

SmartFood Choices 2018

Exploring Consumer Demand for Better-for-You Food

Presented by:
Anne-Marie Roerink, 210 Analytics



Natural, specialty and wellness are driving growth



20.6%

Of total store edibles \$ sales have natural,
specialty or wellness positioning

	3-year growth	2017 growth
Holistically natural items	+31.8%	+7.3%
Specialty & wellness items	+13.6%	+2.3%
Conventional	-1.0%	0.0%



Introducing the first annual....


SmartFood Choices 2018

- Survey with 1,500 shoppers in May 2018
- Real-life purchasing and consumption data overlay
- The interpretation, importance and execution of BFY from the consumers' perspective
- Help the food retailing industry optimize SmartFood marketing, merchandising, advertising and branding decisions
- Download the full report!



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3



Today's agenda

Shopper segmentation		Definition, barriers and triggers	
	SmartFood and store choices		Research and purchasing behavior
Breakfast, lunch and dinner		Beverages	
	Snacks		Opportunities for growth

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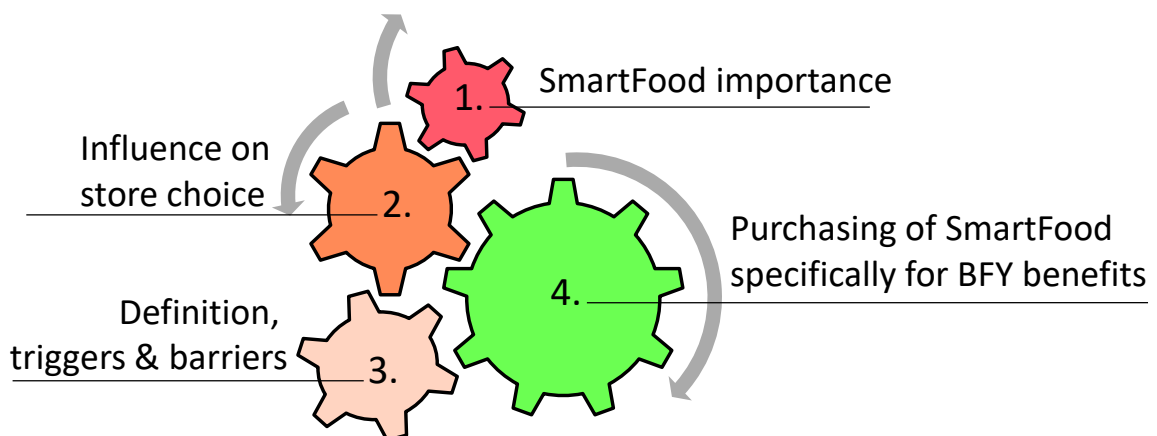
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Food attitudes and behaviors are growing increasingly diverse, and SmartFood is no exception. While some shoppers are devoted to a BFY lifestyle, others show little to no involvement. To optimize marketing, merchandising and branding efforts, the study provide insight into key target customers.

SHOPPER SEGMENTATION

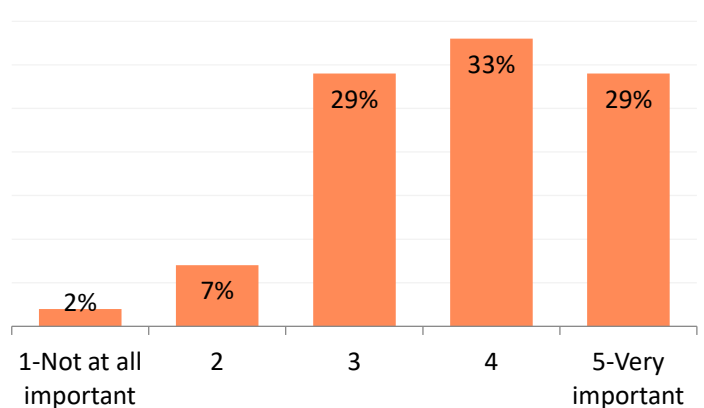


Not all shoppers are equally engaged



Choosing SmartFood is important

Importance of choosing SmartFood



But what does that mean relative to:

