

This report looks at the following areas:

- Analysis of sales and market share trends in key category segments
- Motivations for prepared meal consumption and key attributes sought
- Consumer interest in prepared meal product concepts
- Attitudes toward prepared meals

The rush to home-based meal prep during the COVID-19 pandemic pushed prepared meals to new heights in 2020 and 2021, and inflation is pushing category dollar sales even higher in 2022. But apart from these short-term forces, the category has the potential to continue on the modestly positive course it has been on in earlier years. To meet that potential, prepared meals makers must work to meet ever-rising consumer expectations for product quality, health, and taste.



"Convenience is a defining benefit of the prepared meals category, but in an increasingly competitive marketplace, convenience alone isn't enough to drive sustained growth. Prepared meals makers must work to meet ever-rising consumer expectations for product quality, health, and taste."

– John Owen, Associate

Director – Food and Retail

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Table of Contents

OVERVIEW

- What you need to know
- · This Report looks at the following areas
- Definition
- Market context

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Top takeaways
- Market overview

Figure 1: Total US sales and fan chart forecast of prepared meals, at current prices, 2017-27

Figure 2: Category outlook, 2022-27

- Opportunities and challenges
- Opportunity to increase usage across and within product types

Figure 3: Prepared meal consumption, 2022

Emphasize the relative value of premium quality prepared meals

Figure 4: Attitudes toward prepared meals – Paying more for higher quality, by age, 2022

Make prepared meals a vehicle for cuisine exploration and creativity

Figure 5: Attitudes toward prepared meals, by age, 2022

- Key consumer insights
- Greater portioning flexibility could strengthen appeal among older adults
- Beyond convenience: taste and health can motivate usage
- Cuisine exploration and dietary preferences drive use among young adults
- · Familiarity remains an anchor for the category
- Younger category users' concept interests are especially varied
- Efforts to improve perceptions of prepared meals appear to be paying off

MARKET SIZE AND FORECAST

 Inflation picks up where pandemic leaves off in driving dollar sales growth

Figure 6: Total US sales and fan chart forecast of prepared meals, at current prices, 2017-27

Figure 7: Total US retail sales and forecast of prepared meals, at current prices, 2017-27

What's included

Executive Summary

Full Report PDF

Infographic Overview

Powerpoint Presentation

Interactive Databook

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SEGMENT PERFORMANCE

- Pandemic and price increases propel sales gains across all seaments
- Refrigerated meals receive extra boost from new entrants
 Figure 8: Total US retail sales and forecast of prepared
 meals, by segment, at current prices, 2017-22

MARKET FACTORS

- Consumers feel the personal impact of accelerating inflation...
 - Figure 9: Personal assessment of financial health, 2021-22
- ...but may be still eager to return to pre-pandemic activities
 Figure 10: Readiness to move on from the pandemic, 2021–22
 Figure 11: Comfort with easing pandemic precautions,
- Shifting work patterns create opportunities for prepared meals

Figure 12: Prepared meal consumption, by work location, 2022

MARKET SHARE/KEY PLAYERS

- Conagra and Nestle lead, but category offers opportunities for smaller players
- Sales of prepared meals by company
 Figure 13: Multi-outlet sales of prepared meals, by leading companies, rolling 52 weeks 2021 and 2022
- Broad portfolio helps Conagra extend lead in single-serve frozen meals

Figure 14: Select Conagra single-serve frozen meals products Figure 15: Multi-outlet sales of single-serve frozen meals, by leading companies and brands, rolling 52 weeks 2021 and 2022

 Big multi-serve frozen meal brands lose share to smaller players offering variety

Figure 16: Select multi-serve frozen meals products
Figure 17: Multi-outlet sales of multi-serve frozen meals, by
leading companies and brands, rolling 52 weeks 2021 and
2022

 Smaller brands gain share, accelerate growth for refrigerated meals

Figure 18: Select refrigerated meals products
Figure 19: Multi-outlet sales of refrigerated meals, by leading companies and brands, rolling 52 weeks 2021 and 2022

· Small brands and private label gain in side dishes

What's included

Executive Summary

Full Report PDF

Infographic Overview

Powerpoint Presentation

Interactive Databook

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Figure 20: Select side dish products

