bvse market report: plastics, December 2025

1 General economy with reference to the plastics industry

The ifo business climate index has fallen, see https://www.ifo.de/fakten/2025-11-24/ifo-geschaeftsklimaindex-gesunken-november-2025. The mood among companies in Germany has deteriorated. The ifo business climate index fell to 88.1 points in November, following on from 88.4 points in October. This is due to more pessimistic expectations. However, companies assess their current situation as somewhat better. The German business sector doubts there will be a recovery soon.

The index has fallen in the manufacturing sector. In particular, expectations were subjected to a significant setback. Companies are more sceptical looking to the months ahead. Incoming orders fell slightly. By contrast, companies were slightly more satisfied with current business,

2 Primary markets - standard plastics

In November 2025, the quotes for standard plastics fell again. The market was unchanged and demand remained weak. Note: the average prices stated here are calculated by bvse e.V. based on the EUWID quotes.

Consequently, the average of the EUWID prices was 1,268 €/t and therefore 25 €/t lower than in the previous month (1,293 €/t). In a year-on-year comparison, it can be seen that the average quotes from November 2025 (1,268 €/t) were 123 €/t lower than those of the previous year (1,391 €//t). The prices of standard plastics underwent the following changes in November 2025: LDPE film at -25 €/t, LLDPE film at -25 €/t, HDPE injection moulding at -30 €/t, HDPE blow moulding -30 €/t, PS crystal -20 €/t and PS impact -20 €/t.

The current market situation for virgin grade standard plastics is portrayed well in EUWID, see www.euwid-recycling.de, and PIE – Plastic Information Europe, see www.kiweb.de/.

PET: In November 2025, The European PET market continued to be characterised by weak demand and prices falling further; North America and Asia did not recover, either. The first plant closures in Europe (Spain) underscore the tense situation with normal supply overall and continuing very weak demand. In November 2025, packaging PET was quoted on average at 995 €/t and thus 10 €/t lower than in the previous month, see PIE – Plastic Information Europewww.kiweb.de/.

3 Secondary plastics markets in the plasticker price index

The plasticker internet platform, see http://plasticker.de, publishes quotes on an hourly basis. The present market report indicates the final monthly prices. It is only possible to represent the preliminary prices for the month of the report, in this case December 2025; they will not become definitive until early January 2026. The two quotes stated for December 2025 below indicate only an interim situation, see the left-hand column in the tables.

3.1 plasticker: Standard plastics

The November price index again shows lower demand in comparison to the previous month. In November 2025, standard plastics were quoted at an average price of 588 €/t and were thus 87 €/t higher than in the previous month (501 €/t), see table. The average price for November 2025 (588 €/t) was 25 €/t higher than that of the previous year (563 €/t). There were significant price changes of greater than ±40 €/t for: HDPE regrind -40 €/t, PS regranulates +50 €/t and PET regrind mixed colours +40 €/t. Those price changes for which supply figures were too low (*) for statistical significance are not included here.

The likely average price in December 2025 (566 €/t) is thus 22 €/t lower than in the previous month (588 €/t), see table. The price index December of 15.12.2025 shows worse demand in comparison to the previous month.

Standard plastics price according to plasticker; listed in €/t.

	December[6] 25	Nov 25	Oct 25	Sept 25	Aug 25	Nov 24
HDPE regrind[1]	540	500	540	530	580	580
HDPE regranulates[5]	790	800	830	850	790	930
LDPE bale goods[2]	570*	440*	250*	280*	330*	540*
LDPE regrind[1]	300*	380*	370*	430	430*	420*
LDPE regranulates[5]	700	690	680	690	680	760
PP bale goods[3]	100*	160*	280*	340*	350*	210
PP regrind[1]	490	480	470	480	490	490
PP regranulates[5]	770	790	800	820	770	880
PS regrind[4]	760	740	720	830	930	620
PS regranulates[5]	940	940	890	920	890	800
PVC_P regrind[1]	730*	670*	480*	630*	550*	500*
PVC_U regrind[1]	450*	440	330*	560*	440*	470*
PET bale goods	440*	780*	0*	350*	380*	240*
PET regrind mixed colours	350	420	380	410	350	440
Average Price	**(566)**	**588**	**501**	**580**	**569**	**563**

*: Supply figure too low to attain statistical significance; [1]: equivalent to the grade post-industrial mixed colours; [2]: equivalent to K49; [3]: equivalent to K59; [4]: equivalent to standard mixed colours; [5]: equivalent to the grade regranulates black; [6]: preview (may be amended by additional quotes).