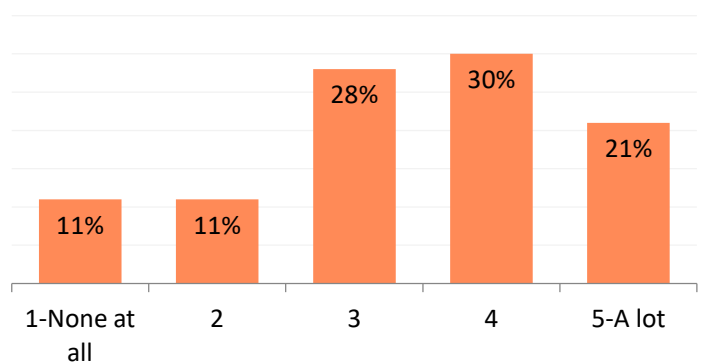
- purchasing?
- driving store choice?

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Impact on store choice is softer, yet significant

Influence of store's SmartFood selection on store choice



The more important the role of SmartFood, the greater the influence on store choice:

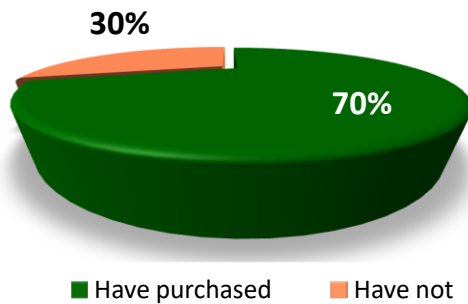
91%

Of shoppers who rate SmartFood very important say it influences their store choice

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7 in 10 shoppers have purchased an item specifically for its BFY attributes



The more important the role of SmartFood, the greater the likelihood of having purposely purchased a BFY item:

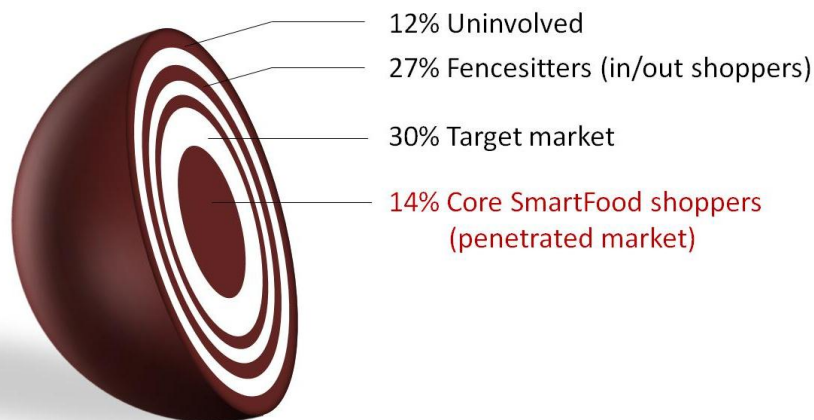
88%

Of shoppers who rate SmartFood very important have purchased at least 1 item

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Various pieces of the puzzle drive 4 distinct segments



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10



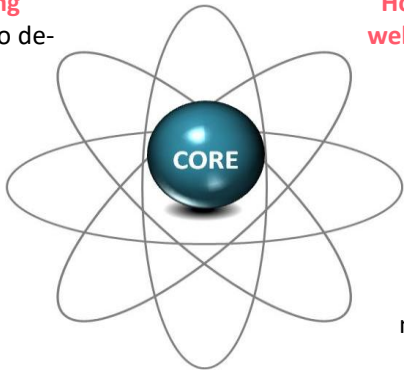
Core shoppers are devoted

Less devoted: age rises, income drops, more rural/small town, fewer trips, less spending

High-income, high-spending shoppers who are willing to de-emphasize price

Actively research BFY and are **list-making planners**

Shop for food much **more frequently**



Kids are an important point-of-entry, particularly pre-teens

Holistic health (emotional wellness & physical health) drives SmartFood sales

Older Millennials, particularly in **Urban** areas

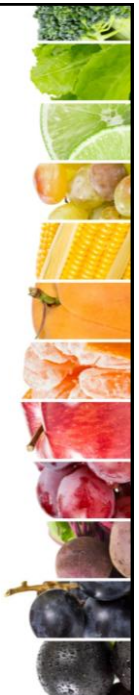
The **coastal areas** have much higher engagement

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Food science and retail measurement have their own definitions of SmartFood, but consumers often have a very personal definition based on age, culture, income, etc. Likewise, barriers and triggers differ among shopper segments, but provide important clues for growing engagement.

