



# **Alcoholic beverages**

## Understanding consumers in key markets

Australia, USA, UK, Singapore, China and Japan

In Collaboration with **KANTAR**

# The comprehensive piece of consumer research provides NZTE's customers with an understanding of what drives purchasing decisions in priority F&B categories and markets

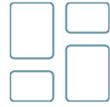


## Context

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The Covid-19 pandemic has caused disruption to people globally and as a result, consumers have become complex.

Because of this, there is a fundamental need now by industry, more than ever, to understand end consumers and how to market to them at an offer, channel, packaging and messaging level.



## Therefore our project objective...

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By better understanding the underlying values and needs of F&B consumers in priority markets...

...uncover the insights that will enable NZTE to help its customers market more effectively



## ... delivered by a substantial primary research study

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Partnering with Global insights agency **Kantar** to segment consumers by key drivers of purchase, supported by insights into behavioural and emotive needs.

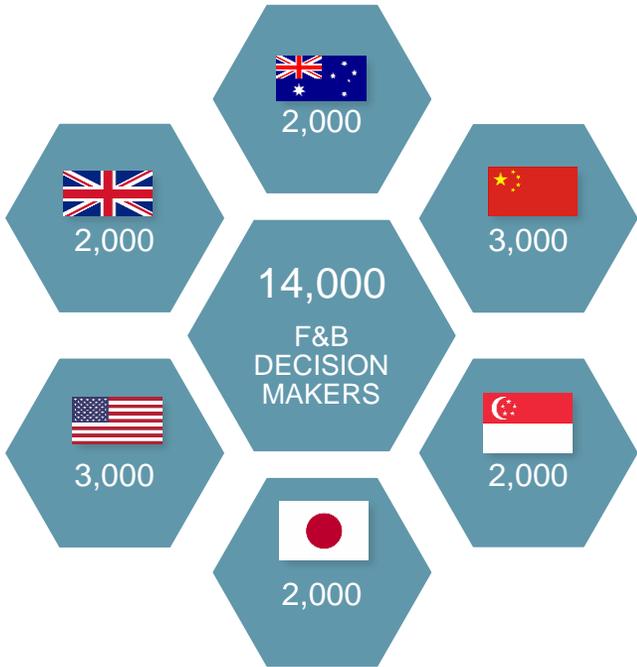
Within six markets

1. China, Japan, Singapore, Australia, USA, UK

Eight categories (and 29 sub-categories)

1. Meat, Dairy, Fruit & Veg, Seafood, Alcoholic beverages, Non-alcoholic beverages, Sweet snacks, Supplements / Mānuka honey

# In collaboration with Global Insights Agency Kantar, we have looked at 6 markets and 8 categories, including Alcoholic Beverages and it's sub-categories



Beef	Apples	Milk powder	White fish	<b>Wine</b>	Soft drinks / soda	Healthy snacks	Mānuka honey
Lamb	Kiwifruit	Fresh / UHT milk	Salmon	<b>Beer &amp; Cider</b>	Juices	Packaged baked goods	Vitamins, minerals & supplements
Pork	Berries	Butter	Lobster / crayfish	<b>Spirits</b>	Chocolate		
Chicken	Stonefruit	Cheese	Shellfish				
	Everyday vegetables	Ice cream					
		Infant formula					

Note: the study focused on off-premise purchases

- Online survey
- Nationally representative
- Excluding bottom 25% of income brackets (in China this did mean we were talking to a higher income household)
- Booster in USA (West Coast & North East)
- Focus on Tier 1, 2 & 3 cities in China
- Fieldwork Jan / Feb 2021

# Methodology

## What did we do?

An online survey was sent to a nationally representative sample of 14,000 respondents in early January / February 2021 across 6 international markets of:

- Australia
- United Kingdom
- United States
- China
- Singapore
- Japan

There was a nationally representative sample of n=2,000 across each market excluding US & China.

In the US, the total sample size was n=3000. n=1000 was nationally representative, then there was an additional n=1000 booster for West Coast and n=1000 booster for North East. This was to allow for the ability to do deep dive into these regions.

In China, the total sample size was n=3000 with n=1000 in Tier 1 cities, n=1000 Tier 2 cities and n=1000 Tier 3 cities.

Questionnaires were translated into Mandarin and Japanese for respondents in China & Japan.

This data was collected, cleaned and weighted by Global Insights Agency Kantar who used Kantar Profiles and Dynata research panels across the specified markets to deploy the survey.

## Who did we speak to?

- The main / joint decision maker for food & beverage products in their household (ie household shopper).
- Aged 18 – 74 years
- Excluding the bottom 25% of Household Incomes
- Regularly / occasionally buy at least 3 of the selected F&B products (see previous slide for detailed list of products)

No other parameters were set around household income, family structure, ethnicity, number of people in household – this all fell out naturally. In China we have found that respondents had a higher household income and were therefore more affluent.

## Purpose of the study

To understand what drives consumers purchasing decisions (what they value) when buying Food & Beverage products. This can then be used by NZ brands to develop compelling propositions / packaging / messaging that connects with what consumers look for when buying F&B products.

## Note:

Statistical analysis was done to segment the data into different purchasing occasions. The names of these segments are the **essence** of what defines them and does not represent what was explicitly shown to survey respondents.

## Limitations

With the sample sizes outlined in the methodology the data in this report has a confidence interval at 50% of approximately 2% across each market. Significance testing has been calculated at a confidence level of 95%. The study does not include on-premise or a B2B perspective.

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## Section 1

### Understanding purchase drivers

Understanding Purchase drivers across Food and Beverage provides an understanding of the macro trends going on in F&B



## SECTION 1

### UNDERSTANDING PURCHASE DRIVERS

# Eight segments were identified across the six markets in the Food & Beverage market



### Tasty

These purchase decisions are driven by the **taste / flavour** of a product / brand



### Affordable

These purchase decisions are driven by price – both **affordability and value for money**



### Trusted brand

**Trust in the brand** is driving these purchase decisions  
  
Associated with **well-known brands**



### Safe product

Having **belief in the safety** of the product / brand is driving decision making



### Healthy

Making a **healthy choice** is what drives these purchase decisions



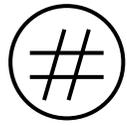
### Fresh

These choices are based on how **fresh the product / brand looks**



### Ethical

These purchase decisions are driven by **ethical, environmental or social issues**



### On Trend

These purchase decisions are driven by **environmental/organic trends** and how this makes them **appear to others**.

Two aspects of 'quality' that are related, but Trust is best managed by brand signals while Safe is best managed by product category and provenance messages

Two similar 'healthiness' segments but Fresh is more about appearance while Health is more centred by belief that consumption is a healthy choice

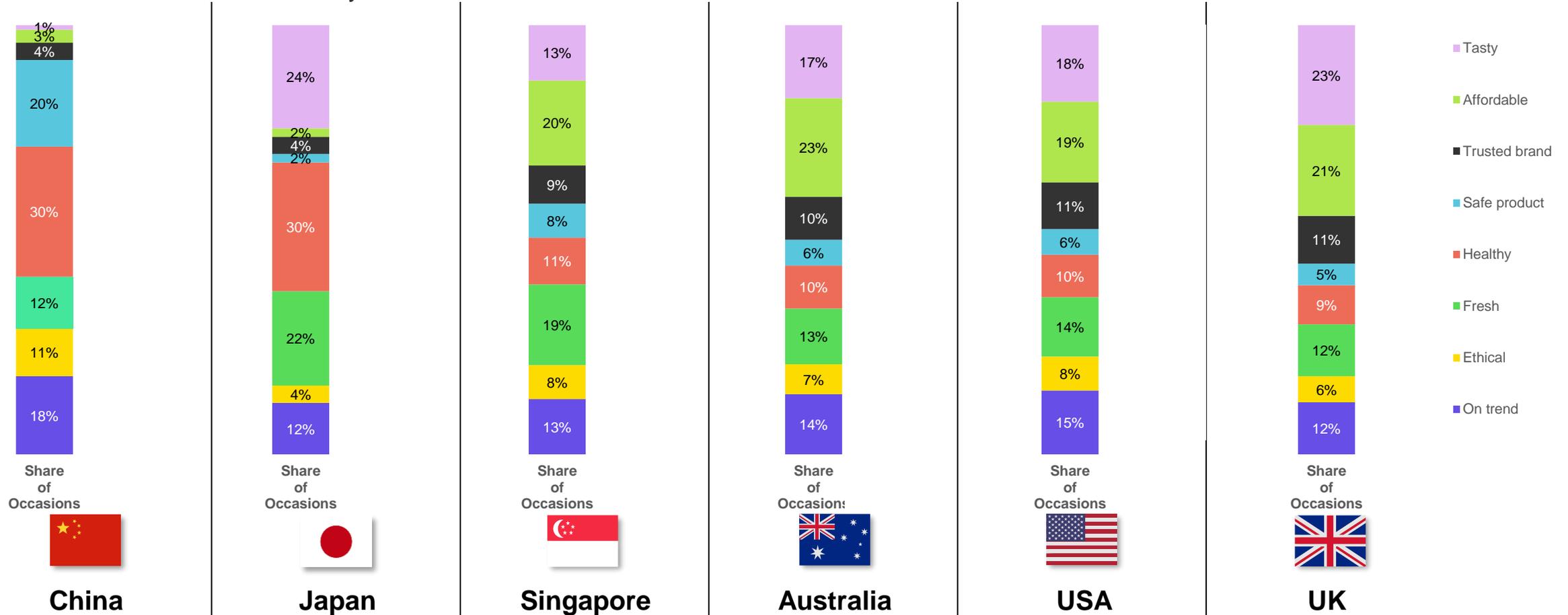
Both have environmental and sustainability at their core, but decisions made for Ethical reasons are because it's the right thing to do, whereas On Trend is because it's *seen to be* the right thing to do

## SECTION 1

### UNDERSTANDING PURCHASE DRIVERS

# What drives purchase decisions differs across markets, therefore the way offers are constructed and communicated needs to be tailored