3.2 plasticker: Technical plastics

For November 2025, there was an average price of 1,184 €/t, which was 16 €/t higher than that of the previous month (1,168 €/t), see Table. The average price for November 2025 (1,184 €/t) was 379 €/t below that of the previous year (1,463 €/t).

There were significant price changes of greater than ±70 €/t for ABS regranulates +70 €/t, PC regrind -80 €/t, PC regranulates +160 €/t, PCB regrind -150 €/t, PA 6 regrind -90 €/t, PA 6 regranulates +170 €/t, PA 6.6 regrind -80 €/t and PA 6.6 regranulates +130 €/t. Those price changes for which supply figures were too low (*) for statistical significance are not included here. The November price index shows purchase demand slightly higher than in the previous month.

The probable average price for December 2025 is quoted at 1,056 €/t and thus 128 €/t lower than in the previous month (1,184 €/t). The price index December of 15.12.2025 shows lower demand in comparison to the previous month.

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Technical plastics price according to plasticker; listed in €/t.

	December[6] 25	Nov 25	Oct 25	Sept 25	Aug 25	Nov 24
ABS regrind	630	620	620	620	610	620
ABS regranulates[5]	1150	1240	1170	1120	1170	1250
PC regrind	880	920	1000	970	960	900
PC regranulates[5]	1670	1620	1460	1500	1800	2470
PBT regrind	470	470	620	570	570	580
PBT regranulates	1690	1640	1550*	1680	1640	2020
PA 6 regrind	610	620	710	700	700	890
PA 6 regranulates[5]	160	1630	1460	1570	1850	2350
PA 6.6 regrind	890	860	940	940	1060	110
PA 6.6 regranulates[5]	2280	2100	1970	2000	2160	2570
POM regrind	610	590	610	580	850	610*
POM regranulates[5]	1630	1900	1900	2170	2310	2200
Average Price	**(1056)**	**1184**	**1168**	**1202**	**1307**	**1463**

*: Supply figure too low to attain statistical significance; [5]equivalent to the grade “regranulates, black”; [6]: preview (may be amended by additional quotes)

4 Secondary plastics markets

Demand for secondary plastics remained subdued in November, while the existing market pressure continued unabated and there was still no political stimuli. The picture on the PET market was similar. Demand is weak, whereas affordable virgin grade and cheap imported recyclates are also increasing competitive pressure. This year, too, many recyclers will have a longer Christmas break. An excellent summary of the difficult situation for plastics recycling can be found in EUWID RE 50, 2025, p. 27.

4.1 Recycling standard plastics

The secondary raw materials market remains under strong pressure. Demand for regranulates, flakes and regrinds remains at a low level, while supply is still high. Many recycler report poor incoming orders, rising inventories and falling slightly again.

Low cost virgin grade from Europe and Asia is still aggravating the competitive pressure and making many recycled grades economically unattractive to processors. Even high-quality regranulates are hard to sell at the moment. As a reaction to the tense situation, many recyclers are curbing their production or temporarily shutting down altogether.

The tense situation can also be seen in Italy. In November, the Italian plastics recycling association, Assorimap, announced a shut-down of Italian plastics recycling facilities, see https://www.bvse.de/gut-informiert-kunststoffrecycling/nachrichten-recycling/12341-notbremse-im-kunststoffrecycling-italiens-recycler-stellen-betrieb-ein.html

Also in November, the Federal Environment Ministry introduced the draft bill to align packaging legislation with EU Regulation 2025/40 (PPWR), see https://www.bvse.de/recycling/pressemitteilungen/12421-mittelstand-in-gefahr-bvse-uebt-scharfe-kritik-am-referentenentwurf-zur-anpassung-des-verpackungsrechts.html

EUWID: In the November price index, the situation of plastics recyclers in Germany and Europe remains tense because demand for recycled materials is still weak. Reluctant purchasers, recourse to inventories and low-cost virgin grade as well as extended company holidays meant that there were hardly any transactions in November. The arithmetic average is lower for: HDPE coloured -20 €/t, HDPE natural -20 €/t, LDPE coloured -10 €/t, LDPE natural -15 €/t, LDPE film coloured (K49) -7.5 €/t, LDPE film natural (K40) -20 €/t, LDPE shrink hoods natural (E40) -22.5 €/t, LDPE shrink hoods coloured (E49) -20 €/t, PE film transparent natural < 70 µm -30 €/t, PE film transparent coloured < 70 µm -10 €/t, PE commercial mixed film (90/10) -30 €/t, PE commercial mixed film (80/20) -10 €/t, HDPE blow-moulded bodies coloured (C29) -15 €/t, PP film coloured (K59) -10 €/t and PP film natural (K50) -15 €/t.

plasticker: The price index records slightly higher purchase demand for standard plastics in November. In December, by contrast, demand was lower. In November 2025, standard plastics were quoted at an average price of 588 €/t and thus 87 €/t higher than in the previous month (501 €/t). The probable average price in December 2025 (566 €/t) is thus 22 €/t lower than in the previous month (588 €/t). The average quotes for standard plastics settled around 575 €/t.

