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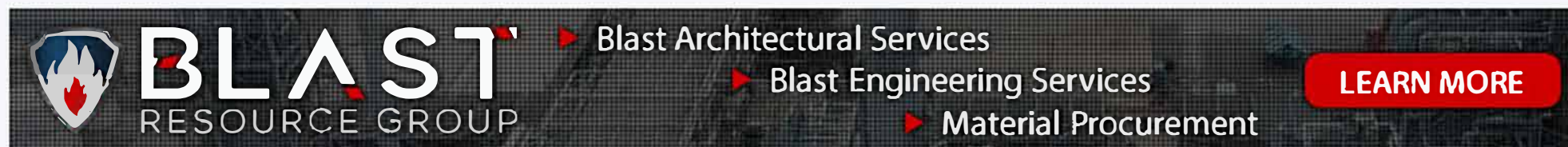
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Greater Houston Area Home to Wealth of Fourth-Quarter Project Kickoffs

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U.S. Gears Up for Fourth-Quarter Food & Beverage Project Starts

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Greater Houston Area Home to Wealth of Fourth-Quarter Project Kickoffs

The Greater Houston area in Texas is home to more than 7 million people and encompasses nine counties.

Comprising Austin, Brazoria, Chambers, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, Liberty, Montgomery and Waller counties, the area's massive petrochemical complex is supported by the Houston Ship Channel.

Greater Houston also encompasses nearly \$71 billion worth of projects in various stages of development being tracked by Industrial Info.

This includes 77 projects, worth \$5.46 billion, that are planned to kick off construction in the fourth quarter of this year. Subscribers to Industrial Info's Global Market Intelligence (GMI) Project Database can [click here](#) for a list of detailed project reports.

The graph below breaks down the 77 projects scheduled for a fourth-quarter kickoff by industry. The Power Industry leads the way with 15 projects totaling more than \$2 billion in value, followed by Chemical Processing with 34 projects worth \$1.4 billion, and Oil & Gas Production with two projects valued at \$1.3 billion.



But not all of the projects are likely to kick off as planned. In fact, paring down the kickoffs to those with a medium (70-80%) or high (81-99%) probability of moving forward as planned brings the list down to 66 projects totaling \$3 billion. The Chemical Processing Industry leads the way in the value of medium- and high-probability projects, followed by Power, then Industrial Manufacturing.

One of the leading Chemical Processing projects planned for kickoff in the fourth quarter is [Occidental Petroleum Corporation's \(NYSE:OXY\)](#) (Houston) plant technology conversion and expansion project at its Battleground Chlor-Alkali plant in La Porte. The existing plant produces 527,800 metric tons per year of chlorine and 580,000 metric tons per year of caustic soda.

Dubbed "Project Orca," the plan is to upgrade, modernize and expand existing manufacturing process equipment to increase plant capacity, and replace the facility's diaphragm-cell technology with new membrane cell technology. If all goes according to plan, the project will wrap up in third-quarter 2026. Subscribers can [click here](#) for the project report.

In the Power Industry, one of the leading projects planned for a fourth-quarter 2023 kickoff is [BlackRock Infrastructure Investment Group's](#) (New York, New York) 101.63-megawatt Saracen Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) Unit Addition in Houston. The project would use lithium-ion technology or the best available technology. Completion is planned for third-quarter 2024. Subscribers can [click here](#) for the project report.

One of the leading Industrial Manufacturing projects tentatively planned for a fourth-quarter kickoff is [Agilyx ASA's](#) (Oslo, Norway) Houston Plastic Waste Recovery Facility (Cyclyx Circularity Center). The facility would produce 330 million pounds of plastic feedstock per year to supply [Exxon Mobil Corporation \(NYSE:XOM\)](#) (Irving, Texas) and [LyondellBasell \(NYSE:LYB\)](#) (Rotterdam, Netherlands) recycling projects. The project is planned for completion in fourth-quarter 2024. [Click here](#) for the project report.

Subscribers to Industrial Info's GMI Project and Plant databases can [click here](#) for a list of all project reports mentioned in this article and [click here](#) for the related plant profiles.



