CIREC monthly NEWS

Chemical industry reporting for Central and South East Europe
Supplemented by developments in Russia & neighbouring states

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Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Slovakia
South East Europe & Baltic States
Eurasia Russia-Ukraine-Belarus-Kazakhstan-Uzbekistan-Azerbaijan

Product coverage including supply chains from olefins and aromatics to derivatives, organic chemicals, methanol and intermediates

Issue No: 417, 18 August 2025

Main points from this issue

Polish monomer imports Jan-Jun 2025
Poland imported 46,601 tons of propylene in January to June this year against 52,566 tons in the same period in 2024. Butadiene import prices for Poland amounted to €920.8 per ton in the first six months this year against €821.7 per ton for the whole of 2024. Butadiene imports totalled 52,585 tons against 51,099 tons in January to June 2024. Styrene imports into Poland totalled 52,507 tons in the first six months in 2025 against 58,611 tons in the same period in 2024. Import prices dropped from €1352.8 per ton to €1185.7 per ton.

Polish petrochemical margins Jan-Jun 2025
Petrochemical margins for Orlen and the European market were generally lower in the first half of 2025 than in the same period in 2024. However, there has been some improvement in the polyethylene market and margins are expected to improve for the rest of 2025. Second quarter petrochemical margins increased to €192 per ton against €145 per ton in the first quarter.

Hungarian imports of polyethylene Jan-Jun 2025
Imports of all grades of polyethylene into Hungary amounted to 86,271 tons in January to June 2025 against 106,576 tons in January to June 2024. Hungarian import prices for polyethylene dropped on average from €1584.1 per ton to €1556.8 in January to June 2025. The largest category of polyethylene imports comprised HDPE, which dropped from 45,846 tons to 39,159 tons.

Russian chemical production Jan-Jun 2025
Russian ethylene production amounted to 2.281 million tons in the first half in 2025 against 2.340 million tons in 2024, whilst propylene production dropped from 1.321 million tons to 1.245 million tons. Benzene production fell from 689,640 tons to 666,584 tons. At the same time declines were reported for phenol, acetic acid and isopropanol.

Russian polyethylene exports to China Jan-Jun 2025
Russian polyethylene exports to China increased from 187,855 tons in January to June 2024 to 252,214 tons in the same period in 2025, with both HDPE and LDPE showing rises. Average prices for Russian polyethylene exports to China dropped from $883.3 per ton to $845.1 per ton in the first six months in 2025.

Russian polypropylene production and exports to China Jan-Jun 2025
Russian production of propylene polymers totalled 1.054 million tons in the first half in 2025 against 1.109 million tons in the same period in 2024. Russian polypropylene exports increased from 48,111 tons to 85,014 tons.

Russian methanol exports Jan-Jun 2025
Russia produced 2.057 million tons of methanol in the first half in 2025 against 1.919 million tons in the same period in 2024. Production amounted to 320,126 tons in June this year, which was the lowest monthly volume so far.

Russian synthetic rubber production and exports to China Jan-Jun 2025
Synthetic rubber production in Russia amounted to 747,026 tons in January to June 2025 against 722,617 tons in the corresponding period in 2024. Russian export revenues from synthetic rubber shipments to China totalled $582.536 million in January to June 2025 against $452.693 million in the same period in 2024. By volume Russian shipments of synthetic rubber to China amounted to 373,549 tons in the first six months in 2025, which was up from 278,933 tons in the same period in 2024.

CENTRAL and SOUTH EAST EUROPE

Czech crude imports Jan-Jun 2025

Imports of crude to the Czech Republic totalled 3.183 million tons in the first half of 2025 against 3.150 million tons in the same period in 2024. Imports from Russia dropped from 1.099 million tons in the first six months last year to 526,900 tons in January to June 2025, with the last deliveries of Russian crude made in April. The Czech Republic will not purchase crude from Russia for the foreseeable future with all of its annual requirements facilitated through the expanded TAL pipeline. The pipeline which stretches from the coast of Italy passes through Austria and Germany before connecting to IKL in the Czech Republic.

Czech Crude Imports (million tons)		
Country	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Azerbaijan	1464.4	1244.6
Kazakhstan	549.7	501.5
Russia	526.9	1099.3
Norway	349.7	0.0
Saudi Arabia	206.6	0.0
Others	85.5	304.1
Total	3182.9	3149.5
Av € per ton	508.0	595.2

New suppliers to the Czech market this year include Norway and Saudi Arabia, in addition to the more established suppliers Azerbaijan and Kazakhstan. Azerbaijan was the largest supplier in the first half of 2025, shipping 1.464 million tons which was up from 1.245 million tons last year.

Druzhba and Hungarian crude imports Jan-Jun 2025

Russian crude oil deliveries into Hungary and Slovakia were suspended on 18 August following the second Ukrainian attack on the Druzhba pipeline in two weeks. The latest attack may take some time to undertake repairs.

Hungarian Crude Imports (kilo tons)		
Country	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Croatia	162.0	0.0
Iraq	0.0	126.9
Russia	2,572.0	2,109.8
Others	57.1	303.6
Total	2791.2	2540.3
Av € per ton	438.5	509.6

Russian crude oil flows into Hungary amounted to 2.572 million tons in the first six months this year from a total imported volume of 2.792 million tons. This measures against 2.110 million tons in January to June 2024 from a total of 2.540 million tons. Average prices for Russian crude dropped this year to €438.5 per ton from €509.6 per ton in 2024.

KazMunaiGas (KMG) started delivery of the first shipment of Kazakh oil to the Danube refinery in early August, amounting to 85,000 tons. The oil was to be delivered to the Szazhalombatta refinery through the Adriatic Oil Pipeline, which is operated by the Croatian company JANAF. JANAF has agreed a total transit shipment of 2.1 million tons of oil with MOL until the end of 2025 and this may be essential for Hungarian crude supplies. In addition to the transit agreement, JANAF has signed a contract with MOL for storage of oil at the Omisalj terminal as well as at the Sisak terminal further along the pipeline route until the end of 2027.

To recap the EU and UK have lowered the price cap on Russian crude oil from $60 to $47.60 per barrel. This change is part of a broader effort to further restrict Russia's ability to finance its war in Ukraine by limiting its oil revenues. The new price cap will take effect on 3 September 2025, with a wind-down period for existing trades.

Polish Crude Imports (unit kilo tons)		
Country	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Saudi Arabia	5550.4	6,420.9
Guyana	743.7	1,149.8
Nigeria	638.3	1,118.1
Norway	3478.9	3,311.1
US	562.5	463.8
UK	652.9	705.7
Others	355.4	0.1
Total	11,982	13,182.5
Av € per ton	505.9	573.9

Polish crude imports Jan-Jun 2025

From the total of 11.982 million tons of crude imported into Poland in the first six months in 2025, supplies from Saudi Arabia totalled 5.550 million tons followed by Norway which provided 3.479 million tons. Other suppliers included the US, UK and Nigeria. Guyana has started supplying Poland this year, but no deliveries have been taken from Kazakhstan which has been more focused on the German market. Average prices for Polish crude purchases dropped from $573.9 per ton in the first six months in in 2024 to $505.9 per ton in the first six months in 2025.

Central European Olefin Production & Trade

Polish Petrochemical Production (unit-kilo tons)		
Product	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Ethylene	154.500	177.000
Propylene	199.400	203.400
Butadiene	29.080	29.442
Toluene	8.523	0.020
Phenol	19.586	21.799
Polyethylene	149.100	154.200
PVC	65.700	103.100
Polypropylene	215.300	166.800

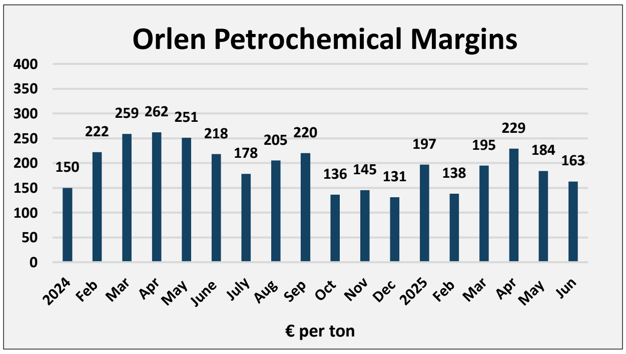
Polish petrochemical production Jan-Jun 2025
Ethylene production in Poland dropped in the first half of 2025 to 154,500 tons against 177,000 tons in January to June 2024, whilst propylene dropped from 203,400 tons to 199,300 tons. The increase in propylene production is largely through the PDH plant of Polimery Police plant.

Butadiene production at Plock dropped slightly to 29,.080 tons in the first six months in 2025 from 29,442 tons in 2024. Nearly all of the butadiene produced at Plock is consumed by Synthos. Toluene production at Plock was restarted in April for the first time in two years, with production amounting to 5,036 tons.

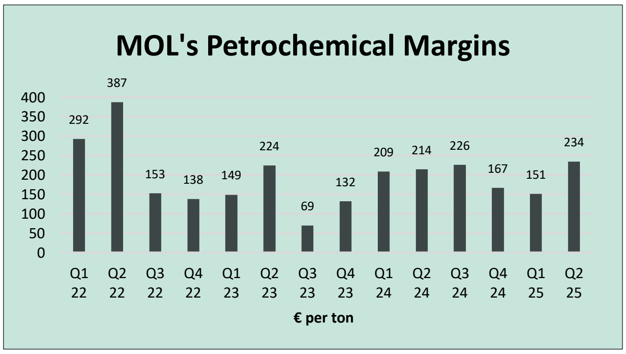
In the plastics sector polyethylene production in Poland amounted to 149,100 tons in January to June 2025 versus 154,200 tons in 2024. Polypropylene production in Poland increased at the two plants at Plock and Police from 166,800 tons to 215,300 tons. PVC production at Wloclawek decreased from 103,100 tons to 65,700 tons.

Unipetrol resumes petrochemical production after interruptions in July
Due to the technical issues the ethylene unit at Litvinov was forced to stop production on 13 August. The technical malfunction resulted in a force majeure announcement by Orlen Unipetrol, which was only expected to last a few days. This follows power supply problems in July which led to the emergency shutdown on 7 July, and the stoppage of all petrochemical and refinery production operations at the Litvinov production plant.

Commissioning of the ethylene unit began on 23 July resulting in a start-up of production towards the end of the month and the force majeure was lifted on 31 July. Further problems in August mean that petrochemical production is expected to be much lower in the third quarter.



Central European petrochemical margins
Petrochemical margins for Orlen and the European market were generally lower in the first half of 2025 than in the same period in 2024. However, there has been some improvement in the polyethylene market and margins are expected to improve for the rest of 2025. Second quarter petrochemical margins increased to €192 per ton against €145 per ton in the first quarter.



Petrochemical margins for MOL increased from €151 per ton in the first quarter this year to €234 in the second quarter, which is the highest figure since the second quarter in 2022 when margins were recorded at €387 per ton.

Despite the rise in the second quarter this year, petrochemicals for MOL remain loss-making due to the continuing stagnation and slowdown in European demand. In the second quarter of the year, the MOL Group recorded a $236 million profit before tax, marking a 56% decrease against the same period in 2024.

Polish monomer imports, Jan-Jun 2025

Polish Propylene Imports (unit-kilo tons)		
Country	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Croatia	2.066	0.000
Germany	32.674	46.463
Hungary	3.103	0.000
Others	1.017	0.213
Total	46.601	52.566
Av € per ton	876.9	853.4

Poland imported 46,601 tons of propylene in January to June this year against 52,566 tons in the same period in 2024. Imports declined last year due partly to higher domestic production.

Average import prices for propylene rose from €853.4 per ton in the first six months in 2024 to €876.9 in 2025. Germany was the main supplier to Poland, shipping 32,674 tons against 46,463 tons in January to June 2024. Poland exported 10,571 tons of propylene in the first six months this year for a total value of €61.503 million.

Polish Butadiene Imports (unit-kilo tons)		
Country	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Austria	18.938	19.289
Germany	18.132	11.067
Hungary	14.215	20.700
Others	2.206	0.043
Total	52.585	51.099
Av € per ton	920.8	821.7

Butadiene import prices for Poland amounted to €920.8 in the first six months this year against €821.7 per ton for the whole of 2024. Shipments totalled 52,585 tons against 51,099 tons in January to June 2024. Germany increased exports in 2025 to 18,132 tons versus 11,067 tons in 2024, and Austria increased shipments to 18,938 tons against 19,289 tons.

Polish Styrene Imports (unit-kilo tons)		
Country	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Belgium	16.314	15.770
Czech Republic	0.827	6.929
US	7.742	0.309
Netherlands	8.020	19.031
Germany	6.972	4.755
Saudi Arabia	12.369	7.578
Others	0.262	4.239
Total	52.507	58.611
Av € per ton	1185.7	1352.8

Styrene imports into Poland totalled 52,507 tons in the first six months in 2025 against 58,611 tons in the same period in 2024. Import prices dropped from €1352.8 per ton to €1185.7 per ton.

Shipments from Saudi Arabia increased from 7,578 tons in the first six months last year to 12,369 tons in January to June 2025. The largest supplier to the Polish market in the first six months was Belgium which increased shipments from 15,770 tons to 16,314 tons.

Hungarian olefin trade, Jan-Jun 2025

Hungarian Propylene Exports (unit-kilo tons)		
Country	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Germany	4.661	0.000
Poland	5.157	0.000
Slovakia	38.582	56.014
Others	0.000	1.036
Total	48.401	57.050
Av € per ton	1037.5	1033.1

Exports of propylene from Hungary amounted to 48,401 tons in January to June this year against 57,050 tons in January to June 2024. Shipments to Slovnaft in Slovakia were reduced from 56,014 tons to 38,582 tons, whilst smaller deliveries were made in the first half of 2025 to Poland (5,157 tons) and Germany (4,661 tons). Prices averaged €1033.1 per ton in the first six months against €1037.5 per ton in January to June 2024.

Hungarian Butadiene Exports		
	Jan-Jun 25	***Jan-Jun 24***
Total	21.958	33.140
Av € per ton	836.7	822.3

Hungarian butadiene exports dropped to 21,958 tons in the first six months against 33,140 tons in the same period in 2024. Butadiene is exported from MOL's Tiszaujvaros complex, with Poland as the largest destination. Prices rose in the first six months from €822.3 per ton to €836.7 in 2025.

MOL petrochemical production Jan-Jun 2025

MOL's Olefin Production (unit-kilo tons)		
Product	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Ethylene	338	325
Propylene	173	171
Butadiene	34	44
Raffinate	56	86

MOL increased production of ethylene to 338,000 tons at its two sites at Tiszaujvaros and Bratislava in the first half in 2025 against 325,000 tons in the same period last year. Propylene at the two sites increased from 171,000 tons to 173,000 tons. Butadiene and raffinate production at Tiszaujvaros fell from 44,000 tons to 34,000 and from 56,000 tons to 26,000 tons respectively.

