

# Sodium Bicarbonate

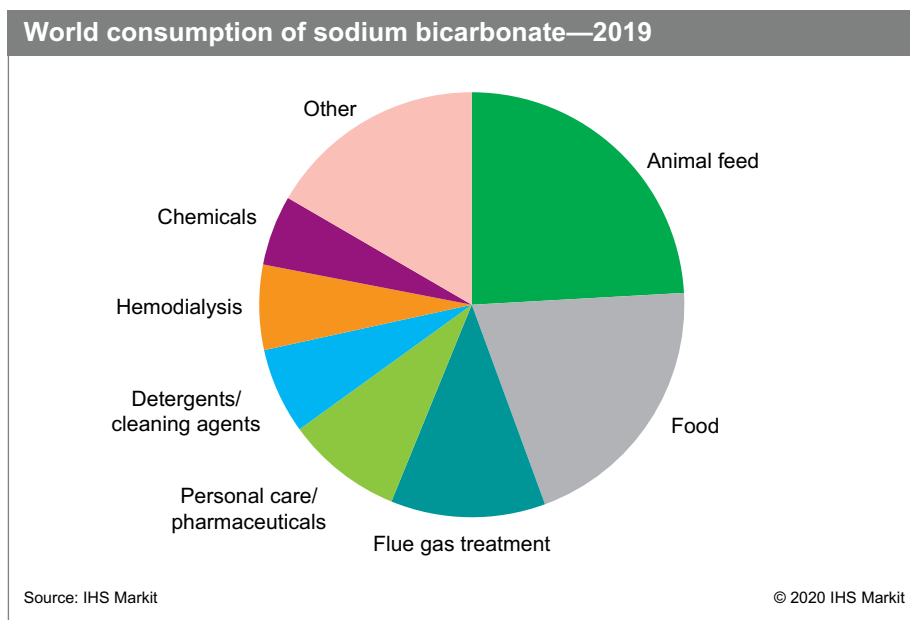
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## Abstract

Sodium bicarbonate (bicarb, baking soda) is produced primarily from natural and synthetic soda ash. It has a wide variety of uses, and animal feed, food and household applications, flue gas treatment, and pharmaceutical and chemical industry uses account for the largest part of its overall consumption. China was the world's largest producer and consumer of sodium bicarbonate in 2019. North America is the second-largest producing region, followed by Western Europe and other Asian countries.

The leading five producers accounted for almost 47% of the installed sodium bicarbonate capacity in 2019; the majority of them operate several facilities in different regions. Solvay accounted for about 16.5% of the total, followed by Henan Zhongyuan (15.8%). Over the forecast period, capacity is expected to increase at an average annual rate of about 3%.

The following pie chart shows world consumption of sodium bicarbonate by end use:



With 25% of the global demand, China accounted for the single largest market for sodium bicarbonate in 2019; the rest of Asia accounted for another 18% of global demand. Europe accounted for 26% of global consumption, while North America represented 20%.

Growth in the consumption of sodium bicarbonate has slowed from the rapid rate seen during 2008–12. The reasons for this slower growth include reduced consumption in detergents with the switch to liquid formulations in North America

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and Western Europe, the near completion of replacement in flue gas treatment uses, and more recently, the slowdown of the Chinese economy.

The major use of sodium bicarbonate is in animal feed, accounting for roughly one-fourth of all bicarb consumption globally. Chinese sodium bicarbonate consumption for animal feed has increased significantly, in response to the rapid growth of the feed industry caused by the rapid development of the livestock sector in China. China is currently the second-largest feed producer in the world.

Demand for food applications accounted for about 20% of the global consumption of sodium bicarbonate in 2019, followed by flue gas treatment, personal care, detergents and cleaners, and hemodialysis.

Over the forecast period to 2024, world consumption is expected to continue to increase, but at a slower growth rate of about 2–3% per year. The largest part of demand growth will be in Asian markets; accordingly, companies like Solvay and Novacap have reacted by investing in additional capacity in the region, mostly for specialty products.

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

**IHS Markit's Chemical Economics Handbook – Sodium Bicarbonate** 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 – Sodium Bicarbonate** 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

# Contents

<b>Executive summary</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Summary</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Manufacturing processes</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Supply and demand by region</b>	<b>15</b>
United States	15
– Producing companies	15
– Salient statistics	16
– Production	17
– Consumption	18
– Animal feed	21
– Food	22
– Hemodialysis	22
– Chemicals	23
– Cleaning products	23
– Flue gas desulfurization	23
– Water treatment	24
– Pharmaceuticals and personal care	24
– Blast media	25
– Fire extinguishers	25
– Other	26
– Price	26
– Trade	27
Canada and Mexico	30
– Producing companies	30
– Salient statistics	30
– Consumption	31
– Trade	33
Central and South America	33
– Producing companies	33
– Salient statistics	34
– Consumption	36
– Trade	37
Western Europe	38
– Producing companies	39
– Salient statistics	39
– Consumption	40
– Animal feed	41
– Flue gas treatment	42
– Baking and foodstuffs	42
– Personal care and pharmaceuticals	43

– Hemodialysis	43
– Detergents and cleaning agents	43
– Fire extinguishers	43
– Textiles and leather	44
– Other	44
– Price	45
– Trade	46
– Imports	46
– Exports	47
Central and Eastern Europe	47
– Producing companies	47
– Salient statistics	47
– Consumption	49
– Price	49
– Trade	49
Middle East and Africa	50
– Producing companies	50
– Salient statistics	51
– Consumption	52
– Trade	53
– Imports	53
– Exports	54
Asia	55
– China	55
– Producing companies	55
– Salient statistics	56
– Consumption	56
– Animal feed	57
– Food and beverage	57
– Personal care and pharmaceuticals	57
– Detergents and cleaning agents	57
– Chemicals	58
– Hemodialysis	58
– Fire extinguishers	58
– Fuel gas treatment	58
– Other	59
– Price	59
– Trade	61
– Other Asia	62
– Producing companies	62
– India	63
– Japan	64
– Other	64

– Salient statistics	64
– Consumption	67
– Animal feed	68
– Food	69
– Personal care/pharmaceuticals	69
– Flue gas treatment	69
– Hemodialysis	69
– Textile/leather tanning	69
– Bath additives	70
– Soil stabilizer	70
– Other	70
– Price	70
– Trade	71
– Imports	71
– Exports	72
Oceania	73
– Producing companies	73
– Salient statistics	73
– Consumption	74
– Price	74
– Trade	75
– Imports	75
– Exports	76
<b>Additional resources</b>	<b>77</b>
<b>Revisions</b>	<b>78</b>

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