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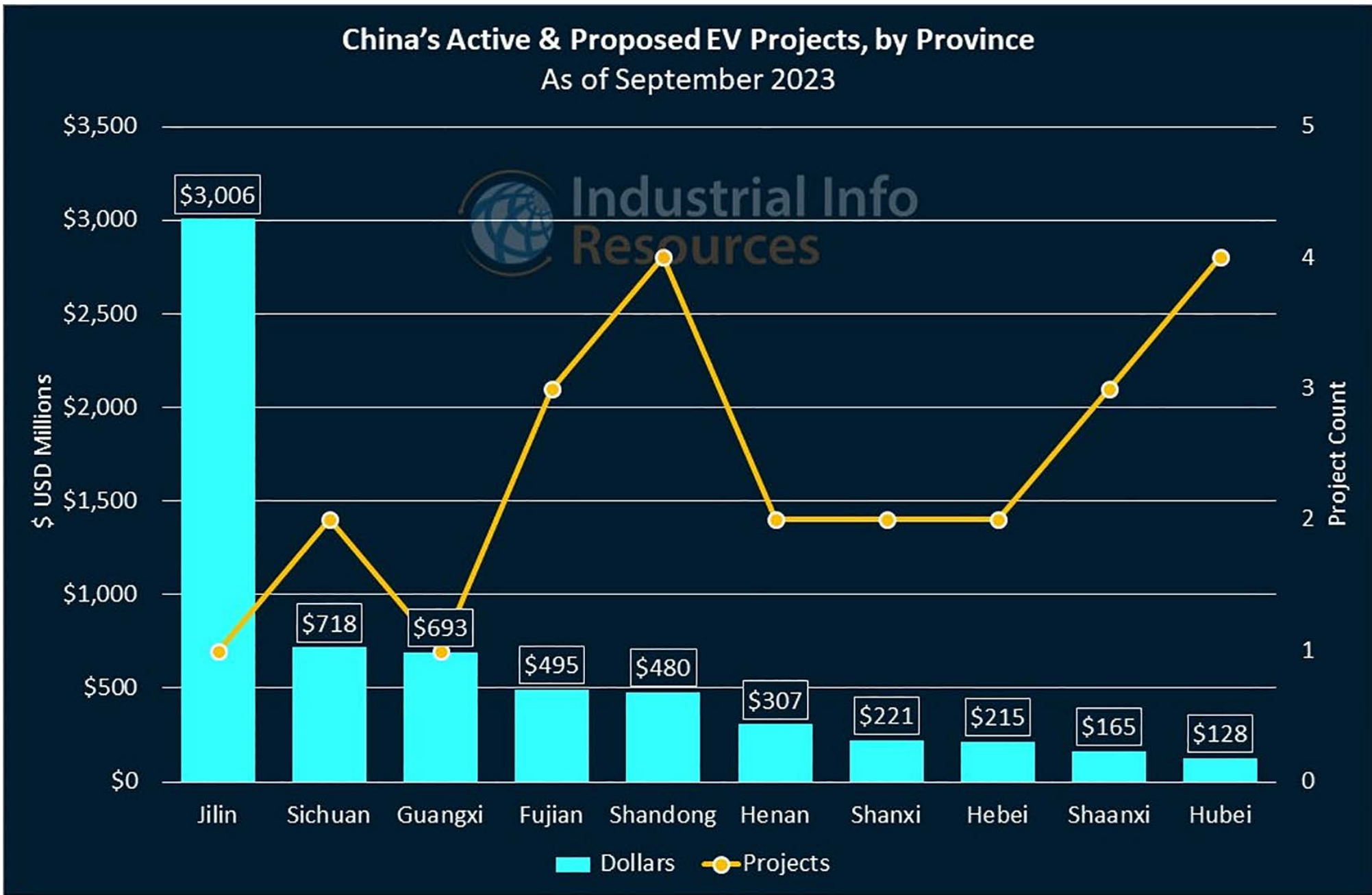
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China Revs Up EV Production, Partnerships as Market Expands

By any measurement, China is the global leader in electric vehicle (EV) production: It accounted for roughly 66% of global EV sales in 2022, and its industry is heavily abetted by generous government subsidies. Although a slumping economy might threaten that financial support, China is still looking at a robust lineup of active and planned projects to develop EVs and their components. Industrial Info is tracking more than US\$6.5 billion worth of EV-manufacturing projects--about 60% of which is under construction--and more than US\$27 billion worth of E V-battery projects across China.



