



Power of Supply and demand in Germany:
The Retailer-Manufacturer Relationship in the German Food Market
– a study by order of HDE –

Institut für Handelsforschung

BBE Retail Experts

Brussels, 09. Dezember 2009



Agenda



1. Background

The Mandate

The Proceeding

The Concept of Power of Demand

The European Discussion

The Functions of the Retail Sector

2. Analysis of the Market Structure

3. Results of the Consumer Research

4. The Role of Private Label

5. Conclusion



The term **power of demand** describes the ability of a representative of a buyer-organisation to enforce the terms and conditions of the exchange in favour for the goals of the own company against representatives of a seller-organisation.

In this connection, it has to be distinguished between the concept of power of demand and the term of market power.

The latter refers to individual bilateral relations between one buyer and one supplier, while, in contrast, the concept of power of demand focusses a supplier`s market position in a specific market.

Therefore, the Concept of Power of Demand has to be defined precisely.



1. Background

2. Analysis of the Market Structure

Definition of the Relevant Market

The Structure of the Total Market

Analysis of Individual Product-/Commodity-Groups

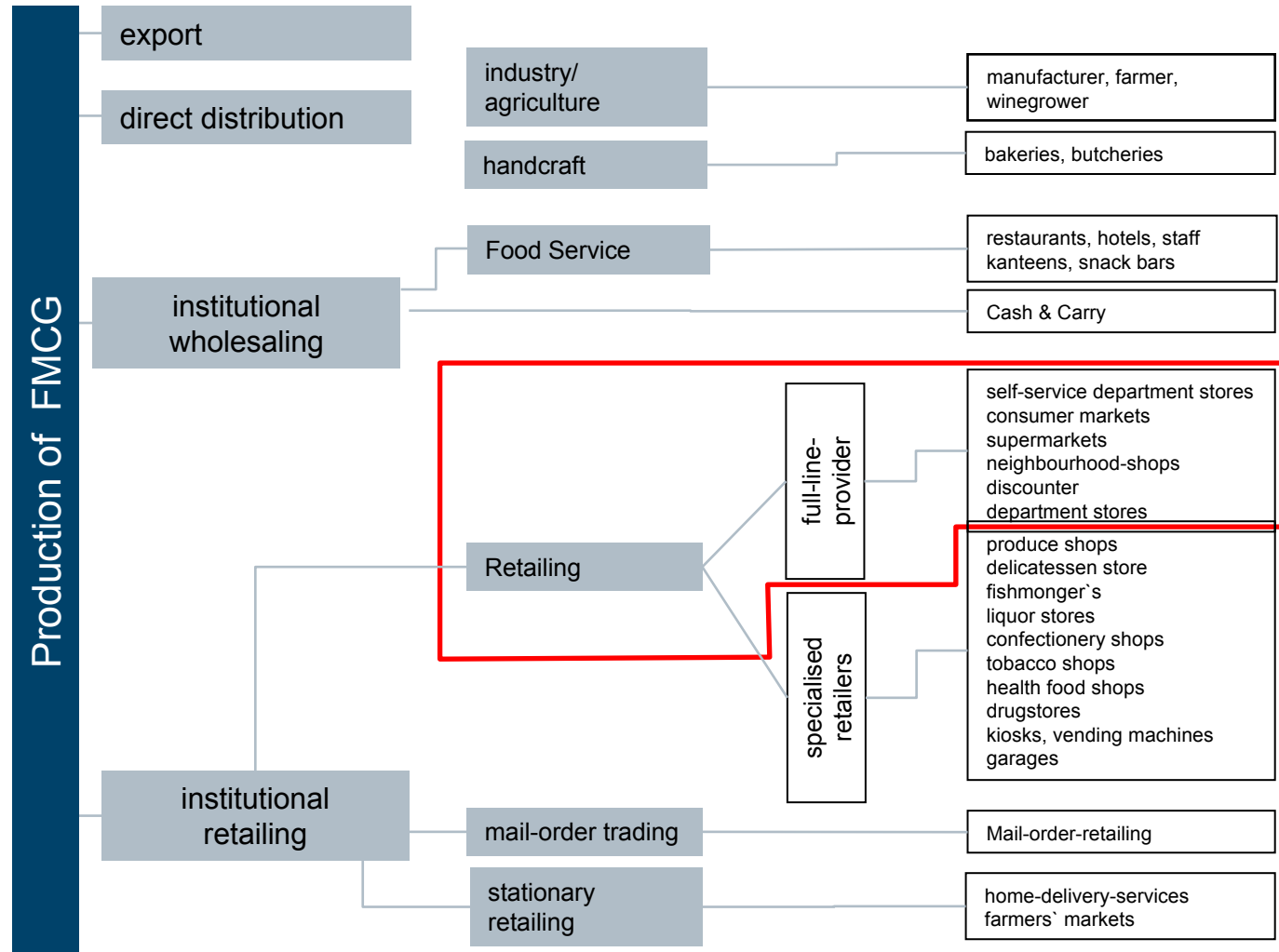
3. Results of the Consumer Research

4. The Role of Private Label

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Analysis of the Market Structure

