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Global Thermoplastic Elastomers for Footwear Supply, Demand and Key Producers, 2026-2032

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Abstracts

The global Thermoplastic Elastomers for Footwear market size is expected to reach $ 2139 million by 2032, rising at a market growth of 2.9% CAGR during the forecast period (2026-2032).
The thermoplastic elastomers (TPE) market refers to the production, compounding, and sale of polymer materials that feel and perform like rubber in normal use, but can be processed like plastics when heated. In chemistry terms, a thermoplastic elastomer is an elastomer that has a thermoreversible (reversible-with-heat) network, meaning the structure that gives rubber-like elasticity can ?hold? at service temperature and then soften when heated for melt processing. From a standards point of view, ISO describes a TPE as a polymer or blend of polymers that has properties similar to vulcanized rubber at its service temperature, but can be processed and reprocessed as a thermoplastic. In the market, this definition matters because it sets the boundary: TPEs compete on one side with traditional thermoset rubbers (EPDM, NBR, SBR, silicone rubbers, etc.) and on the other side with flexible plastics such as plasticized PVC, EVA, and soft polyolefins.
In footwear, the most visible TPE is TPU, especially for outsoles, midsoles, and structural cushioning parts. Footwear makers like TPU because it can deliver a mix of durability (abrasion resistance), flexibility, and good rebound while still being processable by injection molding and other thermoplastic methods. Some TPU product descriptions aimed at footwear also highlight cushioning, rebound, stability, and low density for midsoles and soles. The market trend in footwear is that brands keep pushing for ?better comfort with lower weight? and for more distinctive designs (complex lattice soles, mixed-hardness designs, and premium feel). TPU supports this because it can be tuned across hardness ranges and can be molded with fine detail. Another trend is sustainability pressure: footwear is hard to recycle when many materials are glued together, so more brands are experimenting with thermoplastic-

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based designs that can be mechanically recycled more easily. Key drivers in footwear are simple: consumers want comfort and durability; brands want fast, repeatable production; and factories want materials that work with automation and reduce scrap. TPU-based TPE solutions fit these needs because they combine performance with thermoplastic processing.

In 2025, global Thermoplastic Elastomers for Footwear production reached approximately 829.3 K MT, with an average global market price of around US$ 2026 per MT. The global single-line production capacity ranges from 10 to 15 K MT per year. The industry's gross profit margin is approximately 20%-25%.

In footwear, the most important TPE family is usually thermoplastic polyurethane (TPU), especially in soles and cushioning parts. Footwear makers like TPU because it can combine mechanical strength, abrasion resistance, slip resistance, and a wide hardness range, which helps designers balance comfort and durability across different shoe types. A clear market trend is the continued move toward lightweight and high-rebound sole systems, because consumers expect comfort without heavy shoes, and brands want soles that keep their performance over long use. To reach lower density without losing too much strength, producers and brands are using different foaming and structure ideas, including foamed TPU midsole concepts that target high resilience and comfort. Another practical trend is manufacturing efficiency: footwear supply chains want to reduce steps, labor, and variability. Some TPU midsole concepts are promoted around ?one-step? or simplified manufacturing approaches that can support automation, which matters when brands scale to high volumes and face labor cost pressure.

Sustainability is also becoming a stronger driver in footwear TPE selection. Shoes are hard to recycle when many materials are glued together, so brands and material suppliers are exploring mono-material or ?easier-to-recycle? designs. One example is the push for concept shoes made primarily from TPU, positioned as fully recyclable in principle because the main material family is the same. A related trend is growth in recycled-content TPU products for new shoe parts. When a supplier can offer a TPU grade with high recycled content, it helps brands claim progress toward circularity goals while still using familiar thermoplastic processing. In short, the main drivers for TPE (especially TPU) in footwear are performance (wear resistance and comfort), manufacturing (fast, repeatable molding and lower scrap), and sustainability pressure (recyclability concepts and recycled content) working together.

This report studies the global Thermoplastic Elastomers for Footwear production, demand, key manufacturers, and key regions.

