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"The income squeeze coupled with the perceived expense of healthy food has the potential to curb the overarching healthy eating trend. However, it also opens ripe opportunities for retailers to provide more support for shoppers in making choices which are both healthy and price savvy – doing so should promote customer loyalty."

- Emma Clifford, Associate Director - Food and Drink

This report looks at the following areas:

- The perceived link between food and both energy and mood can be better harnessed in the food industry
- Guidance on eating healthily on a budget would chime with shoppers
- More products can harness the compelling appeal of colourful eating

The upward trend in healthy eating intentions now looks to have plateaued, but these remain deeply ingrained among consumers. The health-conscious picture that this paints of the nation, however, is at odds with the pervasive weight problem in the UK, adding another challenge in tackling this crisis. Healthy eating is also set to come under increasing pressure as the squeeze on real incomes becomes more sustained given that most people find it harder to eat healthily when money is tight.

Signalling the status of sugar as public enemy number one, a low content of sugar is now the most important factor for consumers when they are looking for healthy food. In response to both strong consumer demand and mounting pressure from the government, share of food launches making low/no/reduced sugar claims has been steadily climbing. New product development centring on 'positive nutrition' has also risen for example with high-protein, high-fibre and contributing to people's 5-a-day claims all becoming more prevalent. It is calories, however, which are the focus of Public Health England's latest Change4Life campaign in its fight against childhood obesity.

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DID YOU KNOW?

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



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