

Ready Meal Trays Market Forecasts to 2032 – Global Analysis By Product (Multi-compartment Trays, Single-compartment Trays, Lidded Trays, Sealable Trays and Other Products), Material, Sealing Type, Size, Distribution Channel, End User and By Geography

<https://marketpublishers.com/r/RC81A1162DCCEN.html>

Date: May 2025

Pages: 150

Price: US\$ 4,150.00 (Single User License)

ID: RC81A1162DCCEN

Abstracts

According to Statistics MRC, the Global Ready Meal Trays Market is accounted for \$1.41 billion in 2025 and is expected to reach \$2.57 billion by 2032 growing at a CAGR of 8.9% during the forecast period. Meals that need little preparation can be stored and heated in ready meal trays, which are prefabricated packing options. These trays, which are usually composed of plastic, aluminium, or biodegradable materials, guarantee portion control, convenience, and food safety. They provide customers with a quick and simple dining choice and are frequently utilised in frozen, chilled, or microwaveable meals. To maintain flavour and texture, the trays are frequently divided into sections to keep different meal components apart. Ready meal trays support efficient storage, transport, and consumption, making them popular in households, catering, and institutional food services.

Market Dynamics:

Driver:

Increasing urbanization and single-person households

Fast, prefabricated meals are becoming more and more necessary for daily survival as more people move into cities. The surge in single-person households further supports this desire, as individuals often want quick, portion-controlled meals. Ready meal trays offer a perfect alternative, decreasing the need for cooking and minimizing food waste.

These trays are also easy to store and heat, making them great for urban living with little kitchen space. Overall, the trend of urban life and solitary dining considerably increases the growth of the ready meal trays market.

Restraint:

Environmental impact of packaging

Eco-friendly substitutes for conventional plastic packaging are being demanded by governments and consumers alike. Non-recyclable packaging materials are disposed of in a way that pollutes the environment and causes landfill overflow. This pressure encourages manufacturers to seek ecologically responsible packaging alternatives, often at a higher cost. The total cost of ready meal trays may rise as a result of the additional cost of moving to sustainable materials, which could restrict market expansion. The intricacy of creating sustainable, affordable packaging technologies also makes it difficult for the sector to grow.

Opportunity:

Product innovation and customization

Advanced features including ovenable, microwave-safe, and environmentally friendly materials are being added by manufacturers to trays to increase their attractiveness. By accommodating certain dietary requirements, quantity sizes, and regional flavour profiles, customisation enables firms to improve customer happiness. Innovative container designs help improve shelf life and product presentation, enticing more shoppers. These developments aid food companies in standing out in a crowded market. As a result, product innovation and personalisation not only drive demand but also nurture brand loyalty and market expansion.

Threat:

Price sensitivity

Consumers often prioritize cost over quality when purchasing ready meals, leading to increased demand for cheaper options. This forces manufacturers to reduce production costs, sometimes compromising on materials and design. Lower-priced trays may result in inferior quality, affecting brand reputation. Moreover, high competition among brands pushes companies to lower prices, reducing profit margins. Overall, price sensitivity

creates a challenge in maintaining product quality while keeping prices competitive.

Covid-19 Impact

The COVID-19 pandemic significantly influenced the ready meal trays market. Lockdowns and restaurant closures heightened consumer reliance on convenient, hygienically packaged meals, boosting demand for ready meal trays. However, supply chain disruptions and increased home cooking initially tempered growth. Over time, the market adapted, with innovations in packaging and a surge in online food delivery sustaining momentum. The pandemic underscored the importance of convenience and safety in food consumption, reshaping consumer preferences and driving long-term growth in the ready meal trays sector.

The paper & paperboard segment is expected to be the largest during the forecast period

The paper & paperboard segment is expected to account for the largest market share during the forecast period, due to its eco-friendly and recyclable nature, aligning with rising consumer demand for sustainable packaging. These materials are lightweight yet durable, making them ideal for convenient meal storage and transport. Their compatibility with microwave and oven use adds value for consumers seeking quick meal solutions. Additionally, regulatory pressure to reduce plastic usage encourages manufacturers to adopt paper-based alternatives. As a result, innovations in coated and molded fiber trays are gaining traction, further driving market growth.

