

Center for Sustainable Business

# Sustainable Market Share Index™ 2024 Report



#### A BETTER WORLD THROUGH BETTER BUSINESS

## **Sustainable Market Share Index™: Research Questions**

Consumer packaged goods (CPG) sales provide a broad dataset and bellwether for consumer trends. NYU Stern CSB conducts an annual analysis of purchasing data to assess the performance of sustainable products in this dynamic market.

#### NYU Stern Center for Sustainable Business partnered with Circana, to assess the following:

- 1. How have sustainable products fared over time?
- 2. What is the price premium of sustainable products?
- 3. What is the sustainable market share in Germany and the U.K.?
- What is the demographic profile of the sustainable purchaser? (2023 analysis) 4.
- 5. How important is sustainability in new product development? (2021 analysis)

## **Sustainable Market Share Index™: Executive Summary**

We reviewed consumer purchasing of products marketed as sustainable in 34+ consumer packaged goods (CPG) categories that comprises  $\sim 40\%$  of the total CPG market\* (\$).

#### **U.S. Sustainable Products Share Performance**

- Products marketed as sustainable now hold a 23.8% market share of branded players, up +9.2 ppts vs 2013, and **up 2.6 ppts** vs. prior year **despite continued inflation** (Pg. 6)
- Both sustainable share and store brand share grew vs. prior year (+ 2.6ppts and 0.4ppts respectively) at the • expense of conventionally marketed products (Pg. 7)
- Products marketed as sustainable grew 2.3X faster than products not marketed as sustainable and achieved a 5-**YR CAGR of 12.4%** vs **5.4%** for its conventional counterparts (Pg. 8)
- More than half of all categories analyzed have experienced sustainable market share increases of more than **10+ ppts** in their respective categories since 2013 (Pg. 9)

#### **Price Premiums**

Branded products marketed as sustainable enjoy an average price premium of 26.6%\*\* vs. conventionally marketed branded counterparts, but the differential has stabilized since declining from its peak in 2018 (Pg. 12) and varies significantly by category (Pg. 13)

#### **European Markets**

- Sustainable shares in the two **European** markets examined **exceed** that of the U.S. •
- Branded products marketed as sustainable account for 36.8% of the market share in the U.K. and 42.0% of the • market share in Germany (Pg. 15)

\*Excluding alcohol and tobacco. \*\*Weighted by \$ Sustainable Sales of categories examined

## Sustainable Market Share Index<sup>™</sup>: Executive Summary (Page 2 of 2)

#### **Demographics (2023 report)**

• Upper income, millennials, college-educated and urban consumers are more likely to buy sustainability- marketed products. In addition, Middle Income, Baby Boomers and Gen Xers contribute a significant percent of sustainable sales (Pgs. 17-20)

#### Innovation (2021 report)

The **percentage of new products** that incorporate sustainability benefits have **increased** every • year since 2017 (Pg. 22)

## **Sustainable Market Share Index™:** Research Question 1

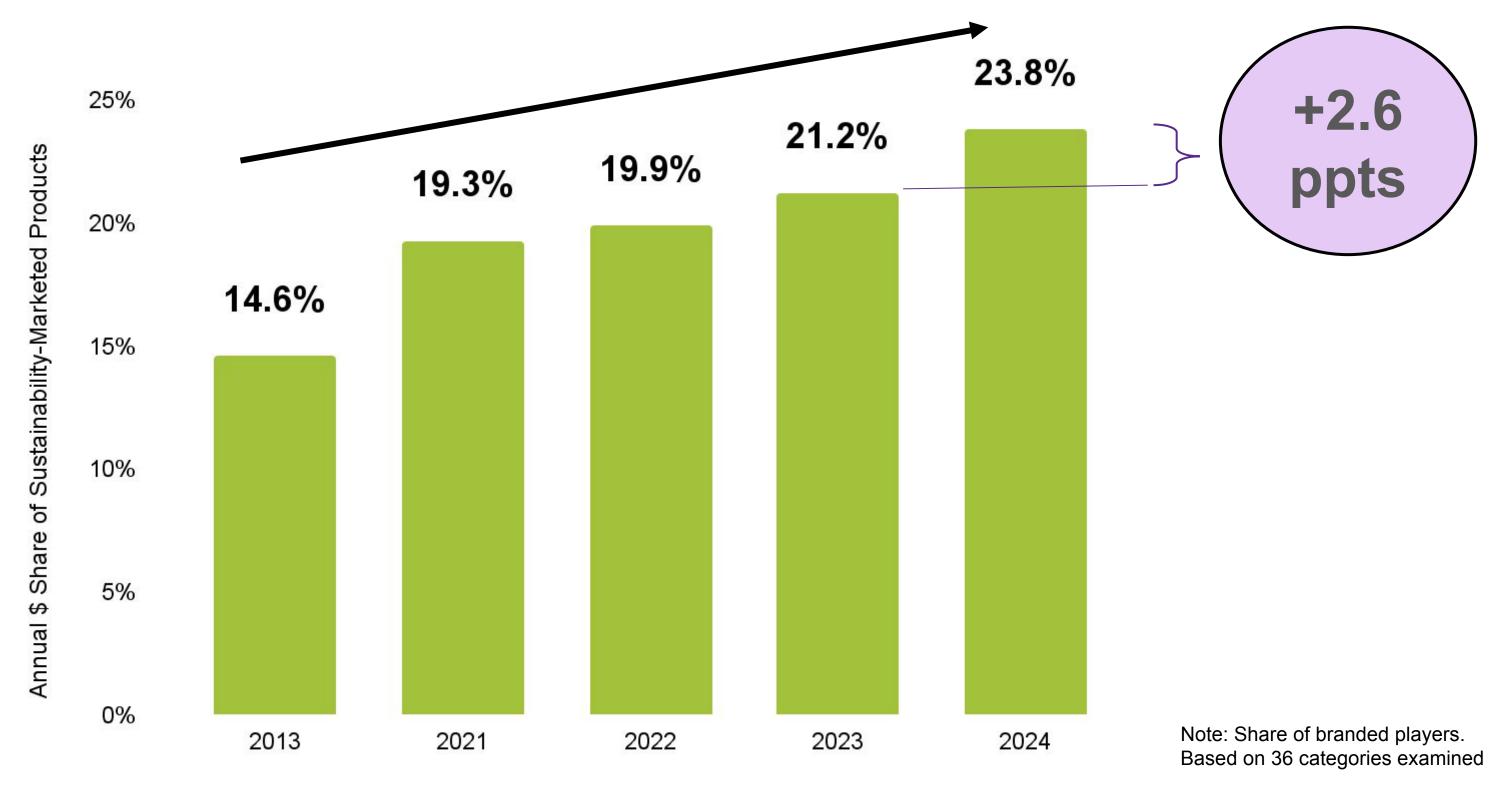
**Research Question:** Have branded products marketed as sustainable delivered growth and how have they performed relative to conventionally marketed products?

