

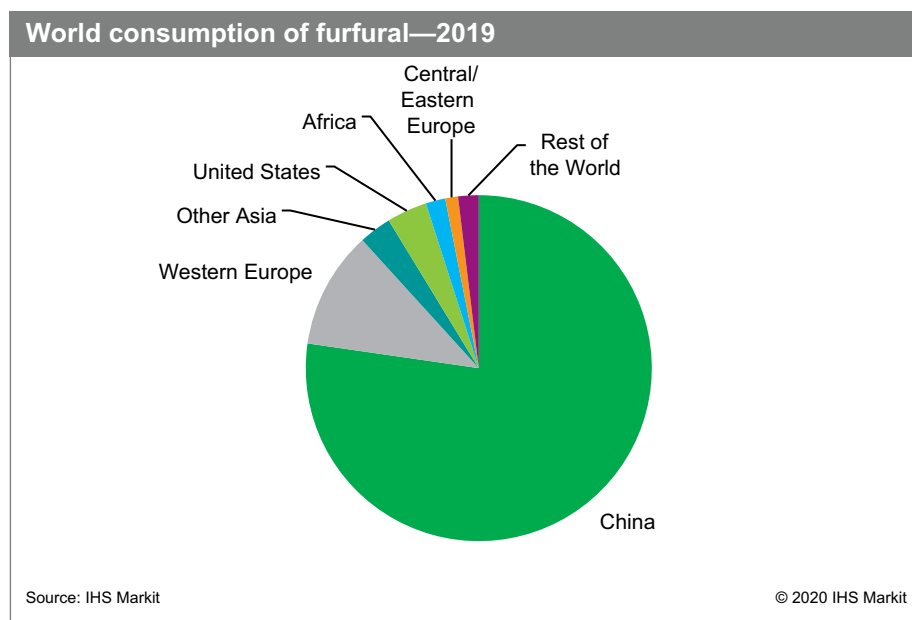
Furfural

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Abstract

The furfural industry has grown rapidly in China in the last 25 years, forcing out all production in the United States and most of Europe. In the 1990s, the Chinese industry was composed of many small-scale furfural plants, but since the mid-1990s, the industry has tended toward an increase in the size of its plants and has pursued value-added capacity for making furfuryl alcohol. China is by far the leading global producer of metal castings, where furfuryl alcohol is used to make furan foundry binder resins. China is also a leading exporter of furfural and furfuryl alcohol.

The following pie chart shows world consumption of furfural:



Outside of China, demand for furfural is relatively small, with little change expected. Other regions that may experience growth, albeit from smaller volumes, include Africa the Middle East, and Central and Eastern Europe. Only minimal growth is expected in the United States, Japan, and Other Asia Pacific (excluding China and Japan), while consumption in Central and South America is expected to decline.

Furfural is produced from agricultural wastes that contain pentosans that are then hydrolyzed to furfural and other by-products. The most common raw materials for furfural production include corncobs, bagasse from sugarcane processing, and by-product streams from tanning and cellulosic fiber production.

Contacts

Koon-Ling Ring • Koon-Ling.ring@ihsmarkit.com
Maria deGuzman • Maria.deguzman@ihsmarkit.com

Furfuryl alcohol is the dominant end use for furfural, accounting for nearly 90% of total consumption, followed by solvent applications in lubricating oils and butadiene extraction (4%), with the remainder in other applications such as chemical, pharmaceutical, and flavoring intermediates.

For more detailed information, see the table of contents, shown below.

IHS Markit's Chemical Economics Handbook – Furfural is the comprehensive and trusted guide for anyone seeking information on this industry. This latest report details global and regional information, including



Global summary;
regional coverage



Producers with
annual capacities
and plant sites



Production figures
and trends



Consumption and
forecasts by end use
application



Manufacturing
processes and
environmental issues



Trade – imports
and exports

Key benefits

IHS Markit's Chemical Economics Handbook – Furfural has been compiled using primary interviews with key suppliers and organizations, and leading representatives from the industry in combination with IHS Markit's unparalleled access to upstream and downstream market intelligence and expert insights into industry dynamics, trade, and economics.

This report can help you

- Identify trends and driving forces influencing chemical markets
- Forecast and plan for future demand
- Understand the impact of competing materials
- Identify and evaluate potential customers and competitors
- Evaluate producers
- Track changing prices and trade movements
- Analyze the impact of feedstocks, regulations, and other factors on chemical profitability

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IHS Markit Customer Care

CustomerCare@ihsmarkit.com

Americas: +1 800 IHS CARE (+1 800 447 2273)

Europe, Middle East, and Africa: +44 (0) 1344 328 300

Asia and the Pacific Rim: +604 291 3600

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