

Pharmaceutical Gelatin Market Opportunity, Growth Drivers, Industry Trend Analysis, and Forecast 2025 - 2034

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Abstracts

The Global Pharmaceutical Gelatin Market was valued at USD 1.3 billion in 2024 and is estimated to grow at a CAGR of 5.8% to reach USD 2.3 billion by 2034. Market momentum is being strongly driven by the growing consumption of oral solid dosage forms like capsules and tablets. As the pharmaceutical industry expands in response to rising incidences of chronic diseases, the need for gelatin-based excipients continues to rise. Gelatin is a key component used in the formulation of both hard and soft capsules, thanks to its ability to encapsulate a wide range of active pharmaceutical ingredients. Its superior compatibility with hydrophilic and lipophilic compounds enhances the bioavailability of the final product, making it indispensable in modern drug delivery.

Pharmaceutical gelatin is a refined protein derived from collagen sources such as animal bones and skins. It is commonly used for its unique physical and chemical properties, including thermal reversibility, biocompatibility, and ease of digestibility. These features make it an ideal material for manufacturing capsules, coating agents, wound dressings, and other medical formulations. With pharmaceutical companies increasingly focused on improving the efficacy and stability of their products, gelatin's role as an excipient has become more important than ever. The steady shift toward innovative drug formats and the development of advanced delivery systems have also contributed to the growing reliance on pharmaceutical-grade gelatin across the industry. Major producers of pharmaceutical gelatin play a crucial role in maintaining consistent quality, adhering to regulatory guidelines, and offering tailored solutions to meet evolving formulation needs.

In terms of product types, the pharmaceutical gelatin market is divided into type A and type B gelatin. Among these, type B gelatin held a dominant position in 2024,

accounting for approximately 65.4% of the overall market share. One of the main reasons for its broad adoption is its cost-effective manufacturing process. Type B gelatin is typically processed through alkaline hydrolysis, which imparts favorable characteristics such as high thermal stability and a nearly neutral pH. These properties make it especially suitable for pharmaceutical uses, including capsule shells, film coatings, and injectable formulations. Moreover, its predictable performance in drug manufacturing environments ensures uniformity and quality, which are critical parameters in large-scale pharmaceutical production. As a result, type B gelatin continues to be a preferred choice among formulators seeking reliability and versatility in excipient performance.

The market is further segmented based on the source of gelatin, which includes bovine, porcine, fish, and poultry. Among these, gelatin derived from bovine sources represented the largest segment in 2024, holding a market share of 48.4%. It is anticipated to expand at a CAGR of 6.1% during the forecast period. Bovine-derived gelatin benefits from a stable and abundant supply of raw materials, thanks to widespread cattle farming. Its strong gelling strength, high viscosity, and excellent stability across processing conditions make it particularly suitable for a wide array of pharmaceutical applications. These include not just capsule manufacturing but also uses in plasma expanders and wound care products. The consistent quality and reproducibility of bovine gelatin further enhance its value in ensuring standardized formulation outcomes.

Regionally, North America led the global pharmaceutical gelatin market with the highest revenue contribution, securing a 38.2% market share in 2024. The dominance of this region is largely attributed to its advanced pharmaceutical production infrastructure and a highly regulated yet supportive compliance environment. Pharmaceutical companies in North America actively integrate gelatin into a variety of dosage forms due to its proven performance and adaptability. Additionally, ongoing investment in research and development across the pharmaceutical landscape supports the emergence of sophisticated gelatin-based drug delivery solutions. A well-established ecosystem of contract manufacturing organizations further strengthens the regional market, helping meet both domestic and global demand.

The global pharmaceutical gelatin market exhibits a moderately consolidated structure. These players maintain their competitive edge through global manufacturing capabilities, strict adherence to quality standards, and consistent innovation in product development. Their focus on enhancing gelatin's functional properties for use in specialized formulations—such as controlled-release capsules or absorbable surgical

aids—adds depth to the market. At the same time, newer entrants in developing regions are making their presence felt by providing cost-efficient gelatin options, establishing certified facilities, and targeting emerging demand across underpenetrated markets.