DEFINITION, TRIGGERS & BARRIERS



What defines SmartFood, according to shoppers

9 in 10

Healthier preparation

Higher nutritional value

8 in 10

Clean label alternatives

7 in 10

Environmental sustainability

Fair treatment of animals

Organic items

6 in 10

Fair treatment of workers

Small brands (5 in 10)

* Clean label was defined as fewer ingredients and no artificial colors, chemicals and preservatives.

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Core shoppers are much more inclusive

Fence-sitters		Core
88%	Healthier preparation	94%
83%	Higher nutritional value	96%
77%	Clean label alternatives	92%
61%	Environmental sustainability	86%
59%	Fair treatment of animals	87%
57%	Organic items	86%
48%	Fair treatment of workers	76%
56%	Produced by smaller brands	71%

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Echoing shoppers' views on SmartFood in-store



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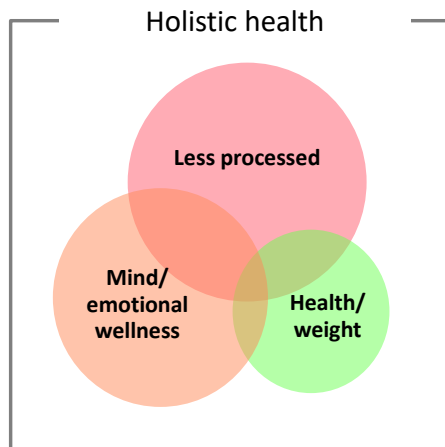
Specifically tying to the SmartFood interpretation



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Drivers include much more than health



% Major reason

- 63%** Choosing fresher/less processed ingredients
- 49%** Part of overall emotional/physical wellness
- 49%** Feeling good about buying for me/my family
- 47%** Loose/maintain a healthy weight
- 42%** Manage/prevent/treat health condition
- 37%** Better treatment of planet, people, animal

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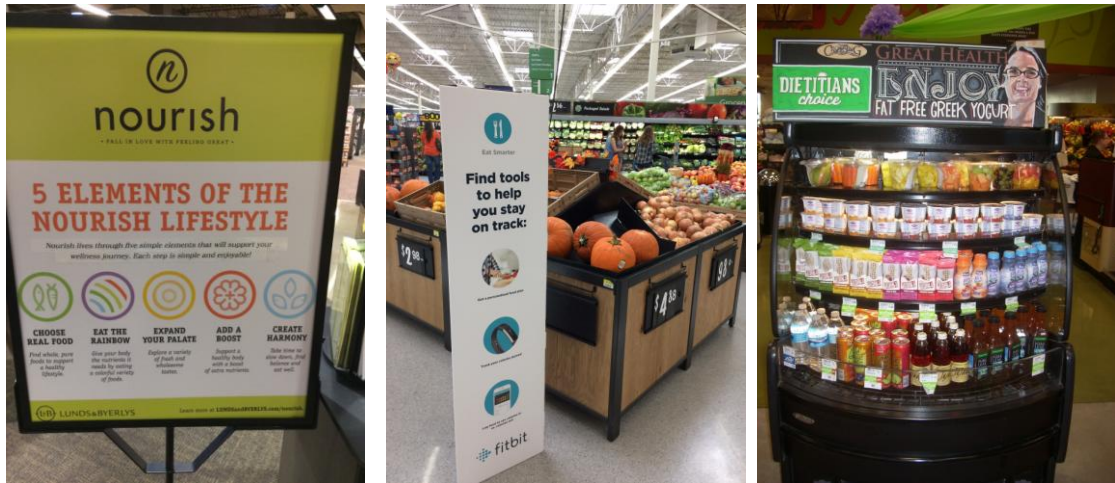
Core shoppers have a much wider range of triggers

Fence-sitters		Core
49%	Choose fresher/less processed ingredients	80%
27%	As part of overall emotional and physical wellness	75%
29%	Feel good about buying BFY for me/my family	72%
29%	Manage, prevent, or treat a specific health condition	61%
42%	Lose weight or maintain a healthy weight	60%
22%	Better treatment of the planet, people and animals	60%

