## **FMCG** overview

Post-inflational trends and expectations for 2024

**Csilla Czikora** April 2024









**Consumer behaviors** 

In 2023, market trends revolved around

Price.

In the latest year, inflation was a game changer for consumers and retailers as well.



**FMCG** trends



**Channel trends** 



**Private label trends** 

What is next?

As we head into 2024, the state of consumers is **pressured** 

#### Resilience

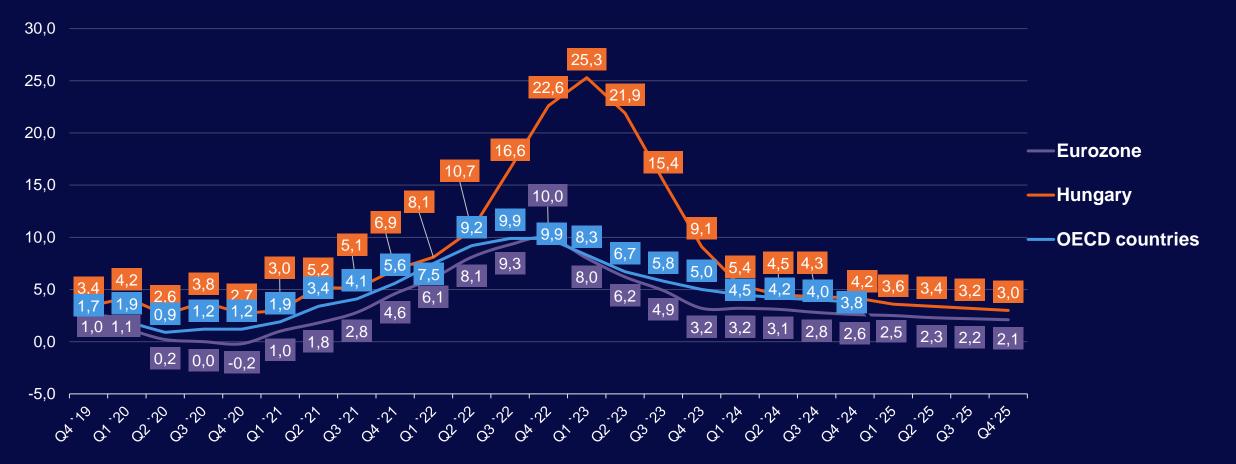
is emerging through change as consumers shift survival tactics into long-term behavioral shifts



#### **Gradual moderation after record inflation in Hungary**

Based on the OECD forecast, the easing of record inflation seen in 2023, is expected to continue in 2024, keeping the inflation rate in Hungary in single digits.

#### % growth forecast for the Consumer Price Index (CPI) in OECD countries



Data source of OECD countries: 2023 october

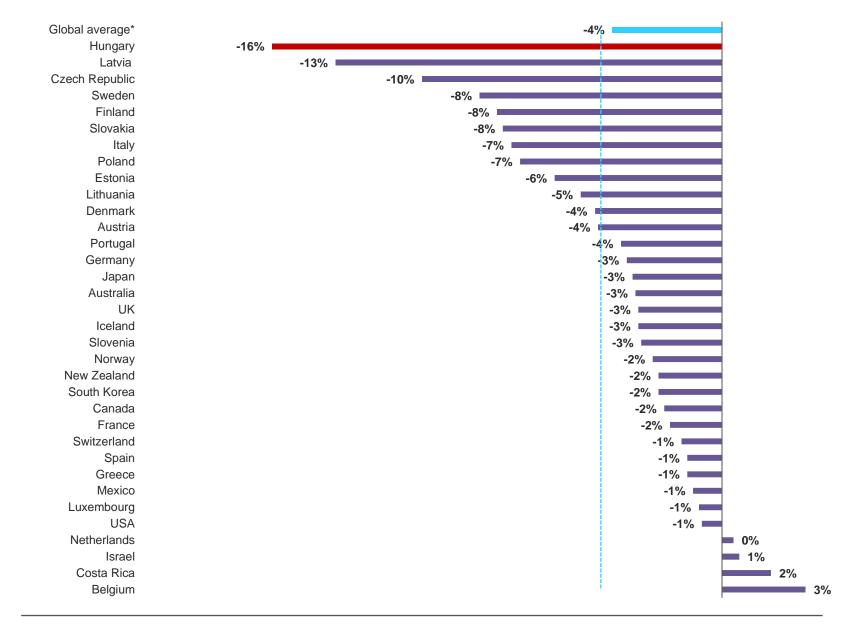
Source: OECD (2023): OECD Economic Outlook - Inflation forecast. URL: https://data.oecd.org/price/inflation-forecast.htm



