# AIRCARE – GERMANY – 2023

In challenging market conditions, aircare brands can prove their value by promoting aircare as affordable luxury, by making products greener and by using natural ingredients.



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# Aircare - Germany - 2023

# This report looks at the following areas:

• The short-, medium- and long-term impact of the economic situation and inflation on the aircare market

- The usage, purchase frequency and purchase locations of aircare products
- Incentives and general buying behaviour towards aircare
- Launch activity and innovation opportunities; relevant advertising activity launched
- Market size and share for aircare products

# In challenging market conditions, aircare brands can prove their value by promoting aircare as affordable luxury, by making products greener and by using natural ingredients.

# Overview

Working and studying from home mandates during the pandemic fueled demand for aircare products, especially among a new user group. Between 2020 and 2022, aircare **usage of 16-24 year old males increased** by 8 percentage points to 81%.

One of the biggest threats for the aircare market is the tough economic situation. The purchase of aircare products is discretionary, which puts the market under pressure. Nearly one in two Germans noticed a **price increase** in household products, and **42%** of consumers looked more carefully at the price of products. After record high sales in 2020 and 2021, the market declined in 2022 but remained well above pre-pandemic levels. While price increases will hold up value sales in 2023, aircare brands need to prove their value once more.

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Aircare brands can focus on launching a greater variety of **gender neutral products** and products with innovative technology to keep up engagement among young men. Moreover, brands can promote aircare as affordable luxury to meet consumers' need for creating a special atmosphere in tough economic times.

Brands also need to step up their NPD efforts around sustainability as aircare launches still fall short on ethical claims compared to other household categories. Launching more refillable and recycled products can be positioned as both the more sustainable and costeffective option for consumers.

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# **Report Content**

# **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

#### Key issues covered in this Report

- Overview
- The five year outlook for aircare

#### Market context

- The impact of the economic situation on the aircare market
- Aircare products to boost health

#### **Mintel predicts**

- Market size & forecast
- Stable long-term outlook for the aircare market

#### **Opportunities**

- Target young males as aircare users of the future
- Position aircare as a small luxury when budgets are tight
- Step up efforts for a green profile in aircare
- Increase naturalness to reach 65+ consumers as a new target group

#### The competitive landscape

- Brands need to be careful to not get swapped out
- Quick download resources

# **MARKET DRIVERS**

#### German economy

- The cost of living crisis is holding back the post-COVID-19 recovery
  - Graph 1: key economic data, in real terms, 2019-24
- Inflation continues to be the key concern in 2023 for consumers, brands and the economy...
- ...impacting financial wellbeing and consumer expenditure
- The impact of the economy on the aircare market

#### **Sustainability**

- The manifestation of a sustainable mindset among consumers...
- ...and governments
- Act now to diminish greenhouse emissions

#### Health

- Becoming the chosen partner for wellbeing at home
- Finding innovative ways to improve air quality at home
- Brands need to mention product safety

#### Hybrid working

• Flex-work increases time spent at home

# WHAT CONSUMERS WANT AND WHY

#### Usage and purchase frequency of aircare products

- Usage of aircare products increased
- Usage of all aircare product types on the rise
  - Graph 2: usage of types aircare products in the last 12 months, 2020 vs 2022
- Launch sprays and aerosols with natural ingredients
- Room to up purchasing frequency
  - Graph 3: buying frequency of aircare products, 2022
- Focus on most-engaged aircare buyers
  - Graph 4: frequency of buying aircare products NET, by age, 2022
- Intensify social media activity to reach the young
- Focus on long-term collaborations with influencers
- Focus on new users to keep up growth

#### **Purchase location**

- Use creativity to differentiate from in-store competitors - Graph 5: purchase channel of aircare products, 2022
- Drugstores most popular for buying aircare products
  - Graph 6: location of purchase of in-store aircare products, 2022
- Supermarkets to cooperate with premiums brands
- Refill stations at supermarkets as an incentive to buy aircare
- Online shopping for aircare products most popular among young men
- Invest in online shopping to target younger men
- Reach young males with innovative ideas
- Online-only retailers as most popular channel for online purchases
  Graph 7: online purchase locations of aircare products, 2022
- · Improve the experience of online shopping

#### Incentives to buy aircare products

Low price as most important factor for consumers

- Graph 8: most important factors when buying aircare products – NET, 2022

• Use natural ingredients to appeal to customers aged 65+

- Graph 9: most important factors when buying aircare products, natural ingredients – NET, by age, 2022

• Use natural ingredients to appeal to customers aged 65+

#### Buying behaviours around aircare products

- Marketers should increase functional own-label launches
  Graph 10: buying behaviour around aircare products, 2022
- Communicate money-saving potential of refills
- Provide proof for eco-friendliness of products

#### Attitudes towards aircare products

- Aircare helps to create a special atmosphere at home
  Graph 11: attitudes towards aircare products, 2022
- Young consumers can be reached by aircare that creates a special atmosphere
- Naturalness: a factor young consumers find worth paying more for
- · Help consumers to improve their wellbeing at home
- · Target parents that want to improve air quality at home

### LAUNCH ACTIVITY AND INNOVATION

- NPD in aircare remains at the highest level
  - Graph 12: NPD in household care, by top five categories, 2018-22
- NPD in aircare remains at the highest level
- NPD in scented candles experienced a boom in 2022
  Graph 13: NPD in aircare, by subcategory, 2018-22
- Categories other than candles are lacking growth
- Examples of NPD in scented candles
- Global atmospheres created at home
- Examples of NPD in sprays/aerosols
- Examples of NPD in reed diffusers/scented oils
- Examples of NPD in powered aircare products
- Botanical/herbal claim still leading claim in aircare
  Graph 14: NPD in aircare, by top ten claims, 2018-22
- Brands meet consumer interest for natural products
- Mention sustainable product features on pack
- Boost refillable launches to meet consumer demand
- New product launches elevated in 2022 again
  - Graph 15: share of NPD in aircare, by launch type, 2018-22

- New packaging launches show room for improvement
- · Aircare products get repackaged for multiple reasons
- Yankee Candle is way ahead of its competitors
  Graph 16: NPD in aircare products, by top 10 companies, 2022
- Aircare showing great potential for own-label NPD
  Graph 17: NPD in aircare, own-label vs branded, 2018-22
- Examples of NPD from own-label

#### Advertising and marketing activity

• Air Wick's focus on natural and sustainable aircare

### **MARKET SHARE**

- Own-label on the downgrade
- · Own-label needs to intensify its efforts
- Only small share increase among all players

### MARKET SIZE, SEGMENTATION AND FORECAST

- Decline in market size after a strong pandemic growth
- Value sales still above pre-pandemic levels
- Scented candles and aerosols switched places again
- Scented candles gave up top position to aerosols
- Aerosols as the new segment leader
- Slow release segment on the rise
- Plug-in/electric lost value due to cost-conscious consumers
- Car fresheners show highest category growth
- Stable long-term outlook for aircare
- Short-term market increase
- Medium term normalisation
- Long-term stabilisation

# APPENDIX

#### Appendix – products covered, abbreviations, consumer research methodology and language usage

- Products covered in this Report
- Abbreviations
- Consumer research methodology
- A note on language

# Appendix – market size and central forecast methodology

- Forecast methodology
- Market size and forecast value
- Market segmentation value



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