F&B Share of occasions by market



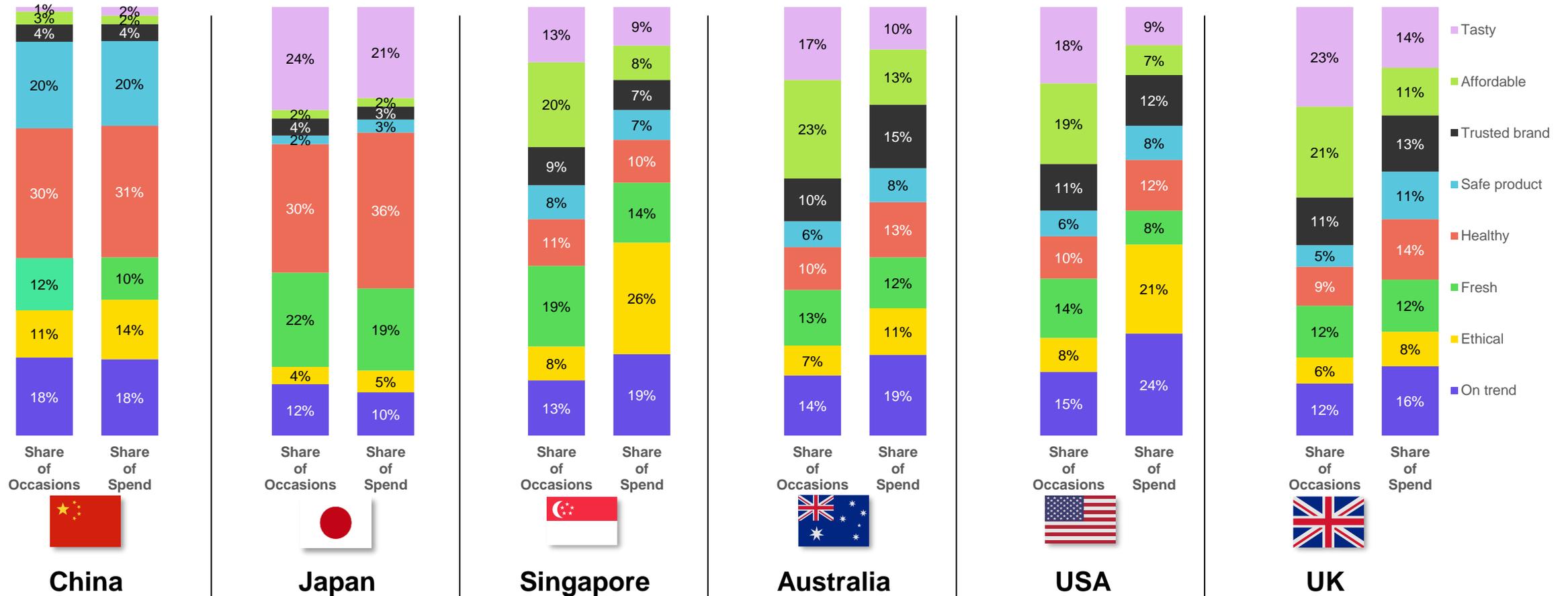
1. Note: due to the multi-modal nature of the market (people will choose different F&B products for different reasons and different purposes, even within the same shopping trip), the segmentation is based on individual purchase decisions or 'occasions' rather than people

## SECTION 1

### UNDERSTANDING PURCHASE DRIVERS

# The sustainability-focused Ethical and On Trend segments tend to deliver higher value

Share of occasions and spend by market for F&B



1. Note: due to the multi-modal nature of the market (people will choose different F&B products for different reasons and different purposes, even within the same shopping trip), the segmentation is based on individual purchase decisions or 'occasions' rather than people

# Several different proposition types providing a premium across F&B

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Understanding the **drivers of purchase** across Food and Beverage can help form a base of what **consumers are looking for more broadly**. From here it is important to look into categories that are more similar to your own as a contrast.

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**Taste** is an important role in recruiting consumers on mass to products, particularly in **Japan**. This **doesn't provide a value-add** across food and beverage in most markets.

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Across key markets, there is a trend towards more **sustainability focused** products **providing a premium**. Brand, Safety and health also providing a premium in certain markets.

## Section 2

# Alcoholic Beverages



## Alcoholic beverages

Including...

Beer/Cider

Wine

Spirits





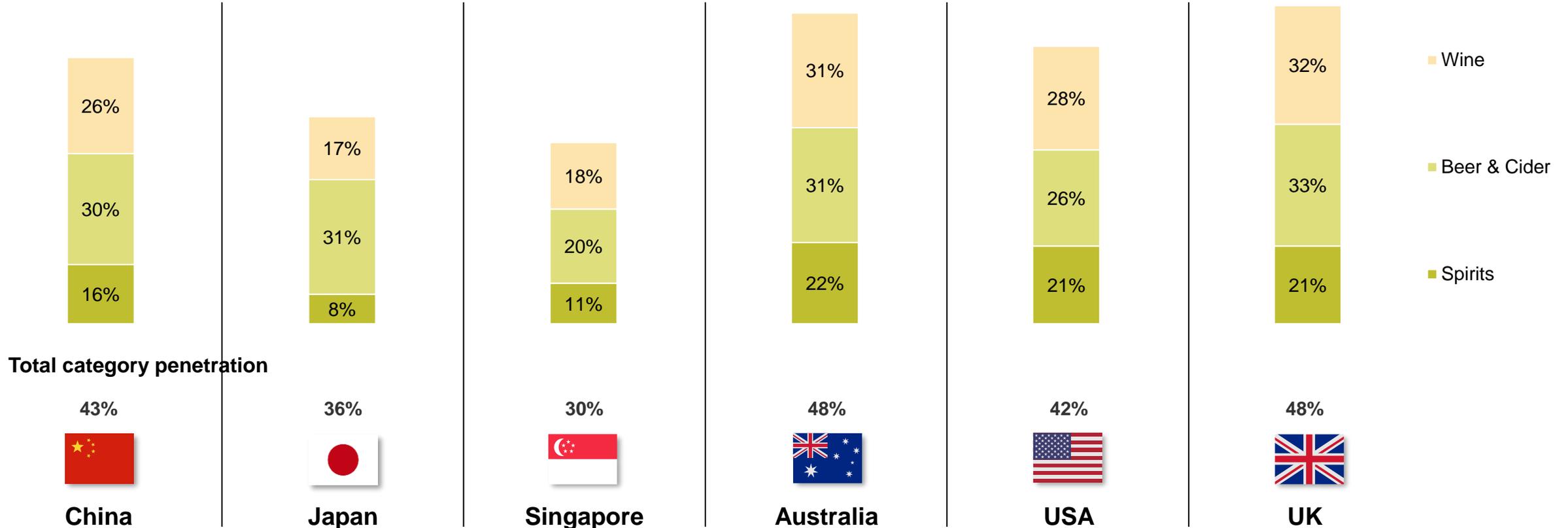
SECTION 2

PENETRATION

# Beer is popular in most markets, Wine is more consumed by Western market whilst Singapore has least regular alcohol consumers

## Sub-category penetration by market

Proportion of market population<sup>(1)</sup> who purchase each category regularly



Total: China n = 3388; Japan n = 2365; Singapore n = 2134; Australia n = 2236; USA n = 3463; UK n = 2164  
Market population defined as main/joint household shoppers, aged 18-74, excluding lowest salary bands

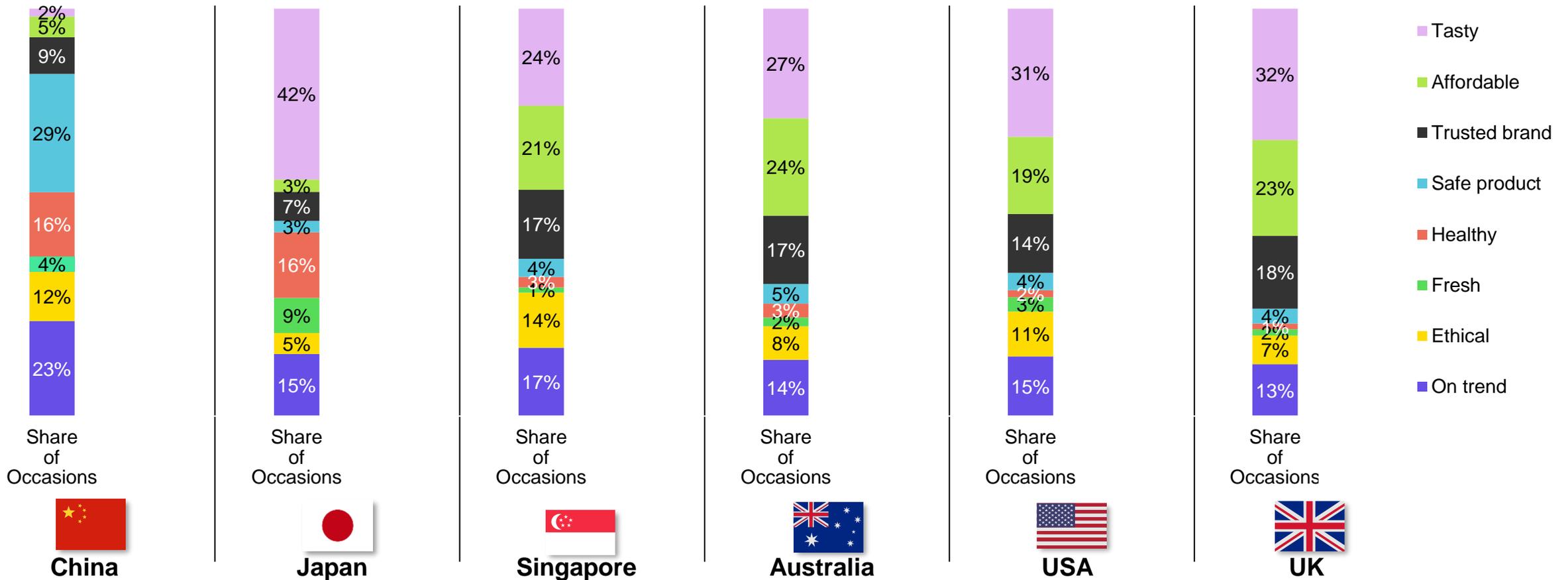


## SECTION 2

### UNDERSTANDING PURCHASE DRIVERS

# Taste, Affordability and Trusted Brand important in most markets

Alcoholic beverage segment size by market (occasion)



Total: China n = 1204; Japan n = 753; Singapore n = 751; Australia n = 749; USA n = 1124; UK n = 752

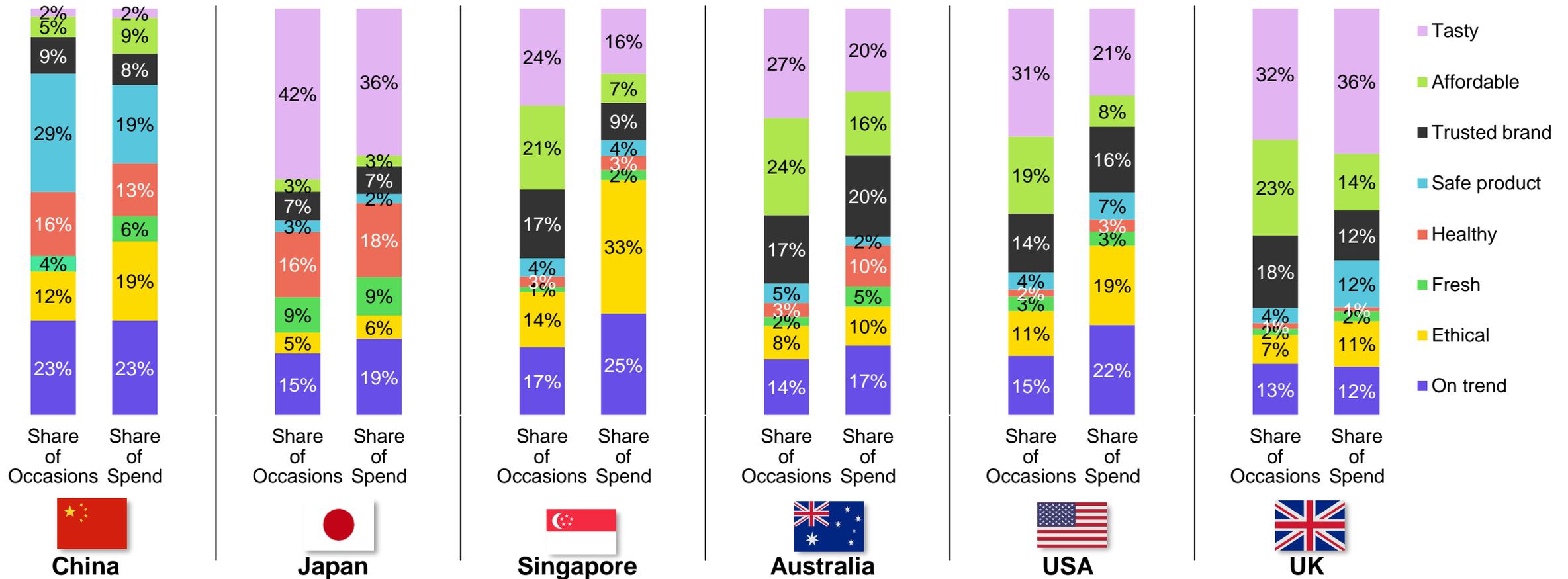


## SECTION 2

### UNDERSTANDING PURCHASE DRIVERS

# Taste and Affordability offer mass opportunities but without a premium - which is where Ethical & On Trend deliver

Alcoholic beverage segment size by market (occasion and spend)



