



Euromonitor
International

Consumer Foodservice in South Korea

March 2026

Table of Contents

Consumer Foodservice in South Korea

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Lacklustre performance reflects weak purchasing power

KEY DATA FINDINGS

INDUSTRY PERFORMANCE

Economic headwinds eat into revenue performance

Restaurants roll out direct to consumer initiatives

Experiential offerings and loyalty programmes gain traction

WHAT'S NEXT?

Modest outlook for consumer foodservice

Automation and AI are embraced to enhance efficiency and reduce labour costs

Sustainability and focus on Gen Z/Alpha

COMPETITIVE LANDSCAPE

Starbucks Coffee Korea maintains its lead

Ashley's family restaurant strikes chord with price sensitive consumers

International foodservice brands enter South Korea

CHANNELS

Chained foodservice operators strengthen position

Cost pressures drive roll-out of compact store formats

MARKET DATA

Table 1 - Units, Transactions and Value Sales in Consumer Foodservice 2020-2025

Table 2 - Units, Transactions and Value Sales in Consumer Foodservice: % Growth 2020-2025

Table 3 - Consumer Foodservice by Independent vs Chained by Type: Units/Outlets 2025

Table 4 - Consumer Foodservice by Independent vs Chained: % Foodservice Value 2020-2025

Table 5 - Sales in Consumer Foodservice by Food vs Drink Split: % Foodservice Value 2020-2025

Table 6 - Sales in Consumer Foodservice by Food vs Drink Split by Type: % Foodservice Value 2025

Table 7 - Sales in Consumer Foodservice by Location: % Foodservice Value 2020-2025

Table 8 - Sales in Consumer Foodservice by Fulfillment: % Foodservice Value 2020-2025

Table 9 - GBO Company Shares in Chained Consumer Foodservice: % Foodservice Value 2021-2025

Table 10 - GBN Brand Shares in Chained Consumer Foodservice: % Foodservice Value 2022-2025

Table 11 - GBN Brand Shares in Chained Consumer Foodservice: Units/Outlets 2025

Table 12 - Forecast Units, Transactions and Value Sales in Consumer Foodservice 2025-2030

Table 13 - Forecast Units, Transactions and Value Sales in Consumer Foodservice: % Growth 2025-2030

DISCLAIMER

SOURCES

Summary 1 - Research Sources

Cafés/Bars in South Korea

KEY DATA FINDINGS

2025 DEVELOPMENTS

Cafés/bars faces difficult trading period

INDUSTRY PERFORMANCE

Changing drinking culture and financial squeeze is felt by cafés/bars

Polarisation in coffee consumption behaviours
Local Bingsu is key driver as new formats emerge

WHAT'S NEXT?

Cafés face the implications of reaching saturation
Unmanned robot cafés are set to emerge in South Korea
Speciality coffee brand launches personalised roasting service

COMPETITIVE LANDSCAPE

Starbucks Coffee Korea Co Ltd enjoys leading position
Explosive growth of Mega MGC Coffee franchise stores
Independents struggle compared to chained players

CATEGORY DATA

Table 14 - Cafés/Bars by Category: Units/Outlets 2020-2025
Table 15 - Sales in Cafés/Bars by Category: Number of Transactions 2020-2025
Table 16 - Sales in Cafés/Bars by Category: Foodservice Value 2020-2025
Table 17 - Cafés/Bars by Category: % Units/Outlets Growth 2020-2025
Table 18 - Sales in Cafés/Bars by Category: % Transaction Growth 2020-2025
Table 19 - Sales in Cafés/Bars by Category: % Foodservice Value Growth 2020-2025
Table 20 - GBO Company Shares in Chained Cafés/Bars: % Foodservice Value 2021-2025
Table 21 - GBN Brand Shares in Chained Cafés/Bars: % Foodservice Value 2022-2025
Table 22 - Forecast Cafés/Bars by Category: Units/Outlets 2025-2030
Table 23 - Forecast Sales in Cafés/Bars by Category: Number of Transactions 2025-2030
Table 24 - Forecast Sales in Cafés/Bars by Category: Foodservice Value 2025-2030
Table 25 - Forecast Cafés/Bars by Category: % Units/Outlets Growth 2025-2030
Table 26 - Forecast Sales in Cafés/Bars by Category: % Transaction Growth 2025-2030
Table 27 - Forecast Sales in Cafés/Bars by Category: % Foodservice Value Growth 2025-2030

DISCLAIMER

[Full-Service Restaurants in South Korea](#)

KEY DATA FINDINGS

2025 DEVELOPMENTS

Full-service restaurants is impacted by weaker purchasing power

INDUSTRY PERFORMANCE

Full-service restaurants under pressure from self-service cafeterias
Affordable premium restaurants gain appeal in challenging economy
Coupang delivery gains ground with Wow Membership scheme

WHAT'S NEXT?