**Research Result:** Products marketed as sustainable have grown every year since 2013, with a significant share increase during the pandemic and recent inflation. Moreover, they are contributing to a disproportionate share of the CPG category growth.



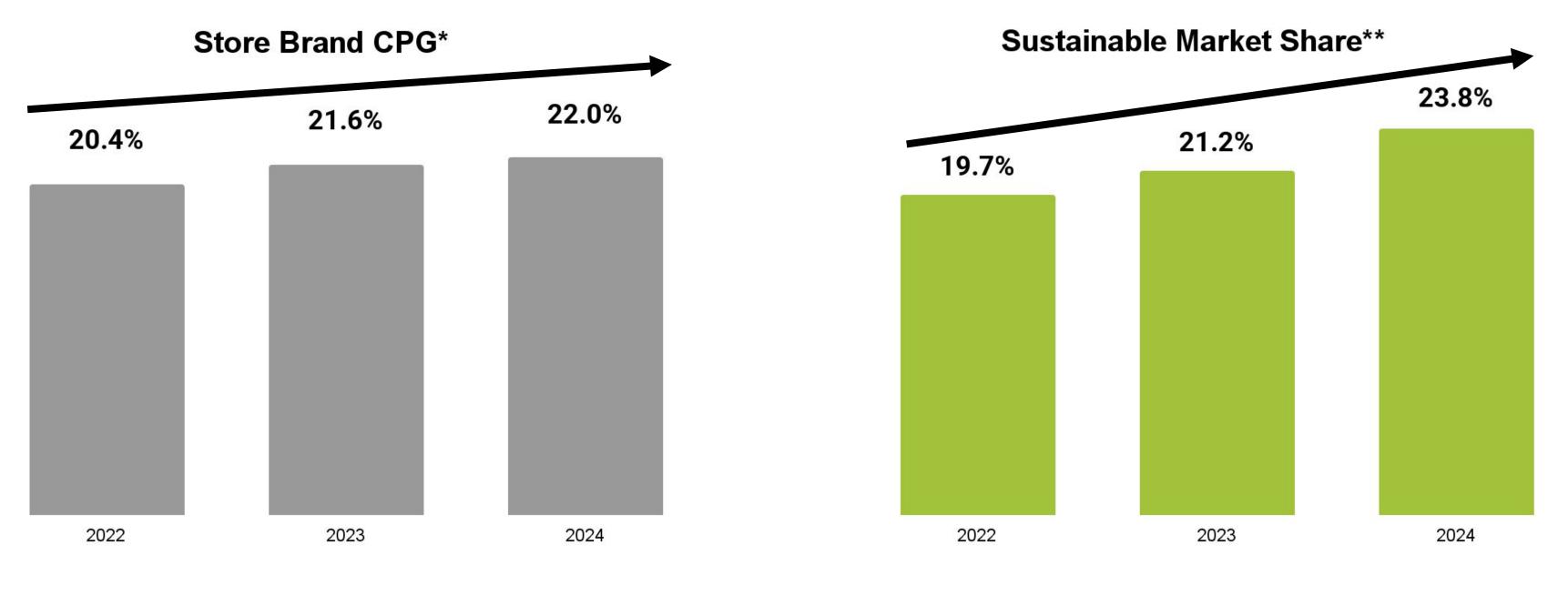
# Sustainable Market Share Index<sup>™</sup>: 2024 Market Share

Products marketed as sustainable continue to grow share despite high inflation



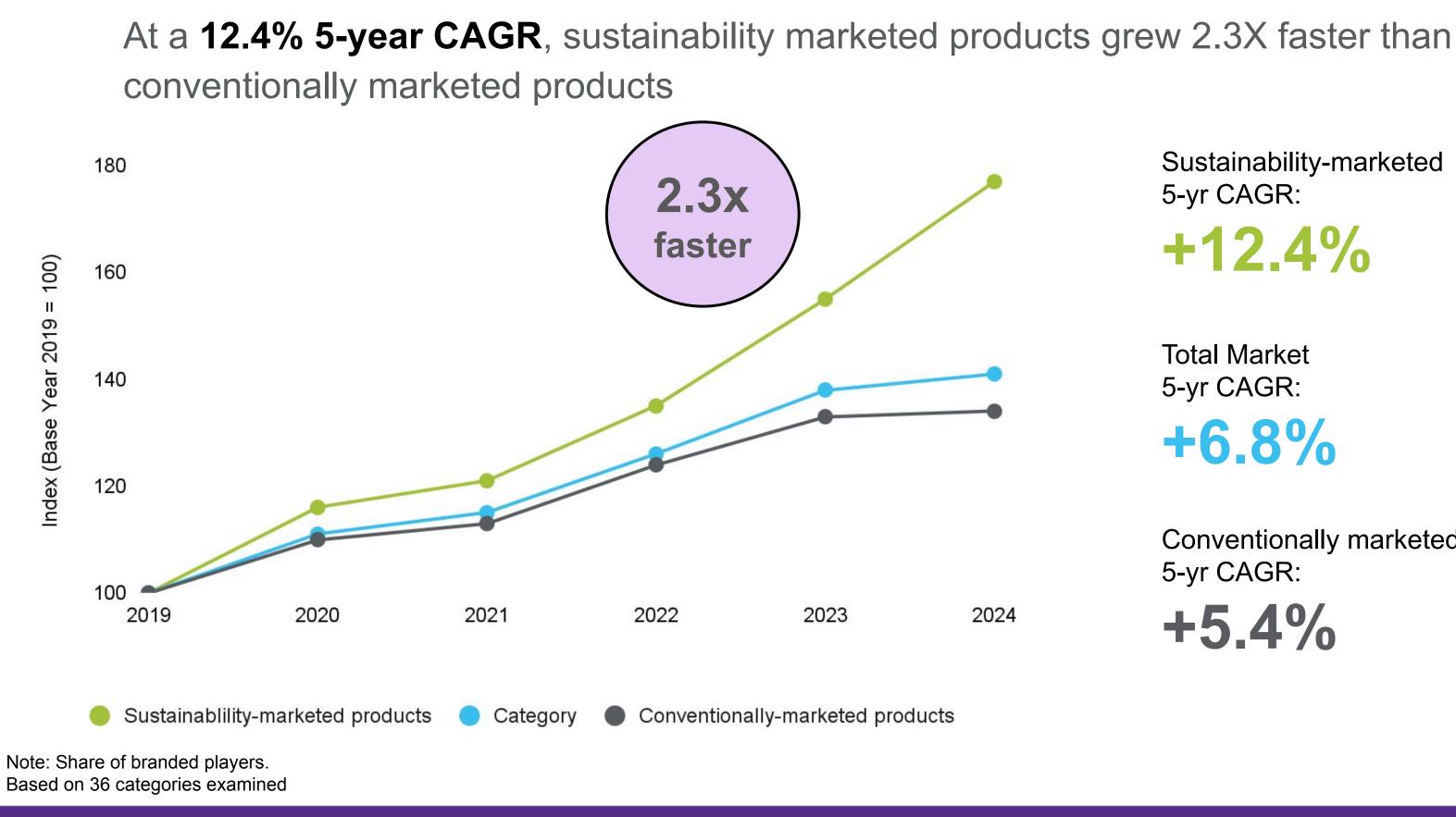
# Sustainable Market Share Index<sup>™</sup>: CPG Growth Segments