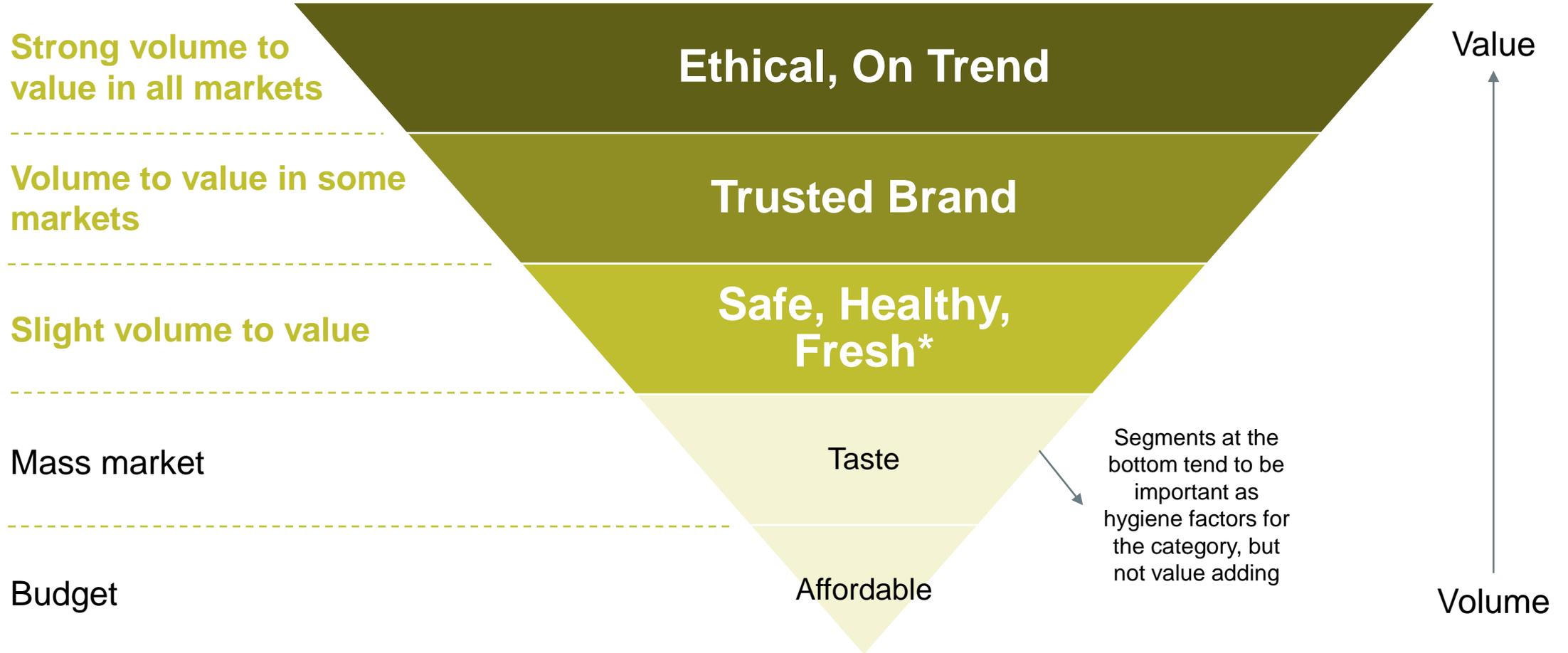
Total: China n = 1204; Japan n = 753; Singapore n = 751; Australia n = 749; USA n = 1124; UK n = 752



**SECTION 2**

UNDERSTANDING PURCHASE DRIVERS

# Within Alcoholic Beverages, Sustainability and Trusted Brand driving volume to value shift



\*Note: Fresh, Safe & Healthy segments have low volumes in some markets, this means these have been positioned on the volume to value hierarchy based on a few markets only.



**Regardless of what's driving purchasing decisions, there are 3 common things consumers *also* look for when buying alcoholic beverages**

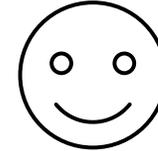
Product attributes



**Best quality  
product**



**A brand I trust**



**The taste me / my  
household like**

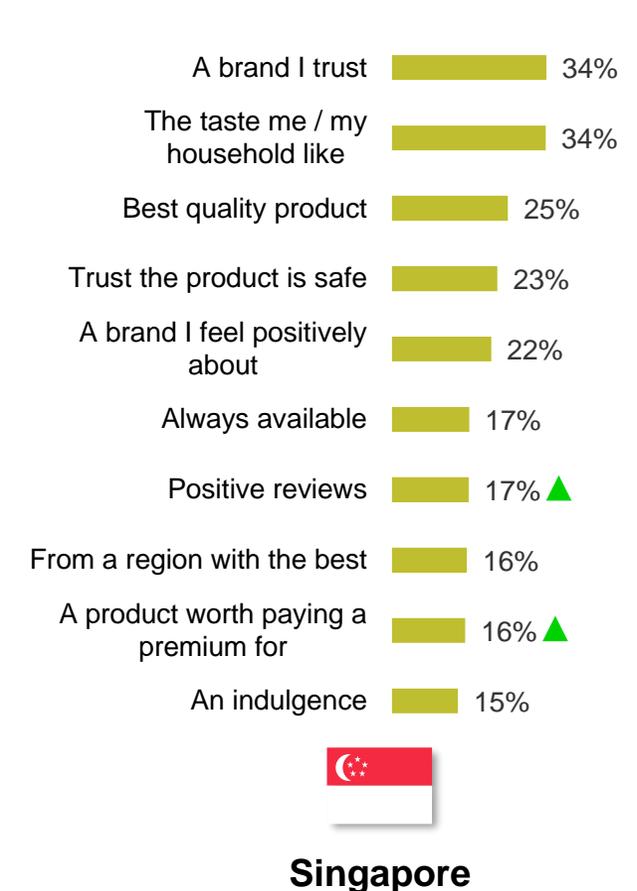


## SECTION 2

## PRODUCT ATTRIBUTES

# Brand trust and quality are dominant features consumers in China and Singapore look for

### Top 10 product attributes consumers look for



Total: China n = 1211; Japan n = 753; Singapore n = 750

▲ = Significantly higher / lower than other markets



## SECTION 2

## PRODUCT ATTRIBUTES

# Brand as important as taste or quality in Western markets

### Top 10 product attributes consumers look for

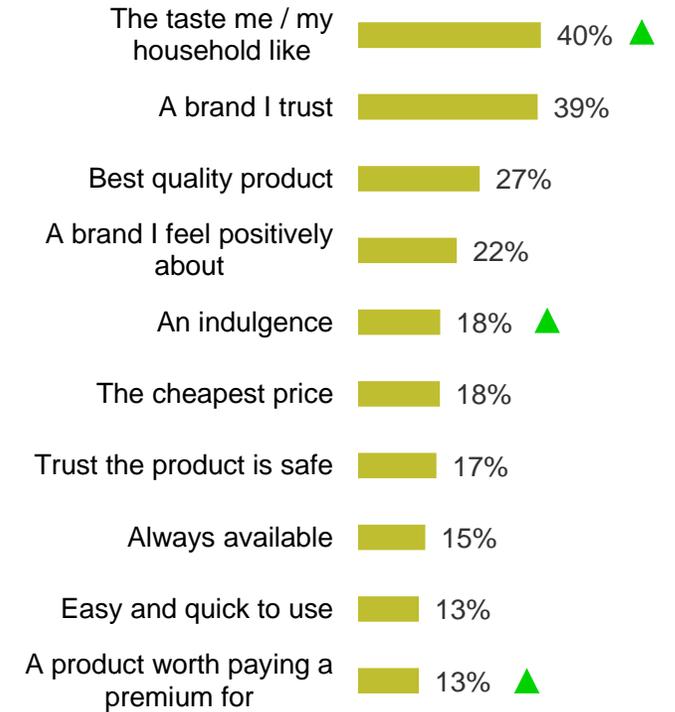


**Australia**

Total: Australia n = 754; USA n = 1125; UK n = 751



**USA**



**UK**

▲ = Significantly higher / lower than other markets

# Taste is a strong driver of purchase in Alcoholic Beverages

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When entering a new market it is important to consider **how your brand should be positioned**. By knowing what consumers of your category are looking for in the markets can help frame up how you market your product.

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**Taste** offers a strong volume play for **alcoholic beverages** in most markets. Although this translates to **slightly less value**, this difference is smaller than most other categories suggesting this might still be an opportunity.

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Brands that can deliver more **sustainably produced / organic** products (Ethical and On Trend) in the alcoholic beverages space that look great, have access to a pathway from **volume to value** across all markets.



