

China Uranium Resource Import Research Report 2026–2035

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Abstracts

In recent years, China's nuclear power sector has developed rapidly. As of December 31, 2025, there were 59 operational nuclear power units in China (excluding the Taiwan region), with a total installed capacity of 62,518.74 MWe (rated capacity).

From January to December 2025, the cumulative power generation of operating nuclear power units nationwide reached 467.02 billion kWh, an increase of 4.91% compared to the same period in 2024. The cumulative on-grid electricity volume was 438.93 billion kWh, also up 4.91% year-on-year.

China has ranked first globally for several consecutive years in terms of the installed capacity of nuclear power units under construction. As China's installed nuclear power capacity rises, so does its demand for uranium resources.

Due to China's scarce domestic uranium resources, with total reserves not exceeding 200,000 tons, and the high cost of extraction, China needs to import a large amount of uranium resources every year.

According to CRI's analysis, China's uranium imports reached 27,440.0 tons in 2025, a year-on-year increase of 46.7%, with the import value totaling US\$ 4.79 billion, up 46.5% year-on-year.

From January to April 2026, China imported approximately 4,683.6 tons of uranium resources, an increase of about 30.3% compared to the same period in 2025.

In 2025, China imported 26,246.8 tons of natural uranium, accounting for 95.7% of total imports, with an import value of US\$ 3.53 billion, accounting for 73.7% of total import

value.

In 2025, China's major sources of natural uranium imports included Kazakhstan, Namibia, Uzbekistan, Russia, and the United Kingdom.

China faces a shortage of domestic uranium resources and relies heavily on imports. Nuclear power accounts for approximately 5% of the country's total electricity generation, leaving significant room for growth. CRI projects that as China's installed nuclear power capacity continues to rise, the demand for uranium resources will steadily increase. China's uranium imports are expected to continue to rise from 2026 to 2035.

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