Cheap premium trend is likely to expand due to inflation
Renewed focus on Restaurant Meal Replacement (RMR)
Commercialisation of robot delivery services is expected

COMPETITIVE LANDSCAPE

E-Land Eats Ltd leads with its family restaurant brand Ashley
Independent foodservice operators enjoy growth

CATEGORY DATA

Table 28 - Full-Service Restaurants by Category: Units/Outlets 2020-2025
Table 29 - Sales in Full-Service Restaurants by Category: Number of Transactions 2020-2025

Table 30 - Sales in Full-Service Restaurants by Category: Foodservice Value 2020-2025
Table 31 - Full-Service Restaurants by Category: % Units/Outlets Growth 2020-2025
Table 32 - Sales in Full-Service Restaurants by Category: % Transaction Growth 2020-2025
Table 33 - Sales in Full-Service Restaurants by Category: % Foodservice Value Growth 2020-2025
Table 34 - GBO Company Shares in Chained Full-Service Restaurants: % Foodservice Value 2021-2025
Table 35 - GBN Brand Shares in Chained Full-Service Restaurants: % Foodservice Value 2022-2025
Table 36 - Forecast Full-Service Restaurants by Category: Units/Outlets 2025-2030
Table 37 - Forecast Sales in Full-Service Restaurants by Category: Number of Transactions 2025-2030
Table 38 - Forecast Sales in Full-Service Restaurants by Category: Foodservice Value 2025-2030
Table 39 - Forecast Full-Service Restaurants by Category: % Units/Outlets Growth 2025-2030
Table 40 - Forecast Sales in Full-Service Restaurants by Category: % Transaction Growth 2025-2030
Table 41 - Forecast Sales in Full-Service Restaurants by Category: % Foodservice Value Growth 2025-2030

DISCLAIMER

Limited-Service Restaurants in South Korea

KEY DATA FINDINGS

2025 DEVELOPMENTS

Cost pressures drive shift in operator strategies

INDUSTRY PERFORMANCE

Moderate growth in limited-service restaurants despite economic lows

Ice-cream limited-service restaurants enjoy growth

Brands reduce reliance on third-party delivery apps

WHAT'S NEXT?

Bright outlook for limited-service restaurants

Restaurant franchises expand menus to maximise revenue

Brands leverage AI to improve efficiency

COMPETITIVE LANDSCAPE

McDonald's Korea Corp achieves strong sales driven by its Taste of Korea menu

KFC Korea achieves record-breaking performance

Chained foodservice expands while independent restaurants are shrinking

CATEGORY DATA

Table 42 - Limited-Service Restaurants by Category: Units/Outlets 2020-2025
Table 43 - Sales in Limited-Service Restaurants by Category: Number of Transactions 2020-2025
Table 44 - Sales in Limited-Service Restaurants by Category: Foodservice Value 2020-2025
Table 45 - Limited-Service Restaurants by Category: % Units/Outlets Growth 2020-2025
Table 46 - Sales in Limited-Service Restaurants by Category: % Transaction Growth 2020-2025
Table 47 - Sales in Limited-Service Restaurants by Category: % Foodservice Value Growth 2020-2025
Table 48 - GBO Company Shares in Chained Limited-Service Restaurants: % Foodservice Value 2021-2025
Table 49 - GBN Brand Shares in Chained Limited-Service Restaurants: % Foodservice Value 2022-2025
Table 50 - Forecast Limited-Service Restaurants by Category: Units/Outlets 2025-2030
Table 51 - Forecast Sales in Limited-Service Restaurants by Category: Number of Transactions 2025-2030
Table 52 - Forecast Sales in Limited-Service Restaurants by Category: Foodservice Value 2025-2030
Table 53 - Forecast Limited-Service Restaurants by Category: % Units/Outlets Growth 2025-2030
Table 54 - Forecast Sales in Limited-Service Restaurants by Category: % Transaction Growth 2025-2030
Table 55 - Forecast Sales in Limited-Service Restaurants by Category: % Foodservice Value Growth 2025-2030

DISCLAIMER

Self-Service Cafeterias in South Korea

KEY DATA FINDINGS

2025 DEVELOPMENTS

Modest growth in self-service cafeterias

INDUSTRY PERFORMANCE

Appeal of affordable Korean buffets pays dividends

Ikea Restaurants embraces discounting to attract shoppers

WHAT'S NEXT?

