

UNDERSTANDING THE EATING HABITS OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN POPULATION







RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

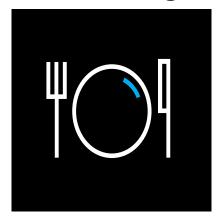


RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

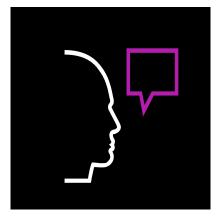
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The main purpose of this research is to create a source of information that stakeholders can tap into in order to shape the health of the nation

We aim to gain a clear understanding and track the changes of:



Dietry types and plate composition



Attitides and behaviour towards food



Understanding of what is healthy



Access to healthy food



Challenges in eating healthy







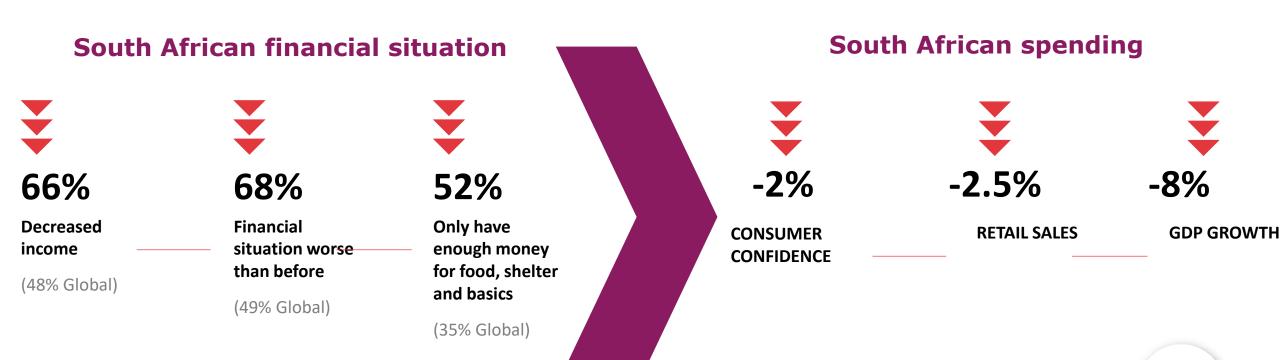
GENERAL EATING HABITS



COVID-19 EFFECT ON SOUTH AFRICANS

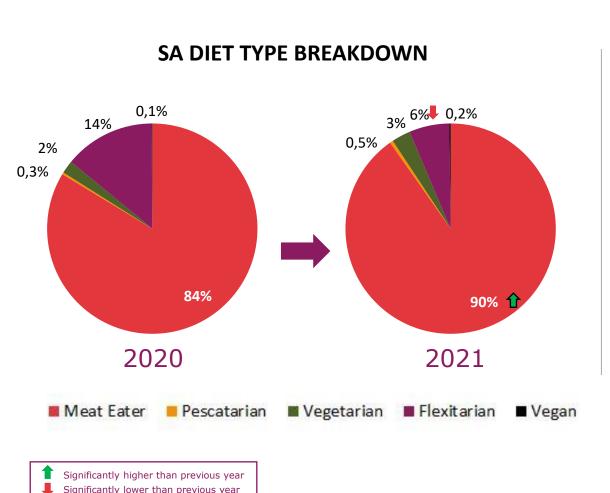


With declines in income, and being financially worse off due to COVID-19, South African consumers' current ability to spend is much lower than global average.

