



**whipstitch**  
CAPITAL

**Healthy Living Consumer Products:  
Industry Update, Deal Review and Top Trends**

**September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021**

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- **Whipstitch Capital Overview**

- **Capital Markets Recap & Overview**



- **Whipstitch Capital's Top-11 Healthy Living Consumer Trends**

- **SPINS Market Update: Produced for Whipstitch's Industry Analysis**



# Whipstitch Capital: The Largest, Independent Investment Bank in the U.S. Solely Focused on Emerging Consumer Brands

## The Leading Consumer-Focused Investment Bank in the U.S.



### Large, Experienced Team

Twelve-person team led by industry veterans Nick McCoy and Mike Burgmaier



### Best-in-Class Advisors

Financial advisory on M&A and institutional private placements



### Highly Skilled

50+ years collective work experience; 100+ transactions closed



### Consumer Experts

Focused exclusively on innovative consumer companies



### Category-Leading Clients

Whipstitch represents category-leaders, innovators, and top-quality teams



### Boston HQ

Coverage across the U.S.; clients and buyers from all over the world



# Whipstitch Represents Category Leaders, Innovators and Highly-Talented Teams

## Select Recent/Active Mandates



### Frozen Desserts

Better-for-you frozen desserts platform brand



### Ethnic Food

Better-for-you ethnic food platform brand



### Breakfast Foods

Organic breakfast and snack foods company



### Personal Care Appliances

Sexual wellness devices, beauty tools and grooming appliances brand



### RTD Beverage

Leading, multi-category ready-to-drink beverage brand



## Select Prior Transactions



# Whipstitch is Unique: 100% Founder Owned; Solely Consumer Focused; Strong Banking Capabilities



## **We Own Whipstitch**

The principals own 100% of the firm

We are not going anywhere



## **Long-Term**

We work with many clients over many years

We have no quarterly quotas

We work with clients to get the best deal done at the right time



## **100% Consumer Focused**

We only do consumer

We know it better than anyone

We know how to talk about your company and the opportunity



## **Connected**

We know virtually every acquirer and investor in the consumer space

They ask us what we think and listen to our opinions

Regular interaction quarterly (or more) with over 50+ global strategics



## **Lead Industry Gatherings**

We bring acquirers and investors to us with can't-miss events throughout the year

# Whipstitch Founded and Led by Experienced Dealmakers with a Highly Seasoned Team



## Nick McCoy, CFA

- 20+ years investment banking experience
- Formerly Gleacher & Co. (First Albany, now Jefferies), Allmerica Financial Corp., Wheelabrator Technologies
- MBA, Wake Forest University; BS, University of New Hampshire

**Managing Director**



## Michael Burgmaier

- Over 20 years of investment banking, consulting and VC Experience
- Former VC and Bain & Co., Inc. Consultant
- MBA, The Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth; MPP, Duke University; BS, Boston College

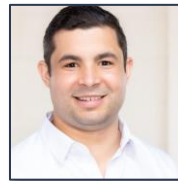
**Managing Director**



## Greg Ucich, CFA

- Seven years consumer IB experience
- Based in San Diego, CA – west coast coverage
- BS Economics and Finance, University of New Hampshire

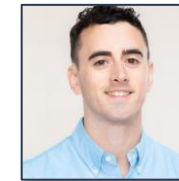
**Vice President**



## Tim Sousa

- Seven years consumer IB and PE experience
- MBA and BS Finance, Bentley University where Tim was a NCAA student athlete

**Vice President**



## Dominic Mangano

- Five years consumer IB experience
- BS Finance, University of Connecticut

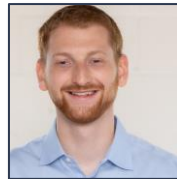
**Vice President**



## Tyler Coppola, CPA

- Two years consumer IB experience; Two years buy- and sell-side diligence experience
- MST and BS Accounting, Bentley University

**Associate**



## Tom MacLean

- Two years consumer IB experience; three years credit research experience at Moody's
- BS Finance, University of Connecticut

**Associate**



## Sarika Pokala

- Specialty Finance at JP Morgan
- BS Applied Economics and Management, Cornell University

**Analyst**



## Lauren Park

- Prior experience in strategic consulting
- BS Applied Economics and Management, Cornell University

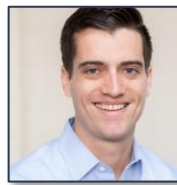
**Analyst**



## Kathy Foster

- Five years of investment banking operations experience

**Dir. of Operations**



## Brendan Camuso, CPA

- One year consumer IB experience; one year buy- and sell-side diligence experience
- BS Accounting, University of Maryland

**Analyst**



## Sam Zander, CPA

- Two years experience in Deloitte's audit practice
- MS Accounting, USC; BS Finance, Washington State University

**Analyst**

# Whipstitch Works with Clients Both Before and During the Process: Our Services are Comprehensive and Best-in-Class

## Pre-Process



### Executive Summary & CIM

We **create** the best story possible. We know what matters. We sell. We make you look good



### Financial Model

We **create** detailed, highly-complex bottoms-up financial models using airtight assumptions



### Buyers List

We **leverage** our massive network to compile the best list of investors / acquirers tailored for you

## Process



### Calling Program

We **generate** strong interest and provide requested diligence materials



### Meetings

We are on email and phones constantly and at meetings. We **manage** it all. We sell



### Diligence

We **manage** the Data Room. We know what will be asked and we have answers ready (you will look good)



### Marketplace

We **create** a competitive process designed to generate multiple offers



### Closing

We **lead** negotiations with investors/acquirers to help create the best-possible outcomes



# Deep History of Successful Processes: With Whipstitch, You Get the Best Bankers... and More



SINCE 1847  
**THAYERS**  
NATURAL REMEDIES

**John Gehr**  
CEO  
Thayers

"The Whipstitch Team worked tirelessly to get me the best possible outcome and I am thrilled. Whipstitch was hands-on from the get-go and quickly surfaced some key issues for us to work on ahead of selling the company. They quickly and effectively secured compelling offers from top strategic buyers and consumer-focused private equity groups. It was a hard decision in the end for me as we had so many fantastic options with various partners. I would highly recommend any company looking to sell to work with Whipstitch Capital."



**PURPLE CARROT**

**Andrew Levitt**  
Founder and CEO  
Purple Carrot

"Whipstitch was incredibly helpful in our sale to Oisix ra Daichi. Their knowledge of how to best position DTC businesses to acquirers and strategic connections within the domestic and international food and beverage landscape helped us navigate the ever-evolving e-commerce M&A market."



**Swerve**  
THE ULTIMATE  
SUGAR REPLACEMENT

**Andress Blackwell**  
CEO  
Swerve

"Our experience working with Whipstitch Capital was terrific. They stayed with us and on us. Nick, Mike, Dom and Brendan became part of the Swerve family while working together."



# Be Sure to Subscribe to Our Industry-Leading Weekly Deal Recap Newsletter



- Whipstitch distributes weekly transaction newsletters to more than 12,000 consumer industry professionals
- Covers food and beverage, supplements, retail and personal care
- Shared extensively within strategic acquirers and private equity firms
- Constant interaction with buyer/ investor universe – Whipstitch is the knowledge leader in consumer M&A
- Non-traditional buyers and investors see the newsletter and constantly ask to participate in our processes

**DEAL DIFFERENT.™**

[Click to Subscribe!](#)

# SPINS / Whipstitch Partnership Offers Comprehensive Data Set and Unrivaled Market Analysis Capabilities

## Established Partnership Provides Whipstitch With Detailed Market Information on Every Brand and Category Tracked by SPINS

- Investors and acquirers pay up when they see a strong data story
- We know the data inside and out, and we know the right story to tell
- Whipstitch clients get favorable access to SPINS data packages

**whipstitch**  
CAPITAL



**SPINS®**



**Clear Value-Driver for Whipstitch Clients**

# Select Deals Led by the Whipstitch Team



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# Natural Products Industry Capital Markets Remain Highly Active with M&A and Private Placements

## Overall Transaction Activity Grew 9% in 2020, Despite Uncertainty of COVID-19 Pandemic

- Industry-wide financings **grew by 39%** in H1 2021, indicating continued healthy capital markets activity
- M&A activity **quickly recovered in H2 2020** following the COVID-19 pause from mid-March to mid-May

### Nutrition and Health & Wellness Industry Transactions: M&A Details 2015 – 2020<sup>1</sup>

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Retail & Distribution	10	26	34	22	29	23
Supplements	10	17	21	11	10	17
Ingredients	22	29	43	29	34	32
Contract Manufacturing	12	8	14	12	13	8
OTC & Personal Care	13	16	23	17	24	12
Natural & Organic, Functional Food	100	103	138	138	104	101
Others: Tech, Fitness, Pet	80	60	83	117	93	79
<b>Total M&amp;A</b>	<b>247</b>	<b>259</b>	<b>356</b>	<b>346</b>	<b>307</b>	<b>272</b>
<b>Financings</b>	<b>383</b>	<b>456</b>	<b>554</b>	<b>611</b>	<b>659</b>	<b>782</b>
Average Size of Financing (\$MM)	\$21	\$15	\$25	\$37	\$31	\$30
<b>Total Transactions</b>	<b>630</b>	<b>715</b>	<b>910</b>	<b>957</b>	<b>966</b>	<b>1054</b>
<b>YoY Growth</b>	<b>+63%</b>	<b>+13%</b>	<b>+27%</b>	<b>+5%</b>	<b>+1%</b>	<b>+9%</b>

