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This report looks at the following areas:

- COVID-19 impact on consumer behavior regarding hot dogs and sausages
- The impact of the recession upon the category
- · Leveraging the value and versatility of hot dogs and sausages
- The potential for flavor innovation in the category

The hot dog and sausage category saw significant COVID-19-related sales gains in 2020, nearing \$10.5 billion, yet the growth is not sustainable and sales are expected to should fall back to pre-pandemic levels as consumer adapt to new routines and mealtime habits. Still, issues that plagued the category pre-COVID persist. The hot dog segment has been in steady decline for much of the past five years. Sausages, particularly breakfast varieties, should continue their generally positive sales performance, after adjusting back to the pre-COVID norm presumably in 2021.



"Between the category depth, versatility and costeffectiveness, hot dogs and sausages were well positioned both during the pandemic and for the economic uncertainties it triggered. The category made significant sales gains, including a considerable turnaround for the hot dog segment after consecutive years of declining sales."

– Billy Roberts, Sr. Analyst – Food and Drink

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