

South Korea Specialty Chemicals Market Report by Type (Agrochemicals, Polymer Additives, Construction Chemicals, Water Treatment Chemicals, Oil Field Chemicals, Food Additives, Surfactants, Electronic Chemicals, Specialty Polymers, and Others), and Region 2026-2034

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Abstracts

The South Korea specialty chemicals market size reached USD 15.3 Billion in 2025. Looking forward, IMARC Group expects the market to reach USD 20.6 Billion by 2034, exhibiting a growth rate (CAGR) of 3.31% during 2026-2034. The increasing reliance of the industrial sector on specialty chemicals, the integration of nanotechnology and advanced materials science, the implementation of several government policies and initiatives, and the rising collaboration between manufacturers and educational and research institutions represent some of the key factors driving the market.

Specialty chemicals refer to a class of chemical products that are formulated to perform specific functions in various industrial, commercial, and consumer applications. They are formulated from a variety of materials, including organic and inorganic compounds, polymers, and advanced biochemical substances. Specialty chemicals are available in various types, such as adhesives, agrichemicals, cleaning materials, cosmetic additives, construction chemicals, elastomers, flavors, food additives, fragrances, industrial gases, lubricants, polymers, surfactants, and textile auxiliaries. They are utilized in various sectors, such as agriculture, pharmaceuticals, construction, automotive, electronics, and textiles. Specialty chemicals aid in improving efficiency, enhancing quality, increasing safety, and providing environmental sustainability. Additionally, they offer numerous advantages, such as better product performance, customization potential, innovation-driven development, competitive differentiation, and the ability to meet stringent

regulatory standards.

SOUTH KOREA SPECIALTY CHEMICALS MARKET TRENDS:

The growing reliance of the industrial sector on specialty chemicals for innovation and efficiency is one of the major factors favoring the market growth. Along with this, the rising product utilization in semiconductor manufacturing for chip fabrication is contributing to the market growth. Additionally, the widespread adoption of specialty chemicals in the automotive industry for manufacturing electric vehicles (EVs), batteries, and lightweight materials is propelling the market growth. Besides this, the integration of nanotechnology and advanced materials science in chemical manufacturing, leading to the development of superior specialty chemicals is providing a thrust to the market growth. In addition to this, the implementation of several government policies and initiatives encouraging sustainable and green chemistry practices that foster the development of eco-friendly specialty chemicals is positively impacting the market growth. Furthermore, the increasing product demand in the pharmaceutical and healthcare sectors in South Korea for medicine manufacturing, hygiene, and sanitation is anticipated to drive the market growth. Apart from this, the rising collaboration between manufacturers and educational and research institutions, providing a strong talent pool and opportunities for chemical research and development (R&D), is favoring the market growth. In addition to this, the growing digital transformation in the chemical industry, through the adoption of technologies like artificial intelligence (AI), the Internet of Things (IoT), and big data analytics that enable more efficient and optimized production processes, is catalyzing the market growth. Moreover, the strategic geographical position and well-established trade networks in the country, facilitating the export of specialty chemicals, are catalyzing the market growth. Along with this, the increasing domestic demand for specialty chemicals, fueled by the growing middle class and heightened focus on quality and performance in consumer products, is acting as a growth-inducing factor.

SOUTH KOREA SPECIALTY CHEMICALS MARKET SEGMENTATION:

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

Type Insights:

Agrochemicals

Polymer Additives

Construction Chemicals

Water Treatment Chemicals

Oil Field Chemicals

Food Additives

Surfactants

Electronic Chemicals

Specialty Polymers

Others

The report has provided a detailed breakup and analysis of the market based on the type. This includes agrochemicals, polymer additives, construction chemicals, water treatment chemicals, oil field chemicals, food additives, surfactants, electronic chemicals, specialty polymers, 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 in the market. 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 specialty chemicals market performed so far and how will it perform in the coming years?

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

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

What are the key driving factors and challenges in the South Korea specialty chemicals?

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

What is the degree of competition in the South Korea specialty chemicals 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 SPECIALTY CHEMICALS MARKET - INTRODUCTION

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

5 SOUTH KOREA SPECIALTY CHEMICALS MARKET LANDSCAPE

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

6 SOUTH KOREA SPECIALTY CHEMICALS MARKET - BREAKUP BY TYPE

- 6.1 Agrochemicals
 - 6.1.1 Overview
 - 6.1.2 Historical and Current Market Trends (2020-2025)
 - 6.1.3 Market Forecast (2026-2034)
- 6.2 Polymer Additives
 - 6.2.1 Overview
 - 6.2.2 Historical and Current Market Trends (2020-2025)

