

Glass Bottles and Containers Market - Growth, Trends, Covid-19 Impact, and Forecasts (2023 - 2028)

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Report description:

The glass bottles and containers market is expected to grow at a CAGR of 4.4% during the forecast period (2023 - 2028). The COVID -19 outbreak created a growing necessity for industries in the food & beverage sector to focus more on hygiene and sanitization. Given the current situation, people opt for a healthy and sustainable lifestyle. As most of the products in this sector are included in essential services, it becomes crucial for the packaging sector to follow conservative practices.

Key Highlights

Alcoholic drinks, like beer, accounted for the largest segment of the market, as glass does not react with the chemicals present in drinks and, therefore, preserves the aroma, strength, and flavor of these beverages, making it a favorable option for packaging. Due to this reason, a majority of the beer volume is transported in glass bottles and is expected to continue over the study period. Glass packaging is 100% recyclable, which makes it a desirable packaging option from the environmental point of view. Six tons of recycled glass directly save 6 tons of resources and reduce the emission of CO2 by 1 ton.

One of the main factors driving the market's growth is the increase in beer consumption worldwide. Beer is one of the alcoholic beverages that use glass bottles for packaging. It is packed in dark-colored glass bottles to preserve the contents, which are prone to spoilage when exposed to UV light.

Besides, consumers increasingly prefer craft beer brewed locally by small and large breweries. This trend has led glass packaging manufacturers to adjust their production and, in some cases, even switch to other growth areas, such as food and beverage. Premium food and beverage brands prefer glass (container glass) over other packaging options, such as plastic, as glass is chemically inert, non-porous, and impermeable.

In February 2021, the Loop Reusable/Returnable Packaging platform was launched in Canada in partnership with Loblaw Inc to bring waste-free shopping for various food and household products. Also, the iconic Heinz Ketchup (Glass) Bottle is made available on the Loop. Additionally, a recent survey (1,521 Canadians were surveyed online from December 9-15, 2020) by Kraft Heinz

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Canada showcased that Canadians have preferences for more sustainable options, despite an incremental cost. Almost 65% of respondents made an effort to choose brands that come in sustainable packaging options.

There has been an increasing trend of transparency in food packaging over the past few years. Going beyond the labeled listed ingredients, consumers also want to see the physical product before purchasing. To capture this trend, many companies, especially dairy product companies, have started offering their products in transparent glass containers.

High competition from substitute packaging like plastic and metal is challenging the market's growth. Incremental advancements in plastic packaging solutions pose a threat to the studied market. This can be primarily attributed to the popularity of plastics, such as polyethylene terephthalate (PET), as substitutes for glass bottle formats.

Glass Bottles & Containers Market Trends

Milk is Expected to Account for a Significant Market Share

According to several studies by European universities, the old glass milk bottle appears to be returning. Milk vending machines, each containing glass bottles, have been popping up across Northern Ireland over the last two years and continue to do so. Besides sustainability, health consciousness is another factor compelling customers to switch to glass. Studies from authoritative sources, such as National Geographic, Time, Business Insider, The Guardian, and the New York Times, along with countless research papers published by universities across the world and even the US Food and Drug Administration, have highlighted the drawbacks of using plastic bottles when compared to the relatively advantageous traits of glass bottles.

In June 2021, the UK-based supermarket Morrisons decided to bring traditional glass milk bottles back to the shelves of seven of its Kent stores. The one-pint bottles will be delivered to supermarkets by the dairy farms and, once returned by customers, will be collected and sanitized to enable them to be reused, possibly for up to 10 years. Morrisons says it has committed to a 50% reduction across its own-brand primary plastic packaging by 2025, with over 83% of Morrisons' own-brand plastic packaging now able to be recycled.

Moreover, the COVID-19 pandemic helped surge demand for doorstep milk delivery in the glass. In August 2021, Britain's biggest traditional milk delivery company, Milk & More, added 175,000 new online customers, helping sales to grow by 20 % from GBP 156 million to GBP 186 million. The business, which also delivers groceries, now has 400,000 customers across much of England, with 90 % signing up for glass bottles that cost 81p for a pint of milk, more than the average 50p-a-pint in plastic containers. DairyDrop, based in Alderly Edge, which has 3,000 customers in Cheshire, announced a significant reversal in the glass milk bottle delivery trend. Another Cheshire-based milk supplier, Creamline Dairies, witnessed an increase of 85% in the number of people getting glass bottles delivered since last year.