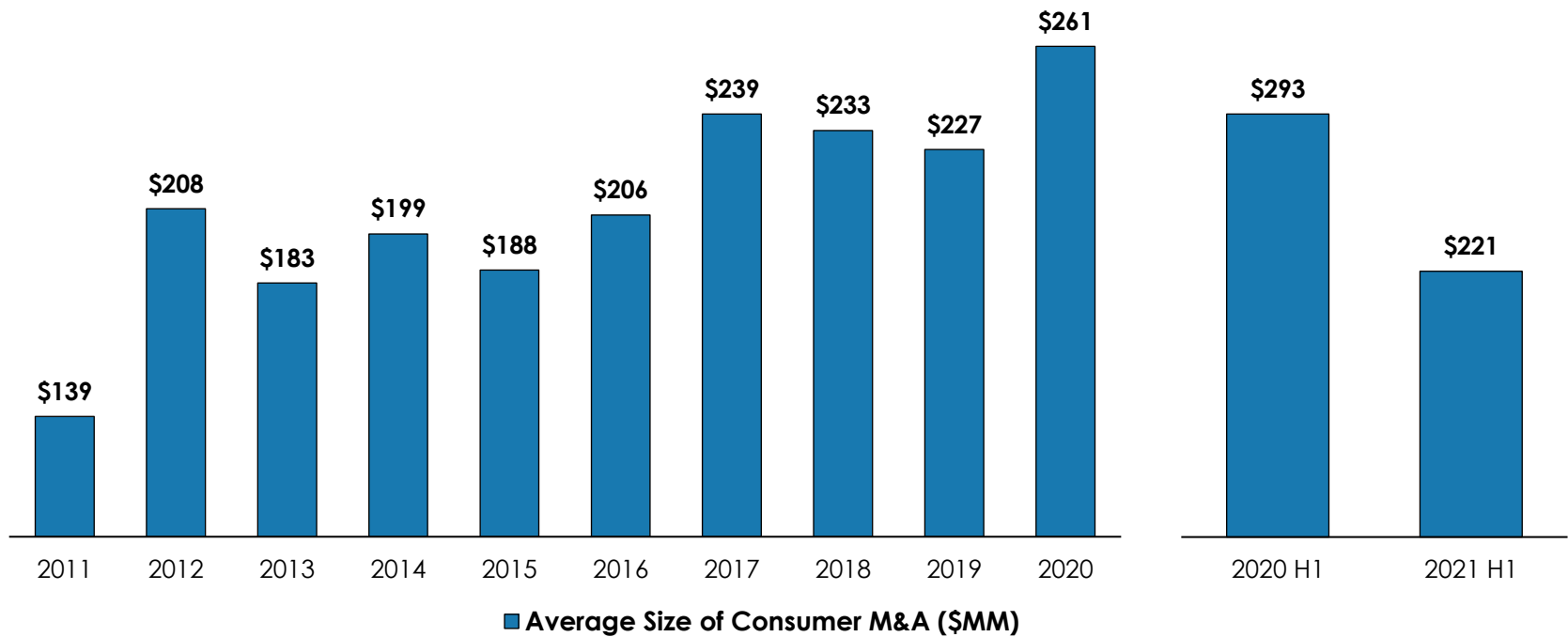
H1 20	H1 21
13	3
8	5
17	13
1	7
5	6
46	80
42	41
<b>132</b>	<b>155</b>
<b>350</b>	<b>486</b>
\$30	\$48
<b>482</b>	<b>641</b>
<b>0%</b>	<b>33%</b>

# The Average Deal Size in Consumer M&A Has Increased Steadily Over the Past Ten Years

## Brands Getting Acquired at Later Stages and Larger Enterprise Values

- The consumer M&A market has matured over the past ten years
- Deal sizes have increased significantly as acquirers **search for later stage brands** – continued focus on **profitability and upside potential**

## Average Size of Middle-Market Consumer M&A Exceeds \$200 Million<sup>1,2</sup>



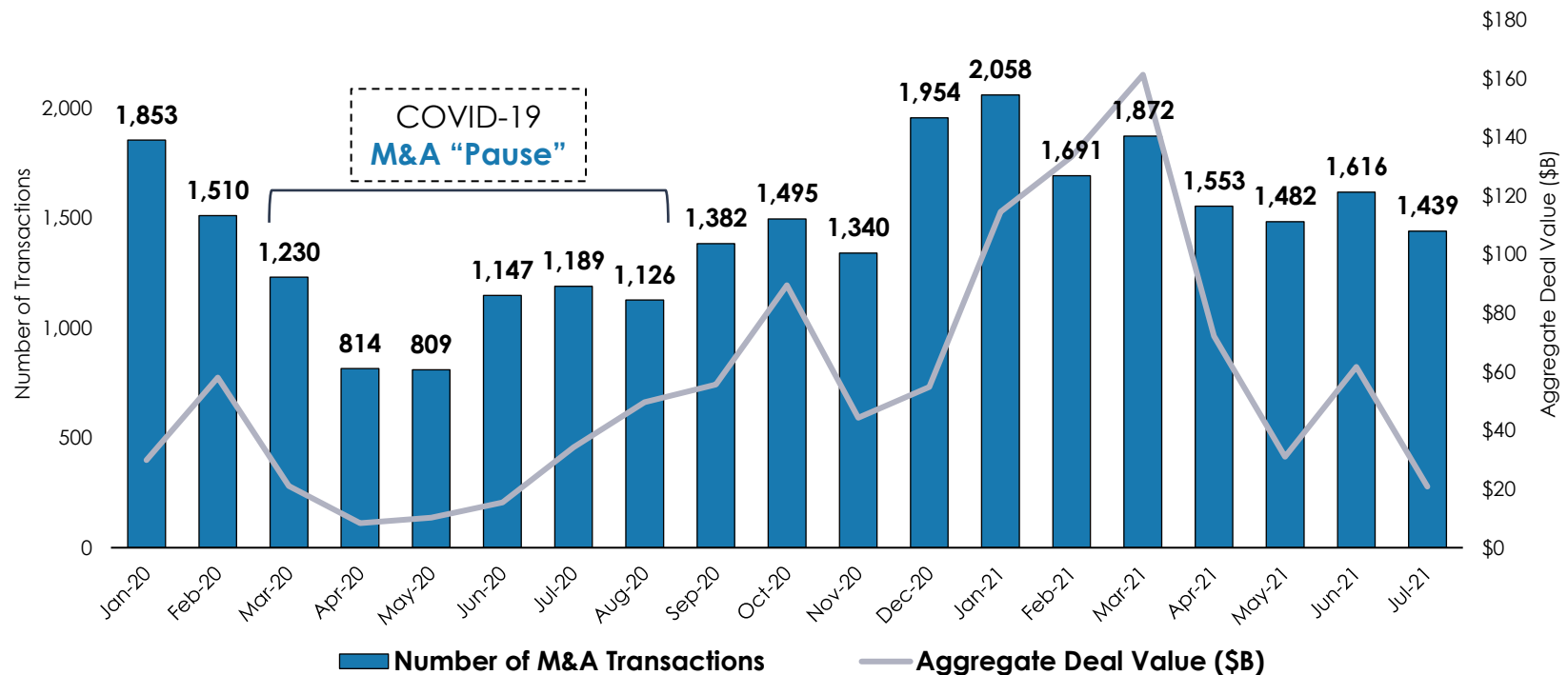
1. S&P Global Market Intelligence, Reported Deal Value, Consumer Industries, U.S. and Canada  
2. Middle market deals defined as between \$10MM-\$1.5B in enterprise value

# M&A Volume Has Returned to High Levels After Pandemic-Related Pause

## Cross-Industry M&A Volume Steadily Rose Following Q2 2020 Pause

- M&A activity **on the rise** post initial shock of COVID-19; **buyers have adjusted to new norms** such as fewer in-person diligence meetings and site visits
- 2021 M&A volume also driven by expected **capital gains tax increase**

## As the Market Adjusted to the Pandemic, Cross-Industry M&A Activity Increased<sup>1</sup>



1) S&P Global Market Intelligence, Reported Deal Value, All Industries, U.S. and Canada

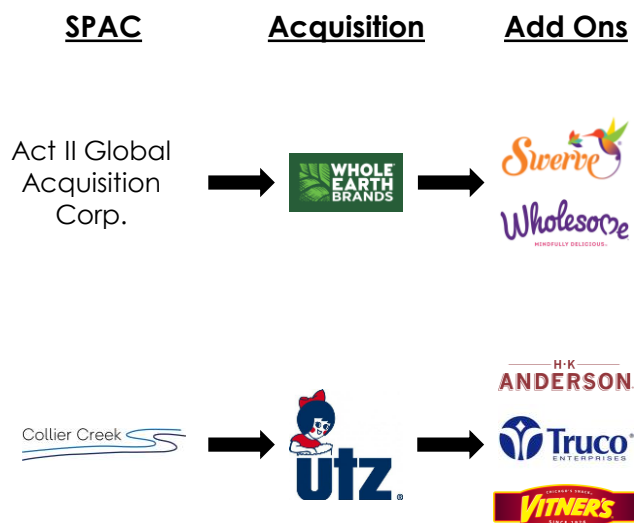


# SPACs Emerging as Credible Buyers in the CPG Industry

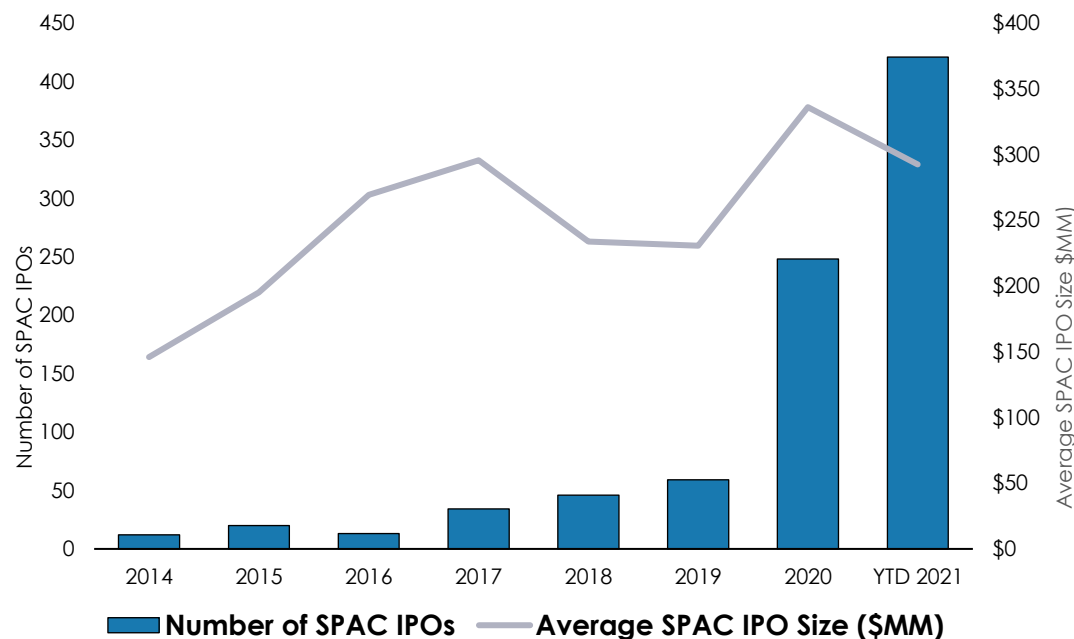
## High Volume of SPAC Mergers Expected in the Next 12-18 Months

- **Special Purpose Acquisition Companies (SPAC)** or “blank check” companies create an alternative route to public markets using a much quicker process than IPOs
- Many new SPACs have formed recently with a focus on **high-growth consumer brands**
- Many SPACs with cash – a **high volume of SPAC add-ons** likely in the next 12-18 months