The record fall in real wages at the beginning of 2023 determined the consumer price perception and decision-making

In Hungary real wage decline was -2.9% in 2023

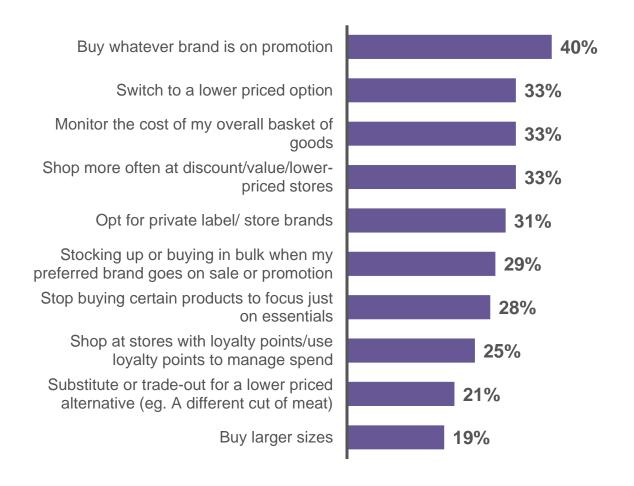
% change in real wages 2023 Q1 vs. 2022 Q1





# **European Consumers have adopted a range** of strategies to manage their FMCG spending

#### Top 10 consumer saving strategies for FMCG – Europe





Source: NIQ 2024 Consumer Outlook, Europe

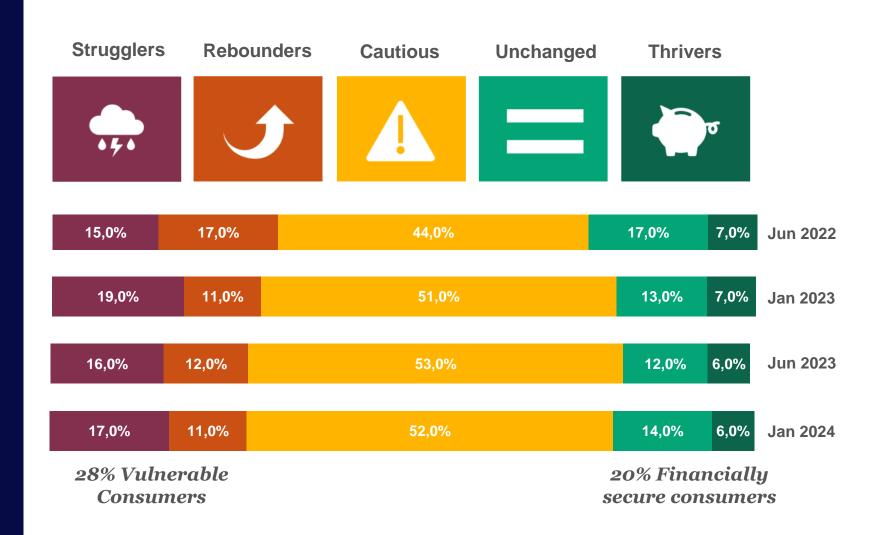


## Playing the field of financially polarized consumer groups

**The European Economic Divide** - Tracking financial situations and responses

# **Europe - Steady** and polarized

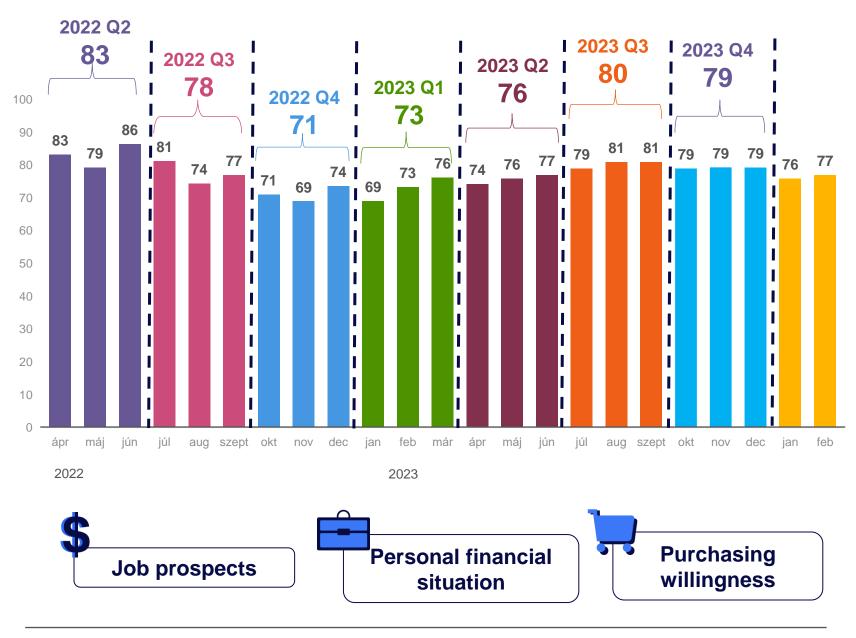
The majority is the cautious middle of consumers — the most vulnerable show signs of rebound