Overview of Relevant Distribution Channels



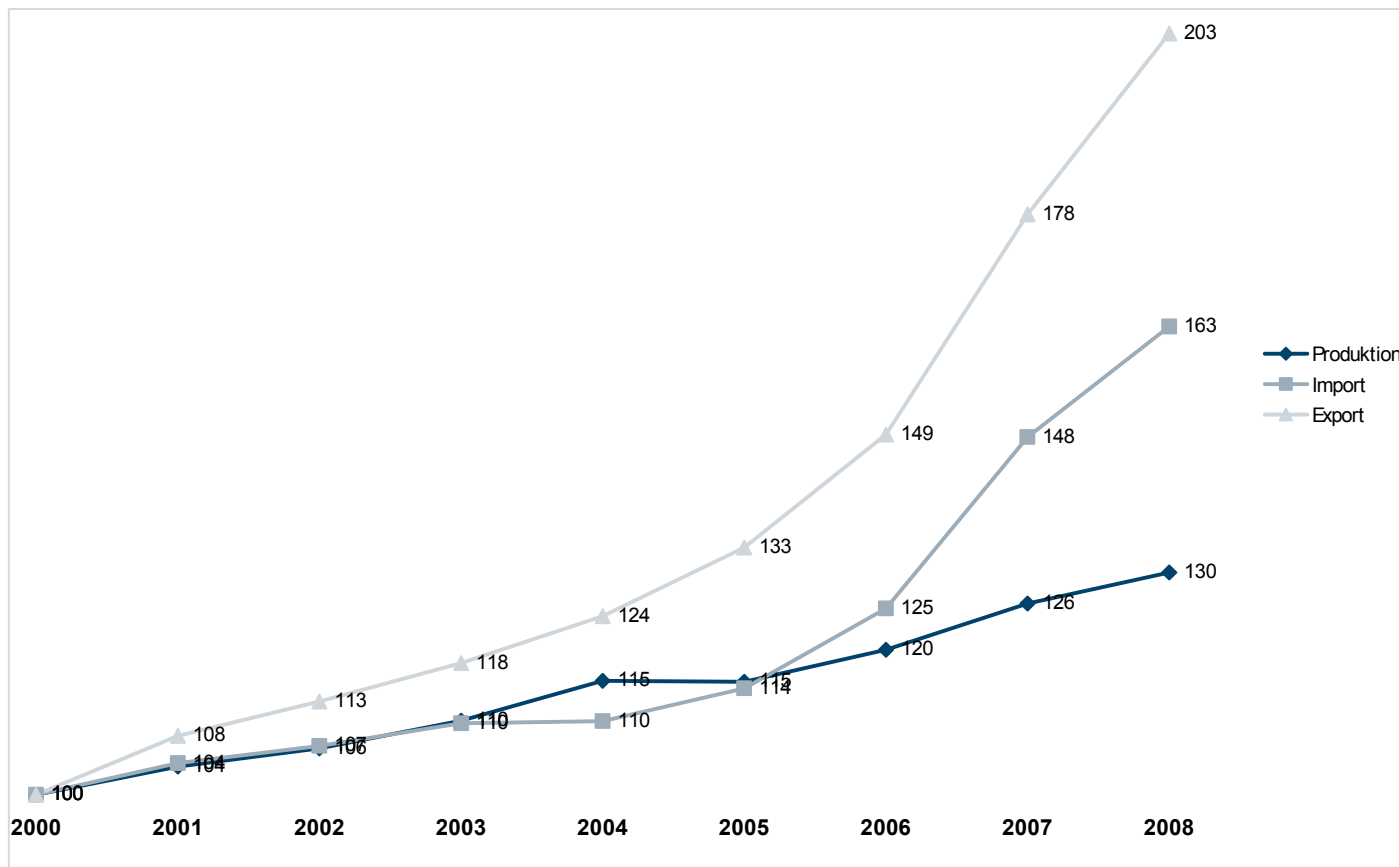
Source: according to Trade Dimensions 2008.

Analysis of the Market Structure

Alternative Distribution-Channel: Export



Index-development production, import and export of FMCG 2000-2008



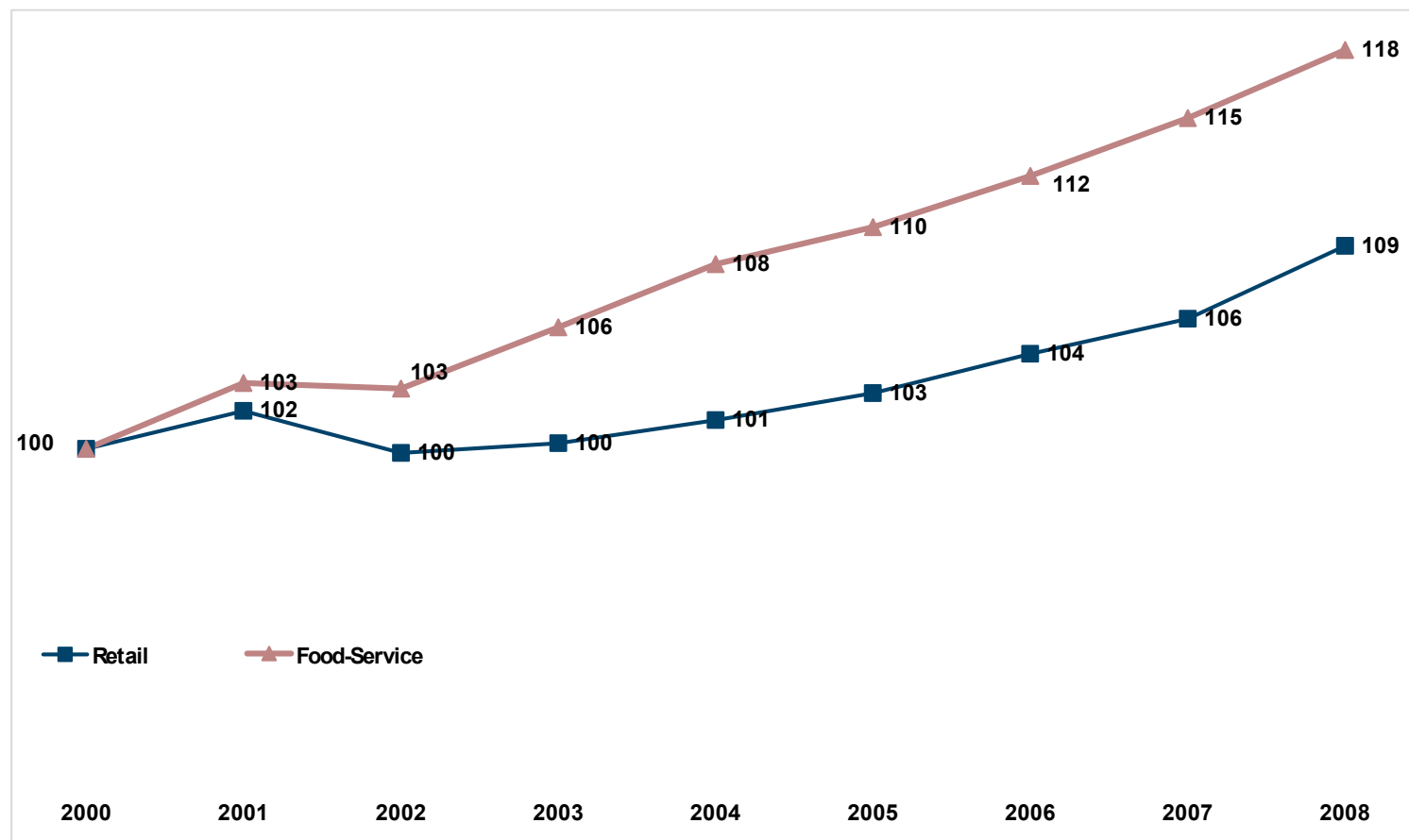
Source: BBE RETAIL EXPERTS, Statistisches Bundesamt, production statistics, foreign trade statistics