The Pan-UK company, Milk & More, and East-London dairy giant, Parker Dairies, witnessed a substantial increase in the demand for glass bottles. Most dairies from London mentioned that the change is mostly from their younger consumers, whose families seem more willing to pay a little extra for the service rather than the plastic in their efforts to help the environment. The company also provides services offering refillable milk bottles. Once finished and rinsed, the bottles can be collected from doorsteps by Milk & More to be refilled and reused.

Moreover, many dairies have been adopting glass bottle packaging for milk to increase sales and brand recognition. For instance, Mossgiel Farm, a dairy farm in Scotland, has seen an impressive increase in popularity, almost doubling its milk sales, after swapping its plastic milk containers for glass bottles.

Asia-Pacific is Expected to Hold the Largest Market Share

The Asia-Pacific region is expected to register a significant growth rate compared to other nations owing to an increase in demand

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for pharmaceutical and chemical industries, which prefer glass packaging because of the inert nature of glass bottles. China, India, Japan, and Australia, among others, are the prominent nations contributing to the growth of the Asia Pacific glass packaging market.

China is one of the world's largest pharmaceutical markets. Compared to many industrialized countries, healthcare spending in China is still modest. The country is steadily improving its domestic drug research and development skills and its domestic medication production, allowing the government to provide affordable health care to an increasing number of Chinese people. As part of a long-term aim to establish an internationally competitive homegrown biopharmaceutical industry, the Chinese government is granting tax and other financial advantages. Beijing's national health strategy currently places a premium on efficiency and the construction of innovation centers, both of which are aided by financial incentives.

Three large centers of innovation, the Zhangjiang Hi-Tech Park near Shanghai, the BioBay in Suzhou, and the Shenzhen innovation hub, which is often referred to as China's Silicon Valley for pharma companies because it is already home to global companies such as Huawei - are the main pillars of the government's approach here. Hence, there is a potential growth opportunity for the domestic players in the container market as they might experience an increase in demand for glass bottles and containers from these companies. Additionally, alcohol consumption in China is significantly increasing over the years. As per Brazil-based bank Banco do Nordeste, consumption of alcoholic beverages in China is expected to reach 54.12 billion liters in 2021. Also, many alcoholic beverage companies are seeking to expand in the country to seize the opportunity.

The popularity of South Korean beauty products is due to their high performance, coupled with fun packaging and sensorial cues, as well as affordable prices. By winning the attention of bloggers, vloggers, and the media, the K-beauty wave is spreading to retailers outside Asia. This has been the primary reason for the increase in exports of the country's cosmetic products, further propelling the market for cosmetic packaging. Thus, growth in the cosmetic sector is driving collaborations and partnerships and is expected to drive the glass bottle and container market in South Korea over the forecast period.

In March 2021, Verescence, a glass manufacturer for perfumery and cosmetics, acquired Pacifglas, a South Korean glass packager, and formed a long-term partnership with Amorepacific. Verescence's three glass production sites and four decoration locations in Europe and North America manufacture 500 million bottles annually. Verescence intends to build on this strong foundation to become a pan-Asian leader, investing in technology and capacity to meet the growing demand for high-end glass.

Glass Bottles & Containers Market Competitor Analysis

The glass bottles and containers market is highly competitive and fragmented. A few of the major companies in this market are Owens-Illinois Inc., Hindustan National Glass & Industries Ltd, Vitro, S.A.B. De CV, Amcor Ltd, etc. These established vendors with strong access to distribution channels have a strong foothold in the market studied.

November 2021 - Saverglass opened a new 430,000 square-foot multi-service warehouse in Fairfield, California, to provide wine and alcohol companies fast access to a spectrum of glass bottle services. With more than three decades in California, the company operates multiple warehouses near Napa to meet the customers' increasing demand. This new multi-service warehouse demonstrates the company's dedication to providing exceptional service and creative and modern glass bottle solutions to its clients.

November 2021 - Verescence announced the launch of Verre Infini 20 (Infinite Glass), a new glass composition designed to expand Verescence's PCR1 glass manufacturing capabilities worldwide. This innovative composition combines 20% PCR with a glass tint designed to meet the visual needs of upscale businesses. This glass composition, already being made in France and Spain, will be gradually implemented in the United States in the first quarter of 2022 and South Korea in 2023.

October 2021 - Vitro announced an approximately USD 70 million investment for constructing a new Container furnace at the Vitro plant in Toluca, State of Mexico. The new furnace will provide additional capacity to support our customers and their growing requirements for glass containers, providing a higher level of service in the regions and segments where we participate.

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