RESEARCH REFERENCE AND CITATION GUIDE

U.S. Mineral Import Dependence

Compare US mineral import reliance, supplier concentration, mining and refining with material definitions, five-year history, exact calculations and downloads.

Analysis edition November 14, 2026 · American Mineral Registry

A concise reference to the full source-backed study, with eight exact finding links. Source observation periods remain distinct from the article date.

Specific findings with their source boundaries

USGS estimates 2025 net import reliance at 100% for natural graphite, 79% for cobalt, 67% for rare-earth compounds and metals, 57% for copper and 41% for nickel. Each uses its own chapter's apparent-consumption definition; nickel includes scrap. Exact finding 1.

AMR sums Chile 68%, Canada 16% and Peru 7% to 91% of USGS's reported 2021 to 2024 U.S. refined-copper import distribution. Mexico is 6% and Other 3%. Exact finding 2.

Norway supplies 26% of USGS's reported 2021 to 2024 U.S. cobalt metal, oxide and salts import distribution, followed by Finland 16%, Canada 14%, Japan 14% and Other 30%. Exact finding 3.

USGS estimates 2025 U.S. rare-earth concentrate production at 51000 metric tons REO equivalent, compounds and metals production at 8900 tons and compounds and metals import reliance at 67%; concentrates are separately net-exported. U.S. concentrate output excludes monazite. Exact finding 4.

AMR calculates approximate U.S. shares of rounded 2025 world mine totals at 13.08% for rare earths, 4.35% for copper, 0.26% for nickel, 0.10% for cobalt and 0% for natural graphite. Each ratio uses matching material-content definitions. Exact finding 5.

Using USGS 2025 estimates, China produces 1.8 million of 23 million metric tons of world mined copper, about 7.8%, and 14 million of 29 million metric tons of world refined copper, about 48.3%. World totals are rounded and the stages have separate denominators. Exact finding 6.

USGS reports rare-earth compounds and metals reliance above 95% in 2021, 53% in 2024 and 67% in 2025. The 2021 to 2025 reduction exceeds 28 percentage points; 2024 to 2025 increases 14 points. The exact 2021 percentage is not supplied. Exact finding 7.

USGS reports 100% net import reliance and zero U.S. natural graphite mine production for 2025. Its separate 2021 to 2024 import-origin distribution gives China including Hong Kong 46%, Canada 13%, Mozambique 13%, Mexico 12% and Other 16%. This excludes synthetic graphite. Exact finding 8.

Method, definitions and complete data

Fixed five-material panel from USGS MCS 2026. Reliance 2025 estimates, origin shares 2021 to 2024, mine shares against rounded 2025 world totals. Material forms and denominators differ; no composite risk score or country share of total U.S. consumption inferred.

The full HTML article includes source definitions, supporting tables, the complete fixed comparison and a specific permanent link for each finding. Figures are also readable as HTML text. This PDF is a concise reference to the complete article, not a replacement for its detailed methodology.

Use the reproduction ZIP for the pinned source input, complete CSV files, data dictionary and standard-library calculation program. Values are rounded only after calculation. Original producer estimates, material forms and source windows remain attached.

AMR calculations and original figures: CC BY 4.0. Preserve original producer attribution and applicable source terms.

Sources

USGS original numerical source https://pubs.usgs.gov/periodicals/mcs2026/mcs2026.pdf

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Use the complete HTML study and matching datasets for the full context. American Mineral Registry Research. Fixed November 2026 analysis edition.