The shelf-stable meals segment is expected to have the highest CAGR during the forecast period

Over the forecast period, the shelf-stable meals segment is predicted to witness the highest growth rate by offering convenience and long shelf life without refrigeration. These meals cater to busy lifestyles, military needs, and emergency preparedness, expanding the consumer base. Their easy storage and transport make them ideal for retail, e-commerce, and institutional use. Advancements in packaging technology ensure food safety, taste, and nutritional value over extended periods. As global demand for on-the-go and long-lasting food options grows, shelf-stable meals drive consistent market expansion.

Region with largest share:

During the forecast period, the Asia Pacific region is expected to hold the largest market share due to increasing urbanization and busy lifestyles of consumers. Countries like China, India, and Japan are driving demand as convenience foods become more popular. Rising disposable incomes, coupled with a shift towards nuclear family structures, are influencing the market's expansion. Furthermore, the demand for a wide variety of international and local cuisines in ready-to-eat formats is boosting market growth. Technological innovations in packaging and product preservation are further supporting market development in the region.

Region with highest CAGR:

Over the forecast period, the North America region is anticipated to exhibit the highest CAGR, owing to the increasing demand for convenient, time-saving food options. A growing consumer preference for healthier, ready-to-eat meals, coupled with the rise of single-person households, fuels market expansion. Additionally, advancements in packaging technology, enhancing shelf life and ease of use, are contributing to the popularity of these products. With significant retail distribution and a strong demand for variety, the region is poised to continue leading the market, particularly in the U.S. and Canada.

Key players in the market

Some of the key players profiled in the Ready Meal Trays Market include Amcor plc, Faerch A/S, Huhtamaki Oyj, Sonoco Products Company, DS Smith Plc, Silver Plastics GmbH & Co. KG, Quinn Packaging, MCP Performance Plastic Ltd, Versatile Packaging, Omniform Group, Greencore Group, Bakkavor Group, Apetito, Lite n' Easy, Tee Yih Jia, Sealed Air Corporation, Sabert Corporation and Winpak Ltd.

Key Developments:

In November 2024, Faerch introduced CPET trays for chilled ready meals in the UK & Ireland, incorporating a minimum of 40% Tray rPET (recycled polyethylene terephthalate) content. This move aligns with their commitment to circularity, ensuring that the trays maintain high-quality performance while reducing reliance on virgin materials.

In January 2024, Amcor introduced customizable recycle-ready polypropylene barrier trays and lidding solutions, designed to offer enhanced sealability, extended shelf life, and premium product appearance, making them suitable for fresh and processed

meats, plant-based proteins, poultry, and ready meals.

Products Covered:

Multi-compartment Trays

Single-compartment Trays

Lidded Trays

Sealable Trays

Microwaveable Trays

Oven-safe Trays

Other Products

Materials Covered:

Plastic

Aluminum

Paper & Paperboard

Biodegradable

Other Materials

Sealing Types Covered:

Heat-sealable

Snap-on lids

Peelable lids

Sizes Covered:

Small

Medium

Large

Distribution Channels Covered:

Supermarkets

Convenience Stores

Online Retail

Foodservice Outlets

End Users Covered:

Frozen Meals

Chilled Meals

Fresh Meals

Shelf-stable Meals

Other End Users

Regions Covered:

North America

US

Canada

Mexico

Europe

Germany

UK

Italy

France

Spain

Rest of Europe

Asia Pacific

Japan

China

India

Australia

New Zealand

South Korea

Rest of Asia Pacific

South America

Argentina

Brazil

Chile

Rest of South America

Middle East & Africa

Saudi Arabia

UAE

Qatar

South Africa

Rest of Middle East & 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 2024, 2025, 2026, 2028, and 2032
- 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

2 PREFACE

- 2.1 Abstract
- 2.2 Stake Holders
- 2.3 Research Scope
- 2.4 Research Methodology
 - 2.4.1 Data Mining
 - 2.4.2 Data Analysis
 - 2.4.3 Data Validation
 - 2.4.4 Research Approach
- 2.5 Research Sources
 - 2.5.1 Primary Research Sources
 - 2.5.2 Secondary Research Sources
 - 2.5.3 Assumptions

3 MARKET TREND ANALYSIS

- 3.1 Introduction
- 3.2 Drivers
- 3.3 Restraints
- 3.4 Opportunities
- 3.5 Threats
- 3.6 Product Analysis
- 3.7 End User Analysis
- 3.8 Emerging Markets
- 3.9 Impact of Covid-19

4 PORTERS FIVE FORCE ANALYSIS

- 4.1 Bargaining power of suppliers
- 4.2 Bargaining power of buyers
- 4.3 Threat of substitutes
- 4.4 Threat of new entrants
- 4.5 Competitive rivalry

