

UAE Contact Lens Market Industry Size, Share, Trends, Opportunity, and Forecast, 2018-2028 Segmented By Material Type (Silicone hydrogel, Hydrogel, Gas permeable, Others), By Design (Spherical, Toric, Multifocal, Others), By Wear Type (Disposable, Reusable), By Application (Corrective, Therapeutic, Cosmetic, Others), By Distribution Channel (Retail Stores, Hospitals & Clinics, Online), by region, and Competition

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Abstracts

UAE Contact Lens Market is anticipated to witness an impressive growth in the forecast period. Contact lenses are medical devices placed directly on the eye's cornea to correct vision or for cosmetic purposes. They are thin, curved lenses made of various materials, including soft, rigid gas permeable, and hybrid materials. Contact lenses are a popular alternative to eyeglasses and offer advantages such as a wider field of vision and freedom from wearing frames. Proper hygiene is crucial to prevent eye infections. Cleaning, disinfecting, and storing lenses correctly are essential tasks. Regular eye check-ups with an eye care professional are recommended. Corrects refractive errors like myopia, hyperopia, astigmatism, and presbyopia. Offers an alternative to eyeglasses, providing freedom of movement. Colored lenses can change or enhance eye color. Suitable for active lifestyles where eyeglasses may be impractical.

The rising prevalence of vision disorders, such as myopia and presbyopia, contributes to the growing demand for contact lenses as a vision correction solution. As disposable incomes increase, consumers may be more willing to invest in premium or specialized contact lenses, contributing to market growth. Ongoing advancements in contact lens

technology, including materials, design, and manufacturing processes, drive product innovation and enhance the overall user experience. Growing awareness of the importance of eye health and regular eye check-ups encourages individuals to opt for contact lenses as a convenient and effective means of vision correction. Contact lenses offer a more convenient and active lifestyle compared to traditional eyeglasses. As individuals seek products that align with their lifestyle preferences, the demand for contact lenses may increase. The growth of e-commerce provides consumers with convenient online platforms to purchase contact lenses, contributing to increased accessibility and market expansion. The introduction of flexible payment options and subscription services by retailers makes contact lenses more accessible to a broader consumer base, driving market growth. The growth of e-commerce provides consumers with convenient online platforms to purchase contact lenses, contributing to increased accessibility and market expansion. Increasing urbanization often correlates with a higher demand for contact lenses due to lifestyle factors and a greater emphasis on appearance. Contact lenses offer a more convenient and active lifestyle compared to traditional eyeglasses. As individuals seek products that align with their lifestyle preferences, the demand for contact lenses may increase.

Key Market Drivers

Technological Advancements

Researchers have been exploring the development of smart contact lenses embedded with sensors and microelectronics. These lenses could potentially monitor various health indicators, such as glucose levels for individuals with diabetes, intraocular pressure for glaucoma patients, or even provide augmented reality (AR) displays. Augmented Reality (AR) Contact Lenses aim to overlay digital information onto the wearer's field of vision. While still in the early stages of development, these lenses have the potential to revolutionize how individuals receive information and interact with the digital world. Inspired by photochromic eyeglass lenses, these contact lenses are designed to automatically darken in response to sunlight. This feature provides protection against harmful UV rays and reduces glare in bright conditions.

Innovations in materials have led to the development of contact lenses with enhanced oxygen permeability, moisture retention, and comfort. Silicone hydrogel lenses, for example, allow more oxygen to reach the cornea, reducing the risk of eye dryness and discomfort. Some contact lenses are being designed to release therapeutic drugs gradually into the eye. This technology is particularly promising for the treatment of conditions such as glaucoma and other eye diseases, offering a more controlled and

sustained drug delivery method. Researchers are exploring tunable contact lenses that can change focus dynamically. This technology could be beneficial for individuals with presbyopia, allowing them to adjust focus for near and far vision without the need for multifocal lenses.

Contact lenses with antibacterial coatings aim to reduce the risk of eye infections. These coatings inhibit the growth of bacteria on the lens surface, enhancing eye health and safety. Advances in manufacturing technologies, such as 3D printing, allow for the creation of customized contact lenses tailored to the specific curvature and prescription needs of an individual's eyes. Some contact lenses are now designed with built-in ultraviolet (UV) protection to shield the eyes from harmful UV rays, providing an additional layer of defense against potential eye damage. Continuous wear contact lenses are designed for extended use, allowing wearers to keep them in for several days without removal. Advances in materials and design have improved the safety and comfort of these lenses. This factor will help in the development of the UAE Contact Lens Market.