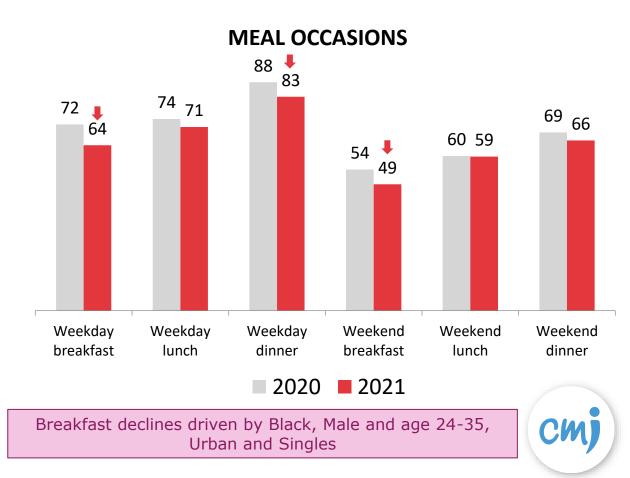


Increase in meat eaters, and a general decline in breakfast consumption





South Africans eat an average of **2** meals per day

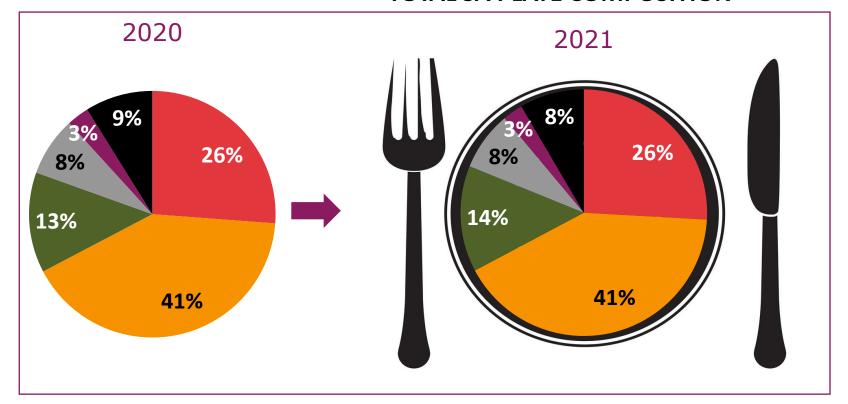


Total South African plate remains consistent with last year, with only a small portion of vegetables



ADULTS AGE 16+

TOTAL SA PLATE COMPOSITION

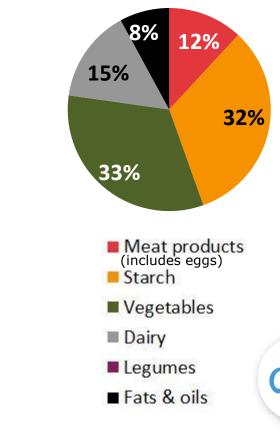


This is consistent across all regions and demographics with no significant shifts Different meal occassions also remain consistent with last year

Q13b. If your plate is divided into 10 equal parts, can you tell me how many parts were meat, how many were starch, how many vegetables etc. SHOWCARD

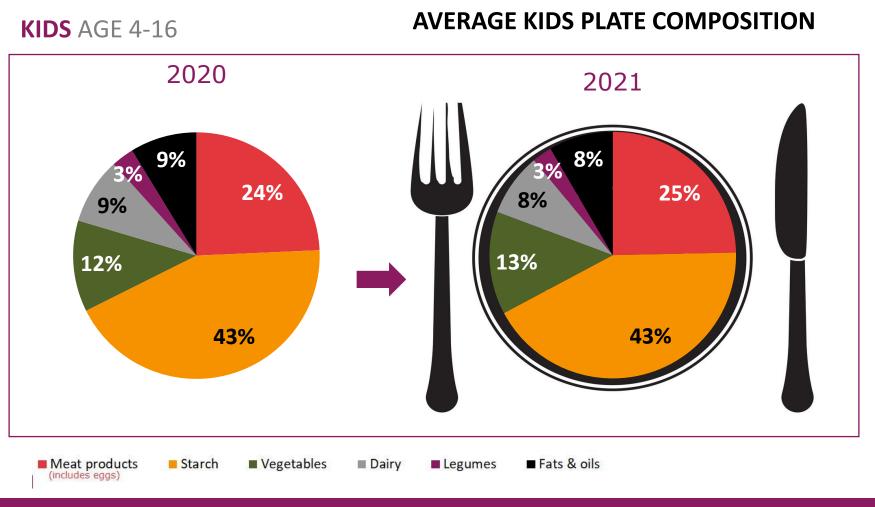
RECOMMENDED COMPOSITION

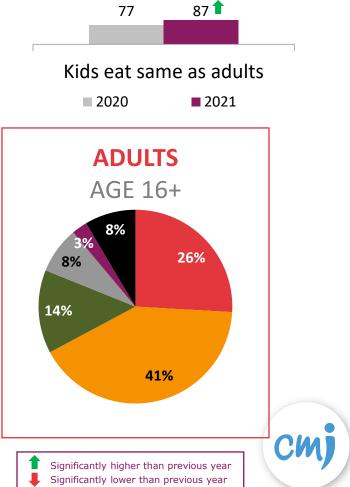
Source: University of Cambridge - School of clinical medicine



Kids are eating the same plate composition as their parents

Kids are 10% more likely to eat the same foods as their parent's than last year





Top dishes have not changed, with the majority of meat and veg consumed at dinner



Breakfast is the most carbohydrate heavy meal of the day with the least vegetables/fruit consumed, while dinner has the greatest focus on meat and the highest consumption of vegetables.

