



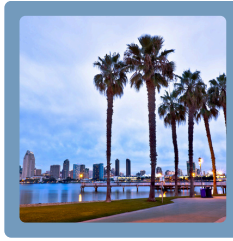
# FY25 SUPERVISOR FORUM

Wartime Readiness: Aligning Vision and Action



Questions: [NAVWARHQ\\_Training@us.navy.mil](mailto:NAVWARHQ_Training@us.navy.mil)

# TABLE CONTENT



- Welcome Message
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- Distinguished Guest Bios
- Geopolitical Brief
- Powerskills Workshop
- Pinnacle 27
- Unit X
- NAVWAR Next
- Telework Time Entry

Dashboard

# WELCOME MESSAGE

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Welcome, Supervisors, to the FY25 Supervisor Forum. This year's theme, Wartime Readiness: Aligning Vision and Action, calls on each of us to lead with clarity, purpose, and resilience as we prepare our teams to meet the challenges of today's global landscape.

As NAVWAR continues to deliver decisive advantage to our warfighters, your role as leaders has never been more critical. Over the next two days, we will engage in deep, strategic discussions and workshops designed to strengthen our leadership capacity and alignment with mission priorities.

We'll kick off with opening remarks from Mr. Pope, whose vision and leadership continue to guide our efforts across the enterprise. During his remarks, we will also celebrate excellence by presenting the Supervisor of the Year Award, recognizing outstanding leadership in action. We'll then transition into a compelling Wartime Readiness video to ground us in our collective purpose.

Let this forum be a space to reflect, connect, and take bold action. Together, we will bridge strategy and execution - aligning vision with action - to ensure NAVWAR remains a force ready for whatever comes next.

Thank you for your leadership, your service, and your commitment to readiness.







# WHAT TO EXPECT

**We're honored to host expert voices including:**

- **Mr. John Silitides**, who will guide us through a *Geopolitical Fireside Chat*, offering critical insights on global dynamics affecting our mission.
- **Ms. JeanAnn Nichols**, who will lead an interactive *Leadership Powerskills Workshop* to sharpen the interpersonal and adaptive skills that drive influence and innovation.
- **CAPT Jason Kuhn**, who will present *Pinnacle 27*, a deep dive into operational excellence and high-performance culture.
- **Mr. Chris Kirchhoff**, co-author of *Unit X*, who will challenge us to rethink the structure of modern defense organizations.
- **Mr. John Pope**, with a forward-looking discussion on *NAVWAR Next*, exploring what's ahead for our command and how we must adapt.
- **Mr. Keith Skousen & Ms. Janelle Ah-Hing**, will provide a short review of telework codes used in times cards and the telework monitoring dashboard.



# AGENDA - DAY 1

Pacific	Eastern	Brief	Presenter	Duration
0800 - 0805	1100 - 1105	Kickoff: Admin + SF Goals + Agenda	Mr. Pete Smith	5 min
0805 - 0835	1105 - 1135	Opening Remarks/SOY Presentation	Mr. John Pope	30 min
0835 - 0850	1135 - 1150	FY25 SF Wartime Readiness Video	OD&T X NAVWAR Supervisors	15 min
0850 - 0900	1150 - 1200	BREAK	BREAK	10 min
0900 - 1030	1200 - 1330	Geopolitical Fireside Chat	Mr. John Sitolides	90 min
1030 - 1045	1330 - 1345	BREAK	BREAK	15 min
1045 - 1240	1345 - 1540	Leadership PowerSkills Workshop	Ms. JeanAnn Nichols	115 min
1240 - 1250	1540 - 1550	Closing Remarks	Mr. Art Sterrett	10 min

**ALL BRIEFS ARE LOCATED IN THE FY25 SUPERVISOR FORUM CHANNEL**

# AGENDA - DAY 2

Pacific	Eastern	Brief	Presenter	Duration
0800 - 0805	1100 - 1105	Kickoff: Admin + SF Goals + Agenda	Mr. Pete Smith	5 min
0805 - 0835	1105 - 1135	Day 2 - Ice Breaker	CMC Jen Hafer	30 min
0835 - 0905	1135 - 1205	Pinnacle 27	CAPT Kuhn	30 min
0905 - 0920	1205 - 1220	BREAK	BREAK	15 min
0920 - 1050	1220 - 1350	Unit X	Mr. Chris Kirchhoff	90 min
1050 - 1150	1350 - 1450	NAVWAR Next Discussion	Mr. John Pope	60 min
1150 - 1220	1450-1520	Telework Time Entry Dashboard	Mr. Keith Skousen/Ms. Janelle AhHing	30 min
1220 - 1230	1520 - 1530	Closing Remarks	Mr. John Pope	10 min

**ALL BRIEFS ARE LOCATED IN THE FY25 SUPERVISOR FORUM CHANNEL**



# FY24 SUPERVISOR OF THE YEAR





# FISCAL YEAR 2024 SUPERVISOR OF THE YEAR

## ROBERT WEAVER

Digital Engineering and Assessment  
Division Head  
NAVWAR 5.0







# JOHN SITILIDES

## PRINCIPAL AT TRILOGY ADVISORS, LLC

John Sitilides is Principal at Trilogy Advisors LLC in Washington, D.C., specializing in U.S. government relations, and international affairs, and serves as Senior Fellow in National Security Program at the Foreign Policy Research Institute.

He delivers exclusive geopolitical risk reports, webcasts, and advisory services to institutional capital market and retail clients. A professional speaker at corporate, investor, and industry conferences, as well as to government, military, and intelligence audiences, he addresses geopolitical risk management and the business impacts of global security policies. His work helps executives, investors, and civic leaders better understand and mitigate the complex geopolitical and geo-economic forces shaping markets in Asia, Europe, the Middle East, and beyond.

From 2006 to 2023, he was the Southern Europe Regional Coordinator at the State Department's Foreign Service Institute, and previously served as Board Chairman of the Woodrow Wilson Center Southeast Europe Project and Executive Director of the Western Policy Center, where he led its 2004 merger with the Wilson Center.

Sitilides has testified before Congress and appears frequently on Bloomberg, CNN, FOX News, Newsmax, and other major media. With commentary featured in the Wall Street Journal, New York Times, Washington Post, and leading global publications.

His clients include leaders in real estate, home construction, agribusiness, aviation, and emerging technologies, with expertise in environmental regulatory reform and property rights. He began his career in the U.S. Senate and on successful political campaigns.

He serves on the Executive Committee and Board of Trustees of Leadership 100 and has held board roles with companies in media tech and biotech, as well as humanitarian and film industry organizations. A member of several national security and policy associations, Sitilides holds a Master's in International and Public Affairs from Columbia University. He lives in Washington, D.C. area with his wife, an attorney and businesswoman, and their four sons.

# Trump & the World: The New Geopolitics of Trade, Energy, Diplomacy & War

Naval Information Warfare Systems Command  
San Diego, CA – June 17, 2025

John Sitolides

Geopolitical Strategy, Trilogy Advisors LLC

Senior Fellow for National Security, Foreign Policy Research Institute

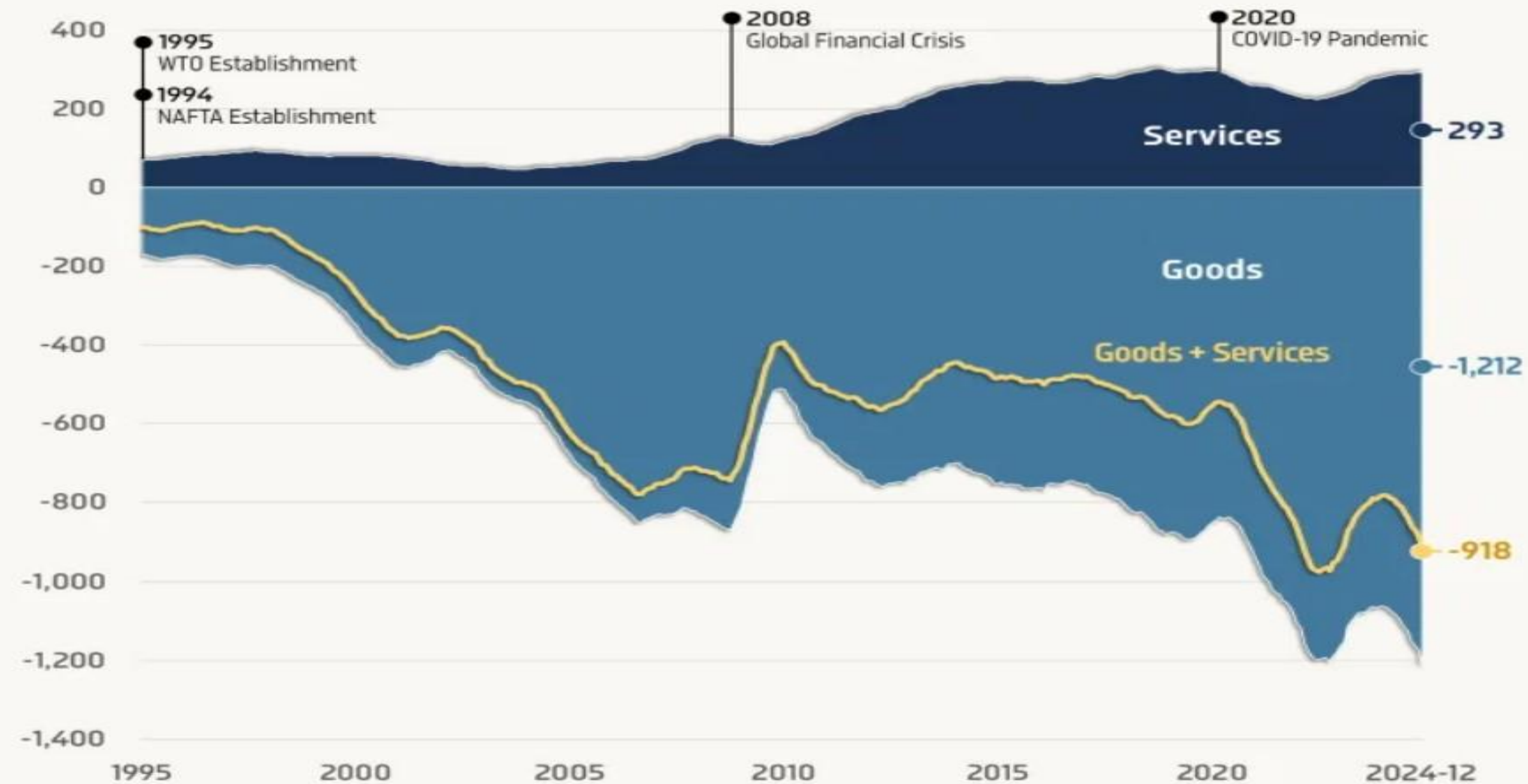
Diplomacy Consultant, U.S. Department of State (2006-2023)



