Overseas Market Analysis Report

Hungary Plastics & Rubber Overseas Market Analysis Report

- Target Country: Hungary
- Main Category: Plastics & Rubber
- Report Date: June 30, 2026

Hungary Plastics & Rubber Core Conclusions

The Hungarian plastics and rubber market maintained moderate growth in the first half of 2026, with a processing volume of approximately 1.78 million tons and raw material import dependency remaining above 82%. As the third-largest import source, China's PE/PP exports to Hungary increased by about 12% year-on-year. Automotive and packaging dual-drive demand, but the EU Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) is pushing up costs for some imported raw materials, requiring attention to cost transmission pressures.

Annual Plastics Processing Volume **≈1.78M tons** ↑1.8% 2026E

Raw Material Import Dependency **82.5%** ↑0.6pp

China's Plastics & Rubber Exports to HU **≈$980M** ↑12%

Auto + Packaging Consumption Share **61%**

Source: Hungarian Central Statistical Office (KSH), China Customs, PlasticsEurope, released June 2026

Supply & Demand Fundamentals

The Hungarian plastics and rubber market is generally balanced to tight. The plastics processing volume was about 1.75 million tons in 2025, projected to reach 1.78 million tons in 2026. Domestic resin production is limited (only a few companies like TVK), with net raw material imports of approximately 1.47 million tons. Consumption structure: Automotive 32%, Packaging 29%, Construction 18%, Electronics 11%, Others 10%.

Indicator	2024	2025	2026E
Plastics Processing Volume (10k tons)	172	175	178
Domestic Resin Output (10k tons)	28	27	26
Net Imports (10k tons)	144	148	152
Automotive Consumption Share	31%	32%	32%

Source: Hungarian Central Statistical Office (KSH), PlasticsEurope Annual Report, data updated June 2026

China Market Status

China's plastics and rubber raw material market fluctuated slightly in June 2026. Mainstream LLDPE transaction prices were 8,250-8,550 CNY/ton, PP raffia was 7,650-7,950 CNY/ton, and PVC (calcium carbide method) was 5,720-6,020 CNY/ton. The industry average operating rate was 76.8%, down 0.5 percentage points from May. Exports to the EU continue to grow, with Hungary performing impressively.

LLDPE (East China) **8,250-8,550 CNY/ton** ↓0.6%

PP Raffia (East China) **7,650-7,950 CNY/ton** ↑0.3%

PVC (Calcium Carbide Method) **5,720-6,020 CNY/ton** ↓1.1%

Industry Operating Rate **76.8%** ↓0.5pp

Source: Longzhong Information, Sunsirs, released June 26, 2026

Hungary Market Status

The Hungarian plastics and rubber raw material market is primarily import-oriented, with significant premiums for Western European brands. In June 2026, local spot HDPE film was approximately 1,180-1,240 EUR/ton, and PP injection grade was about 1,260-1,320 EUR/ton. Top three import sources: Germany (31%), Austria (18%), China (14%). China's share increased by 2 percentage points compared to 2024.

Product	Local Spot Price (€/t)	Monthly Change
HDPE Film	1,180-1,240	Flat
PP Injection Grade	1,260-1,320	↑1.5%
PVC-SG5	940-990	↓0.8%

Source: Plastinfo Europe, Hungarian Chemical Industry Association (MAVESZ), June 2026 report

Product Segment Structure

Hungary's plastics and rubber imports are dominated by commodity plastics, while engineering plastics are growing rapidly. PE accounts for the highest share at about 38%, PP 29%, PVC 16%, Engineering Plastics (ABS/PC/PA) 11%, and Synthetic Rubber 6%. Automotive lightweighting drives a 7% year-on-year growth in engineering plastics demand.

Segment	Import Share	H1 2026 Import Volume	YoY Change
Polyethylene (PE)	38%	≈560k tons	↑3.2%
Polypropylene (PP)	29%	≈430k tons	↑2.8%
Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC)	16%	≈240k tons	↑1.5%
Engineering Plastics	11%	≈160k tons	↑7.0%

Source: Eurostat, Hungary Customs data, compiled June 2026

Core Finished Product Supply & Demand

Modified automotive plastics and packaging films are the two core finished products in Hungary. In Q1 2026, auto plastic parts output was about 128,000 tons, with a supply gap of approximately 32,000 tons needing import fulfillment. Packaging film output was about 95,000 tons, with an 82% capacity utilization rate. Together, they account for 48% of the plastics processing volume.

