

Dairy-free Cheese & Yogurt Alternatives Market Forecasts to 2034 - Global Analysis By Product Type (Dairy-Free Cheese Alternatives and Dairy-Free Yogurt Alternatives), Source, Form, Distribution Channel, End User and By Geography

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Abstracts

According to Statistics MRC, the Global Dairy-free Cheese & Yogurt Alternatives Market is accounted for \$41.9 billion in 2026 and is expected to reach \$117.8 billion by 2034 growing at a CAGR of 13.8% during the forecast period. Dairy-free cheese and yogurt alternatives are innovative plant-based substitutes developed to provide similar sensory experiences to conventional dairy products without using milk-based ingredients. These products are made from sources including coconut, almonds, soy, oats, cashews, and other botanical ingredients. Increasing demand for vegan lifestyles, dairy sensitivity solutions, environmentally responsible foods, and healthier dietary choices is accelerating their popularity. Companies are investing in advanced processing methods, fermentation techniques, and improved formulations to enhance taste, texture, and nutritional value. Expanding distribution through retail outlets, health-focused stores, and e-commerce channels is contributing to the growing acceptance and consumption of dairy-free cheese and yogurt alternatives across global markets.

According to the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), global milk production reached 930 million tonnes in 2022, but plant-based dairy alternatives are increasingly consumed as substitutes, with soy, almond, oat, and coconut forming the largest bases. FAO highlights that demand for dairy-free alternatives is rising in regions with high lactose intolerance prevalence.

Market Dynamics:

Driver:

Rising demand for plant-based and vegan food products

Growing preference for vegan, vegetarian, and flexible eating patterns is accelerating the expansion of the Dairy-free Cheese & Yogurt Alternatives Market. Consumers are increasingly choosing non-dairy products because of environmental concerns, ethical considerations, and personal dietary requirements. Plant-derived ingredients such as oats, almonds, coconut, soy, and nuts are being widely utilized to create dairy-free cheese and yogurt products. Manufacturers are continuously developing advanced recipes to enhance flavor, consistency, and health benefits. The increasing availability of these alternatives through retail stores and digital platforms is encouraging wider consumer adoption. This shift toward plant-based nutrition continues to strengthen market development worldwide.

Restraint:

Higher production costs compared with conventional dairy products

Elevated manufacturing expenses compared with traditional dairy products represent a significant challenge for the Dairy-free Cheese & Yogurt Alternatives Market. Producing plant-based alternatives involves the use of specialized raw materials, innovative technologies, and extensive research to replicate dairy-like taste, consistency, and nutritional characteristics. Expensive ingredients such as nuts, coconut derivatives, and plant-based proteins contribute to increased production costs. As a result, these products are frequently priced higher, making them less accessible for cost-conscious consumers. Smaller companies may also struggle with production expansion and cost optimization.

Opportunity:

Expansion of product innovation and nutritional enhancement

Growing emphasis on innovation and improved nutrition is offering significant opportunities for the Dairy-free Cheese & Yogurt Alternatives Market. Producers are investing in research and development to create products with better flavor, texture, enhanced protein levels, and additional health benefits. New product categories, including probiotic dairy-free yogurt and fortified plant-based cheese alternatives, are gaining attention among wellness-focused consumers. Companies are utilizing

ingredients such as oats, legumes, nuts, and other plant-based sources to introduce unique product varieties. The incorporation of functional ingredients, essential nutrients, and natural formulations can increase consumer interest.

Threat:

Intense competition from traditional dairy products

Competition from established dairy products presents a significant challenge for the growth of dairy-free cheese and yogurt alternatives. Conventional dairy items benefit from long-standing consumer familiarity, extensive retail presence, competitive pricing, and well-developed supply chains. Many customers still prefer traditional dairy because of its authentic taste, texture, and role in everyday diets. Furthermore, dairy manufacturers are expanding their offerings with products such as lactose-free and functional dairy options, creating additional pressure on plant-based brands. Higher prices of dairy-free alternatives may also discourage some consumers from switching. These factors create a highly competitive market environment that can limit the expansion of dairy-free alternatives.

