

South Korea Automotive Plastics Market Size, Share, Trends and Forecast by Vehicle Type, Material, Application, and Region, 2026-2034

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Abstracts

The South Korea automotive plastics market size reached USD 872.0 Million in 2025 . Looking forward, IMARC Group expects the market to reach USD 1,222.4 Million by 2034 , exhibiting a growth rate (CAGR) of 3.63% during 2026-2034 . South Korea's electric vehicle (EV) expansion and focus on sustainable materials are driving the automotive plastics industry. Lightweight, high-performance plastics enhance EV efficiency, while recycled and bio-based materials support environmental goals. Government incentives and innovation foster continued advancement in both electric mobility and circular material use, contributing to the expansion of the South Korea automotive plastics market share.

SOUTH KOREA AUTOMOTIVE PLASTICS MARKET TRENDS:

Expansion of the Electric Vehicle (EV) Sector

South Korea is a major player in the global electric vehicle (EV) market, fueled by strong government incentives and growing user demand for sustainable transportation. The country's electric car market size reached USD 3,394.3 million in 2024, reflecting rapid adoption and production of EVs. This shift toward electric mobility is catalyzing the demand for automotive plastics, as EVs require different design specifications than traditional internal combustion engine (ICE) vehicles. Plastics are critical in reducing the overall vehicle weight, which directly improves battery range and energy efficiency, a key factors for EV performance. Beyond weight reduction, advanced plastics provide essential functions like efficient thermal management to prevent overheating, electrical insulation for sensitive electronic components, and lightweight yet durable structural parts that enhance vehicle safety and longevity. South Korea's government policies

promoting green mobility, including investments in EV infrastructure and incentives for individuals, further contribute to the South Korea automotive plastics market growth. As EV production and adoption accelerate, the automotive plastics sector grows in parallel, supported by ongoing innovation in polymer materials tailored for EV applications. This synergy between a booming EV market and advanced plastic technologies positions South Korea at the forefront of sustainable automotive development, ensuring continued expansion of the automotive plastics industry driven by the evolving demands of EV manufacturing.

Advancement in Sustainable and Circular Automotive Materials

As environmental concerns and regulatory pressures intensify, automakers and material manufacturers are prioritizing circular economy principles to reduce waste and carbon footprints. The use of recycled plastics in vehicle components like interior trims, seats, and panels helps lower dependency on virgin materials while maintaining high performance and durability standards. This shift not only supports environmental goals but also enhances brand value by appealing to eco-conscious consumers. Furthermore, innovations in circular recycling technologies enable the production of high-quality automotive plastics from post-consumer waste, ensuring material reuse without compromising functionality. The growing collaboration between chemical producers and automotive manufacturers to integrate sustainable materials reflects a broader industry commitment to eco-friendly practices. These advancements are accelerating the development and commercial application of bio-based and recycled polymers, expanding the scope of automotive plastics. For instance, in 2024, SK chemicals and Hyundai-Kia collaborated to apply six recycled and bio-based automotive components to the Kia EV3 Study Car in South Korea. Using SK chemicals' circular recycling technology, parts like headliners, seats, and door panels were made from recycled PET to enhance sustainability. This project marked a step toward a circular economy in the automotive industry, with plans for further eco-friendly material applications.

SOUTH KOREA AUTOMOTIVE PLASTICS MARKET SEGMENTATION:

IMARC Group provides an analysis of the key trends in each segment of the market, along with forecasts at the country and regional levels for 2026-2034. Our report has categorized the market based on vehicle type, material, and application.

Vehicle Type Insights:

Conventional and Traditional Vehicles

Electric Vehicles

A detailed breakup and analysis of the market based on the vehicle type have also been provided in the report. This includes conventional and traditional vehicles and electric vehicles.

Material Insights:

Polyethylene (PE)

Polypropylene (PP)

Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC)

Acrylonitrile Butadiene Styrene (ABS)

Polyurethane (PU)

Polymethyl Methacrylate (PMMA)

Polycarbonate (PC)

Polyamide

Others

The report has provided a detailed breakup and analysis of the market based on the material. This includes polyethylene (PE), polypropylene (PP), polyvinyl chloride (PVC), acrylonitrile butadiene styrene (ABS), polyurethane (PU), polymethyl methacrylate (PMMA), polycarbonate (PC), polyamide, and others.

Application Insights:

Powertrain

Electrical Components

Interior Furnishings

Exterior Furnishings

Under the Hood

Chassis

A detailed breakup and analysis of the market based on the application have also been provided in the report. This includes powertrain, electrical components, interior furnishings, exterior furnishings, under the hood, and chassis.

