

Energy and mineral supply chains and the circular economy

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U.S. Department of the Interior U.S. Geological Survey

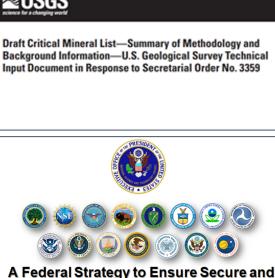
Federal strategy on critical mineral supply chains

National Science & Technology Council – Critical Minerals Subcommittee (2011–)

• Definitions of criticality, for multiple sectors

Executive Order 13817 (2017)

- List of Critical Minerals (2018)
- Interagency Federal strategy on critical minerals (2019)
 - 1. Advance Transformational R&D Across Critical Mineral Supply Chains
 - 2. Strengthen America's Critical Mineral Supply Chains and Defense Industrial Base
 - 3. Enhance International Trade and Cooperation Related to Critical Minerals
 - 4. Improve Understanding of Domestic Critical Mineral Resources
 - 5. Improve Access to Domestic Critical Mineral Resources on Federal Lands and Reduce Federal Permitting Timeframes



Reliable Supplies of Critical Minerals

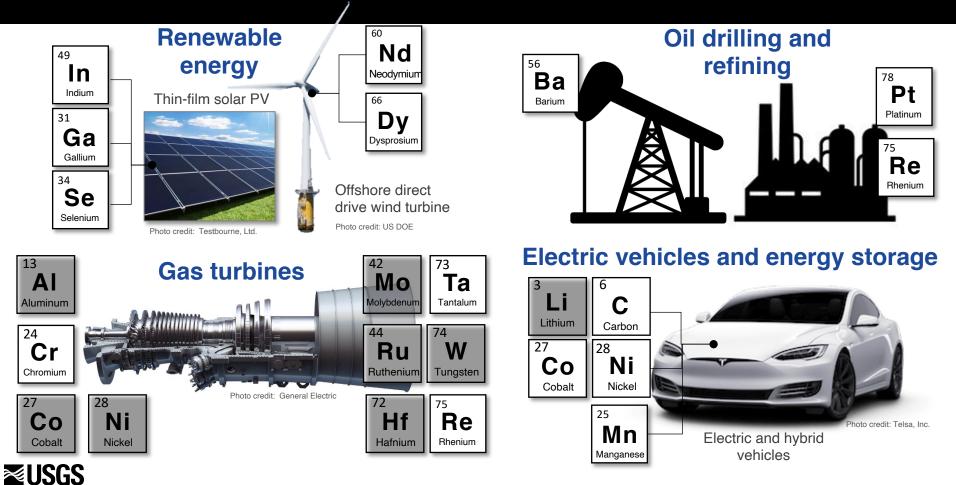
Response to Executive Order 13817 lational Science and Technology Council Subcommittee on Critical M<u>inerals</u>

May 14, 2019



6. Grow the American Critical Minerals Workforce

Mineral commodities are essential to energy applications

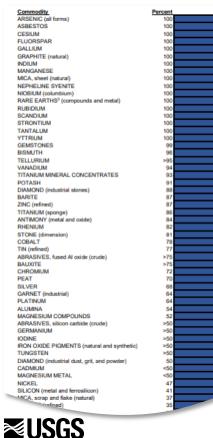


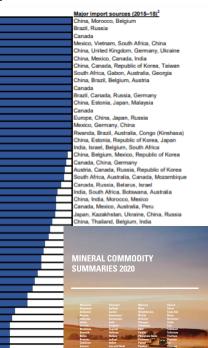
Commodity supply risks to the U.S. manufacturing sector

