




# Alternative Protein Sources: Balancing Food Innovation, Sustainability, Nutrition, and Health

Food Forum Workshop  
August 2022

A man in a dark suit and glasses is walking on a paved sidewalk, looking down at a smartphone in his right hand. The background shows a modern building with a glass facade and a staircase. The lighting suggests it's late afternoon or early morning, with long shadows cast on the ground.

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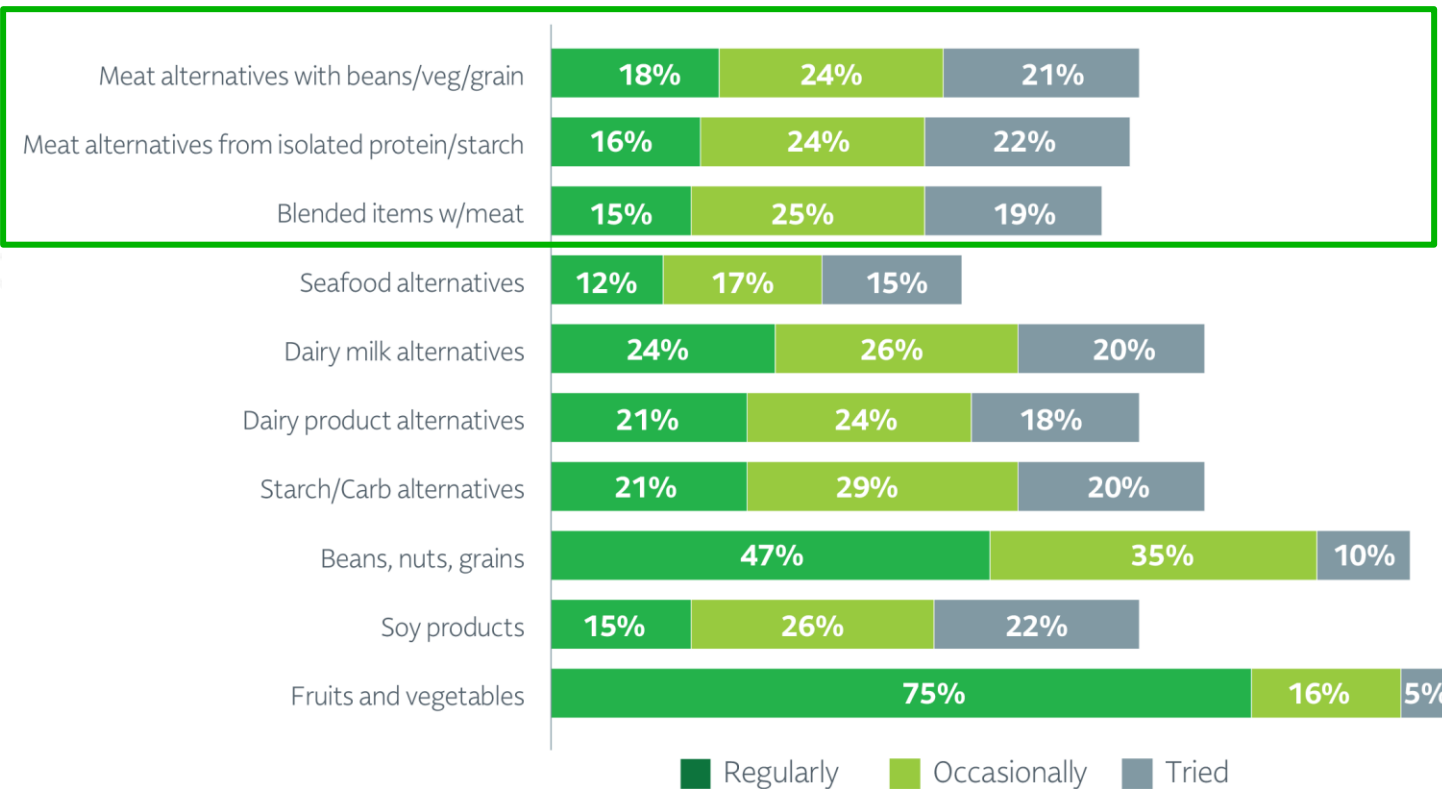
## Disclosure: About NielsenIQ

- NielsenIQ, a global information services company, delivers the gold standard in **consumer and retail measurement**, through the most connected, complete, and actionable understanding of the evolving global, **omnichannel consumer**. Our data, **connected insights, and predictive analytics** optimize the performance of CPG and retail companies, bringing them closer to the communities they serve and helping to power their growth.
- NielsenIQ has operations in 90+ markets, covering more than 90% of the world's population.
- **Our clients include retailers and manufacturers across the consumer packaged goods industry, including both alternative protein and conventional companies.**



Consumers have varying views of plant-based, healthy most often cited

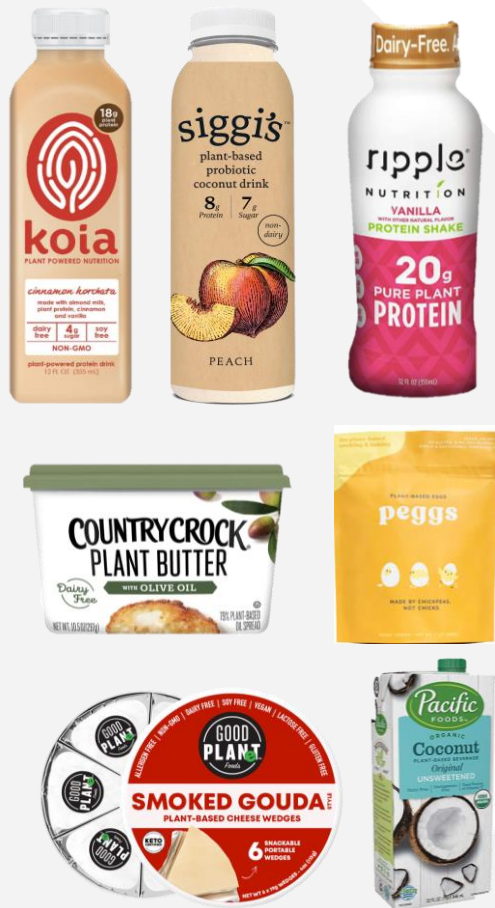
## CONSUMPTION PATTERNS FOR PLANT-BASED FOODS





