Hungary Medical Raw Materials Overseas Market Analysis Report

Target Country: Hungary | Main Category: Medical Raw Materials

Report Updated: June 30, 2026

Hungary Medical Raw Materials Key Findings

As one of the largest pharmaceutical manufacturing centers in Central and Eastern Europe, Hungary's reliance on imported medical raw materials reaches as high as 65%–70%. China and India are the top two suppliers, together accounting for approximately 45%–50% of imports. Raw material prices are expected to remain generally stable in 2025–2026, but fluctuations in the HUF/USD exchange rate continue to affect import costs. The EU's supply chain diversification policy is intensifying discussions on localized substitution, which may reshape the import landscape in the medium to long term.

Import Dependency **67%** High Level

China Supply Share ~28% (Top Source Country)

HUF/USD Exchange Rate (June) ~362.5 ▲2.1%

Sources: Hungarian Central Statistical Office (KSH), General Administration of Customs of China, European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associations (EFPIA), Q4 2025–May 2026 data; some monthly data carried forward.

Supply and Demand Fundamentals

Hungary's annual demand for medical raw materials is approximately USD 850–950 million, with domestic production covering around USD 300 million; the supply gap is filled by imports. Generic drug raw materials account for 58% of total consumption, innovative drug intermediates for 22%, and pharmaceutical excipients and vitamins for 20%. Demand is driven by growing generic drug exports, with an annual growth rate of approximately 3%–4%.

Indicator	Value	YoY Change
Annual Demand	USD 880 M	+3.5%
Domestic Production	USD 290 M	+1.8%
Total Imports	USD 590 M	+4.2%
Exports (Re-exports)	USD 40 M	-2.1%

Sources: Hungarian Central Statistical Office (KSH) trade data, EFPIA annual report, full-year 2025 data; Q1 2026 estimated based on carried-forward values.

China Market Status

The overall operating rate of China's API industry in 2025 was approximately 72%–76%, with capacity utilization at a moderate level. Prices for antibiotic intermediates (6-APA, 7-ACA) rose slightly in Q2 2026, while vitamin C prices fluctuated at low levels. Exports to Hungary are mainly antibiotic intermediates and analgesic raw materials, with an export value of approximately USD 165 million in 2025.

Industry Operating Rate 74% (May 2026)

6-APA Quote (East China) 28-32 USD/kg ▲3%

Vitamin C Quote 2.6-3.0 USD/kg ▼5%

Exports to Hungary (2025) USD 165 M +6.8%

Sources: China Chamber of Commerce for Import & Export of Medicines & Health Products (CCCMHPIE), Longzhong Information, May 2026 data; vitamin C prices carried forward, no latest public data available.

Hungary Market Status

Hungary's medical raw materials market is import-driven, with an import value of approximately USD 590 million in 2025. China (28%), India (18%), Germany (14%), and Switzerland (9%) are the top four source countries. In the consumption structure, generic drug raw materials account for 58%, primarily sourced by large local pharmaceutical companies such as Richter Gedeon and Egis. The local distribution sector is relatively concentrated.

Source Country	Share	Main Categories
China	28%	Antibiotic intermediates, analgesic APIs
India	18%	Generic APIs, amino acids
Germany	14%	High-purity intermediates, excipients
Switzerland	9%	Innovative drug intermediates

Sources: Hungarian Central Statistical Office (KSH) import trade statistics, full-year 2025 data; Q1 2026 distribution carried forward.

Product Segmentation Structure

Medical raw material imports can be segmented into four major categories: antibiotic intermediates (approx. 32% share), analgesic and antipyretic APIs (approx. 22%), vitamins and amino acids (approx. 18%), and cardiovascular and CNS raw materials (approx. 15%). Dependence on China is highest for the antibiotic category, with approximately 40% sourced from Chinese suppliers. Vitamin prices are the most volatile.

Subcategory	Import Share	Price Trend
Antibiotic Intermediates	32%	Stable to slightly up
Analgesic & Antipyretic APIs	22%	Flat
Vitamins & Amino Acids	18%	Low-level fluctuation
Cardiovascular APIs	15%	Slightly up

Sources: CCCMHPIE category statistics, Hungary KSH trade segmentation data, 2025; Q1 2026 structure carried forward, no latest publicly available segmentation data.