BREAKFAST

TOP MEAL **Toast / porridge**

- Bread/Toast (46%)
- Porridge (30%)
- Egg (23%)
- Cereal (17%)
- Meat (14%)
- Fruit / veg (4%)





LUNCH

TOP MEAL **Sandwich**

- Meat (48%)
- Bread / sandwich (41%)
- Pap (23%)
- Rice (10%)
- Veg/salad/fruit (14%)





DINNER

TOP MEAL Pap & Meat

- Meat (68%)
- Pap (44%)
- Rice (23%)
- Veg / salad (35%)

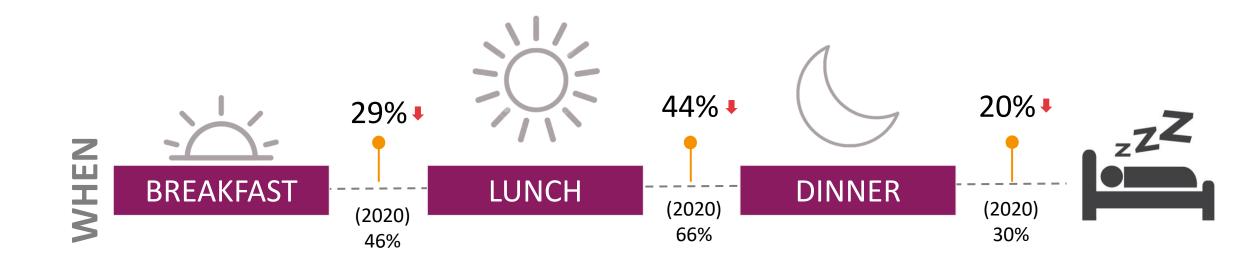




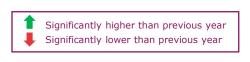
Frequency of snacking in between meals declines



70% of people snack in between meals, and this is consistent with 2020. Significant declines seen for chocolate, sweet biscuits, nuts and popcorn.



Declines may be due to affordability









FOOD GROUP EXPLORATION

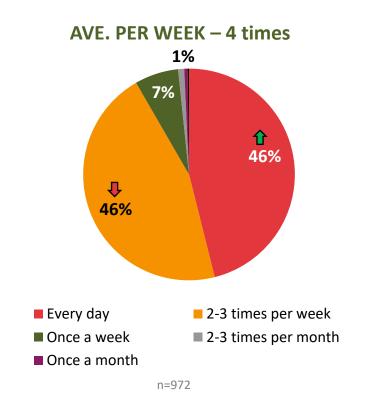


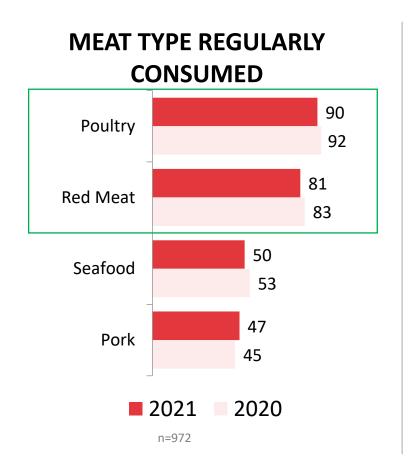
More people claim to be eating meat on a daily basis



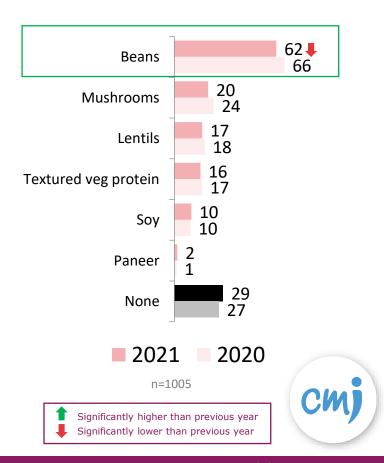
There has been a decline in people using beans as a substitute for meat