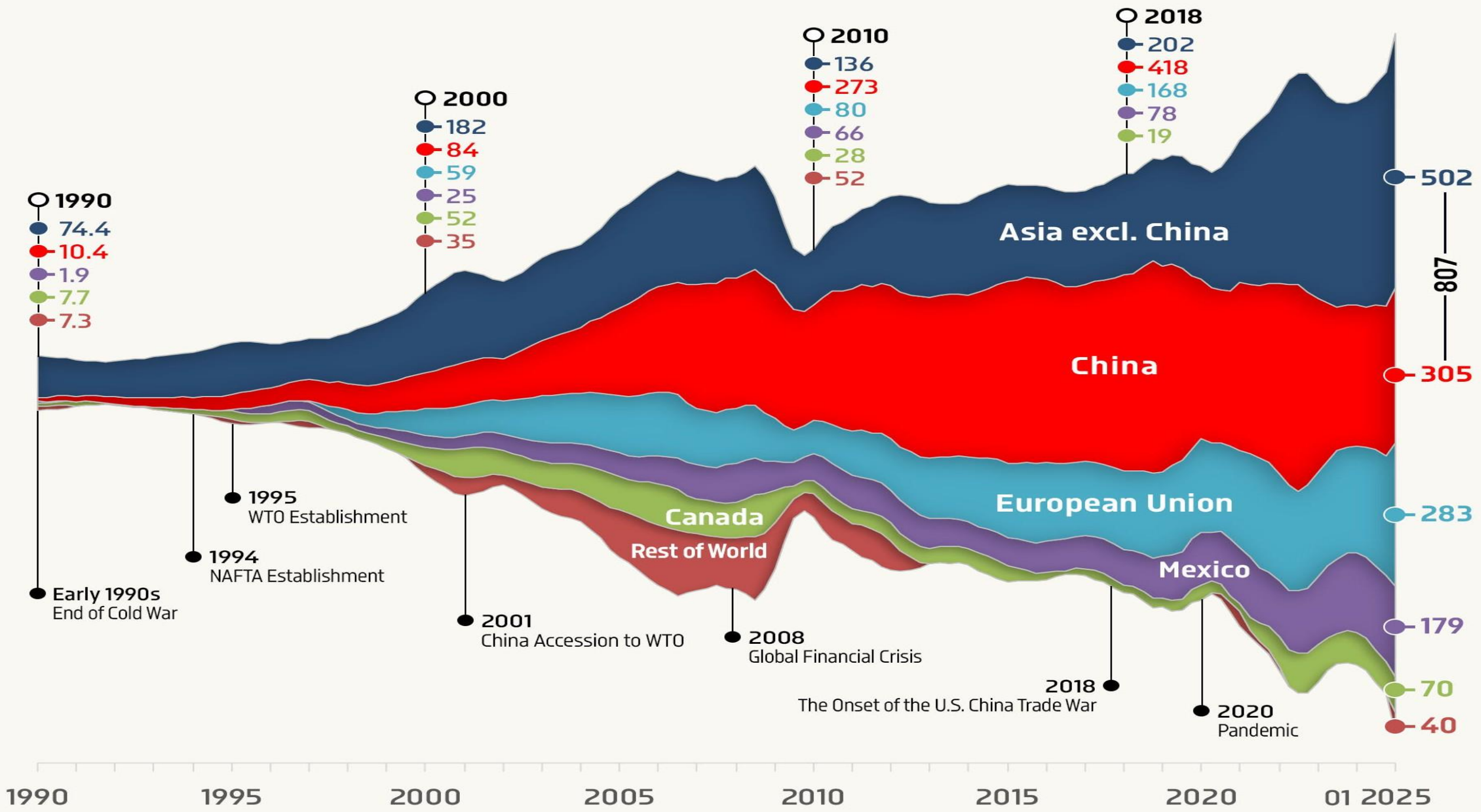




U.S. Trade Balance (Billion US\$, 12-Month Rolling Sum)

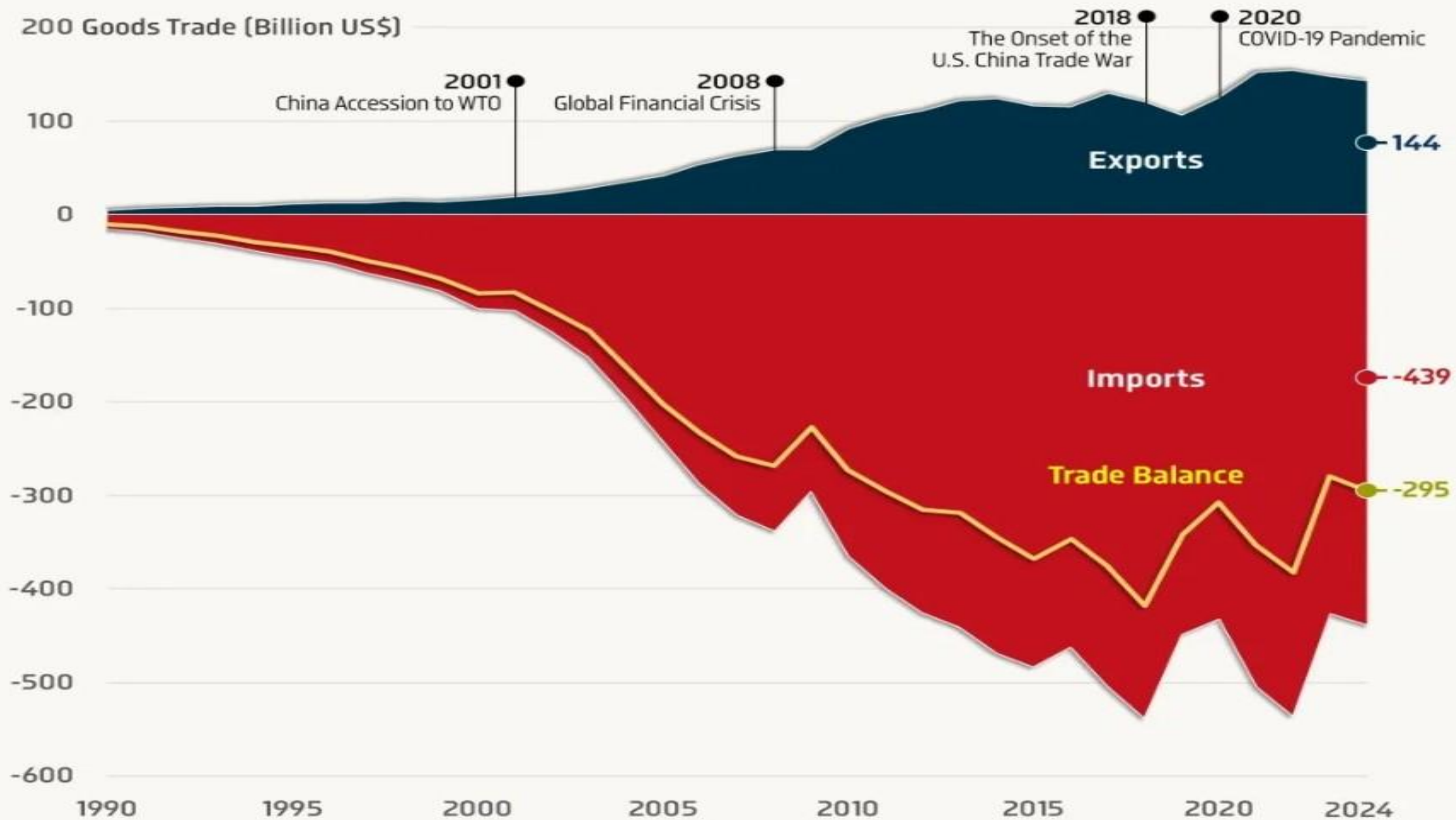


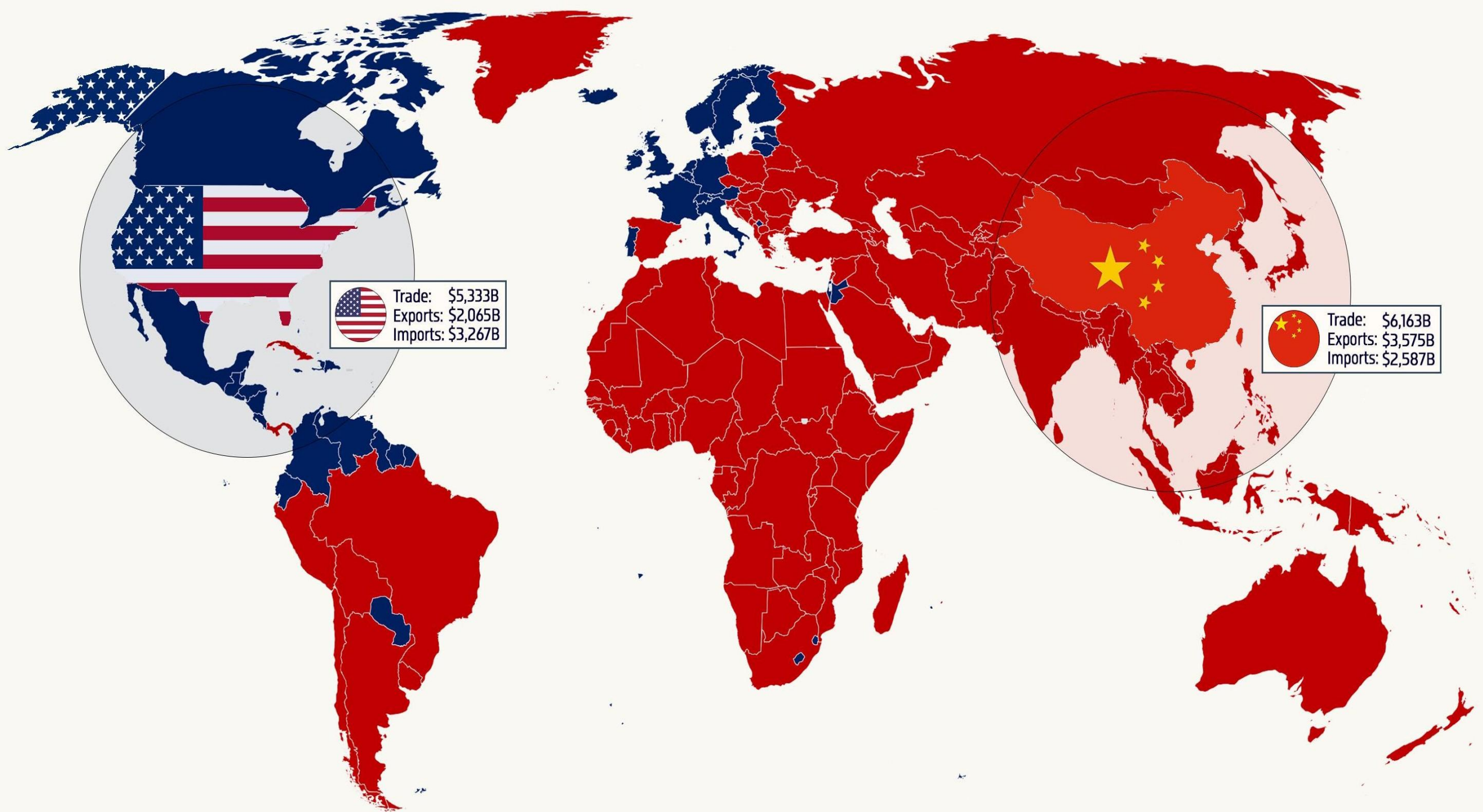
Trade Deficit (Billion US\$, 12-Month Rolling Sum)





