

Sorbitol

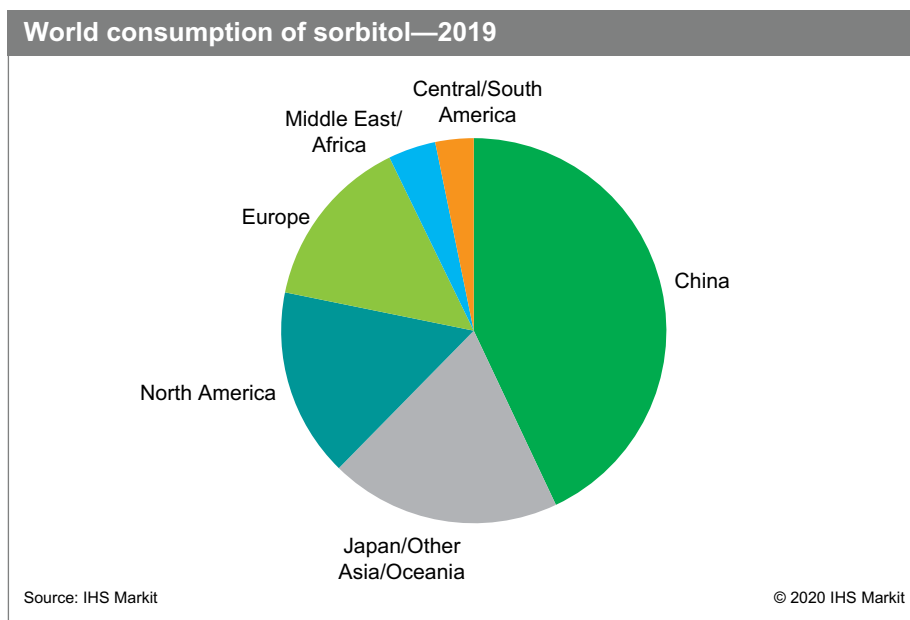
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Abstract

Sorbitol is the largest-volume sugar alcohol. It offers a unique combination of functional properties—humectancy, sweetness, bulking, stabilization, softening, and emulsification—at an attractive price. Because of its sweet taste, it is widely used as a partial replacement for sucrose (table sugar) in sugar-free foods, chewing gums, and candies. In addition, sorbitol serves as a sweetener, humectant, and bodying agent in toothpaste and mouthwash and as a starting material for vitamin C production.

Use in personal care products (mainly toothpaste), food and confections, and vitamin C production accounted for the bulk of global sorbitol consumption in 2019. Other end uses included surfactants, pharmaceuticals, and polyether polyols for polyurethanes.

The following pie chart shows world consumption of sorbitol:



Sorbitol competes with glycerin and other sugar alcohols, including xylitol, maltitol, and mannitol. In toothpaste, sorbitol faces competition from glycerin. Supplies of refined glycerin have increased—and prices have fallen—since the sharp increase in worldwide biodiesel production in 2008. (Glycerin is a by-product of biodiesel manufacture.)

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

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IHS Markit's Chemical Economics Handbook – Sorbitol 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 – Sorbitol 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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