Store brand share of market was 22.0%, up +0.4% from 2023, suggesting branded sustainable products are more insulated from inflation-driven moves to store brands



\* From Circana private label report \*\*36 categories examined

### **Sustainable Market Share Index™:** Growth Rate 5-YR CAGR



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Sustainability-marketed 5-yr CAGR: +12.4%

**Total Market** 5-yr CAGR:

+6.8%

Conventionally marketed 5-yr CAGR:

+5.4%

# **Sustainable Market Share Index**<sup>™</sup>: Category Performance

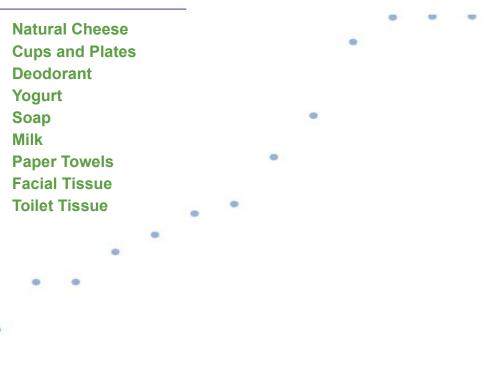
More than half of categories have seen **10+ ppts growth** in share since 2013, ranging from

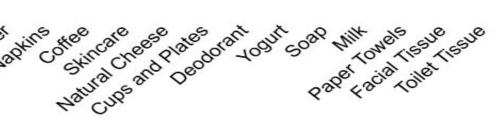
#### 10-80+ ppt increases <5% Share 5-20% Share >20% Share 100% Cookies Laundry Care Food and Trash Bags Laundry Detergent Household Cleaner Fresh Bread Carbonated Beverages Crackers Toothpaste Vitamins Pet Food **Dish Detergent Frozen Dinner Meals** San Napkins Pet Treats Bottled Juice Diapers Soup Chocolate Candy Weight Control 75% **Energy Drinks Floor Cleaner** Salty Snacks **Paper Napkins** Coffee Cereal Skincare 50% 25% 0% Frozen Dinner Entrees Laundry Detergent Sanitary Naphins Food and Trash Bags Carbonated Beverages Household Cleaner Weight Control Paper Naphins Chocolate Candy Energy Drinks Salty Snacks DishDetergent Bottled Juice FreshBread Laundry Care Floor Cleaner Cookies Petrood Diapers

Note: Green denotes more than +10 ppts share growth since 2013

#### Categories

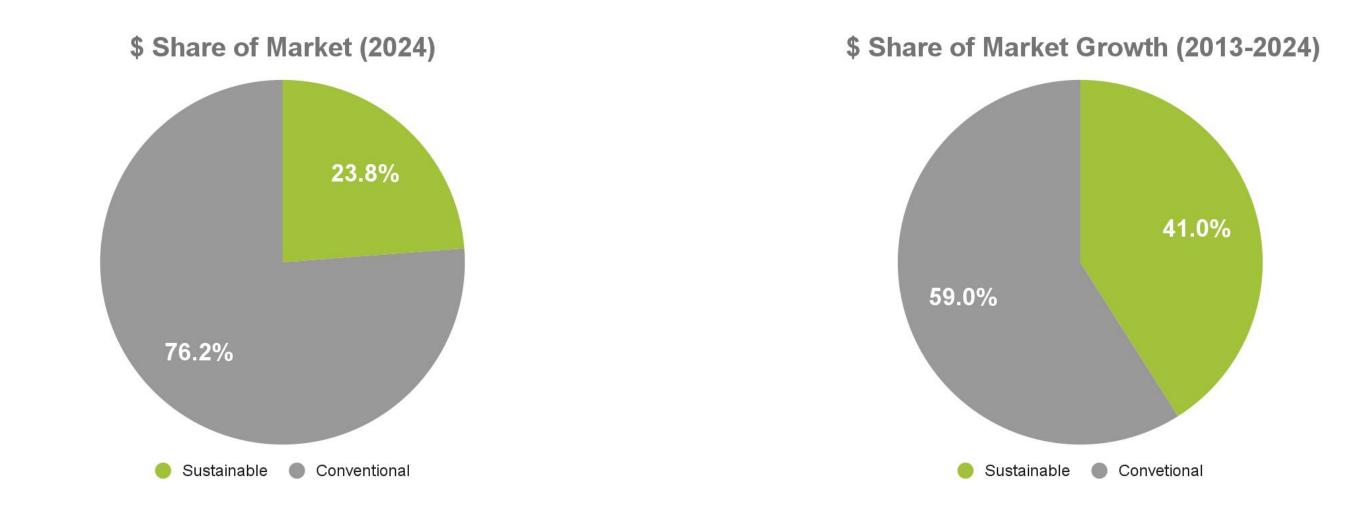
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# **Sustainable Market Share Index**<sup>™</sup>: Contribution to Growth

Despite having share of 23.8% of the market, branded products marketed as sustainable delivered 41% of the CPG market growth (2013-2024)



