

all chlorine in the Earth's crust is in the form of ionic chloride compounds, which includes table salt. Chlorine is used in the manufacture of a wide range of consumer products, about two-thirds of them organic chemicals such as polyvinyl chloride (PVC), many intermediates for the production of plastics, and other end products which do not contain the element. Elemental chlorine is commercially produced from brine by electrolysis, predominantly in the chlor-alkali process. These crustal deposits are nevertheless dwarfed by the huge reserves of chloride in seawater.