**How does this play out across the different alcoholic beverage sub-categories?**

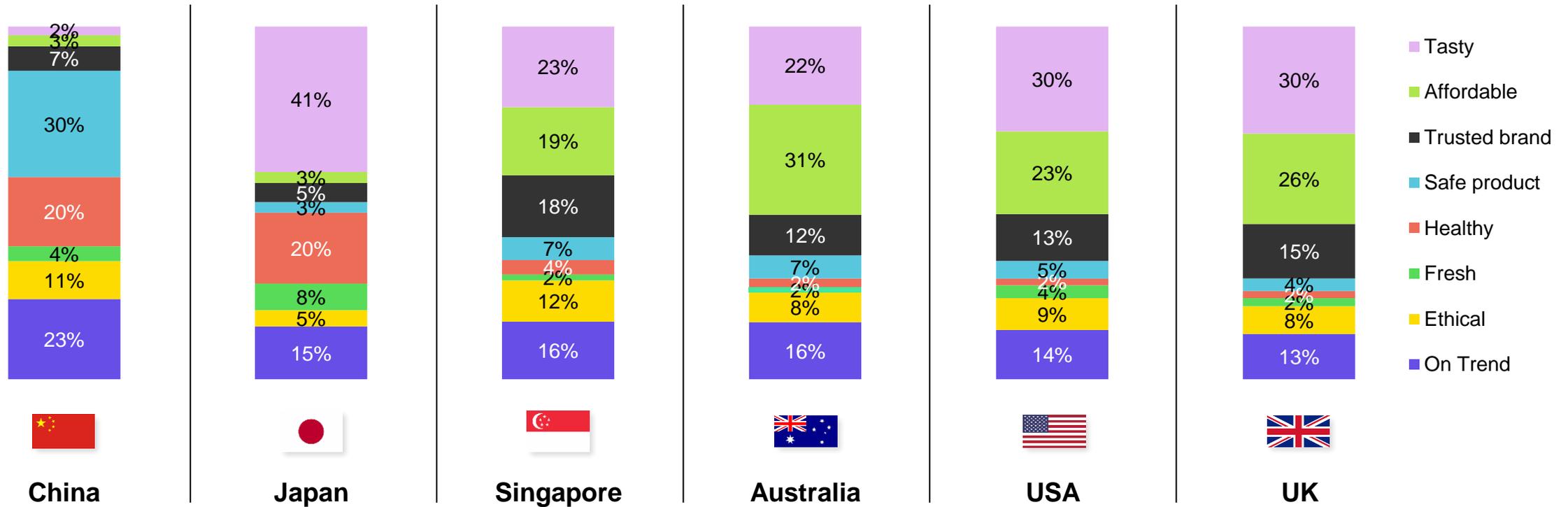


## SECTION 2

### UNDERSTANDING PURCHASE DRIVERS

# Taste is the key purchase driver for Wine across most markets, with affordability coming into play in Western markets. On Trend is a common purchase driver across all

Wine segment size by market (occasion)



Base: Wine. AU n=249; USA n=375; UK n=251; SG n=250; China n=400; Japan n=255

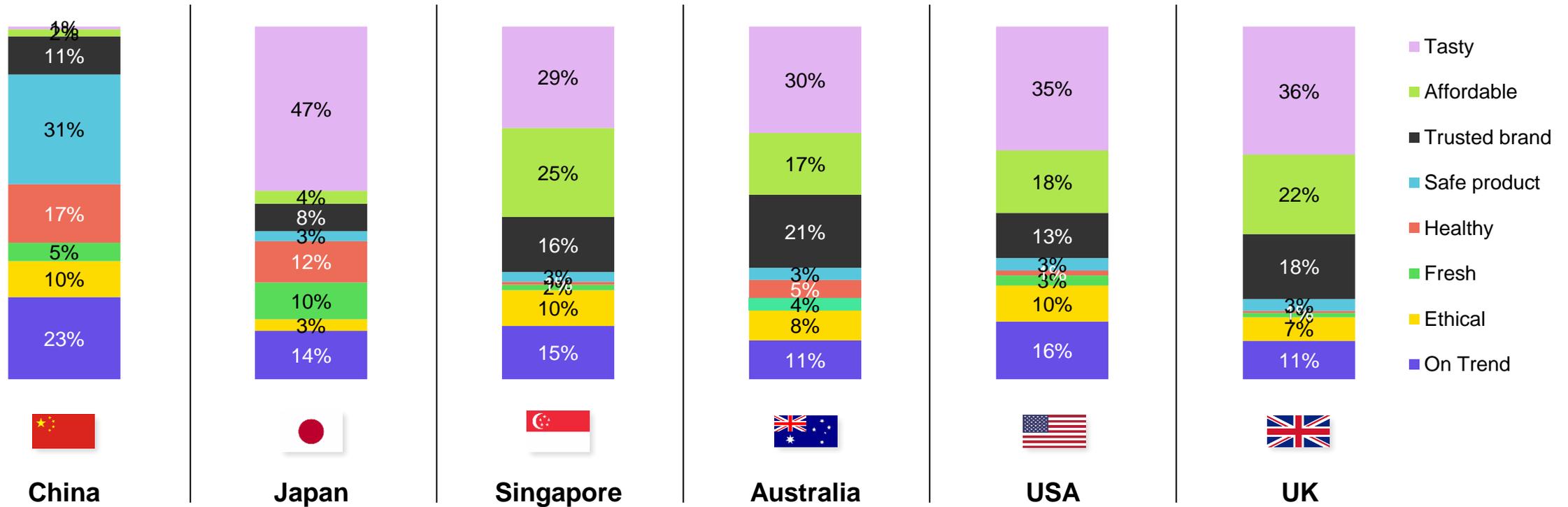


## SECTION 2

### UNDERSTANDING PURCHASE DRIVERS

# Trusted brand becomes more important for Beer than Wine, particularly in Australia & the UK

Beer & Cider segment size by market (occasion)



Base: Beer & Cider. AU n=251; USA n=376; UK n=251; SG n=251; China n=403; Japan n=256

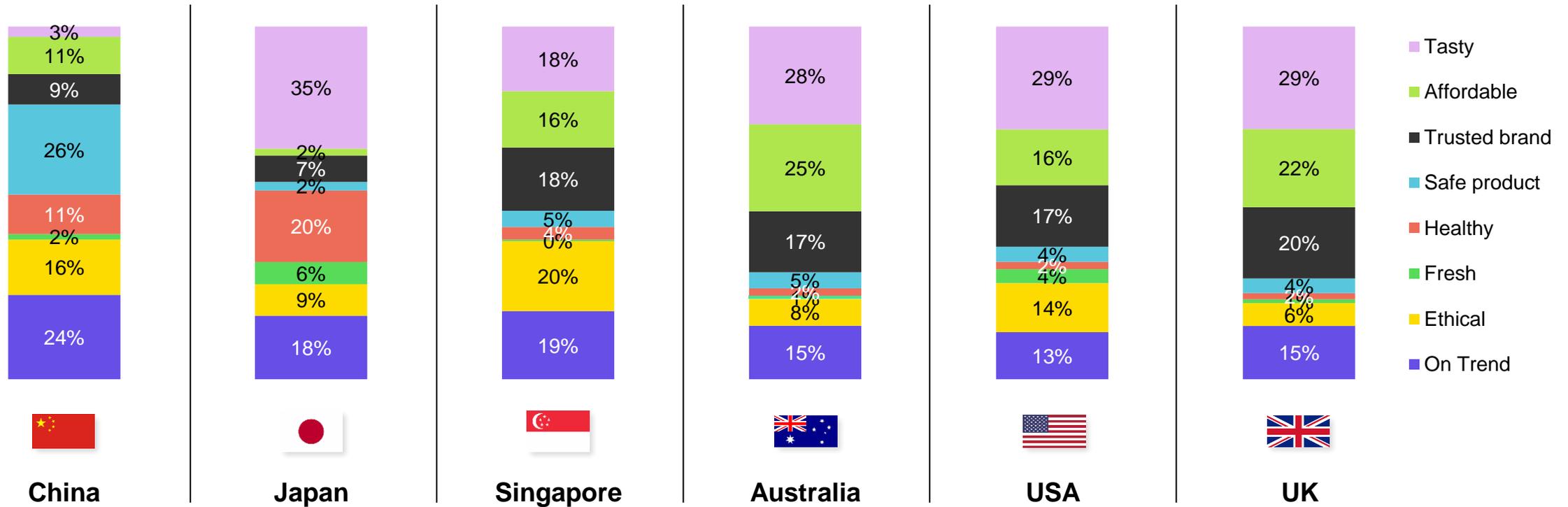


## SECTION 2

### UNDERSTANDING PURCHASE DRIVERS

# Ethical and On Trend become more important for Spirits, particularly in Asia

Spirits segment size by market (occasion)



Base: Spirits. AU n=249; USA n=373; UK n=250; SG n=251; China n=401; Japan n=242



# Taste is a strong driver of purchase in beer/cider, wine & spirits

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**Taste** is important across all alcoholic beverages in most markets and plays a particularly important role with **Beer/Cider**.

**Taste** tends to be associated with **quality products**, so highlighting both the **great flavour** and **high quality** of the product will align with this segment across wine, Beer/Cider & spirits.

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**Trusted brand** is also an important factor, particularly for spirits – **well known brands** and brands that can leverage the equity in their name will do well in Western markets and Singapore specifically.

Focusing on **authentic story telling** is a way brands can create an emotive connection with consumers.

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Brands that can deliver to **On Trend** and **Ethical** purchasing decisions will benefit by highlighting their **sustainable practice** and **organic credentials**, particularly in Wine & Spirits. It's also important that **appearance** of the product is appealing and has **convenient** formats.