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Many retail initiatives in holistic health



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Connecting dots... from health insurance companies to Time magazine



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The right claim can drive significant growth

\$14.1B

+9.1%

Organic

\$2.2B

+8.0%

Fair-trade

\$919M

+1.5%

Humane raised

\$138.5M

+88.2%

Paleo-diet



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21

But barriers are very real, led by cost

% Major reason

38% Cost too much

26% More time/effort

20% Not convenient

19% Too hard to change eating habits

19% Too much conflicting information

17% Doesn't taste good

17% No good choices at my main store

The list of barriers grows as SmartFood involvement declines

- Particularly cost and effort

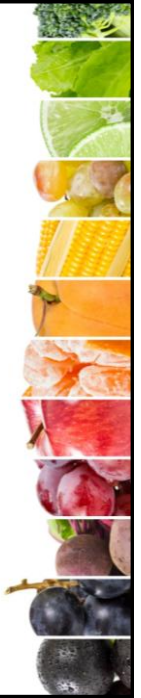
Cost is also the highest barrier among Core shoppers

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Shoppers have many options for buying food, from traditional grocery stores to online — each with distinctively different opportunities in the SmartFood arena.

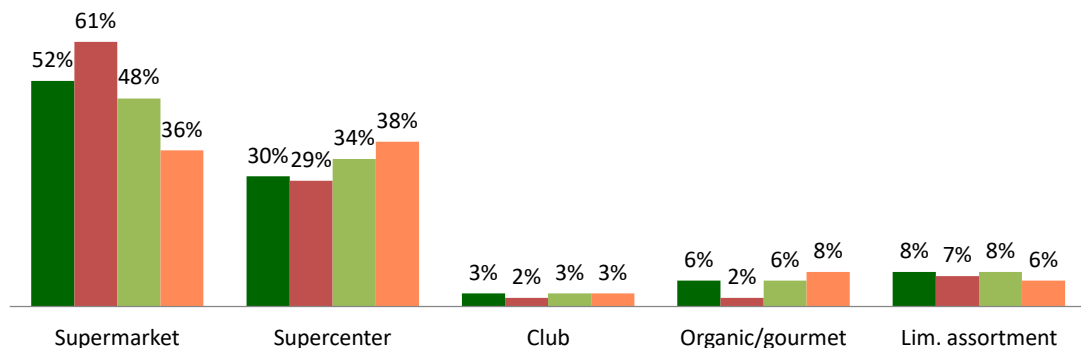
SMARTFOOD AND STORE CHOICE



Supermarkets are dominant, but lag in SmartFood shoppers

Main store for food purchases

■ All ■ Fence-sitters ■ Target market ■ Core



A store's SmartFood assortment matters

51%

Of shoppers say a store's SmartFood assortment influences where they shop "a lot" (21%) or "some" (30%)

- 10%** Fence-sitters
- 63%** Target market
- 87%** Core shoppers

So...

- A basic SmartFood assortment is a competitive must
- An expanded, but highly targeted selection can drive competitive advantages

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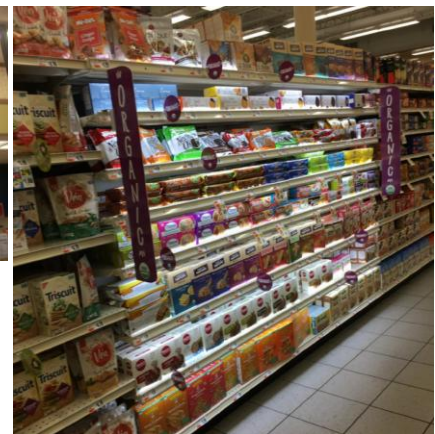
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Make sure shoppers realize your assortment



