

COVID-19 cases hit 2 million, a look at coronavirus prevention companies

COVID-19 cases globally have hit 2 million! There are now 2,000,231 reported COVID-19 cases worldwide, with 126,758 deaths and 484,729 recovered, as of April 15, 2020. The US continues to lead with a total of 614,246 cases and 26,064 deaths. Today we look at some of the companies involved in COVID-19 prevention.

Global coronavirus cases hit 2 million of which almost 1.4 million cases are still active

Coronavirus Cases:

2,000,231

[view by country](#)

Deaths:

126,758

Recovered:

484,729

ACTIVE CASES

1,388,744

Currently Infected Patients

1,337,141 (96%)

in Mild Condition

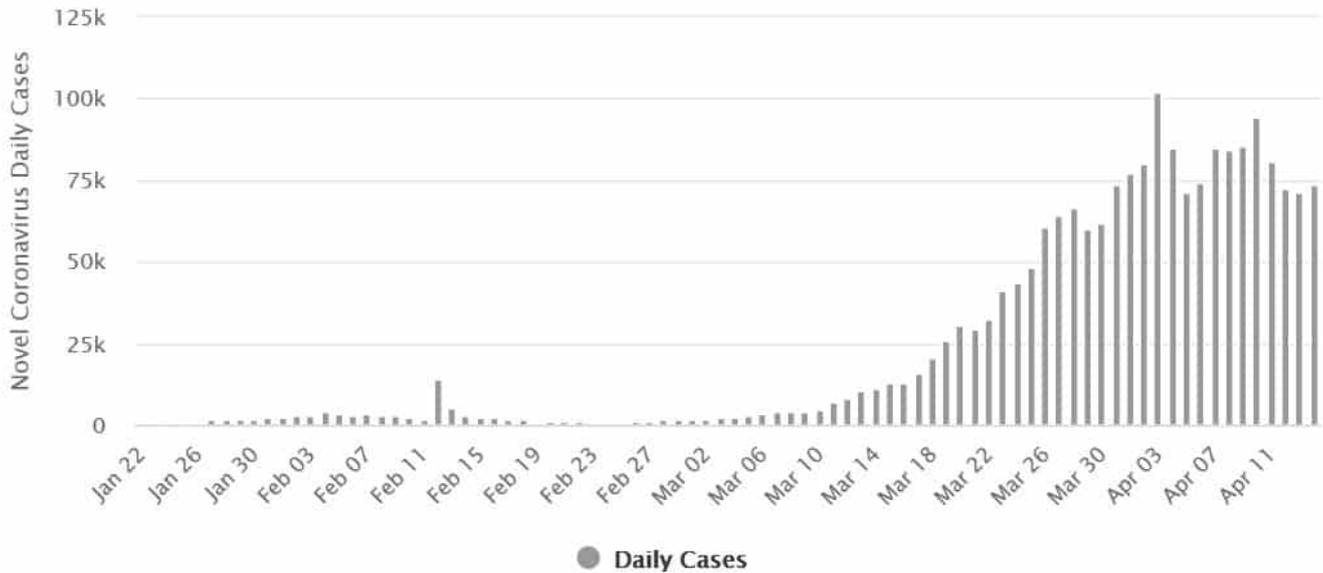
51,603 (4%)

Serious or Critical

Global daily coronavirus cases appear to be plateauing and maybe decreasing

Daily New Cases

Cases per Day
Data as of 0:00 GMT+0



Source

What's next with coronavirus?

Previously we discussed the coronavirus treatment companies, and those leading the race to make vaccines. Today we look at some different ways to prevent coronavirus and the companies involved.

CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) PREVENTION



Coronavirus prevention companies

Face mask and protective clothing companies (ideally the N95

face mask)

The N95 (or higher, E.g: N99) face masks are the industry standard of masks that are effective at blocking coronavirus. The global N95 mask market is forecast to grow to US\$382 million and at a CAGR of 9% from 2020 to 2024.

- **3M Company (NYSE: MMM)** – The U.S. government and 3M have a plan to produce 166.5 million masks over the next three months to support health-care workers in the United States. They will primarily come from its manufacturing facility in China. 3M plans to make 2 billion N95 masks globally within the next year.
- **Honeywell International Inc. (NYSE: HON)** – Is a world leading brand in personal protection equipment including protection from airborne particulates, and the manufacture of N95 masks.
- **Kimberly-Clark Corporation (NYSE: KMB)** – An American company that manufactures diapers, tissues, paper towels, incontinence care products, surgical gowns, and disposable face masks.
- **Prestige Ameritech (private)** – An American manufacturer of face masks, respirators, medical goggles, surgeons masks, and other products.
- **Alpha Pro Tech Ltd. (NYSE: APT)** – Is a Canadian company developing, manufacturing and marketing a line of disposable protective apparel and infection control products for the clean room, industrial, pharmaceutical, medical and dental markets. They also make face masks.
- **Lakeland Industries Inc. (NASDAQ: LAKE)** – Is an international protective clothing provider. Its key products include disposable protective clothing, chemical protective suits, fire fighting and heat protective apparel, as well as face masks.
- **Teleflex Incorporated (NYSE: TFX)** – Manufactures diagnostic and therapeutic procedures in critical care and surgical applications, as well as a face mask maker.