# 200 Goods Trade (Billion US\$)





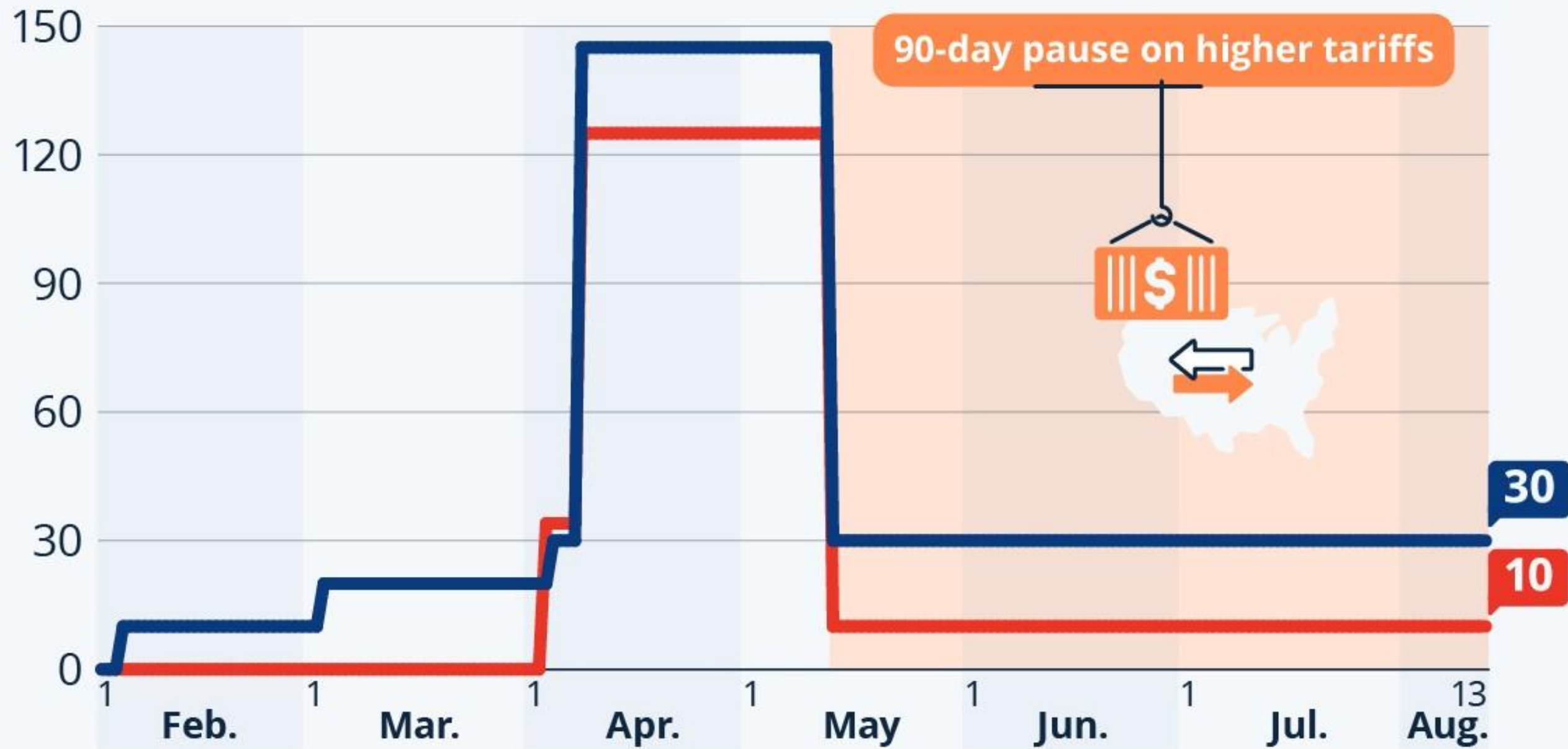
# US Trade Balances With Partners

Goods imports and exports in 2024



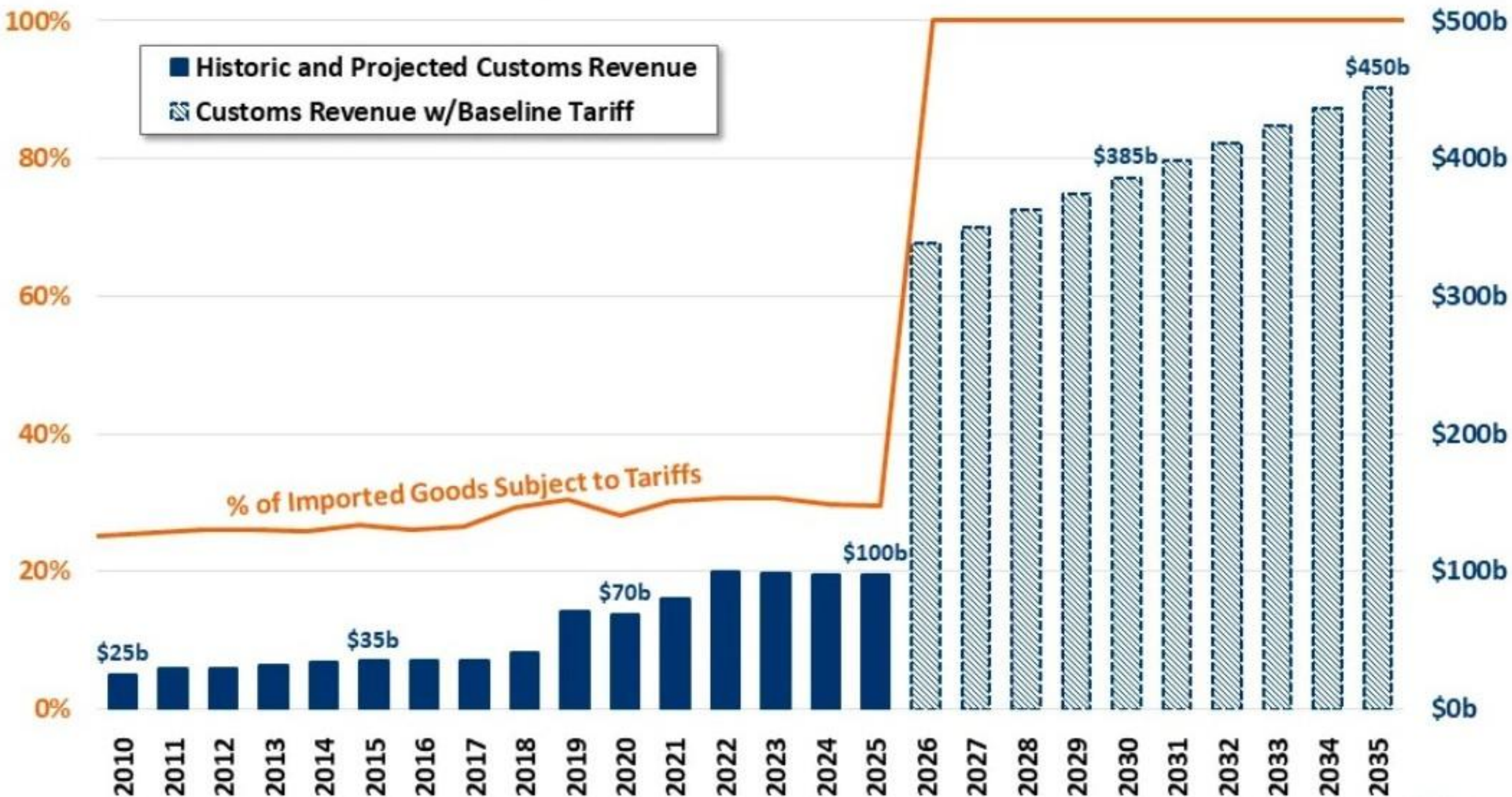


- Chinese additional tariff rate on U.S. goods\*
- U.S. additional tariff rate on Chinese goods\*

