GIRACT
Geneva, Switzerland

WHEY BOOK 2025

Global Market for Whey and Lactose Ingredients 2025-2030

The new WHEY BOOK 2025 from GIRACT will present a comprehensive analysis of the global whey and lactose ingredients market. The report will cover whey and lactose ingredients production, trade, demand, new product launches, major company profiles, investments, mergers & acquisitions, strategic alliances, and outlook to 2030 globally and per region to provide the reader an overview of this dynamic and growing market.

The trend for adding value to liquid whey streams has developed further in the past few years and become even more apparent among major players in the whey and lactose ingredients space, underlined by a considerable number of key supplying companies investing in additional production capacity for high-end whey protein and lactose products as well as adding additional value to existing high-end products by improving nutritional and functional properties further. The value-adding trend within the whey and lactose ingredients market is likewise highlighted by production of high-end whey protein products, i.e. WPC80 and WPI, showing significant growth, whereas growth in the production of low-end commodities has been relatively weak by comparison.

The trend for increased production of high-value ingredients is most apparent in developed regions, namely Western Europe, the USA and Oceania, where significant growth is witnessed within key application sectors such as sports nutrition, infant formula, clinical nutrition, and functional foods. The US is forecast to be the primary driving force of production growth for value added whey protein ingredients like WPC 80 and WPI in absolute terms; however, significant production growth is seen in Europe. In more developing regions, production of low-end whey products is showing relatively strong growth with smaller players capitalizing on available liquid whey streams, producing whey and lactose ingredients that do not require advanced processing technology or large capital investments.

EU and North America account for the larger part of whey and lactose ingredient production. These regions are likewise the major markets; however, Asia is fast becoming a key market for many of these products, already surpassing North America as the major market for permeate powder with large potential for growth. Asia including China is predicted to be the most dynamic region in terms of demand growth over the forecast period 2021 – 2026; China will remain the main export destination for whey and lactose ingredients, with the EU and the USA being the key global suppliers.

Whey and lactose ingredients are generally outpacing the overall food and food ingredients market in terms of volume growth, and supply from the whey and lactose ingredients industry is predicted to be able to keep up with growing demand over the forecast period. This assertion is supported by large investments in cheese and subsequent whey and lactose processing capacity and technology over the review period, as well as increasing utilization rates of raw materials.

The major players in the whey and lactose ingredient industry are the leading dairy- and cheese companies in the world such as Lactalis, FrieslandCampina, Fonterra, Arla Foods, Saputo, Glanbia, DMK/Wheyco, Leprino, Agropur/Davisco, Sachsenmilch, Savencia/Armor Proteines, Sodiaal/Euroserum and Hilmar. Specialist whey and lactose ingredient companies such as Milk Specialties Global, Meggle, Milei, Volac, Carbery, and Dairygold also play an important role in the global marketplace. The world's two largest dairy companies – Nestlé and Danone – are rarely actual producers; however, they are major end-users of whey and lactose ingredients.

Many FMCG companies have expanded their product portfolios to include new product ranges with added protein, a top trend for several years, and now with whey proteins being the preferred ingredient for protein fortification by many. The trend for natural ingredients and clean labels has a positive impact on the market for whey and lactose ingredients with increasing demand for organic products, and with organic whey and lactose ingredients now available on the market.

Objective and Scope

The primary objective of this report is to provide an overview of the historical, current and expected future global and regional market for whey and lactose products based on a comprehensive assessment and characterisation of production, utilisation, demand, product development trends, pricing, import/export issues and industry/company developments.

The areas covered in this report are:

- Global and regional market size volumes for whey and lactose ingredients 2025 – 2030
- Detailed regional and world trade flows
- Key companies and strategic investments
- Current applications and end-use segments
- New product launches
- Market outlook 2025 – 2030
- Industry mergers and acquisitions including strategic alliances

The geographical scope and focus of the report is the total global whey and lactose market, together with seven individual regional markets:

- Europe (EU27+UK+CH+NO)
- North America: USA and Canada
- Oceania: Australia and New Zealand
- Latin America: Central and South American countries
- Eastern Europe (Ukraine, Russia, Belarus) – due to the current circumstances the CIS regions would be covered in less detail in this edition
- Asia: assessed as the major economies in the Asian region
- MEA: assessed as all major non-Asian, non-European mainland countries plus major African countries

The product scope and focus of this report is on the following whey and lactose products:

- Whey powder
- Demineralised whey powder
- Delactosed whey powder
- Whey protein concentrates
- Whey protein isolate
- Whey protein hydrolysates
- Lactose
- Permeate powder
- Selection of emerging ingredients such as native whey, lactoferrin, MFGM, organics, phospholipids, osteopontin, HMO etc.

In order to offer an overview as representative as possible, different sources will provide the basis for this report. Because very few official statistics are available in relation to many of these products, a wide range of information will be gathered, analysed, and integrated into a coherent document, facilitating what can be defined as a best estimate.

For the purpose of the trade analysis, whey and lactose products will have to be combined, essentially WP/DWP/WPC/Permeate, WPC80/WPI and Lactose. The statistical trade data gathered within these three categories will be collected from several trade databases by using the product HS codes 040410 for WP/DWP/WPC/Permeate, HS 350220 for WPC80/WPI and HS 170211 and HS 170219 for Lactose.

The **Whey Book 2025 – The Global Market for Whey and Lactose Ingredients 2025 – 2030** is the best overview of global production, supply and demand, trade and utilisation of dairy ingredient products such as WP, DWP, WPC, WPI, WPH, lactose, permeate powder and the above-mentioned emerging fractions/ingredients.

Time frame

2025 – 2030

Subscription

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2025-2030

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