Hungarian styrene imports (unit-kilo tons)		
Country	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Germany	0.000	0.060
Italy	25.322	25.022
Netherlands	2.839	3.352
Others	0.000	0.041
Total	28.161	28.475
Av € per ton	1087.4	1443.9

Hungarian styrene imports Jan-Jun 2025

Styrene imports dropped from 28,475 tons in the first half of 2024 against 28,161 tons in the same period this year. Average prices fell this year to €1087.4 per ton against €1443.9 per ton in 2024. Imports are dominated by shipments from Italy where volumes amounted to 25,322 tons in the first six months this year.

Czech Olefin Imports (unit-kilo tons)		
Product	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Ethylene	1.948	0.975
Propylene	31.034	18.720
Butadiene	41.318	22.186

Czech Olefin Exports (unit-kilo tons)		
Product	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Ethylene	7.023	9.470
Propylene	0.078	5.389

Czech olefin monomer trade, Jan-Jun 2025

Czech ethylene imports amounted to 1,948 tons in the first six months in 2025, against only 975 tons in January to June 2024. Czech propylene imports totalled 31,034 tons in the first six months in 2025 against 18,720 tons in the same period last year.

Imports of olefin monomers have increased this year partly due to two-month operational shutdown which started on 11 April, during which the petrochemical plant underwent maintenance. This involved modernisation of technologies, along with the installation of new equipment. Key actions included the replacement of high-pressure steam pipeline, replacing the inner floors of the four columns of the ethylene unit, and modernising the flare system.

Czech Imports of Propylene (unit-kilo tons)		
Country	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Germany	18.312	16.666
Poland	9.426	2.046
Slovakia	0.776	0.000
Others	2.520	0.008
Total	31.034	18.719
Av € per ton	898.5	858.4

Germany supplied 18,312 tons of propylene to the Czech market in the first six months in 2025 against 16,666 tons in 2024, whilst imports from Poland rose from 2,046 tons to 9,426 tons. Butadiene imports increased in the first six months last year from 22,186 tons to 41,318 tons. Germany supplied 34,484 tons this year and Hungary 4,827 tons.

Czech Styrene Imports (unit-kilo tons)		
Product	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Belgium	0.385	0.000
Germany	8.757	3.665
Netherlands	10.413	4.009
Poland	0.000	1.105
Others	0.885	1.158
Total	20.439	9.937
Av € per ton	1219.0	1313.9

Styrene imports into the Czech Republic amounted to 20,439 tons in the first half of 2025 against 9,937 tons in the same period in 2024. The Netherlands increased shipments from 4,009 tons to 20,439 tons whilst supplies from Germany increased to 8,757 tons against 3,665 tons. Average prices dropped to €1219 per ton in the first half in 2025 against €1314 per ton.

HIP-Petrohemija Jan-Jun 2025

HIP Petrohemija recorded a minor loss in the first half of 2025, but it was a weaker result compared to the same period in 2024. Investments in the first half of the year dropped by 19% against the first half in 2024, and there seems to be only slow progress on the pending polypropylene project.

HIP Petrohemija Petrochemicals Production and Sales (unit-kilo tons)		
	Jan-Jun 25	***Jan-Jun 24***
Production	127.1	111.5
Sales	122.0	113.9
Naphtha	162.2	153.9

In the first six months of 2025, Petrohemija's production volume of petrochemical products amounted to 127,100 tons against 111,500 tons in the same period last year.

Production includes ethylene, propylene, and benzene, in addition to polyolefins and rubber. Sales in total increased from 113,900 tons to 122,000 tons in January to June 2025. The refining of virgin naphtha in the first six months amounted to 162,200 tons, which is the increase of 5%. Despite the increase in volume sales, sales revenues were 27% lower in the first half in 2025.

Central European Polyolefin Trade

Czech Polyethylene Imports (unit-kilo tons)		
Product	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
LDPE	59.477	55.239
LLDPE	11.415	11.680
HDPE	64.237	61.839
EVA	7.928	5.684
Other	19.152	21.358
Total	162.209	155.801
Av € per ton	1541.5	1489.5

Czech Polyethylene Exports (unit-kilo tons)		
Product	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
LDPE	16.241	18.551
LLDPE	3.500	2.554
HDPE	138.529	173.812
EVA	2.023	2.101
Other	6.926	7.373
Total	167.219	204.391
Av € per ton	1403.1	1392.7

Czech polyethylene trade Jan-Jun 2025

For imports of all forms of polyethylene, Czech inward shipments amounted to 162,209 tons in January to June 2025 against 155,801 tons in the same period in 2024. Average prices of imports rose from €1489.5 per ton to €1541.5 per ton. Germany was the largest source of polyethylene imports, followed by the Netherlands and Belgium.

Polyethylene exports from the Czech Republic amounted to 167,219 tons in the first six months in 2025 against 204,391 tons in the same period in 2024. Average prices increased from €1392.7 per ton to €1403.1 per ton.

HDPE export shipments comprised 138,529 tons in the first six months in 2025 against 173,812 tons in the same period in 2024. Germany was the largest destination for Czech HDPE supplied from Litvinov. Other important markets for Czech polyethylene exports include Poland, Italy and Belgium.

Polish PE Supply/Demand Balance (unit-kilo tons)		
	Jan-Jun 25	***Jan-Jun 24***
Production	149.1	154.2
Exports	158.0	160.3
Imports	727.3	694.5
Market Balance	718.4	688.4

Polish PE imports (unit-kilo tons)		
Product	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
LDPE	178.653	177.939
LLDPE	126.140	110.616
HDPE	230.952	219.862
EVA	10.820	10.536
EAO	154.292	146.221
Others	26.412	29.279
Total	727.269	694.453
Av € per ton	1268.6	1270.6

Polish PE Exports (unit-kilo tons)		
Product	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
LDPE	33.301	27.385
LLDPE	9.415	13.349
HDPE	101.051	99.684
EVA	0.969	1.907
EAO	7.690	14.293
Other	5.530	3.685
Total	157.956	160.302
Av € per ton	1140.0	1126.3

Polish polyethylene trade Jan-Jun 2025

Consumption of polyethylene increased in the first six months in 2025 to 718,400 tons against 688,400 tons in the same period in 2024. Production of polyethylene at Plock was lower in the first six months, whilst imports increased. Polyethylene production dropped by 1.2% to 149,100 tons

Polish imports of polyethylene totalled 727,269 tons in the first six months in 2025 against 694,453 tons in the same period in 2024, with average prices falling from €1314.9 per ton to €1285.6 per ton. HDPE is the largest category of imported polyethylene into Poland, amounting to 148,815 tons in January to June 2025 versus 141,812 tons in 2024. Germany is the largest supplier of HDPE to the Polish market.

LLDPE imports rose from 110,616 tons in January to June 2024 to 126,140 tons in the corresponding period in 2025. Most of the LLDPE imports were sourced from West Europe, including France, the Netherlands and Germany. LDPE imports rose to 177,939 tons in January to June 2025 from 178,653 tons in the corresponding period in 2024. Imports from ethylene alpha olefins increased from 146,221 tons to 154,29200 tons.

Polish polyethylene exports amounted to 157,956 tons in the first six months in 2025 against 160,302 tons in the same period in 2024. Average prices for polyethylene exports increased from €1126.3 per ton to €1140.0 per ton.

Exports of HDPE from Poland amounted to 101,051 tons in January to June 2025 versus 99,684 tons in the same period in 2024 whilst LDPE exports rose from 27,385 tons to 33,301 tons. Exports of ethylene alpha olefins amounted to 7,690 tons in the first six months in 2025.

Hungarian Polyethylene Imports (unit-kilo tons)		
Product	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
LLDPE	12.704	13.023
LDPE	17.282	22.731
HDPE	39.159	45.846
EAO	8.945	6.665
EVA	3.302	3.254
Other	4.879	16.497
Total	86.271	106.576
Av € per ton	1556.8	1584.1

Hungarian polyethylene trade Jan-Jun 2025

Imports of all grades of polyethylene into Hungary amounted to 86,271 tons in January to June 2025 against 106,576 tons in January to June 2024. Hungarian import prices for polyethylene dropped on average from €1584.1 per ton to €1556.8 in January to June 2025. The largest category of polyethylene imports comprised HDPE, which dropped from 45,846 tons to 39,159 tons.

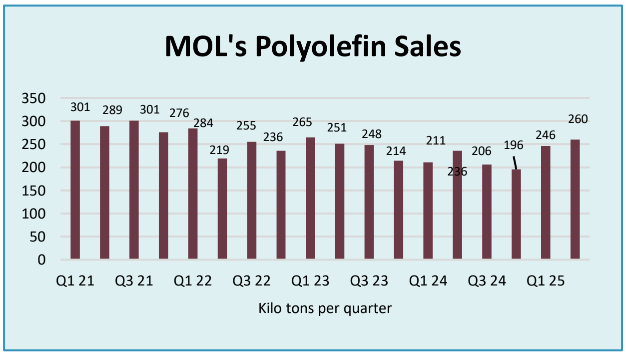
Exports of LDPE from Hungary decreased from 23,838 kilo tons in the first six months in 2024 to 13,890 tons in January-April 2025. HDPE exports increased from 72.748 kilo tons to 76,346 tons in January-April 2025. EAO and EVA exports were both negligible.

Hungarian Polyethylene Exports (unit-kilo tons)		
Product	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
LLDPE	21.635	2.617
LDPE	23.603	37.820
HDPE	115.219	113.254
Total	163.709	161.647
Av € per ton	1197.5	1239.3

Hungarian polyethylene exports amounted to 163,709 tons in January to June 2025 against 161,547 tons in January to June 2024. Average prices of polyethylene exports dropped from €1239.3 per ton to €1197.5 per ton. Revenues for polyethylene exports in January to June this year totalled $196.044 million.

MOL's Polyolefin Production (unit-kilo tons)		
Product	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
LDPE	105	76
HDPE	151	138
Polypropylene	250	232
PE Total	256	214

MOL produced a total of 256,000 tons of polyethylene in the first half of 2025 at its two sites at Tiszaujvaros and Bratislava against 214,000 tons in the same period in 2024. LDPE is produced at both sites, rising to 105,000 tons in the first six months 2025, whilst HDPE is produced solely at Tiszaujvaros increased from 138,000 tons in the first half of 2024 to 151,000 tons in the first six months in 2025.



Sales of polyolefins by MOL amounted to 260,000 tons in the second quarter in 2025 against 246,000 tons in the first quarter and 236,000 tons in the second quarter last year. Higher production at the two sites in Hungary and Slovakia enabled an increase in polyolefin sales to 506,000 tons in the first half of 2025 against 447,000 tons in the same period in 2024 and 516,000 tons in 2023. All these numbers were well down on the 590,000 tons sold in the first half of 2021.

Polish PP Supply/Demand Balance (unit-kilo tons)		
	Jan-Jun 25	***Jan-Jun 24***
Production	215.3	166.8
Exports	158.9	195.7
Imports	485.2	476.0
Market Balance	541.5	447.1

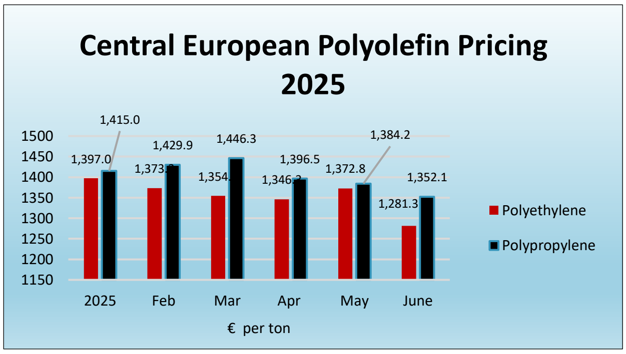
Polish PP Trade Jan-Jun 2025

In the first half of this year, polypropylene production in Poland increased by 32.1% against the same period in 2024 to 215,300 tons. Consumption of polypropylene in the Polish market increased in the first six months to 541,500 tons against 447,100 tons last year, with imports accounting for the largest share of purchases. Due to major disruptions in power supplies, the PDH unit of the Polimery Police project was shut down at the start of June. As a result, the production of polypropylene was suspended for more than a week with repairs lasting up until 18 June. In July, freight costs for imported polypropylene from China and East Asia to Europe increased which may help European sellers which are faced with lower cost competition.

Polish Polypropylene Imports (unit-kilo tons)		
Category	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
PP homo	312.658	298.799
Polyisobutylene	1.344	1.622
Propylene copolymers	159.322	162.872
Other	11.842	12.733
Total	485.166	476.026

Polish Polypropylene Exports (unit-kilo tons)		
Category	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
PP homo	111.682	142.292
Polyisobutylene	0.282	0.907
Propylene copolymers	40.655	47.976
Other	6.315	4.552
Total	158.934	195.727
Av € per ton	1320.0	1506.7

Polish polypropylene imports, including homo grade and copolymers, increased to 485,166 tons in the first six months against 476,026 tons in the same period in 2024. Average prices for all types of polypropylene imports increased from €1439.6 per ton to €1459.3 per ton. Homo grade polypropylene imports rose slightly from 298,799 tons in January to June 2024 to 312,658 tons in the same period in 2025, whilst copolymer imports amounted to 159,322 tons against 162,872 tons.



Export shipments from Poland rose to 158,934 tons in the first six months in 2025 against 195,727 tons in January to June 2024. Homo polymer grades comprised the main category of Polish polypropylene exports, where Germany was the largest destination. Average export prices dropped from €1506.7 per ton in 2024 to €1320.0 in 2023.

Grupa Azoty Polyolefins-Orlen new memorandum

A new agreement was signed at the start of August between Grupa Azoty, Grupa Azoty Polyolefins and Orlen to override the previous expired cooperation agreement from 31 July. Grupa Azoty had hoped that Orlen would place an offer for Grupa Azoty Polyolefins, in order to take control over the Polimery Police plant. The new agreement does not impose an obligation on either Orlen or Azoty to conclude a transaction or make a binding offer. A failed sale of Polimery Police leaves Grupa Azoty overexposed to a division plagued by technical debt and declining margins in a sluggish European market. Whereas prior to August this year, Orlen was the only company allowed to submit a bid for Grupa Azoty Polyolefins, but it now means that bids can be received from other players.

Grupa Azoty Polyolefins withdraws from contract with Hyundai

Grupa Azoty Polyolefins has decided to withdraw from the turnkey contract with Hyundai Engineering for the Polimery Police project due to dissatisfaction over the contractor's performance. As a result, Grupa Azoty Polyolefins charged Hyundai Engineering contractual penalties worth €107.5 million which was paid on 7 August 2025. The withdrawal from the agreement has been made due to a number of delays in certain milestones by Hyundai. This included the failure to successfully complete test moves on time, and failure to reach an agreement on the parties' mutual claims or to continue further talks based on the standstill agreement.