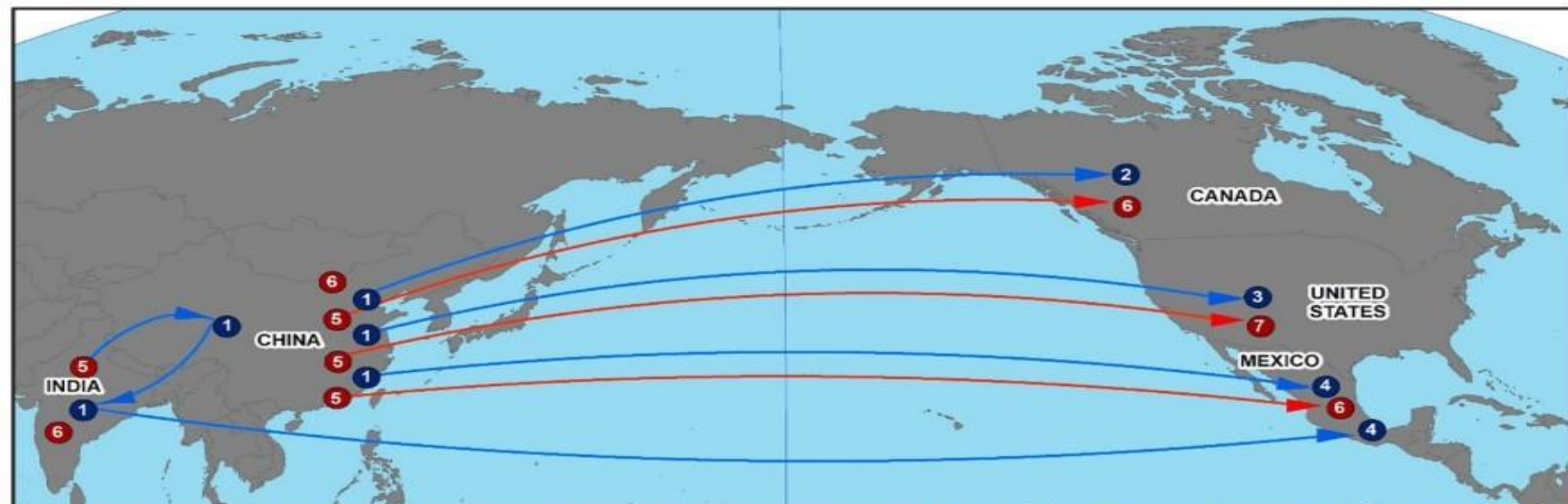


Percent of Imported Goods Subject to Tariffs

Customs Revenue

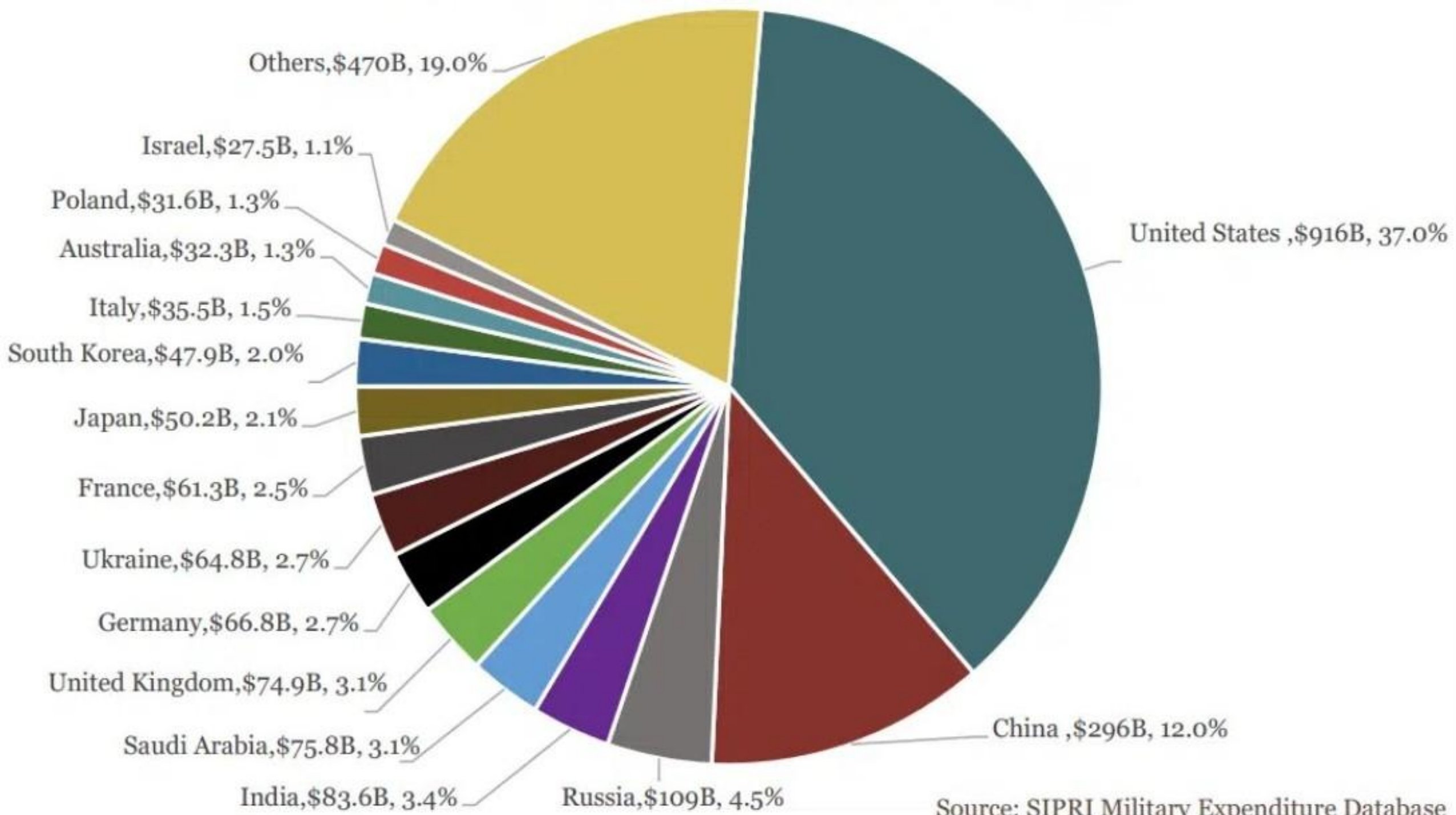




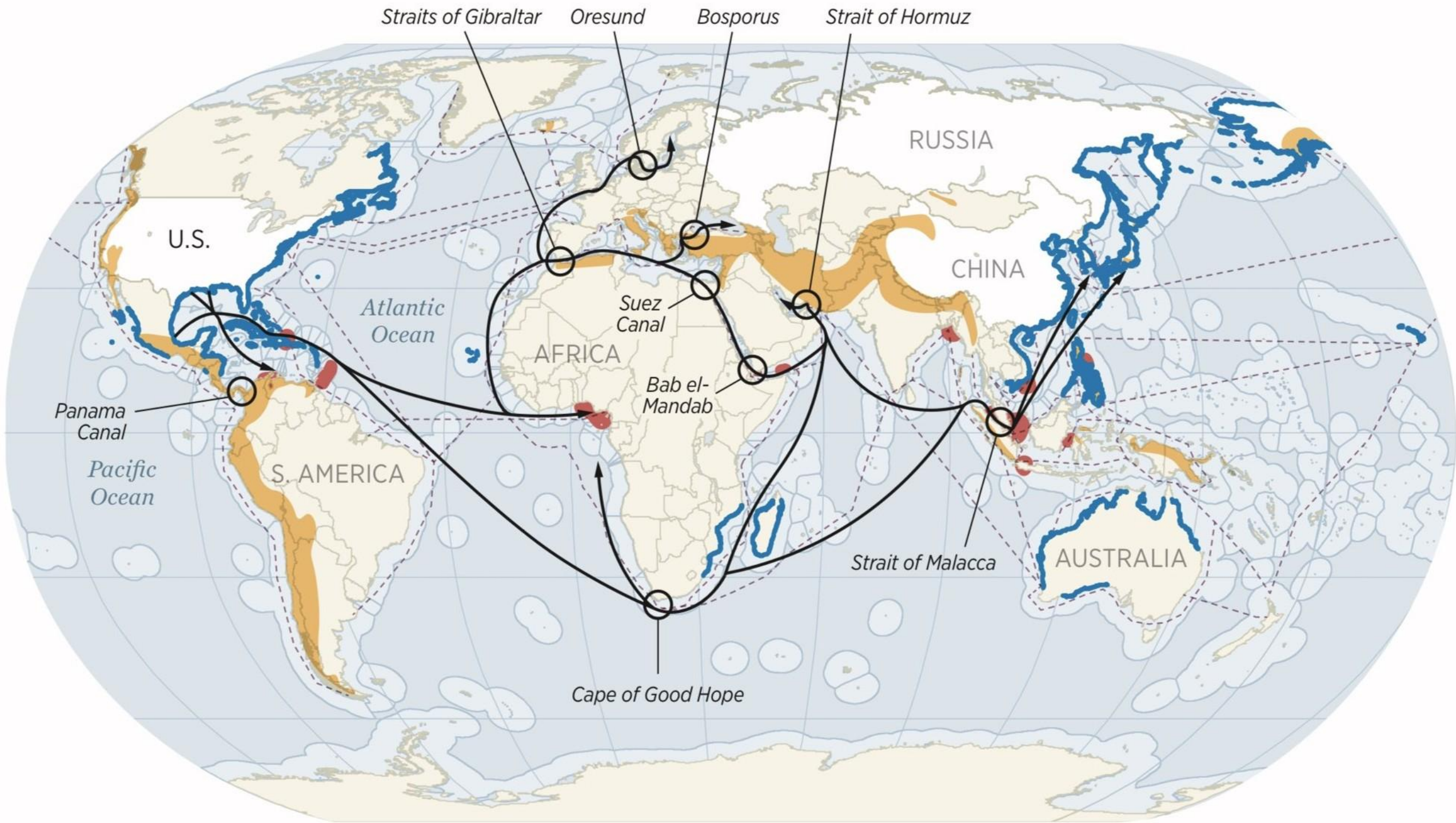


- 1 Fentanyl in powder form as well as unregistered pill presses, stamps, and dies are shipped via mail services
- 2 The powder fentanyl is processed and mixed with heroin, sold as heroin, or pressed into pills and sold in the Canadian drug market
- 2a Some fentanyl products are smuggled from Canada into the United States for sale, on a smaller scale
- 3 The powder fentanyl is processed and mixed with heroin, sold as heroin, or pressed into pills and sold in the United States drug market
- 4 The powder fentanyl is cut and diluted for further smuggling, or pressed into counterfeit prescription pills
- 5 Precursors for manufacturing fentanyl are shipped via mail services
- 6 Precursors are used to clandestinely manufacture fentanyl
- 7 Precursors are likely smuggled across the Southwest border into Mexico to manufacture fentanyl











## Top 10 Routes by Weekly Tonnage

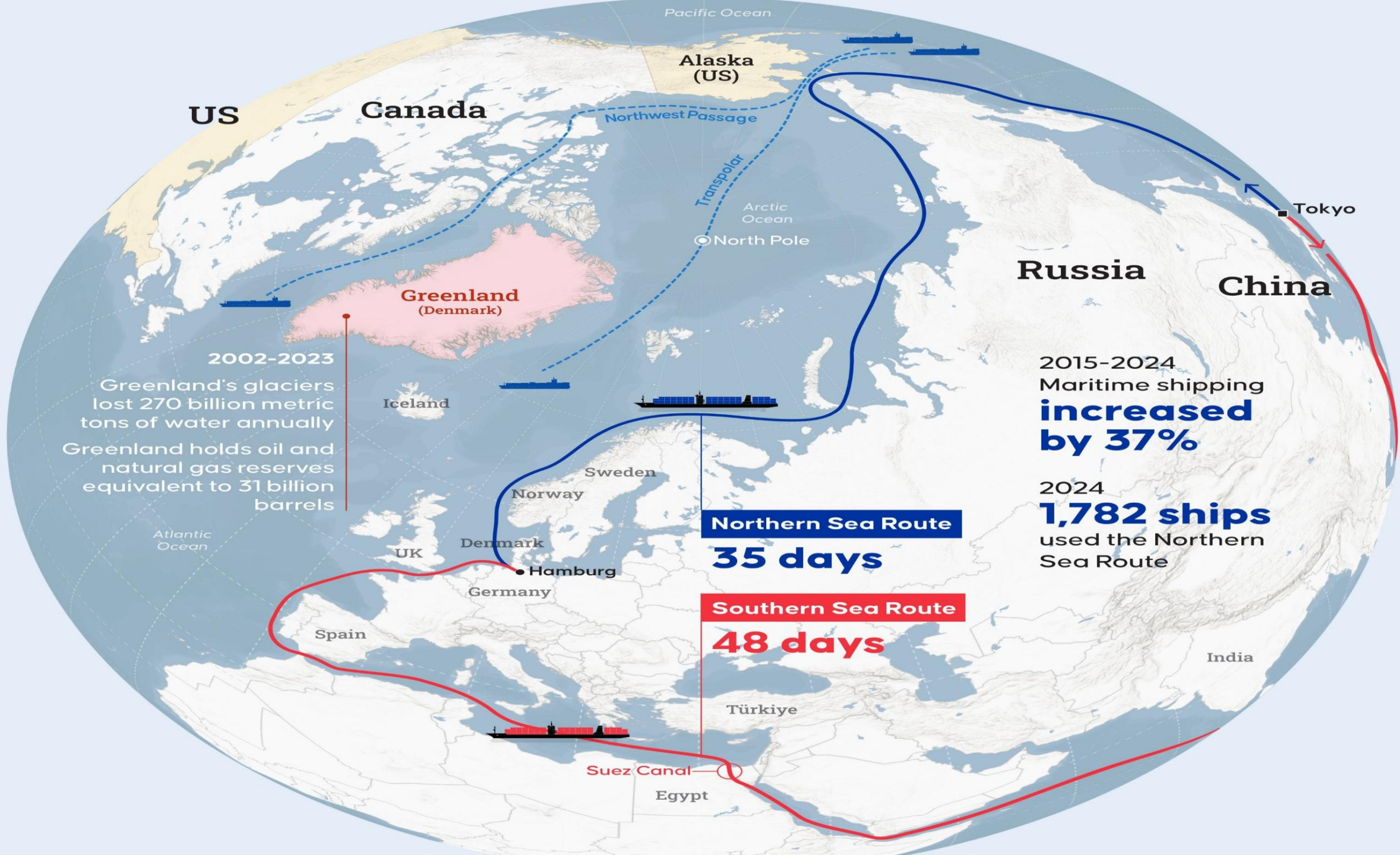
1. East Coast U.S. to Asia
2. East Coast U.S. to West Coast South America
3. East Coast U.S. to West Coast Central America
4. Europe to West Coast South America
5. South America Intercoastal
6. East Coast South America to Asia
7. Europe to West Coast U.S.
8. U.S. Intercoastal
9. Asia to East Coast Central America
10. Central America Intercoastal

## Most Frequent Flags Flown

1. Panama 🇵🇦
2. Liberia 🇱🇮
3. Marshall Islands 🇲🇭
4. Singapore 🇸🇬
5. Bahamas 🇧🇸
6. Hong Kong 🇮🇪
7. Malta 🇲🇹
8. United States 🇺🇸
9. Norway 🇳🇴
10. Portugal 🇵🇹









