



UK 2021 aerosol production

Statistics announced by the British Aerosol Manufacturers' Association (BAMA) reveal 1.44 billion cans were filled in the UK in 2021. Of the 1.44 billion units produced, 698 million (48.5%) were made of tinplate steel and 742 million (51.5%) were made of aluminum. Compared to 2020, total production dropped by almost 75 million units (4.5%).

BAMA noted that the final figures for the 2021 UK aerosol production show interesting variations, with the total number of tinplate steel containers catching up with the previously dominant aluminum containers.

The narrowing of the gap in the aluminum-to-tinplate steel ratio is due to an output reduction of Deodorants and Antiperspirants, categories that represent the bulk

of UK production. Deodorants and Body Sprays declined by approximately 27%, from 353 million units to 257 million units, while the reduction in Antiperspirants was 6.1%, a drop of 25 million units.

BAMA said these rather dramatic numbers are due to the running down of stock that had been built up during the peaks of the COVID-19 pandemic and translates into the first significant decrease in the UK's overall 2021 production.

"It is the first time in many years that we have seen such a dip in production, but given the economic and political situations of the past two years, I would say that our industry survived remarkably well," said Patrick Heskins, BAMA's Chief Executive.

The large change from the previous year in the Household and Industrial categories is due to a shift in reporting of some specific products, rather than to sudden market changes.

Sales of Novelty Products and Shaving Products increased, with a growth of 38% and 6%, respectively. The increase in party and seasonal Novelty Products is clearly linked to the



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2021 UK Aerosol Fillings in Millions

Category	# of Units	% Change from 2020
Insecticides	10.851	81.4
Paints & Lacquers	32.578	132.2
Medical & Pharmaceutical	28.220	5.7
Veterinary & Pet Care	6.388	247.4
Air Fresheners	201.273	10.6
Fabric Sprays	7.221	46.7
Hard Surface Cleaners	32.173	-35.8
Other Household	19.719	-70.8
Shaving Products	156.550	6.0
Hair Care	142.089	18.5
Deodorants	256.993	-27.2
Antiperspirants	383.282	-6.1
Automotive Products	19.382	-32.0
Industrial Products	86.203	124.3
Miscellaneous	6.150	38.8

relaxing of COVID-led restrictions in various countries, said BAMA. However, the organization registered surprise at the growth of Shaving Products after several years of slight but constant decline, speculating consumers may have reached "peak beard" in 2020, signaling good news for razor blade manufacturers across the world.

Hair Care products and Starches picked up after the 2020 slump, with an extra 22 million Hair Care units produced (18% more than the previous year) and 2.3 million more units of Fabric Sprays, possibly following the gradual return of office staff to the workplace, opined BAMA.

Hard Surface Cleaners saw a decline of almost 36% from 50 to 32 million units, a change to be expected after the cleaning frenzy seen during the first stages of the pandemic.

Nasal Sprays, a relatively new product that has grown in popularity outside of the UK, influenced the 5.7% rise in the Medical & Pharmaceutical products category, while the sustained growth of Flea Sprays and Veterinary Products appears in-line with the peak in pet adoptions seen during 2020.

The cause behind other variations—such as the more than 80% increase in Insecticides and the 132% increase in Paints & Lacquers—is not quite so obvious, said BAMA.

Traditionally, a large share of UK production has been destined for export. The different timing of pandemic lockdowns from one country to the other, as well as unusual demand due to extreme weather conditions around the world, could have influenced these results, BAMA concluded. **SPRAY**