## SECTION 3

# Where consumers are shopping



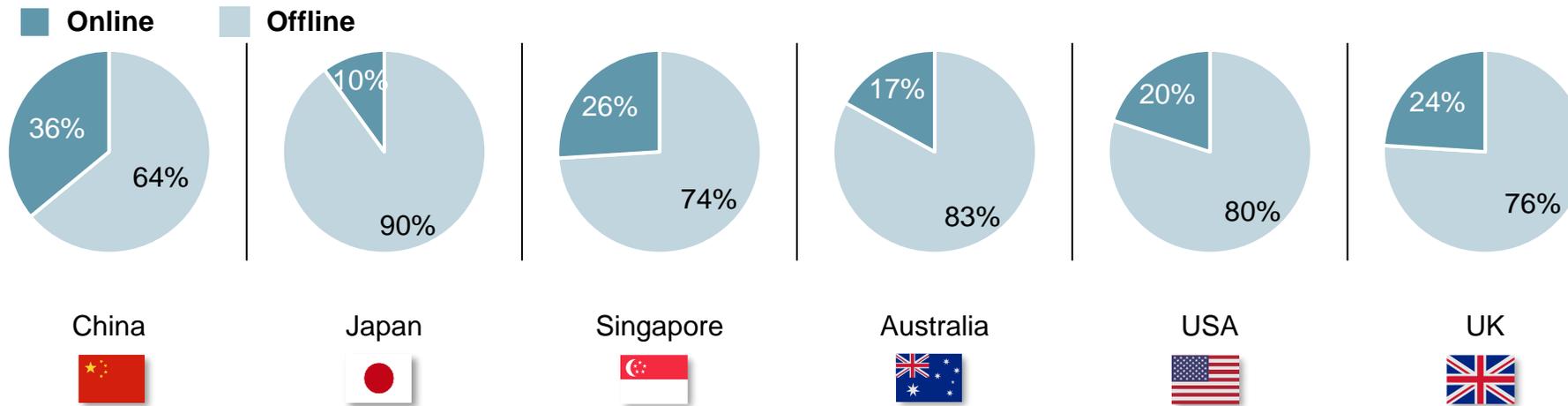


## SECTION 3

CHANNEL

# Almost one quarter of UK & Singapore alcohol is bought online

Where consumers shop – Alcoholic Beverages



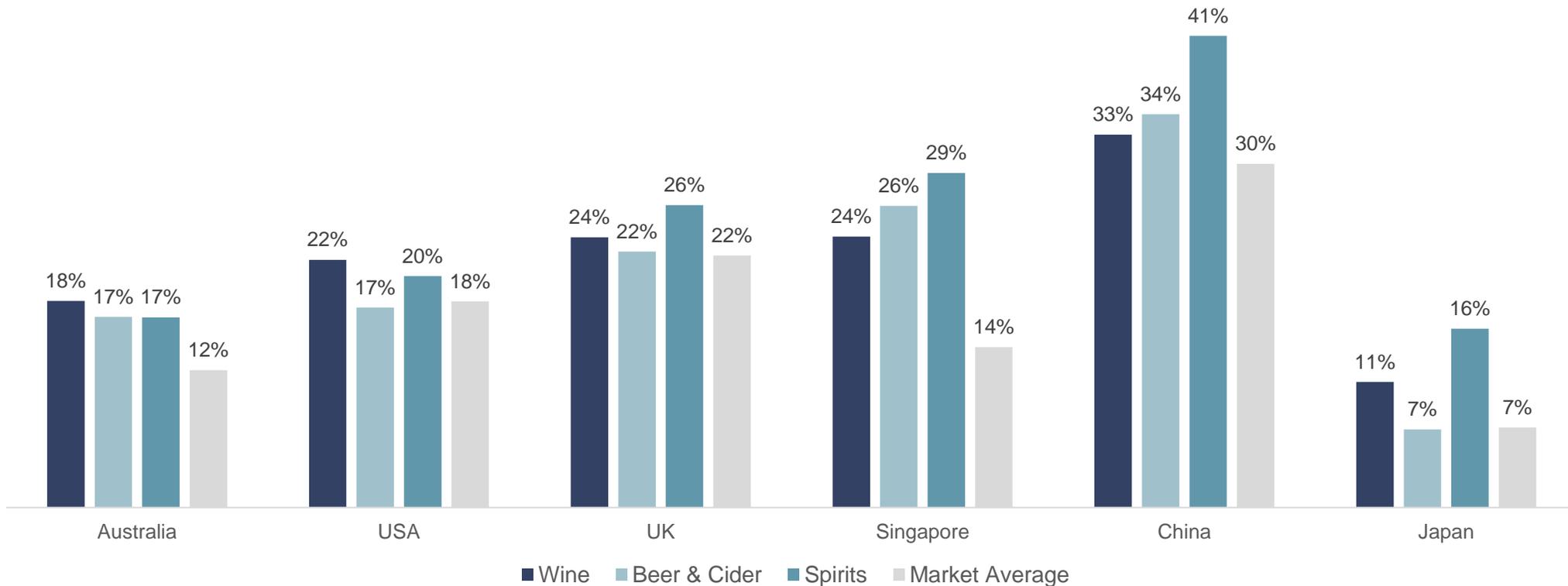
Total: China n = 1204; Japan n = 753; Singapore n = 751; Australia n = 749; USA n = 1124; UK n = 752



## Wine & Spirits are the type of alcohol that's most likely to be purchased online

Where consumers shop – By sub-category

### Online



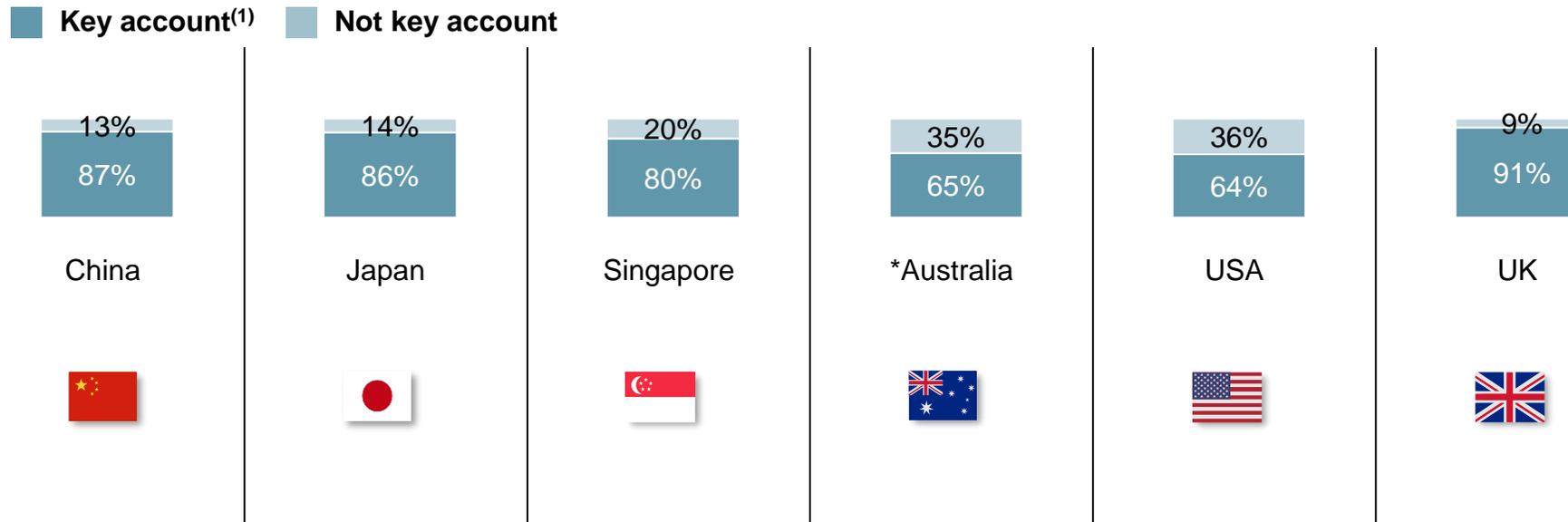


## SECTION 3

## CHANNEL

# Liquor stores making up the majority of USA alcohol purchasing channels

Detail of where consumers shop



\*Note - BWS / Dan Murphy although classified as non-key accounts are owned by Woolworth's parent group

Total: China n = 1204; Japan n = 753; Singapore n = 751; Australia n = 749; USA n = 1124; UK n = 752

Definition of 'key account': Supermarket / hypermarket, Department store, convenience store, wholesale / discount store, online food retailer, food box delivery service, large E-commerce platform or social media

Definition of 'not key account': Markets (farmers, local wet), gas stations and specialised stores (e.g. butcher, baker etc.)



### SECTION 3

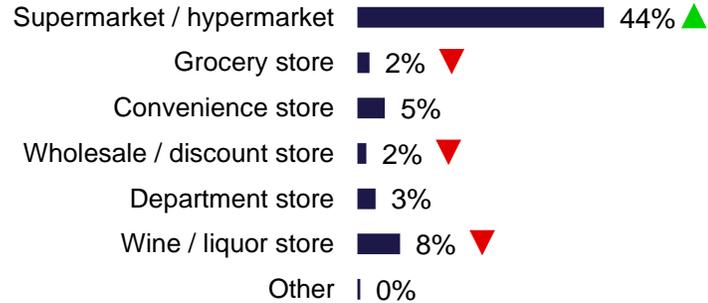
### CHANNEL

## Alcoholic beverages one of the most purchased via online channels in Asia

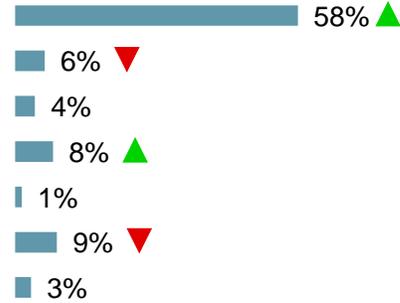
### Where consumers shop



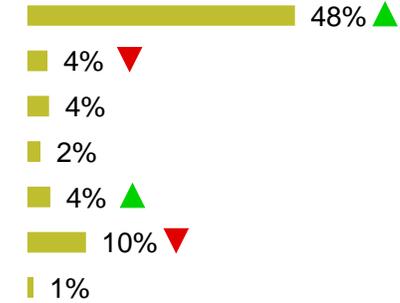
▼ 64% in person



▲ 90% in person



74% in person

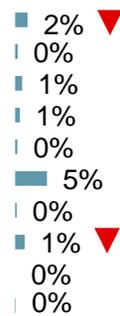


▲ 36% Online



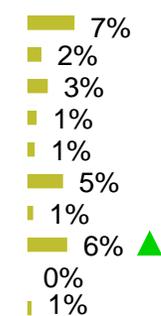
China

▼ 10% Online



Japan

26% Online



Singapore

▲ = Significantly higher / lower than other markets



### SECTION 3

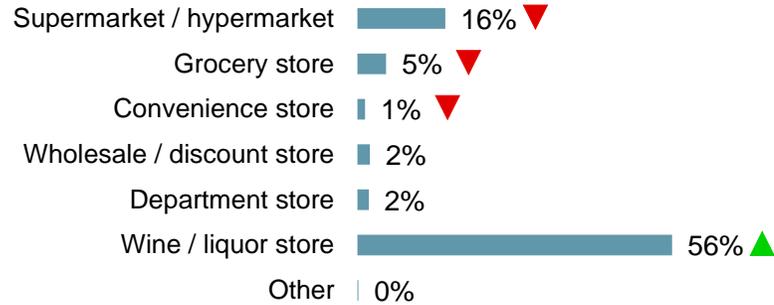
CHANNEL

## Liquor stores dominant in Australia & the US

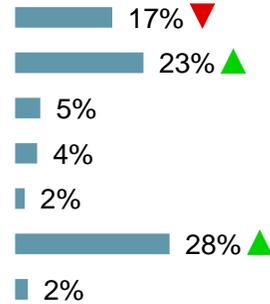
Where consumers shop



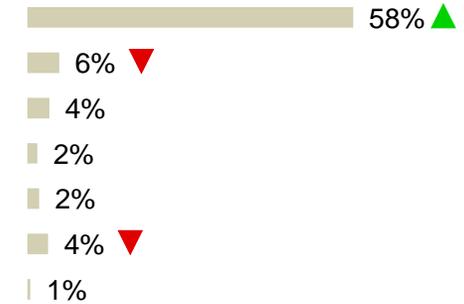
**▲ 83% in person**



**▲ 80% in person**



**76% in person**



**▼ 17% Online**



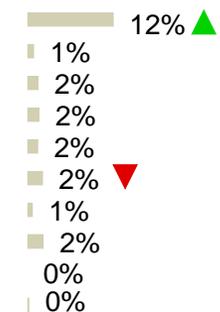
**Australia**

**▼ 20% Online**



**USA**

**24% Online**



**UK**

▲ = Significantly higher / lower than other markets

# Channels for alcoholic beverages are impacted by legislation more than most

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Knowing how the channels look for the category can help develop the channel strategy. Knowing whether to sell **Online or offline** and in key accounts or more niche can help set the **relationships in market** that you build.

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**Liquor stores** are dominant in **Australia** both online and offline. In **Singapore** the online liquor stores are relatively large, while the same is true in-store for the USA.

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Supermarkets are most dominant in UK and Japan. In the UK this is both online and offline. Large e-commerce channel a particular avenue for purchase of alcohol in China.