Among the most recognizable automotive brands to invest heavily in China is Audi, a division of [Volkswagen AG](#) (Wolfsburg, Germany), which is partnering with [FAW Group Corporation](#), the nation's oldest and largest vehicle manufacturer, to build the **US\$3 billion New Energy Vehicles Plant in Changchun, Jilin**, which began construction about a year ago and is expected to produce about 150,000 units annually upon completion, in the fourth quarter of 2024. Subscribers to Industrial Info's Global Market Intelligence (GMI) Industrial Manufacturing Project Database can learn more from a detailed [project report](#).

Audi also recently announced a partnership with state-owned [SAIC Motor](#) (Shanghai, China) to partner on EV projects in the Chinese market. SAIC began construction this summer on an **EV battery plant in Yantai, Shandong**, which is expected to produce 160,000 lithium-ion batteries per year. Construction is expected to wrap up in third-quarter 2024. Subscribers can learn more in a detailed [project report](#).

Across China, state-owned companies are expanding their capacity to build EVs, as well as batteries and other components:

- In the Guangxi autonomous region, Hechi State-owned Capital Investment & Operation (Group) Company Limited is preparing to begin construction on an **EV and parts plant in Hechi**, which is expected to produce 500,000 EVs and 1 million units of parts per year. Subscribers can read more in a detailed [project report](#).
- In the Fujian province, Fujian Xinlongma Automobile Company Limited started construction earlier this year on an **EV plant in Longyan**. Subscribers can read more in a detailed [project report](#).
- In the Henan province, Luoyang Shenlong New Energy Vehicle Company Limited started construction at the beginning of this year on an **EV plant in Luoyang**. Subscribers can read more in a detailed [project report](#).

China's EV growth has been so rapid that [BYD Company Limited](#) (Shenzhen, China), the world's largest electric vehicle manufacturer, recently opened its largest EV charging station in the world in the southeastern city of Shenzhen, as part of a joint venture with [Shell plc](#) (NYSE:SHEL). The station, which has 258 charging points and 300,000 kilowatt-hours worth of solar panels, is the latest development from BYD, which aims to make or sell EVs in more than 70 countries on six continents.

BYD's global presence extends to South America, where a subsidiary is preparing to begin construction next year on a **electric bus and truck chassis manufacturing plant in Camacari, Brazil**. The site, which formerly was owned by [Ford Motor Company](#) (NYSE:F) (Dearborn, Michigan), is expected to manufacture up to 150,000 units per year following the **addition of several assembly lines** later in 2024. Subscribers can read detailed reports on the [initial phase](#) and [expansion](#).

China's aggressive push to develop EVs is facing backlash in Europe. Earlier this month, the European Commission began to consider punitive tariffs to protect European Union automakers from relatively inexpensive Chinese EV imports, which it says benefit unfairly from state subsidies. Because the commission's investigation covers all battery-powered cars made in China, brands like [Tesla Incorporated](#) (NASDAQ:TSLA) (Austin, Texas) also could be affected, according to Reuters.

It is unclear how such measures would affect European-based EV-manufacturing projects owned by Chinese companies. A subsidiary of BYD is seeking permits to build an **EV plant in Szombathely, Hungary**, which could begin construction as early as next year. BYD began to deliver its electric vans and trucks to the Hungarian market last year. Subscribers can read more in a detailed [project report](#).

Chinese state subsidies for electric and hybrid vehicles totaled US\$57 billion from 2016 through 2022, according to consulting firm AlixPartners.

Subscribers to Industrial Info's GMI Project Database can [click here](#) for a full list of detailed reports for projects mentioned in this article, and [click here](#) for a full list of related plant profiles.

Subscribers can [click here](#) for a full list of reports for active and planned EV-manufacturing projects across China, and [click here](#) for a full list of reports for EV battery projects.



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U.S. Gears Up for Fourth-Quarter Food & Beverage Project Starts

With a variety of sectors including meat and poultry processing, dairy, baked goods, and warehousing and distribution, the Food & Beverage Industry represents an extremely varied and highly important part of life in the U.S. As the industry changes and companies expand, new projects are consistently emerging. Industrial Info is tracking more than \$17 billion worth of U.S. Food & Beverage projects that are set to kick off in fourth-quarter 2023.