5 GLOBAL READY MEAL TRAYS MARKET, BY PRODUCT

- 5.1 Introduction
- 5.2 Multi-compartment Trays
- 5.3 Single-compartment Trays
- 5.4 Lidded Trays
- 5.5 Sealable Trays
- 5.6 Microwaveable Trays
- 5.7 Oven-safe Trays
- 5.8 Other Products

6 GLOBAL READY MEAL TRAYS MARKET, BY MATERIAL

- 6.1 Introduction
- 6.2 Plastic
 - 6.2.1 Polypropylene (PP)
 - 6.2.2 Polyethylene Terephthalate (PET)
 - 6.2.3 Polyethylene (PE)
 - 6.2.4 Polystyrene (PS)
- 6.3 Aluminum
- 6.4 Paper & Paperboard
- 6.5 Biodegradable
- 6.6 Other Materials

7 GLOBAL READY MEAL TRAYS MARKET, BY SEALING TYPE

- 7.1 Introduction
- 7.2 Heat-sealable
- 7.3 Snap-on lids
- 7.4 Peelable lids

8 GLOBAL READY MEAL TRAYS MARKET, BY SIZE

- 8.1 Introduction
- 8.2 Small
- 8.3 Medium
- 8.4 Large

9 GLOBAL READY MEAL TRAYS MARKET, BY DISTRIBUTION CHANNEL

- 9.1 Introduction
- 9.2 Supermarkets
- 9.3 Convenience Stores
- 9.4 Online Retail
- 9.5 Foodservice Outlets

10 GLOBAL READY MEAL TRAYS MARKET, BY END USER

- 10.1 Introduction
- 10.2 Frozen Meals
- 10.3 Chilled Meals
- 10.4 Fresh Meals
- 10.5 Shelf-stable Meals
- 10.6 Other End Users

11 GLOBAL READY MEAL TRAYS MARKET, BY GEOGRAPHY

- 11.1 Introduction
- 11.2 North America
 - 11.2.1 US
 - 11.2.2 Canada
 - 11.2.3 Mexico
- 11.3 Europe
 - 11.3.1 Germany
 - 11.3.2 UK
 - 11.3.3 Italy
 - 11.3.4 France
 - 11.3.5 Spain
 - 11.3.6 Rest of Europe
- 11.4 Asia Pacific
 - 11.4.1 Japan
 - 11.4.2 China
 - 11.4.3 India
 - 11.4.4 Australia
 - 11.4.5 New Zealand
 - 11.4.6 South Korea
 - 11.4.7 Rest of Asia Pacific
- 11.5 South America

- 11.5.1 Argentina
- 11.5.2 Brazil
- 11.5.3 Chile
- 11.5.4 Rest of South America
- 11.6 Middle East & Africa
 - 11.6.1 Saudi Arabia
 - 11.6.2 UAE
 - 11.6.3 Qatar
 - 11.6.4 South Africa
 - 11.6.5 Rest of Middle East & Africa

12 KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- 12.1 Agreements, Partnerships, Collaborations and Joint Ventures
- 12.2 Acquisitions & Mergers
- 12.3 New Product Launch
- 12.4 Expansions
- 12.5 Other Key Strategies

13 COMPANY PROFILING

- 13.1 Amcor plc
- 13.2 Faerch A/S
- 13.3 Huhtamaki Oyj
- 13.4 Sonoco Products Company
- 13.5 DS Smith Plc
- 13.6 Silver Plastics GmbH & Co. KG
- 13.7 Quinn Packaging
- 13.8 MCP Performance Plastic Ltd
- 13.9 Versatile Packaging
- 13.10 Omniform Group
- 13.11 Greencore Group
- 13.12 Bakkavor Group
- 13.13 Apetito
- 13.14 Lite n' Easy
- 13.15 Tee Yih Jia
- 13.16 Sealed Air Corporation
- 13.17 Sabert Corporation
- 13.18 Wipak Ltd.

