

13 Small Publicly Traded Semiconductor Companies on the Verge of Big Gains

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MX -2.42%

AOSL -7.25%

CEVA -3.90%

NVEC -0.50%

HIMX -21.45%

In this article, we present 13 small publicly traded semiconductor companies. To skip the detailed analysis of the semiconductor market, you can go directly to [5 Small Publicly Traded Semiconductor Companies](#).

Semiconductors are at the core of modern life. They are the brains with which modern electronics think and execute the functions they were created to accomplish. These tiny pieces of magic have driven advances in all sectors of modern life, from computing, communications, and transportation to military systems.

In 2020, the importance of electronics cranked up significantly. This was a difficult period when the world was struggling through a severe pandemic, the coronavirus disease. With infections traveling fast across borders, governments across the globe imposed movement restrictions that affected the semiconductor industry in two main ways.

First, the restrictions collapsed supply chains, leading to a chip shortage. As of mid to late 2021, consumers could not purchase essential and other electronic items. For example, the [BBC](#) reported that big vehicle manufacturers like Volvo, Toyota, and Ford had to temporarily suspend manufacturing in 2021 because they could not acquire the chips necessary for powering the electronics in their cars. Interestingly, even companies one couldn't imagine could be affected by a chip shortage suffered significantly. For example, CSSI International, an American company that makes dog-grooming machines, could not fulfill orders because of the shortage.

Secondly, the restrictions precipitated higher demand for electronics. As more people were stuck in their houses, many due to work-from-home (WFH) policies, they needed more electronics to keep them company. Others needed computers and attendant devices to make it possible to work away from the office. In fact, a [Pew Research](#) survey released in September 2021 revealed that 90% of Americans relied on the internet to survive the pandemic. But for the tech to become a lifeline, people had to acquire electronics, whose production depends on the chips.

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While the pandemic increased chip sales, it is important to note that the market was initially shrinking. The United States started targeting China with sanctions in 2018, with President Trump arguing that they were necessary to placate US businesses. The sanctions introduced bottlenecks that plunged chip sales between 2018 and 2019. For example, [Statista](#) data shows that the semiconductor market size fell 12% in 2019 from the previous year's \$468.78 billion. However, sales increased in the aftermath of the pandemic, growing the global semiconductor market size to \$440.39 billion in 2020, just under \$30 billion below the 2018 historic peak. The

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