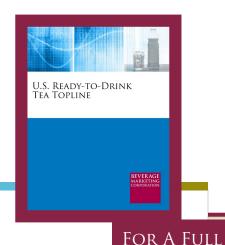
# U.S. READY-TO-DRINK TEA TOPLINE

2024 EDITION (Published March 2025. Data through 2024 and forecasts through 2029.) More than 25 pages, with text analysis, graphs and charts.

he *U.S. Ready-to-Drink Tea Topline* report from Beverage Marketing Corporation provides a data overview of the ready-to-drink tea category with key data and five-year forecasts. Perfect for investors, entrepreneurs requiring statistics for their business plan, ad agencies preparing an account pitch or anyone who needs a birds-eye view of the ready-to-drink tea sector. Also includes an executive summary of key trends impacting the RTD tea industry.



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### THE ANSWERS YOU NEED

U.S. Ready-to-Drink Tea Topline offers a data overview of the overall market. Questions answered include:

- How is tea volume divided among RTD tea, tea bags, tea mixes/powders, tea capsules and loose tea? How did these segments perform in 2024?
- How has the RTD tea market fared in terms of volume and wholesale dollar sales? What are the projections to 2029?
- Which are the leading RTD tea brands in terms of advertising expenditures?
- What are the imports of black versus green tea into the United States?

# THIS REPORT FEATURES

This topline report contains key information and identifies important trends concerning the U.S. RTD tea market. It features category volume, wholesale dollar sales and per capita consumption data, overall tea market volume and five-year projections.



# U.S. READY-TO-DRINK TEA TOPLINE



# U.S. Ready-to-Drink Tea Topline

March 2025



RESEARCH • DATA • CONSULTING

**NOTE**: The information contained in this report is confidential and solely intended for the benefit of the immediate recipient hereof.

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# **Summary**

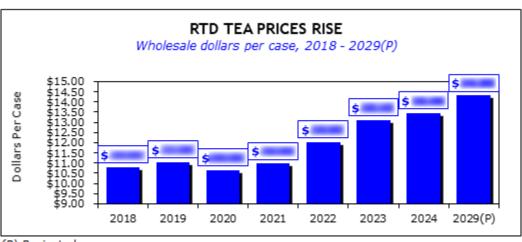
### **U.S. READY-TO-DRINK TEA TOPLINE** The U.S. Retail Tea Market --------Overview ------1 2 Volume ------Per Capita Consumption------7 Trends in the Ready-to-Drink Tea Segment ------Overview ------Wholesale Dollar and Case Volume-----RTD Tea Pricing ------12 Per Capita RTD Tea Consumption -----12 **Exhibits** U.S. Tea Market Estimated Consumption by Segment 2018 - 2029 ------1 2 U.S. Tea Market Share of Consumption by Segment 2018 - 2029 -----3 U.S. Tea Market Change in Consumption by Segment 2019 - 2029 ------U.S. Tea Market Per Capita Consumption by Segment 2018 - 2029 -----4 5 The National RTD Tea Market Wholesale Dollars and Case Volume 1988 - 2029 -----18 6 The National RTD Tea Market Wholesale Dollar and Case Volume Growth 19 7 The National RTD Tea Market Per Capita Consumption 1988 - 2028 ------Dry Tea Volume by Distribution Channel 2018 - 2028-----8 21 Dry Tea Share of Volume by Distribution Channel 2018 – 2028-----Ready-to-Drink Tea Advertising Expenditures 2018 - 2023 -----10 U.S. Tea Market Imports (Metric Tons) by Tea Type 2018 - 2023 ------11

A negative factor affecting the tea market is the fact that brewed tea is difficult to prepare. This has been counteracted partially by the growing messages about tea's health benefits and the clever lifestyle positioning carved out by certain entities.

- Loose tea and tea bags have the disadvantage of being perceived as "messy."
   And consumers have opted in recent years for the convenience and portability of RTD teas.
- Another complaint is that creating fresh-brewed iced tea from tea bags requires too much time for the boiling and cool-down routine. Lipton tried to address this by introducing its "five-minute" Cold Brew.
- Loose tea, perhaps the messiest and most difficult type to prepare, has generally grown, albeit slowly. Brewing tea well is not easy, which makes loose tea the province of connoisseurs who know what to do with tea leaves. But after struggles, the loose tea segment has appeared to stabilize lately.
- The trend towards convenience also benefited tea pods, which primarily sourced volume from tea bags in spite of a much higher unit price. But the segment has headed in the wrong direction since 2014.

On the other hand, a small portion of the population has taken to drinking more exotic varieties of teas, including bags and loose tea.

- The specialty tea segment appeals to certain members of the population who are looking for healthful products as part of a genteel lifestyle. While volume is relatively low compared to mainstream tea products, they have helped to subsidize volume levels in the tea market.
- The health message of tea has brought in consumers who might otherwise not be inclined to drink the beverage. The more open-minded of these consumers have come to recognize that there are many varieties of tea and that finding one suited to one's individual taste is not so far-fetched.
- So while loose tea is not a big player at all in supermarkets, it is used by fine tea salons and sold by specialty tea stores. There are various e-commerce sites selling premium loose teas as well.



(P) Projected

Source: Beverage Marketing Corporation

Exhibit 2

U.S. TEA MARKET
SHARE OF CONSUMPTION BY SEGMENT
2018 – 2029(P)

Segment	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2029(P)
RTD Tea	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Tea Bags	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Iced Tea Mix	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Loose Tea	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Tea Pods	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
TOTAL	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%

(P) Projected

Note: Does not include institutional tea sales. Source: Beverage Marketing Corporation