Covid-19 Impact:

The COVID-19 outbreak influenced the Dairy-free Cheese & Yogurt Alternatives Market with both challenges and growth opportunities. Early pandemic conditions caused interruptions in supply chains, production activities, and physical retail channels, impacting product distribution. At the same time, rising awareness about wellness, nutrition, and healthy lifestyles encouraged consumers to explore plant-based alternatives. The rapid growth of online food purchasing provided new opportunities for dairy-free brands to reach customers during movement restrictions. Increasing interest in sustainable eating habits further supported market demand. Companies responded by enhancing digital platforms, improving operational flexibility, and developing stronger distribution systems.

The dairy-free yogurt alternatives segment is expected to be the largest during the forecast period

The dairy-free yogurt alternatives segment is expected to account for the largest market share during the forecast period because of their broad appeal, easy integration into daily diets, and connection with evolving wellness preferences. Consumers are increasingly choosing these products as substitutes for traditional yogurt due to their

plant-based nature and suitability for individuals avoiding dairy ingredients. A wide range of formulations using coconut, oats, almonds, soy, and other plant sources provides greater variety and accessibility. Ongoing advancements in taste, texture, and nutritional enrichment are improving consumer acceptance. Their use as convenient breakfast, snack, and functional food options continues to strengthen their position in the market.

The oat-based segment is expected to have the highest CAGR during the forecast period

Over the forecast period, the oat-based segment is predicted to witness the highest growth rate, driven by rising interest in sustainable, plant-derived, and consumer-friendly food choices. Oat ingredients are increasingly utilized because they provide desirable creaminess, neutral taste, and effective functionality in dairy replacement products. Growing awareness of clean-label nutrition and environmentally sustainable food production is encouraging companies to develop more oat-based alternatives. These products appeal to consumers looking for dairy-free solutions that offer quality taste and convenient usage across various applications. Manufacturers are focusing on improving formulations through innovation, fortification, and better textures.

Region with largest share:

During the forecast period, the North America region is expected to hold the largest market share, supported by increasing consumer preference for plant-based nutrition and dairy replacement products. High awareness regarding vegan lifestyles, lactose intolerance, and sustainable food choices is driving regional demand. The availability of diverse dairy-free products through supermarkets, health-focused retailers, and digital platforms enhances consumer accessibility. Food companies in the region are actively developing innovative formulations with improved taste, texture, and nutritional benefits. Growing interest in wellness-oriented diets and environmentally responsible foods continues to support market expansion.

Region with highest CAGR:

Over the forecast period, the Asia Pacific region is anticipated to exhibit the highest CAGR, driven by evolving consumer habits, greater health awareness, and increasing acceptance of plant-based foods. Growing urban populations, improving purchasing power, and rising adoption of vegan and flexible diets are contributing to higher demand for dairy substitutes. Enhanced distribution networks, including retail outlets and e-

commerce channels, are improving product accessibility throughout the region. Companies are focusing on developing region-specific products and cost-effective alternatives to meet diverse consumer needs. Increasing innovation, sustainability concerns, and investments in plant-based food solutions are expected to strengthen the market's rapid growth in Asia Pacific.

Key players in the market

Some of the key players in Dairy-free Cheese & Yogurt Alternatives Market include Bettani, Kite Hill, Daiya Foods, Danone, Oatly, Vitasoy, SunOpta, The Hain Celestial Group, Blue Diamond Growers, Califia Farms, Earth's Own Food Company, Ripple Foods, Chobani, Forager Project, Nancy's Probiotic Foods, Swees, Miyoko's Creamery and Nush Foods.

Key Developments:

In March 2026, Danone and Arcor announce a new chapter in their strategic alliance in Argentina, creating a joint venture focused on the local dairy market. The joint venture will also open new growth opportunities in the dairy market through its eleven production plants located in the region, where, among other products, milk, dulce de leche, cheeses, butters, creams, yogurts, and desserts are produced.

In November 2025, Daiya Foods, the Canadian company producing a variety of dairy-free cheeses and plant-based foods, is set to reduce the sodium content of its products through a strategic relationship with MicroSalt. MicroSalt is a manufacturer of full-flavor natural salt containing around 50% less sodium. To achieve this, the company uses proprietary micron-sized particles, providing the same taste as conventional salt with fewer negative health impacts.