### Completed Consumer-Focused SPACs

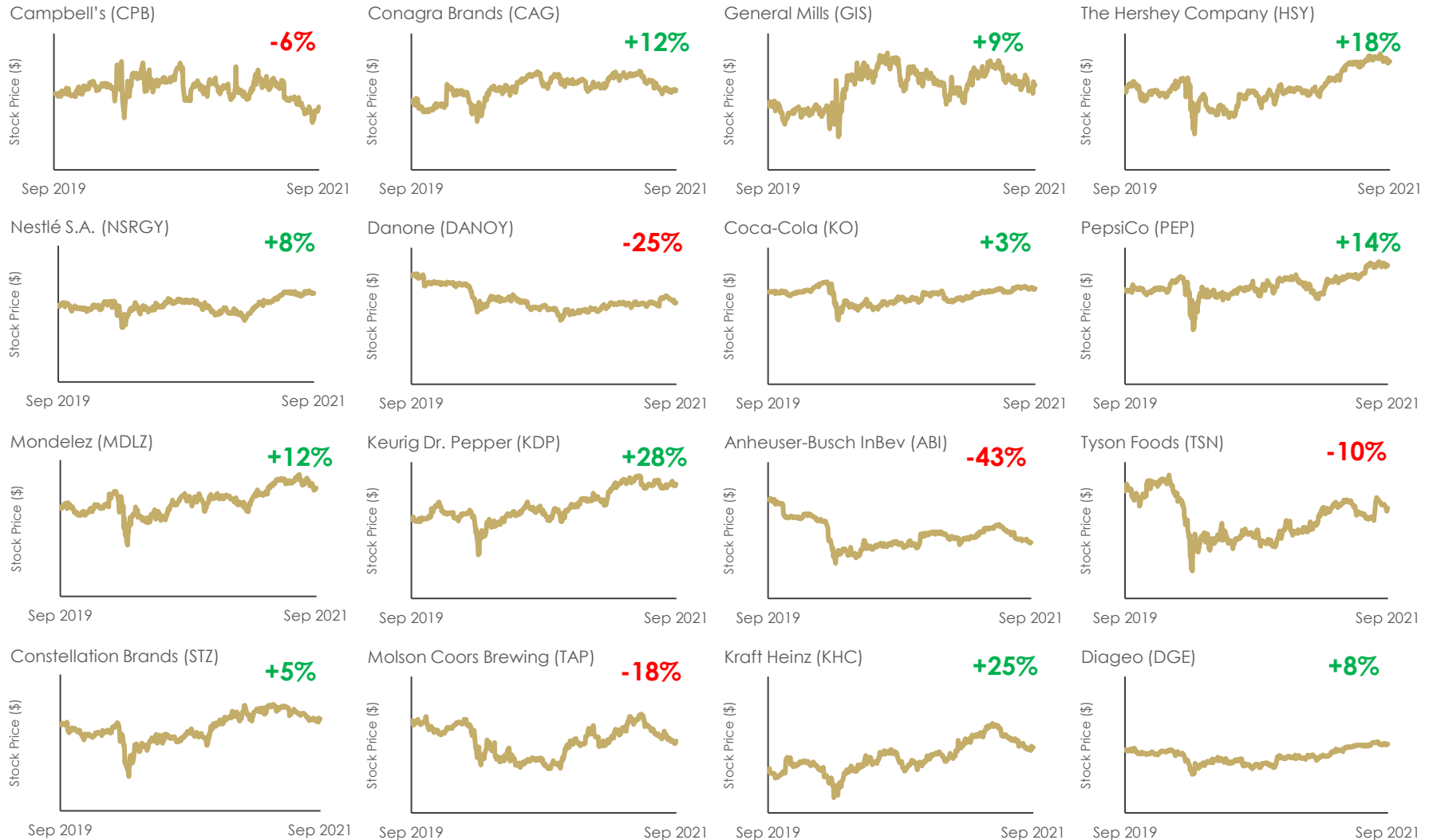


### Cross-Industry SPAC IPOs Break 2020 Record in Just 3 Months<sup>1,2</sup>



1. CNBC: "SPACs break 2020 record in just 3 months, but the red-hot industry faces challenges ahead"  
2. SPACResearch.com

# Two-Year CPG Stock Performance (As of September 2021)

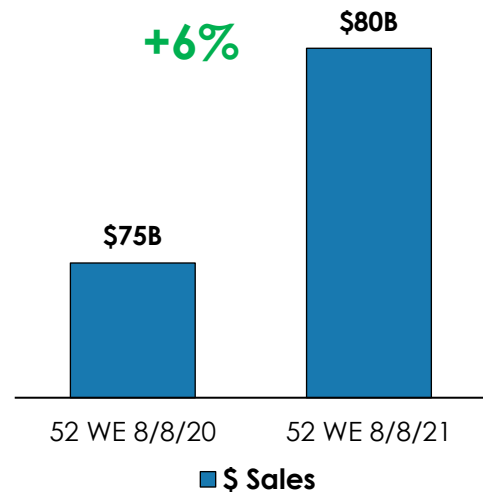


# Health & Wellness Products Took Share From Conventionally-Positioned Products During the Pandemic

## Healthy Brands Reacted Quickly to the Changing Landscape

- **NPI and HWI products grew 6% and 8%**, respectively in the last 52 weeks, as brands took advantage of consumers' increased focus on health
- Consumers have **discovered new, better-for-you brands** in the past year, which will drive continued growth

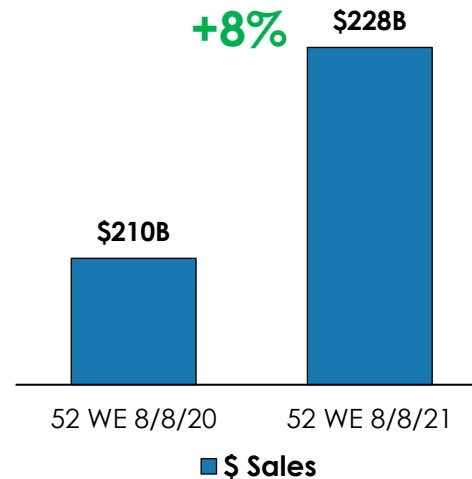
### Naturally-Positioned Products (NPI)



#### Top 3 Growth Categories

1. Internal Medicines
2. Pet Habitat & Travel
3. Beer & Hard Cider

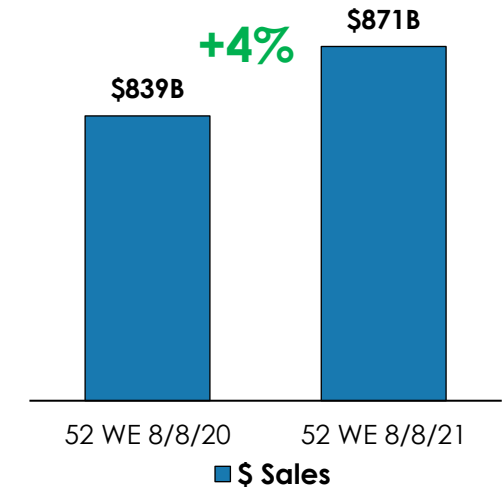
### Health & Wellness Products (HWI)



#### Top 3 Growth Categories

1. Internal Medicines
2. Personal Hygiene
3. Pet Habitat & Travel























### All Products (TPL)



#### Top 3 Growth Categories

1. Superfood & Supplements
2. Performance Nutrition
3. Personal Health Supplies

# Recent Consumer M&A Highlights

Buyer	Target	Date	Buyer	Target	Date	Buyer	Target	Date
		Sep 2021			Jun 2021			Mar 2021
		Aug 2021			Jun 2021			Feb 2021
		Jul 2021			Apr 2021			Feb 2021
		Jul 2021			Apr 2021			Feb 2021
		Jul 2021			Apr 2021			Feb 2021
		Jul 2021			Mar 2021			Jan 2021
		Jul 2021			Mar 2021			Dec 2020
		Jun 2021			Mar 2021			Dec 2020

# Recent Consumer Private Placements

Investor	Target	Date	Investor	Target	Date	Investor	Target	Date
 Durable CAPITAL PARTNERS	 SUPER COFFEE PROTEIN-MCT OIL	Aug 2021	 Accel	 Misfits Market	Apr 2021	 blue horizon ventures	 planted™	Mar 2021
 nextworld EVERGREEN	 THE CITIZENRY	Jun 2021	 Post	 HUNGRY PLANET	Apr 2021	 HERSHEY'S ASR GROUP	 bonumose®	Feb 2021
 PowerPlant PARTNERS	 rae	Jun 2021	 RX3	 hydrant	Apr 2021	 MISTLETOE	 SKININC SUPPLEMENT BAR	Feb 2021
 SPC SWANDER PACE CAPITAL	 mommy's BLISS	Jun 2021	 General Mills	 Pots & Co	Apr 2021	 Post	 PeaTos	Feb 2021
 VMG	 bobbie™	Jun 2021	 MACQUARIE BainCapital	 HARRY'S	Apr 2021	 RAGE CAPITAL	 BlueNalu	Jan 2021
 CATTERTON	 HUNGRYROOT	Jun 2021	 THE RISE FUND	 LIVEKINDLY	Mar 2021	 Post	 HUNGRY PLANET	Jan 2021
 KARPREILLY GROWTH INVESTORS	 LIFE AID	Jun 2021	 encore consumer capital	 LOVE WELLNESS	Mar 2021	 THE CRAFTORY CHALLENGERS APPET	 organic chickpea snacks HIPPEAS	Jan 2021
 Canteen	 Canteen	Jun 2021	 QIA	 JUST	Mar 2021	 NORWEST VENTURE PARTNERS INSIGHT PARTNERS	 IMPERFECT FOODS	Jan 2021

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# Whipstitch Capital's Top-11 Healthy Living Trends

## Why Stop at 10? Whipstitch Goes to 11

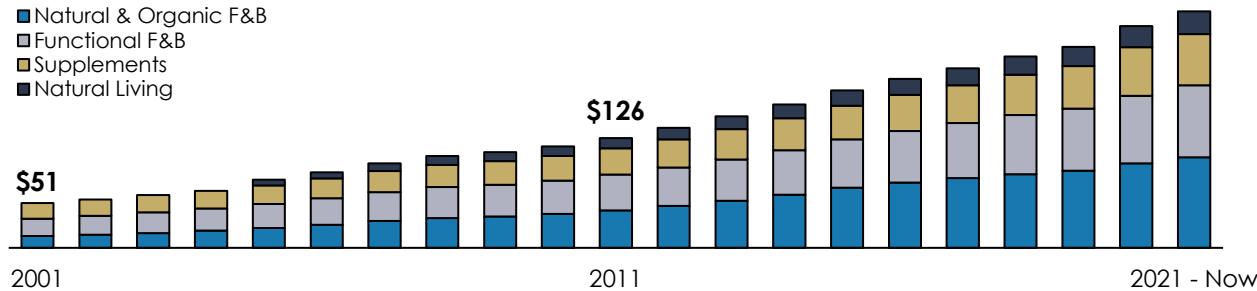
1. The Growth in “Better-For-You” Consumer is Now Beyond Long-Term and Accelerated During COVID
2. Breakout Brands Find New Innovative Applications for Tea as a Key Ingredient
3. Consumers More “Sober Curious” than Ever Before
4. When Celebrities Stay Authentic to Who They are with BFY Brands, the Impact Becomes Tangible
5. Sexual Wellness Category Booming — No Longer Taboo
6. Mental Health Issues, Caused, In Part, by COVID, Have Increased the Importance of Rest and Recovery Products
7. Ad-Exhausted Audiences Increasingly Look For Authenticity
8. DTC Channel Acceleration Providing New Opportunities for Emerging Brands to Disrupt Static Categories
9. Flexitarian Consumers Driving the Growth in Plant-Based Categories
10. The Constant Consumer Utilization of Grocery Delivery is Here to Stay
11. Consumers, Companies and Investors Increasingly Becoming More Active on ESG/JEDI/Social Initiatives



