

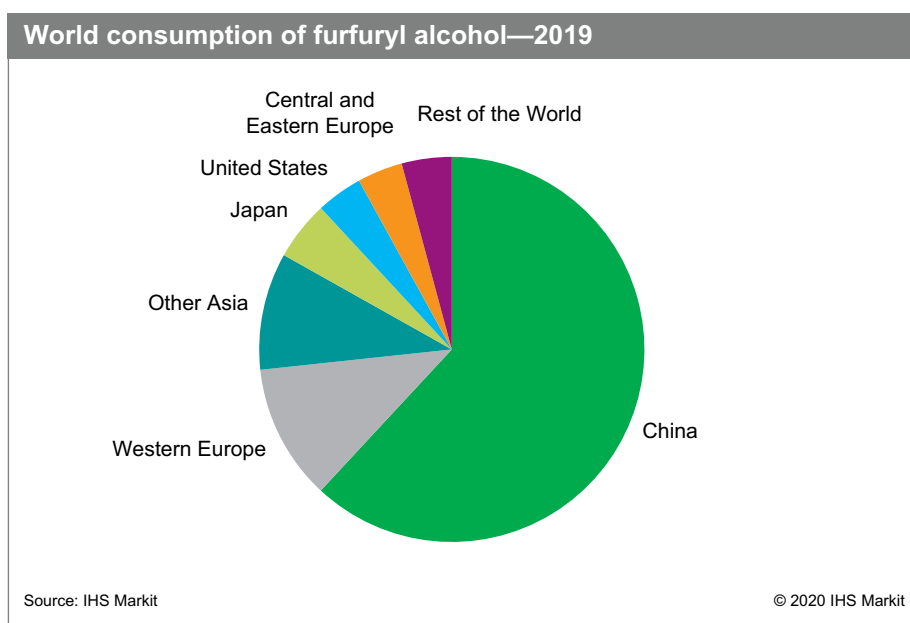
# Furfuryl Alcohol and Furan Resins

16 March 2020

## Abstract

The majority of furfuryl alcohol is used in the production of furan resins for foundry sand binders in the metal casting industry. Currently, furfuryl alcohol is used mainly in binders for the traditional furan no-bake system and in smaller quantities in furan hot-box, warm-box, and gas-hardened processes. In its main application, the foundry business, furfuryl alcohol competes primarily with phenol, the feedstock for phenolic resins.

The following pie chart shows world consumption of furfuryl alcohol:



The production and use of furfuryl alcohol is centered in China. Low-cost production in China forced most of the industry in North America, Western Europe, and Japan to shutter operations in the 1990s. China has also captured most of the global foundry business. Little change is expected in the near future. Any growth in the global industry will depend on activity in China.

China continues to be the world's largest producer and consumer of furfuryl alcohol, accounting for more than 85% of worldwide capacity, 80% of production, and about 60% of global consumption in 2019. Since 2000, a number of foundries have relocated to China, which has led to increased domestic demand for furan resins, especially from the automotive, windmill, and machinery industries. However, it is expected that Chinese demand for furan resins in the heavy casting industry will grow at a more moderate rate in the future.

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It is estimated that about 90% of worldwide demand for furfuryl alcohol in 2019 was used for the production of furan resins. The remaining applications include tetrahydrofurfuryl alcohol (THFA), and use in solvents, flavor and fragrance chemicals, pesticides, and pharmaceuticals. THFA is used mainly as a specialty solvent or chemical intermediate, with its primary end markets being agricultural chemicals, coatings, and cleaning solutions.

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

**IHS Markit's Chemical Economics Handbook – Furfuryl Alcohol and Furan Resins** 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 – Furfuryl Alcohol and Furan Resins** 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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