

Dairy-Free Ice Cream Market – Global Industry Size, Share, Trends, Opportunity and Forecast, By Source (Coconut, Almond, Soy, Others), By Flavor (Chocolate, Vanilla, Strawberry, Others), By Distribution Channel (Supermarkets/Hypermarkets, Specialty Stores, Online, Others), By Region & Competition, 2020-2030F

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Abstracts

Global Dairy-Free Ice Cream Market was valued at USD 1.44 Billion in 2024 and is expected to grow to USD 2.25 Billion by 2030 with a CAGR of 7.72%. The global dairy-free ice cream market is witnessing strong growth, driven by rising consumer preference for plant-based and lactose-free alternatives. Increasing awareness of health benefits, growing cases of lactose intolerance, and the popularity of vegan lifestyles are fueling demand. Manufacturers are innovating with diverse flavors and using bases such as almond, coconut, oat, and soy milk to appeal to wider audiences. Expanding retail and e-commerce distribution channels further boost accessibility, while premium and clean-label offerings enhance market growth.

Key Market Drivers

Rising Health Consciousness and Lactose Intolerance Awareness

One of the primary drivers of the global dairy-free ice cream market is the rising health consciousness among consumers and the growing awareness of lactose intolerance. Lactose intolerance is indeed prevalent in India, affecting approximately 1/3 of the population. It is a condition where individuals have difficulty digesting lactose, the sugar found in milk and dairy products, due to insufficient levels of lactase, the enzyme

required to break down lactose. With a significant percentage of the global population experiencing digestive discomfort from consuming dairy, demand for alternatives has surged. Dairy-free ice cream appeals not only to lactose-intolerant individuals but also to health-conscious consumers who perceive plant-based options as cleaner, lighter, and more nutritious. Increasing cases of allergies to milk proteins have further pushed consumers toward safer options like almond, oat, coconut, and soy-based ice creams. Additionally, dairy-free variants are often marketed as being lower in cholesterol and easier to digest, aligning with the global trend toward functional and healthier indulgence. This increasing consumer awareness, combined with the preference for foods that contribute to long-term wellness, is creating sustained growth opportunities in the market.

Key Market Challenges

High Production Costs and Premium Pricing

One of the major challenges facing the dairy-free ice cream market is the high cost of production compared to traditional dairy ice cream. Plant-based ingredients such as almond, oat, and cashew milk are often more expensive to source and process, especially when combined with the need for advanced formulations to replicate the creaminess of dairy. This results in higher retail prices, making dairy-free ice cream less accessible to price-sensitive consumers. In developing markets, where affordability strongly influences purchasing behavior, this premium pricing limits the potential consumer base and slows adoption despite growing interest.

Key Market Trends

Premiumization and Indulgence in Dairy-Free Offerings

A significant trend in the global dairy-free ice cream market is the rise of premiumization, where consumers are increasingly seeking indulgent, artisanal, and gourmet-quality experiences even within plant-based products. Initially, dairy-free ice creams were primarily perceived as substitutes for individuals with dietary restrictions, but the market has now evolved to position these products as aspirational indulgences. Consumers are willing to pay more for unique, high-quality offerings crafted with clean-label, non-GMO, organic, and sustainably sourced ingredients. Brands are launching luxury variants infused with superfoods, exotic fruits, nuts, and inclusions such as cookies, caramel swirls, or chocolate chunks to replicate and even surpass the richness of dairy-based ice cream. Packaging is also playing a vital role in communicating

premium value, with eco-friendly materials, minimalist designs, and transparency in ingredient sourcing boosting consumer confidence.

Key Market Players

General Mills, Inc.

Unilever PLC

Booja-Booja Company Ltd

Tofutti Brands, Inc.

Bliss Unlimited, LLC

Danone SA

Oatly Group AB

Oregon Ice Cream Company

Van Leeuwen Ice Cream LLC

Little Red Rooster Ice Cream Company

Report Scope:

In this report, the Global Dairy-Free Ice Cream Market has been segmented into the following categories, in addition to the industry trends which have also been detailed below:

Dairy-Free Ice Cream Market, By Source:

Coconut

Almond

Soy

Others

Dairy-Free Ice Cream Market, By Flavor:

Chocolate

Vanilla

Strawberry

Others

Dairy-Free Ice Cream Market, By Distribution Channel:

Supermarkets/Hypermarkets

Specialty Stores

Online

Others

Dairy-Free Ice Cream Market, By Region:

North America

United States

Canada

Mexico

Europe

France

United Kingdom

Italy

Germany

Spain

Asia-Pacific

China

Japan

India

South Korea

Vietnam

South America

Argentina

Colombia

Brazil

Middle East & Africa

South Africa

Saudi Arabia

UAE

Turkey

Competitive Landscape

Company Profiles: Detailed analysis of the major companies presents in the Global Dairy-Free Ice Cream Market.

Available Customizations:

Global Dairy-Free Ice Cream Market report with the given market data, TechSci Research offers customizations according to a company's specific needs. The following customization options are available for the report:

Company Information

Detailed analysis and profiling of additional market players (up to five).

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