Point out item counts

Light up organic/specialty sections

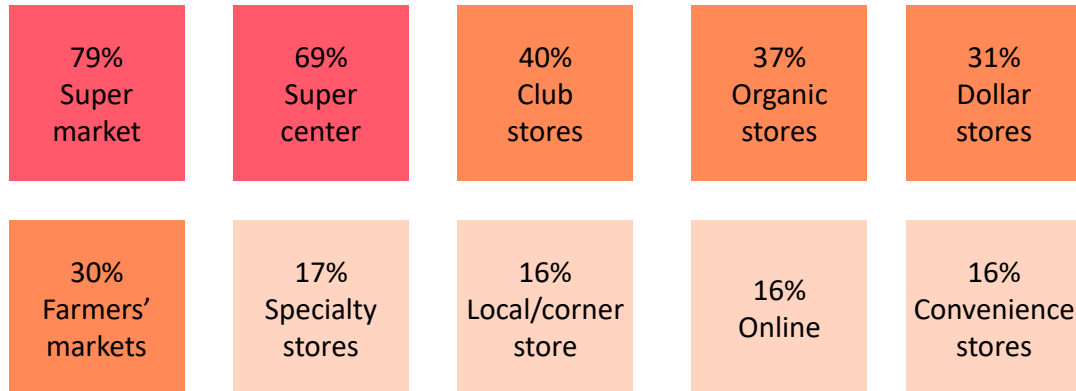


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But today's food dollar is scattered across channels

Purchased food in the last 30 days at:



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Core SmartFood consumers shop much more often

Purchased food in the last 30 days at:



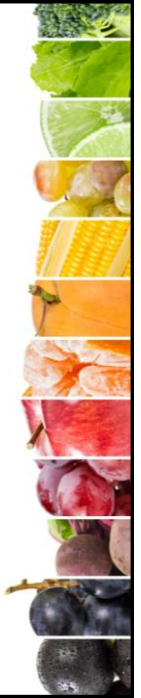
■ Higher ■ Same ■ Lower

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Today's shoppers have a lot of information at their fingertips.
Core SmartFood shoppers are active researchers and planners

RESEARCH AND PURCHASING



Trip planning is important among Core shoppers

60%

Of shoppers frequently or always create shopping lists pre-trip (electronically or paper)

By segment:

69% Core shoppers

60% Target Market

57% Fence-sitters

40% Uninvolved

Making branding and top-of-mind awareness crucially important

Average of 4 sources; Core shoppers research actively

Sources to learn about making BFY choices:

5 in 10

Ingredient list

Nutrition facts panel

Own knowledge/
experience

4 in 10

Friends/family

3 in 10

Package callouts

Online recipe/
Nutrition info

In-store signage

2 in 10

Online food reviews

Magazines

Cooking
demos/samples

Medical advice

Specific diet

Social media

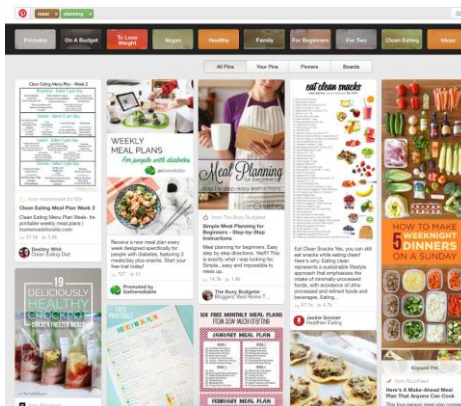
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Strong connection between actively researching and purchasing

70%

Of shoppers say a store's
SmartFood assortment
influences where they
shop "a lot"



Take an active role in education and meal planning

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Snacks, dinner and breakfast are the most common

Meal occasion among the 70% who have bought food specifically for BFY properties



Breakfast

43%



Lunch

39%



Dinner

49%



Dessert

16%



Snack

53%



Beverage

38%

Core shoppers overindex across meal occasions

Fence-sitters focus on the traditional breakfast, lunch, dinner occasions

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Word-of-mouth is the most powerful in driving trial

Factors that prompted the purchase of 1 or more SmartFood items:

4 in 10

Friends/family
recommendation

3 in 10

On sale

Specifically
addresses health/
wellness issue

Fits my diet

2 in 10

Package callouts
were intriguing

A brand I like

Saw a commercial

1 in 10

Saw an ad for it

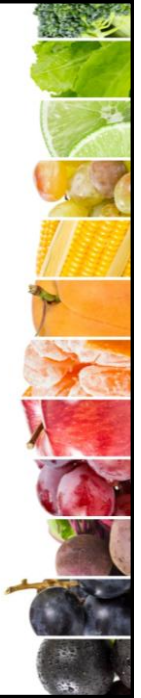
Saw it in a TV
show (not a
commercial)

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34

Shoppers have many options for buying food, from traditional grocery stores to online — each with distinctively different opportunities in the SmartFood arena.