Hungarian Polypropylene Exports (unit-kilo tons)		
Product	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
PP homo	63.506	65.281
Propylene copolymers	54.933	41.359
Others	3.603	11.679
Total	122.041	118.669
Av € per ton	1307.0	1341.2

Hungarian Polypropylene Imports (unit-kilo tons)		
Product	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
PP homo	67.472	72.422
Propylene copolymers	22.172	26.944
Others	6.557	10.912
Total	96.201	110.278
Av € per ton	1449.5	1368.5

Hungarian polypropylene trade Jan-Jun 2025

Exports of all forms of polypropylene from Hungary amounted to 122,041 tons in January to June 2025 versus 118,169 tons in the corresponding period in 2024.

Average prices of exports dropped from €1341.2 per ton to €1307.0. Homo-grade PP provides the main category of Hungarian polypropylene exports, amounting to 63,506 tons in the first six months this year versus 65,281 tons in January to June 2024. Exports from propylene copolymers increased from 41,359 tons to 54,933 tons.

For imports of all forms of polypropylene, Hungarian inward shipments declined to 96,201 tons in January to June 2025 from 110,278 tons in

2024, with average prices rising from €1368.5 per ton to €1449.5 per ton. Imports of propylene copolymers into Hungary reduced from 26,944 tons to 22,172 tons whilst homo grade polypropylene imports dropped from 72,422 tons to 67,472 tons.

Czech Polypropylene Exports (unit-kilo tons)		
Product	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
PP Homo	114.954	119.443
Propylene Copolymers	26.392	24.607
Other	2.520	3.054
Total	143.865	147.105
Av € per ton	1501.0	1465.8
Czech Polypropylene Imports (unit-kilo tons)		
Product	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
PP Homo	141.088	145.952
Propylene Copolymers	115.160	109.647
Other	5.984	7.770
Total	262.231	263.369
Av € per ton	1524.4	1576.7

Czech polypropylene trade Jan-Jun 2025
Exports of all forms of polypropylene from the Czech Republic amounted to 143,865 tons in January to June 2025 versus 147,105 tons in the same period in 2024.

Average prices rose from €1465.8 per ton in 2024 to €1501.0 per ton in 2025. Homo-grade PP provides the main category of Czech polypropylene exports, amounting to 114,954 tons in the first six months in 2025 versus 119,443 tons in the same period in 2024.

For imports of all forms of polypropylene, Czech inward shipments amounted to 262,231 tons in January to June 2025 against 263,369 tons in the same period in 2024, with average prices dropping slightly from €1576.7 per ton to €1524.4 per ton. Imports of propylene copolymers increased from 109,647 tons to 115,160 tons whilst homo grade polypropylene imports dropped from 145,952 tons to 141,088 tons.

Orlen Unipetrol's polypropylene plant suffered an outage in early August and combined with maintenance being undertaken at competitors like Bulgaria's Neftokhim and Israel's Haifa refinery, this has led to tightened regional PP supplies and upward price pressure. The broader European market has already been struggling with supply chain fragility. Orlen Unipetrol's restart and stabilisation of its operations may play a role in balancing the European market.

Rompetrol Rafinare-polymer production Jan-Jun 2025
Rompetrol Rafinare processed 40,000 tons of propylene into polypropylene in the six months this year against 33,000 tons in the same period in 2024. The polypropylene plant operates with propylene produced and delivered internally by the Petromidia refinery. The petrochemical segment at the refinery is the only producer of polypropylene and polyethylene in Romania. The petrochemical division processed 83,000 tons of propylene in 2024, with a total polymer production of around 60,000 tons.

Rompetrol Rafinare Polyolefin Production (unit-kilo tons)		
Product	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Polypropylene	40.0	33.0
Polyethylene	13.0	0.0

The LDPE unit was successfully restarted on 30 April 2025 due to an improvement in market conditions, and this contributed to the improved output of polyolefins in the second quarter. The increase in total polymer production in the petrochemical segment was mainly caused by the continuous operation of both the PP and LDPE units.

HIP Petrohemija polypropylene project
One of the obligations of NIS following the takeover of HIP-Petrohemija in 2022 was to build a new polypropylene production plant at Pancevo. The plant was to have at least a capacity of 140,000 tpa and to be completed by around 2028. Until now there seems little progress on this project, and the government is reminding NIS of its obligations to construct the plant. NIS states has been focusing on stabilising the production facilities, after the ethylene plant suffered unplanned outages six times in 2024.

Although the construction of a new polypropylene factory would double the volume of polymer production and increase the export capability it is unlikely that NIS will invest large funds in Petrohemija in the near future. Financial results from HIP-Petrohemija have already shown that investments have been decreasing in the last two years and would appear that the construction plans are being held back for the time being.

Central European Rubber Markets

Hungarian synthetic rubber Imports (unit-kilo tons)		
Product	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Butadiene Rubber	15.081	12.444
SBR	26.232	28.157
Other	6.578	11.127
Total	48.602	53.131
Revenues €mil	81.521	91.388
Av € per ton	2491.2	2451.7

Hungarian synthetic rubber trade Jan-Jun 2025
Hungarian imports of synthetic rubber amounted to 48,502 tons in January to June against 53,131 tons in January to June 2024. Average prices increased from €2451.2 per ton to €2491.2 in 2025. Prices for SBR were the main cause of the main cause the higher overall prices.

Butadiene rubber imports into Hungary increased from 12,444 tons in the first six months last year to 15,081 tons, with the largest source coming from Indonesia. SBR imports dropped from 28,157 tons to 26,232 tons.

Czech Rubber Trade (unit-kilo tons)		
	Jan-Jun 25	***Jan-Jun 24***
Exports Synthetic	68.765	68.602
Imports Synthetic	72.272	71.799
Natural	41.640	45.846

Synthetic rubber exports from Hungary amounted to 29,165 tons in the first six months against 35,862 tons in the same period last year. Prices for exports increased from €2594.8 per ton to €2822.1 per ton in 2025. SBR exports amounted to 28,779 tons in the first six months this year.

Czech Rubber Prices (€ per ton)		
	Jan-Jun 25	***Jan-Jun 24***
Exports Synthetic	2035.8	1708.1
Imports Synthetic	2155.3	2064.5
Natural	2231.0	1703.0

Czech rubber trade Jan-Jun 2025
Exports of synthetic rubber from the Czech Republic amounted to 68,765 tons in January to June 2025 versus 68,602 tons in the same period in 2024. At the same time imports declined from 71,799 tons to 72,272 tons in 2024. The country is a net importer of natural rubber, with imports projected to reach $107 million by value by 2026.

Czech Butadiene Rubber Exports (unit-kilo tons)		
Country	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
France	0.525	2.262
Germany	3.155	3.379
Hungary	4.314	4.005
India	7.791	8.205
Italy	2.863	2.930
Poland	7.311	6.360
Romania	5.726	4.505
Serbia	5.395	2.540
Slovakia	2.480	3.807
South Korea	3.261	2.226
Spain	3.206	2.949
Turkey	4.506	4.457
US	0.520	0.164
Others	6.457	7.244
Total	57.510	55.032
Revenues	110.197	91.439
Av € per ton	1912.9	1661.6

Rubber prices increased this year for both synthetic and natural rubber. Czech synthetic rubber export prices jumped from €1708.1 per ton in the first six months last year to €2035.8 per ton in 2025 whilst import prices jumped from €2064.5 per ton to €2155.3. Natural rubber prices increased this year to €2231.0 per ton from €1703.0 per ton in January to June 2024.

Czech butadiene rubber trade Jan-Jun 2025
The Czech Republic exported 57,510 tons of butadiene rubber in the first six months in 2025 against 55,032 tons in the same period in 2024. Average prices rose from €1661.6 per ton to €1912.9 per ton.

Czech exports of butadiene rubber to India amounted to 7,791 tons in January to June 2025 against 8,205 tons in the same period in 2024. Other important markets included Poland where exports amounted to 7,311 tons against 6,360 tons. Besides exports the Czech Republic also imported 13,575 tons of butadiene rubber in the first six months in 2025 against 15,804 tons in 2024. Imports were sourced largely from Germany and the US.

Polish rubber trade Jan-Jun 2025
For all types of synthetic rubber imports into Poland average prices increased from €1642.7 per ton in January to June 2024 to €2360.8 in the first six months in 2025. Whilst prices rose Poland reduced volume imports to 113,020 tons in the first six months against 197,465 tons in the same period last year. By category, butadiene rubber was the largest product, accounting for 25,840 tons against 48,773 tons in the same period in 2024, whilst EPDM imports dropped from 22,063 tons to 15,509 tons. Imports of emulsion SBR dropped from 13,354 tons to 3,634 tons.

Polish Synthetic Rubber Imports (unit-kilo tons)		
Product	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
ESBR	3.634	13.354
Block SBR	15.708	27.202
S-SBR	13.449	15.899
Butadiene Rubber	25.840	48.773
Butyl Rubber	1.794	2.417
HBR	6.492	4.328
NBR	2.541	5.612
Isoprene Rubber	1.038	32.987
EPDM	15.509	22.063
Others	27.014	24.829
Total	113.020	197.465
Av € per ton	2318.3	1784.2

Germany supplied 17,165 tons of synthetic rubber to the Polish market in the first six months in 2025, with South Korea supplying 15,809 tons and Saudi Arabia 8,217 tons. Volumes from the Far East and Middle East are expected to increase this year.

Synthetic rubber exports from Poland amounted to 54,129 tons in January to June 2025 against 199,814 tons in the same period in 2024. Exports of butadiene rubber from Poland amounted to 25,161 tons in January to June 2025 versus 46,326 tons in the same period in 2024. The largest category of rubber exports focuses on SBR grades.

The largest European market for Polish synthetic rubber exports was Germany which took 10,732 tons in the first six months in 2025. This was followed by the Czech Republic which took 10,531 tons in the first half of 2025. Volumes increased last year to compensate for the closure of the ESBR plant at Kralupy. The largest non-European destination for Polish synthetic rubber exports in the first six months this year was Brazil which took 9,590 tons.

Polish Exports of Synthetic Rubber (unit-kilo tons)		
Product	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
SBR	100.699	111.509
Butadiene Rubber	25.161	46.326
Isoprene Rubber	0.827	30.636
Others	9.776	11.344
Total	136.462	199.814
Av € per ton	1740.6	1609.3

Prices of synthetic rubber exports from Poland increased from €1609.3 per ton in the first six months in 2024 to €1740.6 per ton this year. Although both import and export volumes for synthetic rubber have been very similar, the prices for imported grades mostly exceed export prices. The trend for all forms of trade have been downward since the start of 2023. India took 13,796 tons of Polish synthetic rubber in the period January to June 2025 against 2,405 tons in the first six months in 2024. Exports to Thailand totalled 7,072 tons January to June 2025 and to Brazil 7,785 tons.

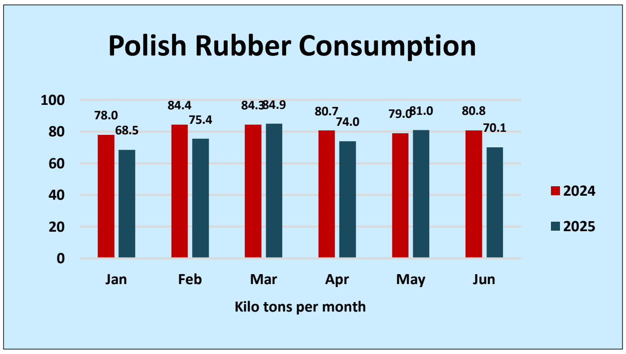
Polish Synthetic Rubber Supply/Demand Balance (unit-kilo tons)		
	Jan-Jun 25	***Jan-Jun 24***
Production	134.5	134.0
Exports	136.5	199.8
Imports	113.0	197.5
Market Balance	111.0	131.7

Polish synthetic rubber production and domestic market Jan-Jun 2025

Synthetic rubber production at Oswiecim for Synthos amounted to 134,500 tons in the first half of 2025 against 134,000 tons in 2024. Synthos has managed to diversify its export markets, which has allowed the company to increase production over 2023. Although synthetic rubber production increased in 2024 the extra output was channelled into export activity rather than domestic consumption.

Synthos Production (unit-kilo tons)		
Product	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Polystyrene	34.300	37.000
EPS	46.500	43.500
Synthetic Rubber	134.500	134.000

For the whole of 2024 the production of rubber products in Poland amounted to 906,649 tons against 990,932 tons in 2023 and 1.119 million tons in 2022. The downward trend continued into the first six months in 2025, where rubber consumption of all types (including natural) fell against 2024 and 2023. In terms of synthetic rubber consumption Poland reduced usage to 111,000 tons in the first half against 131,700 tons in the same period in 2024.



Rubber is primarily consumed by industries such as automotive, construction, and manufacturing. The predominant trend for processors continues to indicate lower orders.

Central European aromatics and derivatives

Polish Benzene Exports (unit-kilo tons)		
Country	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Czech Republic	9.863	13.575
Germany	62.337	66.603
Others	13.034	11.308
Total	85.234	91.486
Av Price € per ton	778.4	869.8

Polish benzene exports Jan-Jun 2025

Polish exports of benzene totalled 85,234 tons in January to June 2025 against 91,486 tons in the same period in 2024. Exports to Germany dropped from 66,603 tons to 62,337 tons in 2025, with average prices dropping from €869.8 per ton to €778.4 per ton. Benzene exports from Poland are supplied largely from Petrochemia Blachownia at Kedzierzyn-Kozle.

Polish Phenol Imports (unit-kilo tons) (unit-kilo tons)		
Country	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Finland	1.170	3.472
Germany	42.300	39.540
Spain	2.632	4.752
Others	4.352	5.398
Total	50.455	53.163
Av Price € per ton	936.9	1349.6

Polish aromatic imports Jan-Jun 2025

Phenol imports into Poland amounted to 50,455 tons in January to June 2025 which was down from 53,163 tons in the same period in 2024. Germany was the dominant supplier of phenol to Poland, shipping 42,300 tons against 39,540 tons in the same period in 2024. Spain and Finland accounted for smaller shipments.

Average prices for phenol imported into Poland dropped to €936.9 per ton against €1349.6 per ton in the first six months in 2024.

Polish Aromatic Imports (unit-kilo tons)		
Product	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Adipic Acid	7.817	6.295
Bisphenol A	6.774	4.231
Caprolactam	6.215	6.798
Ethylbenzene	43.704	48.300
Paraxylene	2.966	15.169
Phenol	50.455	53.163
Phthalic Anhydride	14.517	19.155
PTA	22.930	5.226
Styrene	52.507	58.611
TDI	34.451	38.499
Toluene	12.169	11.518

In other product areas, styrene imports into Poland amounted to 52,507 tons in the period January to June 2025 against 58,611 tons in the same period in 2024. Aside the Netherlands and Belgium, other supplies came from the US and Saudi Arabia. Both US and Saudi shipments represent new sources of product for the Polish market. Average prices for styrene imports into Poland dropped from €1353.5 per ton in the first six months last year to €1165.8 per ton.

