

## Markets & Profitability



# **Market Analytics: Polyolefins - 2022**

Market Analytics: Polyolefins - 2022 is one in a series of reports published as part of NexantECA's Markets & Profitability program.

Market Analytics: Polyolefins - 2022 report provides an in-depth analysis of the polyolefins industry including:

- High Density Polyethylene (HDPE)
- Low Density Polyethylene (LDPE)

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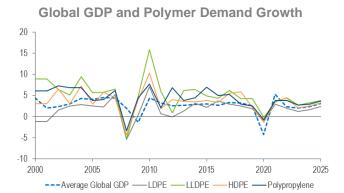
- Linear Low Density Polyethylene (LLDPE)
- Polypropylene

Along with the written report, NexantECA Online Database includes supply, demand and trade analysis for 40 countries and global capacity listings updated on a monthly basis.

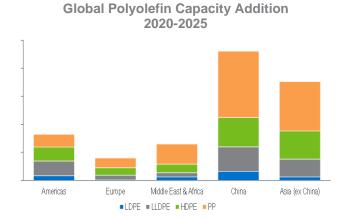
### **Report Abstract:**

Following the slowdown in global economic growth over 2018-2019, the global economy was hit by the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 and into 2021. Global GDP dropped by 4.6 percent in 2020. Despite ongoing infection rates in most countries, and the rapid propagation of new variants in areas which previously had infection rates under control, the world has largely lifted restrictions, and are mitigating risk with an accelerating vaccine rollout. As a result, the global economy recovered by 4.7 percent in 2021.

Growth for polyolefins demand slowed in 2021 globally. Growth rates fell to 3.2 percent in 2021, following 5.4 percent in 2020. China demand growth slowed down



significantly, whereas demand growth gained momentum in North America and Western Europe. The global market continues to be led by Asia Pacific however, increasingly South-East Asia and India.



The impact of COVID-19 on the global polyolefins market is becoming less pronounced as most economies have reopened, with the downturn in the automotive and construction sectors reversing. Increased demand in consumer and medical packaging, as well as personal protective equipment (PPE), has stabilized.

The global market however remains volatile due to increased energy and feedstock costs eroding profitability and the impact of the Russia-Ukraine conflict. Global operating rates fell to 87 percent in 2021 and are estimated to decline to 84 percent in 2022. Operating rates are forecast to further decline due to subdued demand and new capacity coming onstream in China, South Korea, South-East Asia, India, Eastern Europe, North America, and the Middle East.

The penetration of recycled plastics into the virgin plastic markets continues, but is constrained by the collection of consumer waste, limitations in sorting technology and low virgin polymer prices. Limited availability of post-consumer resin (PCR) is driving interest in chemical recycling to meet sustainability objectives. However, it is yet to be determined whether recycled polyolefins obtained through chemical processes are considered as recycled, with the concern around energy consumption in thermolysis that is not insignificant. Meanwhile, mechanical recycling will continue to develop driven by the regulatory development across the globe.

## **Market Analytics: Polyolefins - 2022**



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This analysis will identify the issues shaping the industry, as well as provide an independent appraisal of the market.

Chapters 3 to 6 are segmented by key region:

- North America
- South America
- Western Europe
- Central Europe
- Eastern Europe
- Middle East
- Africa
- Asia Pacific

Each region/country is further segmented by:

- Consumption: Assesses historic and forecast consumption; forecasts are based on projections of end use and economic activity.
- **Supply:** Includes a list of all producers, their production capacity, location, etc., and discussion of the status of new projects.
- Supply, Demand and Trade: Provides historical analysis and forecasts to 2045 of consumption, production, imports/exports, inventory buildup/decline, capacity and capacity utilization.

### **Subscription Details:**

Subscription to **Market Analytics: Polyolefins - 2022** includes:

- 12 month access via the NexantECA website, to:
  - Unlimited downloads of PDF reports
  - Downloadable data in Excel from the Online Database
- Webinar
- Consultation time with the project team

Customized subscriptions are also available.

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The Markets and Profitability program tracks over 60 feedstocks, petrochemicals, polymers, chemical intermediates and fertilizers on an ongoing basis and provides regularly updated reports covering all commercial aspects of these global industries. The accompanying database, provides global analysis and forecasts in two major inter- related areas: Markets and Profitability.

NexantECA serves its clients from over 10 offices located throughout the Americas, Europe, the Middle East, Africa and Asia.

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