

Competitor Strategies in Snacks

February 2025

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COMPETITIVE LANDSCAPE

Perfetti ramps up innovation capacity to re-enter top 10, with remaining players holding rank M&A and portfolio revisions are redefining industry dependence for snack players

Healthy demand for snacks continues to deliver growth to snacks players

Leading brands focus on emerging markets with localised offerings

PepsiCo, Unilever and General Mills experience increases in their active category shares

Most top 10 players achieve more than half of their total sales with their power brands

Expected stability in rankings, with potential changes for Unilever and Kellanova

KEY PROTAGONISTS

PepsiCo leads the snacks industry through localisation, diversification, and innovation Mondelez's strategy involves innovation, nostalgia, mindful snacking and co-branding Mars is set to strengthen its snack portfolio and global foodprint post-Kellanova acquisition Nestlé boosts Kit Kat, drives the "value-up journey" and expands in emerging markets Ferrero focuses on strategic acquisitions, investments, innovation and marketing activities Unilever seeks profit and market share growth as it prepares to divest its ice cream business Hershey focuses on core brands, strategic acquisitions and innovation General Mills expands with innovative products, healthy brands and Al-driven efficiencies Perfetti Van Melle's focus: Strategic acquisitions, innovation and fun retail concepts

KEY STRATEGIES

Companies strategically adjust portfolios through mergers, acquisitions and divestitures Major snack brands drive growth in emerging markets through localisation...
...while unique local tastes spread globally through social media
Companies innovate with new flavours and textures to deliver fresh experiences
Snack leaders are partnering with other brands and creating viral trends on social media
Snacks industry leaders are expanding their portfolios to include healthier products
Leading brands are prioritising sustainability investments (eg the cocoa industry)

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