Even GM has starting making face masks, as well as numerous other global companies, many based in China.

Some hand sanitizer companies

The global hand sanitizer market is expected to grow from US\$ 1.2 billion in 2019 to US\$ 2.14 billion by 2027, at a CARG of 7.5% during the forecast period 2019-2027.

- **Edgewell Personal Care Company (NYSE: EPC)** – The maker of ‘Wet Ones’. They also make feminine, skin, pet and sun care product.
- **Reckitt Benckiser Group PLC (LN: RB | OTC: RBGLY)** – The maker of well known products Dettol and Lysol.
- **Johnson & Johnson (NYSE: JNJ)** – As a global leading personal care manufacturer they make sanitizers and disinfectants.
- **Unilever PLC (NYSE: UL | LN: UN)** – Is a global leading consumer products company. They own a huge number of well known brands. They make soap and hand sanitizer.
- **The Procter & Gamble Company (NYSE: PG)** – Is a well known American maker of diapers, home cleaning supplies, including hand sanitizers.

Even France’s Danone (FR: BN | OTCQX: DAN0Y) and New Zealand’s Fonterra Co-operative Group Limited (NZ: FCG) have started to get involved. Other well known but private companies are Haggard & Stocking Associates Inc., Gojo Industries Inc. and Vi-Jon Inc.

Closing remarks/What’s next?

New daily global coronavirus cases have started to plateau and perhaps even decrease. With much of the global economy crippled, governments are looking at ways to loosen restrictions and re-start their economies. China and South Korea have both led the way in terms of ‘flattening the curve’, and the Chinese economy is now back to work. A few European countries are now loosening restrictions. Those

countries include Italy, Spain, Austria, the Czech Republic and Denmark.

As restrictions are lifted the importance of personal protection using face masks, hand sanitizers, and the use of social distancing will become more important. The companies involved in these areas should do well over the next 6 months as the world tries to get back to normal again.

High Purity, High Grade Manganese Potential for Maxtech

It's official! Today Maxtech Ventures Inc. (CSE: MVT) ("Maxtech") has confirmed that it has signed a strategic co-operation agreement with Brazil's Maringá Ferro-Liga S.A. This agreement brings Maxtech closer to its goal of becoming a diversified mining company with a bend towards high grade manganese.

90% of manganese is used in the manufacture of steel, the remaining 10% is used in other chemical and agricultural applications. And it is here where Maxtech is expected to focus its energies. The company aspires to build a vertical mining operation, selling its manganese into high growth markets focused on renewable energy and crop fertility.

As regards renewable energy, high grade, high purity manganese is used as a primary cathode material in lithium ion manganese batteries (NCM batteries). The lithium-nickel-cobalt manganese (NCM) formulation batteries is the next generation of battery cathodes after the lithium-nickel-cobalt-aluminum design (NCA)

battery, and offers superior efficiencies, high power and low cost.

As such, we note battery and automotive manufacturing giants, developing their own NMC supplies and formulations. Already 3M has patented its own NMC battery which is used by LG Chem in the Chevy Volt and Nissan Leaf. BMW has also selected the NMC battery, while General Electric has selected a lithium-manganese battery. Tesla meanwhile has signed a five year exclusive agreement with prominent NMC battery researcher, Dr. Jeff Dahn to help reduce the costs of its batteries.

If we consider manganese for crop fertility, its importance cannot be underestimated. The micro-nutrient market is poised to grow at 8% CAGR to \$7.7bn by 2020. Importantly, manganese cannot be substituted as it is needed chemically for photosynthesis to occur. In a world characterised by a burgeoning population and a decline of arable land, food scarcity is becoming of increasing concern. Experiments conducted in Brazil shows that the addition of a small amount of manganese can increase crop yield by around 30%, and because of this, high purity, high grade manganese like Maxtech offers, could fetch as much as 25-30% premium in the market.

Maxtech has secured in excess of 50,000 ha of potential high-grade manganese claims and has an agreement to jointly explore manganese-specific projects with Brazil's Maringá Ferro-Liga S.A. Brazil is expected to increase its demand for high purity manganese by 4.8% CAGR, translating to an additional demand of 227,000 tonnes for use in fertilizers. As a potential local provider, with a local partner, it stands to reason that Maxtech should benefit from this demand.