

Rice, Pasta and Noodles in Japan

December 2025

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Rice, Pasta and Noodles in Japan - Category analysis

KEY DATA FINDINGS

2025 DEVELOPMENTS

Surge in current value growth reflects soaring prices

INDUSTRY PERFORMANCE

Rice prices double due to poor harvests and high production costs

Pasta benefits from soaring rice prices, with increased consumption

WHAT'S NEXT?

Further challenges ahead for Japan's staple grain

Convenience factor will remain a key driver of innovation

Korean instant noodles brands set to see expansion

COMPETITIVE LANDSCAPE

JA group leads a fragmented and challenged category in 2025

Private label is the main beneficiary of rising prices

CHANNELS

Supermarkets continues to lead distribution in 2025

E-commerce continues to gain ground, but brick-and-mortar retailers remain the preferred choice

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Staple Foods in Japan - Industry Overview

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

KEY DATA FINDINGS

INDUSTRY PERFORMANCE

Sharp price increases fuel category volatility in 2025

Convenience factor remains important to busy consumers Post-pandemic interest in health and wellbeing remains high

WHAT'S NEXT?

Shrinking population expected to lead to volume decline Current value growth will remain largely driven by high prices Convenience factor will continue to shape category fortunes

COMPETITIVE LANDSCAPE

Yamazaki Baking retains the lead in a highly fragmented industry Second-ranked player gains ground in 2025

CHANNELS

Supermarkets remains the leading distribution channel in Japan Health and beauty specialists and e-commerce are gaining popularity

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