Product Types Covered:

Dairy-Free Cheese Alternatives

Dairy-Free Yogurt Alternatives

Sources Covered:

Soy-Based

Almond-Based

Coconut-Based

Oat-Based

Cashew-Based

Pea-Based

Rice-Based

Other Plant Sources

Forms Covered:

Solid

Semi-Solid

Liquid

Distribution Channels Covered:

Supermarkets & Hypermarkets

Convenience Stores

Specialty Stores

Online Retail & E-Commerce

Foodservice

End Users Covered:

Household & Retail Consumption

Foodservice& HoReCa

Industrial Ingredient Use

Regions Covered:

North America

United States

Canada

Mexico

Europe

United Kingdom

Germany

France

Italy

Spain

Netherlands

Belgium

Sweden

Switzerland

Poland

Rest of Europe

Asia Pacific

China

Japan

India

South Korea

Australia

Indonesia

Thailand

Malaysia

Singapore

Vietnam

Rest of Asia Pacific

South America

Brazil

Argentina

Colombia

Chile

Peru

Rest of South America

Rest of the World (RoW)

Middle East

Saudi Arabia

United Arab Emirates

Qatar

Israel

Rest of Middle East

Africa

South Africa

Egypt

Morocco

Rest of Africa

What our report offers:

Market share assessments for the regional and country-level segments

Strategic recommendations for the new entrants

Covers Market data for the years 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2030, 2032 and 2034

Market Trends (Drivers, Constraints, Opportunities, Threats, Challenges, Investment Opportunities, and recommendations)

Strategic recommendations in key business segments based on the market

estimations

Competitive landscaping mapping the key common trends

Company profiling with detailed strategies, financials, and recent developments

Supply chain trends mapping the latest technological advancements

Free Customization Offerings:

All the customers of this report will be entitled to receive one of the following free customization options:

Company Profiling

Comprehensive profiling of additional market players (up to 3)

SWOT Analysis of key players (up to 3)

Regional Segmentation

Market estimations, Forecasts and CAGR of any prominent country as per the client's interest (Note: Depends on feasibility check)

Competitive Benchmarking

Benchmarking of key players based on product portfolio, geographical presence, and strategic alliances

Contents

1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 Market Snapshot and Key Highlights
- 1.2 Growth Drivers, Challenges, and Opportunities
- 1.3 Competitive Landscape Overview
- 1.4 Strategic Insights and Recommendations

2 RESEARCH FRAMEWORK

- 2.1 Study Objectives and Scope
- 2.2 Stakeholder Analysis
- 2.3 Research Assumptions and Limitations
- 2.4 Research Methodology
 - 2.4.1 Data Collection (Primary and Secondary)
 - 2.4.2 Data Modeling and Estimation Techniques
 - 2.4.3 Data Validation and Triangulation
 - 2.4.4 Analytical and Forecasting Approach

3 MARKET DYNAMICS AND TREND ANALYSIS

- 3.1 Market Definition and Structure
- 3.2 Key Market Drivers
- 3.3 Market Restraints and Challenges
- 3.4 Growth Opportunities and Investment Hotspots
- 3.5 Industry Threats and Risk Assessment
- 3.6 Technology and Innovation Landscape
- 3.7 Emerging and High-Growth Markets
- 3.8 Regulatory and Policy Environment
- 3.9 Impact of COVID-19 and Recovery Outlook

4 COMPETITIVE AND STRATEGIC ASSESSMENT

- 4.1 Porter's Five Forces Analysis
 - 4.1.1 Supplier Bargaining Power
 - 4.1.2 Buyer Bargaining Power
 - 4.1.3 Threat of Substitutes
 - 4.1.4 Threat of New Entrants

- 4.1.5 Competitive Rivalry
- 4.2 Market Share Analysis of Key Players
- 4.3 Product Benchmarking and Performance Comparison