Core Finished Product Supply and Demand

Hungary's generic drug finished products (mainly tablets and injectables) have an annual output of approximately 12 billion units, with exports accounting for about 75%. Import dependence for key raw materials such as atorvastatin calcium and paracetamol reaches 85% and 70%, respectively. Generic drug exports grew by 4.2% in Q1 2026, driving synchronous upstream raw material demand growth, with some categories experiencing tightening supply.

Annual Generic Drug Output ~12 Bn Units 75% Exported

Atorvastatin Calcium Import Dependence 85%

Paracetamol Import Dependence 70%

Generic Export Growth (Q1) +4.2% ▲

Sources: National Institute of Pharmacy and Nutrition (OGYÉI), Richter Gedeon annual report, 2025 data; Q1 2026 partially estimated based on carried-forward values.

Intermediate and Raw Material Values

Pharmaceutical intermediate prices in the China production region were generally stable in Q2 2026. The ex-works price of 6-APA in East China was approximately USD 28–32/kg, and 7-ACA was approximately USD 55–60/kg. CIF prices in Hungary carry a premium of approximately 12%–18% over China ex-works prices, mainly due to logistics, insurance, and EU import tariffs. Freight costs have declined by about 8% from their 2025 highs.

Product	China EXW Price	Hungary CIF Estimate
6-APA	28-32 USD/kg	32-37 USD/kg
7-ACA	55-60 USD/kg	63-70 USD/kg
Paracetamol	4.5-5.5 USD/kg	5.2-6.3 USD/kg

Sources: Longzhong Information, Argus Media chemical price benchmarks, May 2026 data; Hungary CIF estimates based on logistics cost modeling, carried-forward model.

Trade and Macro Indicators

Hungary's GDP growth rate for 2025 was approximately 0.8%, with the pharmaceutical industry accounting for about 6.2% of GDP. Medical raw material imports represent 34% of total pharmaceutical imports. The HUF/USD exchange rate stood at approximately 362.5 in June 2026, depreciating by about 2.1% since the beginning of the year. The EU GMP mutual recognition agreement facilitates customs clearance for imported raw materials, while the VAT rate of 27% is among the highest in the EU.

GDP Growth (2025) 0.8%

Pharma Share of GDP 6.2%

Medical Raw Material / Total Pharma Imports 34%

VAT Rate 27% EU Highest

HUF/USD (June)	362.5 ▲2.1%

Sources: World Bank, Hungarian Central Statistical Office (KSH), Hungarian National Bank (MNB), 2025 data; exchange rate updated to June 2026.

Risks and Opportunity Windows

⚠ Exchange Rate Risk: Continued forint depreciation pushes up import costs, with a 2.1% depreciation already in 2026. ⚠ Supply Chain Concentration: Over 40% dependence on China for antibiotic intermediates; geopolitical disruptions may affect supply. On the opportunity side, the EU Critical Medicines Act promotes localized production, and Hungary is well-positioned to receive funding to expand raw material capacity. Stable bilateral relations between China and Hungary provide a long-term cooperation window for Chinese suppliers.

Exchange Rate Risk	Forint depreciated 2.1% YTD
Supply Chain Concentration Risk	Antibiotic dependence on China >40%
Opportunity: EU Critical Medicines Act	Localization funding support
Opportunity: China-Hungary Bilateral Cooperation	Long-term stability

Sources: European Commission Critical Medicines Act 2025 revision, Hungarian National Bank (MNB), China Ministry of Foreign Affairs bilateral relations communiqué, 2025–2026.

Data Sources Summary

- Hungarian Central Statistical Office (KSH) — Trade & industry data, full-year 2025 & Q1 2026
- General Administration of Customs of China — API export statistics, 2025
- China Chamber of Commerce for Import & Export of Medicines & Health Products (CCCMHPIE) — Category export data, 2025
- Longzhong Information — Pharmaceutical intermediate price monitoring, May 2026
- Argus Media — Chemical & API price benchmarks, May 2026
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- National Institute of Pharmacy and Nutrition (OGYÉI) — Pharmaceutical output data, 2025
- World Bank — Hungary macroeconomic indicators, 2025
- Hungarian National Bank (MNB) — Exchange rate data, June 2026
- European Commission — Critical Medicines Act and related policy documents, 2025 revision
- Richter Gedeon Annual Report — Corporate output and market guidance, 2025