# Consumers finding “plant-based” across food and beverage products...

## Dairy



## Meat



## Snacks



## Frozen



## Cereal & Condiment



...and beyond food

Baby



Personal Care



Household



Period Care



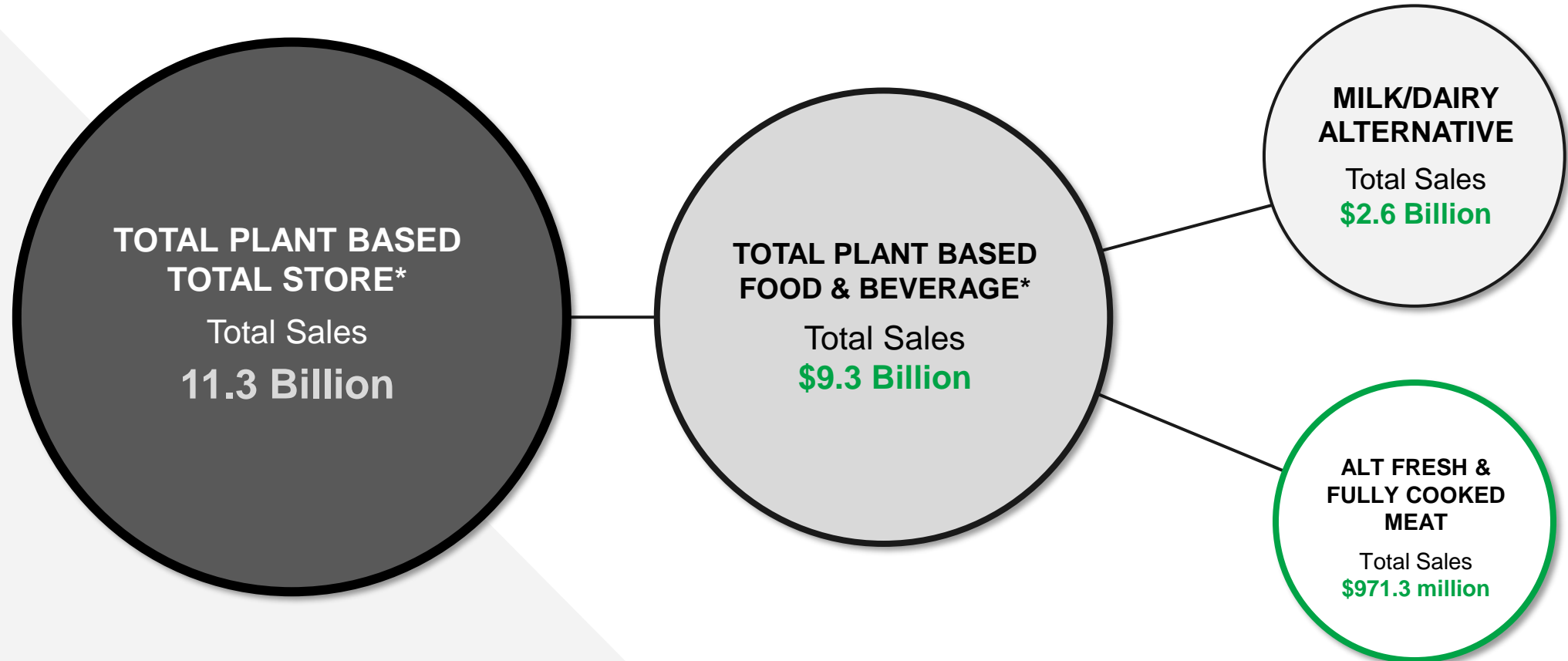
Pet



OTC



## Lay of the land of plant-based and alternative proteins



\*Does not include \$88B in plant-based fruits and vegetables (fresh, canned and frozen)

Alt-Meat represents **1.2%** of Total Fresh and Fully Cooked Meat  
Alt-Meat is **38%** price **premium** vs conventional



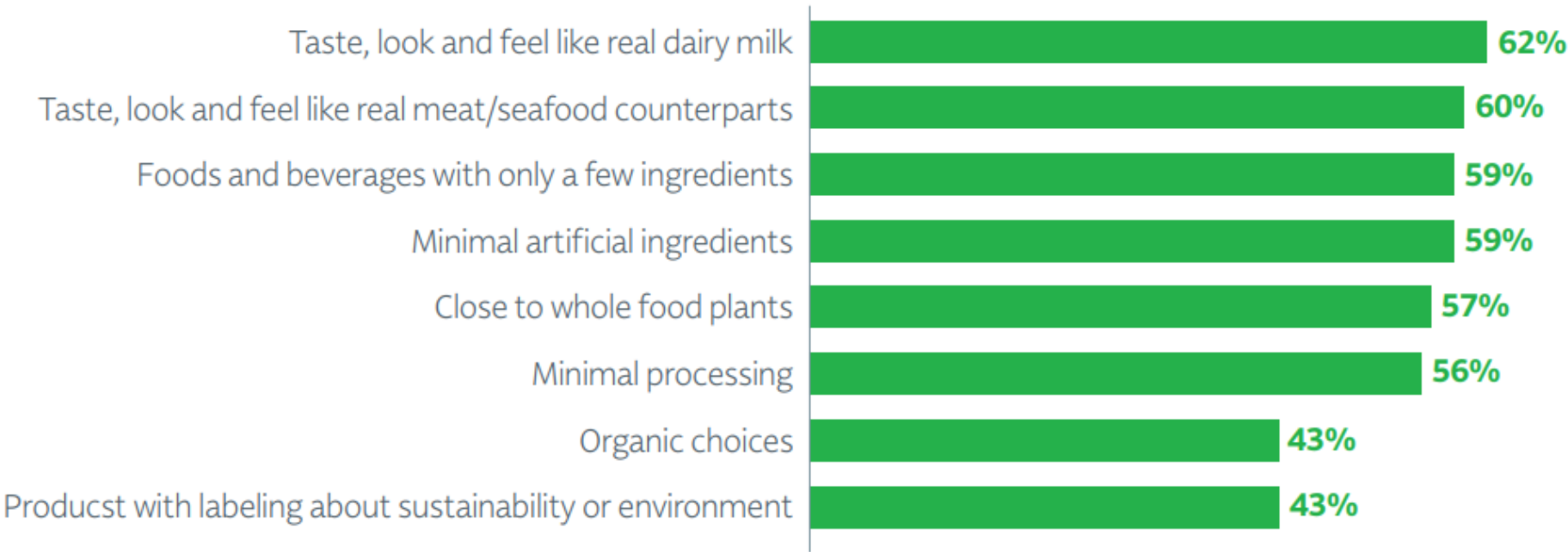
# Plant-based showing growth across the store, with some declines in latest 52