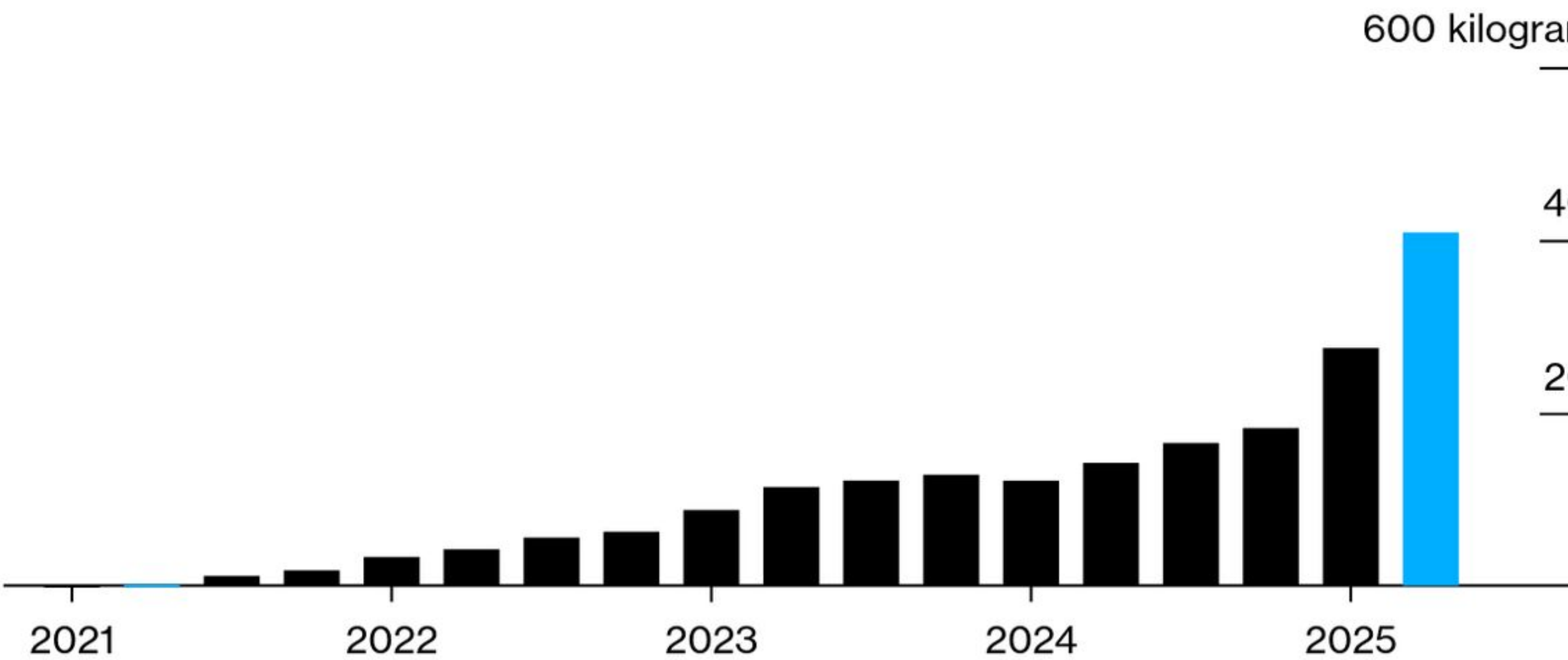


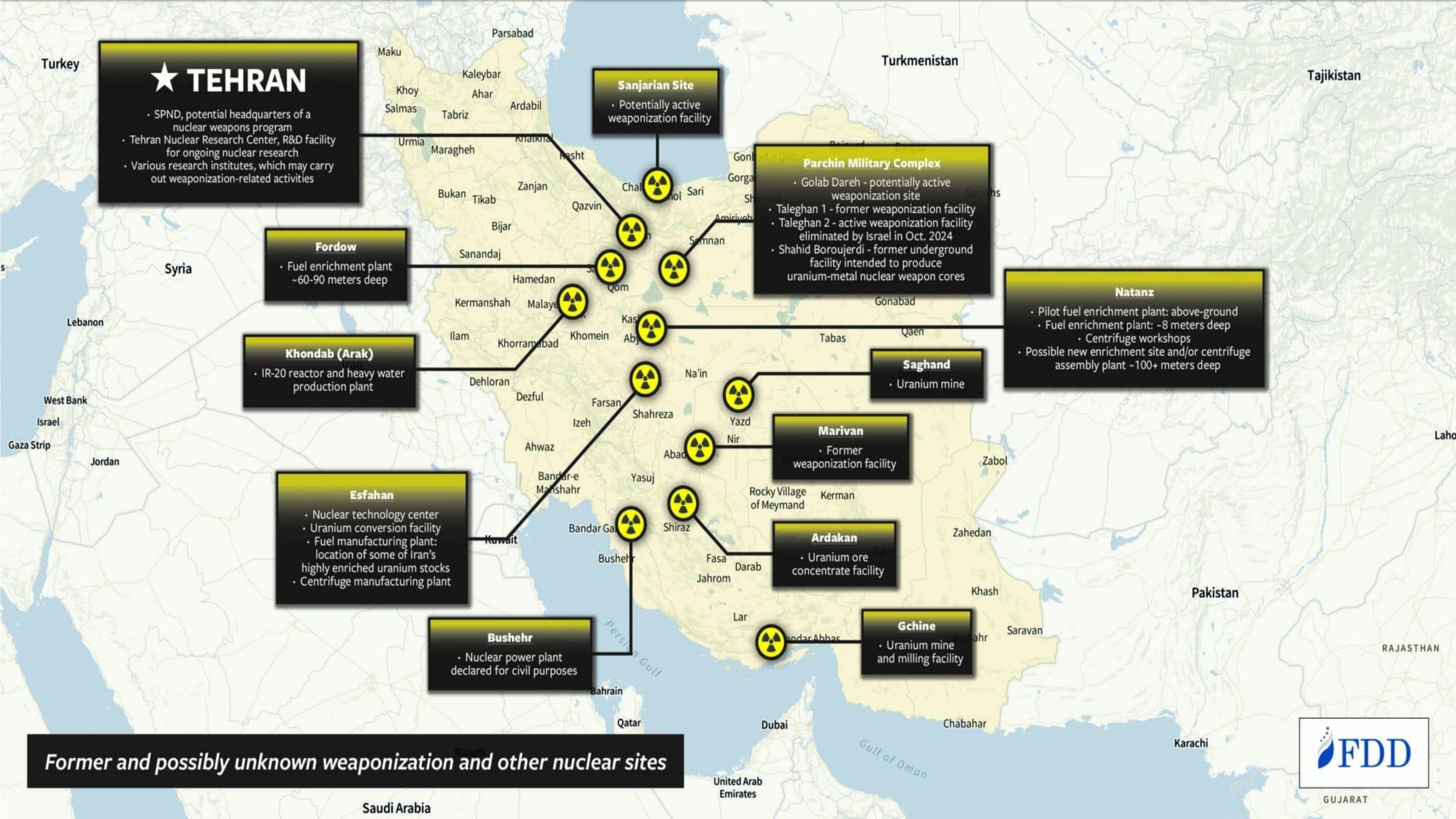


# Iran's Highly-Enriched Uranium

IAEA verified Iran increased HEU stockpile by 134 kilograms

■ 60% Enriched Uranium    ■ Record Quarterly Increase





★ **TEHRAN**

- SPND, potential headquarters of a nuclear weapons program
- Tehran Nuclear Research Center, R&D facility for ongoing nuclear research
- Various research institutes, which may carry out weaponization-related activities

**Fordow**

- Fuel enrichment plant ~60-90 meters deep

**Khondab (Arak)**

- IR-20 reactor and heavy water production plant

**Esfahan**

- Nuclear technology center
- Uranium conversion facility
- Fuel manufacturing plant: location of some of Iran's highly enriched uranium stocks
- Centrifuge manufacturing plant

**Bushehr**

- Nuclear power plant declared for civil purposes

**Sanjarian Site**

- Potentially active weaponization facility

**Parchin Military Complex**

- Golab Dareh - potentially active weaponization site
- Taleghan 1 - former weaponization facility
- Taleghan 2 - active weaponization facility eliminated by Israel in Oct. 2024
- Shahid Boroujerdi - former underground facility intended to produce uranium-metal nuclear weapon cores

**Natanz**

- Pilot fuel enrichment plant: above-ground
- Fuel enrichment plant: ~8 meters deep
- Centrifuge workshops
- Possible new enrichment site and/or centrifuge assembly plant ~100+ meters deep

**Saghand**

- Uranium mine

**Marivan**

- Former weaponization facility

**Ardakan**

- Uranium ore concentrate facility

**Gchine**

- Uranium mine and milling facility

*Former and possibly unknown weaponization and other nuclear sites*

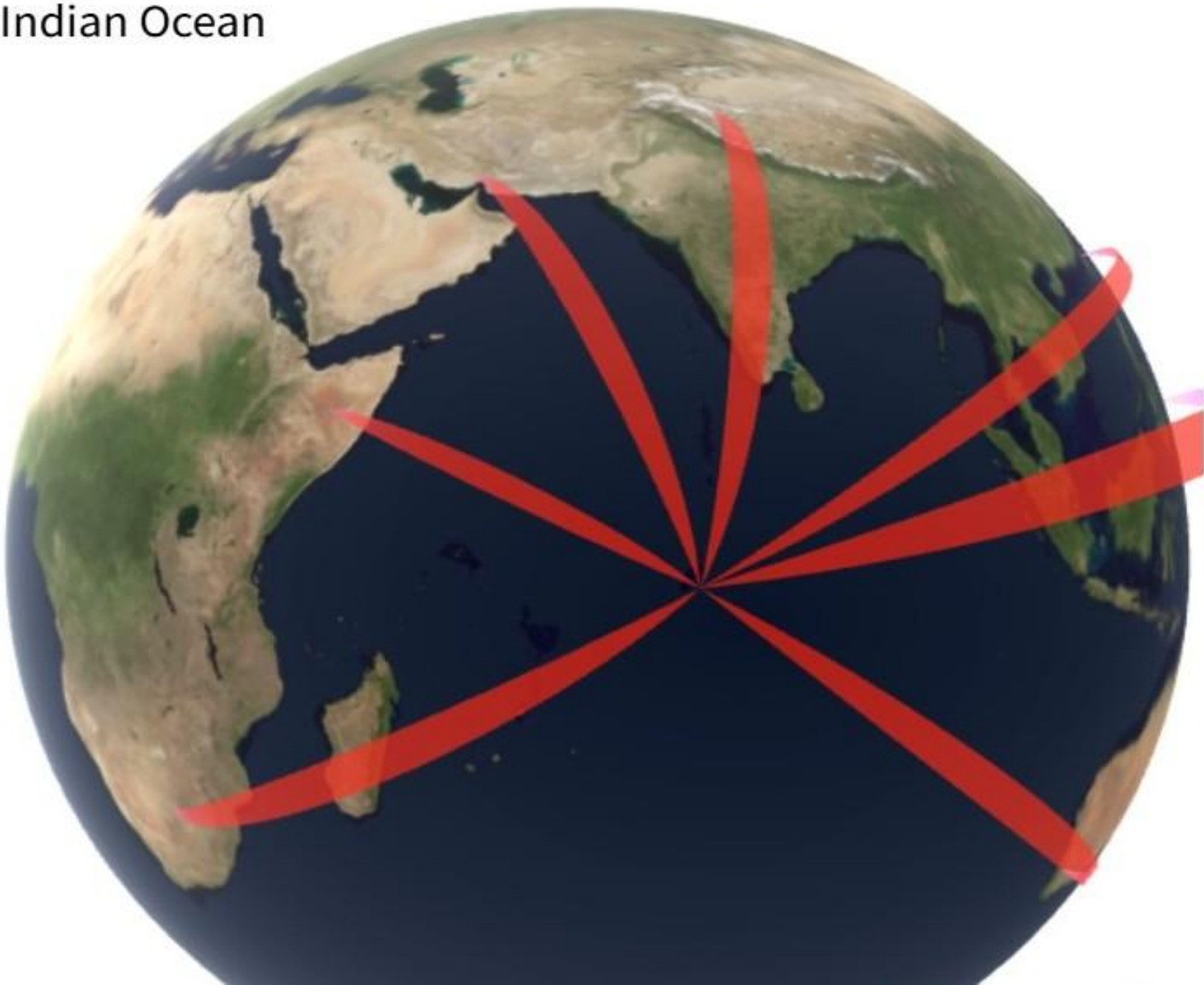


# Diego Garcia

U.S. force projection from the Indian Ocean

## Diego Garcia to:

- 1 Guam 5,175 miles
- 2 Southern Africa 3,350 miles
- 3 Australia 3,270 miles
- 4 Himalayas 2,900 miles
- 5 Taiwan Strait 2,850 miles
- 6 Iran 2,650 miles
- 7 Horn of Africa 2,000 miles









# Real GDP year-over-year growth estimates/projections in Russia (in percent)\*



- Grouping of Forces
- Russian direction of attack
- Territory taken by Russia since Feb 2022
- Territory taken by Russia since Feb 2014
- Ukraine incursion

UPDATE ON UKRAINE  
6 June 2025

BATTLEFIELD SITUATION

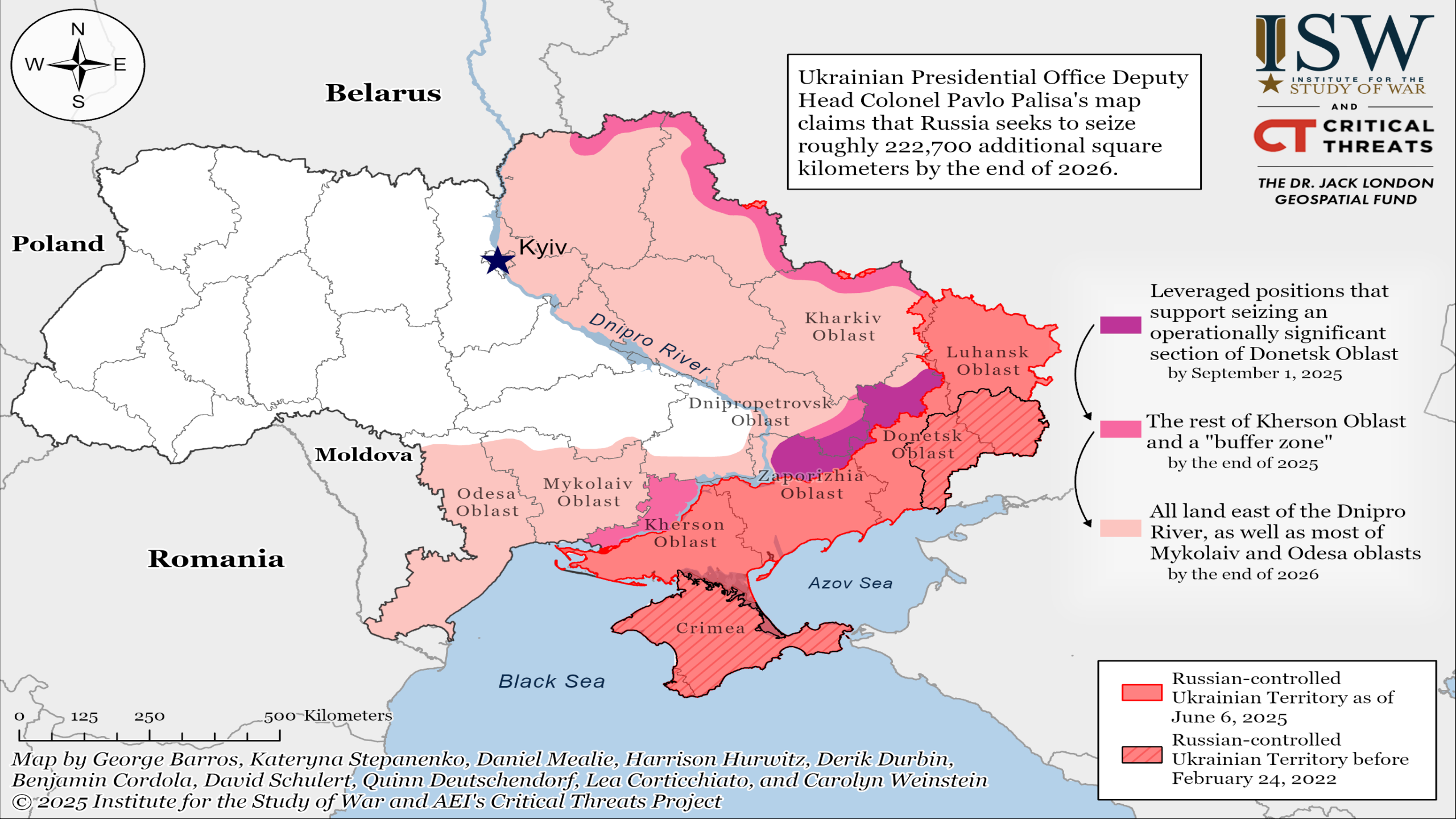
0 25 50 100 150 200 Miles  
0 50 100 200 300 Kilometres