- 6.2.3 Market Forecast (2026-2034)
- 6.3 Construction Chemicals
 - 6.3.1 Overview
 - 6.3.2 Historical and Current Market Trends (2020-2025)
 - 6.3.3 Market Forecast (2026-2034)
- 6.4 Water Treatment Chemicals
 - 6.4.1 Overview
 - 6.4.2 Historical and Current Market Trends (2020-2025)
 - 6.4.3 Market Forecast (2026-2034)
- 6.5 Oil Field Chemicals
 - 6.5.1 Overview
 - 6.5.2 Historical and Current Market Trends (2020-2025)
 - 6.5.3 Market Forecast (2026-2034)
- 6.6 Food Additives
 - 6.6.1 Overview
 - 6.6.2 Historical and Current Market Trends (2020-2025)
 - 6.6.3 Market Forecast (2026-2034)
- 6.7 Surfactants
 - 6.7.1 Overview
 - 6.7.2 Historical and Current Market Trends (2020-2025)
 - 6.7.3 Market Forecast (2026-2034)
- 6.8 Electronic Chemicals
 - 6.8.1 Overview
 - 6.8.2 Historical and Current Market Trends (2020-2025)
 - 6.8.3 Market Forecast (2026-2034)
- 6.9 Specialty Polymers
 - 6.9.1 Overview
 - 6.9.2 Historical and Current Market Trends (2020-2025)
 - 6.9.3 Market Forecast (2026-2034)
- 6.10 Others
 - 6.10.1 Historical and Current Market Trends (2020-2025)
 - 6.10.2 Market Forecast (2026-2034)

7 SOUTH KOREA SPECIALTY CHEMICALS MARKET – BREAKUP BY REGION

- 7.1 Seoul Capital Area
 - 7.1.1 Overview
 - 7.1.2 Historical and Current Market Trends (2020-2025)
 - 7.1.3 Market Breakup by Type

- 7.1.4 Key Players
- 7.1.5 Market Forecast (2026-2034)
- 7.2 Yeongnam (Southeastern Region)
 - 7.2.1 Overview
 - 7.2.2 Historical and Current Market Trends (2020-2025)
 - 7.2.3 Market Breakup by Type
 - 7.2.4 Key Players
 - 7.2.5 Market Forecast (2026-2034)
- 7.3 Honam (Southwestern Region)
 - 7.3.1 Overview
 - 7.3.2 Historical and Current Market Trends (2020-2025)
 - 7.3.3 Market Breakup by Type
 - 7.3.4 Key Players
 - 7.3.5 Market Forecast (2026-2034)
- 7.4 Hoseo (Central Region)
 - 7.4.1 Overview
 - 7.4.2 Historical and Current Market Trends (2020-2025)
 - 7.4.3 Market Breakup by Type
 - 7.4.4 Key Players
 - 7.4.5 Market Forecast (2026-2034)
- 7.5 Others
 - 7.5.1 Historical and Current Market Trends (2020-2025)
 - 7.5.2 Market Forecast (2026-2034)

8 SOUTH KOREA SPECIALTY CHEMICALS MARKET – COMPETITIVE LANDSCAPE

- 8.1 Overview
- 8.2 Market Structure
- 8.3 Market Player Positioning
- 8.4 Top Winning Strategies
- 8.5 Competitive Dashboard
- 8.6 Company Evaluation Quadrant

9 PROFILES OF KEY PLAYERS

- 9.1 Company A
 - 9.1.1 Business Overview
 - 9.1.2 Product Portfolio

- 9.1.3 Business Strategies
- 9.1.4 SWOT Analysis
- 9.1.5 Major News and Events
- 9.2 Company B
 - 9.2.1 Business Overview
 - 9.2.2 Product Portfolio
 - 9.2.3 Business Strategies
 - 9.2.4 SWOT Analysis
 - 9.2.5 Major News and Events
- 9.3 Company C
 - 9.3.1 Business Overview
 - 9.3.2 Product Portfolio
 - 9.3.3 Business Strategies
 - 9.3.4 SWOT Analysis
 - 9.3.5 Major News and Events
- 9.4 Company D
 - 9.4.1 Business Overview
 - 9.4.2 Product Portfolio
 - 9.4.3 Business Strategies
 - 9.4.4 SWOT Analysis
 - 9.4.5 Major News and Events
- 9.5 Company E
 - 9.5.1 Business Overview
 - 9.5.2 Product Portfolio
 - 9.5.3 Business Strategies
 - 9.5.4 SWOT Analysis
 - 9.5.5 Major News and Events

10 SOUTH KOREA SPECIALTY CHEMICALS MARKET - INDUSTRY ANALYSIS

- 10.1 Drivers, Restraints, and Opportunities
 - 10.1.1 Overview
 - 10.1.2 Drivers
 - 10.1.3 Restraints
 - 10.1.4 Opportunities
- 10.2 Porters Five Forces Analysis
 - 10.2.1 Overview
 - 10.2.2 Bargaining Power of Buyers
 - 10.2.3 Bargaining Power of Suppliers

- 10.2.4 Degree of Competition
- 10.2.5 Threat of New Entrants
- 10.2.6 Threat of Substitutes
- 10.3 Value Chain Analysis

11 APPENDIX

I would like to order

Product name: South Korea Specialty Chemicals Market Report by Type (Agrochemicals, Polymer Additives, Construction Chemicals, Water Treatment Chemicals, Oil Field Chemicals, Food Additives, Surfactants, Electronic Chemicals, Specialty Polymers, and Others), and Region 2026-2034

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