Ethylbenzene imports amounted to 43,704 tons against 48,300 tons in the same period last year. All the ethylbenzene was shipped from Kralupy to Oswiecim, all within the structures of the Synthos Group.

Polish Exports of PTA (unit-kilo tons)		
Producer	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Belarus	0.267	0.000
Belgium	1.113	1.525
France	0.000	2.508
Germany	132.485	150.022
Lithuania	1.461	5.254
Switzerland	0.455	0.000
Turkey	1.763	3.561
Others	6.667	9.758
Total	144.211	172.628
Av Price € per ton	719.9	792.2

Grupa Azoty's caprolactam plant at Tarnow produced 46,400 tons in the first six months against 48,400 tons in the same period in 2025. Due to the idle production at Pulawy Poland has become a net importer of caprolactam in the past few years. Caprolactam imports into Poland amounted to 6,215 tons in the first six months in 2025 versus 6,798 tons in the same period in 2024.

Polish PTA exports Jan-Jun 2025

PTA exports amounted to 144,211 tons in the first six months in 2025 against 172,628 tons in the same period in 2024. Exports to Germany dropped from 150,022 tons to 132,485 tons. Average prices for PTA exports from Poland changed from €792.2 per ton to €719.9 per ton this year.

Regarding PTA feedstocks, Poland imported 2,966 tons of paraxylene in the first six months this year against 15,169 tons last year. Due to lower PTA production at Wloclawek imports of PTA amounted to 22,930 tons in the first six months in 2025.

Czech Aromatic Exports (unit-kilo tons)		
Product	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Aniline	39.250	61.560
Benzene	9.564	5.276
Toluene	2.345	5.162
Ethylbenzene	42.584	40.735
Styrene	0.926	6.977
Czech Aromatic Imports (unit-kilo tons)		
Product	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Benzene	15.950	30.218
Toluene	2.466	2.927
Styrene	20.440	9.635
Bisphenol A	16.163	16.073

Czech aromatic exports Jan-Jun 2025

Czech aniline exports amounted to 39,250 tons in the first six months in 2025 against 61,560 tons in the same period in 2024. Hungary is the largest destination for Czech aniline exports, amounting to 30,723 tons in the first six months in 2025 versus 54,204 tons in the same period in 2025.

Czech benzene exports increased to 9,564 tons in January to June 2025 against 5,276 tons in the same period in 2024, whilst toluene exports dropped from 5,162 tons to 2,345 tons. 2024.

Czech aromatic imports Jan-Jun 2025

Czech imports of styrene amounted to 20,359 tons in the first six months in 2025 against 3,902 tons in the same period in 2024. Imports from the Netherlands increased from 2,976 tons to 5,176 tons. Average prices paid for styrene imports amounted to €1200.4 per ton against €1287.9 in 2024. Benzene imports into the Czech Republic in the first six months in 2025 amounted to 8,418 tons against 23,760 tons in January to June 2024. Benzene imports are sourced from Poland, Hungary and Serbia. Toluene imports dropped from 2,093 tons to 1,690 tons.

Czech Bisphenol A Imports		
Product	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Total Ktons	17.175	16.073
Av Price per ton	1326.8	1358.1
Czech Epoxy Resin Exports		
Product	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Total Ktons	26.973	25.444
Av Price per ton	2662.0	2531.8

Czech Bisphenol A imports & epoxy resin exports

Bisphenol A imports into the Czech Republic totalled 17,175 tons in January to June 2025 against 16,073 tons in the same period in 2024. South Korea increased shipments from 11,740 tons to 16,624 tons. The largest user of bisphenol A in the Czech Republic is Spolchemie at Ust nad Labem, where epoxy resins are produced.

Czech exports of epoxy resins amounted to 18,525 tons in the first six months in 2025 against 17,147 tons in 2024. Prices rose from €2518.1 per ton to €2643.6 per ton in 2025. Germany remains the largest market for Czech epoxy resins, accounting for 7,131 tons in the first six months in 2025 which was up from 5,790 tons in same period in 2024.

Czech Epoxy Resins (unit-kilo tons)		
Country	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Austria	1.836	2.006
Germany	10.477	9.062
Spain	2.216	2.157
France	2.311	2.153
Italy	2.775	2.688
Poland	1.426	0.991
Others	5.932	6.386
Total	26.973	25.444
Av Price per ton	2662.0	2531.8

European anti-dumping measures on epoxy resins

The European Commission imposed anti-dumping measures in August on imports of epoxy resins originating in China, Taiwan and Thailand. The imposition of measures follows an investigation which found that dumped imports of epoxy resins from China, Taiwan and Thailand were harming the EU industry. The investigation initially also covered imports of epoxy resin originating in Korea, but this part was terminated due to a lack of evidence of dumping.

Hungarian Benzene Imports (unit-kilo tons)		
Country	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Czech Republic	1.209	1.017
Germany	0.681	2.998
Poland	11.408	7.457
Serbia	8.299	0.000
Others	3.014	0.027
Total	24.610	11.499
Av € per ton	653.8	882.4

Hungarian aromatics Jan-Jun 2025

The balance in Hungarian benzene trade has changed this year, with exports falling and at the same time imports increasing. Exports dropped from 24,643 tons in the first six months in 2024 to 7,884 tons in the same period last year.

At the same time imports of benzene increased from 11,499 tons to 24,610 tons in January to June 2025. Imports from Poland increased from 7,457 tons to 11,408 tons whilst shipments arrived from Serbia this year, amounting to 8,299 tons in the first six months. Toluene imports into Hungary amounted to 19,384 tons in the first six months this year against 23,538 tons in the same period in 2024. Average prices dropped from €1064.2 per ton to €972.0 per ton.

Central European isocyanates

Hungarian TDI Exports (unit-kilo tons)		
Country	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Austria	1.494	1.642
Belgium	21.355	22.237
Germany	8.284	6.100
Italy	17.604	16.173
Poland	17.629	15.151
Portugal	5.802	4.195
Romania	4.527	6.731
Spain	6.393	5.417
Turkey	16.014	22.666
Others	40.702	37.604
Total	139.805	137.916
Av € per ton	1837.9	1962.0

Hungarian TDI-MDI exports Jan-Jun 2025

Hungarian TDI exports January to June 2025 amounted to 139,805 tons against 137,916 tons in January to June 2024. Average prices dropped from €1962.0 per ton to €1837.9 per ton.

Exports of TDI from Hungary to Belgium amounted to 21,355 tons in the first six months in 2025 against 22,237 tons in January to June last year, whilst volumes to Italy rose from 16,173 tons to 17,604 tons.

Shipments to Poland increased from 15,151 tons to 17,629 tons and dropped to Turkey from 22,666 tons to 16,014 tons. Shipments to Romania dropped from 6,731 tons to 4,527 tons. Although growth rate for polyurethane consumption has been sluggish in the past few years, the market continues to expand. The construction sector remains the dominant consumer, accounting for nearly 35% of total polyurethane consumption, which are focused to a large extent on insulation applications. Additionally, the automotive industry continues to adopt polyurethane for lightweighting and energy-efficient solutions offering more scope for consumption.

Hungarian MDI Exports (unit-kilo tons)		
Country	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Austria	1.894	1.071
Switzerland	1.941	1.931
Czech Republic	4.531	5.488
Germany	12.283	12.538
Algeria	2.407	2.299
Italy	10.103	1.931
France	2.367	4.724
Spain	3.417	2.460
Latvia	0.410	1.863
Netherlands	1.328	3.089
Poland	29.676	20.972
Romania	12.437	10.237
Slovakia	1.944	0.226
Serbia	3.052	0.200
Turkey	9.272	1.365
Ukraine	2.469	16.000
Others	23.096	23.730
Total	123.543	110.730
Av € per ton	1845.6	1925.8

MDI exports from Hungary amounted in January to June to 123,543 tons against 110,730 tons in January to June 2024. MDI export prices dropped to €1845.6 per ton against €1925.8 per ton in 2024. Poland was the largest destination for Hungarian MDI exports, taking 29,676 tons in the first six months in 2024 versus 20,972 tons in January to June 2025. Exports to Italy increased from 1,931 tons to 10,103 tons.

Central European isocyanate trade Jan-Jun 2025

Toluene diisocyanate (TDI) prices are currently influenced by a mix of demand fluctuations, supply chain challenges, and trade-related uncertainties, with varying impacts across different regions. While some reports indicate price decreases due to weaker demand in Europe, others point to rising prices driven by supply chain issues and increased demand in other areas. Additionally, concerns about dumping and anti-dumping investigations are impacting imports from certain countries.

Polish TDI Imports (unit-kilo tons)		
Country	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Belgium	0.306	4.245
Germany	11.106	7.752
Hungary	19.725	15.717
Netherlands	0.306	4.241
Saudi Arabia	0.942	0.128
South Korea	1.769	3.503
Others	1.654	2.108
Total	39.180	37.694
Av € per ton	1898.7	2031.0

TDI imports into Poland amounted to a total of 39,180 tons in January to June 2025 against 37,694 tons in January to June 2024. Prices of TDI imported into Poland dropped from €2031.0 per ton in 2024 to €1898.7 per ton. Hungary was the largest supplier in the first six months in 2025, shipping 19,725 tons to Poland versus 15,717 tons in January to June 2024.

MDI imports into Poland totalled 84,883 tons in January to June 2025, up against 80,013 tons in January to June 2024. Average prices were down slightly in the first six months against last year, amounting to €1893.6 per ton. Germany increased MDI shipments to Poland to 17,704 tons in the first six months in 2025 against 16,034 tons in January to June 2024, whilst imports from Hungary increased to 17,609 tons against 13,446. Belgium shipped 11,178 tons of MDI to Poland in the first six months, down from 11,383 tons whilst South Korea increased shipments from 3,691 tons to 4,496 tons.

Polish MDI Imports (unit-kilo tons)		
Country	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Germany	26.767	22.909
Netherlands	7.180	8.307
Hungary	26.681	20.534
Belgium	16.339	18.158
South Korea	6.876	5.021
Others	1.039	5.084
Total	84.883	80.013
Av € per ton	1893.6	1925.3

Czech MDI imports		
	Jan-Jun 25	***Jan-Jun 24***
Kilo tons	21.354	20.564
Av Price €per ton	2021.4	2095.7

MDI imports into the Czech Republic totalled 21,354 tons in January to June 2025 against 20,564 tons in the same period in 2024. Average prices declined from €2095.7 per ton last year to €2021.4 per ton. The leading supplier so far this year was Belgium which shipped 5,312 tons against 4,444 tons in January to June 2024.

Central European polyols

Czech polyol imports Jan-Jun 2025

Czech polyol imports amounted to 25,404 tons in the first six months in 2025 against 23,769 tons in the same period in 2024. Belgium supplied 7,421 tons against 6,873 tons last year, whilst average prices dropped to €2112.9 per ton against €2313.5. Other suppliers included Germany which shipped 4,194 tons against 4,046 tons last year and the Netherlands increased shipments from 2,494 tons to 3,973 tons.

Czech Polyol Imports (unit-kilo tons)		
	Jan-Jun 25	***Jan-Jun 24***
Total	25.404	23.679
Av € per ton	2112.9	2313.5

Polish Polyol Exports 2024 (unit-kilo tons)		
	Jan-Jun 25	***Jan-Jun 24***
Total ktons	26.798	28.069
Av € per ton	1958.4	2129.6

Hungarian polyol imports Jan-Jun 2025

Imports of polyols into Hungary dropped in the first six months this year to 20,238 tons against 15,334 tons in the same period in 2024. Imports from China amounted to 7,318 tons in the period January to June 2025 against 3,958 tons in January to June 2024. The largest supplier to the Hungarian market in the first half of 2025 was the Netherlands which provided 4,900 tons against 3,812 tons in the same period last year. It is not clear exactly why MOL's polyol plant at Tiszaujvaros has had on Hungarian imports of polyols, and when it is planned to be put into full production mode.

Hungarian Polyol Imports (unit-kilo tons)		
Country	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Austria	0.227	0.377
Belgium	0.730	0.883
China	7.318	3.958
Germany	2.355	1.641
Italy	0.071	0.166
Netherlands	4.900	3.812
Poland	0.958	0.330
Romania	1.475	1.180
Others	2.203	2.912
Total	20.238	15.334
Av Price	1630.0	1796.6

Polish polyol trade Jan-Jun 2025

Polish polyol exports amounted to 26,798 tons in the first half of 2025 against 28,069 tons in the same period in 2024. Italy was the largest destination for Polish polyol exports, mainly produced by PCC Rokita. Average prices dropped from €2129.6 per ton to €1958.4 in 2025.

The European polyether market has been fairly balanced in terms of supply and demand in 2025, but at the same production and consumption have both been lower than last year.

Polish Polyol Imports (unit-kilo tons)		
Country	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Belgium	12.322	9.465
China	5.977	2.977
France	3.150	2.408
Germany	17.746	17.045
Netherlands	14.778	19.679
Romania	6.381	7.453
South Korea	6.638	4.128
Others	7.265	5.908
Total	74.752	69.949
Av € per ton	1728.5	1865.3

Polish polyol imports amounted to 74,752 tons in January to June against 69,949 tons in the same period in 2024. The Netherlands supplied 14,778 tons against 19,679 tons last year, whilst Germany increased supplies to 17,746 tons against 17,045 tons. Polyol import prices into Poland dropped from €1865.3 per ton to €1728.5 per ton.

Despite the decline in average prices in the first half of the years for both exports and imports of polyols, prices in Europe did show an increase in July. This was due to increased demand from the construction sector, partly seasonal, and some tightening of supply. Producers are tentatively cautious though about a sustained upward period for pricing. Competition from outside of Europe represents a major brake on upward price trends.

Central European organic chemical trade

Hungarian maleic anhydride exports (unit-kilo tons)		
Country	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Austria	0.832	0.290
Germany	1.184	1.237
Italy	0.671	1.813
Poland	1.120	4.065
Slovenia	0.302	0.979
Others	2.874	4.247
Total	6.983	12.630
Av € per ton	1356.9	1182.2

Hungarian maleic anhydride exports Jan-Jun 2025

Hungary exported 6,983 tons of maleic anhydride in January to June against 12,630 tons in January to June 2024. Average prices rose from €1182.2 per ton to €1356.9 per ton. Exports of maleic anhydride to Poland from Hungary dropped from 4,065 tons in the first six months in 2024 to 1,120 tons in the same period in 2025. MOL has previously outlined plans to expand the capacity of the maleic anhydride plant at Szazhalombatta from its current level, but no completion date has been set at this stage.

Hungarian organic chemical exports Jan-Jun 2025

Exports of organic chemicals from Hungary totalled 278,107 tons in the first six months this year, down from 333,696 tons in the same period in 2024. The largest commodity in the organic chemical sector is TDI, accounting for 41% of Hungarian organic chemical exports in January to June by volume and 33% by value.

