

Glycerin

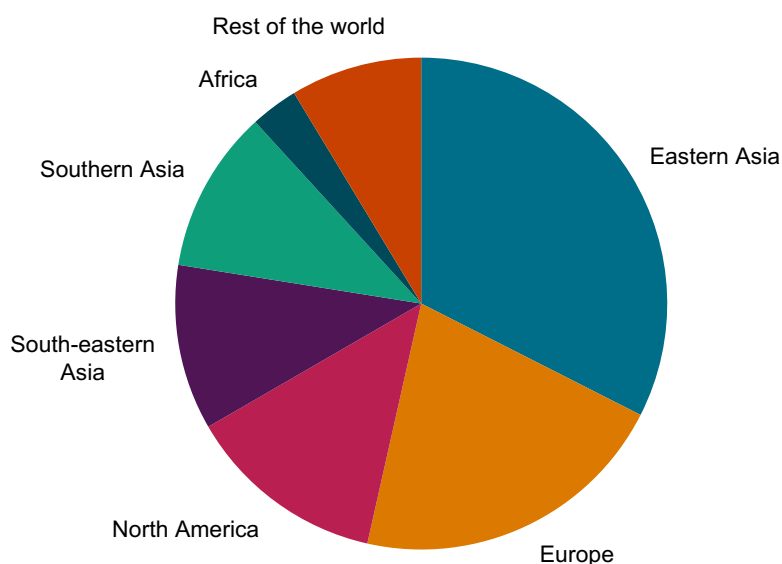
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Abstract

Glycerin (also known as glycerine, glycerol or 1,2,3-propanetriol) is a polyhydric alcohol primarily derived from soap production and the conversion of fats and oils into fatty acids, fatty alcohols or biodiesel. There are many different grades of glycerin. Refined glycerin, as discussed in this report, is purified to 99.5% and higher.

The following pie chart presents world consumption of refined glycerin:

World consumption of refined glycerin — 2025



Data compiled May 30, 2025.

Source: S&P Global Commodity Insights.

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Traditional uses in personal and oral care, food and beverage, and tobacco markets require refined glycerin to meet USP certification — a quality standard set for human consumption. Almost all glycerin derived from fatty acids, fatty alcohols and soap production is further refined to meet this standard.

In recent years, increased output from biodiesel has resulted in an oversupply of crude glycerin, leading to a new product grade called technical glycerin, which is equivalent to USP quality but does not meet USP certification requirements. Technical-grade glycerin finds significant growth in industrial applications, primarily as a renewable building block in chemicals production of epichlorohydrin, propylene glycol and polyether polyols. South-eastern Asia and Brazil are the top suppliers of refined glycerin, driven by significant growth of their biodiesel industries. The global refined glycerin market is expected to maintain robust growth during 2025–30.

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

S&P Global's Chemical Economics Handbook – *Glycerin* 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

S&P Global's Chemical Economics Handbook – *Glycerin* has been compiled using primary interviews with key suppliers, organizations and leading representatives from the industry in combination with S&P Global'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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