

Glass Packaging - Market Share Analysis, Industry Trends & Statistics, Growth Forecasts (2025 - 2030)

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Report description:

The Glass Packaging Market size in terms of shipment volume is expected to grow from 0.86 trillion units in 2025 to 1.06 trillion units by 2030, at a CAGR of 4.21% during the forecast period (2025-2030).

Key Highlights

- Glass packaging is considered one of the most trusted forms of packaging for health, taste, and environmental safety. Glass packaging, considered premium, maintains the freshness and safety of the product. This can ensure its continuous usage across various end-user industries despite the heavy competition from other packaging forms.
- Rising consumer demand for safe and healthier packaging helps glass packaging grow in different categories. Also, innovative technologies for embossing, shaping, and adding artistic finishes to glass make glass packaging more desirable among end users. The market is growing due to the increasing demand for eco-friendly products and the rising demand from the food and beverage industry.
- Glass is widely considered the most environmentally friendly packaging type due to its recyclable nature. Lightweight glass has become a significant innovation, offering the same resistance as conventional glass materials and higher stability, reducing the volume of raw materials and CO2 emitted.
- Emerging markets like India and China are witnessing high demand for beer, soft drinks, and ciders due to the consumers' increasing per capita spending and changing lifestyles. However, the increasing operational costs and growing usage of substitute products, such as plastics and tin, are restraining the market growth.
- One of the main challenges for the market is the increased competition from alternative forms of packaging, such as aluminum cans and plastic containers. As these items are lighter in weight than bulky glass, they are gaining popularity among manufacturers and customers because of the lower cost of their carriage and transportation. Moreover, the increasing costs of raw materials and other factors have led to higher expenses, making it economically unfeasible for mass-produced goods.

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- With consumers' increasing focus on sustainability concerns, brewing companies are adopting collaboration and partnership strategies with glass bottle and container manufacturers to offer beer products in glass bottles to meet sustainability goals. In May 2023, Ardagh Glass Packaging (Ardagh Group) and Sprecher Brewing Company announced the partnership. The partnership will help the brewery's commitment to stay local and sustainable with the continuous supply of glass beer and beverage bottles from Ardagh Glass Packaging. Also, this will help the brewing company meet the brand and sustainability goals by providing beer in high-quality glass bottles.

Glass Packaging Market Trends

The Beverage Industry to Hold the Highest Market Share

- Premiumization trends have played a role in selecting glass packaging for various beverage categories, including soft drinks. Soft drinks hold a significant market share, owing to the popularity of such drinks worldwide. Soft drinks offer various flavors and formats to suit every drinking occasion.
- The market for glass packaging in the alcoholic beverage industry faces intense competition from the metal packaging segment in the form of cans. However, it is expected to maintain its share during the forecast period due to its usage of premium products. The growth is expected across different beverage products, like juices, coffee, tea, soups, and non-dairy beverages.
- Among alcoholic beverages, beer has witnessed tremendous growth in the past few years. Most beer volume is sold in glass bottles, driving the need for increased production rates in the glass packaging industry. The increasing demand for premium variants of alcoholic drinks is driving the growth of glass bottles.
- Returnable glass bottles are a cost-effective option for companies to deliver their products. This form of packaging is used mainly in the non-alcoholic beverage industry. About 70% of the bottles used for natural mineral water are plastic. The choice of bottled water packaging material is increasing, considering environmental considerations.
- Beverage companies like Coke and PepsiCo also try to avoid plastic packaging. By 2025, PepsiCo aims to eliminate the use of 67 billion plastic bottles, which glass bottles will replace.
- The global dairy industry has been witnessing a shift from plastic to glass bottles, driven by consumer demand for environmentally friendly milk. Dairy companies like Milk & More and Parker Dairies have noticed a significant rise in demand for glass bottles. Consumers are willing to pay more for this service as they attempt to reduce their use of plastic and help the environment.
- According to the European Commission, wine production in 2020 was 144 million hectares, which increased to 159 million hectares in 2023. The preferred wine packaging is a colored glass bottle to prevent sunlight from spoiling the wine inside. The increasing consumption of wine is expected to spearhead the demand for glass packaging during the forecast period. Wine manufacturers are becoming increasingly innovative in attracting customers with their packaging and are developing new concepts and designs.

