

Report Price: £2466.89 | \$3995.00 | €3133.71

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



"In 2016, 45% of Americans aged 18+ are considered *Cooking Enthusiasts* – or adults who cook from scratch multiple times a week, enjoy the cooking process, have skills in the kitchen, and cook because they *want to* rather than because they *have to*."

Gina Cavato, Reseach Analyst, Lifestyle and Leisure

This report looks at the following areas:

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

- Cooking Enthusiasts
 - are those who cook, say they either like or love cooking, have at least basic cooking skills, and typically cook because they want to rather than because they have to. 45% of American adults aged 18+ are Cooking Enthusiasts, which equates to roughly 112 million adults.
- Infrequent Cooks are those who rarely cook. 11% of American adults aged 18+ are Infrequent Cooks, which equates to about 26.4 million adults.
- Conflicted Cooks
 - are those who are on the fence about their enthusiasm for cooking. While they do cook, like or love cooking, and have at least basic skills, they typically cook because they have to (not because they want to). Moreover, some Conflicted Cooks like or love to cook but don't have any skills, while others dislike cooking but have advanced or very advanced skills. 23% of American adults aged 18+ are Conflicted Cooks, which equates to about 55.9 million adults.
- Unenthusiastic Cooks
 - are those who cook occasionally or frequently but don't mind or dislike it. 16% of American adults aged 18+ are Unenthusiastic Cooks, which equates to roughly 39 million adults
- Non-Cooks
 - are those who never cook. 6% of American adults aged 18+ never cook, which equates to roughly 14.7 million adults.

This Report builds on the analysis presented in Mintel's *Cooking Enthusiasts – US, November 2015*, as well as the October 2014, October 2013, October 2012, and October 2011 Reports of the same title. Readers may also be interested in Mintel's *Hispanic Cooking Enthusiasts – US, October 2015*.

BUY THIS REPORT NOW

VISIT: store.mintel.com

CALL:EMEA
+44 (0) 20 7606 4533

Brazil 0800 095 9094

Americas +1 (312) 943 5250

+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: £2466.89 | \$3995.00 | €3133.71

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

Figure 1: Share and approximate number* of Cooking Enthusiasts, 2013-16, August 2016

The issues

Cooking at home is not an activity enjoyed by most

Figure 2: At-home cooking influencers, by all cooks and Cooking Enthusiasts, August 2016

Digital media inspires Millennials but may leave older adults out of the loop

Figure 3: Sources used by Cooking Enthusiasts to cook at home, by generation, August 2016

Lower household incomes are disconnected from most cooking activities

Figure 4: Cooking Enthusiasts' cooking-related activities, by household income, August 2016

The opportunities

Men and Millennials becoming increasingly present in the kitchen

Figure 5: Cooking frequency, by gender, 2015-16, August 2016

Figure 6: Cooking skills, by generation, 2015-16

Millennials and meal kits: At their door and ready to go

Figure 7: Making at-home cooking easier for Cooking Enthusiasts, by generation, August 2016

Employed adults find significant cost and time value in meal kits

Figure 8: Cooking Enthusiasts' cooking attitudes, by employment status, August 2016

What it means

The Market - What You Need to Know

The share of Cooking Enthusiasts rose from 2015-16

Share of Non-Cooks declines

The kitchen is the heart of the home

Lower cost of groceries likely boosting out of home food sales

The Cooking Enthusiasts Market

Overview of Cooking Enthusiasts

Figure 9: Estimated share and number* of American adults aged 18+ by cooking segment, August 2016

Share of Cooking Enthusiasts increases from 2015-16

Figure 10: Share and approximate number* of Cooking Enthusiasts, 2013-16, August 2016

Cooking enthusiasm and frequency growing, fewer cook infrequently

Figure 11: Share of cooking segments, 2015-16, August 2016

Cooking Segments

Figure 12: Cooking segments, August 2016

Cooking Enthusiasts

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: £2466.89 | \$3995.00 | €3133.71

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

Demographics

Characteristics

Opportunities

Figure 13: Profile of Cooking Enthusiasts, August 2016

Conflicted Cooks

Demographics

Characteristics

Opportunities

Figure 14: Profile of Conflicted Cooks, August 2016

Infrequent Cooks

Demographics

Characteristics

Opportunities

Figure 15: Profile of Infrequent Cooks, August 2016

Unenthusiastic Cooks

Demographics

Characteristics

Opportunities

Figure 16: Profile of Unenthusiastic Cooks, August 2016

Non-Cooks

Demographics

Opportunities

Figure 17: Profile of Non-Cooks, August 2016

Market Perspective

Obesity is big and it keeps getting bigger

Figure 18: Share of overweight, obesity, and extreme obesity in the US, 1988-2014