5 GLOBAL DAIRY-FREE CHEESE & YOGURT ALTERNATIVES MARKET, BY PRODUCT TYPE

- 5.1 Dairy-Free Cheese Alternatives
- 5.2 Dairy-Free Yogurt Alternatives

6 GLOBAL DAIRY-FREE CHEESE & YOGURT ALTERNATIVES MARKET, BY SOURCE

- 6.1 Soy-Based
- 6.2 Almond-Based
- 6.3 Coconut-Based
- 6.4 Oat-Based
- 6.5 Cashew-Based
- 6.6 Pea-Based
- 6.7 Rice-Based
- 6.8 Other Plant Sources

7 GLOBAL DAIRY-FREE CHEESE & YOGURT ALTERNATIVES MARKET, BY FORM

- 7.1 Solid
- 7.2 Semi-Solid
- 7.3 Liquid

8 GLOBAL DAIRY-FREE CHEESE & YOGURT ALTERNATIVES MARKET, BY DISTRIBUTION CHANNEL

- 8.1 Supermarkets & Hypermarkets
- 8.2 Convenience Stores
- 8.3 Specialty Stores
- 8.4 Online Retail & E-Commerce
- 8.5 Foodservice

9 GLOBAL DAIRY-FREE CHEESE & YOGURT ALTERNATIVES MARKET, BY END

USER

9.1 Household & Retail Consumption

9.2 Foodservice & HoReCa

9.3 Industrial Ingredient Use

10 GLOBAL DAIRY-FREE CHEESE & YOGURT ALTERNATIVES MARKET, BY GEOGRAPHY

10.1 North America

10.1.1 United States

10.1.2 Canada

10.1.3 Mexico

10.2 Europe

10.2.1 United Kingdom

10.2.2 Germany

10.2.3 France

10.2.4 Italy

10.2.5 Spain

10.2.6 Netherlands

10.2.7 Belgium

10.2.8 Sweden

10.2.9 Switzerland

10.2.10 Poland

10.2.11 Rest of Europe

10.3 Asia Pacific

10.3.1 China

10.3.2 Japan

10.3.3 India

10.3.4 South Korea

10.3.5 Australia

10.3.6 Indonesia

10.3.7 Thailand

10.3.8 Malaysia

10.3.9 Singapore

10.3.10 Vietnam

10.3.11 Rest of Asia Pacific

10.4 South America

10.4.1 Brazil

- 10.4.2 Argentina
- 10.4.3 Colombia
- 10.4.4 Chile
- 10.4.5 Peru
- 10.4.6 Rest of South America
- 10.5 Rest of the World (RoW)
 - 10.5.1 Middle East
 - 10.5.1.1 Saudi Arabia
 - 10.5.1.2 United Arab Emirates
 - 10.5.1.3 Qatar
 - 10.5.1.4 Israel
 - 10.5.1.5 Rest of Middle East
 - 10.5.2 Africa
 - 10.5.2.1 South Africa
 - 10.5.2.2 Egypt
 - 10.5.2.3 Morocco
 - 10.5.2.4 Rest of Africa

11 STRATEGIC MARKET INTELLIGENCE

- 11.1 Industry Value Network and Supply Chain Assessment
- 11.2 White-Space and Opportunity Mapping
- 11.3 Product Evolution and Market Life Cycle Analysis
- 11.4 Channel, Distributor, and Go-to-Market Assessment

12 INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENTS AND STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

- 12.1 Mergers and Acquisitions
- 12.2 Partnerships, Alliances, and Joint Ventures
- 12.3 New Product Launches and Certifications
- 12.4 Capacity Expansion and Investments
- 12.5 Other Strategic Initiatives

13 COMPANY PROFILES

- 13.1 Bettani
- 13.2 Kite Hill
- 13.3 Daiya Foods
- 13.4 Danone

- 13.5 Oatly
- 13.6 Vitasoy
- 13.7 SunOpta
- 13.8 The Hain Celestial Group
- 13.9 Blue Diamond Growers
- 13.10 Califia Farms
- 13.11 Earth's Own Food Company
- 13.12 Ripple Foods
- 13.13 Chobani
- 13.14 Forager Project
- 13.15 Nancy's Probiotic Foods
- 13.16 Swees
- 13.17 Miyoko's Creamery
- 13.18 Nush Foods

