HEALTHY SNACKING – INDIAN CONSUMER – 2023

Increased snacking frequency drives the demand for healthy snacking wherein consumers prioritise natural ingredients and low fat content.



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Healthy Snacking - Indian Consumer - 2023

This report looks at the following areas:

- Consumption of snacks frequency and types of snacks consumed
- · Consumers' intention to snack healthily
- Target cohort for healthy snacks
- What consumers want in healthy snacks
- Opportunities to expand adoption of healthy snacks
- Approaches to make healthy snacks relevant throughout the day



Increased snacking frequency drives the demand for healthy snacking wherein consumers prioritise natural ingredients and low fat content.

Overview

Healthy snacking is in demand. 48% of Indians look for a healthy snack all/most of the time. However, consumption data shows that healthy snacks hold a much smaller share than indulgent snacks in consumers' snacking repertoire. This report throws light on the target cohorts for healthy snacking and their expectations from healthy snacks.

Healthy snacks are more likely to find an audience among consumers in the upper tier cities. The report explores opportunities for all-natural ingredients, low fat, high fibre and low/no sugar claims to deliver health value in snacks. Further, the consumer sentiment towards products made with low-fat frying techniques is discussed.

Consumers expect to see different attributes in snacks at different times of the day. The report also identifies these attributes and discusses how healthy snacks can be positioned for different occasions through the day.

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Report Content

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

· Mintel's perspective

Key issues covered in this Report

- Overview
- · The outlook for the healthy snacking category in India
- · Health dominates conversations around snacking
- The need for healthy snacking rises with increased frequency of snacking
 - Graph 1: how often consumers look for a healthy product when choosing a snack, by frequency of snacking, 2023
- · Healthy snacking is an urban phenomenon that is slowly percolating into lower-tier cities
- · All-natural is a strong indicator of a healthy snack; low-fat and high-fibre gain attention in upper-tier cities
 - Graph 2: three most important factors when choosing a healthy snack, by city tier, 2023
- Indians are more likely to pick healthy snacks in the mid-morning
- Quick download resources

KEY TRENDS AND MARKET FACTORS

· What you need to know

Health scares and regulatory endeavours drive healthy eating

- Non-communicable diseases are on the rise
- Consumers are concerned about health and wellness
 - Graph 3: agreement with the statement "I'm prepared to make short-term sacrifices for the sake of my long-term health"*, 2022
- · Indians rely on food and drink to help them lead a healthier lifestyle and age well
- Indians aged 35-44 lead in conversations about healthy snacking
- · Consumers demand more action from the government for healthy eating aids
 - Graph 4: agreement with the statement "Governments should do more to encourage healthy eating specifically in children and teens", 2022
- Mintel Trend: Regulation Nation
- · FSSAI plans to bring in front-of-the-pack nutritional labelling

Better-for-you is good value for Indian consumers

- · In food and drinks, products with health benefits are more likely to be seen as good value for money
 - Graph 5: value indicators in food and drink*, 2022
- · Health nutrition claims grew over the last five years in Indian food and drinks

- Graph 6: % of launches in food and drink products with select plus claims, 2018-23
- Graph 7: % increase in launches of food and drink products with select claims, 2018-19 vs 2022-23
- · The Indian healthy snacking segment is getting competitive
- · Healthy snacks cannot win without qualifying on taste
 - Graph 8: qualities looked for in a snack, 2022
- · Indulgent products are calling out permissibility and healthy products are talking about flavours
- · Brands are offering innovations that align with popular diet plans

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 - Graph 10: factors* of concern over the next six months, 2022
- · Additional health benefits are used to premiumise food and drink products
 - Graph 11: average price of select food and drink categories, with and without functional claims, 2022-23
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- · What you need to know
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 - Graph 12: frequency of snacking in the last one month, by age, 2023
- · Healthy snacking is playing on the minds of Indian consumers
 - Graph 13: how often consumers look for a healthy product when choosing a snack, 2023
- · Intention is only partly being converted to action
 - Graph 14: consumption of healthy and indulgent salty snacks by consumers who look for healthy snacks all/most of the time, 2023

What consumers want in healthy snacks

- · Healthy snacking is an urban phenomenon that is slowly percolating into lower-tier cities
- · Consumers from upper-tier cities are more discerning about snacking
- All-natural is a strong indicator of a healthy snack; low-fat and high-fibre gain attention in upper-tier cities
 - Graph 15: three most important factors when choosing a healthy snack, by city tier, 2023
- Healthy snack brands can gain a wider audience by emphasising the 'naturalness' of snacks
- · Low fat is a top priority, but baked and popped varieties receive underwhelming response
- · Consumers want low-fat snacks, but baked and popped varieties receive underwhelming response
 - Graph 16: % launches of snacks with the 'low/no/reduced fat' claim, 2020-23
 - Graph 17: select factors considered to be most important when choosing a healthy snack, by city tier, 2023
- · Frying/processing techniques for fat reduction are emerging

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- · Low-fat frying techniques for fat reduction are emerging
- · There is limited awareness and interest around these emerging processing techniques
- · Baked and popped products resonate with a niche audience
- Make it easier (not harder) for consumers to choose a low-fat snack
- · Educate consumers about the benefits of new frying techniques
- Put flavour first in low-fat snacks
- · Explore healthy ingredients to elevate the appeal of low-fat snacks
- · Attract upper-tier consumers with high fibre and gut health claims
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- The low/no sugar feature resonates across city tiers
 - Graph 18: low/no sugar as one of the three most important factors when choosing a healthy snack, by city tier, 2023
 - Graph 19: % of launches in select sweet snack categories with select claims related to sugar, 2021-23
- The low/no sugar feature resonates across city tiers
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 - Graph 25: occasions that Super Snackers associate with the healthy feature in snacks, 2023
- Super Snackers are more likely to opt for healthy snacks in the first half of the day
- · Position wholesome snacks for the breakfast occasion
- Offer products to boost the health quotient of morning snacks
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 - Graph 26: select attitudes related to snacking, 2023
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- · Merge adventure and health to claim a share in the evening snacking occasion

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- · Indians are more likely to pick healthy and energising snacks in the mid-morning
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- High-fibre snacks can target the mid-morning occasion for healthy snacking
 - Graph 30: three most important factors when choosing a healthy snack by consumers who associate the healthy feature with the mid-morning occasion for snacking, 2023
- · Consumers want satiating snacks in the afternoon
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- · Dial up health value in filling snacks with protein and fibre
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 - Graph 32: agreement with the statement "More should be done to make sweet snacks healthier", 2023
- Couple indulgent images with bold low/no-sugar claims

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- · Report definition
- · Consumer survey methodology

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