Analysis of the Market Structure

Alternative Distribution-Channel: Food-Service



Index-development of sales Food Service and Retail



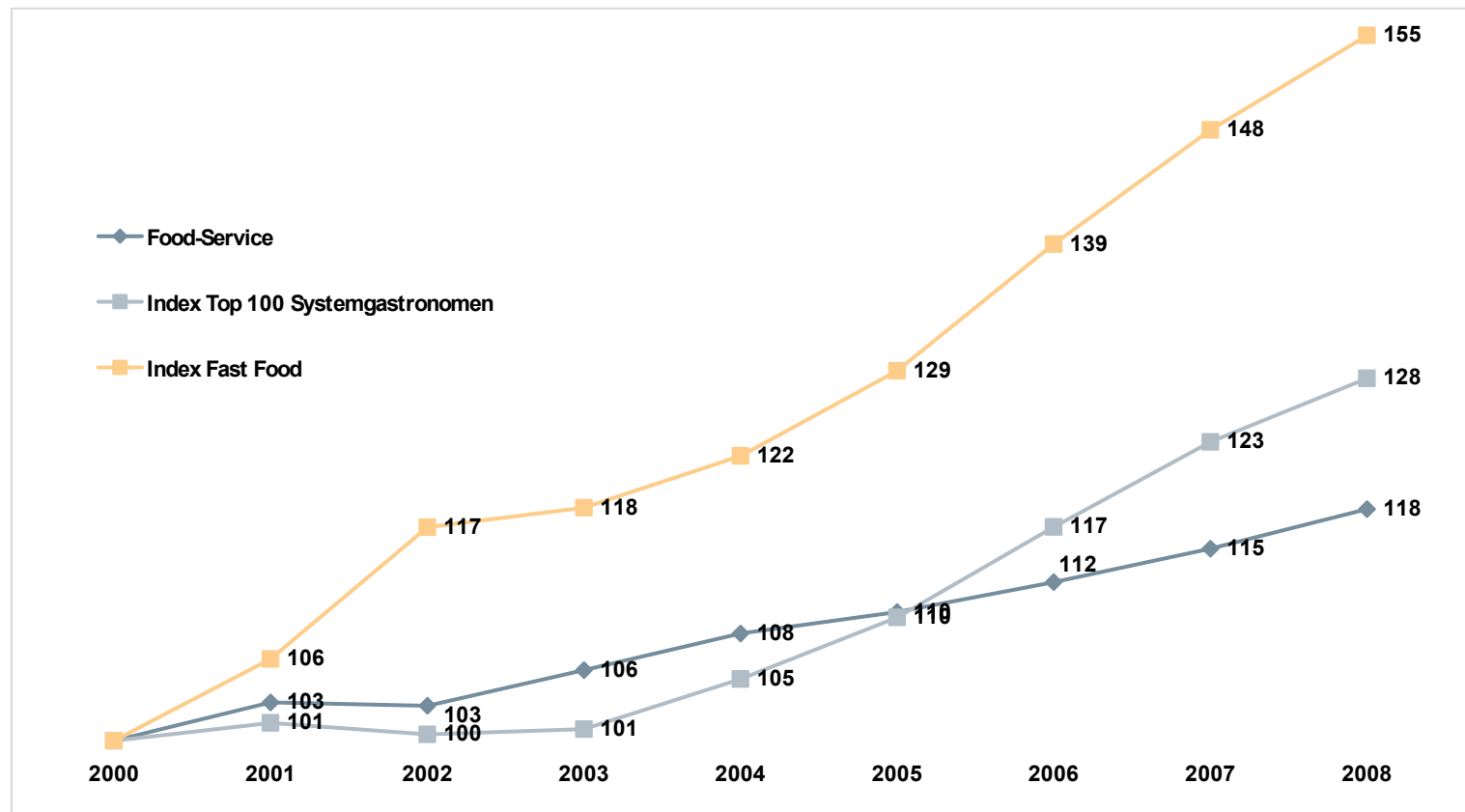
Source: BBE RETAIL EXPERTS, company statistics, dehoga, association reports, press reports.

Analysis of the Market Structure

Alternative Distribution-Channel: Food-Service



Index-development of sales Food-Service, restaurant chains and Fast Food restaurant chains, 2000-2008



Source: BBE RETAIL EXPERTS, company statistics, dehoga, association reports, press reports.

Analysis of the Market Structure

The Relationship between Manufacturer and Retailer



The previous discussion on proportions of power in food retailing mainly focussed on the constellation **“strong retailer versus weak manufacturer”**.