Overall, the value of organic chemical exports from Hungary amounted to €762.209 million in the first six months which was down from €829.241 million in January to June 2024. Import volumes for organic chemicals into Hungary in the first six months this year amounted to 362,410 tons against 366,100 tons last year, with import costs rising from €798.180 million to €840.860 million. The major organic chemical imports include methanol, toluene, aniline and acrylonitrile.

Hungarian Aniline Imports (unit-kilo tons)		
Country	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Belgium	0.000	7.942
Czech Republic	31.665	55.102
Others	0.204	0.024
Total	31.869	63.068
Av € per ton	1375.2	1433.6

Hungarian Acrylonitrile Imports (unit-kilo tons)		
Country	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Germany	1.457	1.504
Netherlands	9.440	4.289
Total	11.455	5.699
Av € per ton	1781.6	1528.7

Hungarian aniline & acrylonitrile imports Jan-Jun 2025

Aniline imports into Hungary dropped from 63,068 tons in January to June 2024 to 31,665 tons January to June 2025. Inward shipments from BorsodChem-MCHZ in the Czech Republic amounted to 31,665 tons against 55,102 tons in January to June 2024. Cost prices of aniline imports dropped from €1433.6 per ton to €1375.4 per ton.

Acrylonitrile imports into Hungary rose in the first six months to 11,455 tons from 5,699 tons in the same period in 2024. Imports from the Netherlands increased from 4,289 tons to 9,440 tons. Average prices for acrylonitrile imports rose from €1528.7 per ton to €1781.6 in 2025.

Polish Organic Chemical Trade		
Exports	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Vol (kilo tons)	755.9	802.5
Value (€million)	643.2	635.0
Imports	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Vol (kilo tons)	2,144.9	1,972.9
Value (€million)	1,478.8	1,371.0

Polish organic chemical imports Jan-Jun 2025

Exports of organic chemicals from Poland dropped by volume to 755,900 tons in January to June 2025 from 802,500 tons in the same period in 2024, whilst imports rose from 1.973 million tons to 2.145 million tons. Export values increased from €635.0 million to €643.2 million, whilst import values rose from €1.371 billion to €1.479 billion.

Average export prices for Polish organic chemicals dropped from €1263 per ton in the first six months last year to €1175 per ton this year, whilst average import prices increased from €1439 per ton last year to €1450 per ton. By volume imports increased from 1.973 million tons in the first half of 2024 to 2.145 million tons in the same period in 2025. In some of the product areas, such as oxo-alcohols (octanol, n-butanol and iso-butanol) the Central European market has seen increased competitiveness this year from imports from Asia and the US.

Polish Organic Chemical Imports (unit-kilo tons)		
Product	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Acetic Acid	20.294	17.406
Acetone	5.874	3.690
Butadiene	52.572	49.760
DINP/DOP	8.161	9.116
Ethyl Acetate	6.293	7.944
Isopropanol	8.272	6.063
Maleic Anhydride	5.651	5.598
Methanol	299.395	336.288
Propylene	46.613	49.214
VAM	21.360	10.932

Methanol imports into Poland totalled 299,395 tons in January to June 2025 against 336,288 tons in the same period in 2024. For other organic chemical imports Poland imported 20,294 tons of acetic acid in January to June against 17,406 tons in January to June 2024. The US provided 16,370 tons in the first six months, replacing the UK as the leading supplier in 2024.

Ethyl acetate imports into Poland amounted to 6,293 tons in January to June 2025 against 7,944 tons in January to June 2024. Belgium provided the largest share of imports. VAM imports into Poland increased to 21,360 tons versus 10,932 tons.

Maleic anhydride imports into Poland amounted to 5,651 tons in January-June 2025, versus 5,598 tons in the previous year. Imports are currently sourced from Germany, Hungary and South Korea. Isopropanol imports into Poland amounted to 8,272 tons in January-June 2025, up from 6,063 tons in the previous year. Aside Germany, imports come from the Netherlands and South Africa.

Polish EO/PO Imports (unit-kilo tons)		
Product	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
DEG	16.076	16.286
Ethylene Glycol	12.725	28.664
Ethylene Oxide	12.730	11.037
Propylene Glycol	17.797	11.293
Propylene Oxide	8.806	3.632

Polish glycol/oxide imports Jan-Jun 2025

Ethylene glycol imports into Poland dropped in the first six months this year to 12,725 tons from 28,664 tons in the same period in 2024. Belgium is the main supplier of glycols to the Polish market. DEG imports dropped to 16,076 tons against 16,286 tons.

Ethylene oxide imports into Poland totalled 12,730 tons in January to June 2025 versus 11,037 tons in January to June 2024. Germany currently represents the main source of inward shipments.

Polish Organic Chemical Exports (unit-kilo tons)		
Product	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Acetic Acid	0.735	0.945
Acetone	5.281	5.275
2-EH	2.762	0.049
Ethylene Glycol	13.873	10.615
Glycerol	19.063	16.520
Methanol	82.413	85.026
Monochloroacetic Acid	19.664	15.478
N-Butyl Acetate	2.882	3.496
Propylene	9.525	2.144

Polish organic chemical exports Jan-Jun 2025

Regarding export activity in organic chemicals, Polish shipments of monochloroacetic acid (MCAA) amounted to 19,664 tons in the first six months in 2025.

MCAA production is undertaken by the PCC Group at Brzeg Dolny. Other organic chemical exports from Poland include glycerol where shipments amounted to 19,063 tons in January-June 2025 versus 16,520 tons in January to June 2024. The main markets for Polish acetone exports included Italy, Germany, Romania and Lithuania. Methanol exports amounted to 82,413 tons in the first six months this year against 85,026 tons in January to June 2024. Butyl acetate exports from Poland dropped from 3,496 tons in January to June 2024 to 2,882 tons in the same period this year. Solvent Wistol is the sole producer of n-butyl acetate in Poland. The Polish market for butyl acetate is relatively stable, with production expected to remain around 18,000 tons.

Czech Organic Chemical Trade		
Exports	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Value (€million)	592.5	659.7
Vol (kilo tons)	259.5	295.6
Imports	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Value (€million)	697.6	673.0
Vol (kilo tons)	347.9	347.6

Czech organic chemical trade Jan-Jun 2025

Czech organic chemical exports amounted in value to €592.5 million in the first six months in 2025 against €659.7 million in the same period in 2024, with volumes dropping from 295,600 tons to 259,500 tons. Imports increased from €673.0 million to €697.6 million. Import volumes increased slightly from 347,600 tons to 347,900 tons. Czech imports of organic chemicals are led by methanol where volumes amounted to 25,836 tons in the first six months in 2025 against 36,817 tons in the same period in 2024. Other products imported include oxo alcohols, both in butanols and 2-EH whereby inward shipments dropped to 9,737 tons in January to June this year. Most of the 2-EH imports come from the Azoty plant at Kedzierzyn-Kozle. Plasticizer imports increased in the first six months to 6,131 tons against 3,824 tons in the same period last year.

Central European methanol markets

Czech methanol imports Jan-Jun 2025

Czech imports of methanol amounted to 25,836 tons in the first six months in 2025 against 36,817 tons in the same period in 2024. Prices per ton for methanol imports increased from €382.4 to €475.0 per ton.

Czech Methanol Imports (unit-kilo tons)		
Country	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Germany	3.135	3.535
Norway	0.328	0.080
Estonia	3.944	3.262
Poland	8.923	27.543
US	4.944	0.000
Others	3.400	2.397
Total	26,997	36.817
Av € per ton	475.0	382.4

Poland supplied 8,923 tons to the Czech Republic in the first six months in 2025 against 27,543 tons in the same period in 2024. The US supplied 4,944 tons in June this year, whilst the other sources of supply come from Estonia.

The Dutch company Power2X has withdrawn from its plans to build a methanol plant in Estonia, in which it planned to invest €1 billion. Power2X stated that the decision was made under the influence of several factors. The establishment of a methanol plant in Parnu with a capacity of up to 500,000 tpa was announced last spring.

Hungarian methanol imports Jan-Jun 2025

Methanol imports into Hungary in January to June increased to 55,430 tons against 54,197 tons in January to June 2024. Imports from Germany decreased from 32,685 tons to 22,066 tons, replacing sources from Poland and Slovakia. Imports from Slovenia into Hungary amounted to 6,995 tons in the first six months, against 10,602 tons in the same period in 2024. Average prices of methanol imports into Hungary amounted to €484.7 per ton against €438.3 per ton in 2024.

Hungarian methanol imports (unit-kilo tons)		
Country	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Germany	22.066	32.685
Netherlands	16.647	8.579
Poland	5.080	1.070
Estonia	2.161	0.000
Slovenia	6.995	10.602
Others	1.485	1.035
Total	55.430	54.197
Av € per ton	484.7	438.3

Polish methanol trade Jan-Jun 2025

Polish imports of methanol amounted to 299,395 tons in the first six months in 2025 against 336,288 tons in January to June 2024. Average prices in the first six months amounted to €487.5 per ton against €317.5 per ton last year.

Polish Methanol Imports (unit-kilo tons)		
Country	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Belgium	30.000	104.258
Estonia	5.306	3.910
Germany	33.040	50.276
Netherlands	18.065	39.994
Norway	34.547	42.397
Russia	1.046	0.000
US	69.715	0.000
Trinidad	74.881	0.000
Venezuela	26.842	94.154
Others	5.952	1.273
Total	299.395	336.288
€ price per ton	487.5	317.5

Trinidad was the largest supplier of methanol to Poland in the first six months in 2025, shipping 74,881 tons followed by the US which shipped 69,715 tons. The US has been a new supplier in recent months.

Venezuela reduced shipments to Poland from 94,154 tons in January to June 2024 to 26,842 tons whilst imports from Belgium declined from 104,258 tons to 30,000 tons.

Poland Methanol Exports (unit-kilo tons)		
Country	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Czech Republic	14.058	23.716
Germany	52.928	51.559
Slovakia	17.953	14.938
Ukraine	10.866	12.129
Others	1.392	0.530
Total	97.574	103.662
Av € per ton	437.2	374.4

Exports of methanol from Poland amounted to 97,574 tons in January to June 2025, declining from 103,662 tons in the same period in January to June 2024. Polish methanol export prices increased in the first six months this year to €437.2 per ton measured against last year's €374.4 per ton in 2024. The largest destination for Polish exports was Germany which took 52,928 tons in the first six months in 2025 against 51,559 tons in the same period in 2024. Ukraine imported 10,866 tons in the first six months, against 12,129 tons last year.

RUSSIA

Russian Chemical Production (unit-kilo tons)		
Product	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Ethylene	2280.902	2339.901
Propylene	1245.131	1321.179
Benzene	666.584	689.640
Toluene	162.183	194.630
Xylenes	217.290	226.601
Orthoxylene	93.101	92.632
Paraxylene	121.654	124.083
Styrene	371.283	386.175
EB	418.734	438.747
Methanol	2056.918	1919.265
Isopropanol	26.745	35.416
Ethylene Glycol	159.406	253.280
N-butanol	73.080	73.088
Phenol	135.922	130.246
Acetic Acid	98.956	102.194
Phthalic Anhydride	50.263	49.041
Maleic Anhydride	22.107	20.305

Russian Polymer Production (unit-kilo tons)		
Product	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Ethylene polymers	1866.066	1773.405
PE	1794.487	1707.846
Styrene Polymers	286,589	301.661
PVC	469.405	515.533
Propylene Polymers	1051.052	1084.457
Polyamide	61.040	71.011
PET	334.093	321.077
Synthetic Rubber	747.026	722.617

Russian chemical production Jan-Jun 2025
Russian ethylene production amounted to 2.281 million tons in the first half in 2025 against 2.340 million tons in 2024, whilst propylene production dropped from 1.321 million tons to 1.245 million tons. Benzene production fell from 689,640 tons to 666,584 tons. At the same time declines were reported for phenol, acetic acid and isopropanol.

Ethylene glycol production dropped from 253,280 tons to 159,406 tons, mainly due to the reduction of ethylene deliveries from Kstovo to Dzerzhinsk in the early part of this year. SIBUR-Kstovo's olefin production was affected in February by the drone attack at the end of January, affecting ethylene oxide output. Russian chemical products which saw increases in the first six months included methanol where production increased from 1.919 million tons in the first six months in 2024 to 2.057 million tons in 2025.

Russian polymer production Jan-Jun 2025
Russian production of plastics in primary forms decreased by 1.4% in the first half of 2025, amounting to 5.388 million tons. Ethylene polymer production increased to 1.866 million tons from 1.773 million tons in the first half last year, whilst the production oof propylene polymers dropped from 1.084 million tons to 1.051 million tons. Processing of polymer pipes fell by 10.7% in the first half of 2025 to 489,000 tons, with other falls noted in other areas of plastics. At the same time, growth was noted in the production of synthetic fibres by 9.7% to 106,000 tons.

Production of synthetic rubbers in the first half of 2025 amounted to 747,026 tons, which is 4% more than in the same period last year. The main increase was recorded in the first quarter. The production of synthetic rubber increased despite the decline in consumption in the tyre industry. In the first half of the year, the volume of tyres produced amounted to 22 million pieces, which is 12.5% less than a year earlier.

Russian refinery attacks and impact on naphtha costs
The Ryazan oil refinery halved its production and the Novokuibyshevsk refinery halted it completely on 2 August after Ukrainian drone attacks. The Volgograd refinery was struck on 14 August, followed by the Syzran refinery on 15 August. All four refineries are owned by Lukoil. After the attacks, all refineries have stopped or reduced production. The Ryazan refinery is reported to be operating only on the CDU-6 unit, which is capable of processing 23,200 tons of oil per day, amounting to approximately 48% of the total capacity. The Novokuibyshevsk refinery was also damaged and completely decommissioned. The refinery supplies feedstocks for linked petrochemical complex and thus olefin production is expected to be disabled until the refinery resumes operations.

Both Volgograd and Syzran refineries have been temporarily disabled, putting further pressure on the fuel markets. Gasoline prices on the Syzran retail stations rose sharply after the drone attack. Gasoline prices in Russia rose by around 30% over July and continued to rise in August. Wholesale prices for straight-run gasoline or naphtha, as a rule, are lower than retail prices in Russia, and depend on the basis of shipment and the producer. However, they do set the trend and naphtha based petrochemical producers in particular fear extended refinery outages could drive up costs.

Russian Monomers

Russian Ethylene Production (unit-kilo tons)		
Region	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
North Caucasus Federal District	164.724	180.120
Volga Federal District	1138.023	1133.276
Ural federal district	733.683	772.631
Siberian Federal District	244.473	253.874
Total	2280.902	2339.901

Russian ethylene production Jan-Jun 2025
Russian ethylene production totalled 2.281 million tons in the first half in 2025 against 2.340 million tons in the same period in 2024. ZapSibNeftekhim at Tobolsk produced 733,683 tons in January to June 2025, down from 772,631 tons from January to June 2024. Stavrolen at Budyennovsk reduced production from 180,120 tons to 164,724 tons in 2025.