Increasing Vision Disorders

There has been a global increase in the prevalence of myopia (nearsightedness), especially among younger populations. Factors such as increased screen time, reduced outdoor activities, and genetic predisposition have contributed to what is often referred to as the 'myopia epidemic.' Contact lenses are a popular choice for vision correction in individuals with myopia. As the population ages, the prevalence of presbyopia (age-related difficulty in focusing on near objects) also increases. Multifocal and bifocal contact lenses offer a solution for individuals experiencing presbyopia, allowing them to see clearly at various distances without relying on reading glasses. Vision disorders, including astigmatism, hyperopia (farsightedness), and other refractive errors, drive the demand for specialized contact lenses. Toric lenses are designed to correct astigmatism, while various lenses address different types of refractive errors.

Colored contact lenses are not only used for vision correction but also for cosmetic purposes. Many individuals with or without vision disorders choose colored lenses to enhance or change their eye color, contributing to the overall demand for contact lenses. Technological advancements have led to the development of specialty contact lenses designed to address specific vision disorders. This includes scleral lenses for irregular corneas and orthokeratology lenses for myopia control. Contact lenses offer a convenient and active lifestyle compared to traditional eyeglasses. Increased accessibility to contact lenses through various distribution channels, including online

platforms and retail stores, contributes to their popularity among individuals with vision disorders.

Many individuals prefer non-invasive methods of vision correction, and contact lenses provide a discreet and comfortable alternative to eyeglasses or surgical procedures. Increased awareness of the importance of regular eye check-ups and the availability of vision correction options contribute to a proactive approach to eye care. As people become more informed about contact lenses, they are more likely to choose them as a solution for vision disorders. Innovations in contact lens design, materials, and manufacturing processes have improved comfort, visual acuity, and safety, making contact lenses an attractive option for those with vision disorders. This factor will pace up the demand of the UAE Contact Lens Market.

Rise in Digital Device Usage

Prolonged use of digital devices, such as computers, smartphones, and tablets, can lead to digital eye strain. Contact lenses designed specifically for digital device users often incorporate features like enhanced moisture retention and optimized optics to reduce discomfort associated with prolonged screen time. Contact lenses provide a more flexible and versatile option for vision correction, especially for individuals who spend extended hours in front of digital screens. They allow wearers to move freely without the constraints of eyeglasses. Contact lenses offer a natural field of view, unobstructed by frames, which can be beneficial for individuals who need to maintain awareness of their surroundings while using digital devices.

Contact lenses are not affected by glare or reflections, providing consistent vision in various lighting conditions. This adaptability is advantageous for individuals who move between indoor and outdoor environments while using digital devices. Individuals who use protective eyewear, such as safety glasses or goggles, for work or sports, may find contact lenses to be a more compatible and comfortable vision correction option compared to eyeglasses. Some contact lenses are specifically designed to address the unique visual demands of computer use. These lenses may include features like increased depth of focus, reducing the need for frequent focusing adjustments.

Contact lenses are suitable for individuals with active lifestyles, including those who engage in sports or physical activities where eyeglasses may be impractical. This appeals to a demographic that values both clear vision and the flexibility to pursue various activities. Digital device use is often associated with dry eye symptoms. Certain contact lenses are designed with materials that retain moisture well, helping to alleviate

dryness and discomfort associated with extended screen time. Colored and cosmetic contact lenses cater to individuals who want to enhance or change their eye color, providing an aesthetic option that complements digital device use, especially in social and professional settings. Contact lenses offer a wide range of prescription options, including toric lenses for astigmatism and multifocal lenses for presbyopia. This flexibility accommodates the diverse vision correction needs of individuals who use digital devices regularly. This factor will accelerate the demand of the UAE Contact Lens Market.