List Of Tables

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1 Global Dairy-free Cheese & Yogurt Alternatives Market Outlook, By Region (2023-2034) (\$MN)

Table 2 Global Dairy-free Cheese & Yogurt Alternatives Market Outlook, By Product Type (2023-2034) (\$MN)

Table 3 Global Dairy-free Cheese & Yogurt Alternatives Market Outlook, By Dairy-Free Cheese Alternatives (2023-2034) (\$MN)

Table 4 Global Dairy-free Cheese & Yogurt Alternatives Market Outlook, By Dairy-Free Yogurt Alternatives (2023-2034) (\$MN)

Table 5 Global Dairy-free Cheese & Yogurt Alternatives Market Outlook, By Source (2023-2034) (\$MN)

Table 6 Global Dairy-free Cheese & Yogurt Alternatives Market Outlook, By Soy-Based (2023-2034) (\$MN)

Table 7 Global Dairy-free Cheese & Yogurt Alternatives Market Outlook, By Almond-Based (2023-2034) (\$MN)

Table 8 Global Dairy-free Cheese & Yogurt Alternatives Market Outlook, By Coconut-Based (2023-2034) (\$MN)

Table 9 Global Dairy-free Cheese & Yogurt Alternatives Market Outlook, By Oat-Based (2023-2034) (\$MN)

Table 10 Global Dairy-free Cheese & Yogurt Alternatives Market Outlook, By Cashew-Based (2023-2034) (\$MN)

Table 11 Global Dairy-free Cheese & Yogurt Alternatives Market Outlook, By Pea-Based (2023-2034) (\$MN)

Table 12 Global Dairy-free Cheese & Yogurt Alternatives Market Outlook, By Rice-Based (2023-2034) (\$MN)

Table 13 Global Dairy-free Cheese & Yogurt Alternatives Market Outlook, By Other Plant Sources (2023-2034) (\$MN)

Table 14 Global Dairy-free Cheese & Yogurt Alternatives Market Outlook, By Form (2023-2034) (\$MN)

Table 15 Global Dairy-free Cheese & Yogurt Alternatives Market Outlook, By Solid (2023-2034) (\$MN)

Table 16 Global Dairy-free Cheese & Yogurt Alternatives Market Outlook, By Semi-Solid (2023-2034) (\$MN)

Table 17 Global Dairy-free Cheese & Yogurt Alternatives Market Outlook, By Liquid (2023-2034) (\$MN)

Table 18 Global Dairy-free Cheese & Yogurt Alternatives Market Outlook, By

Distribution Channel (2023-2034) (\$MN)

Table 19 Global Dairy-free Cheese & Yogurt Alternatives Market Outlook, By Supermarkets & Hypermarkets (2023-2034) (\$MN)

Table 20 Global Dairy-free Cheese & Yogurt Alternatives Market Outlook, By Convenience Stores (2023-2034) (\$MN)

Table 21 Global Dairy-free Cheese & Yogurt Alternatives Market Outlook, By Specialty Stores (2023-2034) (\$MN)

Table 22 Global Dairy-free Cheese & Yogurt Alternatives Market Outlook, By Online Retail & E-Commerce (2023-2034) (\$MN)

Table 23 Global Dairy-free Cheese & Yogurt Alternatives Market Outlook, By Foodservice (2023-2034) (\$MN)

Table 24 Global Dairy-free Cheese & Yogurt Alternatives Market Outlook, By End User (2023-2034) (\$MN)

Table 25 Global Dairy-free Cheese & Yogurt Alternatives Market Outlook, By Household & Retail Consumption (2023-2034) (\$MN)

Table 26 Global Dairy-free Cheese & Yogurt Alternatives Market Outlook, By Foodservice & HoReCa (2023-2034) (\$MN)

Table 27 Global Dairy-free Cheese & Yogurt Alternatives Market Outlook, By Industrial Ingredient Use (2023-2034) (\$MN)

Note: Tables for North America, Europe, APAC, South America, and Rest of the World (RoW) Regions are also represented in the same manner as above.

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