Figure 21: Multi-outlet sales of side dishes, by leading companies and brands, rolling 52 weeks 2021 and 2022

COMPETITIVE STRATEGIES AND MARKET OPPORTUNITIES

Opportunity for private label to make further gains in the refrigerator case

Figure 22: Select private label refrigerated meals and sides

Meat-free claims on the rise as clean-label claims plateau

Figure 23: Select meat-free prepared meals launches

Figure 24: Incidence of select packaging claims on prepared meal launches, 2017-22

THE PREPARED MEALS CONSUMER - FAST FACTS

- Usage of prepared meals and side dishes overall is widespread
- Usage skews to adults aged 54 and younger
- Cuisine exploration and dietary preferences drive use among young adults
- · Familiarity and health especially important to older adults

CONSUMPTION OF PREPARED MEALS

Opportunity to increase usage across and within product types

Figure 25: Prepared meal consumption, 2022

Greater portioning flexibility could strengthen appeal across age groups

Figure 26: Prepared meal consumption, by age, 2022

 Many report increased use, but consumption may be starting to slip

Figure 27: Changes in prepared meal consumption, 2022

REASONS FOR USING PREPARED MEALS

- Beyond convenience: taste and health can motivate usage
- Some see prepared meals as a better value
 Figure 28: Reasons for using prepared meals, 2022
- Cuisine exploration and dietary preferences drive use among young adults

Figure 29: Reasons for using prepared meals, by age, 2022

ATTRIBUTE IMPORTANCE

Familiarity remains an anchor for the category
 Figure 30: Prepared meal attribute importance, 2022

Familiarity and health especially important to older adults

What's included

Executive Summary

Full Report PDF

Infographic Overview

Powerpoint Presentation

Interactive Databook

Previous editions

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Figure 31: Prepared meal attribute importance, by age, 2022

INTEREST IN PREPARED MEAL CONCEPTS

Interests reflect the breadth of consumer food priorities and preferences

Figure 32: Interest in prepared meal concepts, 2022

Younger category users' concept interests are especially varied

Figure 33: Interest in prepared meal concepts, by age, 2022

ATTITUDES TOWARD PREPARED MEALS

- Improving perceptions help prepared meals stay relevant
 Figure 34: Attitudes toward prepared meals, 2022
- Emphasize the relative value of premium quality prepared meals
- Make prepared meals a vehicle for cuisine exploration and creativity

Figure 35: Attitudes toward prepared meals, by age, 2022

APPENDIX – DATA SOURCES AND ABBREVIATIONS

- Data sources
- Sales data
- Forecast
- Consumer survey data
- Abbreviations and terms
- Abbreviations
- Terms

APPENDIX - THE MARKET

Figure 36: Total US retail sales and forecast of prepared meals, at inflation-adjusted prices, 2017-27

Figure 37: Total US retail sales and forecast of single-serve frozen meals, at current prices, 2017-27

Figure 38: Total US retail sales and forecast of single-serve frozen meals, at inflation-adjusted prices, 2017-27

Figure 39: Total US retail sales and forecast of multi-serve frozen meals, at current prices, 2017–27

Figure 40: Total US retail sales and forecast of multi-serve frozen meals, at inflation-adjusted prices, 2017-27

Figure 41: Total US retail sales and forecast of refrigerated meals, at current prices, 2017–27

Figure 42: Total US retail sales and forecast of refrigerated meals, at inflation-adjusted prices, 2017-27

What's included

Executive Summary

Full Report PDF

Infographic Overview

Powerpoint Presentation

Interactive Databook

Previous editions

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Figure 43: Total US retail sales and forecast of side dishes, at current prices, 2017-27

Figure 44: Total US retail sales and forecast of side dishes, at

inflation-adjusted prices, 2017-27

Figure 45: Total US retail sales of prepared meals, by

channel, at current prices, 2017-22

Figure 46: Multi-outlet volume sales of prepared meals, by

segment, 2017-22

What's included

Executive Summary

Full Report PDF

Infographic Overview

Powerpoint Presentation

Interactive Databook

Previous editions

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