# 1. The Growth in “Better-For-You” Consumer is Now Beyond Long-Term and Accelerated During COVID

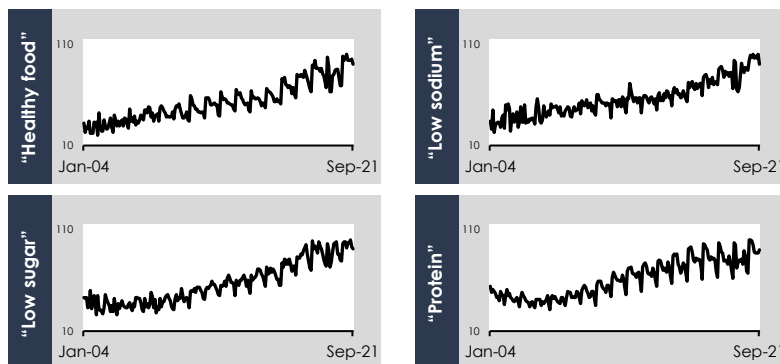
## Younger Generation Spending & Continued Focus On Health Accelerating Clean Eating

### Natural and Organic Products Industry Sales (\$B)<sup>1</sup>

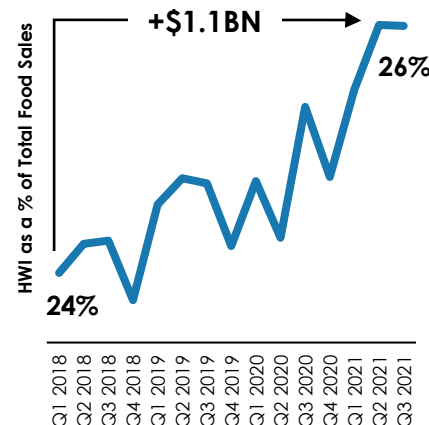


	2001 - 2021 20-yr CAGR	2011 - 2021 10-yr CAGR	2016 - 2021 5-yr CAGR	2019 - 2021 2-yr CAGR
Supplements	6.1%	6.9%	7.4%	11.6%
Natural & Organic F&B	10.7%	9.3%	6.8%	11.7%
Functional F&B	7.4%	7.2%	6.9%	10.4%
Natural Living	n/a	8.2%	7.0%	12.2%
<b>Total Industry</b>	<b>8.7%</b>	<b>8.0%</b>	<b>6.9%</b>	<b>11.3%</b>

### Google Trends Show the Long-Term Growth<sup>2</sup>



### AND COVID ACCELERATED CONSUMER ADOPTION OF HEALTHY FOOD:<sup>3</sup>



### A BRIEF EVOLUTION ON THE MAINSTREAMING ON HEALTHY/CLEAN EATING:

#### 1970s - 2000

- Introduction of organic and natural
- “Hippie” food
- Taste takes backseat

#### 2000 - 2010

- Mainstreaming begins
- Whole Foods grows up
- Taste improvement

#### 2011 - 2021

- Organic & natural available everywhere
- Gen-Z and Millennial generations drive better-for-you food sales<sup>4</sup>

#### The Future

- Many consumers don’t “switch” to healthy – they are born into it

1. New Hope Natural Media  
2. Google Search Trends  
3. SPINS 4 WE 7/11/21, Frozen, Grocery, Produce, Refrigerated departments, Food, HWI sales

4. as a % of total sales; HWI = Health & Wellness  
Mintel

## 2. Breakout Brands Find New Innovative Applications for Tea as a Key Ingredient

### Brands Bending the Tea Category to Create Exciting New Products

VERB energy bars use **green tea caffeine** to achieve the energy equivalent of espresso



**VERB™**

Flying Embers offers an **alcoholic twist** on traditional kombucha (fermented tea)



Hoplark craft brews **non-alcoholic teas with hops** for flavorful, everyday drinking



Guayaki's yerba mate ideal for consumers looking for an **alternative to energy drinks**



### Functional Benefits of Tea



Promotes heart health and low blood pressure<sup>1</sup>

**Nearly 50%** of health-focused consumers seek heart health benefits from food/beverages<sup>2</sup>



May be effective in fighting various forms of cancer<sup>1</sup>

**Nearly 40%** of health-focused consumers seek cancer prevention benefits from food/beverages<sup>2</sup>



Anti-inflammatory and immune-supporting properties<sup>1</sup>

**Over 30%** of health-focused consumers seek anti-inflammatory benefits from food/beverages<sup>2</sup>

1. Penn Medicine, The Hidden Health Benefits of Tea, 12/9/2019  
2. FoodInsight.org

### 3. Consumers More “Sober Curious” than Ever Before

With the Rise in Consumers Partaking in “Mindful Drinking”, Companies Rush to Meet the Demand

The stats...

**+ 71%**

**Increase in** google searches for “non-alcoholic drink” from Jan 2020 to Jan 2021<sup>1</sup>



**1 in of 2** respondents over 21 are looking to decrease their alcohol intake<sup>2</sup>



**two in three** millennials state they are making efforts this year to reduce alcohol consumption<sup>2</sup>



**64%** of consumers reported their intention to continue to discover new no/low alcohol brands<sup>2</sup>

#### Strategics Large & Small Are Launching No & Low Alcoholic Beverages

**Heineken**



Desperados Virgin 0.0%

Launched Jan 2021<sup>3</sup>

**Amass**



Non-alcoholic spirit

Launched Jan 2021

**AB Bev**



3% ABV   3.4% ABV   3.5% ABV   0.5% ABV

All launched Jan 2020<sup>4</sup>

**Athletic Brewing**



A non-alcoholic craft beer company

Company Founded 2018<sup>5</sup>

**Hopark**



A non-alcoholic tea with hops company







Company Founded 2018<sup>5</sup>

1. Google Analytics  
2. The IWSR  
3. FoodBev

4. FoodDive  
5. BevNet

# 4. When Celebrities Stay Authentic to Who They are with BFY Brands, the Impact Becomes Tangible

## When Celebrities Found Close to Home Consumer Products, Results Follow

Brand	Celebrity Founder	Most Recent Transaction	Why it Works
		<b>May 2021</b> IPO → <b>\$413MM<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Jessica Alba's reputation:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Fashionable mother, quit acting to dedicate more time to her family</li> </ul> <b>Why Honesty Company works:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Perceived as genuine company— originally goal was to find products she trusted enough to use on own kids</li> <li>✓ Aligns with her long-held values and priorities</li> </ul>
		<b>March 2018</b> SERIES C → <b>\$50MM<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>Gwyneth Paltrow's reputation:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Actor and provocateur regarding her health/wellness views</li> </ul> <b>Why Goop works:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Capitalizes on her eye-raising views via platforms generating revenue based off viewership</li> <li>✓ Gwyneth-specific, inimitable company profiting from users looking to imitate her glamorous lifestyle</li> </ul>
		<b>Oct 2018</b> SERIES B → <b>\$20MM<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>Jennifer Garner's reputation:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Everybody's favorite "mom-next-door", loves cooking healthy food</li> </ul> <b>Why Once Upon a Farm works:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ As health-drinks brand for children, her company brand matches her personal brand</li> </ul>

### Brands to Watch



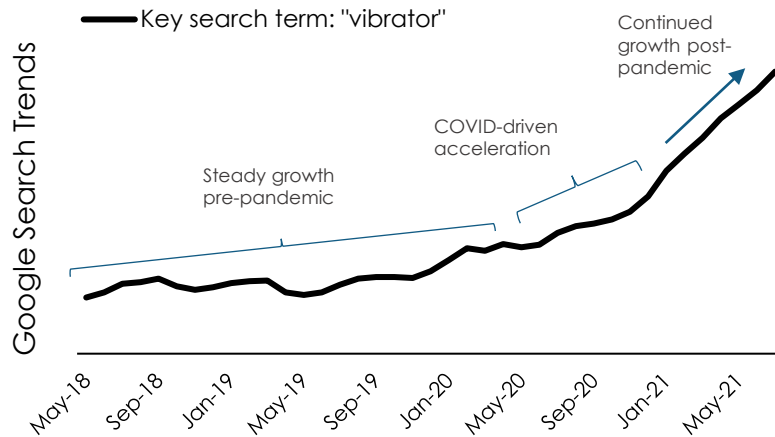
1. Bloomberg  
2. Fortune  
3. Forbes

4. Cinemablend

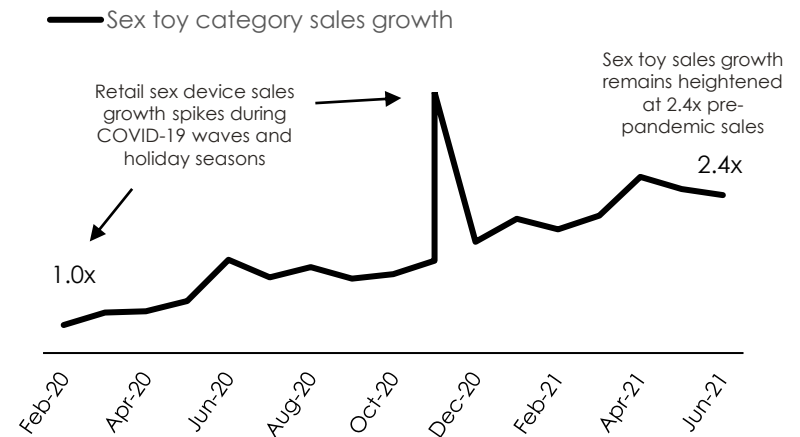
# 5. Sexual Wellness Category Booming — No Longer Taboo

## Sex Toy Sales Growing Offline and Online as Sexual Wellness Becomes Mainstream

### Consumers Demanding Sex Toys<sup>1</sup>



### Sex Toys Sales Growing In Mass Retail<sup>2</sup>



### Key Sexual Wellness Disruptor Brands To Watch



1. Google Trends Analytics  
2. SPINS 4 WE 7/11/21, Sexual Wellness & Family Planning (Sex Toy SKUs only), MULO

## 6. Mental Health Issues, Caused, In Part, by COVID, Have Increased the Importance of Rest and Recovery Products

### COVID's Negative Impact on Consumers' Overall Health Emphasizes the Importance of Rest

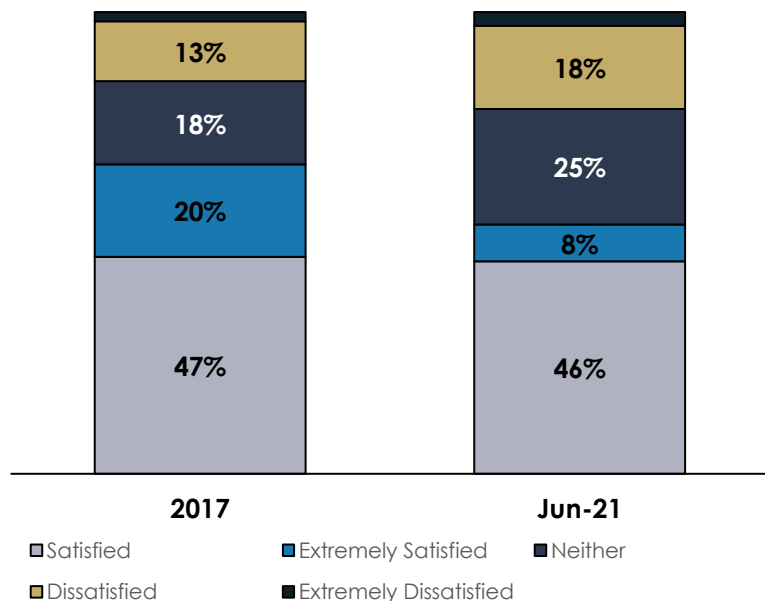
**27%**

Of consumers took steps during the pandemic to care for their mental health<sup>1</sup>