Asia-Pacific to Hold the Largest Market Share

- The escalating need for pharmaceutical drugs and advancements in pharmaceutical technology drive the demand for glass bottles, ampules, and other glass packaging solutions. With an upsurge in chronic illnesses and the substantial production of vaccine doses, the demand for primary packaging, particularly glass containers, is expected to surge.
- The increasing consumption of alcoholic beverages drives market growth in the Asia-Pacific region. The beer packaging industry in the Asia-Pacific region is mainly driven by changing cultural trends, growing populations, urbanization, and the growing popularity of beer among the younger populations.

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- In India, most spirits, including whiskey, gin, rum, and brandy, are packed in glass bottles. Due to the increasing consumption of spirits, there was an increase in sales in 2023; whiskey had the highest number of cases sold, with 253.18 million cases, followed by 81.95 million cases, and gin at 47.2 million cases, according to Economic Times.
- China is one of the world's largest pharmaceutical markets. Compared to many industrialized countries, healthcare spending is still modest. The Chinese government is improving its ability to research and develop medicines domestically. As a result, it can provide affordable healthcare to more citizens.
- Additionally, alcohol consumption in China has been significantly increasing over the years. As per the Brazil-based bank Banco do Nordeste, the consumption of alcoholic beverages in China is expected to increase the demand for glass packaging in the coming years. Also, many alcoholic beverage companies seek to expand in the country to seize the opportunity.
- Japan has been emphasizing recycling glass containers and bottles to reduce its carbon footprint and has built multiple glass recycling plants nationwide. Over 18 glass recycling plants accept glass bottles and containers to form glass cullets and powder. The robust recycling infrastructure promotes glass packaging due to its functional property advantages.
- Also, countries such as India have increased beer consumption. Indian consumers are increasingly opting for glass packaging, particularly bottles, due to health concerns. Glass packaging is preferred over other options as it prevents surface leaching.
- India's pharmaceutical sector places a high value on research and development. In recent years, India achieved global recognition as a medical powerhouse by expanding its R&D ecosystem and boosting pharmaceutical exports, offering growth prospects for various domestic glass packaging providers.
- Increased shipments of glass containers in various end-use sectors are driving market growth in Japan. Glass containers are highly favored for packaging liquid pharmaceuticals, chemicals, and a range of perishable/non-perishable products. The growing preference for eco-friendly packaging solutions positively impacts the adoption of pharmaceutical glass packaging.

Glass Packaging Industry Overview

The global glass packaging market is fragmented due to the strong presence of major players worldwide, like Piramal Glass Private Limited, Owens-Illinois Inc., Westpack LLC, Gerresheimer AG, and Ardagh Group. The competition is also intense due to the presence of substitutes, as many companies in the industry are trying to innovate consistently to retain their market share.

April 2024: O-I Glass Inc. (O-I Glass) significantly refurbished its Zipaquira (Colombia) manufacturing site to improve sustainability, flexibility, and productivity. O-I Glass invested approximately USD 120 million in this refurbishment, which aligns with sustainability strategy, ongoing investments in plant upgrades, and a previously announced capital expenditure plan. The refurbishment included installing a state-of-the-art furnace with proven oxy/fuel combustion and waste heat recovery technology.

February 2024: Telangana announced that it will collaborate with SGD Pharma and Corning Inc. to bring modern technology and manufacturing expertise to this area. This collaboration will combine Corning's high-quality pharmaceutical tubing technology with SGD Pharma's glass vial manufacturing and conversion expertise. This will secure SGD Pharma's tubing capacities to supply primary packaging to its Indian and international customers from Telangana, India.

Additional Benefits:

- The market estimate (ME) sheet in Excel format
- 3 months of analyst support

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