

Weekly Update – PPE Market Facts Week of March 30-April 3

Pricing, Availability and Production

- **Expect price increases for Masks, Gloves, PPE** – due to high global demand and lack of production and available raw materials.ⁱ Demand has more than doubled at a time of low worldwide production.ⁱⁱ
- Masks require nonwoven polypropylene – which is in short supply.ⁱⁱⁱ
- Nitrile Gloves prices are going up due to Malaysian factories operating at 50%, and increased packaging costs.^{iv} (Malaysia manufactures between 60 and 65 percent of global single-use nitrile and latex gloves.)
- China production of PPE is still ramping up and dealing with filling months of backorders.^v
- PPE demand is up to 100 times higher than normal, and prices are up to 20 times higher.^{vi}
- Hand Sanitizer base product is in high demand and short supply. Prices are expected to go up. US isopropanol (IPA) prices surged this week on heavy demand for hand sanitizer during the COVID-19 crisis, and there are no quick fixes for either the strong demand or the shortages of product.^{vii}
- NOTE: Here are the [OSHA PPE worker protection standards](#) for reference.^{viii}

ⁱ <https://www.wsj.com/articles/coronavirus-pressures-supply-chain-for-protective-masks-11583552527>

ⁱⁱ <https://www.ehstoday.com/ppe/article/21127107/glove-manufacturers-serve-ppe-during-widespread-shortage>

ⁱⁱⁱ <https://www.wsj.com/articles/coronavirus-pressures-supply-chain-for-protective-masks-11583552527>

^{iv} <https://www.manufacturing.net/home/news/21124651/bracing-for-a-global-single-use-nitrile-latex-glove-shortage>

^v <https://www.manufacturing.net/home/news/21124651/bracing-for-a-global-single-use-nitrile-latex-glove-shortage>

^{vi} <https://www.aha.org/news/headline/2020-02-07-concerns-rise-ppe-shortages-coronavirus>

^{vii} <https://www.wsj.com/articles/coronavirus-pressures-supply-chain-for-protective-masks-11583552527>

^{viii} <https://www.osha.gov/SLTC/personalprotectiveequipment/payment.html>