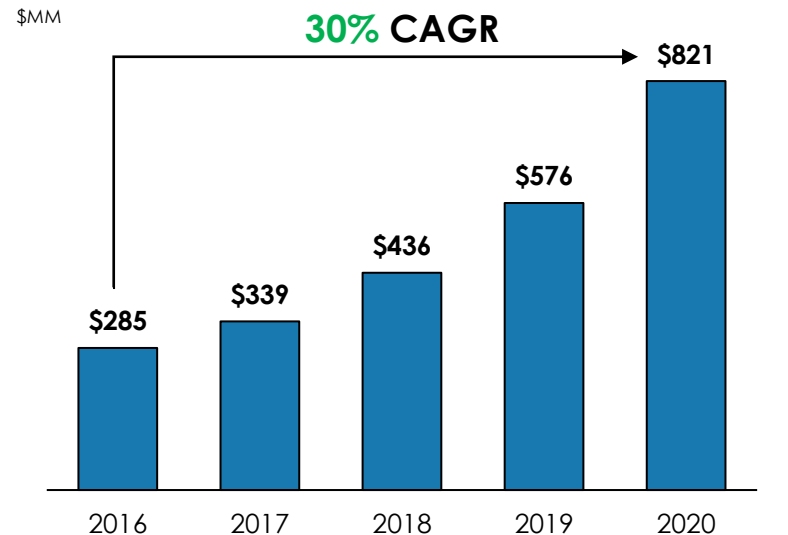
**82%**

Of consumers believe mental and emotional balance is as important as physical health<sup>1</sup>

#### How satisfied are you with your current health?<sup>2</sup>



#### Melatonin Sales in the US<sup>3</sup>



#### Brands to Watch

WHOOP®

LIFE AID

R3SET

H<sub>2</sub> ROSE™

Calm

Winged  
WOMEN'S WELLNESS

1. Hartman Group  
2. New Hope Network  
3. Business Insider

# 7. Ad-Exhausted Audiences Increasingly Look For Authenticity

## The Importance of “Brand Authenticity” More Important to Consumers Than Ever Before

### Authentic Brand Stories



Created by **husband & wife duo** after wife had eight UTI's in one year



Jojo perfected a delicious, low-sugar, chocolate snack **following her cancer diagnosis** to live healthy without giving up her love of sweets



Elizabeth wanted to use **superfoods** to provide **healthier, better-tasting alternatives** to what was on the market



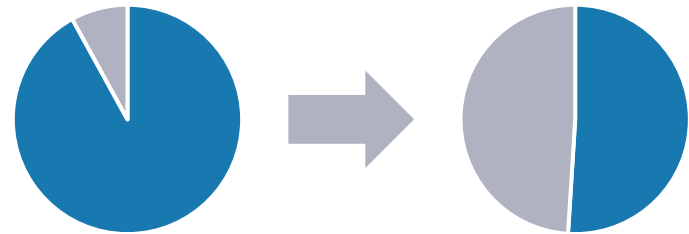
Partnerships with **influencers and dedication** to gaming community shines through to thousands of **passionate brand champions**



Katerina wanted the **ideal prenatal vitamin** that used **ingredients she could trust**, so she created her own

### Many Marketers Miss the Mark When it Comes to Generating an Authentic Feel

**92% of marketers** believe they create authentic content<sup>1</sup>



...While **51% of consumers** believe that less than half of brands create authentic content<sup>1</sup>

### Authenticity Resonates With These Brands



cocokind



1. SocialMediaToday "Survey Reveals How Consumers Really Judge Brand Authenticity (and Influencers)", Megan DeGruttola, 2/25/19



# 8. DTC Channel Acceleration Providing New Opportunities for Emerging Brands to Disrupt Static Categories

## Large Strategics Taking Notice of Disruptive, DTC-Focused Brands



Uqora's disruption of the UTI prevention market led to acquisition by Pharmavite



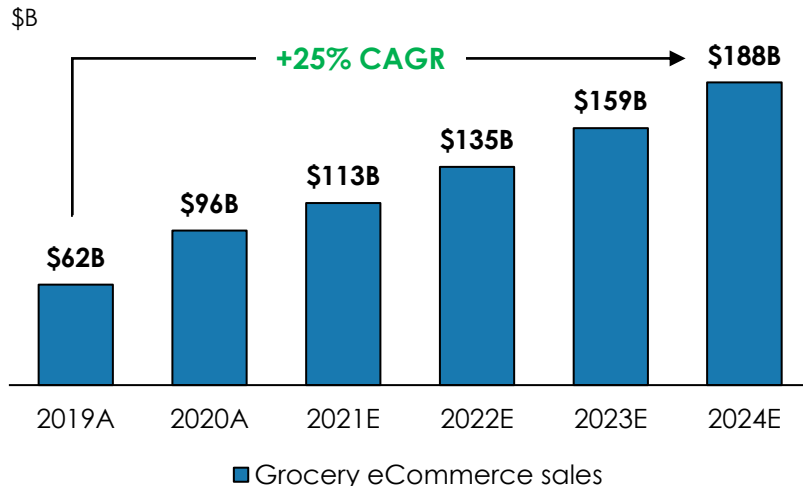
Freshly's successful approach to DTC prepared meals led to acquisition by Nestle



Liquid IV's disruption of the hydration category led to acquisition by Unilever



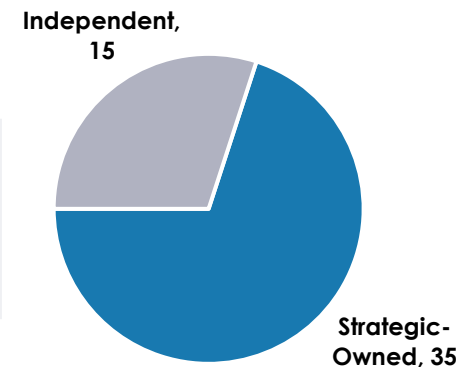
## Pandemic Pushed More Sales Online, Reinforcing the Importance of DTC<sup>1</sup>



## Independent Brands More Successful in Online Channels Than In-Store

# of Brands in the Top-50 Grocery Products on Amazon<sup>2</sup>

15 of the top-50 brands on Amazon are independent vs. 0 in conventional grocery<sup>3</sup>

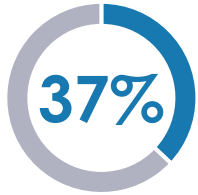


1. eMarketer  
2. Amazon Top-100 Products, Grocery & Gourmet Food, As of 7/23/21  
3. SPINS 52 WE 6/13/21, All Categories, Total US - MULO

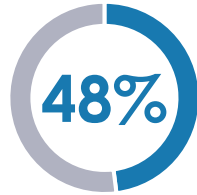
# 9. Flexitarian Consumers Driving the Growth in Plant-Based Categories

## Mainstream Consumers Reduce Reliance on Animal Products in Everyday Life

### Many consumers turn to animal-free options...

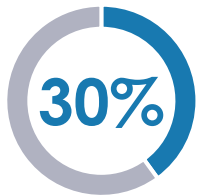


Of consumers modified their diets with sustainability in mind<sup>2</sup>

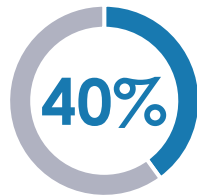


Of consumers turned to faux meat due to concerns over animal welfare<sup>2</sup>

### ...But innovation challenges remain before consumers fully willing to commit



Of consumers think plant-based diets lack full nutritional benefits<sup>2</sup>

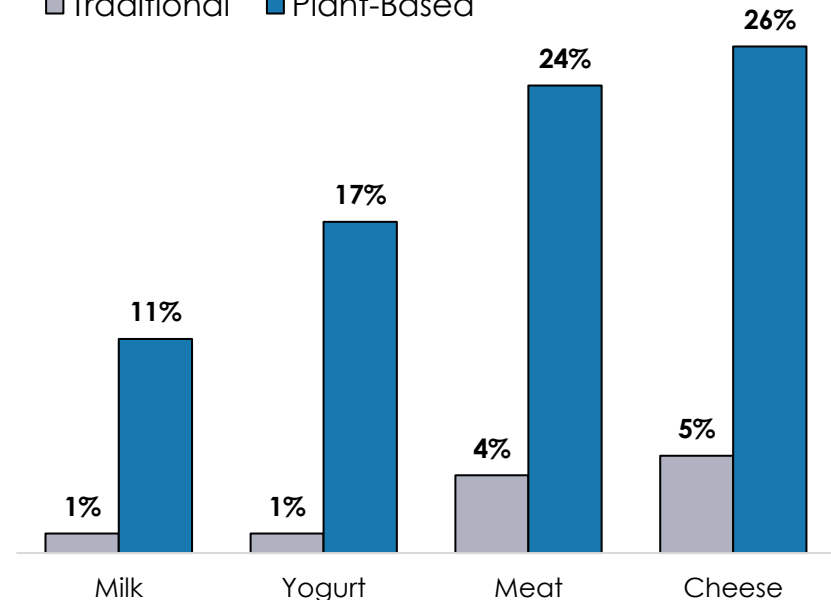


Of consumers put off by unrecognizable ingredients<sup>2</sup>

### Plant-Based Options Outpace Traditional Counterparts in Every Category<sup>1</sup>

1 Year Growth - MULO

Traditional Plant-Based



### Plant Based Alternatives

THE PLANT  
BASED  
SEAFOOD  
Co



TACHE

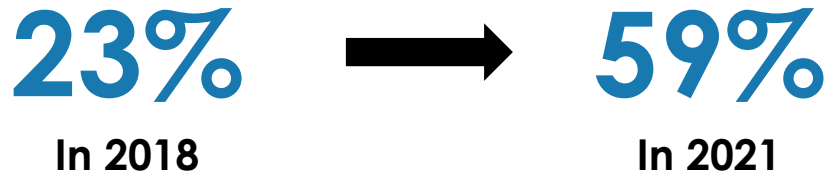


1. SPINS 52 WE 6/13/21, RF Milk, RF Plant Based Milk, RF Plant Based Meat Alternatives, FZ and RF Meat Poultry & Seafood, RF Cheese & Plant Based Cheese, RF Yogurt & Plant Based Yogurt, Total US - MULO  
2. New Food Magazine "What's driving the plant-based boom?", Simon Solway, 2/24/21