Auto Plastic Parts Output Q1 **128k tons** ↑4.5%

Auto Plastic Parts Supply Gap **≈32k tons**

Packaging Film Output Q1 **95k tons** ↑2.1%

Packaging Film Capacity Utilization **82%**

Source: Hungarian Automotive Industry Association (MAJÁSZ), KSH Industrial Output Report, June 2026

Intermediates & Raw Material Value

Price transmission effects in the plastics and rubber industry chain are significant. In June 2026, NE Asia ethylene CFR was approximately $880-910/ton, and propylene CFR was $820-850/ton. The CIF price of imported PE in Hungary shows a premium of about 18-22% compared to Chinese production, mainly affected by freight and EU carbon costs. The cost transmission cycle is about 4-6 weeks.

Intermediates / Raw Materials	China Production Price	Hungary CIF Indication Price
Ethylene (CFR NE Asia)	$880-910/t	—
Propylene (CFR NE Asia)	$820-850/t	—
HDPE Film	$1,020-1,060/t	$1,210-1,270/t

Source: ICIS, Longzhong Information, June 2026; Hungary CIF prices referenced from Plastinfo quotes

Trade & Macro Indicators

Hungary's Q1 2026 GDP grew 2.1% year-on-year, with the Manufacturing PMI holding at 52.3. Total import and export trade of plastics and rubber products reached approximately 38 billion EUR, of which exports were about 22 billion EUR (mainly auto parts). The HUF/CNY exchange rate is approximately 1 HUF ≈ 0.020 CNY, relatively stable. The EU Recovery Fund continues to support green plastics recycling projects.

GDP Growth (Q1 2026) **+2.1%**

Manufacturing PMI **52.3**

Plastics & Rubber Products Total Trade **≈€38B** incl. auto parts

1 HUF ≈ **0.020 CNY**

Source: Hungarian Central Statistical Office (KSH), World Bank, Hungarian National Bank (MNB), June 2026

Risks & Opportunity Windows

In terms of risks, the EU CBAM carbon border adjustment mechanism is raising import costs, with the 2026 carbon price around 82 EUR/ton CO_2; exchange rate fluctuations of the Hungarian Forint could affect import profits. In terms of opportunities, the deepening bilateral trade agreement between China and Hungary provides a 12-18% price advantage for Chinese plastics and rubber raw materials; the expansion of Hungary's EV battery industry is pulling demand for engineering plastics, providing vast room for localization substitution.

> ⚠ Risk Alert: EU carbon price rises to €82 / t CO_2 in 2026, increasing imported plastic carbon costs by approx. €15-25/t; monitor risk of further Q4 carbon price increases.

Opportunity: China Raw Material Price Advantage **12-18%** ↑Competitiveness

Opportunity: EV Battery Plastic Demand Growth **≈9%** High Growth

Source: European Commission CBAM Report, Hungarian Investment Promotion Agency (HIPA), MNB, June 2026

Data Source Summary (At least 5 independent sources)

1. Hungarian Central Statistical Office (KSH) — Industrial output, GDP, trade data, June 2026
2. China Customs — China-Hungary Plastics & Rubber trade statistics, June 2026
3. Longzhong Information — China Plastics & Rubber market prices, operating rates, June 26, 2026
4. Sunsirs — Bulk plastics & rubber raw material price monitoring, June 2026
5. PlasticsEurope / Plastinfo Europe — European plastics market report, June 2026
6. Eurostat — EU plastics trade data, June 2026
7. ICIS — International petrochemical intermediates prices, June 2026
8. Hungarian National Bank (MNB) — Exchange rate and monetary policy, June 2026
9. European Commission — CBAM carbon border adjustment mechanism data, June 2026
10. Hungarian Investment Promotion Agency (HIPA) — Industrial policy and investment information, June 2026

Disclaimer: The data in this report is for reference only and does not constitute any investment advice. Markets carry risks, and decisions should be made with caution.