HERSTELLER	stark	?	?	?
	mittel	?	?	?
	schwach	?	?	?
		schwach	mittel	stark
		HANDEL		

Source: Institut für Handelsforschung (IfH)

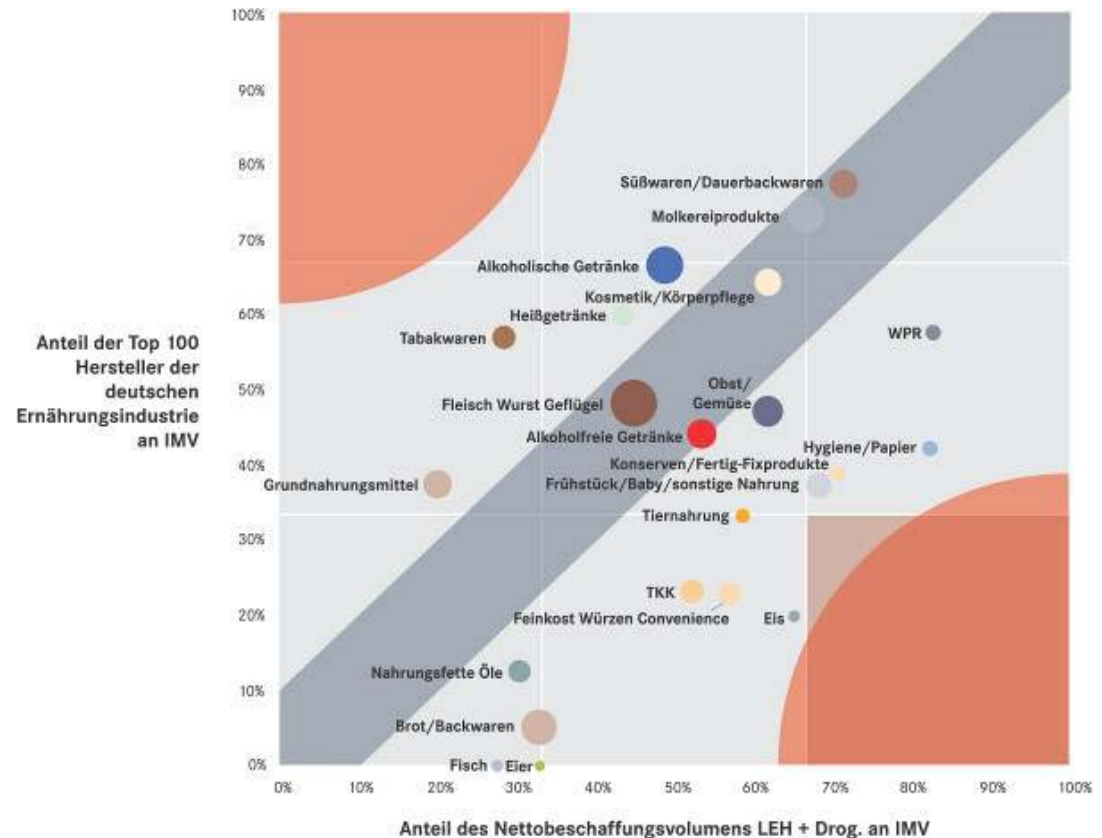
Analysis of the Market Structure

9-Field-Portfolio by Product-group: TOP 100



Production volume of the top 100 manufacturers in the food industry and the net-buying-volume of retailers and drugstores

- ▶ relative equilibrium
 - ▶ confectionery/long-life bakery product/ snacks
 - ▶ dairy products
 - ▶ personal hygiene and cosmetics
 - ▶ meat and meat products
 - ▶ alcoholic drinks
- ▶ No product-group is situated within the **critical fields** 1 or 9



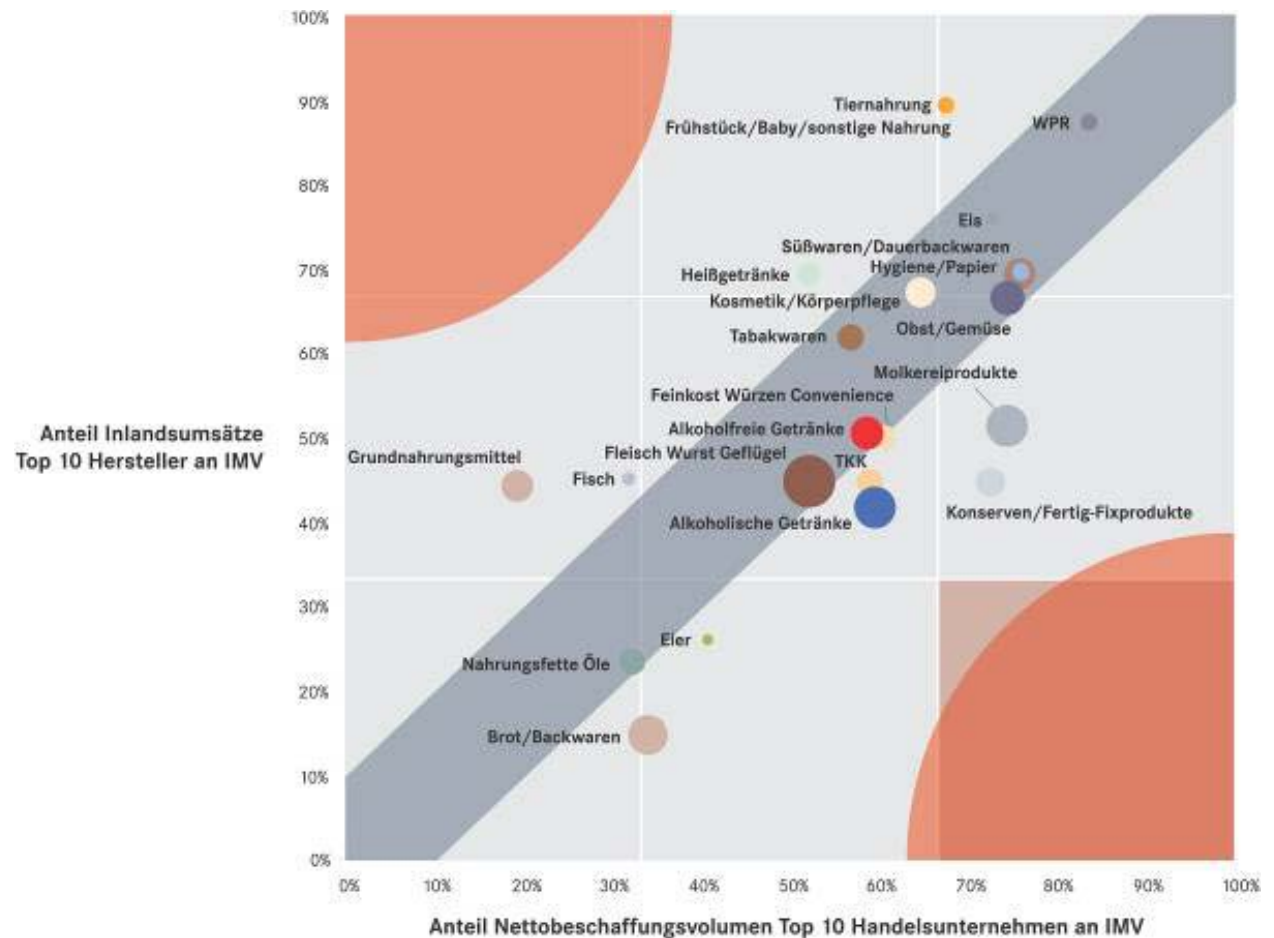
Source: Top 100 Hersteller Ranking Lebensmittelzeitung, Bundesanzeiger, press reports.