Top 15 categories represent 91% of total plant-based sales

TOP 15 "PLANT-BASED" FOOD CATEGORIES	\$ VOLUME	\$ % C3YA	\$ % CYA
MILK/DAIRY ALTERNATIVE	\$2.6B	34.6%	6.8%
CREAMS AND NON-DAIRY CREAMER	\$1.1B	74.2%	21.7%
BEVERAGES	\$1.0B	49.6%	18.0%
FULLY COOKED MEAT	\$720.2M	39.1%	4.0%
PREPARED FOODS	\$588.8M	55.2%	2.1%
DESSERTS	\$466.5M	34.3%	-0.6%
DIET AND NUTRITION	\$471.2M	40.3%	15.1%
YOGURT	\$355.3M	58.6%	8.5%
PROCESSED MEAT	\$321.3M	56.3%	-4.1%
CHEESE	\$278.1M	74.2%	4.1%
FRESH MEAT	\$258.1M	206.5%	-6.0%
OILS/BUTTER/MARGARINE SPREADS/SUBSTITUTES	\$147.3M	104.3%	9.3%
SALTY SNACKS	\$97.4M	73.3%	8.6%
BREAD	\$75.7M	50.0%	4.8%
PERFORMANCE NUTRITION	\$58.6M	-12.8%	-10.0%
<b>TOTAL OF TOP 15 CATEGORIES</b>	<b>\$8.5B</b>	<b>48.9%</b>	<b>8.1%</b>
#35 PLANT-BASED SEAFOOD	\$10.9M	117%	25%

# Consumers looking for realistic counterparts, natural and minimally processed

## PREFERENCES WHEN CHOOSING PLANT-BASED FOODS AND BEVERAGES

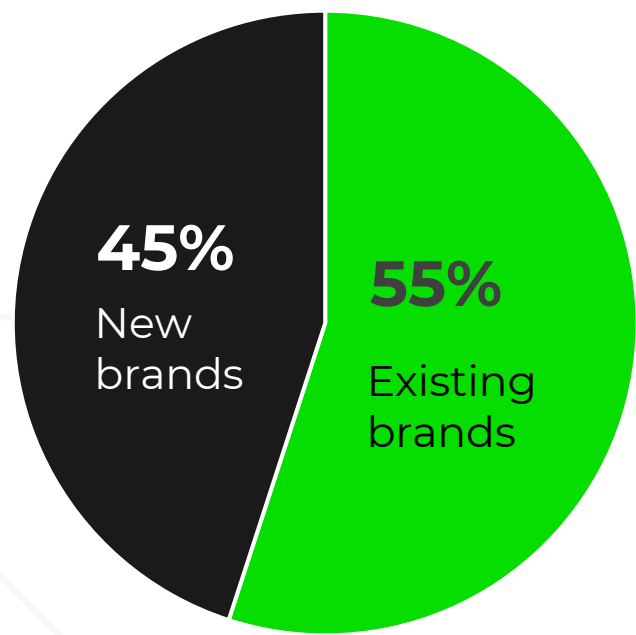


Base: All shoppers



# Growth across existing and emerging brands, with evolving plant-based proteins

% of Total Plant-based Protein Dollar Growth<sup>1</sup>



**126 Existing brands** represent ~55% of total dollar growth  
**3,281 New brands** represent ~45% of total dollar growth

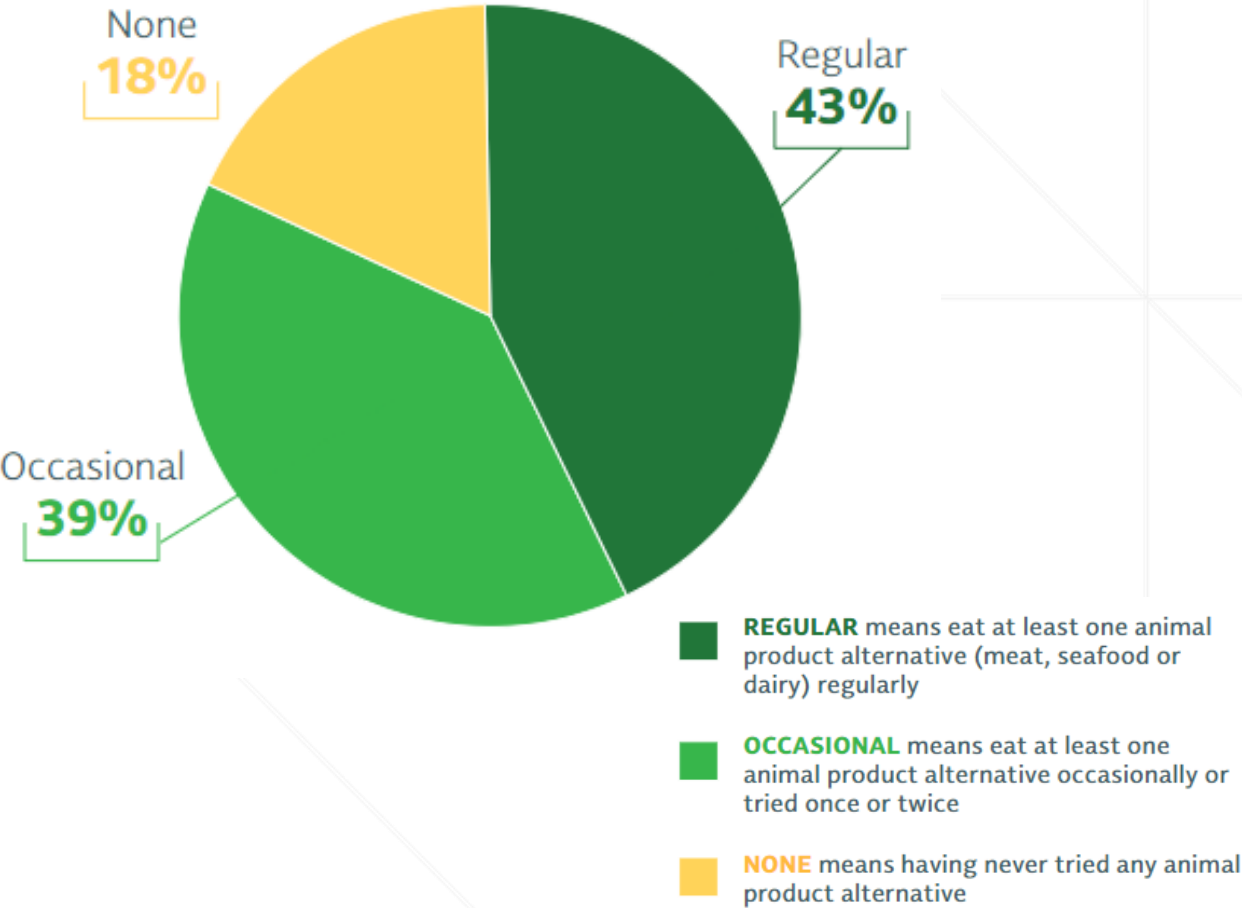
Trending plant-based proteins<sup>2</sup>

		\$ % CYA	\$ % C3YA	\$ Volume	
Proven trends	Total Food & Beverage	+9%	+25%		Share All Plant Based Protein
	All Plant Based Protein	+8%	+25%	\$101.3B	
	Bean protein	+8%	+26%	\$63.5B	
	Soy protein	+9%	+26%	\$41.9B	
Growing trends	Oat protein	+8%	+22%	\$13.8B	14%
	Pea protein	+17%	+82%	\$2.6B	3%
	Spirulina protein	+13%	+48%	\$1.1B	1%
	Chia Seed protein	+14%	+44%	\$791.5M	1%
Developing trends	Hemp Seed protein	+10%	+23%	\$147.3M	<1%
	Chlorella protein	+14%	+28%	\$74.4M	<1%
	Tempeh protein	+35%	+529%	\$1.5M	<1%