Production in the Volga region increased from 1.133 million tons in the first six months last year to 1.138 million tons in the same period this year.

Russian Propylene Production (unit-kilo tons)		
Region	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
North Caucasus Federal District	70.700	66.250
Volga Federal District	482.376	474.417
Ural federal district	441.485	516.331
Siberian Federal District	250.551	254.853
Total	1245.113	1311.851

Russian propylene production Jan-Jun 2025
Russian propylene production totalled 1.245 million tons in the first half in 2025 against 1.312 million tons in the same period in 2024. ZapSibNeftekhim at Tobolsk produced 441.485 tons in January to June 2025 against 516,331 tons in the same period last year whilst the plants in the Volga region increased production from 474,417 tons to 482,376 tons. Production at the Budyennovsk plant in the North Caucasus rose from 66,250 tons to 70,700 tons whilst in Siberia the combined production of the Tomsk and Angarsk plant resulted in 250,551 tons versus 254,853 tons last year.

Russian Propylene Domestic Sales (unit-kilo tons)		
Producer	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 25***
Angarsk Polymer Plant	14.138	33.648
SIBUR-Kstovo	23.036	98.941
Lukoil-NNOS	105.161	79.584
Naftan	3.557	1.031
Total	145.892	213.204

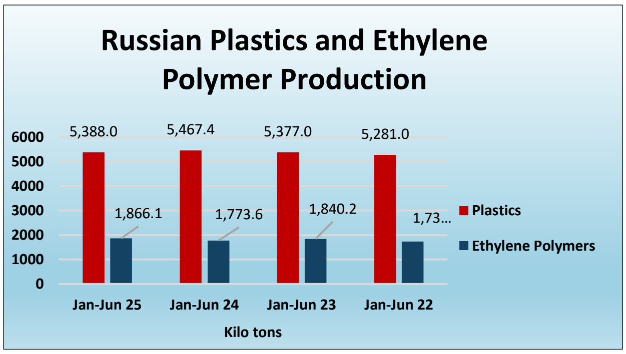
Russian Major Propylene Domestic Buyers (unit-kilo tons)		
Consumer	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 25***
Saratovorgsintez	81.260	81.279
Volzhskiy Orgsintez	4.300	6.433
Akrilat	8.772	14.880
SIBUR-Khimprom	22.629	32.427
Omsk-Kaucuk	4.893	10.195
Tomskneftekhim	1.067	2.178
ZapSibNeftekhim	8.993	43.928
Moscow Refinery	0.811	1.084
Nizhnekamskneftekhim	0.000	8.204
Ufaorgsintez	3.366	6.348
Kazanorgsintez	1.005	3.115
Khimprom Kemerovo	2.337	2.731
Plant of Synthetic Alcohol	2.374	0.398
Total	145.829	213.200

Russian propylene domestic sales Jan-Jun 2025
Russian sales of propylene on the domestic merchant market amounted to 145,829 tons in the first half in 2025 against 213,200 tons in January to June 2024.

Lukoil-NNOS increased propylene sales from 79,584 tons in the first six months from 105,161 tons in the same period in 2024. SIBUR-Kstovo reduced sales from 98,941 tons in the first six months in 2024 to 23,036 tons in the same period this year. Production at SIBUR-Kstovo was disrupted by Ukrainian drone strikes at the end of January. ZapSibNeftekhim reduced purchases of propylene in the first six months to 8,993 tons against 43,928 tons in the same period in 2024. Saratovorgsintez bought 81,260 tons against 81,279 tons. Saratovorgsintez uses propylene for the production of acrylonitrile.

Russian Butadiene Production (unit-kilo tons)		
Region	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Volga Federal District	177.552	138.346
Urals	121.156	129.689
Siberian Federal District	19.093	17.410
Total	317.800	285.445

Russian butadiene production Jan-Jun 2025
Russian butadiene production increased in the first half of 2025 to 317,800 tons versus 285,445 tons in the same period last year. Production at the three sites in the Volga region increased from 138,346 tons to 177,552 tons.



Russian bulk polymers

Russian plastics production Jan-Jun 2025

Russian bulk plastics production amounted to 5.388 million tons in January to June 2025 against 5.467 million tons in the same period in 2024. Production has achieved record levels despite recent signs of market slowdown. In particular, pipe production from polymers declined from 570,000 tons in the first six months in 2024 to 488,000 tons in the same period in 2025.

Russian Ethylene Polymer Production by Region (unit-kilo tons)		
Region	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Central Federal District	58.738	61.863
Northwestern Federal District	28.195	21.370
Southern Federal District	22.683	17.090
North Caucasus Federal District	149.308	166.647
Volga Federal District	669.236	546.277
Ural Federal District	746.320	784.769
Siberian Federal District	191.513	175.313
Far East	0.071	0.036
Total	1866.064	1773.364

Production of ethylene polymers in Russia amounted to 1.866 million tons in January to June 2025, up from 1.773 million tons in the same period in 2024.

ZapSibNeftekhim's non-ferrous polyethylene grades substituted imported raw materials for pipe production. The volume made it possible to cover the annual demand of the Russian market for such raw materials. One of the most popular types of low-tonnage polymer products is necessary for water and gas supply systems of housing and communal services. It is produced once for the whole year. The enterprise is the only one in Russia, the products have replaced the import of raw materials from Europe and Asia. Unlike metal pipes, HDPE pipes retain the operability of pipelines for up to 100 years.

The localization of the production of non-ferrous polyethylene grades is in line with the goals of the import substitution strategy and the development of the domestic chemical industry. Thus, it was possible to eliminate dependence on foreign suppliers and reduce the cost of final products by eliminating transport costs, customs duties and currency risks. This, in turn, increased the competitiveness of Russian pipes both in the domestic and foreign markets.

In addition, the development of its own production has become a stimulus for scientific and technological progress in the country, the creation of new jobs in high-tech industries, the development of engineering competencies and the introduction of innovations.

As previously reported, specialists from ZapSibNeftekhim have developed a neural network for real-time quality control of technological processes. The new AI-powered tool is a virtual analyser for controlling the polymer production process, which reduces economic losses and improves product quality control.

From January to June 2025, the number of legal entities registered for plastics and rubber products fell by 16% against the same period in 2024. The monthly number of new company registrations this year is less than in both the previous year and 2023. At the same time, the number of companies closing continued to grow, which in the first half of 2025 amounted to 874 legal entities, which is 1% more than last year and 19.7% more closures in 2023 for the same period. As a result, the growth of existing companies, which resumed in 2022 after a six-year decline, decreased by 47.1% and amounted to 250 legal entities.

In total, from January 1991 to December 2024, 63,301 legal entities were registered in Russia, which indicated the production of rubber and plastic products as the main type of economic activity, of which 40,995 organizations were closed by January 2025, i.e. 65% or two-thirds. At the same time, of the remaining 22 thousand legal entities, only 9915 organizations or 46.5% showed non-zero revenue in 2024, which is less than 60% in 2023.

Regional production of ethylene polymers Jan-Jun 2025

The largest plant for the production of ethylene polymers is ZapSibNeftekhim at Tobolsk, located in the Ural Federal District. ZapSibNeftekhim produced 746,320 tons in the first half in 2025 against 784,769 tons in January to June 2024, nearly all of which comprised main polyethylene grades HDPE and LLDPE.

The second largest region in Russia is the Volga Federal District where production rose from 546,277 tons in January to June 2024 to 669,236 tons in January to June 2025. The Volga district includes producers from Bashkortostan including Gazprom neftekhim Salavat and Ufaorgsintez, and from Nizhnekamskneftekhim and Kazanorgsintez. Both companies in Tatarstan have increased production this year.

Russian polyethylene trade Jan-Jun 2025

Russian polyethylene exports to China increased from 187,855 tons in January to June 2024 to 252,214 tons in the same period in 2025, with both HDPE and LDPE showing rises. Average prices for Russian polyethylene exports to China dropped from $883.3 per ton to $845.1 per ton in the first six months in 2025.

Chinese Polyethylene Imports from Russia		
	Jan-Jun 25	***Jan-Jun 24***
Ktons	252.214	187.855
$ million	213.136	165.940
$ per ton	845.1	883.3

Inward shipments of polyethylene from China into Russia dropped in the first six months to 40,102 tons against 59,409 tons in January to June 2024. Average prices increased from $1434.8 per ton to $1534.7 per ton this year.

The largest volume of imports consisted of ethylene-hexene copolymers where shipments into Russia amounted to 11,275 tons against 12,489 tons in the same period in 2024. The production of ethylene-hexene polymers is currently not possible in Russia but the hexene plant under construction at Nizhnekamsk ais close to completion and will allow the production of ethylene-hexene polymers. For other product areas, Chinese shipments of HDPE to the Russian market dropped from 7,037 tons in the first six months in 2024 to 3,305 tons in the same period this year whilst LLDPE volumes dropped from 16,467 tons to 9,770 tons.

Chinese Polyethylene Exports to Russia (unit-kilo tons)		
Product Category	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
LDPE	6.111	9.523
HDPE	3.305	7.037
LLDPE	9.770	16.467
EVA	5.535	6.636
Ethylene-hexene copolymers	11.275	12.489
LMDPE	2.541	1.126
Others	1.565	6.131
Total	40.102	59.409
Av $ per ton	1534.7	1434.8

Imports of polyethylene shipments into Russia from South Korea dropped in the first six months to 29,870 tons from 67,073 tons in the same period last year. Average prices dropped from $1297.3 per ton to $1259.7 per ton.

South Korean Polyethylene Exports to Russia		
	Jan-Jun 25	***Jan-Jun 24***
Ktons	29.870	67.073
$ million	37.626	87.016
$ per ton	1259.7	1297.3

Russian polypropylene production Jan-Jun 2025

Russian production of propylene polymers totalled 1.054 million tons in the first half in 2025 against 1.109 million tons in the same period in 2024. ZapSibNeftekhim reduced production from 567,786 tons to 497,809 tons in January to June 2025, whilst Stavrolen at Budyennovsk reduced production slightly from 71,532 to

Russian Propylene Polymers Production by Region (unit-kilo tons)		
Region	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Central Federal District	84.894	84.853
Northwestern Federal District	0.306	0.360
Southern Federal District	6.245	5.495
North Caucasus Federal District	71.163	71.532
Volga Federal District	220.458	207.440
Ural Federal district	497.809	567.786
Siberian Federal District	173.240	171.616
Total	1054.116	1109.082

71,163 tons. The Siberian Federal District includes polypropylene plants at Omsk and Tomsk, where production rose from 171,616 tons to 173,240 tons.

Amur Gas Chemical Complex-PP installation
The Amur Gas Chemical Complex has begun assembling a polypropylene production line at its site in the Russian Far East. A unit weighing 20 tons was installed on the foundation simultaneously by two cranes, synchronizing each stage. The convoy was delivered to the site as part of navigation. This year, a five-year campaign for the delivery of equipment is coming to an end, and all large-sized and heavy units for the production of polypropylene will be delivered to the project over the summer. The readiness of the Amur Gas Chemical Complex has reached 82%. For the production of polyethylene, four lines will operate here, which will provide 2.3 million tpa of different grades. The first polyethylene is planned to be produced next year.

SIBUR has developed a new grade of polypropylene for the production of corrugated pipes. The current demand of the domestic market is estimated at around 36,000 tpa. Previously, the demand of domestic manufacturers of corrugated pipes was met mainly by imports.

SIBUR is currently constructing another polypropylene plant at Tobolsk. This will be facilitated by the completion of the construction of the DGP-2 facility, which is currently being built on the territory of ZapSibNeftekhim at Tobolsk. The capacity of the new plant will be 570,000 tons of polypropylene. The launch of production is scheduled for 2027. It is expected that after reaching the design capacity, tax revenues to the regional budget will amount to about 100 billion roubles over the next decade.

Chinese Imports of PP Homo from Russia

	Jan-Jun 25	*Jan-Jun 24*
$ million	72.535	40.684
Ktons	85.014	48.111
Av $ per ton	1172.0	1182.6

Russian polypropylene trade Jan-Jun 2025

Revenues from Russian exports of polypropylene homo grade to China increased from $40.684 million in the first six months last year to $72.535 million in the same period in 2025. Russian polypropylene exports increased from 48,111 tons to 85,014 tons.

Chinese Exports of Propylene Polymers to Russia

	Jan-Jun 25	*Jan-Jun 24*
$ million	31.999	35.915
Ktons	14.788	18.104
Av $ per ton	2163.8	1983.9

Chinese exports of propylene polymers dropped to 14,788 tons in the first six months against 18,104 tons in the same period last year. Prices amounted to $2163.8 per ton in 2025, up from $1983.9 in 2024. China largely exports higher value grades of propylene polymers to Russia. South Korean exports of propylene copolymers dropped in the first six months to 11,332 tons against 22,317 tons in the same period in 2024.

South Korean Exports of Propylene Polymers to Russia

	Jan-Jun 25	*Jan-Jun 24*
Ktons	11.332	22.317
$ million	14.181	31.334
Av $ per ton	1251.5	1404.1

Russian PVC market Jan-Jun 2025

PVC emulsion imports from China into Russia increased from 29,704 tons in the first six months in 2024 to 43,676 tons in the same period in 2025. Suspension grade imports increased from 33,133 tons to 57,289 tons. Overall PVC shipments from China to Russia increased from 62,837 tons in the first six months in 2024 to 100,966 tons in the same period this year.

Chinese PVC Exports to Russia (unit-kilo tons)

	Jan-Jun 25	*Jan-Jun 24*
PVC Total	100.966	62.837
PVC S	57.289	33.133
PVC E	43.676	29.704

Overall, the production of Russian PVC amounted to 448,658 tons in the first half in 2025 against 443,798 in the same period in 2024. Production of PVC suspension grade in Siberia increased from 103,351 tons to 114,960 tons in the first six months this year. Emulsion grade PVC production dropped from 9,903 tons in January to June 2024 to 7,503 tons in the same period in 2025. Russian suspension grade PVC production has been stopped temporarily at Sterlitamak after the gas pipeline explosion at Sterlitamak on 9 August. Drones were not the cause of this accident in which up to 40 people were injured.

Russian PVC Production (unit-kilo tons)

	Jan-Jun 25	*Jan-Jun 24*
Southern	40.138	39.552
Privolzhsky (Volga)	280.222	294.111
Siberian	114.960	103.351
Total	448.658	443.798

Russian PX-PTA-PET

Russian Paraxylene Production (unit-kilo tons)		
Region	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Kirishinefteorgsintez	20.838	26.250
Ufaneftekhim	73.033	56.023
Gazprom Neft	27.784	41.810
Total	121.654	124.083

Russian PTA Production (unit-kilo tons)		
Region	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Volga Federal District	173.496	178.933
Total	173.496	178.933

Russian PET Production by Region (unit-kilo tons)		
Region	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Central Federal District	105.570	101.728
Northwestern Federal District	125.433	109.260
Volga Federal District	103.091	110.089
Total	334.093	321.077

Russian PX-PTA-PET production Jan-Jun 2025

Russian paraxylene production amounted to 121,654 tons in the first six months of 2025 against 124,083 tons in the same period in 2024. Gazprom Neft at Omsk reduced production from 41,810 tons to 27,784 tons whilst Ufaneftekhim increased production from 56,023 tons to 73,033 tons.