Analysis of the Market Structure

9-Field-Portfolio by Product-group: TOP 10



Domestic-turnover of the top 10 manufacturers vs. net-buying-volume of the top 10 retailers according to product-group



Source: BBE RETAIL EXPERTS

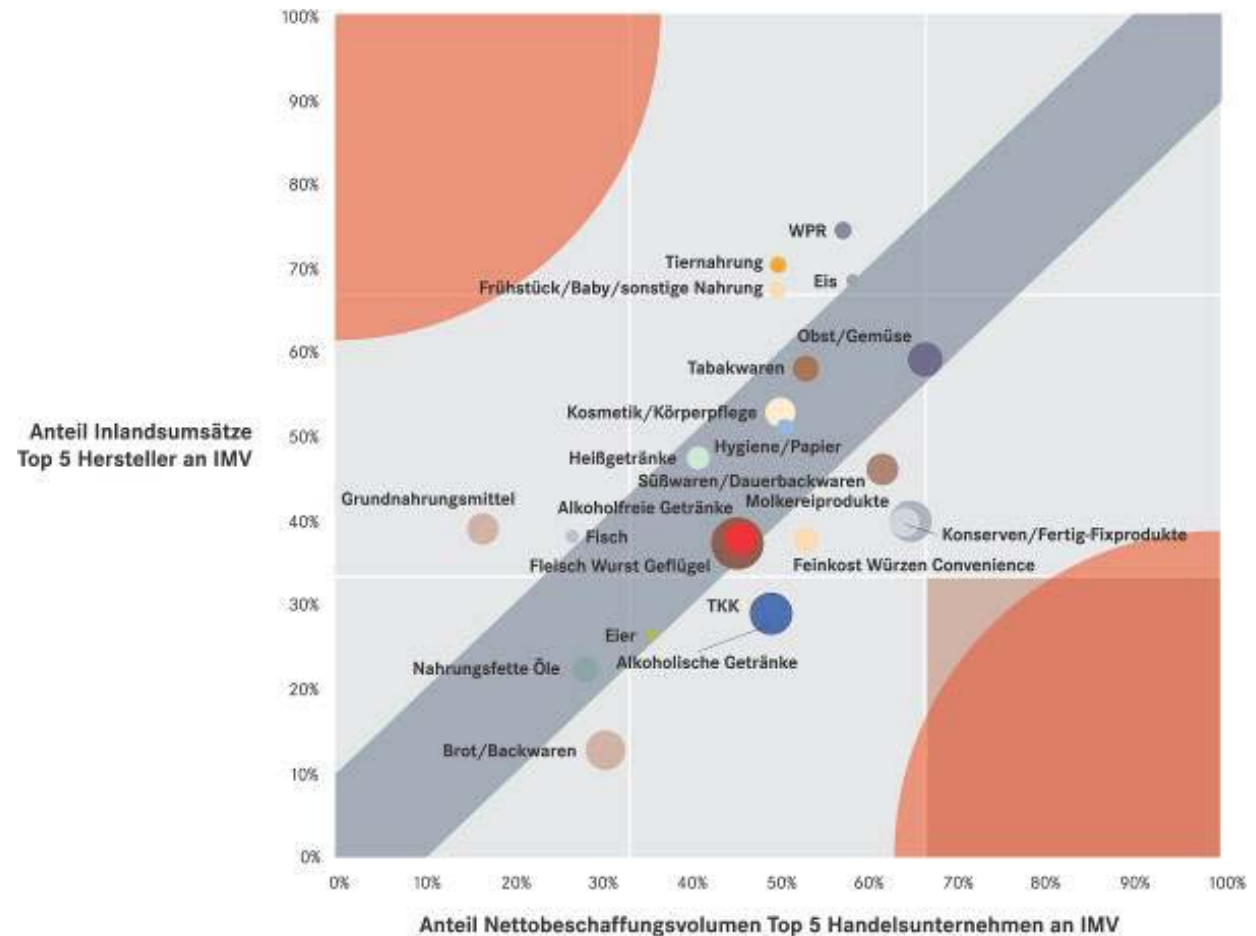
Analysis of the Market Structure

9-Field-Portfolio by Product-group: TOP 5



Domestic-turnover of the top 5 manufacturers vs. net-buying-volume of the top 5 retailers according to product-group

- ▶ no substantial alteration of the conclusions
- ▶ none of the 22 product-groups close in on the critical area
- ▶ half of the product-groups show a relative balance in size within a bandwidth of 10%

