



Self-Service Cafeterias in Australia

March 2026

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Self-Service Cafeterias in Australia - Category analysis

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2025 DEVELOPMENTS

Small category within the broader consumer foodservice industry

INDUSTRY PERFORMANCE

Tighter consumer budgets cause weaker performance for the category

Independent operators experience slight growth amid rising interest in shared eating experiences

Value for money remains key concern for self-service cafeterias

WHAT'S NEXT?

Improving economic conditions to boost category performance

Self-service cafeterias to remain heavily reliant on eat-in business

Inspiration from international brands is key for innovation

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Fragmented competitive landscape led by prominent retail chain Ikea

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A challenging year for consumer foodservice

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Consumer foodservice industry in recovery mode as inflation eases

Traditional channels experience a resurgence as the delivery channel slows

Loyalty a key focus area for brands as competition in foodservice intensifies

WHAT'S NEXT?

Consumer spending to recover well over the forecast period

Innovation will be tied to global trends such as the recent K-Wave

Consumers to refocus on sustainability as purchasing power grows

COMPETITIVE LANDSCAPE

Global foodservice brands maintain strong position in the market

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