1 – Source: NielsenIQ Retail Measurement Services, NielsenIQ Product Insight, powered by Label Insight, Total Store; Total US xAOC; 52 weeks W/E 11/27/21 vs 2YA,  
2- NielsenIQ Retail Measurement Services, NielsenIQ Product Insight, powered by Label Insight, Food & Beverage; Total US xAOC; 52 weeks W/E 07/30/22 vs YA

# Taste, health, nutrition top reasons for meat alternative consumption

Consumption of Animal Product Alternatives



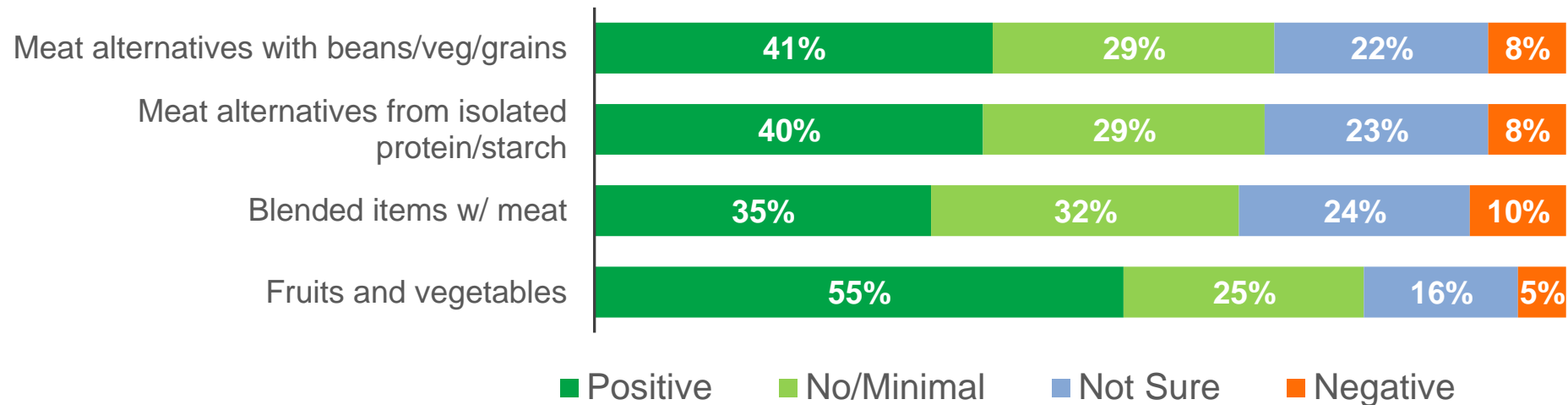
Why do you choose to eat  
Among those who eat regularly or occasionally

	MEAT ALTERNATIVES WITH BEANS/ VEG/GRAIN	MEAT ALTERNATIVES WITH ISOLATED PROTEIN/STARCH
Taste	43%	37%
Overall health	39%	36%
Nutrition benefits	36%	29%
Cutting back on meat	26%	23%
Experiment/try new things	22%	22%
Cost	22%	18%
Animal welfare	21%	21%
Concern about environment/climate	21%	20%
Concern about global food supply	19%	16%
Convenience	19%	17%
Shift in eating approach	16%	14%
Cutting back on dairy	15%	12%
Allergies/ Intolerances	11%	10%

# Environmental impact plays a part in alternative meat consumption

When thinking about the impact on the environment of the following, would you say each has...?

*Among all shoppers*



## Ethical Farming Microculture

**Sustainable farming methods** that do not rely on industrial fertilizers and monocropping. These consumers **avoid animal-based products** because they're associated with unsustainable practices. But they **worry a plant-based diet is not enough** because unsustainable plant production.



## Food and Beverage seeing growth in environmental and socially responsibility claims

	\$ % C3YA	\$ % CYA
<b>Total Food &amp; Beverage</b>	<b>+24.7%</b>	<b>+8.7%</b>
Social Responsibility	+37.3%	+5.6%
Sustainable Farming	+20.9%	+3.5%
Environmental Sustainability	+28.7%	+9.0%
Sustainable Packaging	+20.1%	+6.5%
Animal Welfare	+34.1%	+7.2%
All Plant Based Protein	+22.5%	+7.3%



# Animal welfare key across the store

Animal welfare claims are among the top 5 drivers of purchase interest among global consumers in all categories



Personal Care		Household Care		Grocery	
1	Animal welfare certified	1	Manufactured in a sustainable way	1	Grown or raised in a sustainable way
2	Cruelty free	2	Cruelty free	2	Certified humane raised and handled
3	Manufactured in a sustainable way	3	Plant based	3	Free range
4	Sourced from partners offering fair wages	4	Free of animal by-products	4	Sourced from partners offering fair wage
5	Free of animal by-products	5	Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certified	5	Hormone free

*“Products must have this guarantee now. Animal welfare has to come to the top of the list.”*  
- UK Consumer

*“Treating animals well is an important step in preserving the environment.”*  
- Brazilian Consumer

*“A product that was not tested on animals would reduce suffering in this world.”*  
- German Consumer

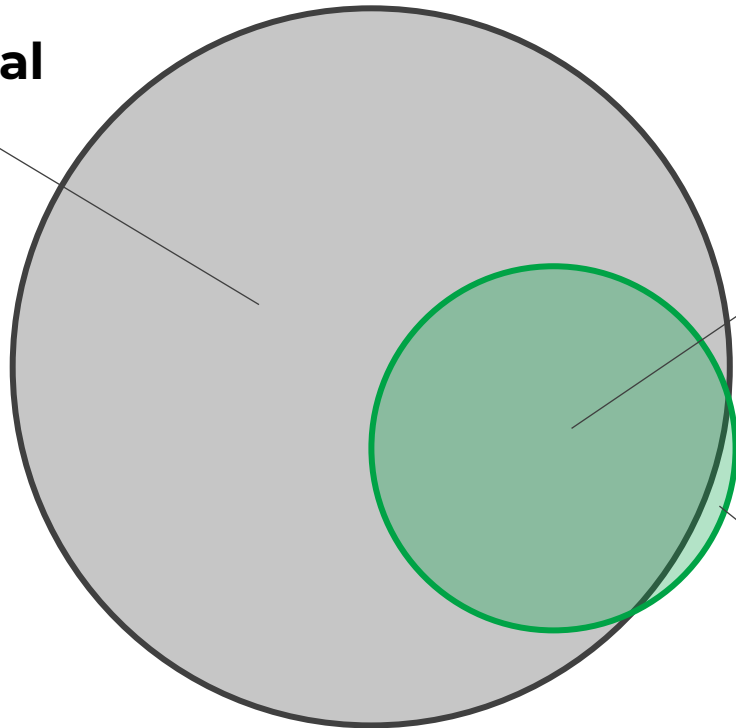
# Flexitarianism is key element of alternative meat consumption