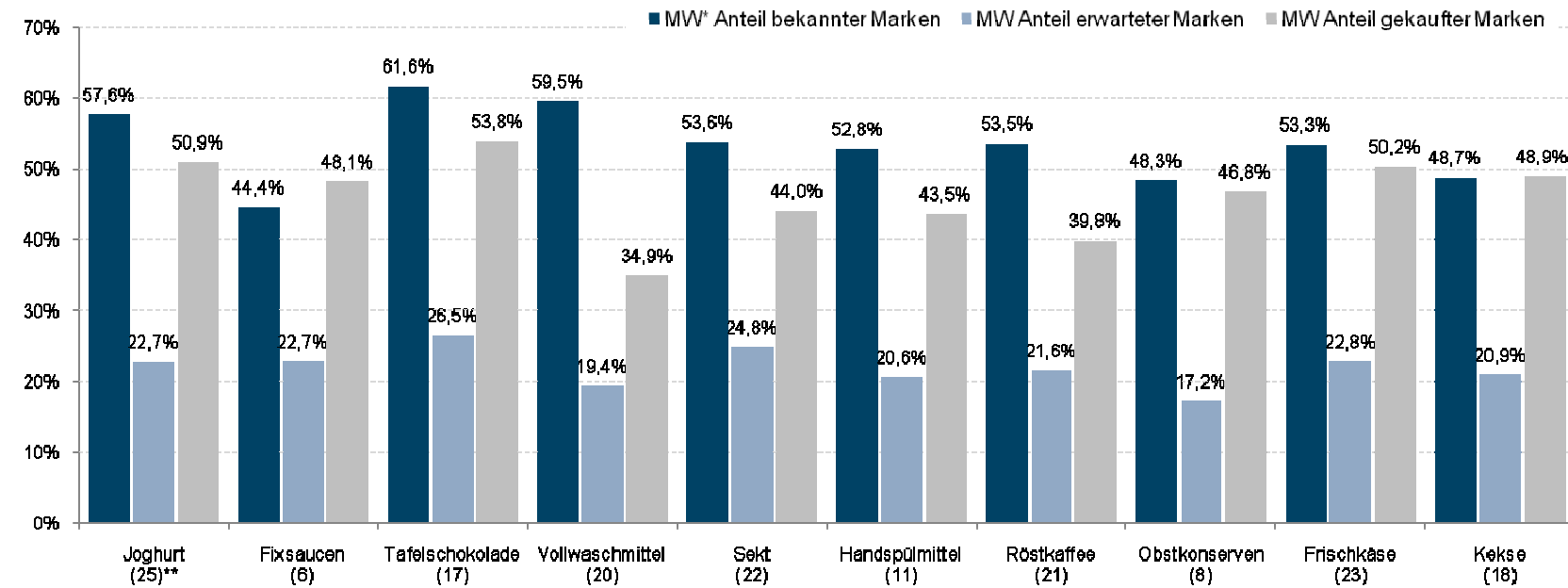


Source: BBE RETAIL EXPERTS

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 - The Research Model
 - The Conception
 - The Results
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	Joghurt (25)**	Fixsaucen (6)	Tafelschokolade (17)	Vollwaschmittel (20)	Sekt (22)	Handspülmittel (11)	Röstkaffee (21)	Obstkonserven (8)	Frischkäse (23)	Kekse (18)
MW bekannter Marken	14,4	2,7	10,5	11,9	11,8	5,8	11,2	3,9	12,3	8,8
MW erwarteter Marken	5,7	1,4	4,5	3,9	5,4	2,3	4,5	1,4	5,2	3,8
MW gekaufter Marken	12,7	2,9	9,2	7,0	9,7	4,8	8,4	3,7	11,5	8,8

* MW = Mittelwert

** Anzahl der abgefragten Marken je Produktgruppe

Source: IfH

Consumer Research

Must-stock-products by product-group



Product-Group (number of retrieved/ relevant brands)	Must-stock-products (ranking)	Manufacturers
yoghurt (23)		Zott GmbH & Co KG, Molkerei Alois Müller GmbH & Co. KG, Campina GmbH, EHRMANN AG, DANONE, J. Bauer GmbH & Co. KG,
instant gravey (4)		Nestlé Deutschland AG, Unilever Deutschland Holding GmbH
chocolate (15)		Kraft Foods Deutschland GmbH, Ferrero Deutschland GmbH, Alfred Ritter GmbH & Co. KG, Lindt & Sprüngli GmbH, Stollwerck GmbH,
laundry detergents (18)		Henkel AG & Co. KGaA (Weißer Riese, Persil, Spee), Procter & Gamble Germany GmbH & Co (Ariel, Dash), Unilever Deutschland Holding GmbH (Sunil, Coral)
sparkling wine (20)		Söhnlein Rheingold Sektkellerei GmbH, Gruppo Campari, Rotkaepfchen - Mumm Sektkellerei GmbH, Fürst von Metternich Sektkellerei, Henkel & Co. Sektkellerei KG, Freixenet GmbH, Matheus Müller Sektkellereien GmbH

Source: IfH.