Figure 19: Share of overweight, obesity, and extreme obesity in the US, by gender, 1988-2014

The kitchen is increasingly the most important room in the home

Figure 20: The kitchen is the most important room – Any agree, May 2003-June 2016

Daily time dedicated to cooking has remained flat for at least a decade

Figure 21: Time spent per day eating and drinking, food preparation and cleanup, 2003-15 annual averages

Market Factors

Both at-home and out-of-home spending on food continues to climb

Figure 22: Food sales at home and away from home, January 2003-June 2016

Cost of groceries has been on the decline

Figure 23: Consumer Price Index, food at home, seasonally adjusted annual change, August 2015-16

Millennials may struggle in the kitchen because they still live at home

Figure 24: Living situation of adults aged 18-34, by living arrangement, 2014

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: £2466.89 | \$3995.00 | €3133.71

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

Key Players - What You Need to Know

Accessibility to food and recipes bolstering the at-home cooking sector

Snacking, sugar, food waste, and food recalls, oh my!

Innovating in the kitchen: Dessert kits, smart ovens, and repurposing food

What's Working?

Bringing quality, affordable groceries closer to consumers

Food videos inspire cooks of all levels

Figure 25: Stuffed Chicken Parmesan, video, August 2016

Meal kits help make mealtime fast, easy, and cultural

Figure 26: A Better Way to Cook, video, April 2015

What's Struggling?

Snacking over meals may cause a decline in home-cooked meals

Americans waste half of their food every year

Sugar and spice and everything . . . wrong with what we knew

Figure 27: FED UP - Official Trailer, video, April 2014

Are food recalls the next form of industry transparency?

What's Next?

Forget what's for dinner. What's for dessert?

Hershey's

Foodstirs

Figure 28: The Foodstirs Company, video, October 2015

The sharing economy hits the kitchen

Smartphones and smart ovens helping distracted cooks

Figure 29: June Intelligent Oven, video, June 2015

Rethinking the use of ugly food

Imperfect Produce

SpoonLed

Figure 30: Meet the hero changing the future of food waste, video, May 2016

The Consumer - What You Need to Know

Nearly half of US adults can be categorized as Cooking Enthusiasts

Health and cost-savings are the top two motivations for at-home cooking

Efficiency in the kitchen is key to getting adults to cook more

Cooking websites dominate as the most used source to find recipes

Food-related activities are not simply reserved for the kitchen

Millennials may need a little more support in the kitchen

All About Cooking - Frequency, Enjoyment, Skills, and Motivation

Cooking is more of a "want to" than a "have to" for most adults

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: £2466.89 | \$3995.00 | €3133.71

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

Figure 31: Cooking frequency, attitudes, skill level, and motivations, August 2016

Figure 32: Cooking frequency, attitudes, skill level, and motivations, 2012-16

One third of Americans consider cooking a fun leisure activity

Figure 33: Cooking for fun in the past 12 months, May 2005-June 2016

Frequency

Men are becoming increasingly present in the kitchen

Figure 34: Cooking frequency, by gender, September 2015-August 2016

Millennials and Gen Xers are also increasing their at-home cooking

Figure 35: Cooking frequency, by generation, September 2015-August 2016

Parents are finding the time to cook at home

Figure 36: Cooking frequency, by parental status, September 2015-August 2016

Enjoyment

Cooking is becoming a more beloved activity among men and women

Figure 37: Cooking enjoyment, by gender, September 2015-August 2016

Who says they love to cook? Millennials do

Figure 38: Cooking enjoyment, by generation, September 2015-August 2016

Making the cooking process easier may be helping parents enjoy it more

Figure 39: Cooking enjoyment, by parental status, September 2015-August 2016

Skills

Millennials are increasingly likely to be "experts" in the kitchen

Figure 40: Cooking skills, by generation, September 2015-August 2016

Moms and dads are becoming more confident in their cooking skills

Figure 41: Cooking skills, by parental status, September 2015-August 2016

Influencing At-Home Cooking

Half of adults cook at home because they believe it's healthier

Figure 42: At-home cooking influencers, by all cooks and Cooking Enthusiasts, August 2016