21% of Meat buying HH's buy both Traditional Meat and Meat Alternatives

## Only Conventional Meat

HH = 78%  
\$ Vol = 76%

**Total Meat:**  
Fresh Meat  
Fully Cooked Meat  
Seafood



## Buy both

HH = 21%  
\$ Vol = 23%

## Only Meat Alternatives

HH = 1%  
\$ Vol = <1%



## Heavy Meat Alternative Buyer

**Asian** and a slightly over indexed with Black  
Skew slightly to **larger households** (3+ persons)

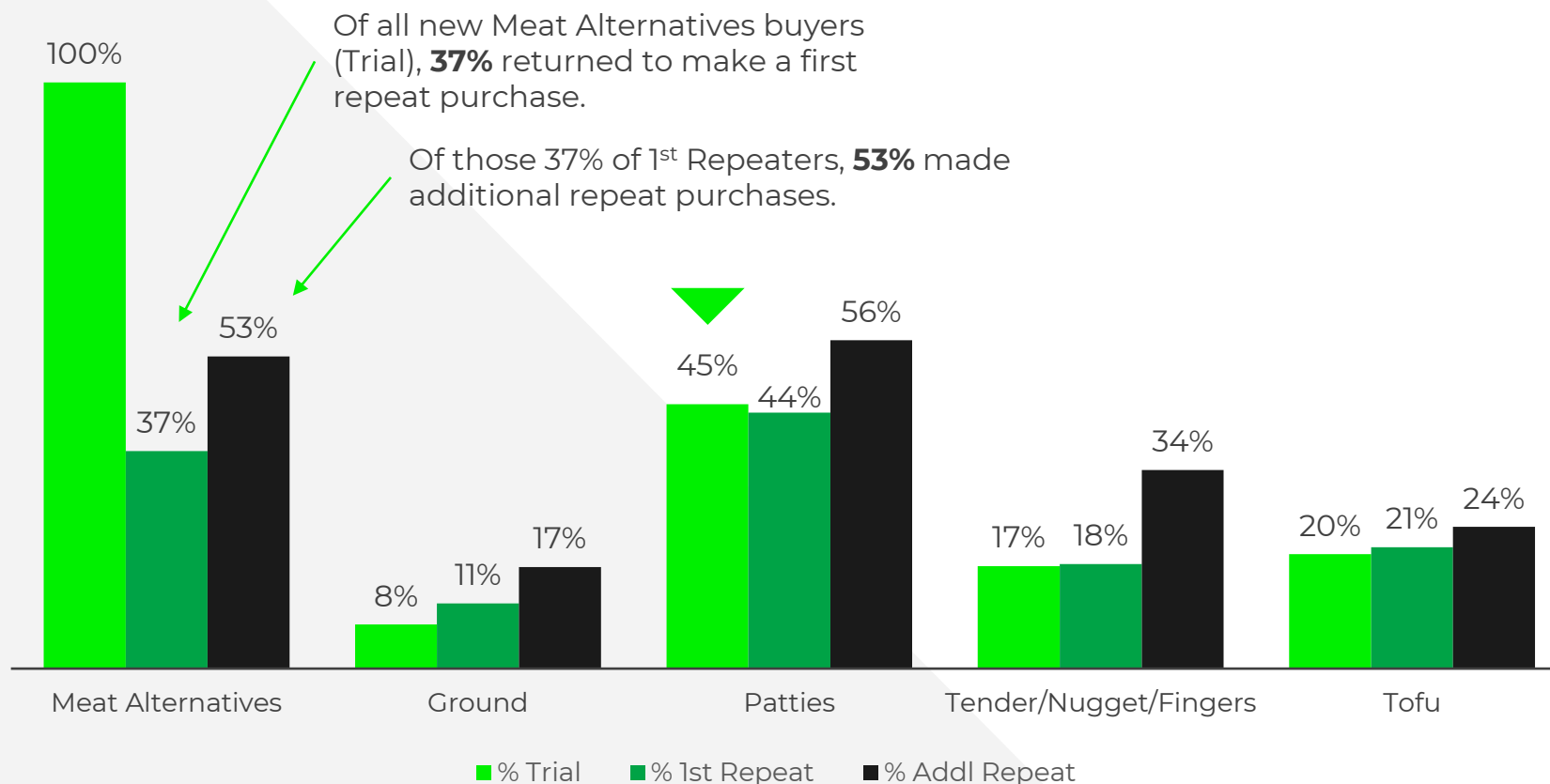
**Young transitionals** and **Older Bustling Families**

**Higher income** (>\$100K)

**45-54 yr olds**

# A quarter of meat alternative buyers are new in the past two years

## % of Meat Alternatives Buyers



# 20%

Of all the “new” Meat Alternatives buyers, **20% made multiple repeat purchases**

*New buyers = Households who did not purchase Meat Alternatives in previous 52 weeks and made their first meat alternative purchase(s) in the last 52 weeks.*

# Media coverage changing; sales and units declining

CULTURE

## Fast Food Took a Gamble on Fake Meat. It's Not Paying Off

McDonald's McPlant experiment reveals how fake meat at fast food restaurants is, as a whole, a gift.