Source: NIQ 2024 Consumer Outlook vs. 2023 Mid-Year Outlook vs. January 2023 Consumer Outlook vs. 2022 Mid-Year Outlook, Europe



Consumer Optimism Index: slow recovery, but not reaching the first half of 2022 yet.





# The Volume Decline explained by Price Level increase in Hungary is above regional average (Total FMCG)

## **Europe**

8,4%

Value Change

-0,9% 🔺

Weighted Volume Change

9,3% 🔺

Price Level Change

#### **Eastern Europe**

10,7%

Value Change

-0,2%

3

Weighted Volume Change

10,8%

Price Level Change

## Hungary

15,1%

Value Change

-6,4%

Weighted Volume Change

21,5%

Price Level Change

Period: MAT 2023 Q4

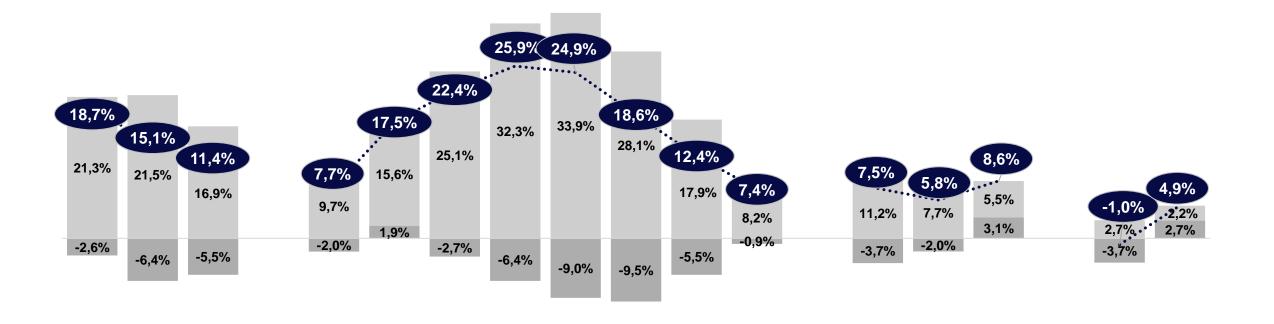
▲ ▼ Accelerating/ decelerating trend compared to same period last year