# 10. The Constant Consumer Utilization of Grocery Delivery is Here to Stay

## Online Grocery Shopping Continues to Grow Following Pandemic Stickiness

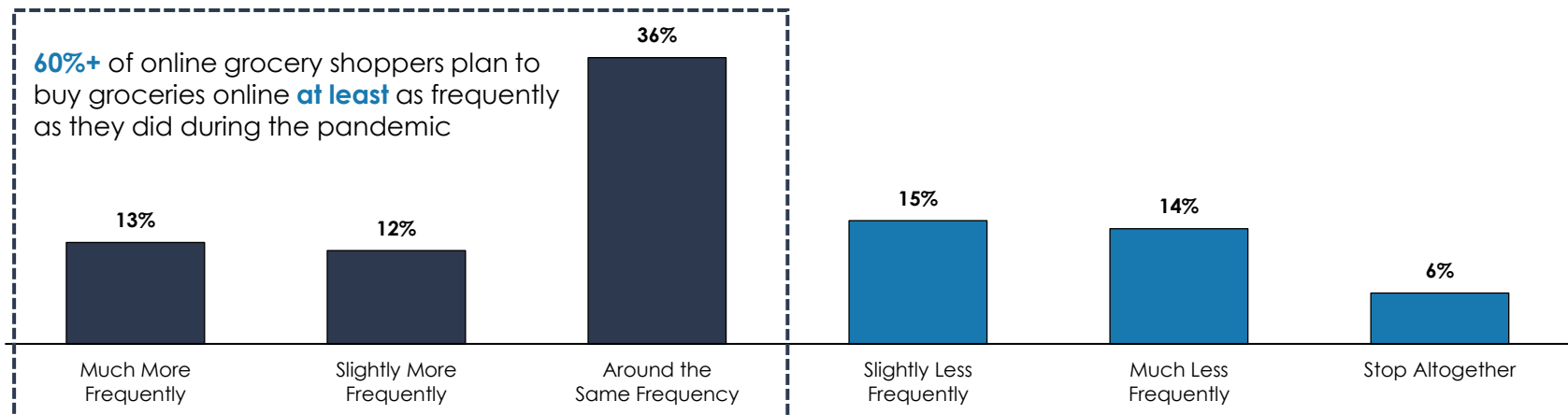
% of US Consumers That Bought Groceries Online in the Past 12 Months<sup>1</sup>



Grocery Delivery Companies to Watch



How Frequently Will You Continue to Buy Groceries Online Once the COVID Crisis Subsides?<sup>1</sup>



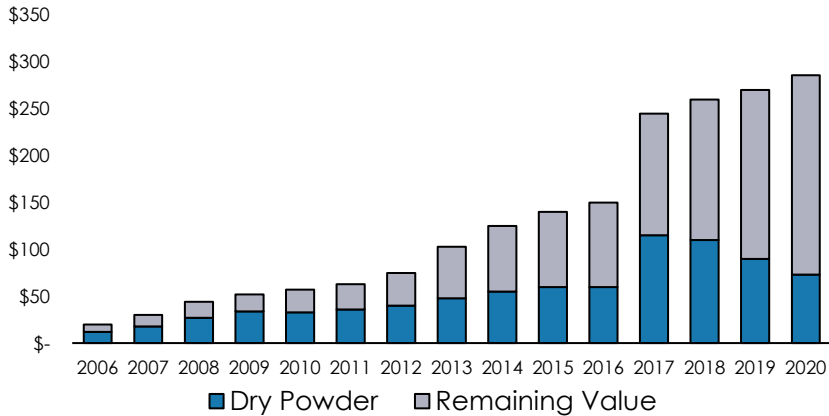
1. CoreSight Research

# 11. Consumers, Companies and Investors Increasingly Becoming More Active on ESG/JEDI/Social Initiatives

## Consumer Interest Drives ESG Engagement to Record Highs

### Impact Fund AUM Rising Rapidly<sup>1</sup>

Assets Under Management \$Bn



### Select ESG Funds



APOLLO

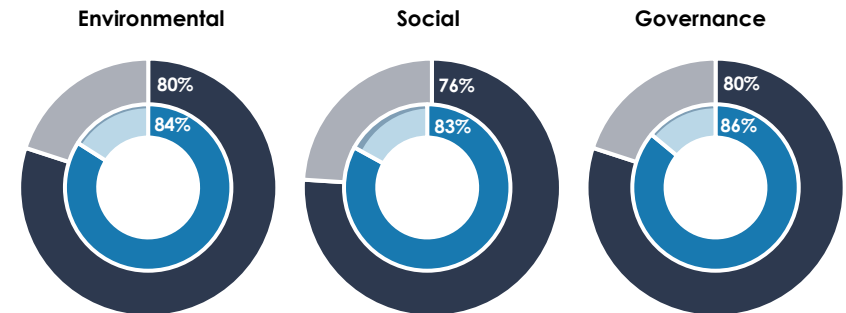
### Select ESG Brands



cocokind

### Consumers & Employees Actively Seeking Out Brands with ESG Components<sup>2</sup>

*I am more likely to buy / work for a company that stands up for:*



75%+

Of consumers want to see businesses play a larger role in accelerating progress on ESG concerns<sup>2</sup>

84%

Of investors are interested in investing into companies that affect social and environmental change<sup>3</sup>

1. PitchBook  
2. PwC Consumer Intelligence Series June 2, 2021  
3. Morgan Stanley Institute for Sustainable Investing

# Table of Contents

- **Whipstitch Capital Overview**
- **Capital Markets Recap & Overview**



## **Whipstitch Capital's Top-11 Healthy Living Consumer Trends**

- **SPINS Market Update: Produced for Whipstitch's Industry Analysis**





# KEY TRENDS IN THE NATURAL PRODUCTS INDUSTRY



SPINS®



# SPINS CONNECTS THE INDUSTRY THROUGH WELLNESS-FOCUSED TECHNOLOGY



The SPINS Data Network establishes a **common language** for the health and wellness industry, transforming how retailers, brands, and their ecosystem of partners **optimize performance, disrupt the status quo, and improve the quality of life** for consumers through attribute-enriched data solutions



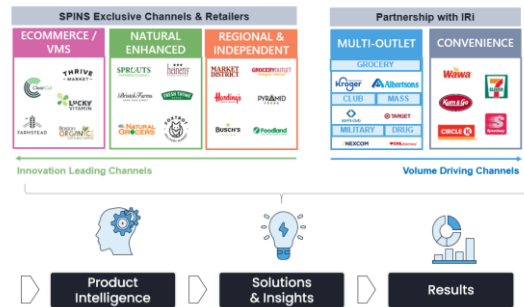
# SPINS EMPOWERS THE INDUSTRY THROUGH OUR COMPREHENSIVE DATA NETWORK

## SAAS APPLICATIONS



- SATORI
- Destini Coupons, Product Locator
- ClearCut Amazon Analytics
- DAAP Data Harmonization
- TradeROI

## PROPRIETARY DATA



- 120+ SPINS Proprietary Retailers
- 80+ Conventional Mass Market Retailers
- Amazon & E-commerce
- Enhanced Consumer Panel
- Neighborhood Pet

## PRODUCT INTELLIGENCE



- 3.1mm UPCs Coded
- 1mm UPCs with Ingredients Coded
- 50K new UPCs coded each month
- Industry leading dictionary of H&W attributes

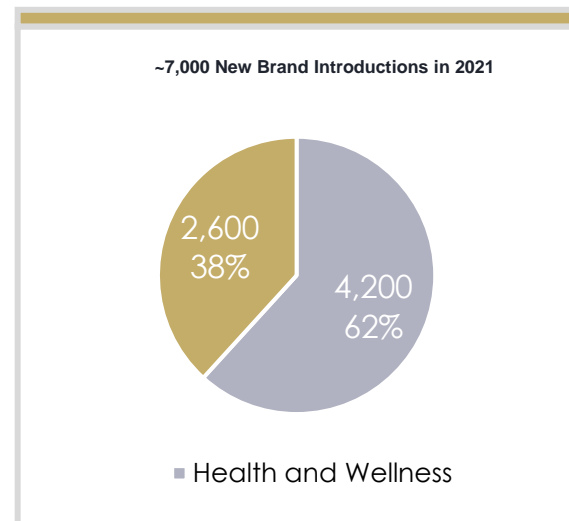
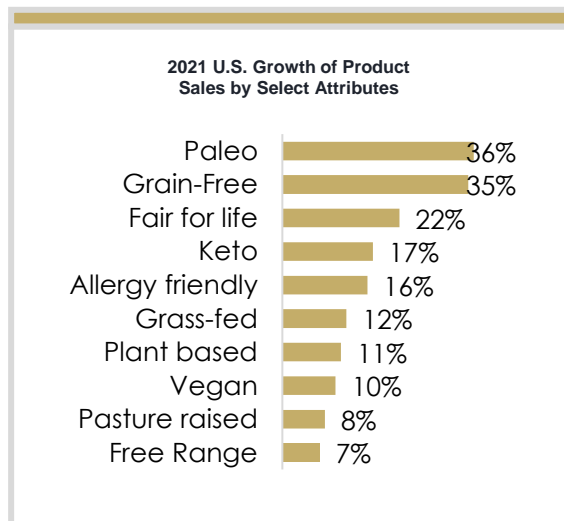
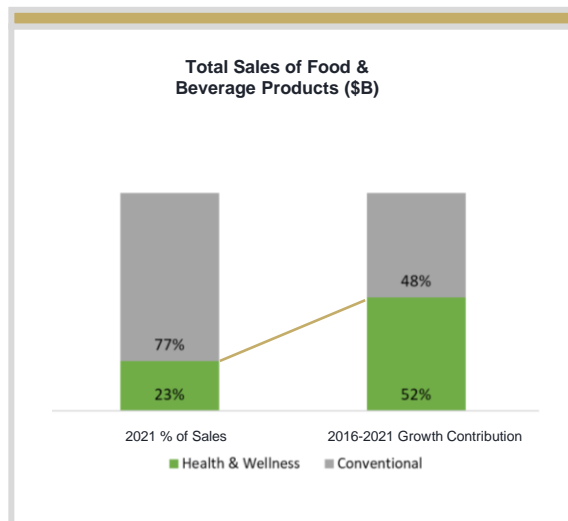
# OUR WORLD IS WHERE CPG GROWTH & INNOVATION RESIDE

H&W PRODUCTS COMPRISE A DISPROPORTIONATE SHARE OF GROWTH & NEW ITEMS

**\$150B+ Health & Wellness Market, Represents 23% of Grocery Sales, but 52%+ of Total Dollar Growth<sup>(1)</sup>**

**Health & Wellness is a complex, fast growing ecosystem<sup>(3)</sup>**

**Majority of New CPG Brands Introduced Coming from Health & Wellness<sup>(2)</sup>**



1) Source: LEK Market Study. Represents sale of food and beverage.

2) Source: LEK Market Study

3) Source: SPINS data for 52 weeks ending 5-2021.

