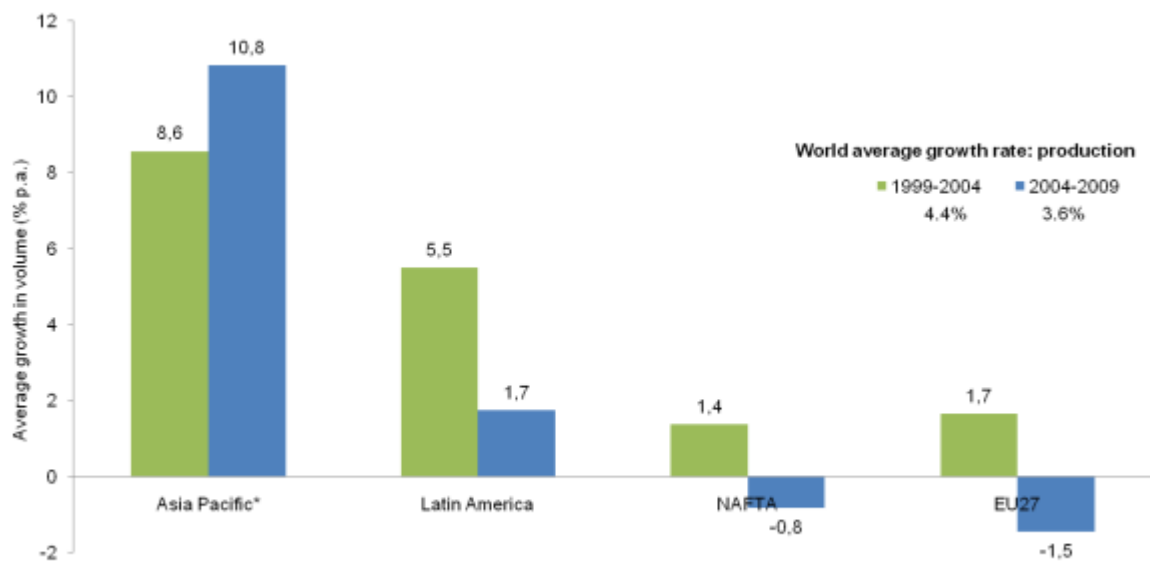




Growth

International comparison of production growth



*Asia-Pacific includes Japan, China, India, Korea, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Austria

Source: ACC and Cefic Chemdata International

During the period from 2004 to 2009, the EU chemical industry showed the lowest growth rate compared with the biggest regions in the world. The EU chemical sector declined by 1.5 per cent, well below the world chemical industry average growth rate of 3.6 per cent. The Asia-Pacific region is booming, with average growth rates in chemicals of 10.8 per cent during the past five years. Asia is heavily influenced by the extraordinary performance of the Chinese chemicals sector and a booming economy and industrial sector.