BY ALI FRANCIS  
August 8, 2022

bon appétit

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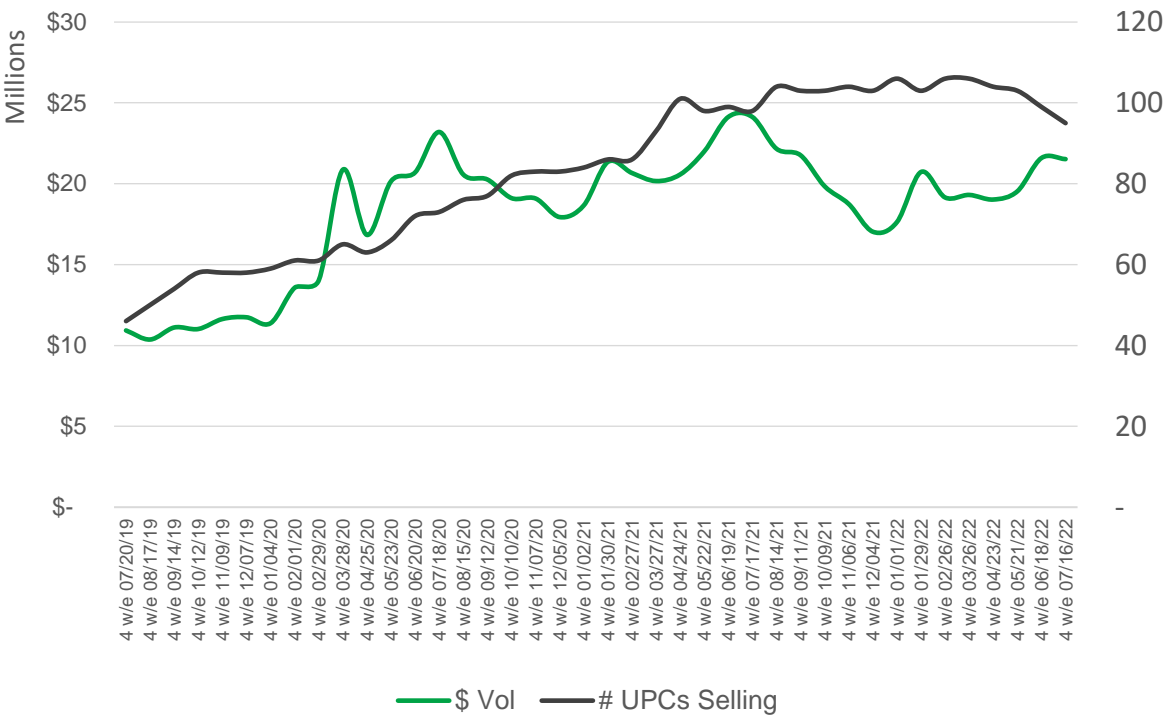
### Cracker Barrel's plant-based sausage patty sparks backlash

MONEY  
WATCH

BY AIMEE PICCHI  
AUGUST 4, 2022 / 1:54 PM / MONEYWATCH



### Meat Alternative | Fresh Meat





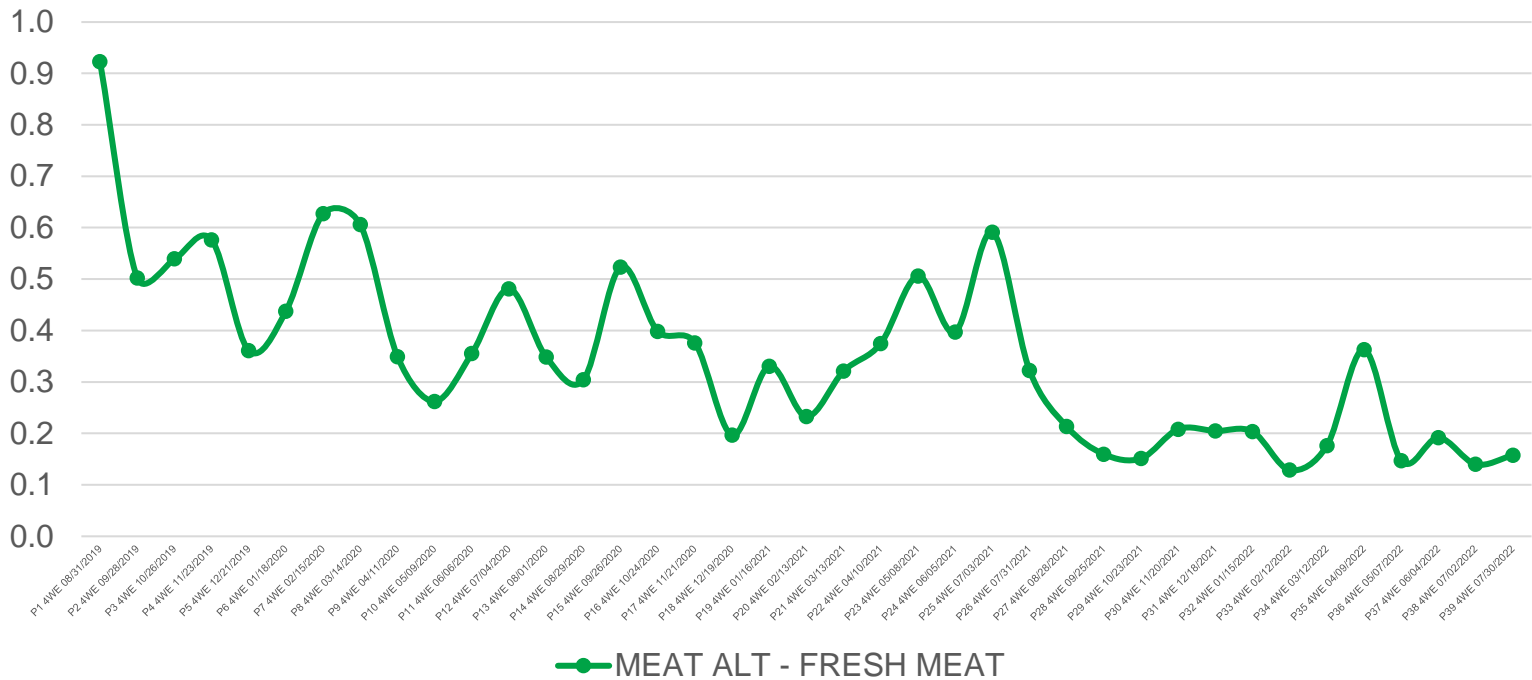
# Trial is declining and meat alternatives not always meeting expectations

You said you tried, once or twice. Why didn't you continue...?

Among those who tried once or twice

	MEAT ALTERNATIVES WITH BEANS/ VEG/GRAIN	MEAT ALTERNATIVES WITH ISOLATED PROTEIN/STARCH
Taste	47%	46%
Did not meet expectations	36%	35%
Cost	32%	30%
Texture	28%	26%
More processed than would like	16%	14%
Too many ingredients	10%	6%
Appearance	10%	10%
Quality	9%	9%
Not as nutritious as expected	7%	9%
Other	5%	5%
Ethical concerns	4%	4%
Allergy/intolerances	4%	3%

