

## Macro Roundup Article

**Headline:** [How to Avoid a Green-Metals Crunch](#)

**Article Link:** <https://www.economist.com/finance-and-economics/2023/09/11/how-to-avoid-a-green-metals-crunch>

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**Tweet:** Meeting decarbonization goals will require significant investments in mining and refining. Industry leaders estimate a copper supply gap of 2m-4m tonnes, 6-12% of demand by 2030.

**Summary:** By 2030 copper and nickel demand could rise by 50-70%, cobalt and neodymium by 150%, and graphite and lithium six- to seven-fold. All told, a carbon-neutral world in 2050 will need 35m tonnes of green metals a year, predicts the International Energy Agency. Industry oracles asked by The Economist predict copper-supply gaps of 2m-4m tonnes, or 6-12% of potential demand, by 2030. They also foresee a shortfall of lithium of 50,000-100,000 tonnes, a 2-4% deficit. Nickel and graphite—plentiful in theory—could cause problems because batteries require pure material. There are too few smelters to refine bauxite into aluminum. Outside China, next to no one produces neodymium. Related: Glencore Says This Time Is Different for Coming Copper Shortage and Lithium Discovery in US Volcano Could be Biggest Deposit Ever Found and What Have We Learned About the Neutral Rate?

**Primary Topic:** Energy

**Topics:** Energy, Investment, News article, Productivity

**Permalink:** <https://www.edwardconard.com/macro-roundup/meeting-decarbonization-goals-will-require-significant-investments-in-mining-and-refining-industry-leaders-estimate-a-copper-supply-gap-of-2m-4m-tonnes-6-12-of-demand-by-2030?view=detail>

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