List Of Tables

LIST OF TABLES

- 1 Global Ready Meal Trays Market Outlook, By Region (2024-2032) (\$MN)
- 2 Global Ready Meal Trays Market Outlook, By Product (2024-2032) (\$MN)
- 3 Global Ready Meal Trays Market Outlook, By Multi-compartment Trays (2024-2032) (\$MN)
- 4 Global Ready Meal Trays Market Outlook, By Single-compartment Trays (2024-2032) (\$MN)
- 5 Global Ready Meal Trays Market Outlook, By Lidded Trays (2024-2032) (\$MN)
- 6 Global Ready Meal Trays Market Outlook, By Sealable Trays (2024-2032) (\$MN)
- 7 Global Ready Meal Trays Market Outlook, By Microwaveable Trays (2024-2032) (\$MN)
- 8 Global Ready Meal Trays Market Outlook, By Oven-safe Trays (2024-2032) (\$MN)
- 9 Global Ready Meal Trays Market Outlook, By Other Products (2024-2032) (\$MN)
- 10 Global Ready Meal Trays Market Outlook, By Material (2024-2032) (\$MN)
- 11 Global Ready Meal Trays Market Outlook, By Plastic (2024-2032) (\$MN)
- 12 Global Ready Meal Trays Market Outlook, By Polypropylene (PP) (2024-2032) (\$MN)
- 13 Global Ready Meal Trays Market Outlook, By Polyethylene Terephthalate (PET) (2024-2032) (\$MN)
- 14 Global Ready Meal Trays Market Outlook, By Polyethylene (PE) (2024-2032) (\$MN)
- 15 Global Ready Meal Trays Market Outlook, By Polystyrene (PS) (2024-2032) (\$MN)
- 16 Global Ready Meal Trays Market Outlook, By Aluminum (2024-2032) (\$MN)
- 17 Global Ready Meal Trays Market Outlook, By Paper & Paperboard (2024-2032) (\$MN)
- 18 Global Ready Meal Trays Market Outlook, By Biodegradable (2024-2032) (\$MN)
- 19 Global Ready Meal Trays Market Outlook, By Other Materials (2024-2032) (\$MN)
- 20 Global Ready Meal Trays Market Outlook, By Sealing Type (2024-2032) (\$MN)
- 21 Global Ready Meal Trays Market Outlook, By Heat-sealable (2024-2032) (\$MN)
- 22 Global Ready Meal Trays Market Outlook, By Snap-on lids (2024-2032) (\$MN)
- 23 Global Ready Meal Trays Market Outlook, By Peelable lids (2024-2032) (\$MN)
- 24 Global Ready Meal Trays Market Outlook, By Size (2024-2032) (\$MN)
- 25 Global Ready Meal Trays Market Outlook, By Small (2024-2032) (\$MN)
- 26 Global Ready Meal Trays Market Outlook, By Medium (2024-2032) (\$MN)
- 27 Global Ready Meal Trays Market Outlook, By Large (2024-2032) (\$MN)
- 28 Global Ready Meal Trays Market Outlook, By Distribution Channel (2024-2032) (\$MN)

29 Global Ready Meal Trays Market Outlook, By Supermarkets (2024-2032) (\$MN)

30 Global Ready Meal Trays Market Outlook, By Convenience Stores (2024-2032) (\$MN)

31 Global Ready Meal Trays Market Outlook, By Online Retail (2024-2032) (\$MN)

32 Global Ready Meal Trays Market Outlook, By Foodservice Outlets (2024-2032) (\$MN)

33 Global Ready Meal Trays Market Outlook, By End User (2024-2032) (\$MN)

34 Global Ready Meal Trays Market Outlook, By Frozen Meals (2024-2032) (\$MN)

35 Global Ready Meal Trays Market Outlook, By Chilled Meals (2024-2032) (\$MN)

36 Global Ready Meal Trays Market Outlook, By Fresh Meals (2024-2032) (\$MN)

37 Global Ready Meal Trays Market Outlook, By Shelf-stable Meals (2024-2032) (\$MN)

38 Global Ready Meal Trays Market Outlook, By Other End Users (2024-2032) (\$MN)

Note: Tables for North America, Europe, APAC, South America, and Middle East & Africa Regions are also represented in the same manner as above.

I would like to order

Product name: Ready Meal Trays Market Forecasts to 2032 – Global Analysis By Product (Multi-compartment Trays, Single-compartment Trays, Lidded Trays, Sealable Trays and Other Products), Material, Sealing Type, Size, Distribution Channel, End User and By Geography

Product link: <https://marketpublishers.com/r/RC81A1162DCCEN.html>

Price: US\$ 4,150.00 (Single User License / Electronic Delivery)

If you want to order Corporate License or Hard Copy, please, contact our Customer Service:

info@marketpublishers.com

Payment

To pay by Credit Card (Visa, MasterCard, American Express, PayPal), please, click button on product page <https://marketpublishers.com/r/RC81A1162DCCEN.html>