Women influenced by saving money and healthier options

Figure 43: At-home cooking influencers of Cooking Enthusiasts, by gender, August 2016

Millennials consider the kitchen an escape for stress relief and creativity

Figure 44: At-home cooking influencers of Cooking Enthusiasts, by generation, August 2016

Factors That Would Increase At-Home Cooking

Making the cooking process more efficient would likely increase cooking

Time

Prepared ingredients

Grocery shopping

Kitchen appliances

Figure 45: Making at-home cooking easier for Cooking Enthusiasts, August 2016

Men need a little more direction and a little more guidance

Figure 46: Making at-home cooking easier for Cooking Enthusiasts, by gender, August 2016

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: £2466.89 | \$3995.00 | €3133.71

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

Millennials are looking to make the cooking process more time-efficient

Millennials and meal kits: At their door and ready to go

Figure 47: Making at-home cooking easier for Cooking Enthusiasts, by generation, August 2016

Renters may lack the tools they need to cook and the space to entertain

Figure 48: Making at-home cooking easier for Cooking Enthusiasts, by home ownership, August 2016

Parents need simple, quick, and easy when it comes to cooking

Figure 49: Making at-home cooking easier for Cooking Enthusiasts, by parental status, August 2016

For the love of cooking: Urban dwellers are most influenced to cook at home

Figure 50: Making at-home cooking easier for Cooking Enthusiasts, by area, August 2016

Sources Used to Find Recipes

Recipe inspiration can come from just about anywhere, but websites dominate

Figure 51: Sources used to cook at home, by all cooks and Cooking Enthusiasts, August 2016

Millennials find inspiration everywhere, especially in digital media

Figure 52: Sources used by Cooking Enthusiasts to cook at home, by generation, August 2016

Figure 53: Number of sources used by Cooking Enthusiasts to cook at home, by generation, August 2016

Urban dwellers are less intentional in their recipe research

Figure 54: Sources used by Cooking Enthusiasts to cook at home, by area, August 2016

Hispanics follow general population patterns with the exception of TV

Figure 55: Sources used by Cooking Enthusiasts to cook at home, by Hispanic origin, August 2016

Cooking-Related Activities

Learning activities fall to hosting events and watching TV and videos

Cooking and hosting

Television food competitions are winning

Food videos prominent among Cooking Enthusiasts

Sharing content and taking classes are less common

Figure 56: Cooking-related activities, by all cooks and Cooking Enthusiasts, August 2016

Millennials are actively engaging with food, beyond just eating it

Figure 57: "Cookies & Cream Puffs", video, May 2016

Figure 58: Cooking Enthusiasts' cooking-related activities, by Millennials vs non-Millennials, August 2016

And are participating in more cooking-related activities

Figure 59: Number of Cooking Enthusiasts' cooking-related activities, by generation, August 2016

Lower household incomes are less connected with cooking activities

Figure 60: Cooking Enthusiasts' cooking-related activities, by household income, August 2016

Hispanics are proud of the recipes they have made but are still curious

Figure 61: Cooking Enthusiasts' cooking-related activities, by Hispanic origin, August 2016

Attitudes toward At-Home Cooking

For Cooking Enthusiasts, it is a hobby that is done alone

Enthusiasts are less stringent with recipe requirements

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: £2466.89 | \$3995.00 | €3133.71

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

Regardless of skill and passion for at-home cooking, health is a concern for most

Room and interest to grow cooking skills exist among Enthusiasts

Meal kits are intriguing to adults, despite enjoyment of cooking

Figure 62: Cooking attitudes - Any agree, by all cooks and Cooking Enthusiasts, August 2016

Millennials struggle with cooking skills and value meal kits

Figure 63: Cooking Enthusiasts' cooking attitudes – Any agree, by generation, August 2016

Employed adults find significant cost and time value in meal kits

Figure 64: Cooking Enthusiasts' cooking attitudes - Any agree, by employment status, August 2016

Hispanics closely monitor their food and prefer simple recipes

Figure 65: Cooking Enthusiasts' cooking attitudes - Any agree, by Hispanic origin, August 2016

Appendix - Data Sources and Abbreviations

Data sources

Consumer data

Consumer survey data

Consumer qualitative research

Abbreviations and terms

Abbreviations

Terms

Appendix - Market

Figure 66: Attitudes/opinions (food), May 2003-June 2016

Appendix – Consumer

Figure 67: Cooking for fun in the past 12 months, May 2005-June 2016