

The downward trajectory within the overall tea market continues. Overall volume sales dropped by $15 \%$ between 2010 and 2014, with an annual decline of $7 \%$ forecast for 2015. Despite a rise in average selling price, the value of the market has also been steadily slipping over the 2010-15 period, with an overall decline of $6 \%$ to $£ 654$ million.

This report looks at the following areas:

- Encouraging people to use tea in more ways other than simply drinking it hot can help to boost usage frequency
- Encouraging experimentation can help to inject more excitement into the tea market
- Gifting can be more actively encouraged by tea operators

This poor performance, however, masks very contrasting performances from the different segments within the tea market. The downfall is almost completely attributable to diminishing sales of ordinary teabags, which dominate the market. Meanwhile, fruit/herbal tea, speciality tea and green tea continue to enjoy strong growth. As such, these segments have become hotbeds of innovation activity.

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## Tea - UK - J uly 2015

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