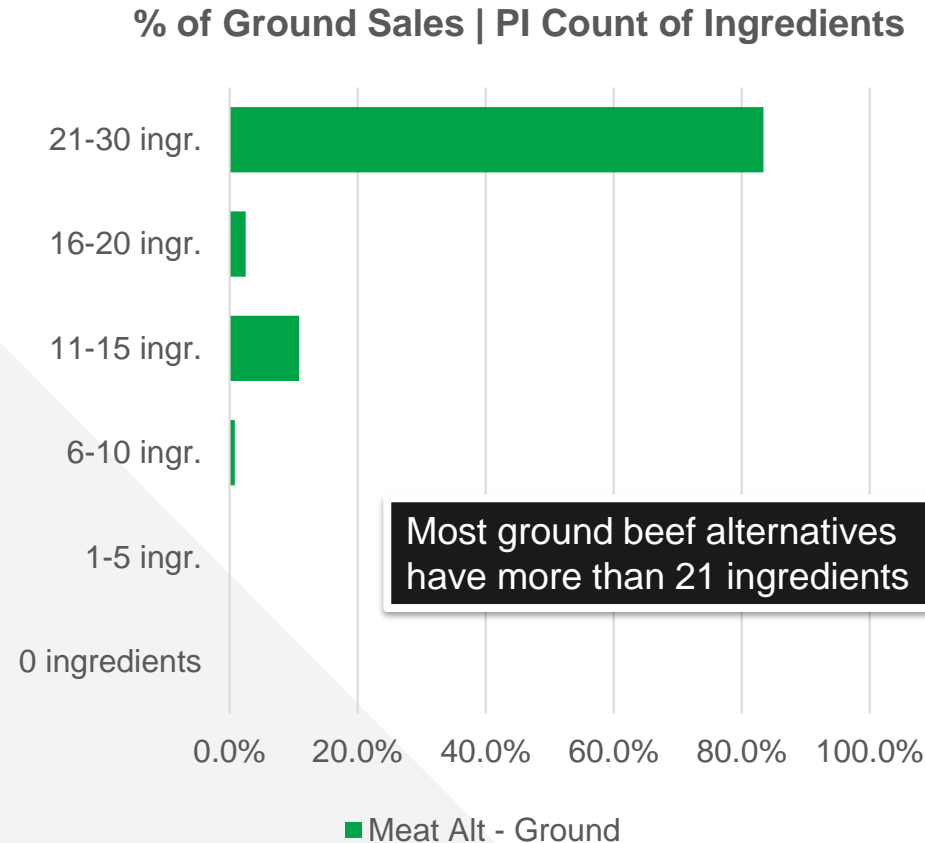
Incremental Item Trial % of Category Buyers



Source: FMI The Power of Plant-Based Foods and Beverages, 2022  
NielsenIQ Homescan Panel; Incremental Trial Buyers; Food & Beverage, Total US – All Channels, 4W trend line over last 3 years W/E 07/30/22  
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# Consumers paying attention to health attributes and processing

- 94% of alt-meat contain artificial ingredients
- 89% of alt-meat have more than 200 calories per serving
- 86% of alt-meat/ground exceeds the saturated fat limit on nutrient claims

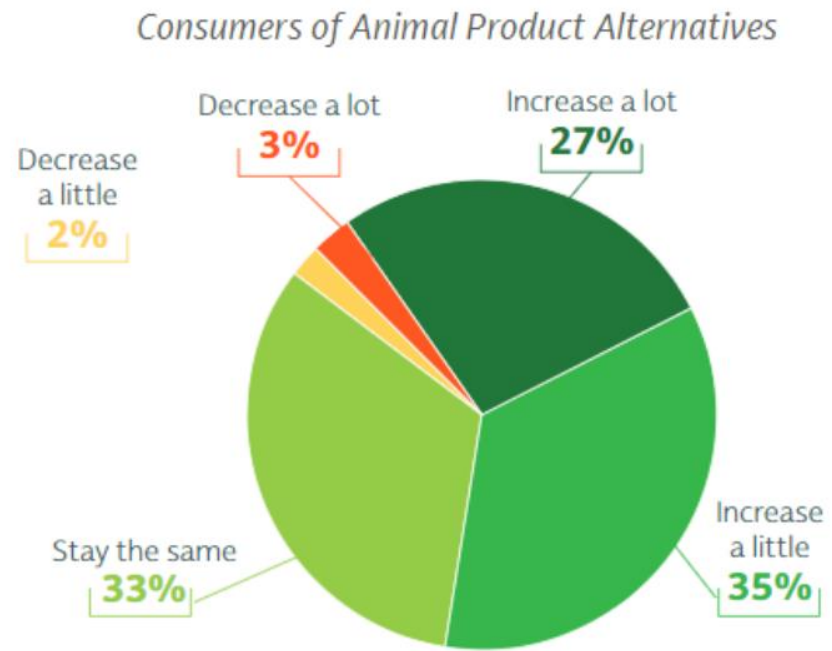
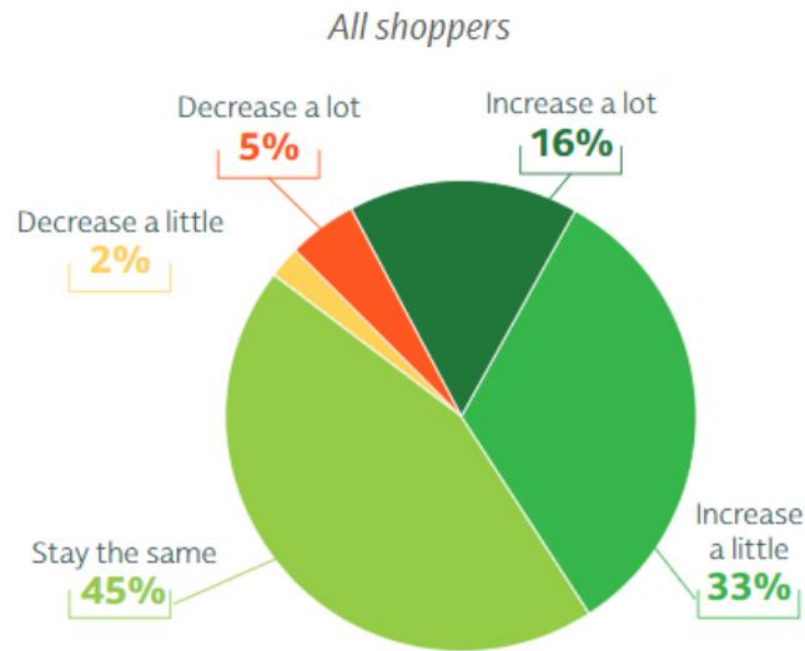


## Keeping it Natural Microculture

- Keeping it natural = striking a balance between additives, processed plant oils, and palatability of plant-based foods.
- These consumers value natural, organic plant-based products without additives.
- Consumers want natural plant-based foods and drinks with minimal artificial stabilizers, coloring, and sweeteners.
- Consumers want to know what plant oils are going into plant-based foods and drinks.