# After 1,5 years of continuous decrease, volume growth was registered in December 2023 and February 2024

## Changes in the total FMCG market, Hungary

MAT 2022 2022 Last 2022 2022 2023 2023 2023 2023 Oct Nov Dec Feb Last Year TY Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 2023 2023 2023 2024 Year-1 2024



Unit Value

····· Nominal Value Growth

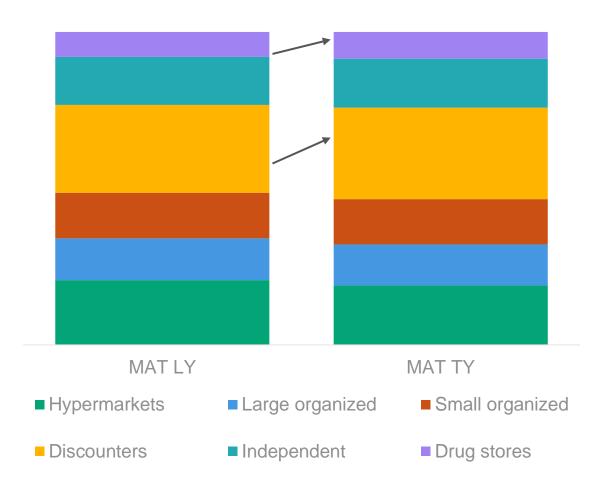
Volume Growth



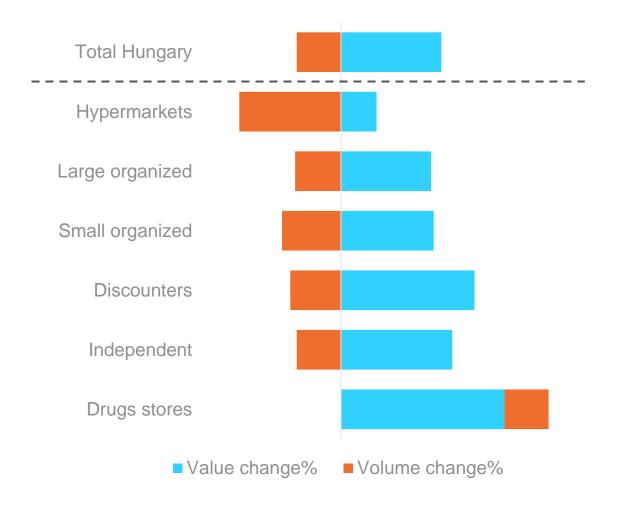
# All channels are increasing in value in FMCG market, but only drug stores could increase in volume