## SECTION 4

### Occasions for purchasing alcohol



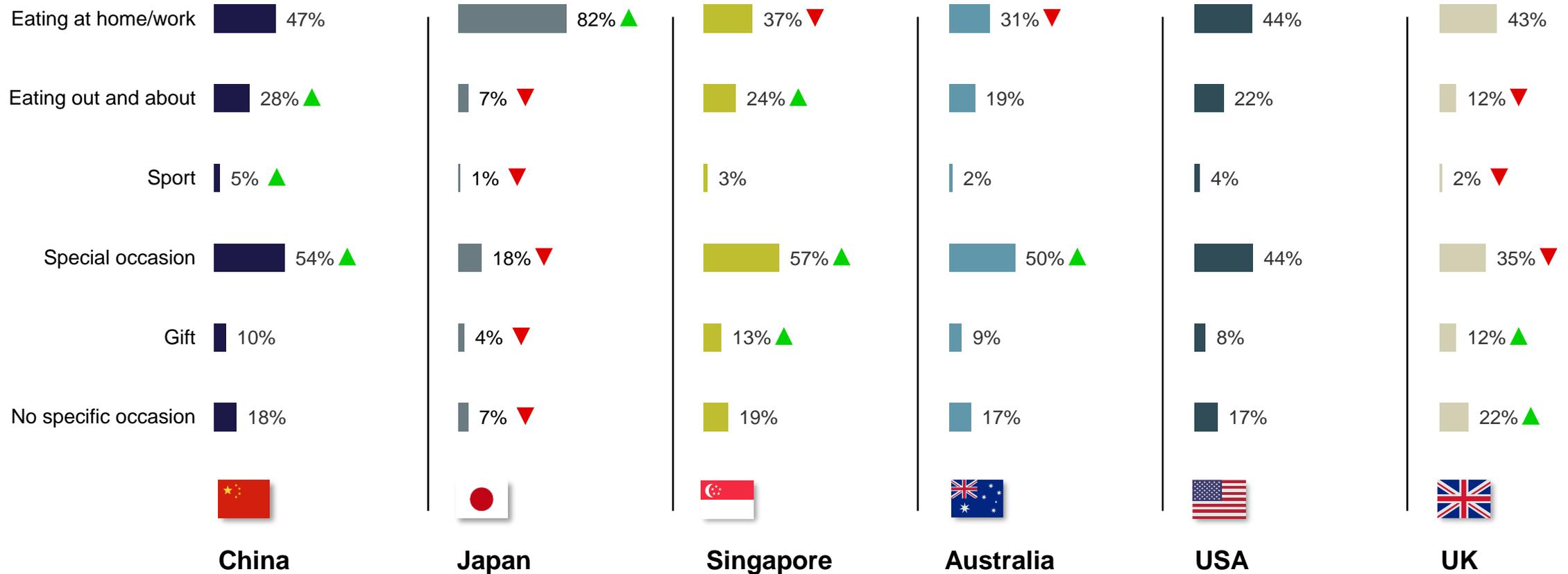


## SECTION 4

## OCCASIONS

# Alcohol often consumed as special occasion

When are alcoholic beverages consumed (grouped)



Total: China n = 1204; Japan n = 753; Singapore n = 751; Australia n = 749; USA n = 1124; UK n = 752

▲ = Significantly higher / lower than other markets

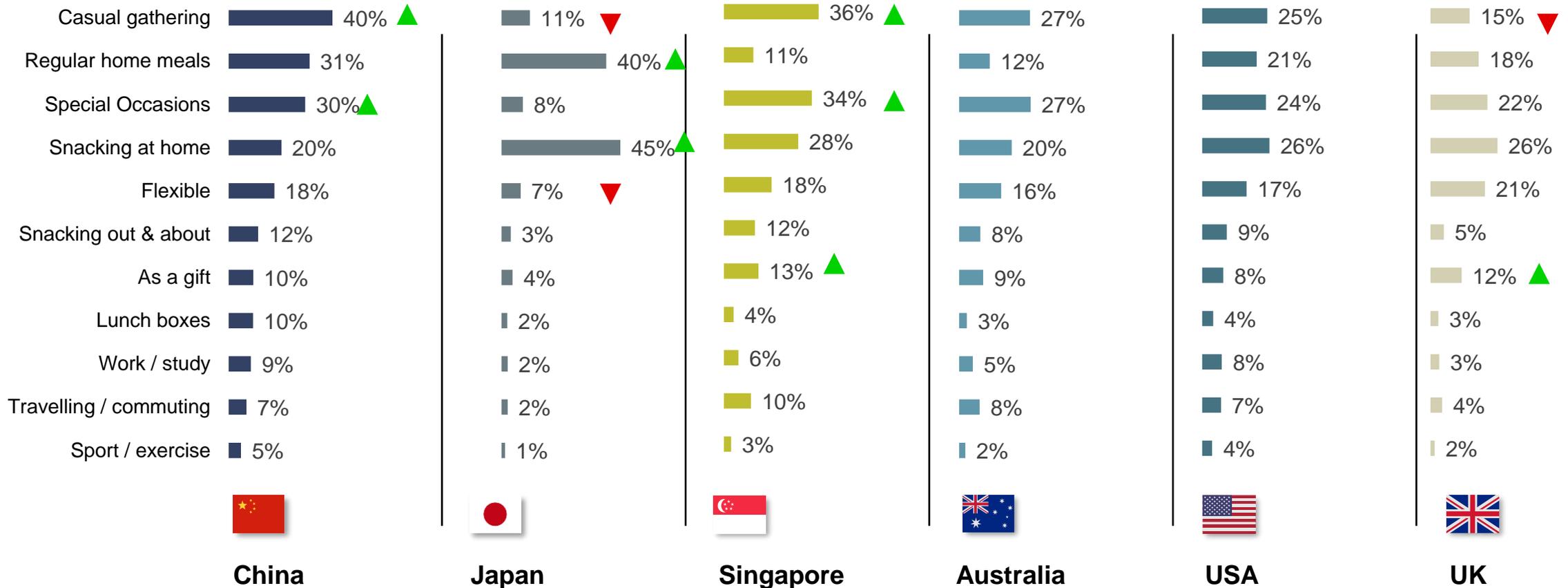


SECTION 4

OCCASIONS

# Alcohol often consumed for many different occasions - casual gathering and regular at home consumption dominate

## Occasions for consuming Alcoholic Beverages



▲ = Significantly higher / lower than other markets  
▼

# Alcohol is purchased for in-home consumption or casual gatherings

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Knowing the occasions for the category, helps in the development of marketing campaigns to **connect** with the times people purchase different product.

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Alcoholic beverages are most commonly purchased for in-home consumption and casual gathering, with casual gathering & special occasions being more common in Singapore and China.

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Beer is most likely to be for in-home consumption, whilst spirits are more likely to be with main meals in Singapore, China & Japan.

Wine is more likely to be for consumption at regular home meals in Australia, UK & USA.

# Bringing it all together

## Taste key driver of volume, but On Trend and ethical delivering value potential for Alcoholic Beverages

**Taste** is a very important factor in consumers decision making for alcoholic beverages, so ensuring the flavour profile is fit for what the market looks for is important and may mean reformulation to meet in market flavour preferences.

**On Trend** and **Ethical** are key to delivering value potential so having great looking but also organic certified products will deliver this.

## Channels for alcoholic beverages are impacted by legislation more than most

**Liquor stores** are dominant in Australia both online and offline. **Supermarkets** are most dominant in UK and Japan. In the UK this is both online and offline.

**Large e-commerce** channel a particular avenue for purchase of alcohol in China.

## Alcohol is purchased for in-home consumption or casual gatherings

Alcoholic beverages are most commonly purchased for **in-home consumption** and casual gathering, with **casual gathering** & special occasions being more common in Singapore and China.

Comms with imagery focused on 'casual gathering' is an effective way of connecting with consumers.

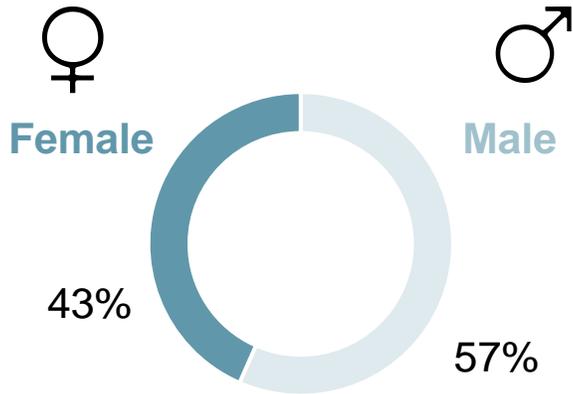
SECTION 5

**Demographics**

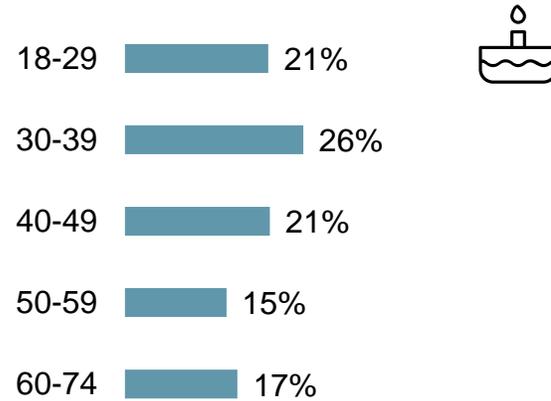


# Who are regular consumers of Alcoholic Beverages in Australia

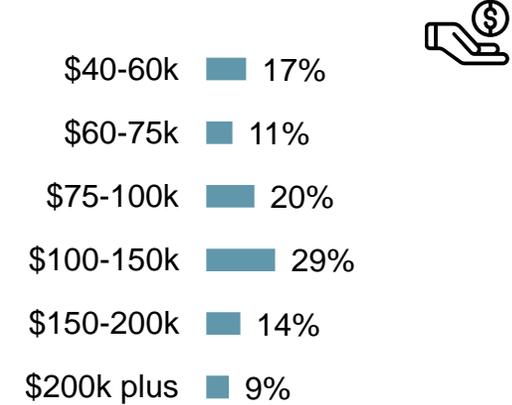
## GENDER



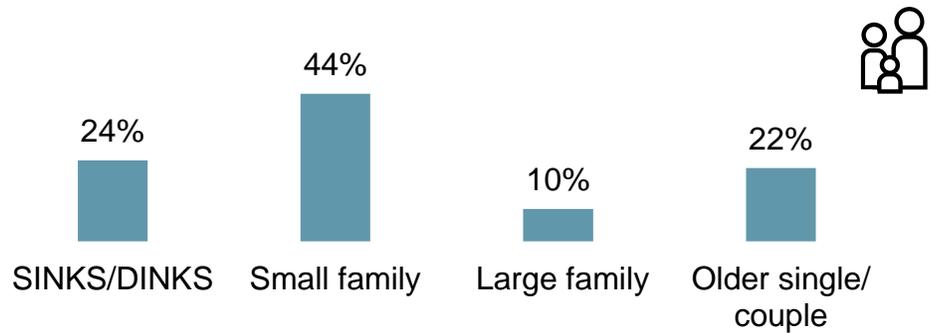
## AGE



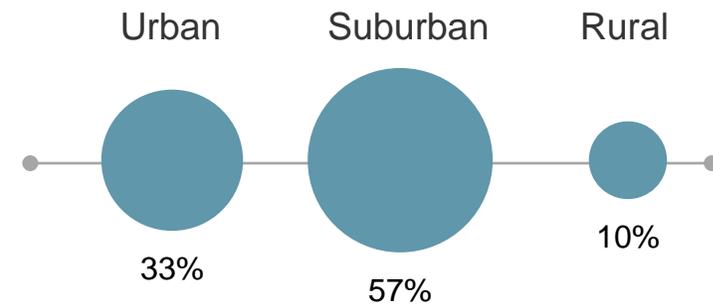
## INCOME



## LIFESTAGE



## AREA



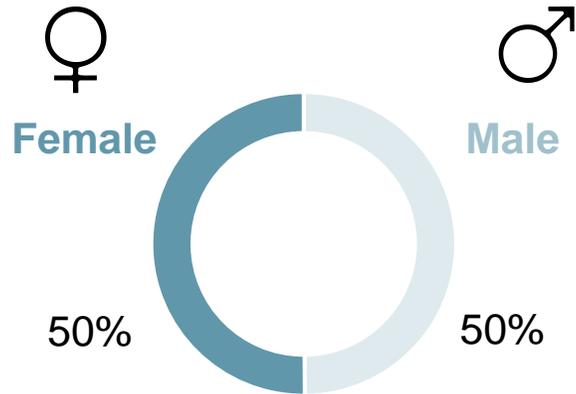
Base: Regular consumers of alcoholic Beverages, Australia: n=(991)