Regional Insights:

Seoul Capital Area

Yeongnam (Southeastern Region)

Honam (Southwestern Region)

Hoseo (Central Region)

Others

The report has also provided a comprehensive analysis of all the major regional markets, which include Seoul Capital Area, Yeongnam (Southeastern Region), Honam (Southwestern Region), Hoseo (Central Region), and others.

COMPETITIVE LANDSCAPE:

The market research report has also provided a comprehensive analysis of the competitive landscape. Competitive analysis such as market structure, key player positioning, top winning strategies, competitive dashboard, and company evaluation quadrant has been covered in the report. Also, detailed profiles of all major companies have been provided.

KEY QUESTIONS ANSWERED IN THIS REPORT

How has the South Korea automotive plastics market performed so far and how will it perform in the coming years?

What is the breakup of the South Korea automotive plastics market on the basis of vehicle type?

What is the breakup of the South Korea automotive plastics market on the basis of material?

What is the breakup of the South Korea automotive plastics market on the basis of application?

What is the breakup of the South Korea automotive plastics market on the basis of region?

What are the various stages in the value chain of the South Korea automotive plastics market?

What are the key driving factors and challenges in the South Korea automotive plastics market?

What is the structure of the South Korea automotive plastics market and who are the key players?

What is the degree of competition in the South Korea automotive plastics market?

Contents

1 PREFACE

2 SCOPE AND METHODOLOGY

- 2.1 Objectives of the Study
- 2.2 Stakeholders
- 2.3 Data Sources
 - 2.3.1 Primary Sources
 - 2.3.2 Secondary Sources
- 2.4 Market Estimation
 - 2.4.1 Bottom-Up Approach
 - 2.4.2 Top-Down Approach
- 2.5 Forecasting Methodology

3 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

4 SOUTH KOREA AUTOMOTIVE PLASTICS MARKET - INTRODUCTION

- 4.1 Overview
- 4.2 Market Dynamics
- 4.3 Industry Trends
- 4.4 Competitive Intelligence

5 SOUTH KOREA AUTOMOTIVE PLASTICS MARKET LANDSCAPE

- 5.1 Historical and Current Market Trends (2020-2025)
- 5.2 Market Forecast (2026-2034)

6 SOUTH KOREA AUTOMOTIVE PLASTICS MARKET - BREAKUP BY VEHICLE TYPE

- 6.1 Conventional and Traditional Vehicles
 - 6.1.1 Overview
 - 6.1.2 Historical and Current Market Trends (2020-2025)
 - 6.1.3 Market Forecast (2026-2034)
- 6.2 Electric Vehicles
 - 6.2.1 Overview

6.2.2 Historical and Current Market Trends (2020-2025)

6.2.3 Market Forecast (2026-2034)

7 SOUTH KOREA AUTOMOTIVE PLASTICS MARKET - BREAKUP BY MATERIAL

7.1 Polyethylene (PE)

7.1.1 Overview

7.1.2 Historical and Current Market Trends (2020-2025)

7.1.3 Market Forecast (2026-2034)

7.2 Polypropylene (PP)

7.2.1 Overview

7.2.2 Historical and Current Market Trends (2020-2025)

7.2.3 Market Forecast (2026-2034)

7.3 Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC)

