age, February 2018

#### Higher earners are more critical of bars

Figure 56: Attitudes toward bars, by HH income, February 2018

# BUY THIS REPORT NOW



# Report Price: £3254.83 | \$4395.00 | €3662.99

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

#### Artificial ingredients struggle with efficacy

Figure 57: Lifestyle statements - Artificial ingredients, February 2018

Figure 58: Lifestyle statements - "I think artificial ingredients are more effective than natural ones", February 2018

#### Non-dairy

Three in 10 consumers think protein derived from plants is as effective as that from dairy/meat sources Figure 59: Lifestyle statements – Non-dairy, February 2018

#### Appendix – Data Sources and Abbreviations

Data sources
Sales data
Fan chart forecast
Consumer survey data
Abbreviations and terms
Abbreviations
Appendix – The Market
Figure 60: Total US retail sales and forecast of snack bars, at current prices, 2012-22
Figure 61: Total US retail sales and forecast of snack bars, at inflation-adjusted prices, 2012-22
Figure 62: Total US retail sales and forecast of performance bars, at current prices, 2012-22
Figure 63: Total US retail sales and forecast of performance bars, at inflation-adjusted prices, 2012-22
Figure 64: Total US retail sales and forecast of nutrition bars, at current prices, 2012-22
Figure 65: Total US retail sales and forecast of nutrition bars, at inflation-adjusted prices, 2012-22
Figure 66: Total US retail sales and forecast of weight loss bars, at current prices, 2012-22
Figure 67: Total US retail sales and forecast of weight loss bars, at inflation-adjusted prices, 2012-22
Figure 68: US supermarket sales of snack, nutrition and performance bars, at current prices, 2012-17
Figure 69: US convenience store sales of snack, nutrition and performance bars, at current prices, 2012-17
Figure 70: US sales of snack, nutrition and performance bars through other retail channels, at current prices, 2012-17
Appendix – Key Players

Figure 71: Multi-outlet sales of snack, nutrition, and performance bars, by leading companies, rolling 52 weeks 2016 and 2017

# BUY THIS REPORT NOW