Note: Share of branded players. Based on 36 categories examined

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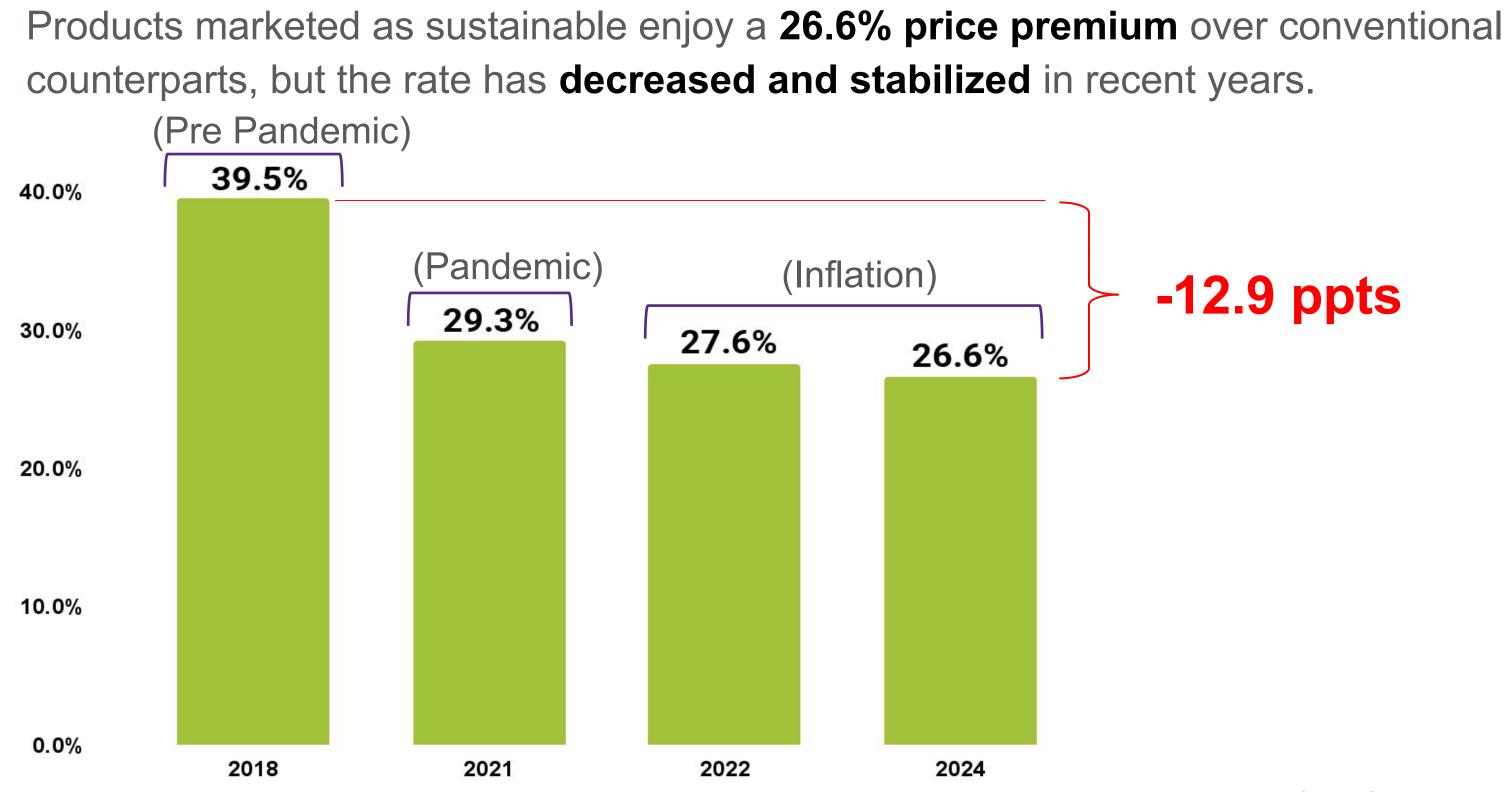
## **Sustainable Market Share Index™:** Research Question 2

**Research Question: What is the price premium of sustainable products?** 

Research Result: Products marketed as sustainable still enjoy a sizeable premium vs. their conventional counterparts, but that gap has shrunk substantially since its peak and stabilized in recent years. Conventional product price increases significantly outpaced their sustainable counterparts.



# **Sustainable Market Share Index**<sup>™</sup>: Price Premiums over Time



\*Weighted by \$ Sustainable Sales of categories examined; analysis excluded store brand/private label

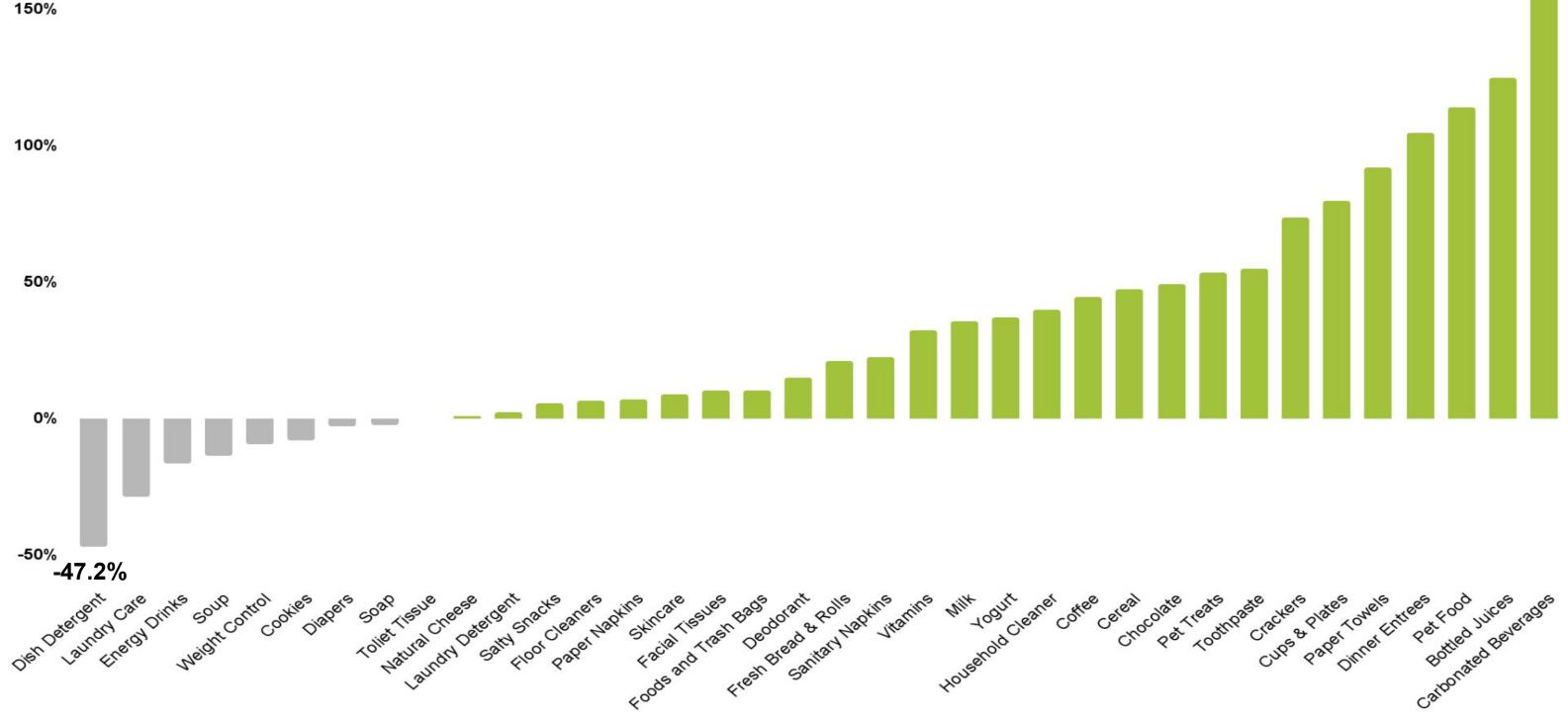
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-12.9 ppts

