



MBLM  
1301 AVENUE OF THE AMERICAS  
13<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR  
NEW YORK, NY 10001  
WWW.MBLM.COM

RUBENSTEIN PUBLIC RELATIONS  
CONTACT: ALYSON GRALA, 212-805-3057  
AGRALA@RUBENSTEINPR.COM

---

DRAFT

## **Hershey's Takes Top Consumer Goods Spot in MBLM's Brand Intimacy COVID Study**

*Consumer Goods Ranks Fifth Out of 10 Industries Analyzed*

NEW YORK — February 9, 2021 — The [consumer goods](#) industry ranks fifth out of the 10 industries featured in MBLM's [Brand Intimacy COVID Study](#), which analyzes brands based on emotional connections during the pandemic. Hershey's is once again the #1 category brand, followed by Quaker and Ben & Jerry's, respectively.

"With stay-at-home orders in place for many states over the past few months, we are separated from working, socializing and the lives we were accustomed to. As a result, consumer goods have become more essential, and a source of comfort," said Mario Natarelli, managing partner, MBLM. "Unlike many industries that have faced hard times as a result of the pandemic, consumer goods has experienced an uptick."

During the pandemic more consumers are emotionally connecting to consumer goods brands. In fact, 22 percent more customers are in intimate relationships with consumer goods compared to the previous study. MBLM's study also reveals that the remaining brands in the top 10 for the industry are Pillsbury, Campbell's, Betty Crocker, Kellogg's, Stouffer's, Nestle and Nabisco. The consumer goods industry ranks #1 out of out 10 industries for consumers willing to pay 20 percent more for their products. This indicates that people value these brands highly and are willing to pay more for their favorite consumer goods.

Top intimate beverage brands continue to significantly outperform the leading brands in the Fortune 500 and S&P 500 indices across revenue growth, profit growth and stock price.

Building and maintaining strong emotional connections with users is a core tenet of Brand Intimacy and is also a key principle for navigating challenging times. Additional significant consumer goods industry findings include:

- Hershey's remains in first position in the industry, and Quaker moves up to second place.
- Ben & Jerry's is the top brand for men, replacing Kellogg's, while women prefer Hershey's.
- Consumer preference for Pillsbury and Stouffer's has increased, while preference for Kellogg's and Nestle has decreased.
- Consumer goods performs better with women than men and with older consumers versus younger ones.

MBLM also analyzed the industry in an article entitled, "[Bonding with Consumer Goods Brands](#)." The piece looks at how the industry is experiencing an increase in building emotional bonds with consumers during the pandemic and should find ways to reference or reinforce how it has reliably comforted us through this difficult crisis.

To view the consumer goods findings, please click [here](#). Additionally, MBLM offers [Custom Dashboards](#) providing extensive data for brands included in its Brand Intimacy COVID Study. To download the main Brand Intimacy COVID Study report or explore the Rankings, click [here](#).

###

**About MBLM:** MBLM has invented a new marketing paradigm, Brand Intimacy, delivering expertise and offerings across three areas of focus: Agency, Lab and Platform. With offices in four countries, our multidisciplinary teams help clients build stronger bonds and deliver optimized marketing outcomes and returns for the long term. To learn more about how we can help you create and sustain ultimate brand relationships, visit [mblm.com](http://mblm.com).