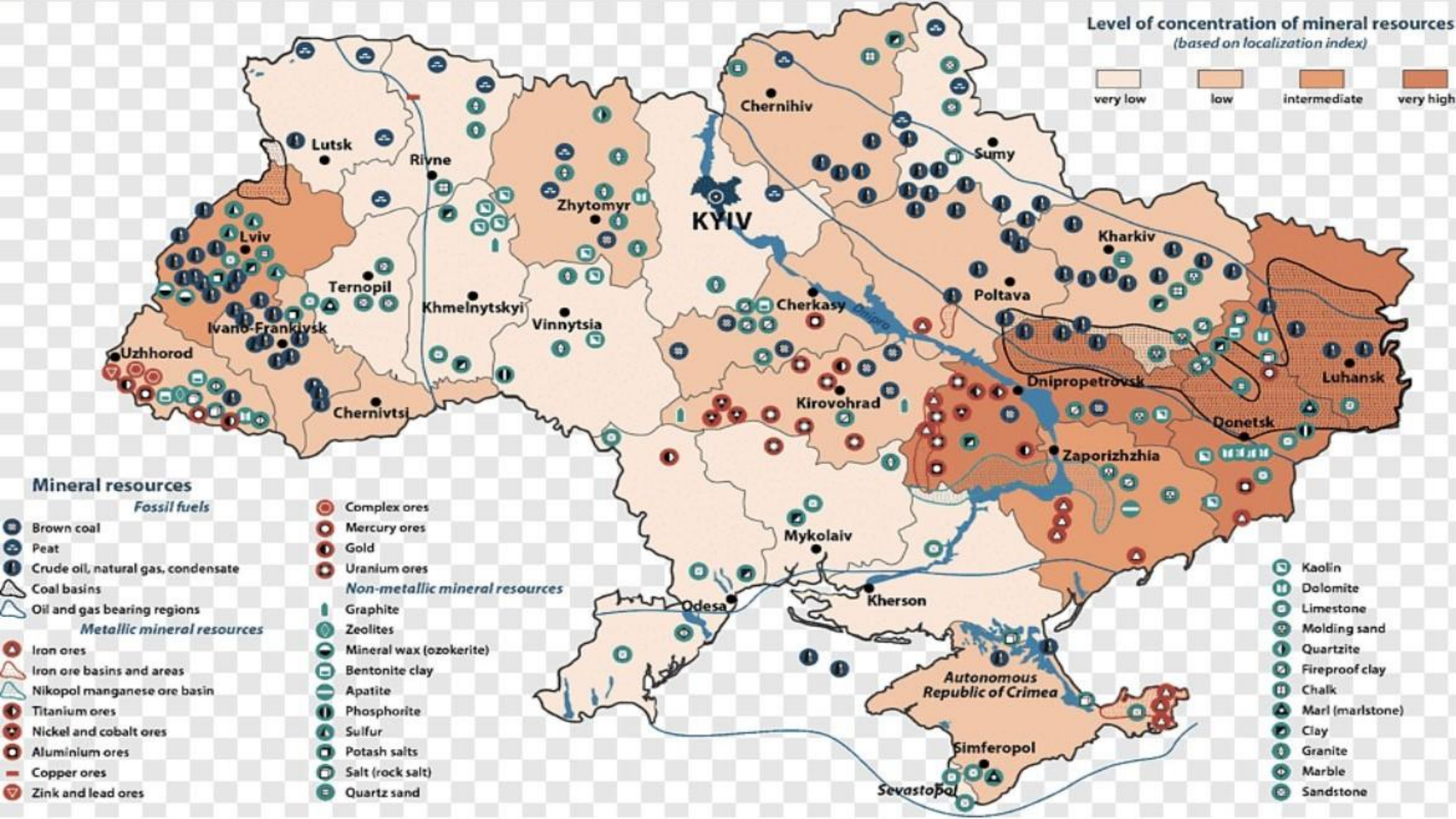
WARNING: Control area is for illustrative purposes only and should not be taken as authoritative.

NOTE: DI products are not to be taken as necessarily representing the view of the UK Government on boundaries.









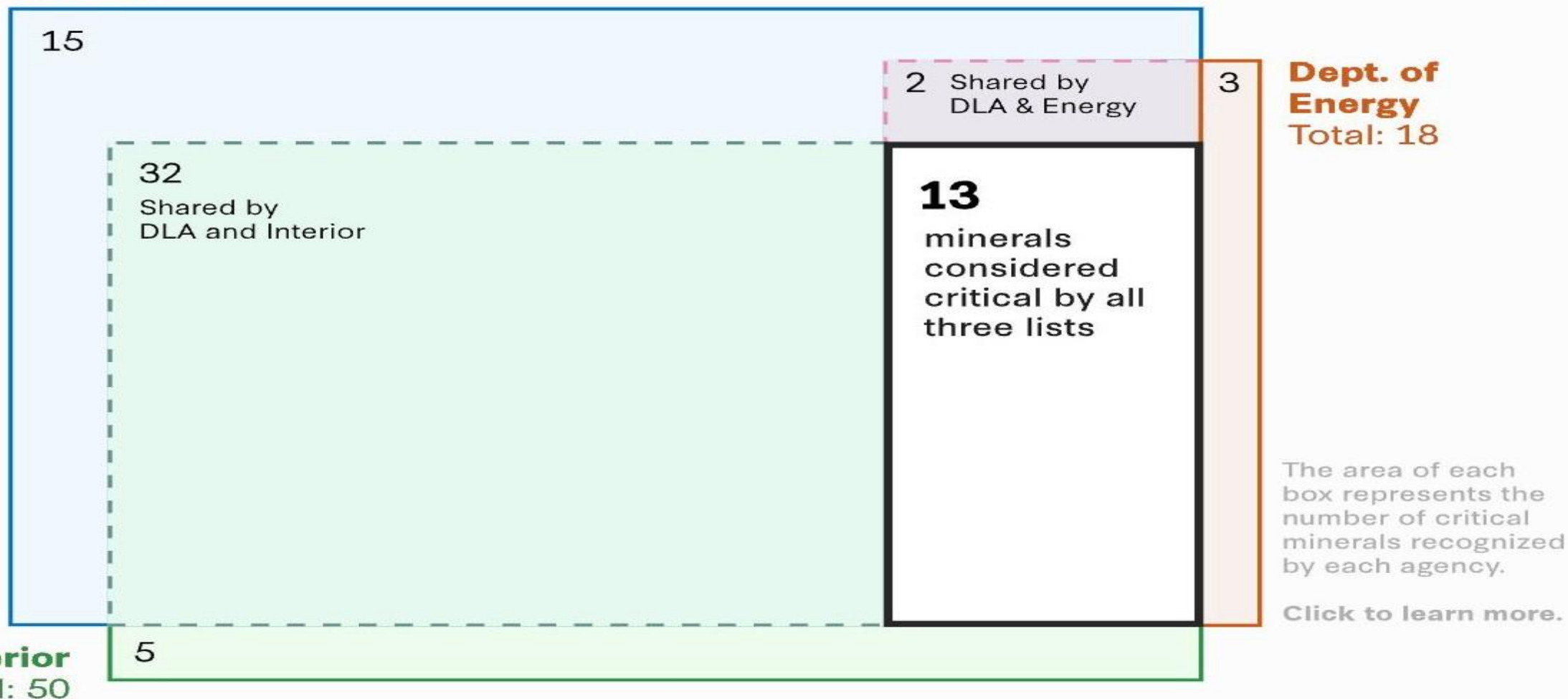


# Three U.S. Government Lists: Which Minerals Are the Most Critical?

Unique to list      Common between 2 lists      Shared by all lists

## Defense Logistics Agency (DLA)

Total: 62

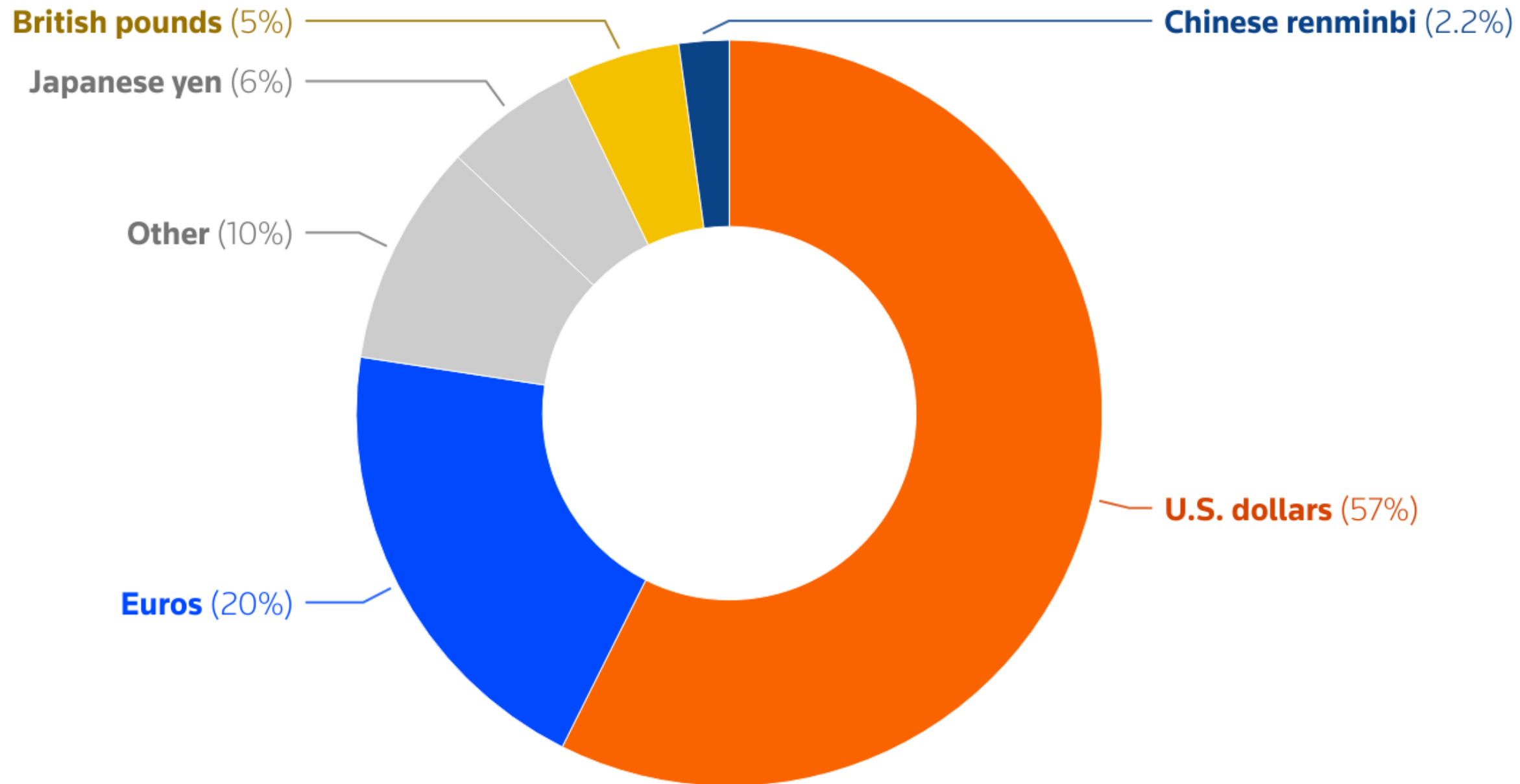


- 
- A world map illustrating the growth of the BRICS group. Countries are color-coded according to their status: dark red for full members, orange for partners, yellow for invited partners with no answer, blue for invited members with no answer, and dark blue for invited members who have rejected the offer. The map shows a significant concentration of members and partners in Asia and South America, with several invited countries in Africa and the Middle East.
- BRICS members (10)
  - BRICS partners (8)
  - Invited to be partner, no answer (4)
  - Invited to be member, no answer (1)
  - Invited to be member, rejected offer (1)

