

# The price of sodium battery raw materials has fallen

Will sodium-ion batteries become more expensive in 2023?

IEA's report states, "In 2023, leading battery manufacturers announced expansion plans for sodium-ion batteries, such as BYD, Northvolt, and CATL, which initially sought to reach mass production by the end of the same year. If brought to scale, sodium-ion batteries could cost up to 20% less than incumbent technologies."

Could sodium-ion batteries transform the battery industry?

Sodium-ion batteries could further transform the industry by reducing costs and critical mineral reliance. IEA's report states, "In 2023, leading battery manufacturers announced expansion plans for sodium-ion batteries, such as BYD, Northvolt, and CATL, which initially sought to reach mass production by the end of the same year."

Can sodium-ion batteries undercut the cost of LFP batteries?

Recent analysis has shown that the latest sodium-ion battery packs can even undercut the cost of LFP batteries thanks to their cheaper raw materials. The result is that sodium-ion technology can deliver low-cost EVs with sufficient range to suit commuters and city drivers in particular. China has already recognised this potential.

Which battery raw materials have experienced significant price fluctuations over the past 5 years?

Battery raw materials like lithium carbonate ( $\text{Li}_2\text{CO}_3$ ), lithium hydroxide (LiOH), nickel (Ni) and cobalt (Co) have experienced significant price fluctuations over the past five years. Figures 1 and 2 show the development of material spot prices between 2018 and 2023.

Why do batteries cost so much?

And so more and more of the technological innovations introduced into the battery are aimed at reducing costs, even if at the same time features such as vehicle range tend to deteriorate. The largest single contributor to the cost of battery cells is the materials used in them, especially the cathode materials.

Are sodium-ion batteries the future of EVs?

Sodium-ion batteries are now beginning to enter the EV market. Just how far they will go in competing with shorter-range lithium batteries remains to be seen and depend on economic headwinds and materials science advances. You can be sure, at least, that you'll be hearing a lot more about sodium-ion EVs.

To summarize, there are many factors affecting the price of sodium-ion batteries, including the cost of raw materials, production process and scale, market demand and competition, policy ...

Since 2023, with the decline in raw material prices such as lithium carbonate, the average price of lithium batteries has fallen back to the current approximately 0.4 yuan/Wh. Regarding the future trend of

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battery prices, Wu Hui predicts that as the industry matures, it is unlikely to see the dramatic price fluctuations of the past. Overall ...

While lithium ion battery prices are falling again, interest in sodium ion (Na-ion) energy storage has not waned. With a global ramp-up of cell manufacturing capacity under way, it remains...

Crashing lithium and nickel prices helped push down electric vehicle prices in 2023, a trend that is expected to continue in 2024. Automakers scrambled to secure supply agreements before 2023 as fears of a shortage of ...

Research on SIBs was conducted side-by-side with the development of LIBs initially in the 1970s and 1980s. The attempt of Na<sup>+</sup> as the insertion ion into TiS<sub>2</sub> was introduced by G. Newman and L. Klemann [2] and pioneering work was carried out by Delmas and co-workers in the early 1980s, resulting in the discovery of Na<sub>x</sub>TmO<sub>2</sub> (Tm stands for transition ...

Lithium-ion batteries will only be able to meet this demand to a limited extent due to the use of critical raw materials. The search for alternative battery technologies is therefore in full swing: a promising project called the "four-volt sodium-ion battery" (4NiB) aims to make progress in this area.

The dramatic drop in key mineral prices portends a battery cost revolution, with profound implications for the electric vehicle industry. In an environment shaped by oversupply and revised demand, we unravel the implications along the value chain, from mining to the end consumer, highlighting a potentially more affordable future for electric ...

Yet lithium prices have fallen to their lowest since January 2022 due to a gloomy macroeconomic outlook, weaker demand and excess supply, according to S&P Global Market Intelligence data. This has erased the price advantage for ...

Energy Storage. The energy storage sector was the largest market for sodium-ion batteries in 2023, accounting for up to 60% of total shipments. Sodium-ion batteries are well-suited for energy storage applications due to their cost-effectiveness and stable performance, making them an attractive option for grid energy storage systems.

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Basic Raw Materials: The cost proportion of the core functional raw material, battery-grade sodium carbonate, is low, generally accounting for 5% to 10% of cathode active materials. However, prices are high, with a cost reduction potential of around 50%. Current prices range from 5,000 to 7,000 yuan, with the main price around 5,000 yuan ...

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The critical materials used in manufacturing batteries for electric vehicles (EV) and energy storage systems (ESS) play a vital role in our move towards a zero-carbon future.. Fastmarkets" battery raw materials suite brings together the vital commercial insights, data and analytics that you need to help you make accurate forecasts, manage inventories and price risk, benchmark costs ...

To summarize, there are many factors affecting the price of sodium-ion batteries, including the cost of raw materials, production process and scale, market demand and competition, policy environment and regulations and standards, as well as ...

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Prices for key battery raw materials have been subject to enormous fluctuations over the past two years, putting an end, at least temporarily, to the trend of falling battery cell costs. In its Battery Update, Fraunhofer ISI points out which role the design of supply contracts plays in pricing and how the changes in raw material prices affect ...

Since 2022, attention has fixated on the role of sodium-ion batteries (Na-ion) - seen by Chinese battery strategists as a hedge to Li price volatility. It is no coincidence that R& D attention on Na-ion increased dramatically in 2022 (following Li"s price hike), particularly among scaled cell players with large R& D budgets (e.g. CATL).

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