BREAKFAST, LUNCH AND DINNER



BFY breakfast is a key way for better start of the day

35%

Of shoppers put “a lot” of effort into making BFY breakfast choices

65% of Core shoppers

7 in 10 BFY alternatives in breakfast staples

6 in 10 Less processed items

BFY breakfast strategies are driving strong \$ growth

Natural/specialty/wellness items

- +34.1%** Pancake mixes
- +8.1%** Toaster pastries
- +4.1%** Fresh eggs
- +1.3%** Yogurt
- +1.1%** Hot cereal
- 3.4%** Cold cereal

Conventional items

- +3.0%** Hot cereal
- 0.8%** Pancake mixes
- 4.6%** Cold cereal
- 5.5%** Toaster pastries
- 7.9%** Yogurt



SmartFood Choices 2018© Source: IRI with SPINS attribution, MULO, 52 weeks ending 5/20/2018

37

In breakfast, fresh is high on the shopper radar

Top 3

- 51%** Fresh fruit/vegetables
- 46%** High protein
- 42%** Lower/no/no added sugar

Other top BFY areas

- More whole/multi-grains
- More fiber
- Less salt/sodium
- No artificial sweeteners
- Fewer calories

Core shoppers



- Avoid artificial ingredients
- Seek out organic and non-GMO

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Lunch and dinner have growth opportunities all around

Shoppers putting "a lot" of effort:

40% Lunch

46% Dinner

Inherent opportunities

- **80%** believe home-made meals are healthier than restaurant meals
- **9 in 10** Try to eat more fresh produce
- **8 in 10** Look for produce with specific nutritional benefits
- **8 in 10** Aim to eat salads for lunch/dinner more often

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Fresh is growing dollars through BFY positioning

+1.0%

Increase in trips containing fresh, with the highest growth for fresh vegetables

+1.6%

\$ growth in fresh ahead of vitamin/supplement growth of +1.1%



Foods delivering on specific health benefits drive \$ growth

Heart health

- +10.3% Avocados
- +7.9% Broccoli
- +5.6% Asparagus

Immune system

- +16.7% Cherries
- +14.7% Tangerines
- +10.7% Limes

Cancer

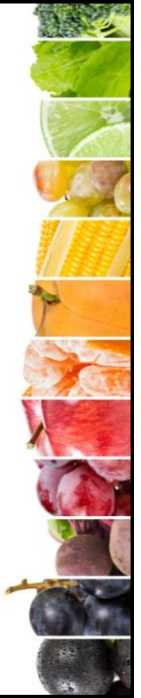
- +13.7% Brussels sprouts
- +14.5% Turmeric
- +9.3% Flax seeds

SmartFood Choices 2018© | Source: IRI, MULO, 52 weeks ending 5/20/2018

40

From reducing sugary beverages and drinking more water to specifically targeting certain nutrients, BFY beverages have enormous opportunity to drive sales growth

BEVERAGES



Beverage is a key area of focus

41%

Of shoppers put "a lot" of effort into making BFY beverage choices

57% of Core shoppers

- 89% Drink water more often
- 80% Fewer sugary beverages
- 46% Flavored/sparkling water
- 45% Make own fruit/veggie smoothies
- 41% Drink bottled smoothies
- 36% Drink kombucha/other green teas





In beverages, sugar is high on the shopper radar

Top 3

- 48%** No/less sugar
- 47%** No added sugar
- 37%** No artificial sweeteners

Other top BFY areas

- No/fewer calories
- No artificial colors/flavors
- Vitamins/minerals
- Lower/less caffeine
- High protein

Core shoppers



- Avoid added sugar and artificial sweeteners/colors/flavors
- Seek out organic, vitamins/minerals, antioxidants, protein and fiber

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Trends that allow for great creativity at retail



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Opportunity to prominently describing benefits

— BUDA CLEANSE BENEFITS —



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Beverage strategies are driving strong \$ growth

Natural/specialty/wellness items

- +13.6%** Water
- +8.4%** Refrigerated beverages
- +4.4%** Carbonated soft drinks
- +3.5%** All beverages
- +3.1%** Coffee/tea
- +2.1%** Juices