Korean buffets draw in millennials and Gen Z

Ikea Korea expands into urban-type stores

COMPETITIVE LANDSCAPE

Chained foodservice is led by Ikea Restaurant

CATEGORY DATA

Table 56 - Self-Service Cafeterias: Units/Outlets 2020-2025

Table 57 - Sales in Self-Service Cafeterias: Number of Transactions 2020-2025

Table 58 - Sales in Self-Service Cafeterias: Foodservice Value 2020-2025

Table 59 - Sales in Self-Service Cafeterias: % Units/Outlets Growth 2020-2025

Table 60 - Sales in Self-Service Cafeterias: % Transaction Growth 2020-2025

Table 61 - Sales in Self-Service Cafeterias: % Foodservice Value Growth 2020-2025

Table 62 - GBO Company Shares in Chained Self-Service Cafeterias: % Foodservice Value 2021-2025

Table 63 - GBN Brand Shares in Chained Self-Service Cafeterias: % Foodservice Value 2022-2025

Table 64 - Forecast Self-Service Cafeterias: Units/Outlets 2025-2030

Table 65 - Forecast Sales in Self-Service Cafeterias: Number of Transactions 2025-2030

Table 66 - Forecast Sales in Self-Service Cafeterias: Foodservice Value 2025-2030

Table 67 - Forecast Self-Service Cafeterias: % Units/Outlets Growth 2025-2030

Table 68 - Forecast Sales in Self-Service Cafeterias: % Transaction Growth 2025-2030

Table 69 - Forecast Sales in Self-Service Cafeterias: % Foodservice Value Growth 2025-2030

DISCLAIMER

Street Stalls/Kiosks in South Korea

KEY DATA FINDINGS

2025 DEVELOPMENTS

Moderate growth as consumer preferences evolve

INDUSTRY PERFORMANCE

Popularity of affordable street snacks drives growth

Increasing demand among foreign visitors

Changing diets negatively impact sales of tanghulu

WHAT'S NEXT?

Modest outlook for street stalls/kiosks

Convenience stores pose threat to street stalls/kiosks

Increasing reliance on kiosks is anticipated

COMPETITIVE LANDSCAPE

Myungrang Hot Dog loses traction as value positioning shifts

Unmanned bakeries boosts performance of other players
Chained street stalls/kiosks leverage partnerships with food manufacturers

CATEGORY DATA

Table 70 - Street Stalls/Kiosks: Units/Outlets 2020-2025
Table 71 - Sales in Street Stalls/Kiosks: Number of Transactions 2020-2025
Table 72 - Sales in Street Stalls/Kiosks: Foodservice Value 2020-2025
Table 73 - Street Stalls/Kiosks: % Units/Outlets Growth 2020-2025
Table 74 - Sales in Street Stalls/Kiosks: % Transaction Growth 2020-2025
Table 75 - Sales in Street Stalls/Kiosks: % Foodservice Value Growth 2020-2025
Table 76 - GBO Company Shares in Chained Street Stalls/Kiosks: % Foodservice Value 2021-2025
Table 77 - GBN Brand Shares in Chained Street Stalls/Kiosks: % Foodservice Value 2022-2025
Table 78 - Forecast Street Stalls/Kiosks: Units/Outlets 2025-2030
Table 79 - Forecast Sales in Street Stalls/Kiosks: Number of Transactions 2025-2030
Table 80 - Forecast Sales in Street Stalls/Kiosks: Foodservice Value 2025-2030
Table 81 - Forecast Street Stalls/Kiosks: % Units/Outlets Growth 2025-2030
Table 82 - Forecast Sales in Street Stalls/Kiosks: % Transaction Growth 2025-2030
Table 83 - Forecast Sales in Street Stalls/Kiosks: % Foodservice Value Growth 2025-2030

DISCLAIMER

Consumer Foodservice By Location in South Korea

KEY DATA FINDINGS

2025 DEVELOPMENTS

Retail developments and cost rationalisation emerge as key trends

INDUSTRY PERFORMANCE

Retail locations perform better than standalone locations
Strategic expansion into retail and airport locations
Players adopt compact store model as part of cost rationalisation

WHAT'S NEXT?

