

# Other Hot Drinks in China

November 2025

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## Other Hot Drinks in China - Category analysis

## **KEY DATA FINDINGS**

#### 2025 DEVELOPMENTS

Volume growth, premiumisation, and innovation contribute to retail value growth

## INDUSTRY PERFORMANCE

Premiumisation and product development contribute to value growth, although volume sales also rise Other plant-based hot drinks overwhelmingly dominates, as these products are seen as "pure"

#### WHAT'S NEXT?

Continued growth for other hot drinks as consumers see such products as "food as medicine" Technology likely to increasingly impact other hot drinks Adapting to changing health and wellness and sustainability demands will be crucial

## COMPETITIVE LANDSCAPE

Despite high fragmentation, VV Group maintains its lead thanks to strong brand equity Nestlé succeeds by focusing on health and premiumisation

#### **CHANNELS**

Small local grocers still valued for impulse purchases and replenishment Convenience and a wide product range maintain growth for retail e-commerce

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## Hot Drinks in China - Industry Overview

# **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Although value sales see a marginal decline, upgrading is seen in some categories

## **KEY DATA FINDINGS**

# INDUSTRY PERFORMANCE

Premiumisation particularly evident in coffee and other hot drinks

Fruit/herbal tea meets consumers' needs on many levels

Rising costs impact customers and companies

Brands try to strike a balance between affordability and sustainability

## WHAT'S NEXT?

Value growth anticipated, but challenges will remain International players likely to reshape their product portfolios

The integration of online and offline channels will be important

### COMPETITIVE LANDSCAPE

Yunnan Taetea (Dayi) Tea Industry Group maintains its lead in a fragmented industry Local brands perform well, while international brands are adapting

#### **CHANNELS**

Retail e-commerce is dynamic and becomes the leading distribution channel

Smaller local retailers remain popular but are challenged by more modern channels

Synergies between retail and foodservice channels

Transformation of hot drinks in foodservice

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