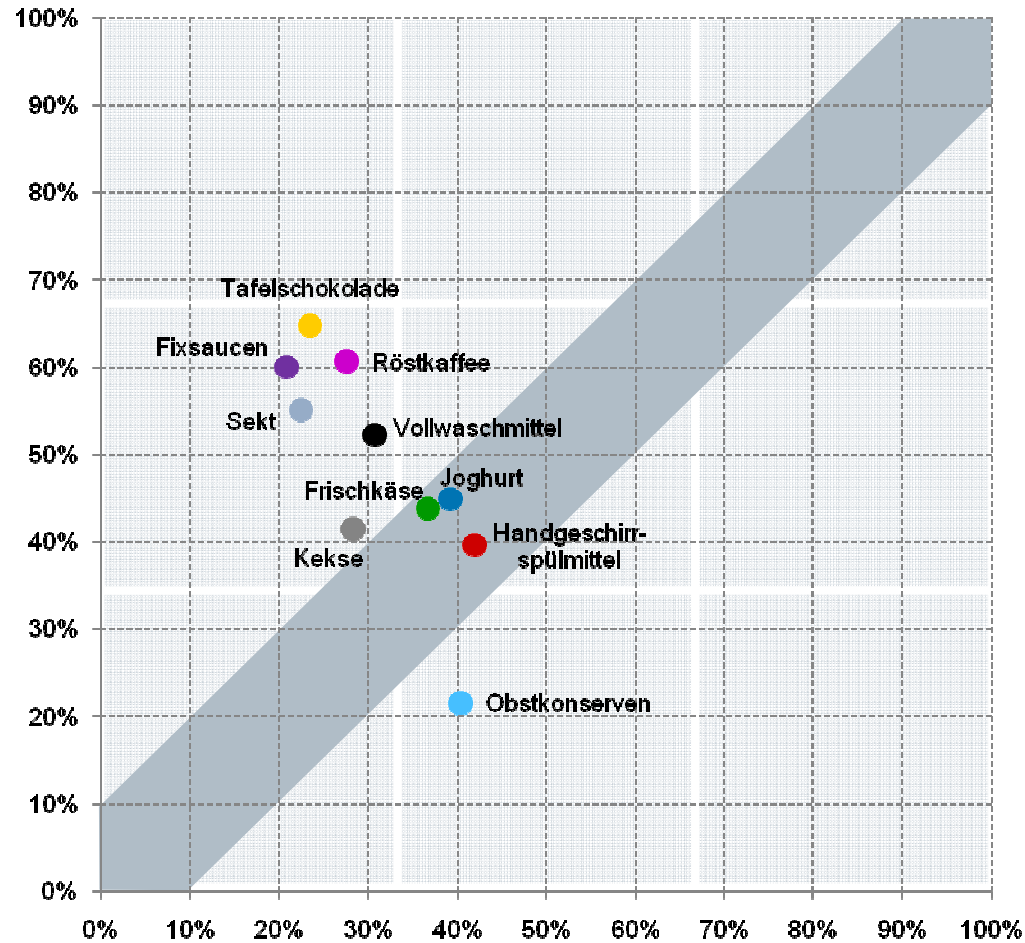
Consumer Research

Purchase of Manufacturer Brands vs. Private Label



y-axis:
%-fraction entries „I fully/rather agree“ (top 2):
I predominantly buy brands of well-known manufacturers and rarely unknown brands.

agreement=
manufacturer power



Stark	?	?	?
Mittel	?	?	?
Schwach	?	?	!
Hersteller	schwach	mittel	stark
Handel			

x-axis:
%-fraction entities „I fully/rather agree“ (top 2):
I predominantly buy private label.

agreement=
retailer power

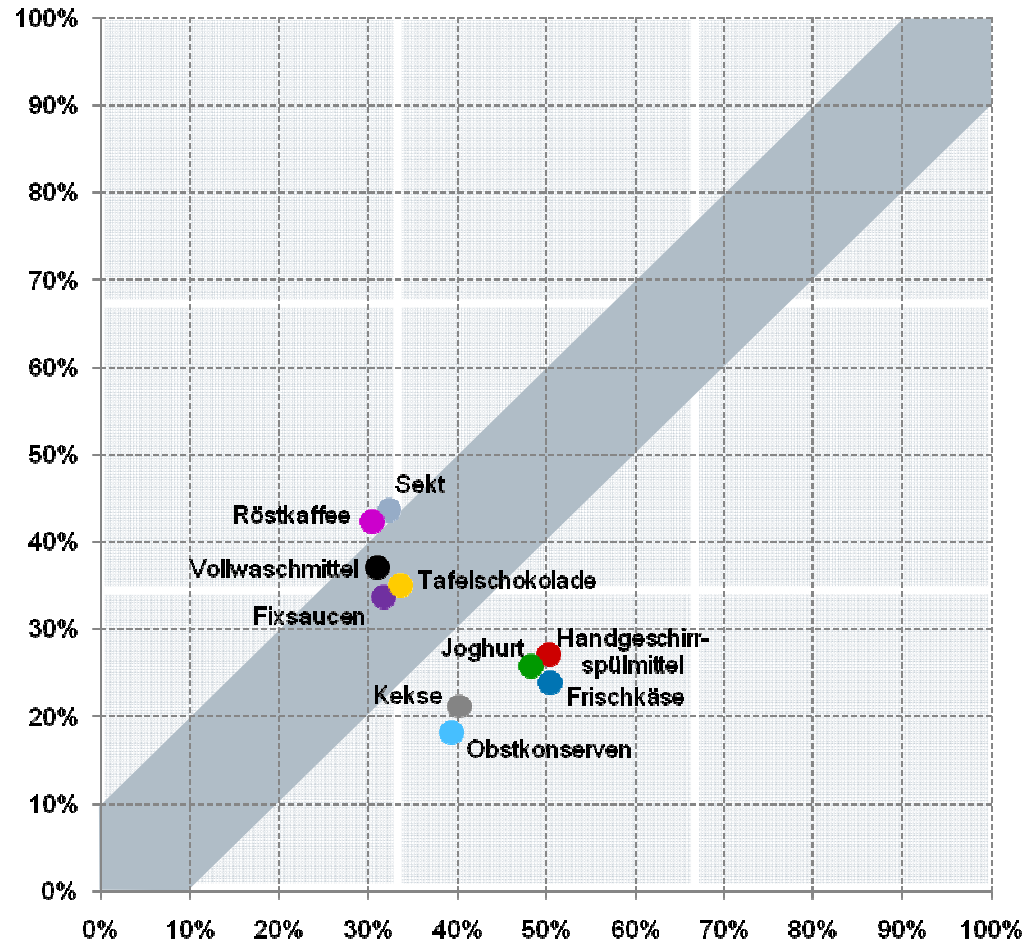
Source: IfH

Consumer Research

Response to Unavailability of brands

y-axis:
%-fraction entries „I fully/rather agree“:
statement S7:
If I do not find my favoured brand in a shop, I buy it in another shop.

agreement=
manufacturer power



Stark	?	?	?
Mittel	?	?	?
Schwach	?	?	!
Hersteller Handel	schwach	mittel	stark

x-axis:
%-fraction entries „I fully/rather agree“:
statement S8:
If I do not find my favoured brand in a shop, I buy another brand.

agreement=
retailer power

Source: IfH.