Commodity	Supply Risk										Leading Producers			Most Vulnerable Applications	
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Name(s)		Percent of world (2007-2016)	Description	2016 EV scores
Dysprosium											(China		Permanent magnets	
Yttrium											(China		Advanced amics	
Neodymium											(China			
Cobalt											D.R. C	ongo		Superalloys	
Lanthanum											(China		Catalysts	
Cerium											(China		Catalysts	
Graphite											(China		Refractories	
Bismuth											(China		Chemicals	
Aluminum											China, R	ussia		Passenger cars and light trucks	
Antimony											(China		Batteries	
Tantalum											Rwanda, D.R. C	ongo		Capacitors	
Praseodymium											(China		Permanent magnets	
Tungsten											(China		Cemented carbides	
Rhodium											South /	Africa		Catalytic converters	
Ruthenium											South /	Africa		Electronics	
Magnesium											(China		Aluminum alloys	
Platinum											South /	Africa		Catalytic converters	
Niobium											I	Brazil		Steel alloys	
Gallium											(China		Integrated circuits	
Palladium											Russia, South /	Africa		Catalytic converters	
Iridium											South /	Africa		Electronics	
Titanium											China, J	lapan		Aerospace alloys	
Germanium											(China		Fiber optics	
USGS				5	Supply r	risk								Nassar et al., 202	0 Solonoo
	Lo	w risk						H	ligh ris	sk				inassar et al., 202	.o, Science /

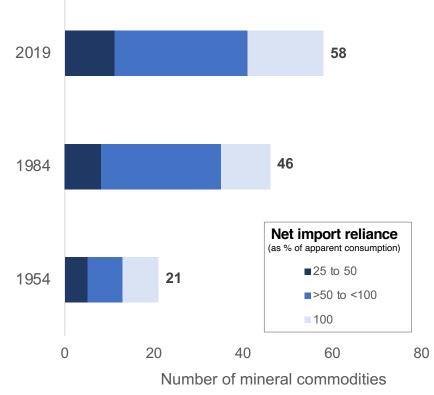
United States reliance on imports is growing

2019 U.S. net import reliance





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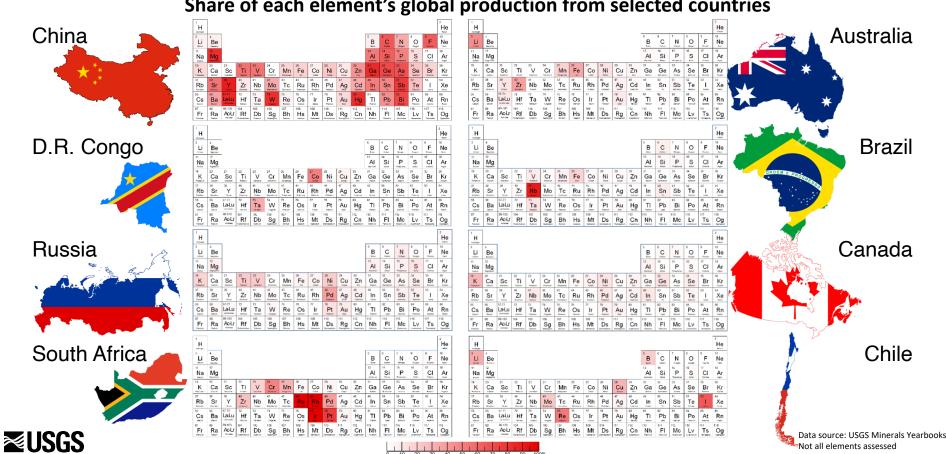