PTA production at Polief amounted to 173,496 tons in the first half of 2025 against 178,933 tons in the same period last year.

Russian PET production Jan-Jun 2025

Ekopet produced 125,433 tons of PET in the first half of 2025 against 109,260 tons in the same period in 2024, whilst the combined plants of Senezh and SIBUR-PETF produced 105,570 tons versus 101,728 tons. Polief reduced PET production in the first half in 2025 to 103,091 tons versus 110,089 tons last year.

PET production in Russia amounted to a total of 334,093 tons in the first half in 2025 against 321,077 tons in the same period in 2024. The largest month for Russian PET production last year was in January when volumes totalled 56,423 tons and the smallest in February at 48,213 tons. The volume of Russian PET consumption in 2024 was estimated at 868,000 tons against 882,000 tons in 2023. From the total consumption recycled PET accounted for around 20%, amounting to 219,000 tons in 2024.

Russian PTA Imports from China			
	Jan-Jun 25	***Jan-Jun 24***	***Jan-Jun 23***
Ktons	162.945	143.302	133.010
$ mil	100.786	109.129	105.570
Av $ per ton	618.5	761.5	793.7

Russian PTA-MEG imports Jan-Jun 2025

Russian PTA imports from China amounted to 162,945 tons in the first six months in 2025 versus 143,302 tons in the same period in 2024 and 133,010 tons in 2023. Nearly all of the PTA imports from China were shipped to Ekopet at Kaliningrad by rail. PTA import prices averaged $618.5 in the first six months which was down from $761.5 in January to June 2024. Values of PTA imports amounted to $100.786 million against $109.129 million in the first six months in 2024.

Russia imported 38,780 tons of MEG from China in the first six months against 46,698 tons in the same period in 2024. Ethylene glycol production in Russia fell in the first half of 2025 to 159,280 tons against 253,480 tons in the same period in 2024. Nizhnekamskneftekhim sent 2,100 tons on 8 August to the Amur Gas Chemical Complex which is under construction in the Russian Far East.

This product is used in cooling systems for pumps and motors, as well as for heating equipment and pipeline in winter. Nizhnekamskneftekhim produces 120-150,000 tpa of high-quality ethylene glycol, which is the second largest production site in Russia after SIBUR-Neftekhim in the Nizhny Novgorod Region.

Russian PET Imports from China (unit-kilo tons)			
	Jan-Jun 25	***Jan-Jun 24***	***Jan-Jun 23***
Ktons	133.141	134.453	140.696
€mil	106.046	119.587	100.153
Av $ per ton	796.5	889.4	711.8

Russian PET imports Jan-Jun 2025

Chinese shipments of PET to Russia amounted to 133,141 tons in the first six months in 2025 against 134,453 tons in the same period in 2024. Costs of Chinese PET import shipments into Russia dropped from $119.587 million to $106.046 million, which meant that average prices fell from $889.4 per ton to $796.5 per ton. Besides some small volumes from Belarus, China is almost the only source of PET imports into Russia.

Synthetic rubber

Russian Synthetic Rubber Production by Region (unit-kilo tons)		
Region	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Central Federal District	118.466	108.862
Northwestern Federal District	0.430	0.952
Volga Federal District	570.274	507.949
Siberian Federal District	57.856	57.235
Total	747.026	722.617

Russian synthetic rubber production Jan-Jun 2025

Synthetic rubber production in Russia amounted to 747,026 tons in January to June 2025 against 722,617 tons in the corresponding period in 2024. Production tended to stabilise over the course of 2024 and has continued into 2025 but remains lower than prior to the full-scale Russian invasion of Ukraine. In reflection of the weak demand in Russia, prices for synthetic rubbers dropped by 27.7% compared to May.

Omsk Kaucuk is the sole synthetic rubber producer in the Siberian region, where production increased from 57,235 tons in January to June 2024 to 57,856 tons in the same period this year. Voronezhsintezkaucuk is the main producer of synthetic rubber in the Central Federal District of Russia, where volumes increased from 108,862 tons in the first six months in 2024 to 118,466 tons this year. Production was reduced at Voronezhsintezkaucuk in the early part this year due to the side-effects of drone attacks In late 2024.

The Volga region accounted for 570,274 tons of Russian synthetic rubber production in the first half of 2025 against 507,949 tons in the same period in 2024. This region provides the main basis for synthetic rubber production in Russia and includes producers Nizhnekamskneftekhim, Togliattikaucuk, and Sterlitamak Petrochemical Plant.

Synthetic Rubber Production in Volga Region (unit-kilo tons)		
Product	***Q1 25***	***Q2 25***
Butadiene Rubber	51.398	49.566
Butadiene Methylstyrene Rubber	38.721	27.482
EPDM	0.649	1.022
Butyl Rubber	40.813	35.652
Halogenated Butyl Rubber	24.290	25.977
Isoprene Rubber	81.773	62.009

For the second quarter most synthetic rubber grades in the Volga region showed a decline in production, largely due to lower domestic demand. Only production of halogenated butyl rubber recorded a minor increase in the second quarter of 25,977 tons against 24,290 tons in the first quarter, whilst the largest fall was recorded for butadiene methylstyrene with production falling to 38,721 tons against 27,482 tons.

Russian Tyre Production (unit-kilo tons)		
Product	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Car Tyres	128.8	144.5
Lorry tyres	10.1	24.0
Agricultural tyres	4.2	4.0
Other	31.6	27.2
Total	174.7	199.7

Russian synthetic rubber market Jan-Jun 2025

Although Russian synthetic rubber production increased in the first six months this year, tyre producers reduced rubber consumption from 199,700 tons in January to June 2024 to 174,700 tons in 2025. SIBUR seeks to increase its share in the export markets of synthetic rubber due to a decrease in demand in Russia. Production plans were adjusted due to lower demand among tyre manufacturers and in the rubber products industry.

The production of passenger tyres in Russia in 2024 increased by around 20% due to the launch of factories that were idle after the change of owners. At the same time the imports from China increased by 25%, to 25 million tyres. However, the market has now moved on where domestic demand is falling and creating more interest in rubber producers to export. Shipments of synthetic rubber through the Far East ports increased significantly in the first half of 2025.

In the truck market major producer Kamaz recorded a net loss of 20.8 billion roubles in the first half of 2025. The company's revenue for this period also decreased by 18.4%, amounting to 127.6 billion roubles. Due to a rather rapid market decline in demand for trucks the company's financial performance deteriorated significantly. The loss from sales increased from 697.2 million roubles in the first half of 2024 to 9.4 billion roubles in January to June 2025.

Synthetic rubber production by category Jan-Jun 2025

Isoprene rubber was the largest category of synthetic rubber production in Russia in the first six months amounting to 143,782 tons against 119,077 tons in the same period last year. Niznekamskneftekhim is the largest producer, followed by Togliattikaucuk and the smallest producer Sterlitamak Petrochemical Combine. The Sterlitamak Petrochemical Plant wants to increase the production of neodymium polyisoprene from the current 28,000 tpa to 96,000 tpa. This increase will take place in several steps, rising to 40,000 tpa in the first stage.

Russian Synthetic Rubber Production by Category		
Product	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Butadiene Rubber	133.323	128.114
Isoprene Rubber	143.782	119.077
SBR SKS-SKMS	116.889	116.669
Rubber from olefins	127.724	127.445
NPR	24.714	25.352
EPDM	0.984	1.844
Butyl Rubber	76.465	67.823
HBR	50.267	56.010
SBR	65.031	74.813
Others	7.107	4.610
Total	747.026	722.617

Isoprene rubber was followed by butadiene rubber where production amounted to 93,801 tons in the first six months against 94,195 tons in January to June 2024. The production of butadiene methylstyrene rubber rose fractionally in the first six months last year from 116,669 tons to 116,889 tons whilst butyl rubber production increased from 67,823 tons to 76,465 tons. The highest value rubber sold by Russia is halogenated butyl rubber where production dropped from 56,010 tons in the first six months last year to 50,267 tons.

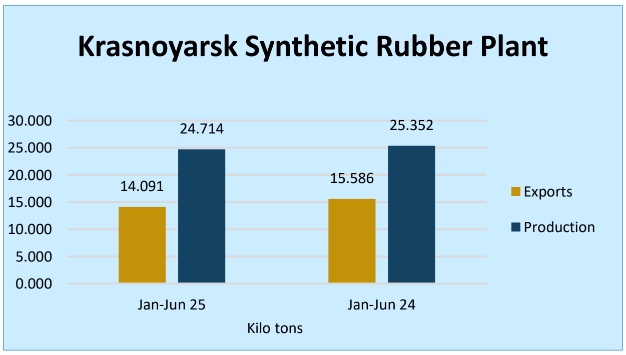
Russian Chinese rubber trade Jan-Jun 2025

Russian export revenues from synthetic rubber shipments to China totalled $582.536 million in January to June 2025 against $452.693 million in the same period in 2024. By volume Russian shipments of synthetic rubber to China amounted to 373,549 tons in the first six months in 2025, which was up from 278,933 tons in the same period in 2024. Butadiene rubber exports represented the largest category, rising from 63,785 tons in the first six months in 2024 to 78,474 tons. Exports of thermoplastic elastomers increased sharply from 32,501 tons to 66,178 tons. Isoprene rubber exports rose from 32,501 tons to 65,731 tons. Butyl rubber exports increased to 58,242 tons from 68,670 tons in January to June 2024.

Chinese Imports of Synthetic Rubber from Russia (unit-kilo tons)		
Product	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
SBRs	66.178	32.501
Butadiene Rubber	78.474	63.785
Butyl Rubber	68.670	58.242
HBR	36.661	50.849
NBR	14.091	17.615
Isoprene Rubber	65.731	32.501
Others	43.745	23.441
Total	373.549	278.933
Av $ per ton	1546.2	1622.9

Expansion at Krasnoyarsk Synthetic Rubber Plant

In Krasnoyarsk, the production of rubber will be increased. The first stage of modernization of equipment for the production of nitrile butadiene rubber (BNKS) has been completed at KZSK. Modernization will make it possible to receive an additional 3,500 tpa of raw materials for the production of rubber products. At the second stage, its production will be increased by another 2,500 tpa. In general, after the completion of all work, the rubber plant will be able to produce 53,500 tpa of nitrile butadiene rubber.



NPR is used in the automotive industry, mechanical engineering, aircraft construction, in the production of machine tools and equipment, household goods; Latex is used in the production of examination and medical gloves. The Krasnoyarsk Synthetic Rubber Plant (KZSK, part of SIBUR) is the only producer of nitrile butadiene rubbers (NPR) and nitrile butadiene latex in Russia. Until 2022, the plant supplied 40% of its products to Europe and 10% to America. The remaining half was dispersed to Russia, China and the CIS. Against the backdrop of EU sanctions China is now the major export destination for NPR exports.

Methanol

Russian Methanol Production (unit-kilo tons)		
Region	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Central Federal District	546.551	594.654
Northwestern Federal District	56.293	52.199
North Caucasus Federal District	51.542	56.080
Volga Federal District	958.234	825.113
Ural federal district	53.566	33.741
Siberian Federal District	390.733	357.479
Total	2056.918	1919.265

Russian methanol production Jan-Jun 2025

Russia produced 2.057 million tons of methanol in the first half in 2025 against 1.919 million tons in the same period in 2024. Production amounted to 320,126 tons in June this year, which was the lowest monthly volume so far.

The Volga region, including Metafrax Chemicals, Tomet and Ammoni, increased total production from 825,113 tons to 958,234 tons in the same period in 2025. The Siberian Federal District (including Gazprom Methanol and Angarsk Petrochemical) increased production from 357,479 tons to 390,733 tons. The Central region, which includes Shchekinoazot and Azot at Novomoskovsk, reduced production from 594,654 tons to 546,551 tons. The Novomoskovsk plant has been idle since last year and is unlikely to restart.

Drone attack on Shchekinoazot 17 July 2025

Shchekinoazot was struck by at least four drones on 17 July which brought production at the whole complex to a standstill. One of the distillation columns caught fire on the spot, which led to depressurization and the spread of flames. Critical facilities were also affected the high-pressure steam pipeline, which supplies superheated steam from the CHPP to the process units, and the roof of the furnace on the methanol production line.

Despite the evident consequences of the strike, Russian officials are trying to minimize the incident. The governor of the Tula region admitted only the fall of UAV debris on the territory of one of the enterprises, without naming the object. Shchekinoazot is currently constructing a new complex for the production of ammonia and urea with a capacity of 525,000 tpa and 700,000 tpa.

If there is an impact on methanol production, it will probably only be known after the monthly data is published. As a major supplier to both export and domestic markets there would be effects from Shchekinoazot having to stop production even for a short while.

The attack on Shchekinoazot is aimed more at the fertiliser division than methanol. However, methanol can be used in the military for the production and use of rocket fuel and fuel additives for aviation, UAVs and mobile generators; the operation of fuel cells to power portable radio stations, reconnaissance equipment and other military electronics; etc.

Drone attack on Azot at Nevinnomyssk 25 July 2025

Azot at Nevinnomyssk was attacked by drones on 25 July, reported to be extremely large by the local Mayor leading to some facilities being forced to stop production.

Damage was already impacted after the first attack took place on 14 June, and the second attack appears to have been more effective. The acetylene and acetaldehyde production area is known to have been affected, but it is not clear of the impact on the methanol chain.

Azot produces up to 1 million tpa of ammonia and 1.4 million tpa of ammonium nitrate used as key components for creating explosives, including artillery shells, high-explosive bombs, and rocket propellants. The plant also produces melamine, methanol, acetic acid, and potassium nitrate all of which could be classified as dual-use substances widely used in military chemistry. Since 2024, Azot has launched the production of water-soluble fertilisers adapted to the needs of the defence complex.

Russian Methanol Exports by Producer (unit-kilo tons)		
Producer	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Azot Nevinnomyssk	4.080	6.349
Azot Novomoskovsk	0.000	46.250
Metafrax Chemicals	225.330	119.125
Gazprom Methanol	201.321	158.175
Tomet	129.977	92.749
Shchekinoazot	279.740	242.352
Total	840.448	665.000

Russian methanol exports Jan-Jun 2025

Russian methanol exports amounted to 840,448 tons in January to June 2025 versus 665,000 tons in the same period in 2024. Shchekinoazot increased exports from 242,352 tons to 279,740 tons, whilst Metafrax Chemicals increased shipments from 119,125 tons to 225,330 tons. Tomet at Togliatti increased exports from 92,749 tons to 129,977 tons in January to June 2025. Gazprom

Methanol increased exports to 201,321 tons from 158,175 tons last year. Azot at Novomoskovsk stopped exporting after August last year due to vulnerability of the Kavkaz port to drone attacks.