Contents

CHAPTER 1 METHODOLOGY AND SCOPE

- 1.1 Market scope and definition
- 1.2 Research design
 - 1.2.1 Research approach
 - 1.2.2 Data collection methods
- 1.3 Data mining sources
 - 1.3.1 Global
 - 1.3.2 Regional/Country
- 1.4 Base estimates and calculations
 - 1.4.1 Base year calculation
 - 1.4.2 Key trends for market estimation
- 1.5 Primary research and validation
 - 1.5.1 Primary sources
- 1.6 Forecast model
- 1.7 Research assumptions and limitations

CHAPTER 2 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 2.1 Industry 360° synopsis
- 2.2 Key market trends
 - 2.2.1 Regional trends
 - 2.2.2 Type trends
 - 2.2.3 Source trends
 - 2.2.4 Function trends
 - 2.2.5 Application trends
- 2.3 CXO perspectives: Strategic imperatives
 - 2.3.1 Key decision points for industry executives
 - 2.3.2 Critical success factors for market players
- 2.4 Future outlook and strategic recommendations

CHAPTER 3 INDUSTRY INSIGHTS

- 3.1 Industry ecosystem analysis
- 3.2 Industry impact forces
 - 3.2.1 Growth drivers
 - 3.2.1.1 Rising demand for capsules and softgels

- 3.2.1.2 Expanding elderly population and chronic disease burden
- 3.2.1.3 Use of gelatin in hemostatic agents and wound care
- 3.2.1.4 Growing vaccine production and biologics
- 3.2.2 Industry pitfalls and challenges
 - 3.2.2.1 Side effects associated with animal-derived gelatin in humans
 - 3.2.2.2 Emergence of plant based and synthetic alternatives
- 3.2.3 Market opportunities
 - 3.2.3.1 Use in regenerative medicine and tissue engineering
 - 3.2.3.2 Rising demand for pharma gelatin in developing countries
- 3.3 Growth potential analysis
- 3.4 Regulatory landscape
 - 3.4.1 North America
 - 3.4.2 Europe
 - 3.4.3 Asia Pacific
 - 3.4.4 Latin America
 - 3.4.5 Middle East and Africa
- 3.5 Technological advancements
 - 3.5.1 Current technological trends
 - 3.5.2 Emerging technologies
- 3.6 Future market trends
- 3.7 Gap analysis
- 3.8 Porter's analysis
- 3.9 PESTEL analysis

CHAPTER 4 COMPETITIVE LANDSCAPE, 2024

- 4.1 Introduction
- 4.2 Company market share analysis
 - 4.2.1 North America
 - 4.2.2 Europe
- 4.3 Company matrix analysis
- 4.4 Competitive analysis of major market players
- 4.5 Competitive positioning matrix
- 4.6 Key developments
 - 4.6.1 Mergers & acquisitions
 - 4.6.2 Partnerships & collaborations
 - 4.6.3 New product launches
 - 4.6.4 Expansion plans

CHAPTER 5 MARKET ESTIMATES AND FORECAST, BY TYPE, 2021 - 2034 (\$ MN)

5.1 Key trends

5.2 Type A

5.3 Type B

CHAPTER 6 MARKET ESTIMATES AND FORECAST, BY SOURCE, 2021 - 2034 (\$ MN)

6.1 Key trends

6.2 Porcine

6.3 Bovine

6.4 Fish

6.5 Poultry

CHAPTER 7 MARKET ESTIMATES AND FORECAST, BY FUNCTION, 2021 - 2034 (\$ MN)

7.1 Key trends

7.2 Stabilizers

7.3 Thickeners

7.4 Gelling agents

7.5 Film forming

7.6 Adhesion

7.7 Other functions

CHAPTER 8 MARKET ESTIMATES AND FORECAST, BY APPLICATION, 2021 - 2034 (\$ MN)

8.1 Key trends

8.2 Capsules

8.2.1 Hard capsules

8.2.2 Soft capsules

8.3 Tablets

8.4 Absorbable hemostats

8.5 Other applications

CHAPTER 9 MARKET ESTIMATES AND FORECAST, BY REGION, 2021 - 2034 (\$ MN)

9.1 Key trends

9.2 North America

9.2.1 U.S.

9.2.2 Canada

9.3 Europe

9.3.1 Germany

9.3.2 UK

9.3.3 France

9.3.4 Spain

9.3.5 Italy

9.3.6 Netherlands

9.4 Asia Pacific

9.4.1 Japan

9.4.2 China

9.4.3 India

9.4.4 Australia

9.4.5 South Korea

9.5 Latin America

9.5.1 Brazil

9.5.2 Mexico

9.5.3 Argentina

9.6 Middle East and Africa

9.6.1 South Africa

9.6.2 Saudi Arabia

9.6.3 UAE

CHAPTER 10 COMPANY PROFILES

10.1 Capsugel (Lonza)

10.2 Funingpu Biotechnology

10.3 Gelita AG

10.4 India Gelatine & Chemicals

10.5 ITALGEL

10.6 Junca Gelatines

10.7 Lapi Gelatine

10.8 Nitta Gelatin

10.9 Rousselot (Darling Ingredients)

10.10 Sterling Biotech

- 10.11 PB Leiner (Tessenderlo Group)
- 10.12 Trobas Gelatine
- 10.13 Weishardt Group
- 10.14 Xiamen Gelken Gelatin

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