

South Korea Polyols Market Size, Share, Trends and Forecast by Type, Application, Industry, and Region, 2026-2034

<https://marketpublishers.com/r/SF42E37491A1EN.html>

Date: July 2026

Pages: 121

Price: US\$ 2,999.00 (Single User License)

ID: SF42E37491A1EN

Abstracts

The South Korea polyols market size reached USD 581.1 Million in 2025. The market is projected to reach USD 812.2 Million by 2034, exhibiting a growth rate (CAGR) of 3.64% during 2026-2034. The market is expanding due to rising demand for low-calorie sweeteners and sugar substitutes in food and beverage products. Additionally, increasing polyurethane foam use in automotive and construction supports South Korea polyols market share across industrial and consumer goods applications.

SOUTH KOREA POLYOLS MARKET TRENDS:

Expanding Use in Food Applications

The South Korea polyols market growth is steadily advancing, primarily driven by the rising use of polyols in food and beverage applications. The increasing preference for low-calorie and sugar-free products among health-conscious consumers has led to greater incorporation of sugar alcohols such as sorbitol, xylitol, and erythritol. These ingredients are commonly used in confectionery, baked goods, and functional beverages to replace traditional sugars without compromising taste or texture. Domestic food manufacturers are actively developing and promoting products that align with dietary trends, including diabetic-friendly and weight management options. Regulatory emphasis on reducing sugar intake has further encouraged food companies to reformulate existing product lines using polyols. During the past year, several consumer goods companies in South Korea have launched snack items highlighting sugar-free formulations made with polyols. One such development includes the introduction of a new category of baked snacks in early 2025 by a local manufacturer, specifically positioned for calorie-conscious consumers. These trends underscore the continued

shift in consumer preferences and industry adaptation to healthier alternatives.

Increased Consumption in Polyurethane Sector

Demand for polyols in South Korea's industrial sector, particularly in polyurethane production, has shown consistent growth. Both polyether and polyester polyols are integral to the manufacture of flexible and rigid foams used in construction, automotive, and home appliances. As energy efficiency standards become more stringent, demand for polyurethane insulation materials has increased across commercial and residential projects. Additionally, automotive manufacturers are incorporating more lightweight materials to improve fuel efficiency, further contributing to the consumption of polyols. The appliance industry, especially refrigeration and air conditioning, also continues to be a stable outlet for polyurethane foam applications. In a recent development, a major South Korean chemical producer expanded its polyol production capacity at its Ulsan facility, with the upgraded line going into operation in the second quarter of 2025. This expansion is expected to enhance supply reliability and support downstream industries with consistent input materials. The continued investment in polyurethane and related sectors indicates a stable long-term demand for polyols in industrial manufacturing across the country.

SOUTH KOREA POLYOLS 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 level for 2026-2034. Our report has categorized the market based on type, application, and industry.

Type Insights:

Polyether Polyols

Polyester Polyols

The report has provided a detailed breakup and analysis of the market based on the type. This includes polyether polyols and polyester polyols.

Application Insights:

Flexible Polyurethane Foams

Rigid Polyurethane Foams

CASE (Coatings, Adhesives, Sealants & Elastomers)

Others

The report has provided a detailed breakup and analysis of the market based on the application. This includes flexible polyurethane foams, rigid polyurethane foams, CASE (coatings, adhesives, sealants & elastomers), and others.

Industry Insights:

Carpet Backing

Packaging

Furniture

Automotive

Building & Construction

Electronics

Footwear

Others

The report has provided a detailed breakup and analysis of the market based on the industry. This includes carpet backing, packaging, furniture, automotive, building & construction, electronics, footwear, and others.

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 polyols market performed so far and how will it perform in the coming years?

What is the breakup of the South Korea polyols market on the basis of type?

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

What is the breakup of the South Korea polyols market on the basis of industry?

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

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

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

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

What is the degree of competition in the South Korea polyols market?

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