

## **Recyclate PET - Market Share Analysis, Industry Trends & Statistics, Growth Forecasts (2026 - 2031)**

Market Report | 2026-01-16 | 120 pages | Mordor Intelligence

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### **Report description:**

Recyclate PET Market Analysis

The recyclate PET market is expected to grow from 8.22 million tons in 2025 to 8.78 million tons in 2026 and is forecast to reach 12.23 million tons by 2031 at 6.85% CAGR over 2026-2031. Regulatory mandates, rising brand-owner procurement targets, and cost convergence between virgin and recycled resin are jointly propelling structural demand shifts in the recyclate PET market. In Europe, bottle-to-bottle circularity is now embedded in law, while 12 U.S. states adopted Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) statutes between 2024 and early 2025, reinforcing collection and recycled-content obligations. Asia-Pacific growth is accelerating on the back of China's 35% recycled-content mandate for 2025 and India's staged EPR roll-out under the 2024 Plastic Waste Management Amendment Rules. Parallel advances in enzymatic and solvent-based depolymerization enable food-grade output from formerly downcycled colored and opaque feedstock, thereby widening the addressable pool of post-consumer materials. Competitive dynamics are shifting as integrated petrochemical majors hedge their operations with both mechanical and chemical capacity, while waste-management operators add sorting and washing lines to capture margins across the value chain.

Global Recyclate PET Market Trends and Insights

Stricter Recycled-Content Mandates Drive Structural Demand

The European Union's Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation sets binding recycled-content thresholds of 25% in 2025 and 30% in 2030 for PET beverage bottles, effectively turning voluntary pledges into legal requirements. Twelve U.S. states now

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enforce EPR statutes that impose minimum recycled content, with California's SB 54 leading the way, which increases to 50% by 2030. China's National Development and Reform Commission issued a 35% recycled-content mandate effective January 2025, redirecting domestic flake that formerly entered export channels. India's amended Plastic Waste Management Rules require brand owners to match their annual plastic footprints with equivalent collection and recycling efforts, thereby monetizing their collection assets. Collectively, these mandates create a legally guaranteed offtake, underpinning capital deployment in both mechanical and chemical capacity across the recycle PET market.

#### Brand Commitments Anchor Long-Term Offtake

Global beverage and consumer-goods majors, including Coca-Cola, PepsiCo, Unilever, Nestle, and Danone, have pledged to source 25-50% of their PET from recycled materials by 2030, resulting in approximately 2 million tons of incremental demand annually at current packaging volumes. Coca-Cola's 2024 sustainability report shows 23% recycled content in its bottles and details multi-year offtake with Indorama Ventures and Loop Industries to secure food-grade flake through 2028. PepsiCo's joint venture with CarbonLite will deliver 60,000 tons per year of bottle-to-bottle resin in Texas starting in 2026, securing supply and mitigating spot-market volatility. Unilever earmarked GBP 1 billion for sustainable packaging, with a sizable allocation for chemical-recycled PET to meet branding goals. These binding contracts provide revenue certainty, derisking new plant financing, and accelerating expansion plans across the recycle PET market.

#### Collection Infrastructure Gaps Constrain Feedstock

Collection rates in India, Indonesia, Nigeria, and Brazil range from 20% to 40%, far below the 90% achieved in German deposit-return systems. Informal waste-picker networks dominate, yet they lack aggregation and quality control processes, resulting in bales with more than 15% contamination that fail to meet food-grade standards. Indonesia's municipal waste coverage spans only 40% of urban zones, forcing recyclers to spend more on re-sorting and thus curbing machine utilization. Nigeria's nascent EPR scheme remains unenforced, leaving deposit infrastructure unfunded and feedstock redirected to export. Brazil's under-resourced reverse logistics collected only 25% of bottles in 2024, limiting local supply despite strong demand from packaging converters.