#### Channel importance value sales %



#### **Total FMCG changes %**

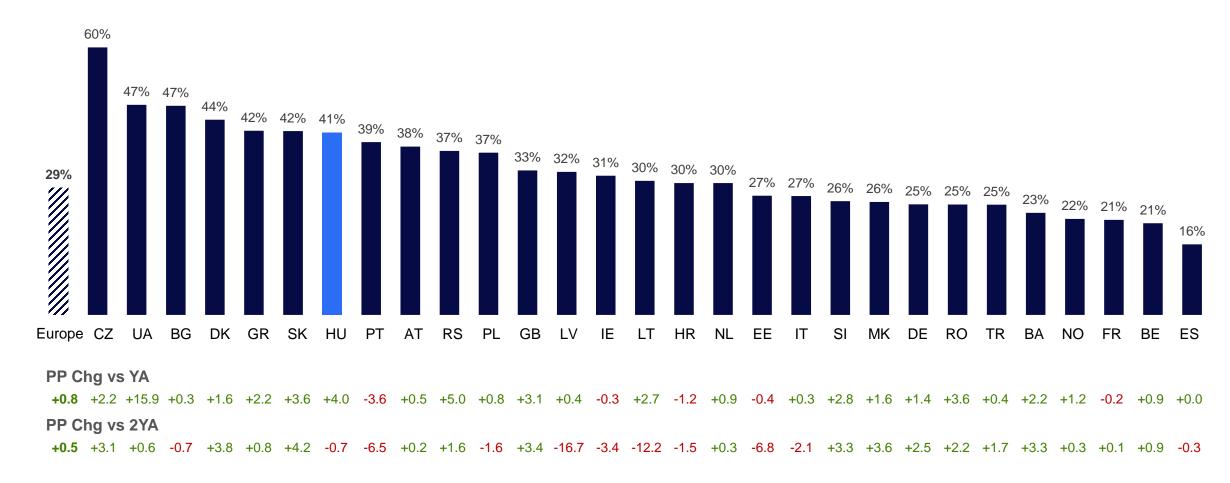


HUNGARY, Periods: MAT LY: Jan 2022- Dec 2022 vs. MAT TY: Jan 2023 - Dec 2023



# The inflationary environment has led to strong promotional relevance, contributing to a consistent uptrend in most markets

FMCG Value sales on promotion FY 2023



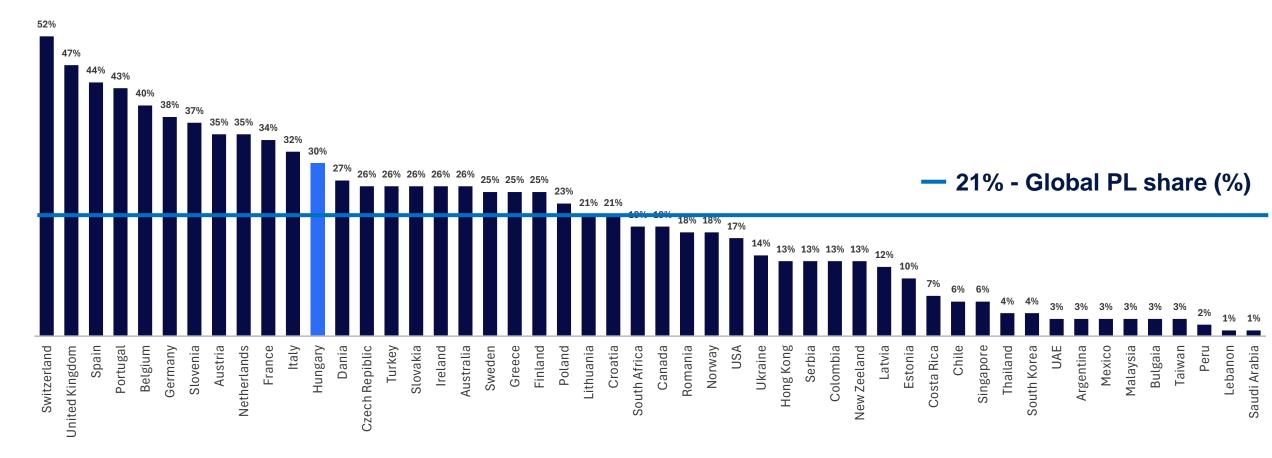
Source: NIQ Global Strategic Planner. Data ending Dec 2023. Markets as per Global Strategic Planner Promo breakdown



#### HU private label share is above the global average

Switzerland, UK and Spain remain the top 3 most developed markets for Private Labels

Global private label Value % share (top markets ranked on share >1%)



Source: NielsenIQ RMS MAT Q4 2023

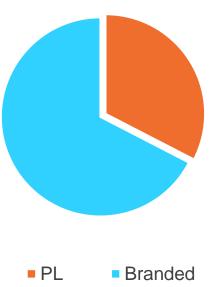




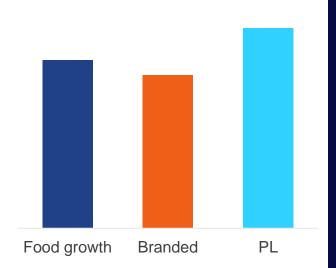
## In case of FOOD products, Private Labels were growing at a faster rate than branded products