Note: Share of branded players. Based on 36 categories examined

## **Sustainable Market Share Index**<sup>™</sup>: 2024 Price Premium by Category

In majority of categories, sustainable products still command price premium ranging from 1% to 167%. A few categories have price discounts versus conventional products.



# 167.7%

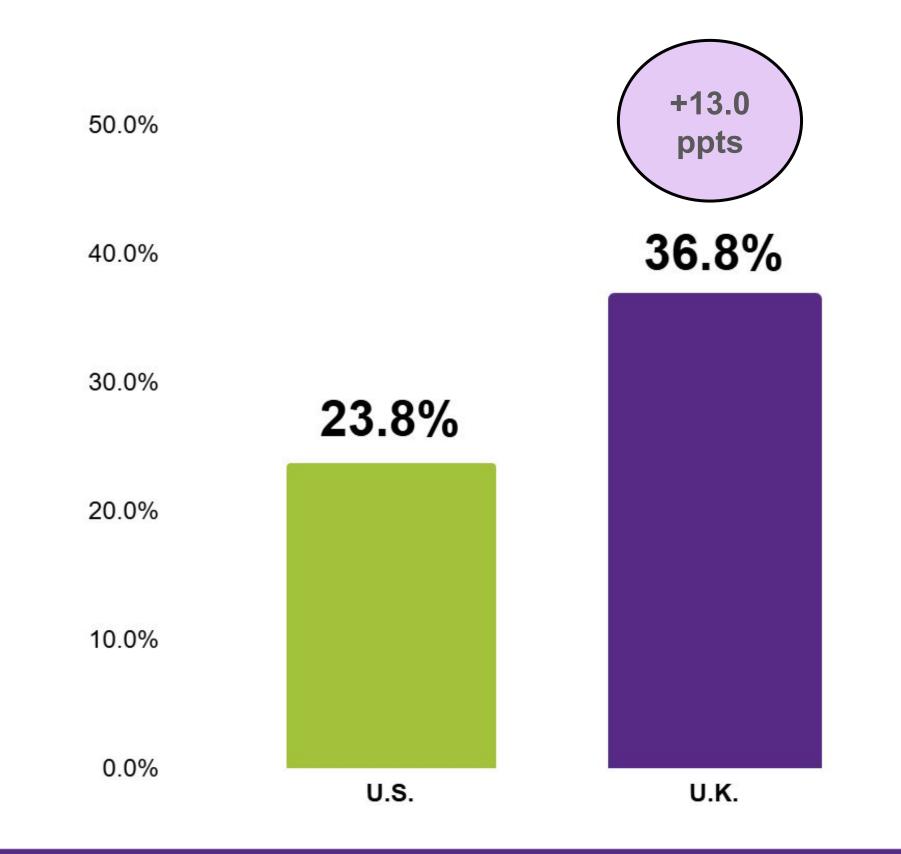
## **Sustainable Market Share Index™:** Research Question 3

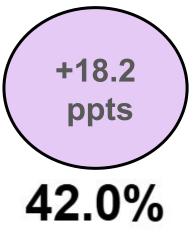
**Research Question:** How does U.S. performance compare to countries in Europe?

**Research Result:** UK and Germany have a significantly higher share of branded products marketed as sustainable compared to the US, with some sustainability claims specific to each region.



# Sustainable Market Share Index<sup>™</sup>: U.K. and Germany





Germany

Note: Share of branded players. UK and Germany share based on 34 categories

## **Sustainable Market Share Index™:** Research Question 4 (2023 report)

**Research Question:** What is the demographic profile of the sustainable purchaser?

Research Result: Millennials, upper income, college- educated and more urban cohorts are more likely to buy sustainability-marketed products. Baby Boomers, Gen Xers, upper and middle income, college educated and urban cohorts account for the bulk of the sustainable dollars spent.

Analysis conducted using IRI HH panel data; based on 35 categories examined

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# Sustainability Purchase Index – Generational Cohorts (2023)

In general, the younger the HH, the more likely they are to purchase sustainable products