ABOUT SPINS

# SPINS FINANCIAL & PROFESSIONAL SERVICES GROUP

## THE TEAM



**Edricco Reina**  
Managing Director

- Nielsen
- Anderson Merchandisers
- Elmhurst University Business School
- Western Michigan University



**Madlen Karnatz**  
Sr. Associate

- Protiviti Consulting
- ESD Global
- University of Notre Dame
- Peking University – Beijing, China



**Meghana Kodali**  
Associate

- PwC
- Cisco
- UNC Chapel Hill Kenan-Flagler Business School

# SPINS FINANCIAL & PROFESSIONAL SERVICES GROUP

THE PREMIER INTELLIGENCE NETWORK FOR FINANCIAL & STRATEGIC PARTNERS

## SERVICES

### SOURCING

- > Desktop Application
- > Mobile Application

### DUE DILIGENCE

- > Category Diligence
- > Brand Diligence
- > Consumer Diligence
- > Omni Channel Diligence
- > Product Intelligence Diligence

### PORTFOLIO GROWTH

- > Market Performance Insights
- > Market Activation
- > Promotional Optimization
- > Reporting/Data Harmonization
- > Consulting Services
- > Consumer Panel Data



## OUR EXPERTISE



Private  
Equity



Investment  
Banking



CPG M&A



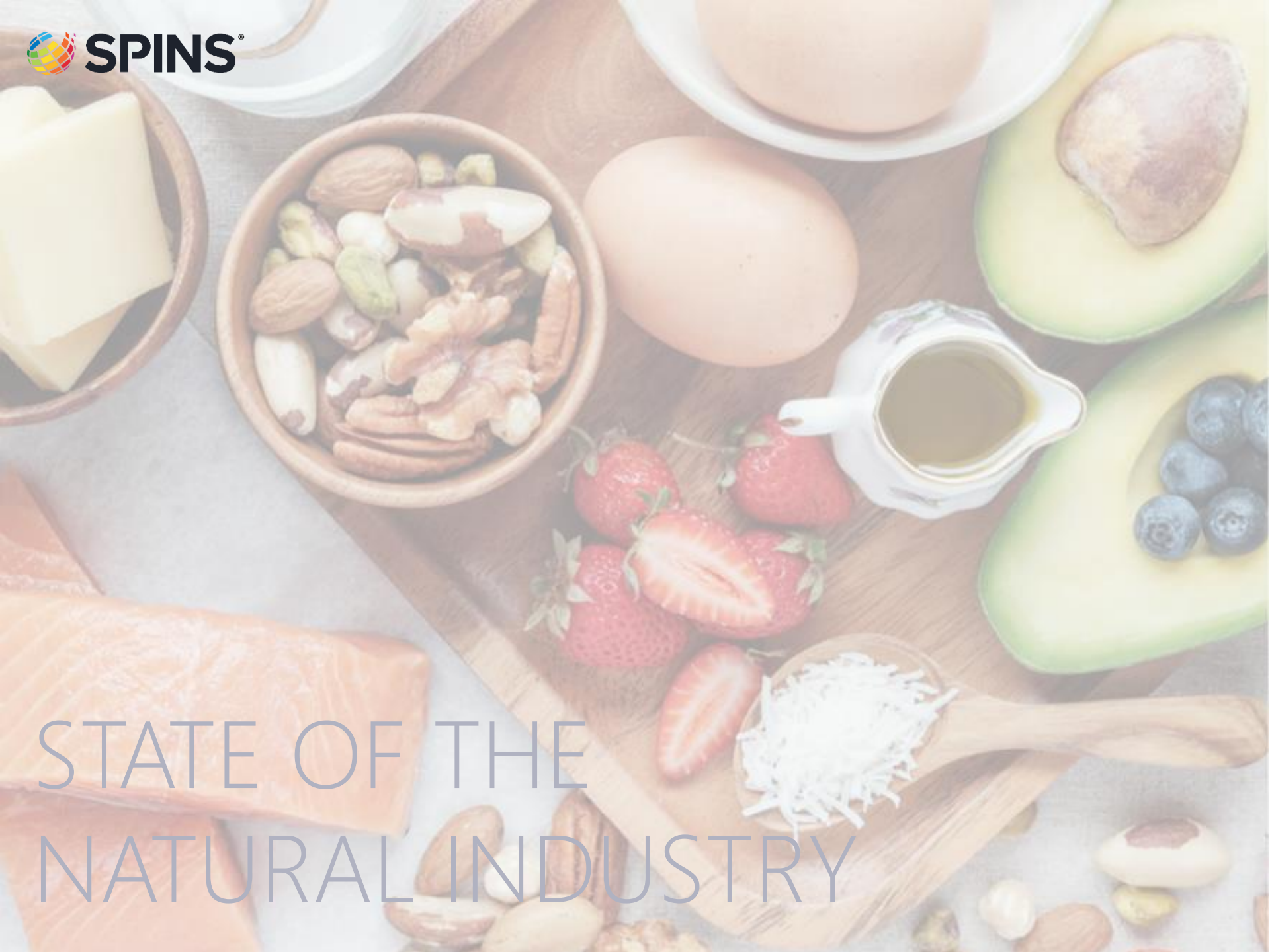
Professional  
Services



Incubator &  
Accelerator  
Groups



Advisory  
Firms

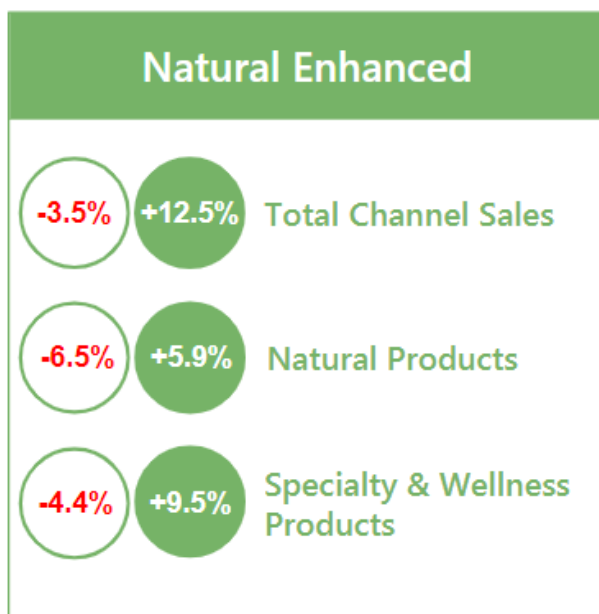


# STATE OF THE NATURAL INDUSTRY

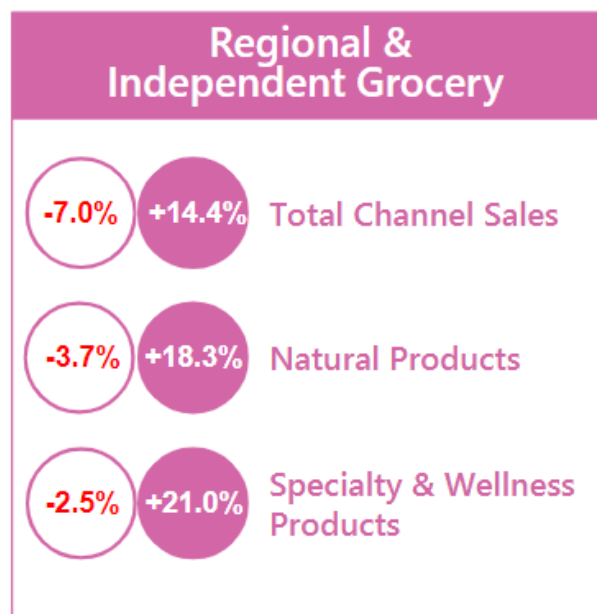


# NATURAL & SPECIALTY PRODUCTS PROPEL GROWTH VS. PRE-PANDEMIC TIMES

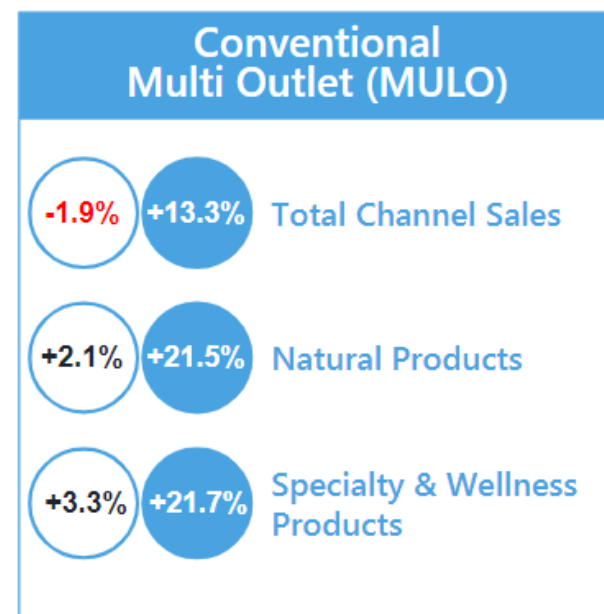
Natural & Specialty Product sales exceed last year's historical growth from the COVID boom in Conventional Channels



Chg vs YA Chg vs 2 YA



Chg vs YA Chg vs 2 YA



Chg vs YA Chg vs 2 YA

## THE MACRO CONTEXT

# CORE HEALTH & WELLNESS ATTRIBUTES ARE ANCHORING THEIR POSITION AT SCALE

Attribute	Dollar Sales	Dollar Growth	Sales Mix by Channel	
Prebiotic Ingredients	\$9,839.8 M	+1.8%	4%	96%
Labeled Gluten-Free	\$57,892.8 M	+8.7%	9%	91%
Certified B Corporation	\$12,731.7 M	+6.5%	10%	90%
Probiotic Ingredients	\$7,955.0 M	+3.4%	10%	90%
Cert Non-GMO Verified	\$40,693.3 M	+8.0%	10%	90%
Plant-Based Positioned	\$5,779.4 M	+21.4%	13%	87%
Fair Trade Claim	\$3,243.5 M	+13.0%	16%	84%
Org 70-100 (incl BC, Supps and PL)	\$25,897.3 M	+7.0%	17%	83%
Labeled Allergy Friendly	\$333.5 M	+12.4%	21%	79%
Labeled Grass-Fed	\$1,391.4 M	+13.6%	21%	79%
Labeled Animal Welfare	\$1,812.8 M	+16.9%	22%	78%
Labeled Grain-Free	\$1,091.1 M	+18.1%	22%	78%
Paleo Positioned	\$1,452.1 M	+32.0%	29%	71%

Natural Enhanced Channel
  Multi Outlet Channel

## THE MACRO CONTEXT

# INNOVATION BLOSSOMS THROUGH NATURALLY POSITIONED PRODUCTS





# TRENDS SIGNALING A NEW NORMAL IN THE NATURAL PRODUCTS INDUSTRY



## ON THE GO CONSUMPTION

Coming out of COVID lockdown hibernation, snacking is blossoming with alternative, innovative, and better-for-you formats



## PURPOSE DRIVEN CONSUMPTION

The momentum of mindful consumption is seemingly reaching a tipping point as it becomes the norm, not the exception



# NATURAL TRENDS SPOTLIGHT: ON THE GO CONSUMPTION

# On The Go Consumption: Snacking Trends - Adopting Dietary Principles

Consumers are continuing to incorporate the principals of common diets types into their eating habits, without having to sacrifice their favorite snacks to maintain a healthy life-style