Key Market Challenges

Competition from Alternatives

Traditional eyeglasses remain a strong alternative to contact lenses. Some individuals may prefer eyeglasses for their simplicity, ease of use, and lack of direct contact with the eyes. Fashion trends and the availability of stylish frames also influence the choice between eyeglasses and contact lenses. Surgical alternatives, such as LASIK (laser in situ keratomileusis), offer a permanent solution to vision correction. While LASIK is a one-time procedure that eliminates the need for daily contact lenses, it may not be suitable for everyone due to factors like cost, surgical risks, and personal preferences. Orthokeratology (Ortho-K) involves wearing specially designed contact lenses overnight to reshape the cornea temporarily. This method provides clear vision during the day without the need for corrective lenses. It serves as an alternative for those who are not suitable candidates for LASIK. Intraocular lens implants, typically used for cataract surgery, can also provide vision correction. While this is a surgical option, it competes with contact lenses in addressing certain refractive errors. Hybrid contact lenses combine features of both rigid gas permeable (RGP) and soft lenses. These lenses offer an alternative for individuals who may not find traditional soft lenses suitable for their vision correction needs. Some individuals may choose non-corrective eyewear, such as plano (non-prescription) glasses or fashion sunglasses, as a style accessory rather than opting for vision correction through contact lenses. Consumer behavior and personal preferences play a crucial role in the choice between contact lenses and alternatives. Factors such as comfort, convenience, and lifestyle considerations influence the decision-making process.

Supply Chain Disruptions

Many contact lens manufacturers source raw materials or components globally. Disruptions in the supply chain, whether due to natural disasters, geopolitical events, or

health crises, can affect the timely procurement of essential materials, impacting production. Efficient transportation is crucial for the timely delivery of contact lenses from manufacturing facilities to distribution centers and ultimately to retailers or end consumers. Disruptions in transportation, such as shipping delays or restrictions, can hinder the smooth flow of products. Any disruptions or delays in the manufacturing process, whether caused by technical issues, labor shortages, or unforeseen events, can result in a reduced output of contact lenses. This, in turn, affects the overall supply available in the market. Maintaining consistent product quality is essential in the contact lens industry. Disruptions in quality control processes can lead to the rejection of batches, delaying the release of products onto the market. Relying heavily on a single supplier for critical components or materials increases vulnerability to supply chain disruptions. Diversifying suppliers or having contingency plans in place can mitigate this risk. Changes in regulatory requirements or compliance standards can impact the manufacturing and distribution processes. Adapting to new regulations may require adjustments, potentially leading to temporary disruptions.

Key Market Trends

Fashion and Cosmetic usage

Colored contact lenses allow individuals to change or enhance the color of their eyes for cosmetic purposes. This trend is popular among those who seek a temporary or reversible change in their appearance. Colored lenses come in a variety of shades, providing options for subtle or dramatic transformations. Some individuals choose colored lenses that enhance their natural eye color rather than completely changing it. This approach allows for a more subtle and nuanced effect, emphasizing the existing beauty of the eyes. Fashion-oriented contact lenses may feature intricate designs, patterns, or even special effects, catering to individuals looking for a unique and eye-catching aesthetic. These lenses go beyond simple color changes, offering artistic and creative options. Colored and cosmetic contact lenses are often chosen for special occasions, events, or cultural celebrations. Individuals may opt for lenses that complement their attire or match the theme of an event. Influencers, celebrities, and social media play a significant role in promoting fashion trends, including cosmetic contact lenses. The visibility of these trends on platforms like Instagram and TikTok can influence consumer choices and preferences. The availability of a wide range of colored lenses allows for personal expression and customization. Individuals can choose lenses based on their mood, fashion style, or the overall look they want to achieve. Cultural preferences and fashion trends in the UAE influence the popularity of specific colors and styles of contact lenses. Manufacturers often take these cultural nuances into

account when designing and marketing their products.

Segmental Insights

Material Type Insights

In 2022, the UAE Contact Lens Market largest share was held by Hydrogel segment and is predicted to continue expanding over the coming years. Hydrogel contact lenses are known for their water content, which provides a high level of comfort for wearers. The material can retain moisture, preventing dryness and discomfort commonly associated with contact lens use. This comfort factor is a significant driver of consumer preference. Hydrogel has been a well-established and widely used material in the contact lens industry for many years. It has a proven track record of safety and effectiveness, contributing to its continued popularity among both practitioners and wearers. Hydrogel lenses are suitable for daily wear, making them a convenient option for individuals who prefer a lens that can be worn throughout the day and removed at night. This aligns with the preferences of many contact lens users. Hydrogel lenses are available in various replacement schedules, including daily, bi-weekly, and monthly. This versatility allows consumers to choose lenses that align with their lifestyle and preferences, contributing to the widespread adoption of hydrogel lenses. Hydrogel lenses are often perceived as more cost-effective compared to certain advanced materials. This affordability can make them an attractive option for a broad segment of consumers, contributing to their larger market share.