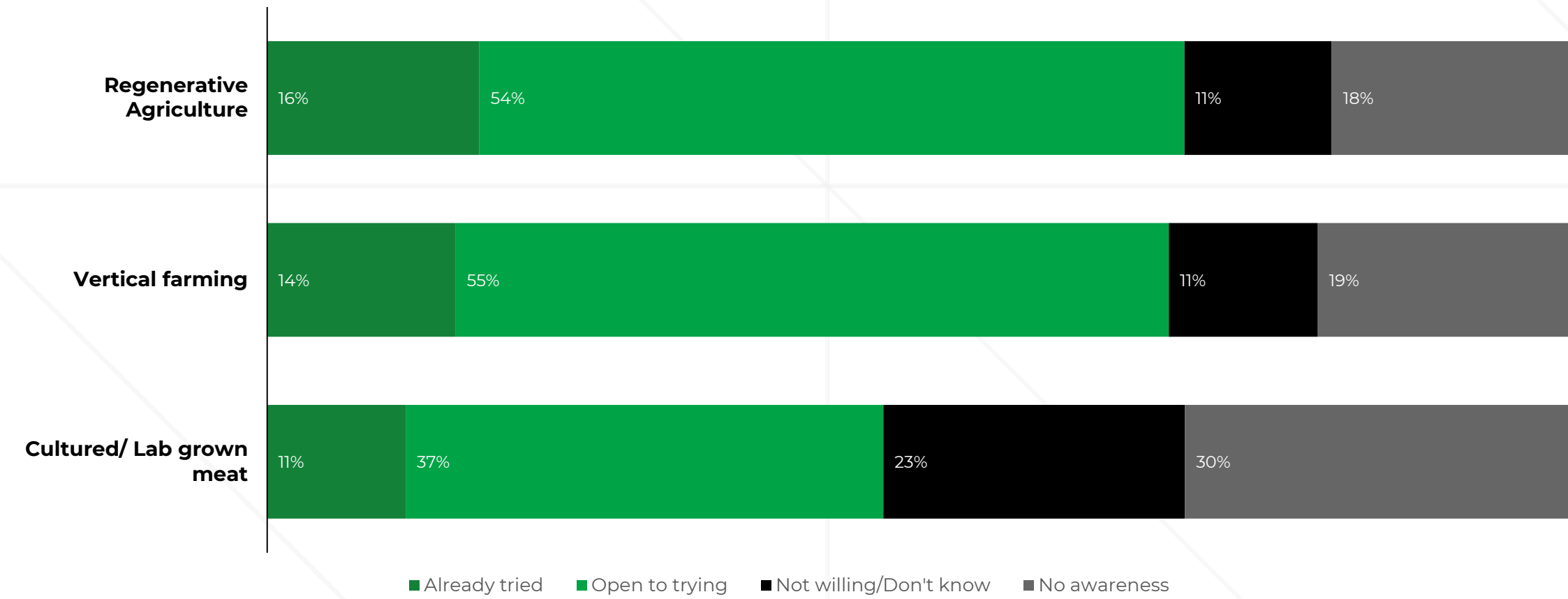
## But consumers anticipate increasing plant-based food/beverage consumption

**In the future, do you think your consumption of plant-based foods/beverages will...?**



# Looking to the future: Awareness and openness of lab-grown meat versus other innovations

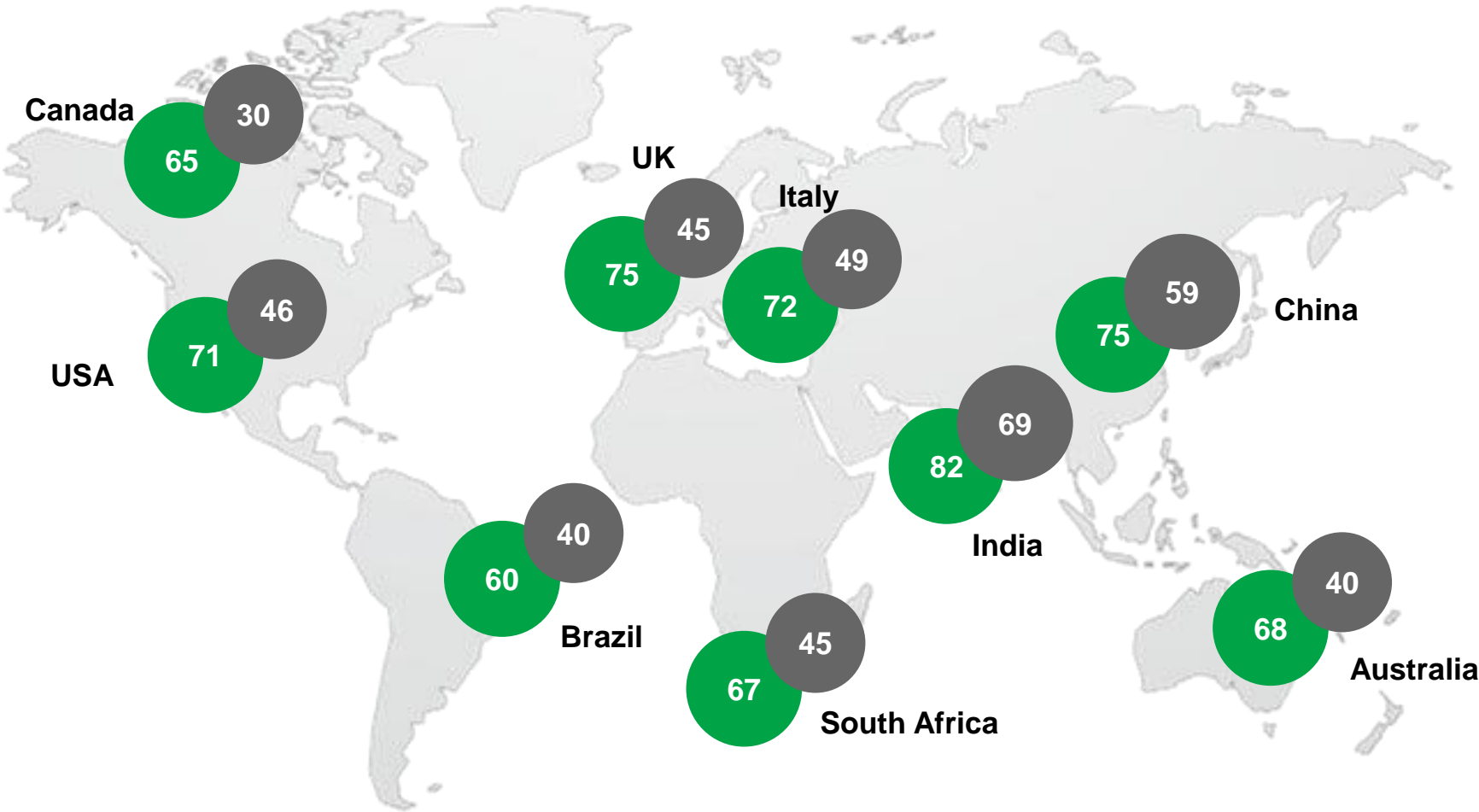
## Willingness to trial new innovations



Source: NielsenIQ Leading Edge Report, Global Report  
Q. Please select what best describes your awareness and willingness to trial about this innovation  
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Looking to the future:  
consumer awareness and interest in cultured/lab grown meat varies globally



Completely Aware      Willing to Try or Already Tried



In closing...

**Consumer interest in plant-based and alternative protein is strong with anticipated growth, but, consumers are confused and not always satisfied with alternative proteins. Taste, health and cost are key to meeting consumer needs.**