Thanks in part to a massive [Walmart Incorporated \(NYSE:WMT\)](#) (Bentonville, Arkansas) project in Illinois, the warehousing and distribution segment leads the industry in terms of overall project value.

Walmart announced plans for the \$1.2 billion, 1.2 million-square-foot cold-storage distribution center in Belvidere, Illinois, about 70 miles northwest of the heart of the Chicago, in June, with the promise to break ground on the facility by the end of the year. The facility is expected to go into operation in 2027 and will have state-of-the-art equipment and systems to handle distribution of items such as fresh produce, eggs, dairy, flowers and frozen goods to nearby stores. Subscribers to Industrial Info's Global Market Intelligence (GMI) Food & Beverage Project Database can [click here](#) for the project report.

After warehousing and distribution, the beverages, dairy, and packaged and prepared foods segments are in a tight run for second place, with a little more than \$2 billion in planned fourth-quarter project starts each. One of the largest dairy projects is from a name you may not associate with milk products. [The Coca-Cola Company \(NYSE:KO\)](#) (Atlanta, Georgia) is building a grassroot plant in Webster, New York, near Rochester, to manufacture its Fairlife milk products. Fairlife products use "ultra-filtered" milk that removes much of the lactose and other sugars, leaving behind more protein and calcium. In addition to milk, Fairlife also manufactures protein and meal replacement shakes. Coca-Cola acquired the Fairlife brand in 2020. Construction on the facility is set wrap up in late 2025. Subscribers can learn more by viewing the [project report](#).

Within the beverages segment, [Niagara Bottling LLC](#) (Diamond Bar, California) is planning to launch four projects in the fourth quarter: two in Texas and one each in Louisiana and Florida. In Texas, Niagara plans to construct a 1.2 million square-foot grassroot bottling and distribution center in Lancaster. The company will add a distribution building at its bottling plant in Temple, Texas. The expansion project is expected to be completed next summer, followed by the grassroot project later in the year. Subscribers can [click here](#) for related reports.

Among the projects in the packaged and prepared foods segment, [Kellogg Company \(NYSE:K\)](#) (Battle Creek, Michigan) is preparing to launch a series of projects at its breakfast bar-manufacturing plant in Wyoming, Michigan. The projects include:

- Replacing six feeding systems
- Replacing an old palletizer with a new robotic machine
- Constructing two new robotic case packers

Some of the projects such as the palletizer replacement will be short in duration and completed by the end of the year, while others such as the feeding system replacements will extend into 2024. Subscribers can [click here](#) for related reports.

Other sectors showing strength include the agricultural products sector, thanks largely to the growing demand for soybean oil used as feedstock in the manufacture of renewable diesel. In Hennepin, Illinois, [Marquis Incorporated](#) (Hennepin) is establishing a grassroot soybean crush facility that will be able to process 80 million bushels of soybeans per year to produce not only oil but 1.5 million tons per year of soybean meal for livestock feed. The plant is expected to be completed in the summer of 2025. Subscribers can [click here](#) for more information.

Subscribers to Industrial Info's GMI Food & Beverage Database can [click here](#) to view reports for all of the projects discussed in this article and [click here](#) to view the related plant profiles.



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Join IIR in Baton Rouge for an In-Person Market Outlook & Networking Event

Industrial Info is pleased to be presenting an in-person Market Outlook & Networking Event in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, on October 25. The event will be held at the White Oak Estate and Gardens, with the outlook presentations beginning at 4 p.m. After the presentations will be a networking event with complimentary food and drinks, allowing you to meet and mingle with your industry peers, visit our demo stations, and engage with our industry experts.

The presentations will include segments on:

- Petroleum Refining & Alternative Fuels
- Upstream & Midstream Oil Markets
- Midstream Gas Processing and LNG Markets
- Chemical Processing
- Electric Power
- The North America Spending Forecast

IIR staff also will be holding a workshop on PECWEB enhancements earlier in the afternoon.

We hope you are able to join us for this event! [Click here](#) to learn more and to RSVP.

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