Critical minerals report 2026

Commodity Origins. Lists read 6 October 2026; production and reserves from USGS Mineral Commodity Summaries 2026; trade from CEPII BACI 2024. Download the PDF.

43 commodities on this site appear on the US 2025 or EU 2024 critical-mineral lists, 29 of them on both. For the 39 with a production figure, one country produces half or more of the world's supply of 19, and China is the largest producer of 18. Counting only reserves USGS prints as a number, the shortest reserve lives at the latest output are zinc (18 years), lead (21 years), silver (23 years), but reserve life is a ratio, not a date. Output is at or within a year of its record for 11 of them, and on the EU's customs-based view one origin supplies more than 65% of imports for 9.

Key findings

- **Concentration.** The largest producer's share of world output runs from 19% (feldspar) to 99% (gallium). 19 of 39 have a producer at 50% or more.
- **Reserves.** For 15 of them USGS's reserve figure can be compared with its 2023 edition: it is higher in 11 even after three years of mining, which is why years of reserves are not a countdown (how much is left).
- **Output.** 11 of 17 materials with a long record are at or within a year of their highest output (peak production).
- **Prices.** In constant 1998 dollars the latest ten years' price is below the first ten years' for 10 minerals and above it for 10 (a century of real prices).
- **Supplier exposure.** The largest single origin supplies more than 65% of EU imports by value on 9 lines (antimony, bismuth, boron, feldspar, lithium, magnesium, niobium, rare earths, uranium); this is customs data on one product line per mineral, not the EU Act's consumption test (supplier exposure).

Every listed mineral at a glance

Critical minerals: lists, largest producer, years of reserves, output peak, real price against the first decade and the EU's largest supplier

Mineral	Lists	Largest producer	Years of reserves	Output peak	Real price vs first decade	EU's largest supplier
Aluminum	US and EU	China 61%	—	—	0.11× (89% lower)	Norway 24%
Antimony	US and EU	China 36%	≥ 22	—	1.67× (1.7× higher)	Turkey (Türkiye) 86% ▲

Mineral	Lists	Largest producer	Years of reserves	Output peak	Real price vs first decade	EU's largest supplier
Arsenic	US and EU	Peru 49%	—	—	—	—
Barite	US and EU	India 34%	46	—	1.09× (1.1× higher)	China 45%
Bauxite	US and EU	Guinea 34%	66	—	—	Guinea 63%
Beryllium	US and EU	United States 53%	—	—	—	—
Bismuth	US and EU	China 86%	—	—	—	China 95% ▲
Boron	US and EU	—	—	—	—	Turkey (Türkiye) 92% ▲
Chromium	US	South Africa 45%	≥ 24	—	1.85× (1.8× higher)	South Africa 50%
Cobalt	US and EU	DR Congo (Democratic Republic of the Congo) 74%	39	2025	0.28× (72% lower)	United States 24%
Copper	US and EU	Chile 23%	43	2024	0.75× (25% lower)	Brazil 30%
Feldspar	EU	India 19%	—	—	—	Turkey (Türkiye) 88% ▲
Fluorspar	US and EU	China 60%	33	2024	—	South Africa 50%
Gallium	US and EU	China 99%	—	—	—	—
Graphite	US and EU	China 78%	172	2025	0.58× (42% lower)	China 37%
Helium	EU	United States 43%	—	—	—	—
Indium	US	China 69%	—	—	—	—
Iridium	US and EU	—	—	—	—	United Kingdom 37%
Lead	US	China 42%	21	2012	0.83× (17% lower)	United Kingdom 52%
Lithium	US and EU	Australia 32%	128	2025	—	Chile 80% ▲

Mineral	Lists	Largest producer	Years of reserves	Output peak	Real price vs first decade	EU's largest supplier
Magnesium	US and EU	China 86%	—	—	—	China 83% ▲
Manganese	US and EU	South Africa 38%	90	2019	1.46× (1.5× higher)	South Africa 56%
Nickel	US and EU	Indonesia 67%	≥ 36	2025	0.59× (41% lower)	Norway 37%
Niobium	US and EU	Brazil 93%	≥ 191	2024	—	Brazil 83% ▲
Palladium	US and EU	Russia 44%	≥ 211	—	1.52× (1.5× higher)	United Kingdom 25%
Phosphate rock	US and EU	China 44%	292	2016	0.79× (21% lower)	Morocco 29%
Platinum	US and EU	South Africa 71%	≥ 211	—	1.52× (1.5× higher)	South Africa 41%
Potash	US	Canada 31%	≥ 121	2025	0.28× (72% lower)	Canada 34%
Rare earths	US and EU	China 69%	≥ 193	2025	2.25× (2.3× higher)	China 87% ▲
Rhenium	US	Chile 37%	—	—	—	—
Rhodium	US and EU	—	—	—	—	South Africa 50%
Silicon	US and EU	China 87%	—	—	—	Norway 43%
Silver	US	Mexico 24%	23	2016	1.24× (1.2× higher)	Switzerland 37%
Strontium	EU	Iran 56%	—	—	—	—
Tantalum	US and EU	DR Congo (Democratic Republic of the Congo) 52%	—	—	—	—
Tellurium	US	China 80%	—	—	—	—
Tin	US	China 24%	≥ 21	2017	1.22× (1.2× higher)	Bolivia 31%
Titanium	US and EU	China 34%	53	—	—	South Africa 49%
Tungsten	US and EU	China 79%	≥ 55	2025	2.24× (2.2× higher)	Bolivia 49%