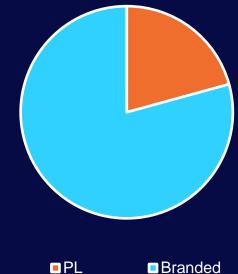
Value share of PL in Food category 2023



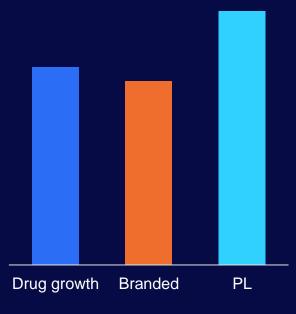
Value growth of Food category 2023



Value share of PL in Drug category 2023



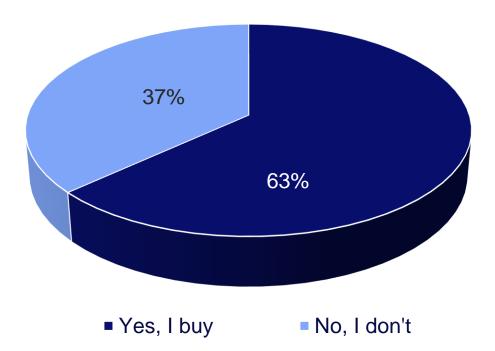
Value growth of Drug category 2023



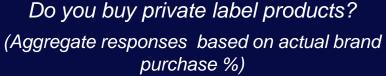


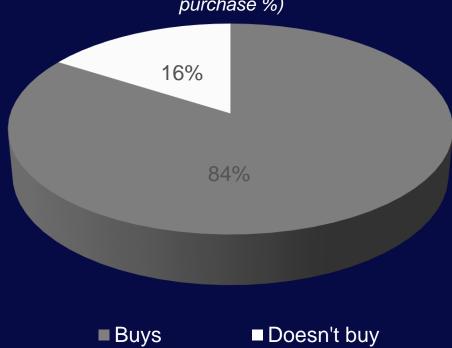
## Purchasing private labels,

Do you buy private label products? (% answers based on own perception)



## even without being aware





Source: NIQ Private label study, 2023



# 10 years is not much, or is it?

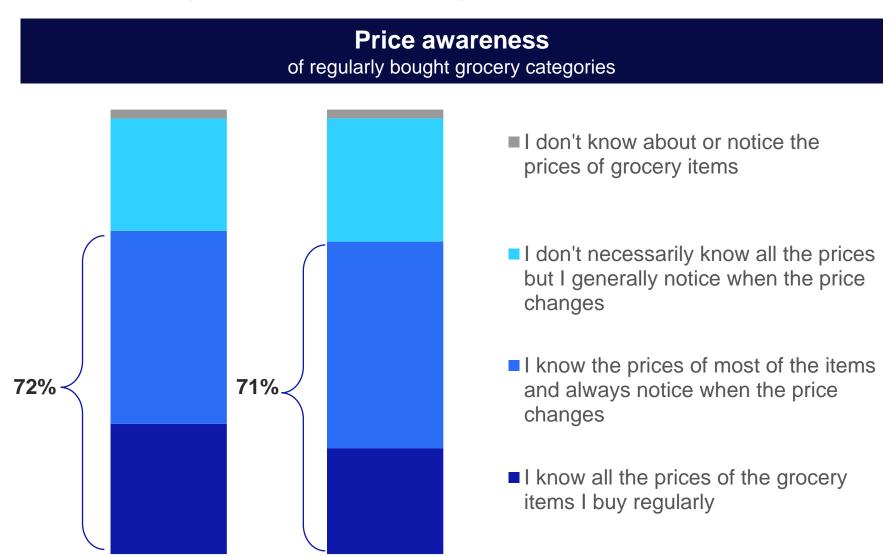
Comparison to a previous GS1 conference material



