

Drum Brakes Market - Forecast from 2026 to 2031

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Abstracts

The drum brakes market, growing at a 4.45% CAGR, is projected to achieve USD 7.391 billion in 2031 from USD 5.691 billion in 2025.

The drum brake market continues to exhibit resilience despite the long-term industry shift toward disc brake systems, supported by sustained vehicle production growth and enduring cost-performance advantages in specific applications. Drum brakes—employing friction between expanding shoes and a rotating drum—remain the preferred rear-axle solution for many passenger cars and the dominant braking technology for medium- and heavy-duty commercial vehicles due to uniform bidirectional performance, superior heat dissipation under repeated heavy loading, and lower component and servicing costs.

Primary growth drivers center on expanding global light- and commercial-vehicle output, particularly in price-sensitive and high-load segments. Drum brakes retain strong specification in entry- to mid-range passenger cars and maintain near-universal adoption in trucks, buses, and trailers where parking brake integration and thermal management under sustained braking are critical. India's commercial vehicle production rose from 805,000 units in FY 2021–2022 to 1.035 million units in FY 2022–2023, while broader Asia-Pacific vehicle manufacturing continues to drive the majority of global drum brake volume.

Asia-Pacific solidifies its position as the clear market leader, underpinned by the region's status as the world's largest automotive production hub, abundant raw material access, competitive labor costs, and concentration of Tier-1 brake manufacturers. China and India together account for the overwhelming share of regional drum brake demand across both OEM and aftermarket channels.

Technological evolution within the drum brake segment focuses on weight reduction, integration with electronic parking brake (EPB) systems, and enhanced durability rather

than radical performance leaps. A notable advancement occurred in January 2023 when Brakes India unveiled its Motor-on-Drum (MoD) brake at Auto Expo 2023, specifically engineered for passenger-car rear axles, combining conventional drum architecture with an integrated electric parking brake actuator to meet rising EPB penetration while preserving cost and packaging advantages over disc-based solutions.

Key product platforms retaining commercial relevance include:

S-CAM drum brakes (MGM Brakes) featuring epoxy internal/external corrosion protection, reinforced mounting, and high parking force for severe-duty applications.

Hydraulic drum brakes (Knott Brake Company) offering flexible actuation for diverse vehicle classes.

Electrically released bi-functional designs (Warner Electric ERD HBF) and conventional mechanical/hydraulic service brakes (Nifo) for industrial and specialty vehicles.

The principal structural headwind remains the progressive migration to disc brakes, particularly on front axles and increasingly on rear axles of premium and performance-oriented passenger vehicles. Disc systems deliver up to 30 % shorter stopping distances and significantly reduced fade under high-speed or repeated braking, accelerating their adoption in regulatory environments prioritizing crash avoidance and in consumer segments valuing dynamic performance.

Nevertheless, drum brakes are expected to defend substantial share through the forecast period in cost-driven passenger-car rear applications and virtually the entirety of medium- and heavy-commercial vehicle fleets worldwide. Ongoing innovations such as Motor-on-Drum configurations and lightweight drum designs demonstrate that manufacturers are actively extending the technology's competitiveness against disc encroachment, particularly where total cost of ownership, parking brake functionality, and heat management under loaded conditions remain decisive selection criteria.

In conclusion, the drum brake segment will continue to benefit from robust Asia-Pacific vehicle production growth and entrenched specification in commercial vehicles, even as passenger-car front-axle penetration approaches zero in developed markets. The January 2023 introduction of Brakes India's Motor-on-Drum system represents the

most significant recent advancement, enabling drum technology to meet modern electronic parking brake requirements without sacrificing the economic and packaging benefits that have sustained its relevance for over a century.

Key Benefits of this Report:

Insightful Analysis: Gain detailed market insights covering major as well as emerging geographical regions, focusing on customer segments, government policies and socio-economic factors, consumer preferences, industry verticals, and other sub-segments.

Competitive Landscape: Understand the strategic maneuvers employed by key players globally to understand possible market penetration with the correct strategy.

Market Drivers & Future Trends: Explore the dynamic factors and pivotal market trends and how they will shape future market developments.

Actionable Recommendations: Utilize the insights to exercise strategic decisions to uncover new business streams and revenues in a dynamic environment.

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Report Coverage:

Historical data from 2021 to 2025 & forecast data from 2026 to 2031

Growth Opportunities, Challenges, Supply Chain Outlook, Regulatory Framework, and Trend Analysis

Competitive Positioning, Strategies, and Market Share Analysis

Revenue Growth and Forecast Assessment of segments and regions including countries

Company Profiling (Strategies, Products, Financial Information, and Key Developments among others.

Global Drum Brakes Market is analyzed into the following segments:

By Type

Leading-Trailing Shoe

Twin-Leading Shoe

Duo-Servo

Others

By Material

Steel

Aluminum

Others

By Distribution Channel

OEM

Aftermarket

By Vehicle Type

Passenger Vehicles

Commercial Vehicles

Light Duty

Heavy Duty

By Geography

North America

USA

Canada

Mexico

South America

Brazil

Argentina

Others

Europe

Germany

France

United Kingdom

Spain

Italy

Others

Middle East and Africa

Saudi Arabia

UAE

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Thailand

Taiwan

Others

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