Luxury and fashion stores are emerging as new non-standalone consumer foodservice locations
Standalone locations will remain important for marketing and branding purposes
The rise of solo dining is reshaping restaurant operations
Collaborations with convenience stores to target Gen Z/Alpha

CATEGORY DATA

Table 84 - Consumer Foodservice by Location: Units/Outlets 2020-2025
Table 85 - Sales in Consumer Foodservice by Location: Number of Transactions 2020-2025
Table 86 - Sales in Consumer Foodservice by Location: Foodservice Value 2020-2025
Table 87 - Consumer Foodservice by Location: % Units/Outlets Growth 2020-2025
Table 88 - Sales in Consumer Foodservice by Location: % Transaction Growth 2020-2025
Table 89 - Sales in Consumer Foodservice by Location: % Foodservice Value Growth 2020-2025
Table 90 - Consumer Foodservice Through Standalone: Units/Outlets 2020-2025
Table 91 - Sales in Consumer Foodservice Through Standalone: Number of Transactions 2020-2025
Table 92 - Sales in Consumer Foodservice Through Standalone: Foodservice Value 2020-2025
Table 93 - Consumer Foodservice Through Standalone: % Units/Outlets Growth 2020-2025
Table 94 - Sales in Consumer Foodservice Through Standalone: % Transaction Growth 2020-2025
Table 95 - Sales in Consumer Foodservice Through Standalone: % Foodservice Value Growth 2020-2025
Table 96 - Consumer Foodservice Through Leisure: Units/Outlets 2020-2025
Table 97 - Sales in Consumer Foodservice Through Leisure: Number of Transactions 2020-2025

Table 98 - Sales in Consumer Foodservice Through Leisure: Foodservice Value 2020-2025

Table 99 - Consumer Foodservice Through Leisure: % Units/Outlets Growth 2020-2025

Table 100 - Sales in Consumer Foodservice Through Leisure: % Transaction Growth 2020-2025

Table 101 - Sales in Consumer Foodservice Through Leisure: % Foodservice Value Growth 2020-2025

Table 102 - Consumer Foodservice Through Retail: Units/Outlets 2020-2025

Table 103 - Sales in Consumer Foodservice Through Retail: Number of Transactions 2020-2025

Table 104 - Sales in Consumer Foodservice Through Retail: Foodservice Value 2020-2025

Table 105 - Consumer Foodservice Through Retail: % Units/Outlets Growth 2020-2025

Table 106 - Sales in Consumer Foodservice Through Retail: % Transaction Growth 2020-2025

Table 107 - Sales in Consumer Foodservice Through Retail: % Foodservice Value Growth 2020-2025

Table 108 - Consumer Foodservice Through Lodging: Units/Outlets 2020-2025

Table 109 - Sales in Consumer Foodservice Through Lodging: Number of Transactions 2020-2025

Table 110 - Sales in Consumer Foodservice Through Lodging: Foodservice Value 2020-2025

Table 111 - Consumer Foodservice Through Lodging: % Units/Outlets Growth 2020-2025

Table 112 - Sales in Consumer Foodservice Through Lodging: % Transaction Growth 2020-2025

Table 113 - Sales in Consumer Foodservice Through Lodging: % Foodservice Value Growth 2020-2025

Table 114 - Consumer Foodservice Through Travel: Units/Outlets 2020-2025

Table 115 - Sales in Consumer Foodservice Through Travel: Number of Transactions 2020-2025

Table 116 - Sales in Consumer Foodservice Through Travel: Foodservice Value 2020-2025

Table 117 - Consumer Foodservice Through Travel: % Units/Outlets Growth 2020-2025

Table 118 - Sales in Consumer Foodservice Through Travel: % Transaction Growth 2020-2025

Table 119 - Sales in Consumer Foodservice Through Travel: % Foodservice Value Growth 2020-2025

Table 120 - Forecast Consumer Foodservice by Location: Units/Outlets 2025-2030

Table 121 - Forecast Sales in Consumer Foodservice by Location: Number of Transactions 2025-2030

Table 122 - Forecast Sales in Consumer Foodservice by Location: Foodservice Value 2025-2030

Table 123 - Forecast Consumer Foodservice by Location: % Units/Outlets Growth 2025-2030

Table 124 - Forecast Sales in Consumer Foodservice by Location: % Transaction Growth 2025-2030

