

Food Industry **Facts**



Answers to Frequently Asked Questions about the food industry.

Below are topline food industry operations and consumer data pulled from FMI's research reports and supermarket trade publications. Data are updated as figures are released.



How many people work in the food industry?

6.3 M

Grocery stores and food manufacturers employ 6.3 million people.

Source: [Bureau of Labor Statistics](#)



What are the total sales for
supermarkets?

\$1 Trillion

Total sales for supermarkets in 2025 were \$1 trillion.

Source: [The Food Retailing Industry Speaks](#)



How many items do supermarkets carry?

33,248

On average, supermarkets carry 33,248 items in the store in 2025.

Source: [The Food Retailing Industry Speaks](#)



How many supermarkets are in the United States?

45,575

Number of Supermarkets

In 2024, there were 45,575 supermarkets in the United States. This includes conventional supermarkets, limited assortment grocery, supercenters, warehouse grocery, conventional club, and natural/gourmet stores, along with military commissaries.

Source: [NielsenIQ TDLinx](#)



What is the average net profit for food retailers?

2.1%

The average net profit for food retailers in 2025 is 2.1%.

[VIEW TREND](#)

Source: [The Food Retailing Industry Speaks](#)

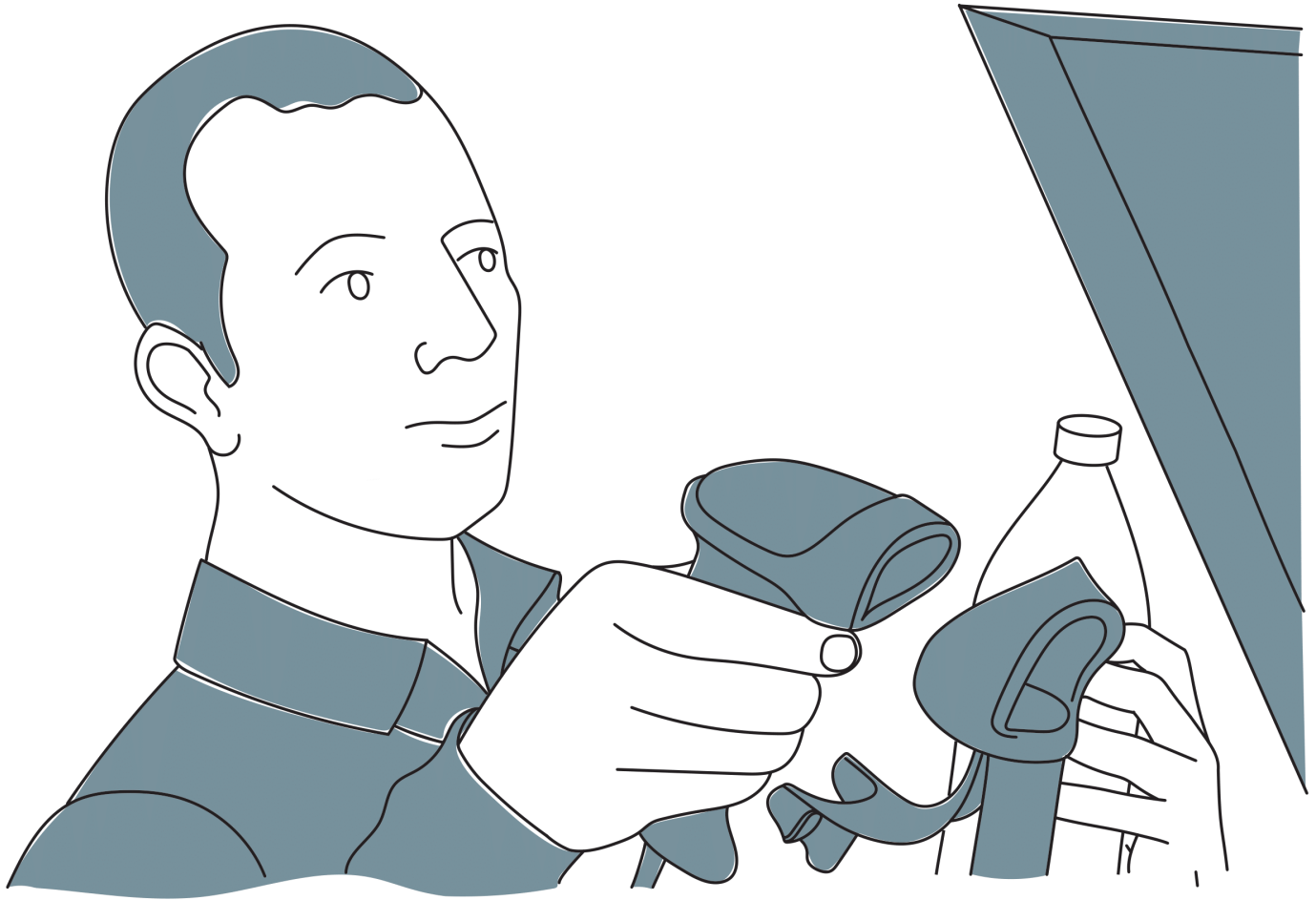


How big are supermarkets?

42,272

The average supermarket in 2025 is 42,272 square feet.

Source: [The Food Retailing Industry Speaks](#)



What are the average weekly sales per supermarket?

\$668,377

In 2025, the average weekly sales per supermarket are \$668,377.

Source: [The Food Retailing Industry Speaks](#)



How much do Americans spend on groceries?

\$169

As of February 2026, average weekly grocery spending per household in the U.S. is \$169.

Source: [U.S. Grocery Shopper Trends](#)



What are the weekly sales per square foot of selling area for supermarkets?

\$19.59

In 2025, weekly sales per square foot of selling area for supermarkets is \$19.59.

Source: [The Food Retailing Industry Speaks](#)

How much do Americans spend on Food?



% of disposable income spent on food (2024)

Source: [USDA \(See Table on Normalized Food Expenditures by all Purchasers\)](#)

5.0% Food at Home

5.6% Food Away from Home

In 2024, Americans spent 5.0% of their disposable income on food at home and 5.6% of their disposable income on food away from home.



What are the sales per labor hour for supermarkets?

\$217.83

In 2025, the sales per labor hour for supermarkets was \$217.83.

Source: [The Food Retailing Industry Speaks](#)

How much do shoppers spend per transaction at supermarkets?



Sales per customer transaction (2025)

Source: [The Food Retailing Industry Speaks](#)

\$49.06	In-store
\$106	Online

In 2025, supermarket shoppers sent \$49.06 per transaction in-store and \$106 per transaction online.



How many grocery items are sold online?

8.9%

In 2025, 8.9% of all grocery item sales were online.

Source: [The Food Retailing Industry Speaks](#)



How many sales in supermarkets use self-checkout?

33%

In 2025, 33% of all transactions in supermarkets used self-checkout.

Source: [The Food Retailing Industry Speaks](#)

Industry Facts Related Links

[Consumer Price Index 12-month percentage change, selected categories](#)

[Supermarket Sales By Department 2019](#) (percent of supermarket sales)

[UPC Random Weight Perishables](#)

[VIEW OUR ADDITIONAL RESEARCH REPORTS »](#)