## KETO DIET FRIENDLY<sup>1</sup>

Frozen Appetizers & Snacks **+25.6%**

Shelf Stable Cookies & Snack Bars **+24.3%**



## PALEO DIET FRIENDLY<sup>1</sup>

Shelf Stable Jerky & Meat Snacks **+22.8%**

Shelf Stable Crackers & Crispbreads **+22.6%**



## VEGAN DIET FRIENDLY<sup>1</sup>

Frozen Appetizers & Snacks **+13.6%**

Refrigerated Plant Based Yogurt **+11.9%**



<sup>1</sup>Does not include SKUs with <\$5K YA sales



# On The Go Consumption: Snacking Trends - Disruptive Sugar Alternatives

Shoppers are turning towards alternative sweeteners to avoid high sugar and high calorie offerings

**+15.7%**

Monk fruit



**+8.5%**

Stevia



**+2.1%**

HFCS Free



**+3.0%**

Artificial  
Sweetener-Free



**-11.6%**

Sugar  
Alcohols



# On The Go Consumption: Snacking Trends - Avoiding Allergens

Consumption of allergen-friendly products rise as consumers seek food that meets their dietary restrictions

**+3.8%**

Major 8 Allergen Free



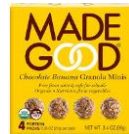
**+4.3%**

Soy Allergen



**+2.5%**

Tree Nuts Allergen



**+2.2%**

Wheat Allergen



**+1.9%**

Fish Allergen



**+2.9%**

Peanut Allergen



**+2.4%**

Egg Allergen



**+1.9%**

Shellfish Allergen



**+0.9%**

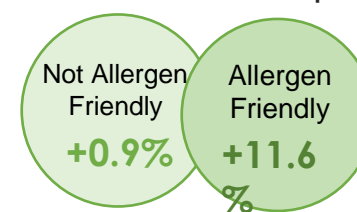
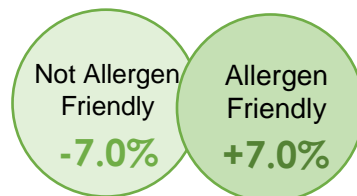
Milk Allergen



SS Nuts & Trail Mix & Dried Fruit

SS Crackers & Crispbreads

Category  
Spotlights:



# On the go Consumption: Alcohol Ready To Drink Beverage Innovation

While Wine Spritzers is overall down, the segment and its RTD counterparts are seeing high growth brands as consumers look for innovative products beyond traditional grab-n-go beer options

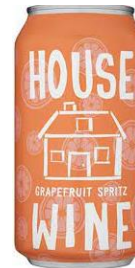
## RTD COCKTAILS +42.9%, +\$274.8M



**CUTWATER**  
+200%  
+40.9M



**CLUBTAILS**  
+22%  
+20.4M



**HOUSE WINE**  
+32%  
+7.4M



**YES WAY ROSE**  
+13.3%  
+2.2M

## HARD SELTZER<sup>1</sup> +15.4%, +464M



**SAN JUAN**  
+66%  
+3.4M

## HARD KOMBUCHA<sup>1</sup> +38.6%, +12.2M



**FLYING EMBERS**  
+199%  
+8.8M

## HARD CIDER +0.4%, +2.2M



**SCHILLING**  
+70%  
+5.4M

<sup>1</sup>Does not include SKUs with <\$5K YA sales

Source: Total US SPINS Natural Enhanced Channel & Conventional Multioutlet Channel & Convenience (Powered by IRI), 52WE 8.8.21

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NATURAL TRENDS SPOTLIGHT:  
PURPOSE-DRIVEN  
CONSUMPTION

# Purpose Driven Consumption - Sustainability Trends

Consumers are looking for products that are not only good for their body but benefit the environment as well

## LABELED ORGANIC (70-100%)



SS Creams & Creamers **+66%**  
(\$3.3M)

RF Tea & Coffee RTD **+43%**  
(\$26.9M)

FZ Breakfast Foods **+21%**  
(\$9.4M)

RF Plant Based Milk **+21%**  
(\$33.3M)

SS Desserts & Dessert Toppings **+20%**  
(\$5.1M)

## CERTIFIED WHOLE GRAINS COUNCIL



FZ Entrees **+22%**  
(\$6.7M)

SS Rice Cakes **+17%**  
(\$36.2M)

RF Entrees **+13%**  
(\$1.7M)

SS Chips & Pretzels & Snacks **+7%**  
(\$44.3M)

Bread & Baked Goods **+2%**  
(\$20.5M)

## CERTIFIED B-CORP



RF Entrees **+173%**  
(\$3.5M)

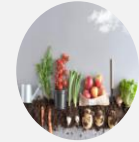
SS Dessert & Dessert Toppings **+48%**  
(\$35.4M)

RF Tea & Coffee RTD **+38%**  
(\$85.4M)

Bread & Baked Goods **+26%**  
(\$7.1M)

SS Cookies & Snack Bars **+24%**  
(\$8.8M)

## CERTIFIED NON-GMO



SS Jerky & Meat Snacks **+69%**  
(\$11.1M)

RF Eggs **+37%**  
(\$11.1M)

SS Tea & Coffee RTD **+23%**  
(\$41.3M)

SS Soda & Carbonated Beverages **+19%**  
(\$39.4M)

RF Cheese & Plant Based Cheese **+18%**  
(\$33.3M)



# Purpose Driven Consumption – Beverage Spotlight

Functional beverages continue to grow as shoppers look to products with diversified sets of added benefits

## High Growth Subcategories

### RF Coconut & Plant Water



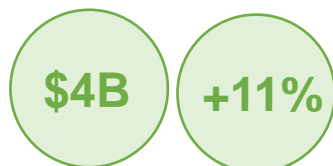
### SS Energy & Other Functional Bevs.



### SS Performance Beverages



### RF Juice & Other Functional Bevs.



Functional Ingredient <sup>1</sup>	\$, % Growth v YA
Amino Acids	\$11.9M (+135%)
Protein – Plant – General	\$2.3M (+126%)
Green Teas & Supplements	\$100.6M (+81%)
Ginger	\$31.1M (+39%)
Maca	\$12.9M (+37%)
Caffeine	\$1.5B (+20%)
Turmeric	\$19.0M (+20%)
Spirulina Blue Green Algae	\$238.3M (+13%)



<sup>1</sup>Does not include SKUs with <\$5K YA sales

Source: Total US SPINS Natural Enhanced Channel & Conventional Multioutlet Channel & Convenience (Powered by IRI), 52WE 8.8.21

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# Purpose Driven Consumption – Condition Specific Supplements

Consumers look beyond typical food and beverage for added health benefits, as conscious personal care remains important to purchasers

High Growth Subcategories	% \$ Growth vs YA, \$ Change
Cognitive Health	<b>+71%   +144M</b>
Calmative & Mood Support	<b>+41%   +35M</b>
Condition Specific Other	<b>+34%   +131M</b>
Sleep	<b>+32%   +188M</b>
Reproductive	<b>+11%   +35M</b>
Beauty	<b>+10%   +17M</b>



**Cognitive Health: Irwin Naturals**  
Functional Ingredient: Theanine

Low Growth Subcategories	% \$ Growth vs YA, \$ Change
Organ Support	<b>+8%   +5M</b>
Energy	<b>+2%   +15M</b>
Heart & Circulation	<b>-0.5%   -867K</b>
Calcium & Bone	<b>-3%   -11M</b>
Joint	<b>-5%   -18M</b>
Immune	<b>-24%   -171M</b>



**Condition Specific Other: OM**  
Functional Ingredient: Mushrooms - Cordycep

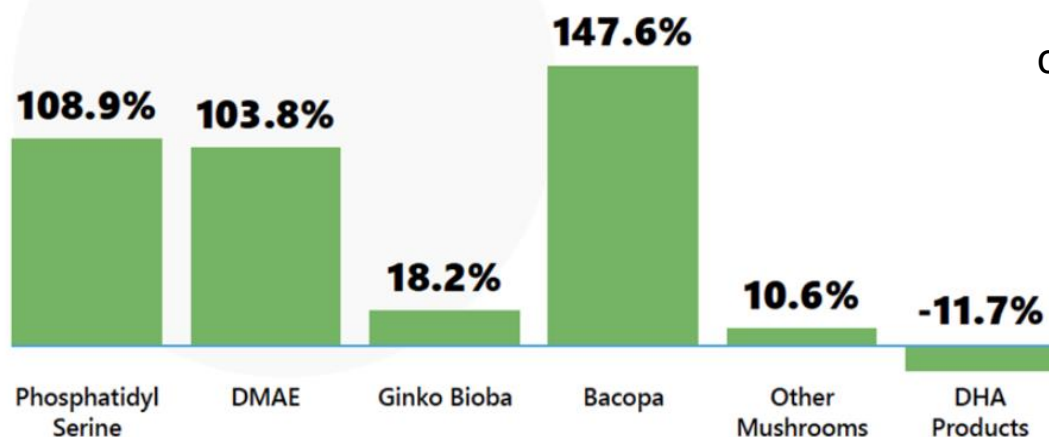


**Beauty: NeoCell**  
Functional Ingredient: Collagen Products

# Purpose Driven Consumption – Nootropics for Cognitive Health

As the COVID-19 Pandemic continues, consumers are increasingly looking for products that boost mental health and focus, a functionality known to nootropics

## Cognitive Health Functional Ingredient Growth<sup>1</sup>



While originally found mostly in supplements, nootropics are expanding into food & beverage formats, as consumers look for convenient ways to improve cognitive health

### Ingredient Benefit Spotlight:

- ❖ **Bacopa:** improves attention
- ❖ **Phosphatidyl Serine:** nutrition performance & improved memory
- ❖ **DMAE:** improved memory & mood booster



## Trends Signaling A New Norm In the Natural Industry

### ON THE GO CONSUMPTION



- ❖ Consumers continue to seek **diet-friendly** on the go options as **snacking categories see double digit growth** for keto, paleo, and vegan products
- ❖ Though not new concepts, the **alternative sugar** and **allergen free** segments are seeing **product innovation** as brands find new ways to target better for you consumers
- ❖ Ready to drink **alcoholic beverage innovation** signifies **changes in consumer preferences** as beer is no longer the standard grab n' go option

### PURPOSE DRIVEN CONSUMPTION



- ❖ Compared to last year, **consumers care more about sustainability trends** and environmental as many categories see double digit growth for products labeled with major certifications
- ❖ **Functional ingredient growth** in the beverage space align with consumer expectations for products to have a **diversified set of benefits**
- ❖ **Mental health related supplements** are top of mind for consumers, with **nootropic ingredients** seeing double digit growth for promoting cognitive health

THANK YOU

# FOR MORE INFORMATION ON HOW SPINS CAN SUPPORT YOU, CONTACT US!



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**Meghana Kodali**

Associate

Email: [mkodali@spins.com](mailto:mkodali@spins.com)

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---

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**Nicolas McCoy**  
Managing Director  
[nick@wstitch.com](mailto:nick@wstitch.com)

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