



UAE delivery orders surge 18% as restaurant numbers fall, Syrve MENA Q1 2026 data shows

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An analysis of over 6.4 million orders by Syrve MENA indicates that delivery volumes in the UAE rose by 18% year-on-year in Q1 2026, despite a lower number of active restaurants. This trend suggests a sectoral shift toward fewer managing higher-order volumes as consumer habits evolve.

[Dubai, UAE, April 13, 2026]: [Syrve MENA](#), a leading restaurant management software provider in the Middle East, has released its Q1 2026 UAE restaurant data. As per the report, delivery orders increased by 18% to 1.9 million in Q1 2026, while the number of restaurants offering delivery declined from 342 to 332. On average, each venue now processes 64 delivery orders per day, compared to 54 in Q1 2025.

Recent reports indicate that the [UAE foodservice market](#) was worth \$23.21 billion in 2025 and could reach \$61.21 billion by 2031, with delivery expected to grow the fastest, with an [18.65% CAGR](#) during this period.

Delivery growth: increased order volumes amid fewer restaurants

In Q1 2026, delivery accounted for 29% of all restaurant orders processed through Syrve's UAE network, up from 25% in Q1 2025. Despite fewer active delivery venues, total delivery revenue rose 15%, from 131.5 million AED to 150.7 million AED. Average revenue per delivery restaurant increased 18%, from 385,000 AED to 454,000 AED per quarter.

The average delivery order value remained stable, decreasing from 79.55 AED to 79.37 AED. This indicates that revenue growth is primarily attributable to increased order volumes rather than higher spending per order.

Cloud kitchens, which operate exclusively for delivery, are experiencing rapid expansion in the GCC, with growth projected at a [13.24% CAGR through 2031](#). The concentration of order volume among fewer venues reflects a broader structural transformation in the region.

Dine-in: declining venue numbers, stable spend per customer

Dine-in order volumes across Syrve's UAE network decreased from 4.95 million in Q1 2025 to 4.57 million in Q1 2026, with the number of active dine-in restaurants declining from 621 to 577. Despite this reduction, the channel demonstrated resilience. The average spend per dine-in order increased from 124 AED to 125.5 AED, and average quarterly revenue per dine-in restaurant remained stable at 995,000 AED.

Total dine-in revenue across the network declined from 614 million AED to 574 million AED, reflecting a reduction in the number of operating venues rather than a decline in consumer demand. The combined average revenue per restaurant across channels reached 1,214,000 AED in Q1 2026, representing a 4.5% year-on-year increase.

Seasonal volatility: order declines during Ramadan and surges during Eid



Syrve's Q1 2026 data reveals variations in order patterns throughout Q1.

In the UAE, daily restaurant orders declined by 25% during Ramadan, reflecting a shift toward home iftar and group dining. In the KSA, the decrease was more pronounced at 32%. In Egypt, Eid Al-Fitr led to an 80% increase in revenue compared to a typical trading day, with average bills rising by 35%.

"The Q1 2026 numbers confirm trends observed across our network: the UAE's restaurant sector is consolidating. Fewer venues are processing significantly more orders, generating higher revenue per site, and managing a larger share of the supply chain. The most successful operators are those who monitor demand in real time and plan accordingly," **says Alex Ponomarev, CEO, Syrve MENA.**

This challenge is expected to intensify as the GCC foodservice market is projected to reach [\\$122.19 billion by 2031](#), with delivery orders growing at a 13.78% CAGR. Demand forecasting and supply chain resilience will become increasingly critical for operators of all sizes.

About Syrve MENA

Syrve MENA is a leading provider of all-in-one POS and restaurant management software in the Middle East. Headquartered in Dubai and operating in 57 countries, Syrve has influenced the foodservice market for over 5 years. With more than 9,000 customers worldwide, ranging from prominent restaurant chains to small businesses, Syrve is committed to helping restaurants and hospitality businesses automate their operations.