FREQUENCY OF CONSUMPTION





MEAT REPLACEMENTS USED



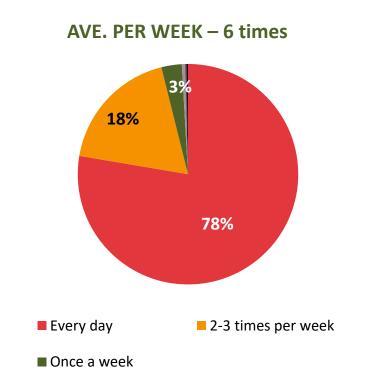
MEAT EXPLORATION

Starch is consumed more often than meat or vegetables, however with less variety

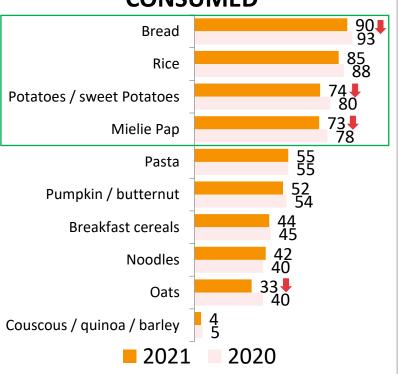


This is likely due to people buying in bulk on promotion

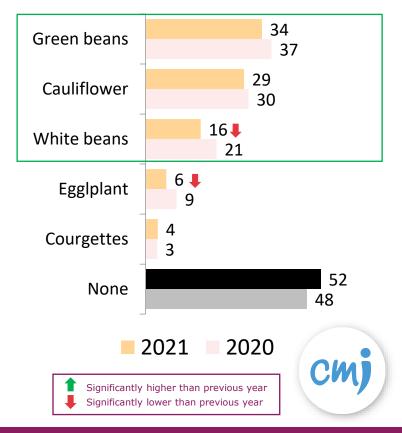
FREQUENCY OF CONSUMPTION



STARCH TYPE REGULARLY **CONSUMED**



STARCH REPLACEMENTS USED



n=1003

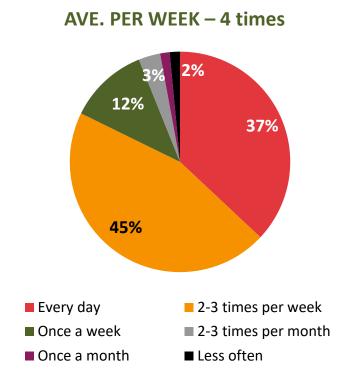


People have less variety of fruit and vegetables in their diet than previously seen

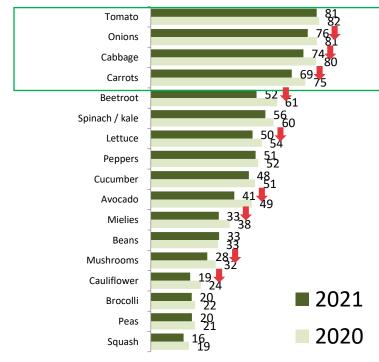


Again likely due to bulk buys or promotional purchases

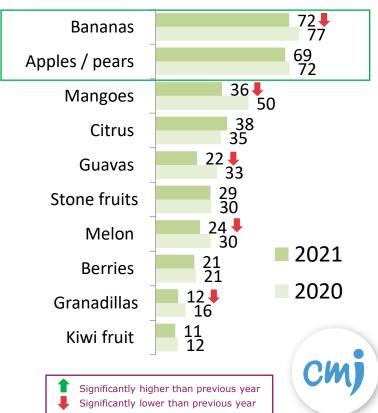
FREQUENCY OF CONSUMPTION



VEGETABLES REGULARLY CONSUMED



FRUIT REGULARLY CONSUMED



VEGETABLE EXPLORATION





HEALTHY FOODS



Increased information seeking online, accessibility to healthy foods improved, but cost is still an issue



ATTITUDES & BEHAVIOUR TOWARD HEALTHY FOODS -



Declines in nutritional information seeking from friends, family and health care professionals, but increases in searching online, especially on Social Media



Understanding of the concept of a plan based diet is still very low



 Different reactions to the pandemic with some trying to be healthier and others resorting to eating whatever they can afford



Consumers believe that healthy food has become more accessible over the past year



The top reason for not eating healthier is price







SUMMARY & RECOMMENDATIONS



KEY FINDINGS



- Increase in meat eaters in South Africa, with 46% eating meat daily
- Plate composition is consistent with last year with no movement towards more vegetables and less meat
- Kids even more likely to eat the same as their parents, so there is unlikely to be a change in future behaviour without intervention
- Vegetables perceived as healthy but people are eating less variety than before and have not increased the quantity on the plate
- Accessibility of healthy food improved, but affordability is a more of a barrier than ever before