7.3.1 Overview

7.3.2 Historical and Current Market Trends (2020-2025)

7.3.3 Market Forecast (2026-2034)

7.4 Acrylonitrile Butadiene Styrene (ABS)

7.4.1 Overview

7.4.2 Historical and Current Market Trends (2020-2025)

7.4.3 Market Forecast (2026-2034)

7.5 Polyurethane (PU)

7.5.1 Overview

7.5.2 Historical and Current Market Trends (2020-2025)

7.5.3 Market Forecast (2026-2034)

7.6 Polymethyl Methacrylate (PMMA)

7.6.1 Overview

7.6.2 Historical and Current Market Trends (2020-2025)

7.6.3 Market Forecast (2026-2034)

7.7 Polycarbonate (PC)

7.7.1 Overview

7.7.2 Historical and Current Market Trends (2020-2025)

7.7.3 Market Forecast (2026-2034)

7.8 Polyamide

7.8.1 Overview

7.8.2 Historical and Current Market Trends (2020-2025)

7.8.3 Market Forecast (2026-2034)

7.9 Others

7.9.1 Historical and Current Market Trends (2020-2025)

7.9.2 Market Forecast (2026-2034)

8 SOUTH KOREA AUTOMOTIVE PLASTICS MARKET - BREAKUP BY APPLICATION

8.1 Powertrain

8.1.1 Overview

8.1.2 Historical and Current Market Trends (2020-2025)

8.1.3 Market Forecast (2026-2034)

8.2 Electrical Components

8.2.1 Overview

8.2.2 Historical and Current Market Trends (2020-2025)

8.2.3 Market Forecast (2026-2034)

8.3 Interior Furnishings

8.3.1 Overview

8.3.2 Historical and Current Market Trends (2020-2025)

8.3.3 Market Forecast (2026-2034)

8.4 Exterior Furnishings

8.4.1 Overview

8.4.2 Historical and Current Market Trends (2020-2025)

8.4.3 Market Forecast (2026-2034)

8.5 Under the Hood

8.5.1 Overview

8.5.2 Historical and Current Market Trends (2020-2025)

8.5.3 Market Forecast (2026-2034)

8.6 Chassis

8.6.1 Overview

8.6.2 Historical and Current Market Trends (2020-2025)

8.6.3 Market Forecast (2026-2034)

9 SOUTH KOREA AUTOMOTIVE PLASTICS MARKET – BREAKUP BY REGION

9.1 Seoul Capital Area

9.1.1 Overview

9.1.2 Historical and Current Market Trends (2020-2025)

9.1.3 Market Breakup by Vehicle Type

9.1.4 Market Breakup by Material

9.1.5 Market Breakup by Application

9.1.6 Key Players

- 9.1.7 Market Forecast (2026-2034)
- 9.2 Yeongnam (Southeastern Region)
 - 9.2.1 Overview
 - 9.2.2 Historical and Current Market Trends (2020-2025)
 - 9.2.3 Market Breakup by Vehicle Type
 - 9.2.4 Market Breakup by Material
 - 9.2.5 Market Breakup by Application
 - 9.2.6 Key Players
 - 9.2.7 Market Forecast (2026-2034)
- 9.3 Honam (Southwestern Region)
 - 9.3.1 Overview
 - 9.3.2 Historical and Current Market Trends (2020-2025)
 - 9.3.3 Market Breakup by Vehicle Type
 - 9.3.4 Market Breakup by Material
 - 9.3.5 Market Breakup by Application
 - 9.3.6 Key Players
 - 9.3.7 Market Forecast (2026-2034)
- 9.4 Hoseo (Central Region)
 - 9.4.1 Overview
 - 9.4.2 Historical and Current Market Trends (2020-2025)
 - 9.4.3 Market Breakup by Vehicle Type
 - 9.4.4 Market Breakup by Material
 - 9.4.5 Market Breakup by Application
 - 9.4.6 Key Players
 - 9.4.7 Market Forecast (2026-2034)
- 9.5 Others
 - 9.5.1 Historical and Current Market Trends (2020-2025)
 - 9.5.2 Market Forecast (2026-2034)

10 SOUTH KOREA AUTOMOTIVE PLASTICS MARKET – COMPETITIVE LANDSCAPE

- 10.1 Overview
- 10.2 Market Structure
- 10.3 Market Player Positioning
- 10.4 Top Winning Strategies
- 10.5 Competitive Dashboard
- 10.6 Company Evaluation Quadrant

11 PROFILES OF KEY PLAYERS

11.1 Company A

- 11.1.1 Business Overview
- 11.1.2 Products Offered
- 11.1.3 Business Strategies
- 11.1.4 SWOT Analysis
- 11.1.5 Major News and Events

11.2 Company B

- 11.2.1 Business Overview
- 11.2.2 Products Offered
- 11.2.3 Business Strategies
- 11.2.4 SWOT Analysis
- 11.2.5 Major News and Events

11.3 Company C

- 11.3.1 Business Overview
- 11.3.2 Products Offered
- 11.3.3 Business Strategies
- 11.3.4 SWOT Analysis
- 11.3.5 Major News and Events

11.4 Company D

- 11.4.1 Business Overview
- 11.4.2 Products Offered
- 11.4.3 Business Strategies
- 11.4.4 SWOT Analysis
- 11.4.5 Major News and Events

11.5 Company E

- 11.5.1 Business Overview
- 11.5.2 Products Offered
- 11.5.3 Business Strategies
- 11.5.4 SWOT Analysis
- 11.5.5 Major News and Events

12 SOUTH KOREA AUTOMOTIVE PLASTICS MARKET - INDUSTRY ANALYSIS

12.1 Drivers, Restraints, and Opportunities

- 12.1.1 Overview
- 12.1.2 Drivers
- 12.1.3 Restraints

12.1.4 Opportunities

12.2 Porters Five Forces Analysis

12.2.1 Overview

12.2.2 Bargaining Power of Buyers

12.2.3 Bargaining Power of Suppliers

12.2.4 Degree of Competition

12.2.5 Threat of New Entrants

12.2.6 Threat of Substitutes

12.3 Value Chain Analysis

13 APPENDIX

I would like to order

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