**BRICS KEEPS GROWING**



# The dollar dominates global foreign exchange reserves





Aviation & Aerospace



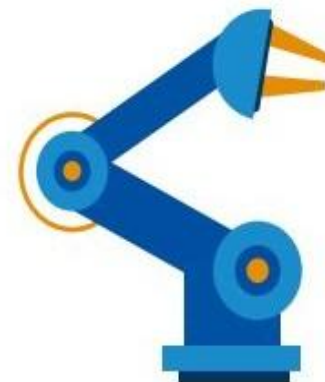
Agriculture



Electrical Power



New Energy Automotive



High-End Robotics



Next Gen Information  
Technology



New Materials & Composites



Rail Transportation

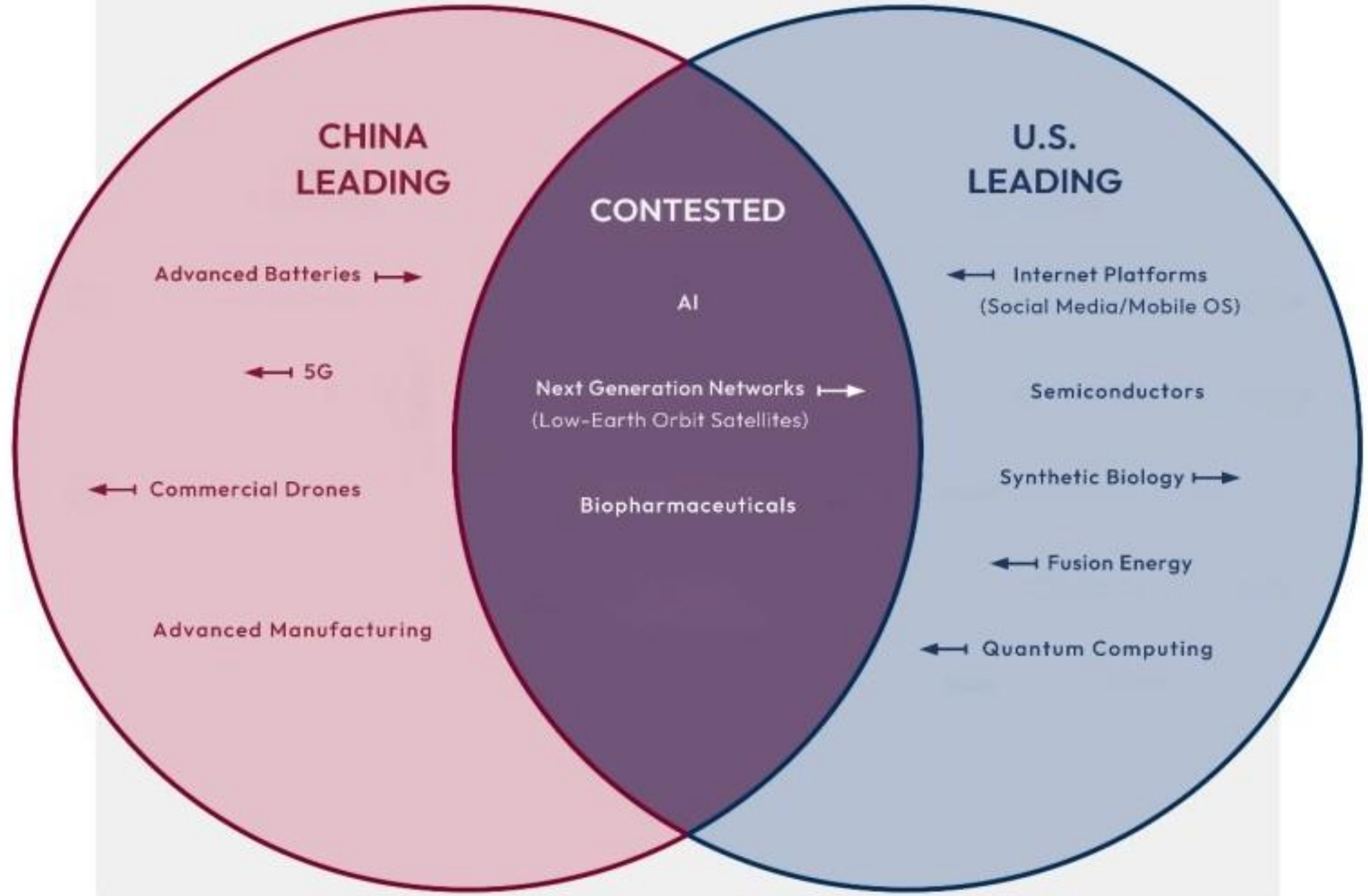


Maritime Engineering



Biomedical & Advanced  
Medical Equipment

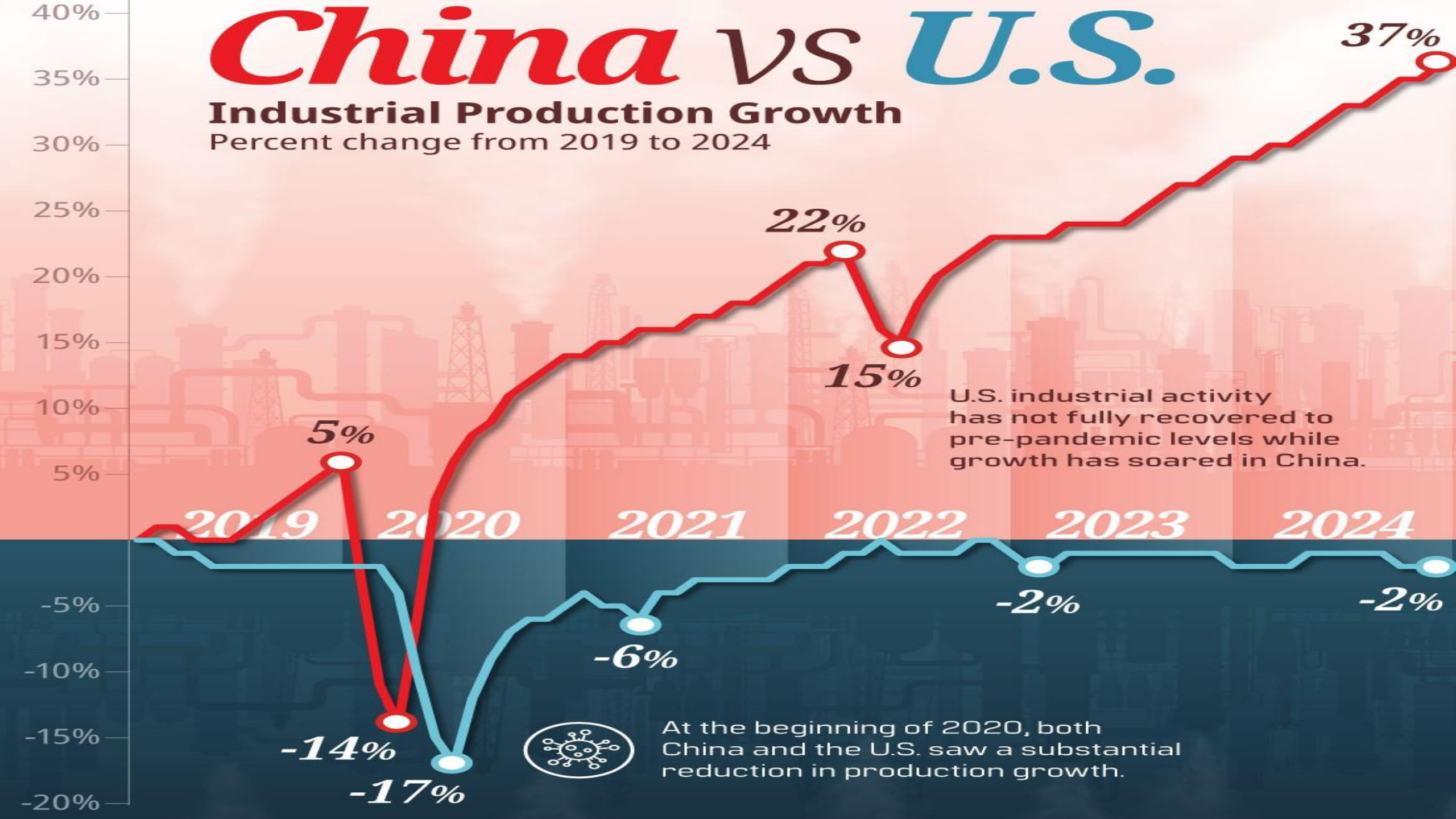




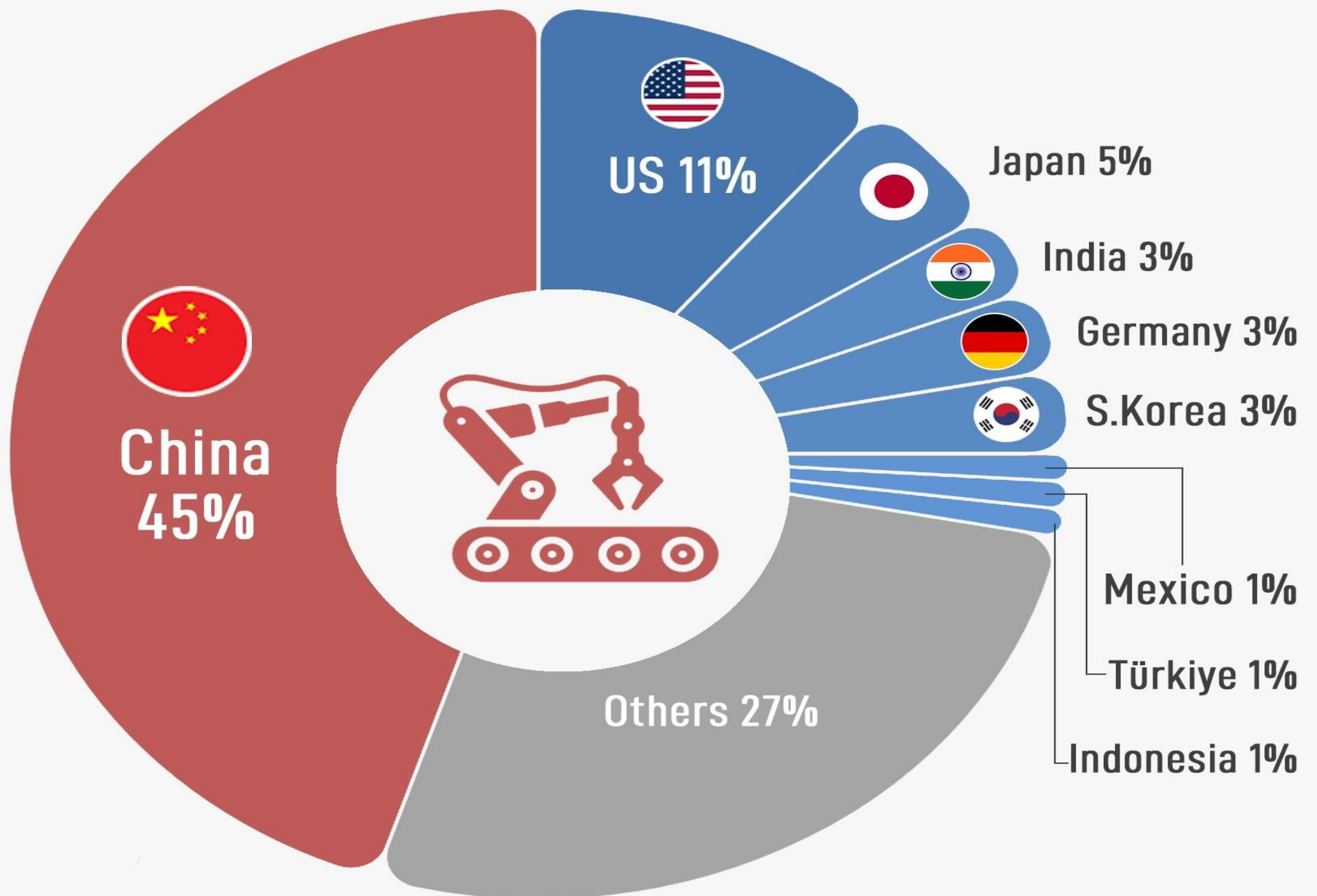
# China vs U.S.