▲▼ = Significantly higher / lower than rest of the market

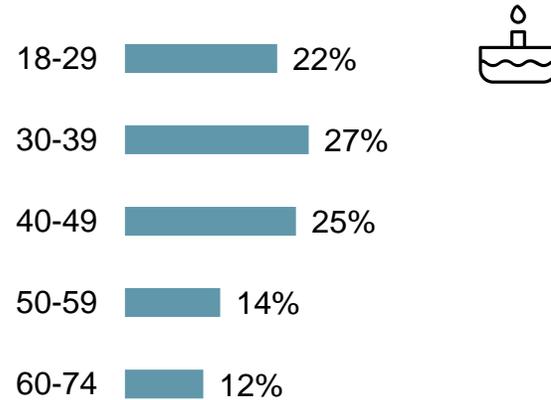


## Who are regular consumers of Alcoholic Beverages in China

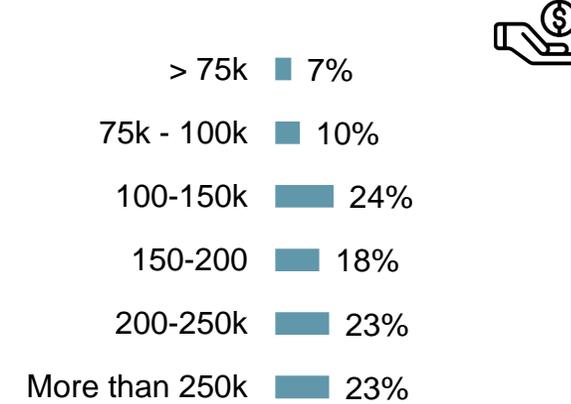
### GENDER



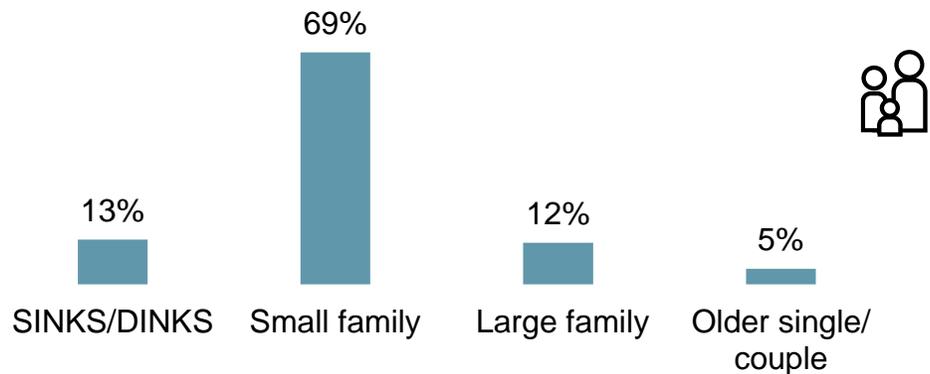
### AGE



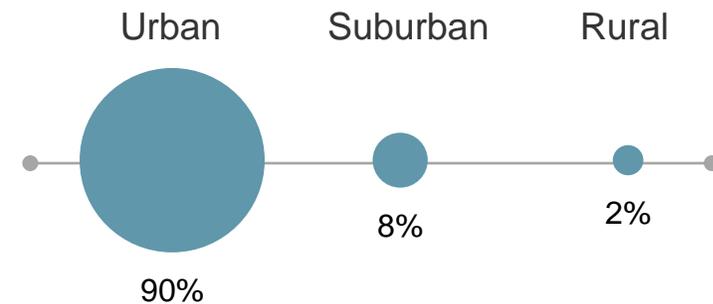
### INCOME



### LIFESTAGE



### AREA

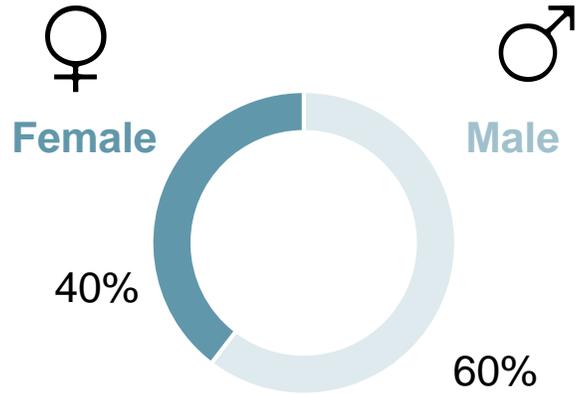


▲▼ = Significantly higher / lower than rest of the market

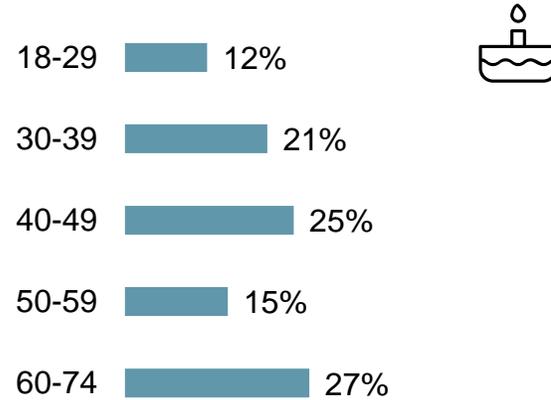


# Who are regular consumers of Alcoholic Beverages in Japan

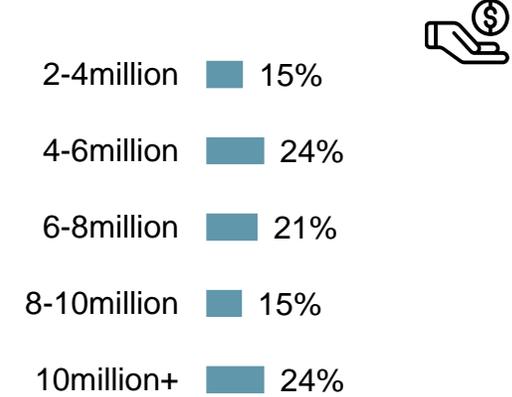
## GENDER



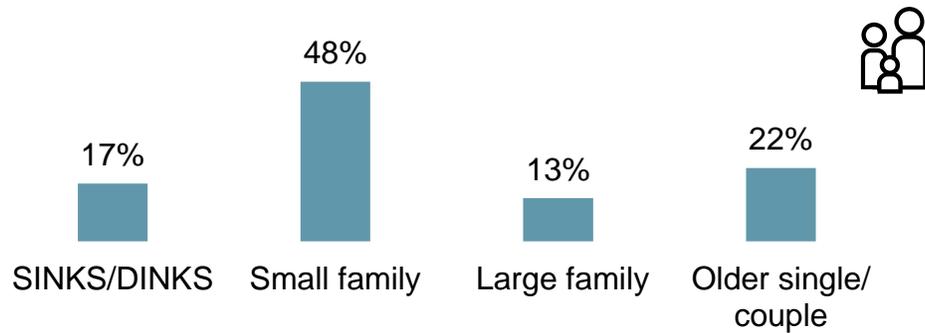
## AGE



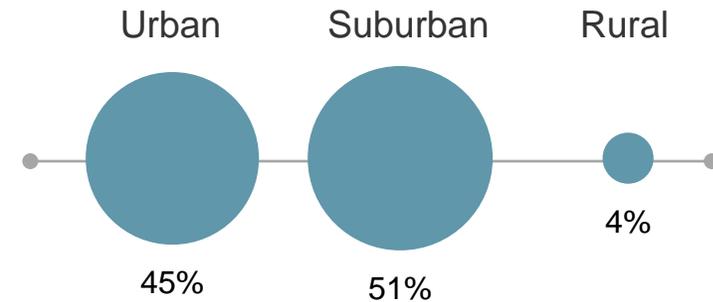
## INCOME



## LIFESTAGE



## AREA



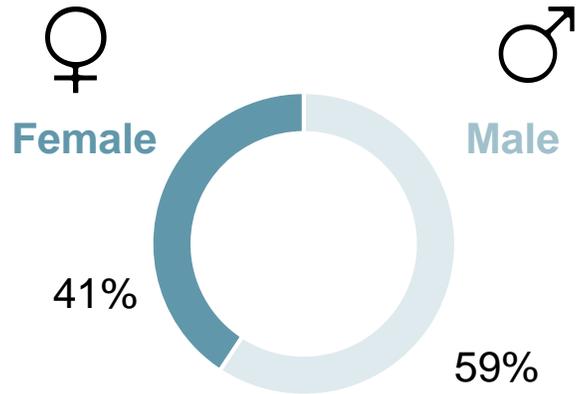
Base: Regular consumers of Alcoholic Beverages, Japan n=776