Russian Methanol Exports to China (unit-kilo tons)		
Porter	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Metafrax Chemicals	159.14	95.524
Gazprom Methanol	51.229	158.047
Tomet	36.182	62.149
Shchekinoazot	186.743	147.07
Total	433.294	462.79

Russian exports to China amounted to 433,294 tons in the first six months in 2025 against 462,790 tons in the same period in 2024. Export prices to China increased from $280.4 per ton to $306.8 this year. Overall price fluctuations for shipments to China have been modest since the start of 2023, but the costs of logistics have risen and thus margins for Chinese shipments have become tighter.

Export volumes to Turkey increased from 97,767 tons in the first six months last year to 168,807 tons this year and margins are higher for shipments to the Turkish market rather than for China. A new destination in 2025 consisted of Brazil where shipments amounted to 133,812 tons in the first six months. Other markets included Kazakhstan where shipments fell from 31,678 tons in the first six months in 2024 to 28,186 tons and Belarus where shipments fell from 61,835 tons to 44,601 tons.

Russian Methanol Exports by Destination (unit-kilo tons)		
Country	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Belarus	44.601	61.835
Brazil	133.812	0.000
China	431.738	462.720
Egypt	2.790	0.000
Kazakhstan	28.186	31.678
Kyrgyzstan	0.956	0.000
UAE	29.428	11.010
Turkey	168.807	97.767
Total	840.318	665.009

Exporting companies have been forced to reorient themselves to new markets with lower margins, face an increase in the cost of export logistics and the turnover period of railway tanks. Whilst export shipments to China have been slightly lower in the first half in 2025, increased sales have been made to Turkey and at the same time Brazil has emerged as a destination for Russian methanol.

Russian Methanol Domestic Sales (unit-kilo tons)		
Producer	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Azot Nevinnomyssk	7.444	5.191
Azot Novomoskovsk	0.000	13.522
Metafrax Chemicals	229.562	243.945
Gazprom Methanol	157.079	175.481
Tomet	142.863	136.813
Shchekinoazot	175.331	184.958
Ammoni (Mendeleevsk)	6.294	16.852
Total	718.573	776.762

Russian methanol domestic sales, Jan-Jun 2025

Whilst exports have increased this year domestic merchant sales of methanol dropped in the first half in 2025 to 718,573 tons against 776,762 tons in the same period in 2024. Metafrax Chemicals reduced domestic merchant sales to 229,562 tons against 243,945 tons last year. In the first half in 2025 Gazprom Methanol at Tomsk reduced domestic merchant sales to 157,079 tons measured against 175,481 tons in the first six months last year.

Russian Formaldehyde Production (unit-kilo tons)		
Producer	***Jan-Jun 24***	***Jan-Jun 23***
Pigment	19.815	20.297
Shchekinoazot	18.845	18.066
Akron	85.707	81.042
Metafrax	173.991	187.841
Sverdlov Plant	0.009	0.021
Khimsintez	18.343	29.514
Uralkhimplast	23.463	26.455
Nizhnekamskneftekhim	61.967	78.773
Metadynea	10.997	19.841
Total	413.136	461.849

Domestic merchant sales reflect the general economic climate, and thus the increase in production has been fuelled by higher export activity. Profitability is much reduced since the ban on European trade and thus producers continue to face a number of internal and external challenges.

For the domestic market formaldehyde remains the most important derivative. Production fell from 461,849 tons in the first six months last year to 413,136 tons in the same period in 2025. The largest producer Metafrax Chemicals reduced production from 187,841 tons to 173,991 tons.

Organic chemicals

Russian N-Butanol Production (unit-kilo tons)		
Region	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
North Caucasus Federal District	5.762	7.306
Volga Federal District	58.183	50.392
Siberian Federal District	9.135	15.390
Total	73.081	73.088

Russian butanol production Jan-Jun 2025

Russian normal butanol production increased from 44,179 tons in January to June 2024 to 51,358 tons in the same period in 2025. The Volga region, which includes SIBUR-Khimprom, increased production from 50,932 tons to 58,163 tons.

Russian Acetic Acid Production (unit-kilo tons)		
Producer	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Azot Nevinnomyssk	72.519	78.564
Volga region	24.898	21.819
Others	1.463	1.811
Total	98.881	102.194

Russian solvent production Jan-Jun 2025

Russian acetic acid production amounted to 98,881 tons in January to June 2025 against 102,194 tons in 2024. The largest and most important producer in Russia, Azot at Nevinnomyssk, reduced production from 78,564 tons to 72,519 tons. Production dropped in June, but it is not clear if this was due to a forced stoppage from the drone attack on 14 June or due to maintenance.

Aside using acetic acid for the production of butyl acetate and methyl acetate Azot supplies merchant acetic to the Russian domestic market. The two largest customers include Polief which purchases acetic acid for PTA and Stavrolen which uses acetic acid in the production of vinyl acetate monomer (VAM).

Russian Isopropanol Production (unit-kilo tons)		
Producer	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Plant of Synthetic Alcohol	15.181	13.194
Omsk Kaucuk	11.563	22.217
Total	26.745	35.412

Isopropanol production in Russia amounted to 26,745 tons in January to June 2025 against 35,412 tons in the same period in 2024. Omsk Kaucuk reduced production from 22,217 tons to 11,563 tons whilst the Plant at Synthetic Alcohol at Orsk increased production from 13,194 tons to 15,181 tons. Omsk Kaucuk only started isopropanol production in 2020 and only achieved high utilisation rates in 2023. As part of the Titan Group, Omsk Kaucuk sent its first batch of 10 tons to Titan-Polymer at Pskov, which is designed to help the production process in BOPET film.

Russian Polyacrylate Production (unit-kilo tons)		
Region	***Jan-Jun 25***	***Jan-Jun 24***
Central Federal District	50.200	47.440
Volga Federal District	24.442	23.445
Total	75.924	72.911

In other product areas, Russian polyacrylate production totalled 75,924 tons in the first half in 2025, up from 72,911 tons in the same period in 2024. The largest region in Russia for the production of polyacrylates is the Central Federal District where SIBUR-Neftekhim produces at Dzerzhinsk. Currently SIBUR is the only producer of these light esters in Russia, as well as the heavy ester of 2-ethylhexyl acrylate.

Phthalic anhydride production in Russia totalled 50,263 tons in the first half in 2025 against 49,041 tons in the same period in 2024. Kamteks-Khimprom at Perm is the largest producer followed by Gazprom neftekhim Salavat, and together these two plants produced 75,446 tons in 2024. Kamteks-Khimprom produces phthalic anhydride and dioctyl phthalate, as well as fumaric and benzoic acids. The company's revenue increased from 5.6 billion roubles in 2023 to 6 billion roubles in 2024, but the net profit decreased from 690.7 million roubles to 503 million roubles.

Maleic anhydride production in Russia totalled 22,107 tons in the first half in 2025, against 20,305 tons in the same period last year. Consumption of maleic anhydride in the Russian market in 2024 in amounted to 11,200 tons against 11,000 tons in the previous year. The market has been helped by the start-up of the plant at Tobolsk in 2022, which was constructed using Italian technology.

Russian isocyanate market

South Korean Exports of TDI to Russia		
	Jan-Jun 25	*Jan-Jun 24*
Ktons	6.698	11.434
$ million	11.940	22.398
Av Price $/ton	1782.7	1958.9

TDI imports into Russia Jan-Jun 2025
TDI imports into Russia from South Korea amounted to 6,698 tons in the first six months against 11,434 tons in the same period last year. Prices dropped from $1958.9 per ton in January to June 2024 to $1782.7 per ton in 2025.

Chinese Exports of TDI to Russia		
	Jan-Jun 25	*Jan-Jun 24*
Ktons	9.268	16.819
$ million	17.732	34.462
Av Price $/ton	1913.3	2048.9

TDI imports from China into Russia dropped in the first six months to 9,268 tons versus 16,819 tons in the same period in 2024, with average prices dropping to $2048.9 per ton from $1913.3 per ton.

Chinese Exports of Polyols to Russia		
	Jan-Jun 25	*Jan-Jun 24*
Ktons	52.235	74.733
$ million	68.565	105.361
Av Price $/ton	1312.6	1409.8

Polyol exports from China to Russia dropped in the first six months last year from $105.361 million to $68.565 million. By volume exports dropped from 74,733 tons to 52,235 tons.

Chinese Exports of MDI to Russia		
	Jan-Jun 25	*Jan-Jun 24*
Ktons	42.599	42.061
$ million	85.996	84.806
Av Price $/ton	2018.7	2016.2

Chinese MDI shipments to Russia Jan-Jun 2025
Imports of MDI from China amounted to 42,599 tons in the first six months in 2025 against 42,061 tons in the same period in 2024. Costs of imports increased from $84.806 million to $85.996 million. Average prices increased from $2016.2 per ton to $2018.7 per ton. In addition to MDI imports into Russia from China, Russia imported 2,845 tons in the first six months from South Korea.

More than 65% of all polyurethanes in Russia are consumed by three industries: mechanical engineering (23%), furniture manufacturing (24%) and the construction industry (19%). Russia consumes a lot of polyurethane foam, but the production of the raw material base is still a weak link.

EU sanctions 18th package
The EU's eighteenth package of sanctions included TDI in any isomeric form, MDI, and isophorone diisocyanate. The EU clarified that the sanctions apply to the pure substance and any mixture containing at least 50% of one of the above-mentioned chemicals. The inclusion of the isocyanate products was not well explained, only that they may have some role in usage by the Russian military.

Neither TDI nor MDI are used directly in the production of ammunition, weaponry, etc, but do contribute significantly to the production of polyurethane protective clothing, etc. Isophorone diisocyanate (IPDI) is used in military applications primarily for its role in producing durable and protective coatings. It is used in polyurethane coatings and chemicals, making them suitable for military equipment and infrastructure exposed to harsh conditions. Other products included in the list of sanctions comprise xylidine in any isomeric form, polyether with terminal hydroxyl groups, caprolactone ether with terminal hydroxyl groups.

Russian production of isocyanates (unit-kilo tons)		
Region	*Jan-Jun 25*	*Jan-Jun 24*
Central	1.040	1.358
Volga	0.686	0.386
Others	0.126	0.003
Total	1.852	1.764

Russian isocyanate production Jan-Jun 2025
Domestic production of isocyanates remains extremely in Russia, totalling only 1,852 tons in the first half of 2025. After the introduction of EU sanctions on Western isocyanate imports, the resulting increase in the shortage of MDI forced industrialists to appeal to the Ministry of Industry and Trade with a request to speed up the organisation of production in Russia. However, all efforts to construct a plant using domestic technology have failed until now. Tatarstan has been keen to build an isocyanate plant for many years and has renewed the intention in the plan for new projects by 2030. SIBUR would be the most likely producer of isocyanates in Russia but at least for the next three years the domestic market will be import dependent.

Kazakhstan-Uzbekistan-Azerbaijan

Kazakh Exports of PP to China		
	Jan-Jun 25	*Jan-Jun 24*
Kilo tons	55.518	49.079
$ million	41.884	36.925
$ per ton	754.4	752.3

Kazakh PP exports Jan-Jun 2025

Exports of polypropylene to China from Kazakhstan amounted to 55,518 tons in the first half in 2025 against 49,079 tons in the same period in 2024. The plant, which cost $2.6 billion to build, was commissioned at the end of 2022.The company plans to produce 487,500 tons of polypropylene, whilst supplies to the domestic market.

Chinese Exports of PVC to Central Asia Jan-Jun 2025		
Country	*Kilo tons*	*$ million*
Kazakhstan	56.526	33.937
Kyrgyzstan	2.820	1.764
Tajikistan	10.022	7.351
Turkmenistan	2.610	1.594
Uzbekistan	70.148	42.626
Total	142.125	87.282

Central Asian polymer imports from China

China is the major supplier of PVC to Central Asia. The largest consumer of PVC in Central Asia is Uzbekistan, which accounts for more than half of the total consumption of PVC in Central Asia. The share of Kazakhstan is 31%.

In the first half in 2025 China exported 142,125 tons of PVC to Central Asia, including 70,148 tons to Uzbekistan and 56,526 tons to Kazakhstan. Currently the only PVC producer in Central Asia is Navoiazot in Uzbekistan. The production of suspension PVC with a capacity of 100,000 tpa was launched at the end of 2019 as part of the caustic soda and methanol production complex. Despite the capacity Navoiazot only produces around 50,000 tpa of PVC and thus and the share of imports is still high at 60-65%. Consumption in 2019 amounted to around 95,000 tons in 2019, and has risen by around 2% per annum, totalling 104,000 tons in 2024.

Chinese Exports of PET to Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan (unit-kilo tons)		
Country	*Jan-Jun 25*	*Jan-Jun 24*
Kazakhstan	61.004	34.011
Uzbekistan	116.640	77.775

PET shipments from China to Kazakhstan increased from 34,011 tons in the first half of 2024 to 61,004 tons in the same period this year whilst shipments to Uzbekistan increased from 77,775 tons to 116,640 tons.

Azerbaijan Methanol Market (unit-kilo tons)		
	Jan-Jun 25	*Jan-Jun 24*
Production	227.7	250.3
Exports	211.0	231.9
Total Revenues ($ Mil)	53.3	45.9
$ per ton	252.6	198.0

SOCAR methanol and ethylene Jan-Jun 2025

Azerbaijan produced 227,700 tons of methanol in January-June 2025, against 250,300 tons in the corresponding period in 2024. Azerbaijan exported 211,000 tons of methanol in the first six months which was down by 17.8%.

Ethylene production increased in Azerbaijan by 8% in the first half of 2025 to 81,100 tons. For the whole of 2024 ethylene production totalled 129,500 tons which was 21.8% less compared to 2023.

Anti-dumping investigation on polyolefins from Azerbaijan and Turkmenistan

The Eurasian Economic Commission, controlled by Russia, has launched anti-dumping investigations into high-density polyethylene (HDPE), polypropylene (PP) and its copolymers from Azerbaijan and Turkmenistan. These products have been sold on the markets of the Eurasian Economic Union countries below their cost on the domestic market of the supplier countries. The dumping margin for polyethylene from Azerbaijan was 19.9%, and for polypropylene 33.85%.

Both Azerbaijan and Turkmenistan have increased sales to the Russian market in the past two years, often under-cutting Russian suppliers. Western sanctions have provided the opportunity for other countries to sell inside the Russian market although relatively the volumes are insignificant. Both Azerbaijan and Turkmenistan do not have a unique brand range of polymers, and thus they only provide alternative sources to those products available in Russia.

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