

# PERIODIC TABLE Atomic Properties of the Elements

| Group                           |                                       | FREQUENTLY USED FUNDAMENTAL PHYSICAL CONSTANTS <sup>§</sup>   |                         |  |  |  |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Group   |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|-------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|---|-----------|-----------|---------------------------------------|------------|--|--|
| 1<br>IA                         |                                       | 1 second = 9 192 631 770 periods of radiation corresponding to the transition between the two hyperfine levels of the ground state of <sup>133</sup> Cs |                         |  |  |  |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 2<br>IIA  |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| 1<br>H                          |                                       | speed of light in vacuum <i>c</i> 299 792 458 m s <sup>-1</sup> (exact)   |                         |  |  |  |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 2<br>He   |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| Hydrogen                        |                                       | Planck constant <i>h</i> 6.626 070 15 x 10 <sup>-34</sup> J Hz <sup>-1</sup> (exact)  |                         |  |  |  |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Helium  |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| 1.008                           |                                       | elementary charge <i>e</i> 1.602 176 634 x 10 <sup>-19</sup> C (exact)  |                         |  |  |  |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 4.0026  |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| 1s                              |                                       | Avogadro constant <i>N<sub>A</sub></i> 6.022 140 76 x 10 <sup>23</sup> mol <sup>-1</sup> (exact)  |                         |  |  |  |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 1s <sup>2</sup>                                 |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| 13.5984                         |                                       | Boltzmann constant <i>k</i> 1.380 649 x 10 <sup>-23</sup> J K <sup>-1</sup> (exact)   |                         |  |  |  |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 24.5874   |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| 3<br>Li                         |                                       | electron volt <i>eV</i> 1.602 176 634 x 10 <sup>-19</sup> J (exact)   |                         |  |  |  |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 10<br>Ne  |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| Lithium                         |                                       | electron mass <i>m<sub>e</sub></i> 9.109 383 71 x 10 <sup>-31</sup> kg  |                         |  |  |  |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Neon  |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| 6.94                            |                                       | energy equivalent <i>m<sub>e</sub>c<sup>2</sup></i> 0.510 998 951 MeV   |                         |  |  |  |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 20.180  |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| 1s <sup>2</sup> 2s              |                                       | proton mass <i>m<sub>p</sub></i> 1.672 621 926 x 10 <sup>-27</sup> kg   |                         |  |  |  |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 1s <sup>2</sup> 2s <sup>2</sup> 2p <sup>6</sup> |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| 5.3917                          |                                       | energy equivalent <i>m<sub>p</sub>c<sup>2</sup></i> 938.272 089 MeV   |                         |  |  |  |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 21.5645   |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| 4<br>Be                         |                                       | fine-structure constant <i>α</i> 1/137.035 999  |                         |  |  |  |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 9<br>F  |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| Beryllium                       |                                       | Rydberg energy <i>R<sub>∞</sub>hc</i> 13.605 693 1230 eV  |                         |  |  |  |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Fluorine  |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| 9.0122                          |                                       | Newtonian constant of gravitation <i>G</i> 6.674 x 10 <sup>-11</sup> m <sup>3</sup> kg <sup>-1</sup> s <sup>-2</sup>                                    |                         |  |  |  |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 18.998  |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| 1s <sup>2</sup> 2s <sup>2</sup> |                                       |   |                         |  |  |  |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 1s <sup>2</sup> 2s <sup>2</sup> 2p <sup>5</sup> |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| 9.3227                          |                                       |   |                         |  |  |  |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 17.4228   |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| 11<br>Na                        |                                       |   |                         |  |  |  |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 17<br>Cl  |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| Sodium                          |                                       |   |                         |  |  |  |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Chlorine  |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| 22.990                          |                                       |   |                         |  |  |  |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 35.45   |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| [Ne]3s                          |                                       |   |                         |  |  |  |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | [Ne]3s <sup>2</sup> 3p <sup>5</sup>             |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| 5.1391                          |                                       |   |                         |  |  |  |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 15.7596   |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| 12<br>Mg                        |                                       |   |                         |  |  |  |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 18<br>Ar  |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| Magnesium                       |                                       |   |                         |  |  |  |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Argon   |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| 24.305                          |                                       |   |                         |  |  |  |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 39.95   |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| [Ne]3s <sup>2</sup>             |                                       |   |                         |  |  |  |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | [Ne]3s <sup>2</sup> 3p <sup>6</sup>             |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| 7.6462                          |                                       |   |                         |  |  |  |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 15.7596   |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| 3<br>Li                         |                                       | 4<br>Be   |                         | 5<br>B   |  | 6<br>C   |  | 7<br>N   |  | 8<br>O                                  |  | 9<br>F   |  | 10<br>Ne   |  |  |  |   |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| IIIB                            |                                       | IVB   |                         | VB   |  | VIB  |  | VIIB   |  | VIII                                    |  | IB   |  | IIB  |  |  |  |   |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| 19<br>K                         |                                       | 20<br>Ca  |                         | 21<br>Sc   |  | 22<br>Ti   |  | 23<br>V  |  | 24<br>Cr                                |  | 25<br>Mn   |  | 26<br>Fe   |  |  |  |   |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| Potassium                       |                                       | Calcium   |                         | Scandium   |  | Titanium   |  | Vanadium   |  | Chromium                                |  | Manganese  |  | Iron   |  |  |  |   |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| 39.098                          |                                       | 40.078  |                         | 44.956   |  | 47.867   |  | 50.942   |  | 51.996                                  |  | 54.938   |  | 55.845   |  |  |  |   |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| [Ar]4s                          |                                       | [Ar]4s <sup>2</sup>   |                         | [Ar]3d4s <sup>2</sup>                                |  | [Ar]3d <sup>2</sup> 4s <sup>2</sup>                  |  | [Ar]3d <sup>4</sup> 4s <sup>2</sup>                  |  | [Ar]3d <sup>5</sup> 4s                  |  | [Ar]3d <sup>5</sup> 4s <sup>2</sup>                  |  | [Ar]3d <sup>6</sup> 4s <sup>2</sup>                  |  |  |  |   |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| 4.3407                          |                                       | 6.1132  |                         | 6.5615   |  | 6.8281   |  | 6.7462   |  | 6.7665                                  |  | 7.4340   |  | 7.9025   |  |  |  |   |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| 37<br>Rb                        |                                       | 38<br>Sr  |                         | 39<br>Y  |  | 40<br>Zr   |  | 41<br>Nb   |  | 42<br>Mo                                |  | 43<br>Tc   |  | 44<br>Ru   |  |  |  |   |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| Rubidium                        |                                       | Strontium   |                         | Yttrium  |  | Zirconium  |  | Niobium  |  | Molybdenum                              |  | Technetium   |  | Ruthenium  |  |  |  |   |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| 85.468                          |                                       | 87.62   |                         | 88.906   |  | 91.224   |  | 92.906   |  | 95.95                                   |  | (97)   |  | 101.07   |  |  |  |   |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| [Kr]5s                          |                                       | [Kr]5s <sup>2</sup>   |                         | [Kr]4d5s <sup>2</sup>                                |  | [Kr]4d <sup>2</sup> 5s <sup>2</sup>                  |  | [Kr]4d <sup>4</sup> 5s                               |  | [Kr]4d <sup>5</sup> 5s                  |  | [Kr]4d <sup>5</sup> 5s <sup>2</sup>                  |  | [Kr]4d <sup>7</sup> 5s                               |  |  |  |   |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| 4.1771                          |                                       | 5.6949  |                         | 6.2173   |  | 6.6341   |  | 6.7589   |  | 7.0924                                  |  | 7.1194   |  | 7.3605   |  |  |  |   |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| 55<br>Cs                        |                                       | 56<br>Ba  |                         | 72<br>Hf   |  | 73<br>Ta   |  | 74<br>W  |  | 75<br>Re                                |  | 76<br>Os   |  | 77<br>Ir   |  |  |  |   |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| Cesium                          |                                       | Barium  |                         | Hafnium  |  | Tantalum   |  | Tungsten   |  | Rhenium                                 |  | Osmium   |  | Iridium  |  |  |  |   |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| 132.91                          |                                       | 137.33  |                         | 178.49   |  | 180.95   |  | 183.84   |  | 186.21                                  |  | 190.23   |  | 192.22   |  |  |  |   |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| [Xe]6s                          |                                       | [Xe]6s <sup>2</sup>   |                         | [Xe]4f <sup>14</sup> 5d <sup>2</sup> 6s <sup>2</sup> |  | [Xe]4f <sup>14</sup> 5d <sup>3</sup> 6s <sup>2</sup> |  | [Xe]4f <sup>14</sup> 5d <sup>4</sup> 6s <sup>2</sup> |  | [Xe]4f <sup>14</sup> 5d <sup>5</sup> 6s |  | [Xe]4f <sup>14</sup> 5d <sup>6</sup> 6s <sup>2</sup> |  | [Xe]4f <sup>14</sup> 5d <sup>7</sup> 6s <sup>2</sup> |  |  |  |   |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| 3.8939                          |                                       | 5.2117  |                         | 6.8251   |  | 7.5496   |  | 7.8640   |  | 7.8335                                  |  | 8.4382   |  | 8.9670   |  |  |  |   |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| 87<br>Fr                        |                                       | 88<br>Ra  |                         | 104<br>Rf  |  | 105<br>Db  |  | 106<br>Sg  |  | 107<br>Bh                               |  | 108<br>Hs  |  | 109<br>Mt  |  |  |  |   |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| Francium                        |                                       | Radium  |                         | Rutherfordium  |  | Dubnium  |  | Seaborgium   |  | Bohrium                                 |  | Hassium  |  | Meitnerium   |  |  |  |   |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| (223)                           |                                       | (226)   |                         | (268)  |  | (269)  |  | (269)  |  | (270)                                   |  | (269)  |  | (277)  |  |  |  |   |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| [Rn]7s                          |                                       | [Rn]7s <sup>2</sup>   |                         | [Rn]5f <sup>14</sup> 6d <sup>3</sup> 7s <sup>2</sup> |  | [Rn]5f <sup>14</sup> 6d <sup>3</sup> 7s <sup>2</sup> |  | [Rn]5f <sup>14</sup> 6d <sup>4</sup> 7s <sup>2</sup> |  | [Rn]5f <sup>14</sup> 6d <sup>5</sup> 7s |  | [Rn]5f <sup>14</sup> 6d <sup>6</sup> 7s <sup>2</sup> |  | [Rn]5f <sup>14</sup> 6d <sup>7</sup> 7s <sup>2</sup> |  |  |  |   |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| 4.0727                          |                                       | 5.2784  |                         | 6.02   |  | 6.8  |  | 7.8  |  | 7.7                                     |  | 7.6  |  | 7.6  |  |  |  |   |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| 57<br>La                        |                                       | 58<br>Ce  |                         | 59<br>Pr   |  | 60<br>Nd   |  | 61<br>Pm   |  | 62<br>Sm                                |  | 63<br>Eu   |  | 64<br>Gd   |  |  |  |   |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| Lanthanum                       |                                       | Cerium  |                         | Praseodymium   |  | Neodymium  |  | Promethium   |  | Samarium                                |  | Europium   |  | Gadolinium   |  |  |  |   |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| 138.91                          |                                       | 140.12  |                         | 140.91   |  | 144.24   |  | (145)  |  | 150.36                                  |  | 151.96   |  | 157.25   |  |  |  |   |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| [Xe]5d6s <sup>2</sup>           |                                       | [Xe]4f5d6s <sup>2</sup>   |                         | [Xe]4f <sup>6</sup> 6s <sup>2</sup>                  |  | [Xe]4f <sup>6</sup> 6s <sup>2</sup>                  |  | [Xe]4f <sup>6</sup> 6s <sup>2</sup>                  |  | [Xe]4f <sup>6</sup> 6s <sup>2</sup>     |  | [Xe]4f <sup>7</sup> 6s <sup>2</sup>                  |  | [Xe]4f <sup>7</sup> 6s <sup>2</sup>                  |  |  |  |   |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| 5.5769                          |                                       | 5.5386  |                         | 5.4702   |  | 5.5250   |  | 5.5819   |  | 5.6437                                  |  | 5.6704   |  | 5.8638   |  |  |  |   |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| 89<br>Ac                        |                                       | 90<br>Th  |                         | 91<br>Pa   |  | 92<br>U  |  | 93<br>Np   |  | 94<br>Pu                                |  | 95<br>Am   |  | 96<br>Cm   |  |  |  |   |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| Actinium                        |                                       | Thorium   |                         | Protactinium   |  | Uranium  |  | Neptunium  |  | Plutonium                               |  | Americium  |  | Curium   |  |  |  |   |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| (227)                           |                                       | 232.04  |                         | 231.04   |  | 238.03   |  | (237)  |  | (244)                                   |  | (243)  |  | (247)  |  |  |  |   |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| [Rn]6d7s <sup>2</sup>           |                                       | [Rn]6d <sup>2</sup> 7s <sup>2</sup>   |                         | [Rn]5f <sup>14</sup> 6d7s <sup>2</sup>               |  | [Rn]5f <sup>3</sup> 6d7s <sup>2</sup>                |  | [Rn]5f <sup>4</sup> 6d7s <sup>2</sup>                |  | [Rn]5f <sup>6</sup> 7s <sup>2</sup>     |  | [Rn]5f <sup>7</sup> 7s <sup>2</sup>                  |  | [Rn]5f <sup>8</sup> 7s <sup>2</sup>                  |  |  |  |   |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| 5.3802                          |                                       | 6.3067  |                         | 5.89   |  | 6.1941   |  | 6.2655   |  | 6.0258                                  |  | 5.9738   |  | 5.9922   |  |  |  |   |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| 57<br>La                        |                                       | 58<br>Ce  |                         | 59<br>Pr   |  | 60<br>Nd   |  | 61<br>Pm   |  | 62<br>Sm                                |  | 63<br>Eu   |  | 64<br>Gd   |  |  |  |   |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| Lanthanides                     |                                       | Actinides   |                         | Lanthanides  |  | Actinides  |  | Lanthanides  |  | Actinides                               |  | Lanthanides  |  | Actinides  |  |  |  |   |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| 57<br>La                        |                                       | 58<br>Ce  |                         | 59<br>Pr   |  | 60<br>Nd   |  | 61<br>Pm   |  | 62<br>Sm                                |  | 63<br>Eu   |  | 64<br>Gd   |  |  |  |   |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| Lanthanum                       |                                       | Cerium  |                         | Praseodymium   |  | Neodymium  |  | Promethium   |  | Samarium                                |  | Europium   |  | Gadolinium   |  |  |  |   |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| 138.91                          |                                       | 140.12  |                         | 140.91   |  | 144.24   |  | (145)  |  | 150.36                                  |  | 151.96   |  | 157.25   |  |  |  |   |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| [Xe]5d6s <sup>2</sup>           |                                       | [Xe]4f5d6s <sup>2</sup>   |                         | [Xe]4f <sup>6</sup> 6s <sup>2</sup>                  |  | [Xe]4f <sup>6</sup> 6s <sup>2</sup>                  |  | [Xe]4f <sup>6</sup> 6s <sup>2</sup>                  |  | [Xe]4f <sup>6</sup> 6s <sup>2</sup>     |  | [Xe]4f <sup>7</sup> 6s <sup>2</sup>                  |  | [Xe]4f <sup>7</sup> 6s <sup>2</sup>                  |  |  |  |   |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| 5.5769                          |                                       | 5.5386  |                         | 5.4702   |  | 5.5250   |  | 5.5819   |  | 5.6437                                  |  | 5.6704   |  | 5.8638   |  |  |  |   |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| 89<br>Ac                        |                                       | 90<br>Th  |                         | 91<br>Pa   |  | 92<br>U  |  | 93<br>Np   |  | 94<br>Pu                                |  | 95<br>Am   |  | 96<br>Cm   |  |  |  |   |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| Actinium                        |                                       | Thorium   |                         | Protactinium   |  | Uranium  |  | Neptunium  |  | Plutonium                               |  | Americium  |  | Curium   |  |  |  |   |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| (227)                           |                                       | 232.04  |                         | 231.04   |  | 238.03   |  | (237)  |  | (244)                                   |  | (243)  |  | (247)  |  |  |  |   |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| [Rn]6d7s <sup>2</sup>           |                                       | [Rn]6d <sup>2</sup> 7s <sup>2</sup>   |                         | [Rn]5f <sup>14</sup> 6d7s <sup>2</sup>               |  | [Rn]5f <sup>3</sup> 6d7s <sup>2</sup>                |  | [Rn]5f <sup>4</sup> 6d7s <sup>2</sup>                |  | [Rn]5f <sup>6</sup> 7s <sup>2</sup>     |  | [Rn]5f <sup>7</sup> 7s <sup>2</sup>                  |  | [Rn]5f <sup>8</sup> 7s <sup>2</sup>                  |  |  |  |   |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| 5.3802                          |                                       | 6.3067  |                         | 5.89   |  | 6.1941   |  | 6.2655   |  | 6.0258                                  |  | 5.9738   |  | 5.9922   |  |  |  |   |           |           |                                       |            |  |  |
| Period                          | 1                                     |   |                         |  |  |  |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 13<br>IIIA                                      | 14<br>IVA | 15<br>VA  | 16<br>VIA                             | 17<br>VIIA | 18<br>VIIIA                            |  |
|                                 | 2                                     |   |                         |  |  |  |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 5<br>B  | 6<br>C    | 7<br>N    | 8<br>O                                | 9<br>F     | 10<br>Ne                               |  |
|                                 | 3                                     |   |                         |  |  |  |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 13<br>Al  | 14<br>Si  | 15<br>P   | 16<br>S                               | 17<br>Cl   | 18<br>Ar                               |  |
|                                 | 4                                     |   |                         |  |  |  |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 31<br>Ga  | 32<br>Ge  | 33<br>As  | 34<br>Se                              | 35<br>Br   | 36<br>Kr                               |  |
|                                 | 5                                     |   |                         |  |  |  |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 49<br>In  | 50<br>Sn  | 51<br>Sb  | 52<br>Te                              | 53<br>I    | 54<br>Xe                               |  |
|                                 | 6                                     |   |                         |  |  |  |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 81<br>Tl  | 82<br>Pb  | 83<br>Bi  | 84<br>Po                              | 85<br>At   | 86<br>Rn                               |  |
|                                 | 7                                     |   |                         |  |  |  |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 113<br>Nh                                       | 114<br>Fl | 115<br>Mc | 116<br>Lv                             | 117<br>Ts  | 118<br>Og                              |  |
|                                 | Atomic Number                         |   | Ground State            |  |  |  |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |   |           |           | Atomic Number                         |            | Ground State                           |  |
|                                 | Symbol                                |   | Ce                      |  |  |  |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |   |           |           | Symbol                                |            | Lu                                     |  |
|                                 | Name                                  |   | Cerium                  |  |  |  |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |   |           |           | Name                                  |            | Lutetium                               |  |
|                                 | Standard Atomic Weight <sup>(u)</sup> |   | 140.12                  |  |  |  |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |   |           |           | Standard Atomic Weight <sup>(u)</sup> |            | 174.97                                 |  |
|                                 | Ground-state Configuration            |   | [Xe]4f5d6s <sup>2</sup> |  |  |  |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |   |           |           | Ground-state Configuration            |            | [Xe]4f <sup>14</sup> 5d6s <sup>2</sup> |  |
|                                 | Ionization Energy (eV)                |   | 5.5386                  |  |  |  |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |   |           |           | Ionization Energy (eV)                |            | 4.96                                   |  |

