

## **Asia-Pacific Silica Sand - Market Share Analysis, Industry Trends & Statistics, Growth Forecasts (2026 - 2031)**

Market Report | 2026-02-09 | 120 pages | Mordor Intelligence

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### **Report description:**

Asia-Pacific Silica Sand Market Analysis

Asia-Pacific Silica Sand Market size in 2026 is estimated at 181.56 million tons, growing from 2025 value of 170.37 million tons with 2031 projections showing 249.55 million tons, growing at 6.57% CAGR over 2026-2031. Multiple demand centers, including glass manufacturing, electronics, foundry applications, and construction materials, are converging to sustain this expansion. Glass grade sand remains the workhorse because flat and container glass output tracks the region's rapid urbanization and vehicle production. At the same time, hyper-purity quartz (HPQ) grades are transitioning from a niche toward mainstream status as semiconductor manufacturers push below the 3-nanometer design rule. Competitive intensity is rising as large, integrated miners accelerate automation and environmental compliance to lock in premium contracts while smaller operators struggle to meet tightening regulations. Mid-term opportunities cluster around solar glass, advanced electronics, and cross-border infrastructure projects that lock in long-haul supply contracts across Southeast Asia.

Asia-Pacific Silica Sand Market Trends and Insights

Construction-Led Flat and Container Glass Demand Surge

Thailand's Eastern Economic Corridor is driving 3-4% annual construction growth through 2026, lifting demand for flat and container glass across public works, commercial complexes, and residential towers. Glass manufacturers treat silica sand as an essential cost component, often exceeding 60% of raw-material expenses, so rising project backlogs translate directly into higher

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sand uplift. Inventory corrections that hurt 2024 margins have already reversed, with most ASEAN producers reporting fuller order books for 2025 delivery. Cross-border infrastructure corridors under the ASEAN Connectivity vision are boosting long-distance shipments from Malaysia and Australia to inland Chinese float-glass lines, tightening freight capacity on favored routes. Given that glass output trails economic activity with a 6- to 12-month lag, the rebound indicates a clear volume runway through at least 2027. Energy-efficient low-iron variants secure additional premiums because they enable thinner glazing standards in green-building codes.

#### Foundry Revival for EV and Wind-Power Castings

Electric-vehicle casting technology increasingly specifies narrow thermal-expansion bands, pushing foundries toward calibrated silica sand blends with tighter grain-size distributions. China's clean-energy leadership, 70% of global output in 2024, created a lift in aluminum and ductile-iron casting that consumed roughly 9.1 million tons of foundry sand region-wide last year. Japan and South Korea, home to advanced molding machinery, are exporting turnkey foundry lines into Thailand and Vietnam, prompting localized demand for premium sand grades. The effect cascades through wind-turbine hubs clustered in Fujian, Jeju, and Cebu, where final-machined castings absorb high silica volumes for nacelle housings and hub assemblies. Investment pipelines worth USD 235 billion in 2024 targeted clean-energy manufacturing, signalling durable sand flows into 2030. Producers that certify thermal-shock performance and dimensional accuracy are capturing multiyear supply contracts from battery and turbine OEMs.

#### Illegal and Unregulated Sand Mining Curbs

Rising enforcement is shrinking unregistered output across riverine deposits, especially in India, where the estimated 52 million-worker cohort exposed to silica dust has spurred sweeping health-and-safety reforms. New exposure limits - 50  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  for respirable crystalline silica mandate capital upgrades like wet-scrubbing and enclosed conveyors, adding 4-6% to mining opex for compliant operators. In China, authorities canceled thousands of small-scale licenses, reducing projected 2025 supply gaps from 63% to 4% through centrally managed quotas. Such crackdowns eliminate low-cost competition but tighten local availability, reinforcing the Asia-Pacific silica sand market's reliance on compliant, higher-cost output. Price volatility has already widened between informal spot cargoes and contract-grade supplies.

Other drivers and restraints analyzed in the detailed report include:

Rapid Infrastructure Spending Across ASEAN  
Indonesia's Silica Downstreaming for Semiconductors  
Substitution by Engineered, Sand-Free Building Materials

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

#### Segment Analysis

The glass grade segment captured 63.88% of 2025 shipments, underscoring its role as the backbone of the Asia-Pacific silica sand market. Hyper HPQ, though only a sliver of volume today, is projected to post an 11.12% CAGR, raising its stake in the Asia-Pacific silica sand market size from 2026 onward.

Supply security hinges on automated beneficiation lines, optical sorting, and clean-energy kiln conversions that meet environmental benchmarks. Producers able to certify nuclear-level purity enter the semiconductor chain, while mid-tier suppliers target solar and optics. Blending strategies are emerging, where moderate-purity Indonesian feedstock is upgraded via Japanese chemical leaching, showing how collaboration can capture margin without greenfield development.

The Asia-Pacific Silica Sand Report is Segmented by Grade (Foundry/Smelter Grade, Glass Grade Sand, Optical Glass Grade, and

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More), End-User Industry (Glass Manufacturing, Foundry, Chemical Production, Construction, and More), and Geography (China, India, Japan, South Korea, Indonesia, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Philippines, Vietnam, and Rest of Asia-Pacific). The Market Forecasts are Provided in Terms of Volume (Million Tons).

List of Companies Covered in this Report:

Chongqing Changjiang River Moulding Material Group Co., Ltd. Covia Holdings LLC Diatrema Resources Limited Imerys JFE Mineral & Alloy Company, Ltd Mangal Minerals Mitsubishi Corporation Raghav Productivity Enhancers Limited Sibelco Tochu Corporation Tosoh Silica Corporation VRX Silica Xinyi Golden Ruite Quartz Materials Co., Ltd Xinyi Solar Holdings Limited

Additional Benefits:

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

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