PIE – Plastic Information Europe, regranulates: In November 2025, most standard plastic regranulates were quoted lower again. Only the prices of PE-LD films light coloured, PE-LD extrusion grades black and PE-HD blow-moulding grades remained stable. The average price falls were in the range of 5 €/t to 45 €/t. Most recyclers are still experiencing a challenging situation: high waste quotes, rising process costs, just-in-time orders, expensive warehousing and cheap virgin grade from Asia are putting them under a great deal of pressure. The weak demand will probably barely change until after the New Year, see www.kiweb.de/.

4.2 Recycling technical plastics

At the start of the Christmas season, many recycling companies have further curbed their production but could not prevent the slight falls in quotes due to weak demand and full inventories. Requests did not improve in any sector, while specialised grades also came under pressure from cheap virgin grade and processors reduced their stocks due to their inventories. In the face of continuing competitive pressure, may regranulators are planning further cut-backs in production, some of them are even planning a complete break between Christmas and New Year to keep prices stable.

plasticker: For November 2025, there was an average price of 1,184 €/t, which was 16 €/t higher than that of the previous month (1,168 €/t). The November price index shows slightly higher purchase demand, while the December price index shows lower demand in comparison to the previous month.

PIE – Plastic Information Europe, regranulates: In November 2025, too, technical plastics are quoted lower than in the previous month. Production in some recycling companies was cut back again. This did not prevent a fall in quotes given the weak demand. Commodities reported average price falls of 10 €/t to 20 €/t, see www.kiweb.de/.

4.3 PET recycling

In November, the market for used PET bottles was still under pressure. Demand for flakes and regranulates was weak while supply remained high, resulting in bigger inventories. Many recyclers reported falling purchases and price drops because processors wanted to end the year without additional stocks. In the last few weeks, recyclers have created additional capacities to provide interim storage for the surpluses.

Consequently, the trend of falling bottle prices for used PET single use deposit bottles is continuing and rose in comparison to the previous month as follows: PET transparent -45 €/t, PET mixed -40 €/t and PET coloured -20 €/t, see EUWID. Here, too, recyclers are reacting with production cut-backs or early company holidays. A ramp-up is expected in the second calendar week of 2026.

For virgin grade, in this case granulates, the average value in PIE – Plastic Information Europe is 995 €/t, which is 10 €/t below the value of the previous month. Price fall for flakes and regranulates: Regranulates are valued at 1,580 €/ on average in PIE – Plastic Information Europe. Clear, food-safe flakes are quoted at an average 1,230 €/t in PIE – Plastic Information Europe. Both prices are lower than in the previous month.

Reporting on PET markets is of central importance in EUWID and PIE – Plastic Information Europe. Detailed monthly reports on the PET prices for virgin grade, and for used beverage bottles and market assessments can be found in EUWID and PIE - Plastics Information Europe.

5 Explanation on the price quotes

A detailed discussion with information of price indices for virgin grades and waste plastics as well as precursor products can be found in EUWID Recycling und Entsorgung see www.euwid.de. EUWID: No guarantee for any of the prices here; prices ex station. As a rule, the prices quoted refer to quantities in excess of 20 tons.

The quotes for secondary prices, which are updated on an hourly basis, can be calculated using the price lists that are derived from the quotations published in the raw material exchange plasticker, see www.plasticker.de. The prices listed in this index are quoted without reservation - as the majority of the quotes submitted are not necessarily equivalent to the sales prices. Plasticker offers the quality grades regrind and regranulates both as virgin materials and as secondary goods. The term 'bale goods' refers to waste plastics only. Furthermore, plasticker does not distinguish between the following grades: transparent, mixed colours or colour-separated. Therefore, the information provided by plasticker may indicate different market behaviour than the prices quoted by EUWID

A detailed discussion with information of price indices for virgin grades and waste plastics as well as precursor products can be found in PIE – Plastics Information Europe, see www.kiweb.de. For virgin grades, the indices for standard plastics (Plastixx ST) and technical plastics (Plastixx TT) provide a good overview of the price trends. Pieweb quotes the monthly regranulates prices for standard plastics and technical plastics in the secondary markets. For secondary plastics, there are also details on PET, in this case flakes (flakes transparent, flakes mixed colours) as well as transparent regranulates.

Bonn, Tuesday, 16 December   Anna Roeb, bvse