Conventional items

- +2.9%** Water
- +0.1%** Coffee/tea
- +0.0%** All beverages
- 0.4%** Carbonated soft drinks
- 2.8%** Refrigerated beverages
- 2.9%** Juices



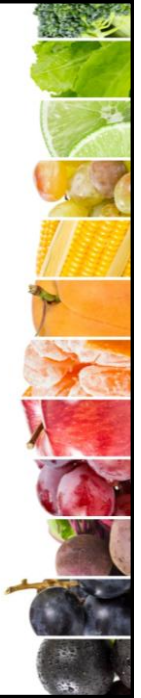
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46

From reducing sugary beverages and drinking more water to specifically targeting certain nutrients, BFY beverages have enormous opportunity to drive sales growth

SNACKS

MORNING, AFTERNOON & EVENING



BFY efforts are highest in the afternoon

Shoppers putting “a lot” of effort into making BFY snacking

23% Morning

28% Afternoon

24% Evening

Snacking sees a lot of variation

- Greater % who puts “some effort”
- Much less engagement beyond Core
- Core shoppers emphasize BFY snacking in the evening
- Balance between indulgence and BFY | “All foods fit”

Snack strategies provide important clues

Balancing
indulgence
and BFY
snack choices

8 in 10

Switch to a BFY snack alternative

7 in 10

Buy less processed (clean label) snacks

7 in 10

Pay more attention to portion sizes

3 in 10

Stopped buying less healthy snacks altogether

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Fruit and veggies play big role in BFY snacking

Snacks shoppers are trying to eat more frequently:

8 in 10

Fresh fruit snacks
(whole or cut fruit)

7 in 10

Vegetable snacks

Dried fruit/nuts/
seeds

6 in 10

Protein snacks
Salad bowls
Limited portion size
Cheese/crackers
Granola bars

5 in 10

Alternative
chips

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Encouraging BFY snacking in-store and on-pack



Snack packs/bars combining fruits, veggies and nuts answer the health and convenience call of the consumer



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Examples at retail



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In snacks, protein is king while avoiding sugar

Top 3

- 54%** High-protein
- 53%** No/less sugar
- 46%** Fewer calories

Other top BFY areas

- More fiber
- Less salt/sodium
- Lower/no fat
- Organic
- Fewer carbs
- No artificial color/flavors
- No artificial sweeteners

Core shoppers



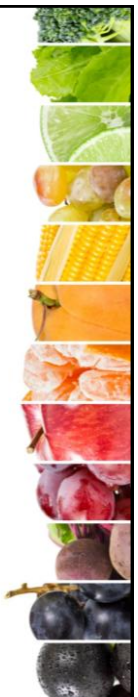
- Avoidance of artificial ingredients
- Organic, non-GMO, gluten-free

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SmartFood is already driving new dollars and has enormous growth opportunity in years to come as increasingly food demands are moving from need-based to want-driven

GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES





Opportunities for growth



Marketing

Live your brand story

Shopper education to widen purchase triggers while tackling barriers

Be active in planning and researching

Innovation

Key attributes and benefits

Millennials/Gen X geared but also innovations to retain Boomers' spending power

Retail innovation in brick-and-mortar and online

Positioning

Optimize on-pack real estate

Target distribution

Holistic health

Shopper segmentation

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Adapt strategies based on the key target

Core

- Retailers run the risk of losing out on valuable trips if understocked in SmartFood
- Added risk of trading down on dollars shoppers were willing to spend
- Key target for line-extensions and new, core SmartFood items

Target market

- Shopper education for added incentive to purchase SmartFood
- Sales promotions and private brand offerings to address price sensitivity
- Opportunity across meal occasions

Fence-sitters

- Start with low-barrier substitutions in breakfast, lunch and dinner, such as lower sodium, vitamin-fortification, etc.

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<https://www.unitedfresh.org/resources/search-publications-library/>

Code: SMART2018

For questions or comments:

- Miriam Wolk | mwolk@unitedfresh.org
- Anne-Marie Roerink | aroerink@210analytics.com

Insights partners:

- Jonna Parker | jonna.parker@iriworldwide.com
- Darren Seifer | darren.seifer@npd.com

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57