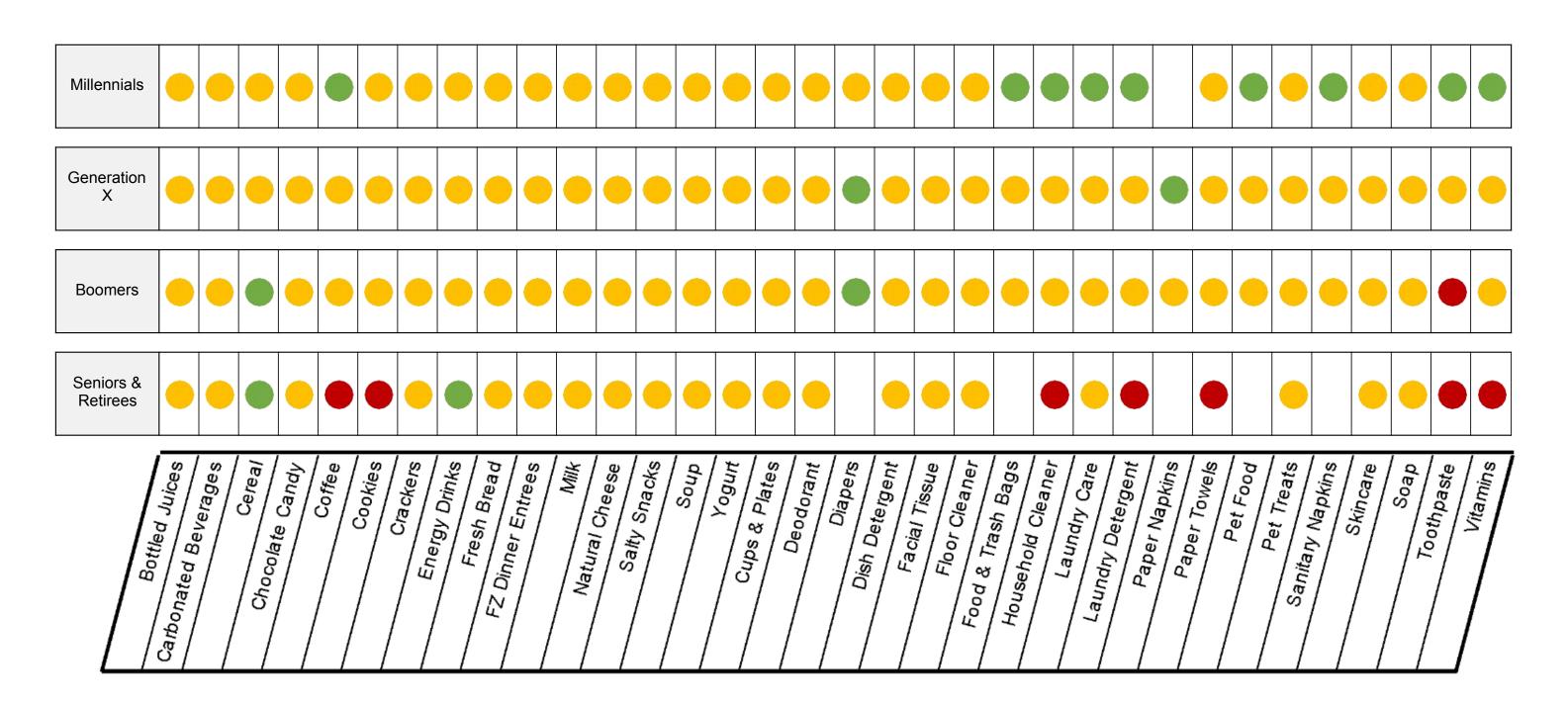


Chart read as: Millennials purchased a significantly higher percent (>1.2x) of their Coffee purchases on Sustainable Products, than did Average HHs.

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Total CPG **Sustainable Sales** Composition 30% Millennials Generation 31% Х 33% **Boomers** Seniors & 6% Retirees



# Sustainability Purchase Index – Education (2023)

The more educated the consumer, the more likely they are to buy sustainable products

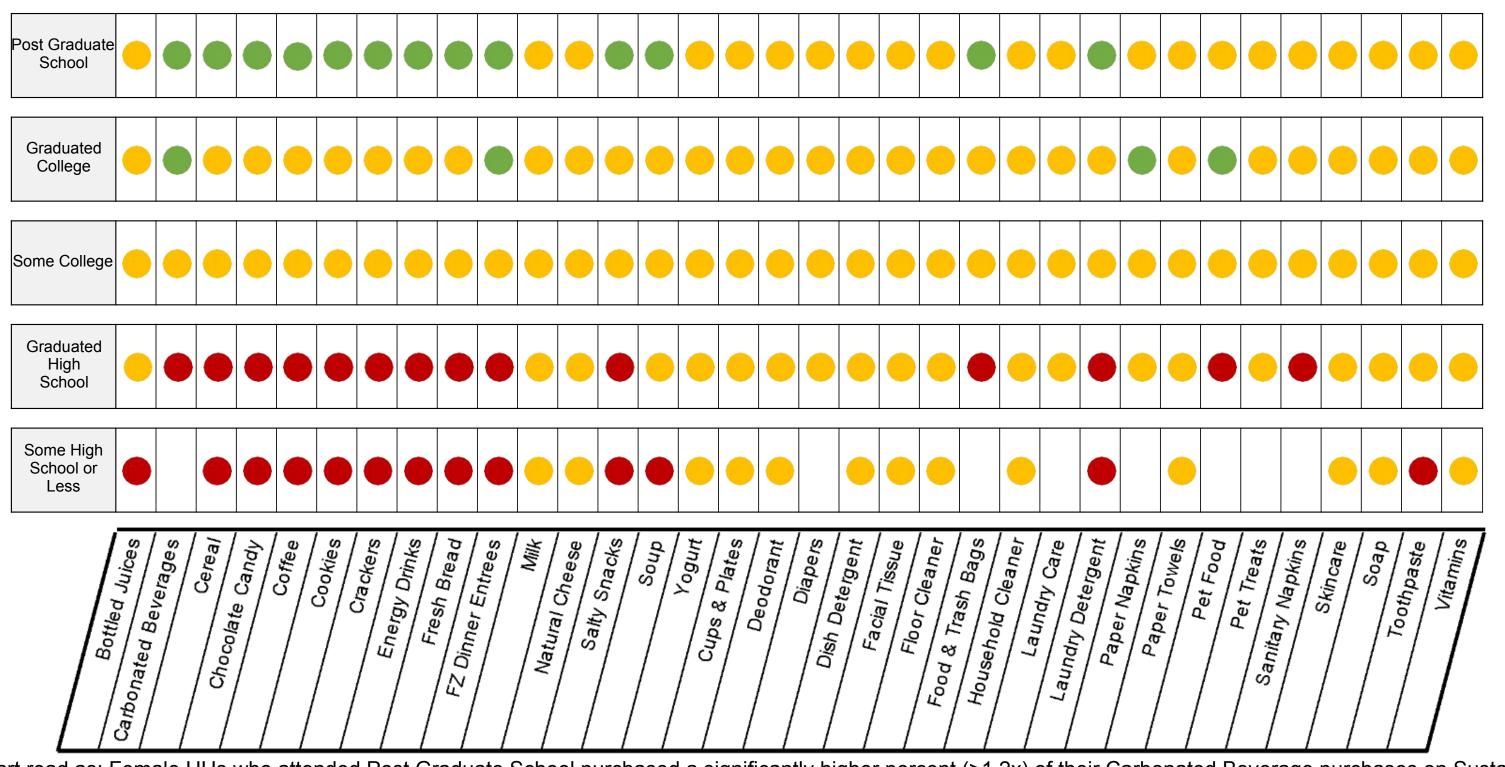


Chart read as: Female HHs who attended Post Graduate School purchased a significantly higher percent (>1.2x) of their Carbonated Beverage purchases on Sustainable Products, than did Average HHs.

