

# Lithium Facts

Presented by  
IberAmerican Lithium



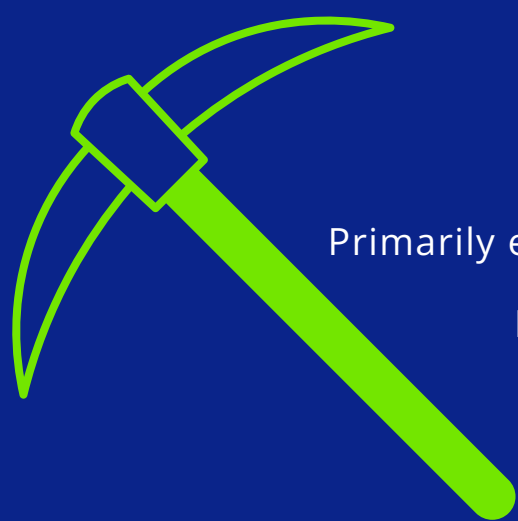
## WHAT IS LITHIUM?

A soft, silvery-white alkali metal

Highly reactive and can react spontaneously with water

It burns in air and gives off a bright white flame

Has the atomic number 3 and the chemical symbol Li



## OCCURENCE & EXTRACTION

Rarely found in nature due to its high reactivity

Primarily extracted from the minerals spodumene and lepidolite

Despite being a metal, it's so light it can float on water

Naturally found in the Earth's crust at concentrations of about 20 ppm, making it the 33rd most abundant element

## PRIMARY USES

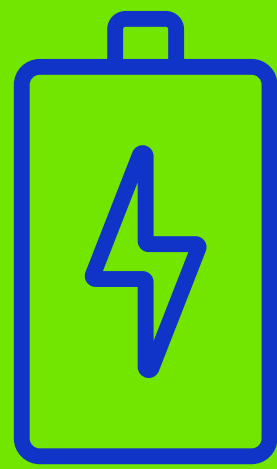
**Batteries:** Primary component in rechargeable lithium-ion batteries used in laptops, smartphones, and electric vehicles

**Metallurgy:** Used as an alloying agent to strengthen metals

**Astronomy:** Used in telescope cooling systems

**Medicine:** Lithium carbonate is used to treat bipolar disorder

**Nuclear Physics:** Used in fusion reactions and to produce tritium



## ECONOMIC SIGNIFICANCE

Due to the rising demand for electric vehicles and renewable energy storage systems, the **global demand for lithium is forecasted to grow substantially over the next decade**

The world could face lithium shortages by 2025, the International Energy Agency (IEA) says, while Credit Suisse thinks demand could treble between 2020 and 2025, meaning "supply would be stretched"



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