Application Insights

In 2022, the UAE Contact Lens Market largest share was held by Corrective segment and is predicted to continue expanding over the coming years. The Corrective segment primarily caters to individuals with refractive errors such as myopia (near-sightedness), hyperopia (farsightedness), astigmatism, and presbyopia. Since vision correction is a common need among people, especially with the increasing use of digital devices, there is a high demand for corrective contact lenses. A significant percentage of the population requires vision correction due to refractive errors. Corrective contact lenses are designed to address these specific vision issues, making them a necessity for many individuals who do not want to rely on eyeglasses. Increased awareness about the availability and benefits of corrective contact lenses, along with improved accessibility through retail stores and eye care professionals, can contribute to the segment's dominance. As awareness grows, more individuals may choose contact lenses for vision correction. Ongoing advancements in contact lens technology have resulted in

the development of highly effective and comfortable corrective lenses. Innovations in materials and design have made contact lenses more appealing to individuals seeking an alternative to traditional eyeglasses. While the Corrective segment primarily addresses vision issues, there is an overlap with cosmetic concerns. Many individuals prefer contact lenses over glasses for aesthetic reasons, contributing to the popularity of corrective contact lenses.

Distribution Channel Insights

In 2022, the UAE Contact Lens Market largest share was held by Retail Stores segment in the forecast period and is predicted to continue expanding over the coming years. Retail stores, especially well-established and reputable ones, often build trust among consumers. Many people prefer to purchase contact lenses from physical stores where they can receive personalized assistance, get their eyes checked, and have a face-to-face interaction with optometrists or sales professionals. Retail stores typically have on-site optometrists who can verify prescriptions and ensure that customers are purchasing the correct lenses for their vision needs. This prescription verification process is crucial for eye health and safety, and consumers may feel more confident in getting it done in person. Retail stores provide the advantage of immediate availability. Consumers can walk into a store, get their prescription checked, and leave with the contact lenses they need on the same day. This convenience can be particularly appealing for those who require lenses urgently. Proper fitting is essential for comfort and vision correction when it comes to contact lenses. Retail stores can offer personalized fitting services, ensuring that customers find lenses that suit their eyes and preferences. Retail stores often have prominent displays and marketing materials, increasing the visibility of contact lens brands. Consumers may be more inclined to purchase products they are familiar with or have seen showcased in stores.

Regional Insights

The Abu Dhabi region dominates the UAE Contact Lens Market in 2022. Abu Dhabi has a higher population density or a larger demographic of individuals who use contact lenses, it could contribute to the dominance of the market in that region. Factors such as age demographics and lifestyle preferences can significantly influence the demand for contact lenses. Abu Dhabi is the capital and the wealthiest emirate in the UAE. Higher disposable incomes in this region may lead to increased spending on eyewear and contact lenses. Affluent consumers may be more willing to invest in premium or specialty contact lenses, contributing to market dominance. The presence of advanced healthcare facilities and a robust eye care infrastructure in Abu Dhabi may enhance

awareness and accessibility to eye care services, including contact lenses. This can lead to a higher adoption rate in the region. Urban areas often witness higher usage of contact lenses due to factors such as a faster-paced lifestyle, greater exposure to digital screens, and increased emphasis on appearance. If Abu Dhabi is more urbanized compared to other regions, it might contribute to a higher demand for contact lenses.

Key Market Players

Bausch & Lomb UAE

Johnson & Johnson UAE

Alcon UAE

Carl Zeiss UAE

CooperVision UAE

EssilorLuxottica Group UAE

Report Scope:

In this report, the UAE Contact Lens Market has been segmented into the following categories, in addition to the industry trends which have also been detailed below:

Contact Lens Market, By Material Type:

Silicone hydrogel

Hydrogel

Gas permeable

Others

Contact Lens Market, By Design:

Spherical

Toric

Multifocal

Others

Contact Lens Market, By Wear Type:

Disposable

Reusable

Contact Lens Market, By Application:

Corrective

Therapeutic

Cosmetic

Others

Contact Lens Market, By Distribution Channel:

Retail Stores

Hospitals & Clinics

Online

Contact Lens Market, By region:

Dubai

Abu Dhabi

Sharjah

Rest of UAE

Competitive Landscape

Company Profiles: Detailed analysis of the major companies present in the UAE Contact Lens Market.

Available Customizations:

UAE Contact Lens Market report with the given market data, Tech Sci Research offers customizations according to a company's specific needs. The following customization options are available for the report:

Company Information

Detailed analysis and profiling of additional market players (up to five).

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