Acetic Acid - Market Share Analysis, Industry Trends & Statistics, Growth Forecasts (2025 - 2030)

Market Report | 2025-07-01 | 120 pages | Mordor Intelligence

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Report description:

Acetic Acid Market Analysis

The Acetic Acid Market size is estimated at 19.58 Million tons in 2025, and is expected to reach 24.58 Million tons by 2030, at a CAGR of 4.65% during the forecast period (2025-2030). Robust demand across vinyl acetate monomer, purified terephthalic acid, and emerging battery-grade electrolytes anchors growth. Scale-based cost efficiency, rising sustainability mandates, and downstream integration strengthen producer margins. Asia-Pacific dominance persists as polyester, adhesive, and solvent consumption remains high. Investment in low-carbon production technologies and carbon-capture projects is accelerating as regulatory scrutiny tightens, further shaping competitive dynamics in the acetic acid market.

Global Acetic Acid Market Trends and Insights

Increasing Demand for Vinyl Acetate Monomer

Water-based adhesive and coating formulations rely on vinyl acetate monomer for superior bonding strength and flexibility. These attributes meet stricter environmental rules on solvent emissions, especially in construction and automotive production. Asia-Pacific accounts for more than 60% of global VAM consumption, encouraging integrated acetyl chain investments near demand hubs. Celanese started a new vinyl acetate ethylene unit in Nanjing that adds 70,000 tons of capacity, illustrating the proximity advantage.

Rising Consumption of Purified Terephthalic Acid

Polyester growth in textiles and packaging drives higher purified terephthalic acid volumes, sustaining acetic acid usage as solvent and reaction medium. Sinopec's single-train PTA plant in Jiangsu, with 3 million tons annual capacity, shows the scale now typical in Asia-Pacific production. Larger units improve acetic acid utilization efficiency yet keep total demand rising. Regional supply imbalances, such as India's premium PTA pricing, allow flexible suppliers to capture arbitrage gains.

Carbonylation-Related CO?/VOC Emission Regulations

North American and European regulators now target emissions from carbonylation reactors and distillation steps. The EPA's control guidelines and Canada's Environmental Protection Act both tighten emission thresholds. Compliance requires investments in carbon capture and advanced scrubbers, favoring larger producers with available capital. Celanese's Clear Lake retrofit captures CO? for methanol synthesis, setting a benchmark for integrated abatement.

Other drivers and restraints analyzed in the detailed report include:

Expansion of Acetate-Ester Solvents in High-Solids Coatings / Emerging Use in Li-Ion Battery Electrolyte Additives / Anti-Dumping Actions Against Chinese Exports /

For complete list of drivers and restraints, kindly check the Table Of Contents.

Segment Analysis

Vinyl acetate monomer held 27.97% acetic acid market share in 2024 as construction and automotive sectors favored water-based adhesives. Polyvinyl acetate and ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymers secure growth by replacing solvent-borne systems that fail new emission norms. Celanese and INEOS leverage backward integration to keep costs low and service captive downstream units.

Purified terephthalic acid, growing at a 5.06% CAGR, benefits from polyester expansion in apparel and bottle resin. Ethyl acetate maintains steady use in pharmaceutical and coating solvents, while acetic anhydride demonstrates resilience in pharmaceutical acetylation despite cigarette filter decline. Derivative demand patterns reflect producer strategies that capture value along the acetyl chain. Integrated operators convert commodity acetic acid volumes into higher-margin downstream products, protecting earnings during feedstock price swings.

The Acetic Acid Report is Segmented by Derivative (Vinyl Acetate Monomer, Purified Terephthalic Acid, Ethyl Acetate, and More), Production Route (Methanol Carbonylation, Acetaldehyde Oxidation, and More), Application (Plastics and Polymers, Food and Beverage, Adhesives Paints and Coatings, Textile, Medical, and Other Applications), and Geography (Asia-Pacific, North America, Europe, South America, and Middle-East and Africa).

Geography Analysis

Asia-Pacific dominated with 68.50% acetic acid market share in 2024 and is forecast to grow at 5.26% CAGR through 2030. China alone controls about 55% of global capacity, granting scale economies and regional pricing influence. The region's large polyester and adhesive industries stabilize volume demand even during external economic swings.

North America exhibits mature consumption yet notable investment in low-carbon production. Celanese's 1.3 million ton Clear Lake upgrade integrates carbon capture and feedstock security to ensure competitiveness. Regulatory focus on emission reduction promotes bio-based projects across the United States and Canada, potentially shifting a portion of import volumes to domestic supply.

Europe prioritizes circular economy principles and stringent lifecycle assessments. Producers with verified low-carbon footprints gain procurement preference among automotive and packaging customers. Emerging Middle East and Africa capacity aims to leverage competitive feedstock costs, yet infrastructure and regulatory frameworks remain in development. Latin America experiences steady acetic acid market growth tied to polyester bottle resin and food preservative applications, but scale is limited compared with Asia-Pacific production.

List of Companies Covered in this Report:

Celanese Corporation / Daicel Corporation / Eastman Chemical Company / Gujarat Narmada Valley Fertilizers & Chemicals Limited / INEOS / Jiangsu SOPO (Group) Co., Ltd. / Kingboard Holdings Ltd. / LyondellBasell Industries Holdings B.V. / Mitsubishi Chemical Group Corporation / PetroChina Company Limited / SABIC / Sekab / Shandong Hualu Hengsheng Group Co., Ltd. / Shanghai Huayi Fine Chemical Co., Ltd / Sipchem Company / Tanfac Industries Ltd / Wacker Chemie AG / Yankuang Energy Group Company Limited /

Additional Benefits:

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

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