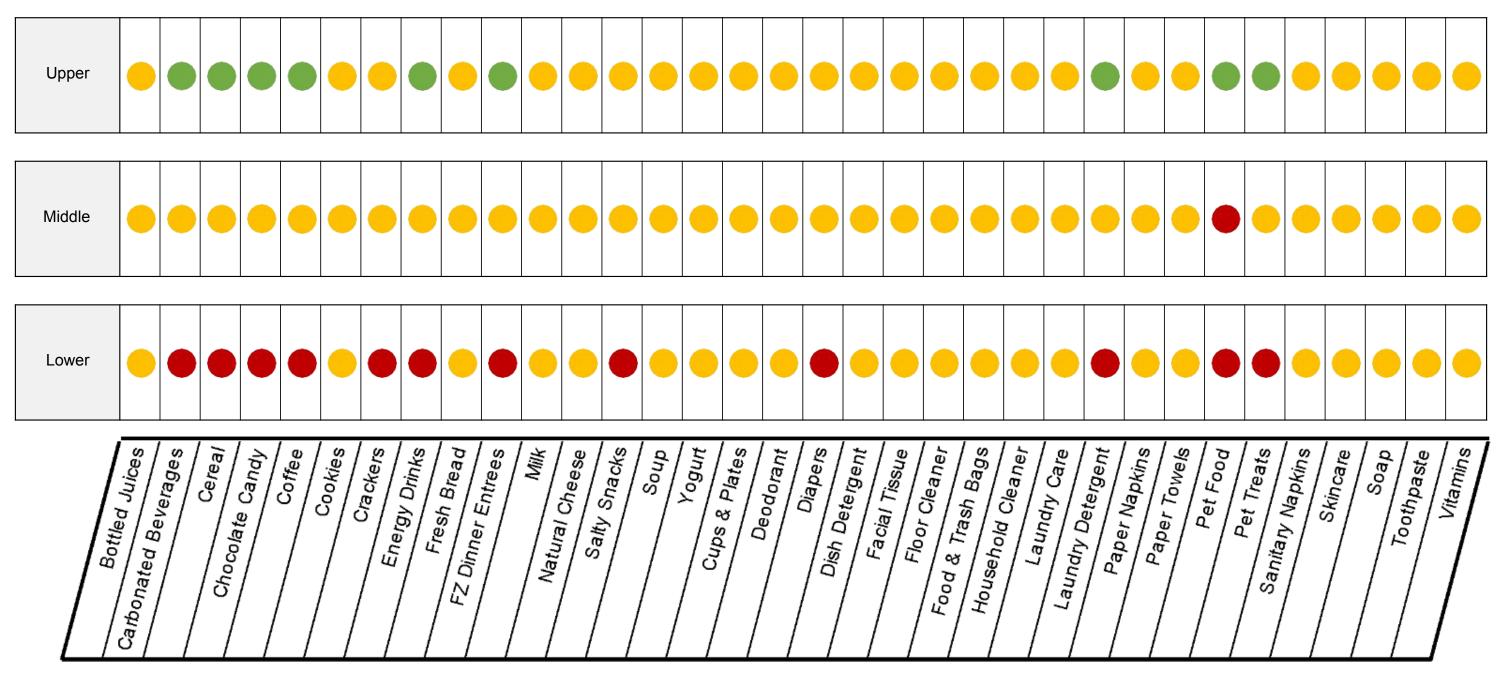
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Total CPG Sustainable Sales Composition	
Post Graduate School	18%
Graduated College	36%
Some College	27%
Graduated High School	17%
Some High School or Less	2%

Index 120+ Index 80-120 Index <80

# Sustainability Purchase Index – Income Tiers (2023)

The more affluent the consumer, the more likely they are to buy sustainable products



Income Classification: Upper (>=\$70k 1P + \$30k all others), Middle (\$30-70k 1P + \$5k per add`l Person), Lower (<\$30k 1P + \$5k per add`l Person) Chart read as: Upper Income HHs purchased a significantly higher percent (>1.2x) of their Carbonated Beverage purchases on Sustainable Products, than did Average HHs.

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Total CPG Sustainable Sales Composition	
Upper	41%
Middle	38%
Lower	21%



# Sustainability Purchase Index – Urbanicity (2023)

The more urban the consumer, the more likely they are to buy sustainable products