Table 125 - Forecast Sales in Consumer Foodservice by Location: % Foodservice Value Growth 2025-2030

Table 126 - Forecast Consumer Foodservice Through Standalone: Units/Outlets 2025-2030

Table 127 - Forecast Sales in Consumer Foodservice Through Standalone: Number of Transactions 2025-2030

Table 128 - Forecast Sales in Consumer Foodservice Through Standalone: Foodservice Value 2025-2030

Table 129 - Forecast Consumer Foodservice Through Standalone: % Units/Outlets Growth 2025-2030

Table 130 - Forecast Sales in Consumer Foodservice Through Standalone: % Transaction Growth 2025-2030

Table 131 - Forecast Sales in Consumer Foodservice Through Standalone: % Foodservice Value Growth 2025-2030

Table 132 - Forecast Consumer Foodservice Through Leisure: Units/Outlets 2025-2030

Table 133 - Forecast Sales in Consumer Foodservice Through Leisure: Number of Transactions 2025-2030

Table 134 - Forecast Sales in Consumer Foodservice Through Leisure: Foodservice Value 2025-2030

Table 135 - Forecast Consumer Foodservice Through Leisure: % Units/Outlets Growth 2025-2030

Table 136 - Forecast Sales in Consumer Foodservice Through Leisure: % Transaction Growth 2025-2030

Table 137 - Forecast Sales in Consumer Foodservice Through Leisure: % Foodservice Value Growth 2025-2030

Table 138 - Forecast Consumer Foodservice Through Retail: Units/Outlets 2025-2030

Table 139 - Forecast Sales in Consumer Foodservice Through Retail: Number of Transactions 2025-2030

Table 140 - Forecast Sales in Consumer Foodservice Through Retail: Foodservice Value 2025-2030

Table 141 - Forecast Consumer Foodservice Through Retail: % Units/Outlets Growth 2025-2030

Table 142 - Forecast Sales in Consumer Foodservice Through Retail: % Transaction Growth 2025-2030

Table 143 - Forecast Sales in Consumer Foodservice Through Retail: % Foodservice Value Growth 2025-2030

Table 144 - Forecast Consumer Foodservice Through Lodging: Units/Outlets 2025-2030

Table 145 - Forecast Sales in Consumer Foodservice Through Lodging: Number of Transactions 2025-2030

Table 146 - Forecast Sales in Consumer Foodservice Through Lodging: Foodservice Value 2025-2030

Table 147 - Forecast Consumer Foodservice Through Lodging: % Units/Outlets Growth 2025-2030

Table 148 - Forecast Sales in Consumer Foodservice Through Lodging: % Transaction Growth 2025-2030

Table 149 - Forecast Sales in Consumer Foodservice Through Lodging: % Foodservice Value Growth 2025-2030

Table 150 - Forecast Consumer Foodservice Through Travel: Units/Outlets 2025-2030

Table 151 - Forecast Sales in Consumer Foodservice Through Travel: Number of Transactions 2025-2030

Table 152 - Forecast Sales in Consumer Foodservice Through Travel: Foodservice Value 2025-2030

Table 153 - Forecast Consumer Foodservice Through Travel: % Units/Outlets Growth 2025-2030

Table 154 - Forecast Sales in Consumer Foodservice Through Travel: % Transaction Growth 2025-2030

Table 155 - Forecast Sales in Consumer Foodservice Through Travel: % Foodservice Value Growth 2025-2030

DISCLAIMER

About Euromonitor International

Euromonitor International is an independent market intelligence provider. Data, insight and analysis stem from in-the-field research spanning 210 national markets.

Content ranges from the in-depth and country-specific, to key strategic themes with a global range and significance. Products cover a comprehensive range of insights and market data, but can be broadly categorised as:

- **Strategy Briefings:** Global or regional in scope, and focussing on the most important themes shaping consumer demand, the key markets, competitive environment and future outlook across a range of industries.
- **Company Profiles:** Analysis dedicated to the world's most significant companies, with detailed insight into their activities, focus of operations, their competitors, their geographic presence and performance.
- **Country Reports:** For an in-depth understanding of specific countries, whether by industry, economic metrics or consumer trends and lifestyles. These reports cover current trends, consumer demand, market potential and future prospects, with country-specific local insight and comprehensive data, unavailable elsewhere.

For more information on this report, further enquiries can be directed via this link www.euromonitor.com/consumer-foodservice-in-south-korea/report.