Mineral	Lists	Largest producer	Years of reserves	Output peak	Real price vs first decade	EU's largest supplier
Uranium	US	—	—	—	—	Namibia 91% ▲
Vanadium	US and EU	China 72%	189	2024	0.73× (27% lower)	South Korea 43%
Zinc	US	China 32%	18	2016	0.84× (16% lower)	Norway 46%
Zirconium	US	Australia 33%	—	—	—	South Africa 31%

▲ marks a largest-origin share of EU imports above 65%. Production and reserves: USGS Mineral Commodity Summaries 2026 (uranium has no production figure here: its series is nuclear generation). Years of reserves are reserves divided by the latest year's production; ≥ marks reserves USGS prints as "more than". Peak is the year of highest world output in the record held (back to 1900 for many minerals, 1965 for oil). Real price: USGS unit values in constant 1998 dollars, latest ten years against the first ten. EU supplier: CEPII BACI imports by value on each mineral's primary customs line.

Who produces the most

Gallium	China 99%
Niobium	Brazil 93%
Silicon	China 87%
Magnesium	China 86%
Bismuth	China 86%
Tellurium	China 80%
Tungsten	China 79%
Graphite	China 78%
Cobalt	DR Congo (Democratic Republic of the Congo) 74%
Vanadium	China 72%
Platinum	South Africa 71%
Rare earths	China 69%
Indium	China 69%
Nickel	Indonesia 67%
Aluminum	China 61%
Fluorspar	China 60%
Strontium	Iran 56%
Beryllium	United States 53%
Tantalum	DR Congo (Democratic Republic of the Congo) 52%
Arsenic	Peru 49%
Chromium	South Africa 45%
Phosphate rock	China 44%
Palladium	Russia 44%
Helium	United States 43%
Lead	China 42%

Manganese	South Africa 38%
Rhenium	Chile 37%
Antimony	China 36%
Barite	India 34%
Bauxite	Guinea 34%
Titanium	China 34%
Zirconium	Australia 33%
Lithium	Australia 32%
Zinc	China 32%
Potash	Canada 31%
Tin	China 24%
Silver	Mexico 24%
Copper	Chile 23%
Feldspar	India 19%

China in the copper colour. Mining is not refining: for several of these minerals the narrower step is processing, which this report does not measure.

What the numbers cannot tell you

- **A list is not a forecast of shortage.** Being listed means a government sees supply risk; it says nothing about geological scarcity.
- **Reserves are a working inventory.** They rise with discovery, technology and price and are re-estimated by USGS, sometimes sharply. A reserve life is a ratio, not the date anything runs out.
- **Supplier exposure is not the Act's test.** It uses imports by value on one customs line, so it leaves out domestic output, recycling and stocks, and shows where goods were shipped from, which can be a trader or processor.
- **Prices are US unit values** in USGS's unit for each mineral: compare a mineral with its own past, not with another mineral.

Sources and method

US 2025 list: Final 2025 List of Critical Minerals, Federal Register notice 2025-19813 (90 FR 50494), 7 November 2025. EU 2024 list: Regulation (EU) 2024/1252 of 11 April 2024 establishing a framework for ensuring a secure and sustainable supply of critical raw materials: Annex I (strategic) and Annex II (critical). Production, reserves and histories: USGS Mineral Commodity Summaries 2022 to 2026 and Data Series 140. Trade: CEPII BACI. Every figure is computed on this site from those sources; the methods are on the pages linked above and in methodology. Licensed CC BY 4.0. Not investment advice.

- Contact
- Newsletter

- Build your own index
- Basket exposure
- Supplier exposure checker
- Correlation calculator
- Head-to-head comparisons
- Embed charts
- CSV builder
- Brief builder
- Reserve scenarios

- Critical minerals
- Critical minerals tracker
- Mines
- Companies
- How much is left?
- Timeline
- This month

- Corrections
- Developers
- HS code lookup
- Glossary
- Sitemap

SUBSCRIBE

- Blog RSS
- Data updates feed
- Price movers feed
- Weekly stats feed
- Fact of the day feed

LEGAL

- Privacy
- Cookies
- Terms
- Disclaimer
- Cookie choices

Commodity Origins answers where every commodity comes from, who sells it, what it costs, and why. Prose and derived tables are published under CC BY 4.0; upstream data keeps its own license (see Sources). Page text is written with AI assistance and checked against the cited sources; every figure is computed from them by scripts (how this site is made). Prices are monthly benchmark averages that may lag the market and are not investment advice. © 2026 Commodity Origins.