#### **Price awareness**

2022

The vast majority of shoppers still feel they are aware of prices

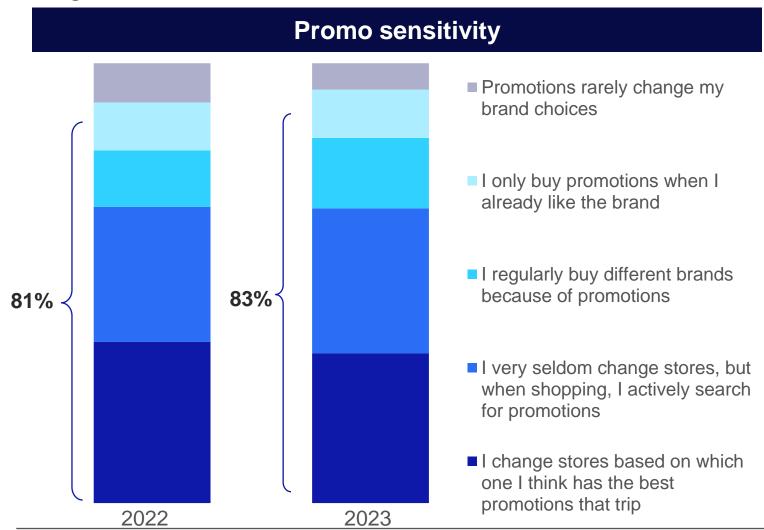


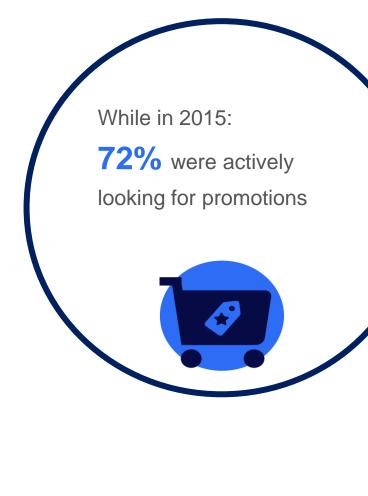


2023

## **Promotion sensitivity**

Promo sensitivity has not changed significantly in overall, however the importance of promotions in brand decision is slightly higher than before. The most preferred promo type is still the price off, all other alternatives seem marginal.

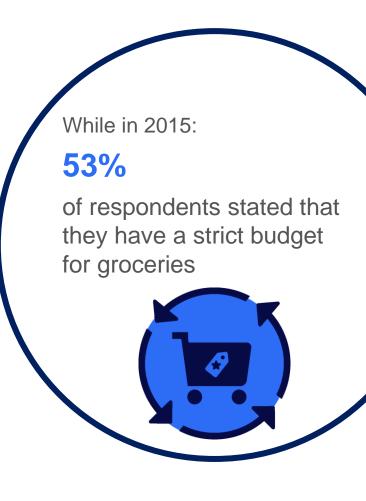




### Level of planning

Almost half of the shoppers have still a strict budget for groceries, and this share is a bit lower than in 2022 bit at the same time the importance of the shopping list increased. Most shoppers have a plan before visiting a store, but there is a similar chance to stick to it or deflect from (probably based on on-site promotions).





#### **Top store choice drivers list 2023**

Price and value for money drivers are highly represented among the top 5

- 1. A place where its easy to quickly find what I need
- 2. Low prices for most items
- 3. Provide enjoyable shopper experience



# What is next?



# "Less is more" – Prevalent European consumer behaviours and attitudes impacting global volume growth

*If prices continue to rise / remain high...* 



58% Only buy what they need 44% Only have enough money for essentials 29% Eating leftovers more often 15% Are skipping meals 9% Buying smaller sizes to save money 6% rely on food banks / charity

Source: NIQ 2024 Consumer Outlook, Europe



### Finding pockets of growth amidst consumer scrutiny



How do you find pockets of growth?

#### **Deceleration IS NOT deflation**

Although average price increase decelerated, it doesn't mean prices are declining. Consumers still spend with caution across markets

#### **Promote with purpose**

Promotion intensity in the region rising to 35% of FMCG sales. Take the right decision on your promo mix to support low volume categories

#### Innovate to stay relevant

Brands must reevaluate their positioning, and innovate how they appeal to consumers against Private Label growth potential

#### Reach consumers where they are

Consumers move fluidly across channels. Discounter strategy is key in EE region.

#### Make consumer-centric decisions

Consumers are looking for various saving strategies. Watch out Private Label while use Ecom as an opportunity.

#### Be proactive in innovation

Indentifying innovations with value. Health and wellness is one aspect that consumers plan to spend more. Leverage that space for your brand!