Growing U.S. net import reliance

U.S. Geological Survey, 2020, Mineral Commodity Summaries 2020

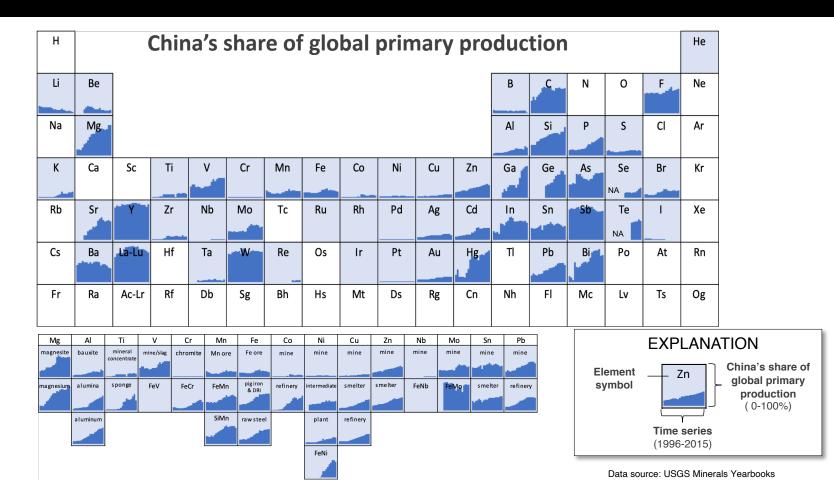
Fortier et al., 2015, Comparison of U.S. net import reliance for nonfuel mineral commodities—A 60-year retrospective (1954–1984–2014): U.S. Geological Survey

Production of many minerals is highly concentrated



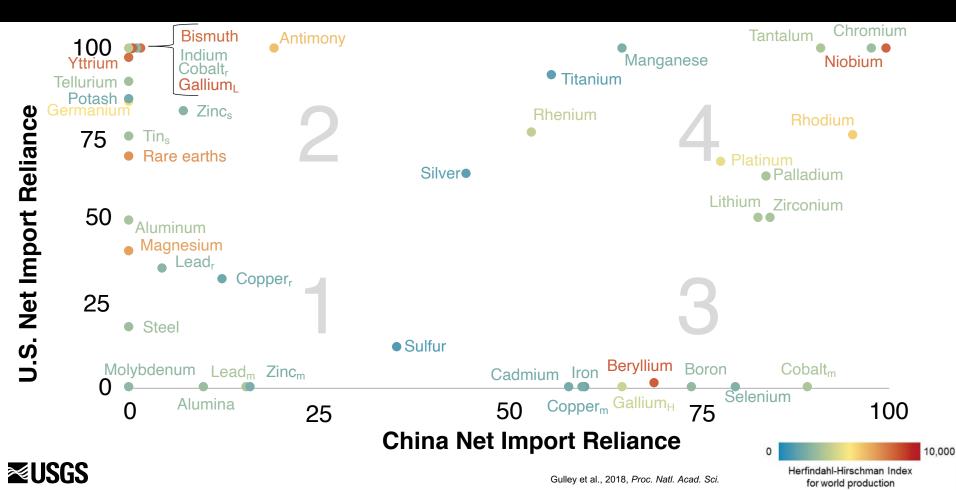
Share of each element's global production from selected countries