Other drivers and restraints analyzed in the detailed report include:

Cost Parity Emerges in High-Oil Scenarios  
Depolymerization Unlocks Food-Grade Colored Feedstock  
Virgin-PET Oversupply Cycles Compress Margins

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

#### Segment Analysis

PET staple fiber accounted for 41.20% of the 2025 volume in the recycle PET market. The segment is expected to grow at a 7.05% CAGR through 2031, driven by apparel-sector Scope 3 reduction goals. The recycle PET market size for staple fiber is forecast to expand by an additional 1.4 million tons over the period, underpinned by sourcing commitments from H&M, Inditex, and Nike. These brands have locked supply contracts with Far Eastern New Century and Jiangsu Zhongyuan, ensuring fiber offtake in a tightening bale environment. Mechanical recyclers prefer staple fiber because the viscosity requirements are less stringent than those in bottle applications, allowing the inclusion of lower-grade feedstock.

PET bottles, encompassing both food-grade and non-food-grade formats, accounted for 35.00% of the volume in 2025. Food-grade bottle resin is expanding faster because European and North American laws mandate 25-30% recycled content by 2030, driving premium pricing and long-term contracts. PET sheets or films demand is driven by thermoformed packaging for pharmaceuticals

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and electronics that value recycled content. PET straps witness pricing competition from virgin polypropylene, which constrains margins outside deposit-driven European markets. Other specialty product types, including engineering resins, are growing steadily as automakers test recycled PET in non-load-bearing parts.

The Recyclate PET Market Report is Segmented by Product Type (PET Staple Fiber, PET Straps, PET Sheets or Films, PET Bottles Food Grade, PET Bottles Non-Food Grade, and Other Product Types), Application (Packaging, Industrial Yarn, Building Materials, and Other Applications), and Geography (North America, South America, Europe, Asia-Pacific, and Middle-East and Africa). The Market Forecasts are Provided in Terms of Volume (Tons).

### Geography Analysis

Asia-Pacific contributed 42.85% of 2025 volume and is forecast to post an 8.05% CAGR to 2031, the fastest regional trajectory for the recyclate PET market. China's 35% recycled-content rule, effective 2025, has redirected export-oriented capacity toward domestic bottlers, tightening bale competition and lifting flake pricing. India's EPR program formalized 1,200 recycler certificates in 2024, catalyzing capacity upgrades from sub-food to food grade. Japan extended its Plastic Resource Circulation Act, stipulating 50% recycled content by 2030, prompting Suntory and Asahi to sign decade-long offtake agreements. Southeast Asian markets such as Vietnam and Indonesia attract multilateral financing for collection infrastructure, yet bale quality remains inconsistent due to limited source segregation.

Europe remains an established hub with deposit-return systems that deliver >90% collection, ensuring a steady supply of high-quality feedstock. Germany's Pfandsystem recovered 98% of bottles in 2024, feeding 620,000 tons of mechanical capacity. Spain and Italy will adopt deposit-return in 2025 and 2026, respectively, harmonizing recycled-content requirements across the bloc and encouraging cross-border investments. Chemical-recycling build-outs in France and the Netherlands add 150,000 tons of premium food-grade output, shifting incremental growth toward advanced recycling rather than mechanical throughput.

North America is fragmented but advancing due to state-level mandates. California, Oregon, Maine, Colorado, and New Jersey now legislate 15-50% recycled content in beverage containers, compelling joint ventures like PepsiCo-CarbonLite and Indorama-Loop. Canada's federal Plastics Registry brings national transparency, while Mexico's 2024 law introduces EPR for PET bottles, spurring Alpek to retrofit its Toluca plant for food-grade production. Federal-level inconsistency in the United States creates compliance complexity, yet also incentivizes regional hubs that service multiple states from centralized facilities.

### List of Companies Covered in this Report:

Alpek S.A.B. de C.V. Alpla Group Biffa Evergreen Far Eastern New Century Corporation Ganesha Ecosphere Ltd. Indorama Ventures Public Company Limited Jiangsu Zhongyuan Industrial Group Co. Ltd Loop Industries Inc. Phoenix Technologies Plastipak Holdings Inc. PolyQuest Inc. Reliance Industries Ltd SUEZ Veolia Verdecò Recycling Inc. Visy

### Additional Benefits:

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

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