This report is a detailed and comprehensive analysis of the world market for Thermoplastic Elastomers for Footwear and provides market size (US$ million) and Year-over-Year (YoY) Growth, considering 2025 as the base year. This report explores

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demand trends and competition, as well as details the characteristics of Thermoplastic Elastomers for Footwear that contribute to its increasing demand across many markets.

Highlights and key features of the study

Global Thermoplastic Elastomers for Footwear total production and demand, 2021-2032, (Kilotons)

Global Thermoplastic Elastomers for Footwear total production value, 2021-2032, (USD Million)

Global Thermoplastic Elastomers for Footwear production by region & country, production, value, CAGR, 2021-2032, (USD Million) & (Kilotons), (based on production site)

Global Thermoplastic Elastomers for Footwear consumption by region & country, CAGR, 2021-2032 & (Kilotons)

U.S. VS China: Thermoplastic Elastomers for Footwear domestic production, consumption, key domestic manufacturers and share

Global Thermoplastic Elastomers for Footwear production by manufacturer, production, price, value and market share 2021-2026, (USD Million) & (Kilotons)

Global Thermoplastic Elastomers for Footwear production by Type, production, value, CAGR, 2021-2032, (USD Million) & (Kilotons)

Global Thermoplastic Elastomers for Footwear production by Application, production, value, CAGR, 2021-2032, (USD Million) & (Kilotons)

This report profiles key players in the global Thermoplastic Elastomers for Footwear market based on the following parameters - company overview, production, value, price, gross margin, product portfolio, geographical presence, and key developments. Key companies covered as a part of this study include Kraton Polymers, Dynasol, LG Chem, INEOS Styrolution, Avient Corporation, Asahi Chemical, Versalis, Kumho Petrochemical, Sinopec, LCY Technology Corp, etc.

This report also provides key insights about market drivers, restraints, opportunities, new product launches or approvals.

Stakeholders would have ease in decision-making through various strategy matrices used in analyzing the World Thermoplastic Elastomers for Footwear market

Detailed Segmentation:

Each section contains quantitative market data including market by value (US$ Millions), volume (production, consumption) & (Kilotons) and average price (US$/Ton) by manufacturer, by Type, and by Application. Data is given for the years 2021-2032 by year with 2025 as the base year, 2026 as the estimate year, and 2027-2032 as the forecast year.

Global Thermoplastic Elastomers for Footwear Market, By Region:

United States

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China

Europe

Japan

South Korea

ASEAN

India

Rest of World

Global Thermoplastic Elastomers for Footwear Market, Segmentation by Type:

Styrene-based TPE (SBCs)

Thermoplastic Polyurethanes (TPU)

Others

Global Thermoplastic Elastomers for Footwear Market, Segmentation by Processing Method:

Injection Molding Grades

Extrusion Grades

Blow Molding Grades

Thermoforming Grades

3D Printing Grades

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Global Thermoplastic Elastomers for Footwear Market, Segmentation by Physical Form:

Neat Resin

Oil-extended Compounds

Filled vs Unfilled

Reinforced Compounds

Foamed / Microcellular Grades

Others

Global Thermoplastic Elastomers for Footwear Market, Segmentation by Hardness:

Very Soft Gels

Soft Touch

General-Purpose Elastomeric

Semi-rigid Elastomeric

Global Thermoplastic Elastomers for Footwear Market, Segmentation by Application:

Canvas Shoes

Sports Shoes

Others

Companies Profiled:

Kraton Polymers

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Dynasol

LG Chem

INEOS Styrolution

Avient Corporation

Asahi Chemical

Versalis

Kumho Petrochemical

Sinopec

LCY Technology Corp

TSRC

Key Questions Answered:

1. How big is the global Thermoplastic Elastomers for Footwear market?
2. What is the demand of the global Thermoplastic Elastomers for Footwear market?
3. What is the year over year growth of the global Thermoplastic Elastomers for Footwear market?
4. What is the production and production value of the global Thermoplastic Elastomers for Footwear market?
5. Who are the key producers in the global Thermoplastic Elastomers for Footwear market?
6. What are the growth factors driving the market demand?

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