Global production trends over 20 years

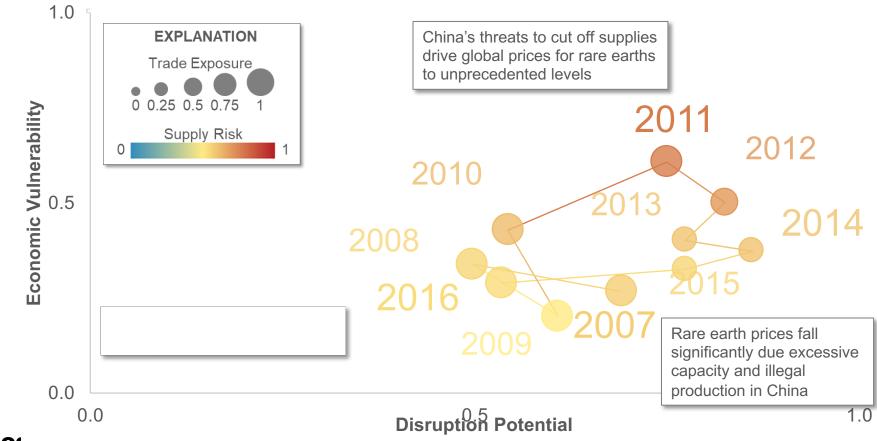




Import reliance can highlight interdependencies and competition potential

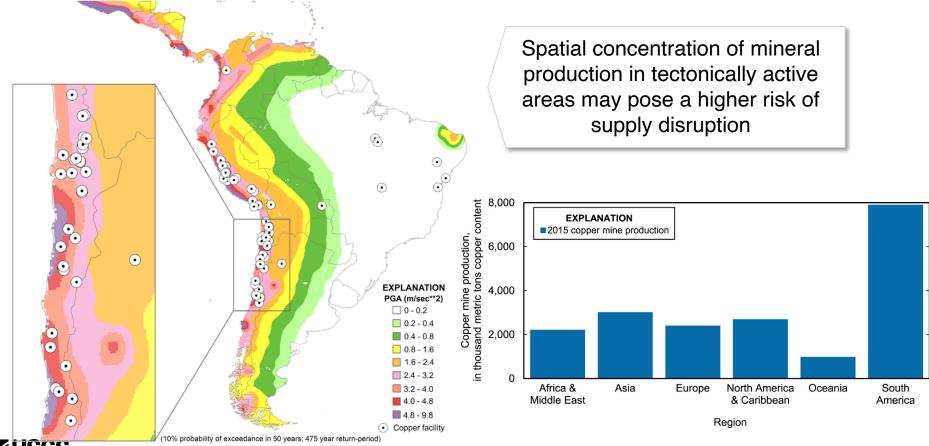


Trends in trade exposure: Lanthanum





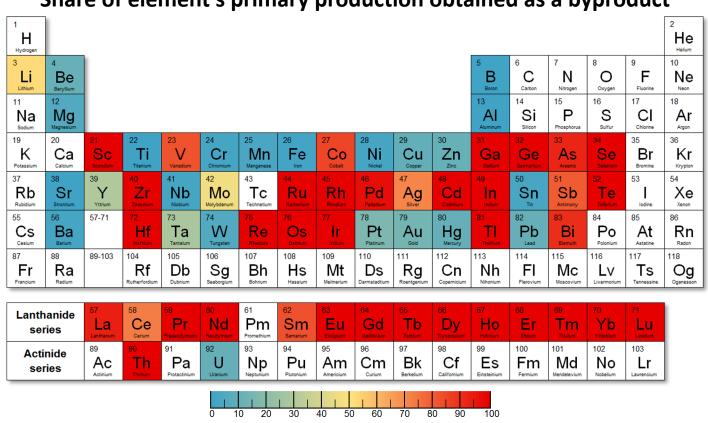
Additional causes of supply chain disruption: Natural hazards



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Schnebele et al., 2019, Resources Policy

Many byproduct minerals are required for advanced technologies



Share of element's primary production obtained as a byproduct

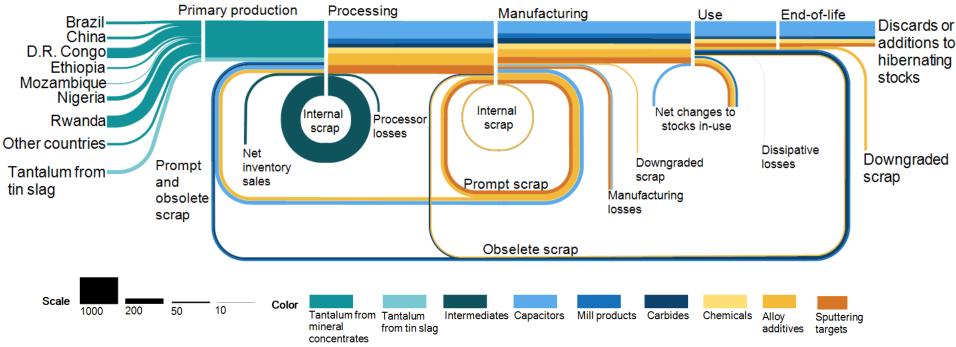
≥USGS

Nassar et al., 2015, Science Advances

Tracking mineral commodities throughout their life cycle

Global flows of tantalum

(metric tons of Ta content, circa 2015)





Nassar, 2017, Resources, Conservation and Recycling

Summary

- Federal strategy
- Potential futures
- Sectoral dependencies
- Foreign supply dependencies
- Domestic supply dependencies
- Potential for unconventional resources