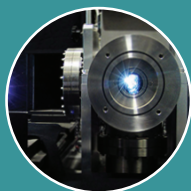
§For the most accurate values of these and other constants, visit [pml.nist.gov/constants](http://pml.nist.gov/constants).

Solids  
 Liquids  
 Gases  
 Artificially Prepared

Physical Measurement Laboratory [www.nist.gov/pml](http://www.nist.gov/pml)  
Standard Reference Data [www.nist.gov/srd](http://www.nist.gov/srd)

<sup>†</sup>Based upon <sup>12</sup>C. ( ) indicates the mass number of the longest-lived isotope.

# NISTory of the Periodic Table



## Deuterium

This rare heavy isotope of hydrogen was distilled from liquid hydrogen at NIST and identified by Columbia University's Harold Urey (Nobel Prize 1934).

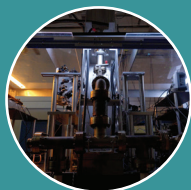
Image Credit: Uwe Arp/NIST



## Krypton

The wavelength of light from this atom was used to define the official meter until 1983.

Image Credit: Neil Tucker/Wikimedia



## Cesium

The frequency of light absorbed by this atom, measured by atomic clocks such as NIST-F4, has been used to officially define the second since 1967.

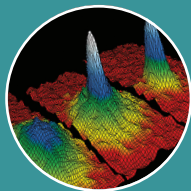
Image Credit: NIST



## Sodium

A gas of these atoms was cooled with lasers by NIST scientists to reach temperatures near absolute zero (Nobel Prize 1997).

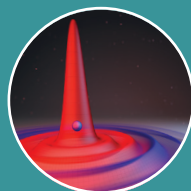
Image Credit: H. Mark Helfer/NIST



## Rubidium

Researchers at JILA (NIST-CU Boulder) used these atoms to create a new state of matter called a Bose-Einstein condensate (Nobel Prize 2001).

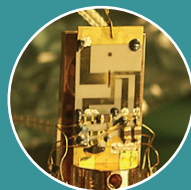
Image Credit: NIST/JILA/CU-Boulder



## Potassium

JILA researcher Debbie Jin and her colleagues coaxed pairs of these atoms into forming another new state of matter known as a fermionic condensate.

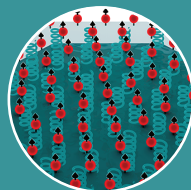
Image Credit: JILA



## Aluminum

Electrically charged versions of these atoms (ions) have been used to create "quantum logic" clocks with record accuracy.

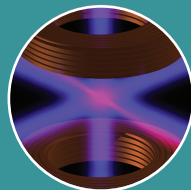
Image Credit: NIST



## Beryllium

Ions of these atoms have performed quantum logic operations that could lay groundwork for future quantum computers.

Image Credit: S. Burrows/JILA



## Strontium and Ytterbium

NIST and JILA researchers trapped thousands of these atoms in webs of light known as optical lattices to create ultraprecise and stable atomic clocks.

Image Credit: NIST



## Charlotte Moore Sitterly

From 1945 to 1985, this NIST astrophysicist published critically reviewed tables of atomic data, establishing the agency as an authoritative source of this information.

Image Credit: NIST