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The Role of Private Label

Alternative Private Label Strategies



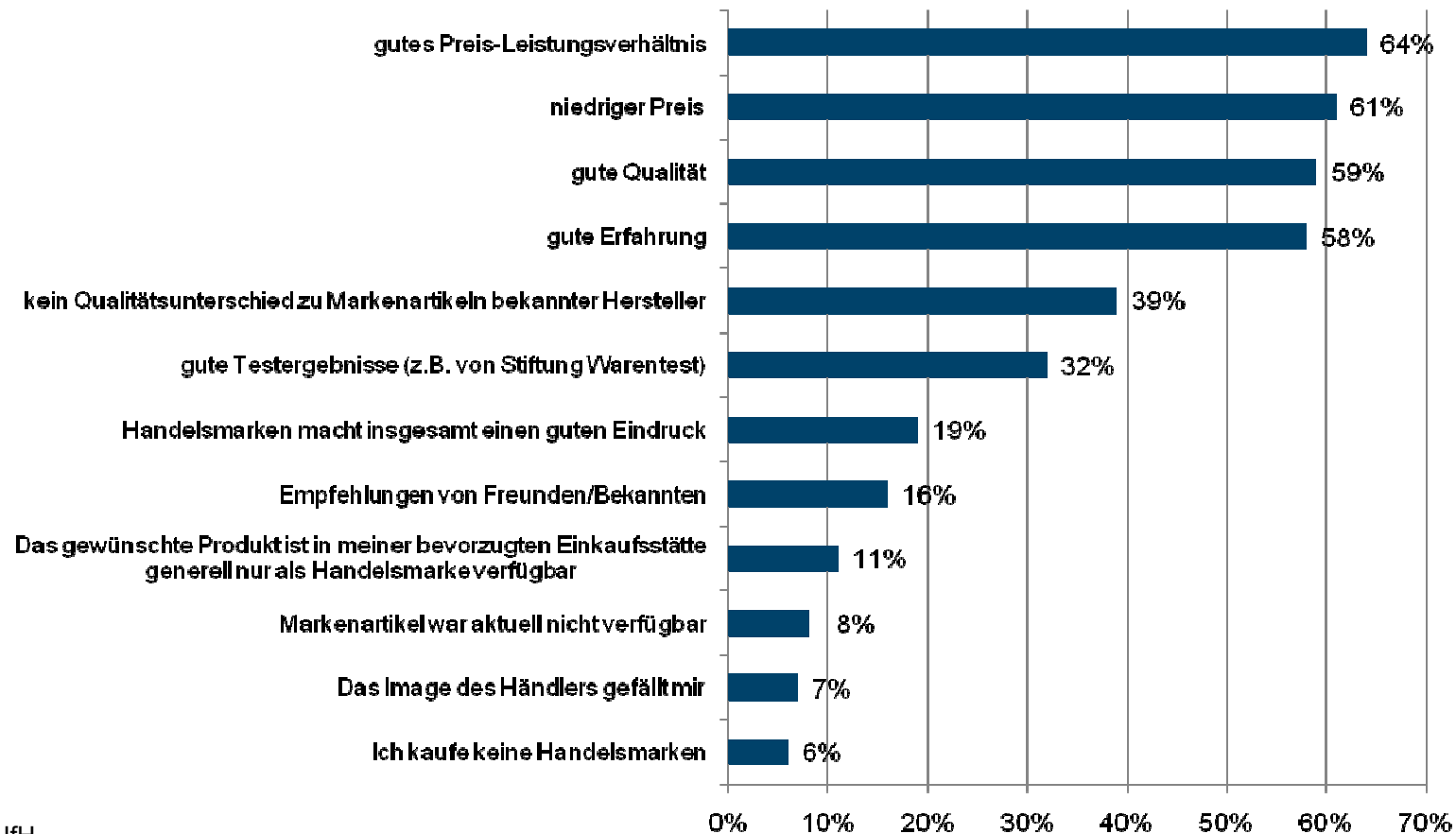
Alternative Private Label Strategies (by functions)

cases	activities					
	market analysis	product development	market test	production	communi- cation	sale
1					X	X
2				X	X	X
3	X	X	X	X	X	X

Source: Institut für Handelsforschung

The Role of Private Label

Reasons for Private Label Purchase



Source: IfH

Conclusion (I)



- ▶ A **global power of demand** of the retail sector in the field of Fast Moving Consumer Goods (FMCG) **does not exist**.
- ▶ Both, the results of the analysis of the market structure as well as the implications of the consumer research, lead to notably sophisticated findings. Therefore blanket judgements have to be rejected.
- ▶ The discussion has to be situated at different levels of aggregation, for example at the level of bilateral manufacturer-retailer relationships or at single product-level.
- ▶ Power of demand has to be explicitly defined as a term to describe a bilateral relationship of one single retailer to one single manufacturer. A global power of demand cannot exist.
- ▶ Manufacturers have – apart from the food retail sector - several distribution channels at their disposal (e.g. Food Service, export), which in quantitative regard, become constantly more important.

Conclusion (II)



- ▶ Manufacturers usually are specialists in a single industry. In contrast, the food retailing sector bundles several product-groups – this aspect is implicated by his function as intermediary between manufacturer and consumer. The structures of manufacturing and retailing companies therefore are not per se comparable.
- ▶ The constellation “strong retail sector – weak industry sector” does not result for any of the analysed product-groups. Hence, there exists no need for further competition regulation the current competition law is adequate.
- ▶ From the consumer-view the existing manufacturer-retailer-structure results in relatively low food prices as well as in a high price stability.
- ▶ The retail sector functions as carrier of customer expectations. Customers expect a high number of so called must-stock-products, which have to be listed by a retailer. These must-stock-products exclusively are manufacturer brands.

Conclusion (III)



- ▶ The producers of must-stock-products usually are big international companies which control multiple brands. But also small and medium sized enterprises fabricate must-stock-products.
- ▶ Therefore, the bargaining position of the distributors of must-stock-products opposite retail companies is advantageous.
- ▶ Generally consumers expect a deep assortment, irrespective of the type of business of the providing shop.
- ▶ Private label products are reasonable supplements to manufacturer brands to fulfil the consumer expectations concerning a differentiated, regional and, with regard to price, an attractive assortment. Small and medium sized enterprises benefit from production contracts with retailers concerning private label products. A convergence of the prices of private label products and manufacturer brands leads to further welfare effects on the part of the consumer.

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