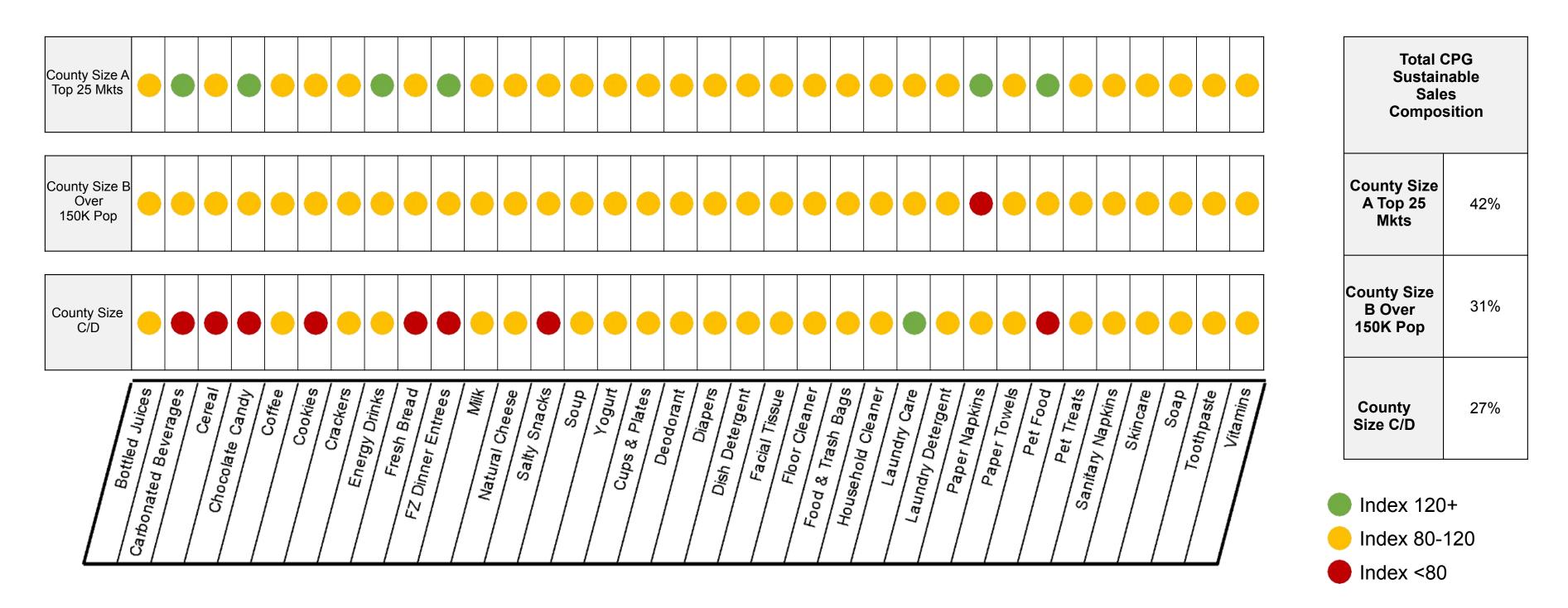


Chart read as: Households in County Size A purchased a significantly higher percent (>1.2x) of their Carbonated Beverage purchases on Sustainable Products, than did Average HHs.

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## **Sustainable Market Share Index™:** Research Question 5 (2021 report)

**Research Question:** How important has sustainability become in new product development?

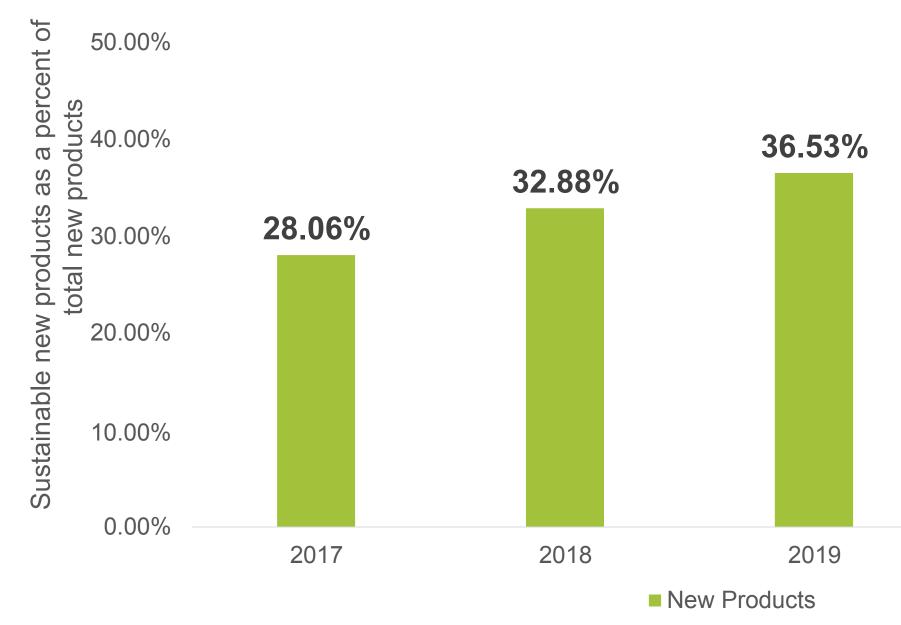
**Research Result:** The percentage of new products with sustainable attributes have increased every year since 2017. In 2021, approximately one out of every two new products introduced had a sustainable benefit.



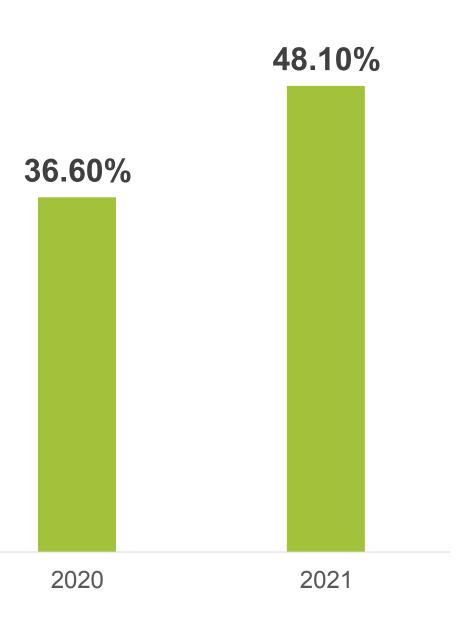
## **Sustainable Market Share Index:** New Products (2021)

The percentage of new products that incorporate and communicate sustainability benefits have increased every year from 2017 to 2021

60.00%







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## Methodology

#### Data

Circana Point of Sale, HH panel data in all measured channels in U.S.; Point of Sale data used in the European analysis

#### **Selection Criteria**

- 36 categories examined held the largest dollar volume; in a few cases, smaller categories were included to ensure fair representation of all major CPG segments. 34 categories examined in the UK and 34 categories examined in Germany.
- Over 250,000 products reviewed in the U.S.; 67,000 in Germany; 71,000 in the UK. •
- Previous SMSI reports recorded private label/store brand products as conventional due to lack of visibility (Circana is unable to share retail store brand data). • This was a conservative approach, as many store brands are marked as sustainable. Given the increase in private label share in recent years, this practice was depressing the sustainable share results. Thus, we've recalculated all previous years and moving forward will only report the sustainable product share of branded players (~80% of the market).

#### Sustainability-Marketed Products Determination

- Identified all SKUs for each category marketed as sustainable with on-package communication, e.g. 3<sup>rd</sup> party certification (e.g. USDA Organic), containing organic ingredients, no phosphates, no phthalates, etc.
- Sustainability determination focused on the product itself, not the recyclability of the package. •
- A very conservative approach was adopted. For example, the following was not considered sustainable:
  - Natural with no other sustainable identification •
  - Recyclable packaging •

#### **Other Assumptions/Information**

- Products that were deemed sustainability-marketed in 2018 were considered sustainability-marketed in 2013. This likely depressed the growth numbers in ٠ the earlier years.
- We made no attempt to assess if products marketed as sustainable were, in fact, sustainable. Instead, we focused on whether the marketing of a product as • sustainable would drive purchase.

All estimates and analysis in this paper based on Circana data are by the authors and not by Circana, formerly Information Resources, Inc.