▲▼ = Significantly higher / lower than rest of the market

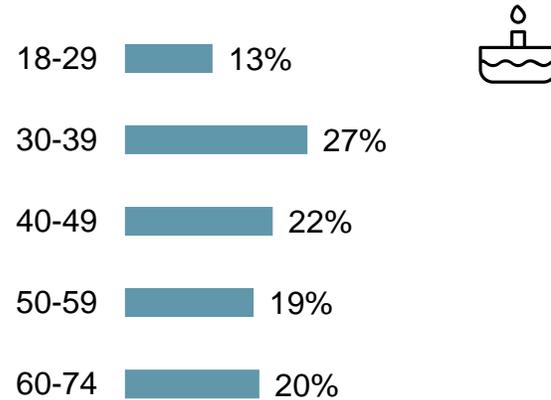


## Who are regular consumers of Alcoholic Beverages in Singapore

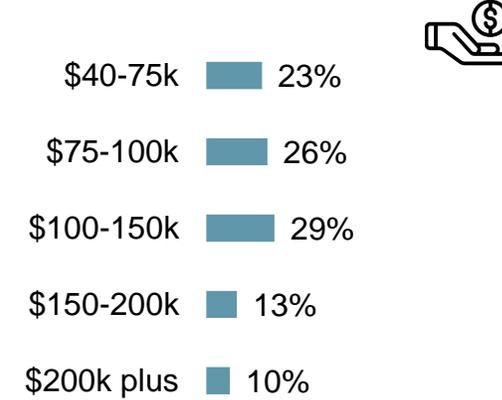
### GENDER



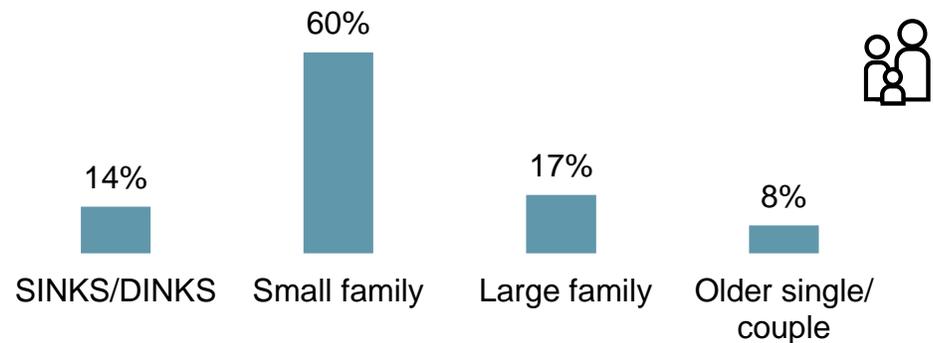
### AGE



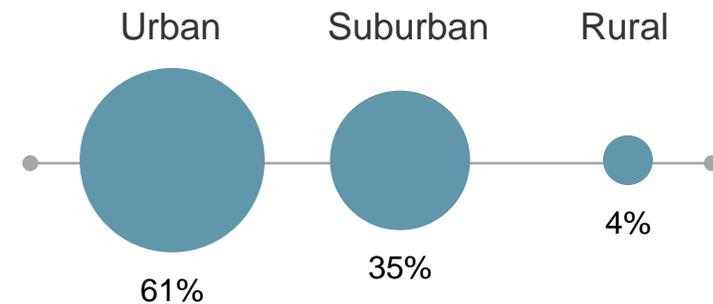
### INCOME



### LIFESTAGE



### AREA



Base: Regular consumers of Alcoholic Beverages, Singapore n=760

▲▼ = Significantly higher / lower than rest of the market

SECTION 5

DEMOGRAPHICS

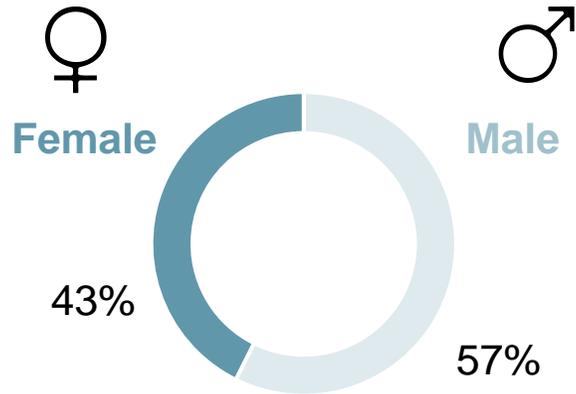


Alcoholic Beverages

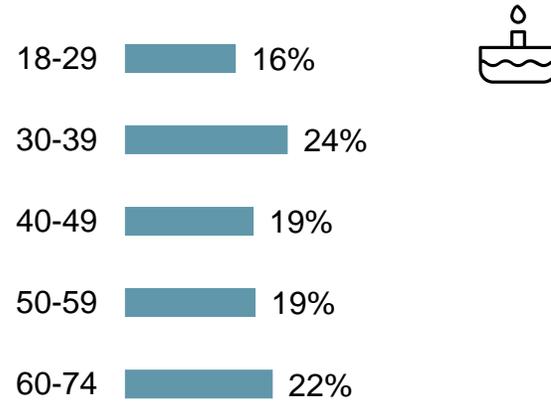


# Who are regular consumers of Alcoholic Beverages in UK

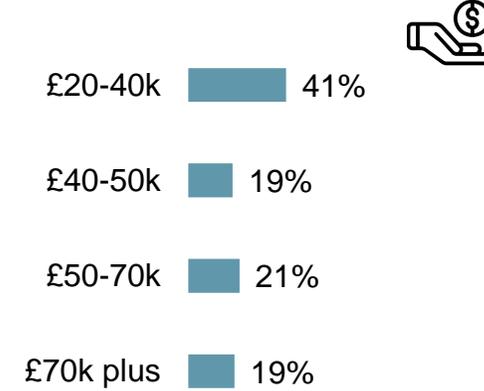
## GENDER



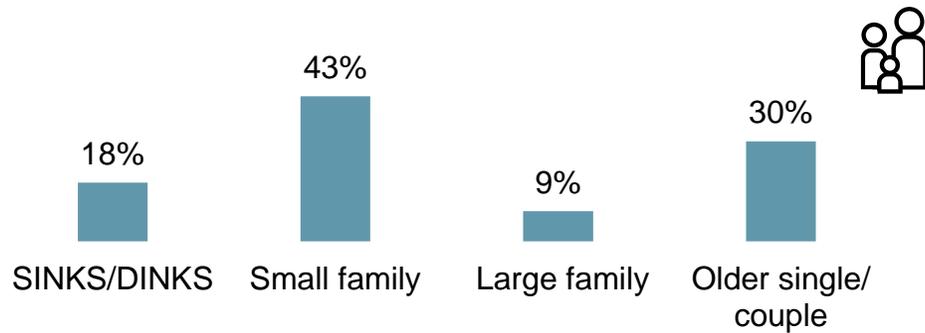
## AGE



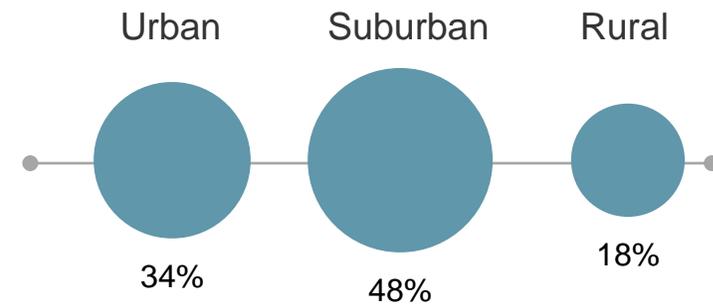
## INCOME



## LIFESTAGE



## AREA



Base: Regular consumers of Alcoholic Beverages, UK n=974

▲▼ = Significantly higher / lower than rest of the market

SECTION 5

DEMOGRAPHICS

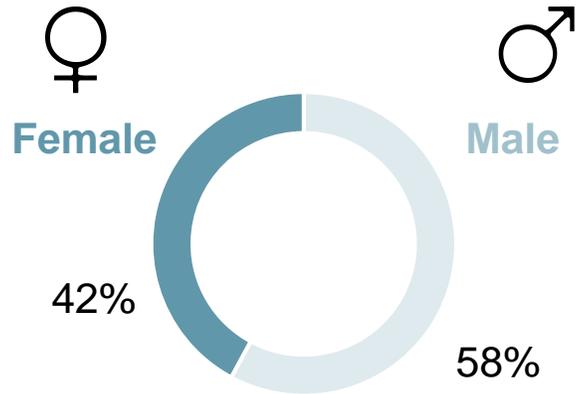


Alcoholic Beverages

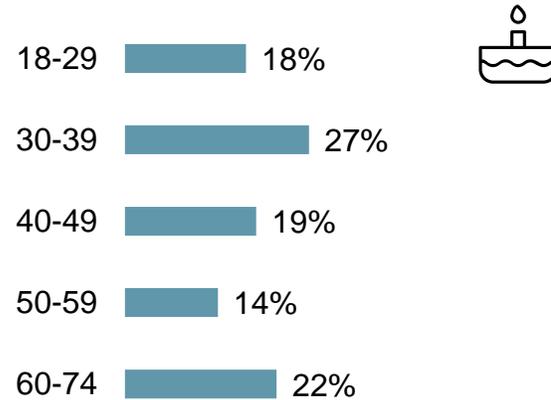


# Who are regular consumers of Alcoholic Beverages in USA

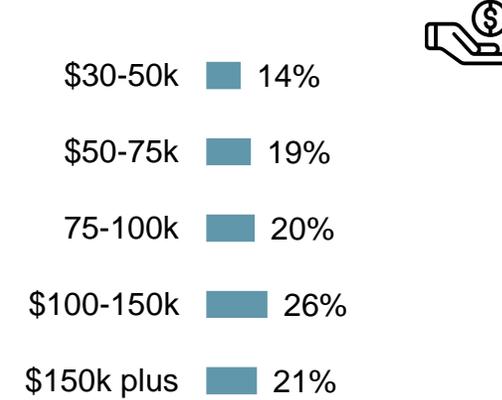
## GENDER



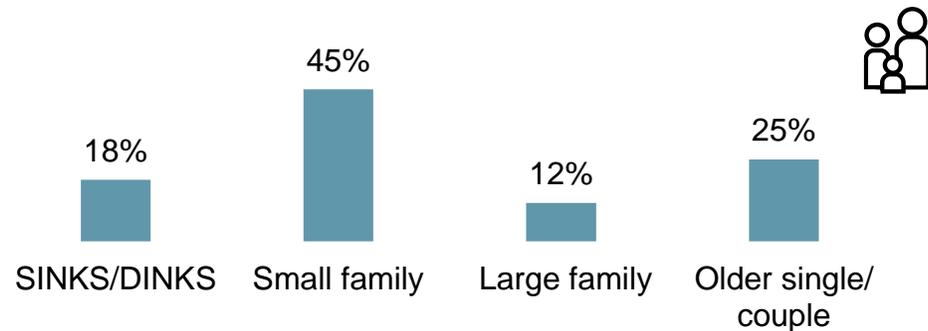
## AGE



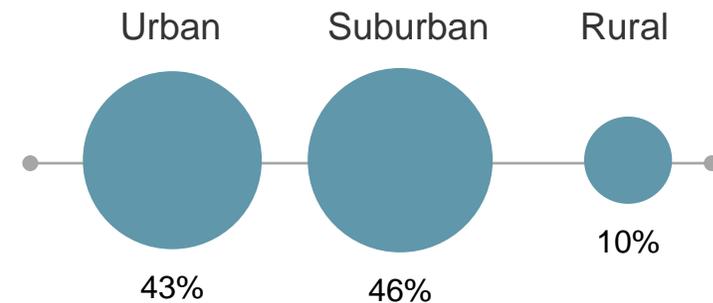
## INCOME



## LIFESTAGE



## AREA



Base: Regular consumers of Alcoholic Beverages, USA n=1,306

▲▼ = Significantly higher / lower than rest of the market

# Tēnā koutou

New Zealand Trade and Enterprise (NZTE) is the Government agency charged with a single purpose: growing companies internationally, bigger, better and faster, for the good of New Zealand.

We employ 600 people, have over 200 private sector partners and draw on a global network of thousands more.

We have people based in 50 offices, working across 24 time zones and 40 languages to support New Zealand businesses in over 100 countries.

Our global presence lets us deliver value to the businesses we support, through our unique know-how (knowledge and experience) and know-who (networks and connections).

Our know-how and know-who is expressed in our Māori name:  
Te Taurapa Tūhono.

Te Taurapa is the stern post of a traditional Māori waka, which records valuable knowledge, and stabilises and guides the craft forward. Tūhono represents connections to people and an ability to build relationships.

We provide customised services and support to ambitious businesses looking to go global. We help them build their capability, boost their global reach, connect to other businesses and invest in their growth. We also connect international investors with opportunities in New Zealand through a global network of investment advisors.

We call on our Government network and work closely with our NZ Inc partners and the business community, to grow our national brand and help businesses to open doors in global markets.

[nzte.govt.nz](http://nzte.govt.nz)

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