## Industrial Production Growth

Percent change from 2019 to 2024









**90%**

**OF THE WORLD'S MOST  
ADVANCED SEMICONDUCTORS**



**68%**

**OF GLOBAL CHIP  
PRODUCTION**

Taiwan produces an estimated 90% of the world's most advanced semiconductors and about 68% of all global chip production.



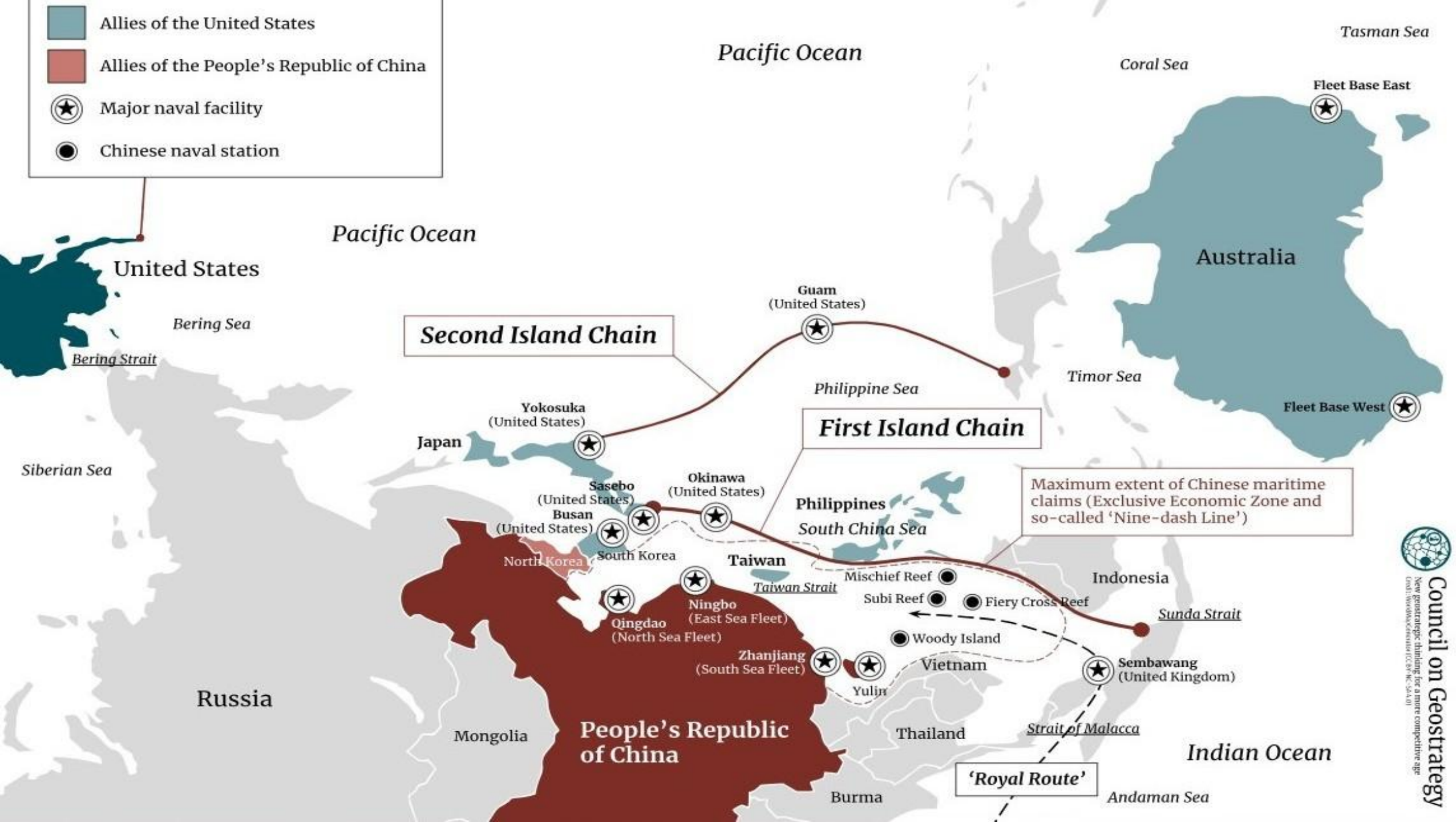
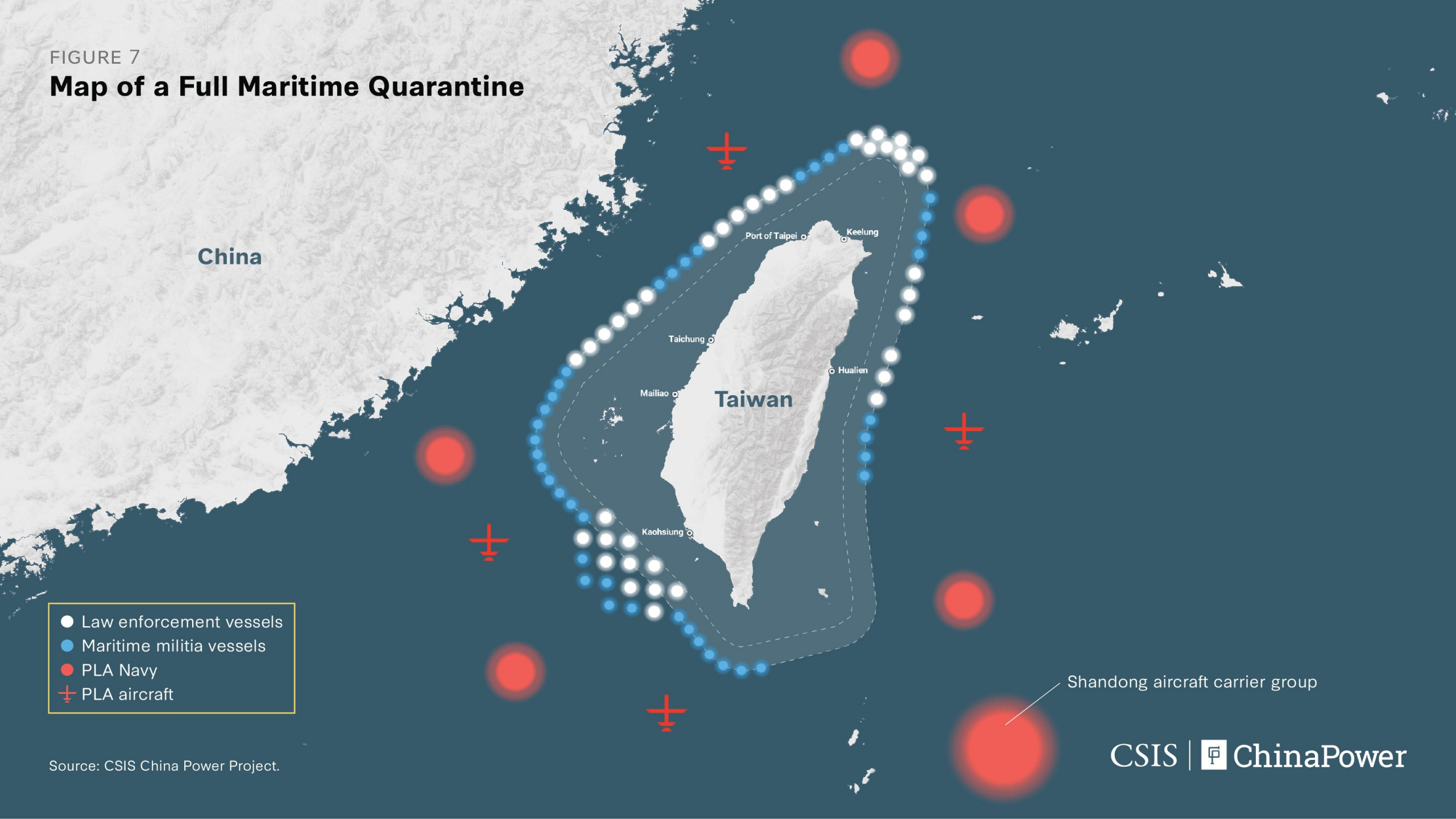
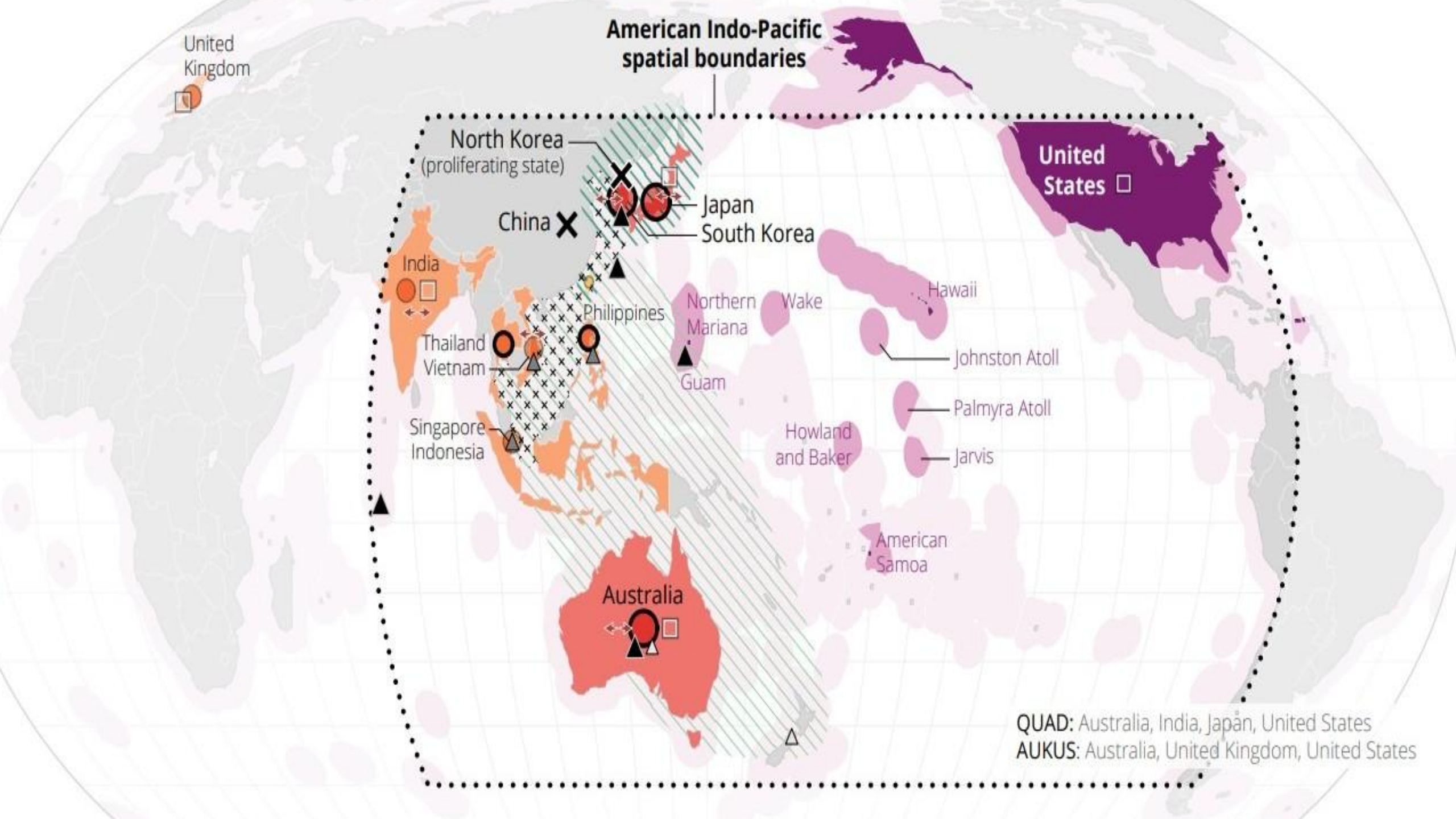


FIGURE 7  
**Map of a Full Maritime Quarantine**

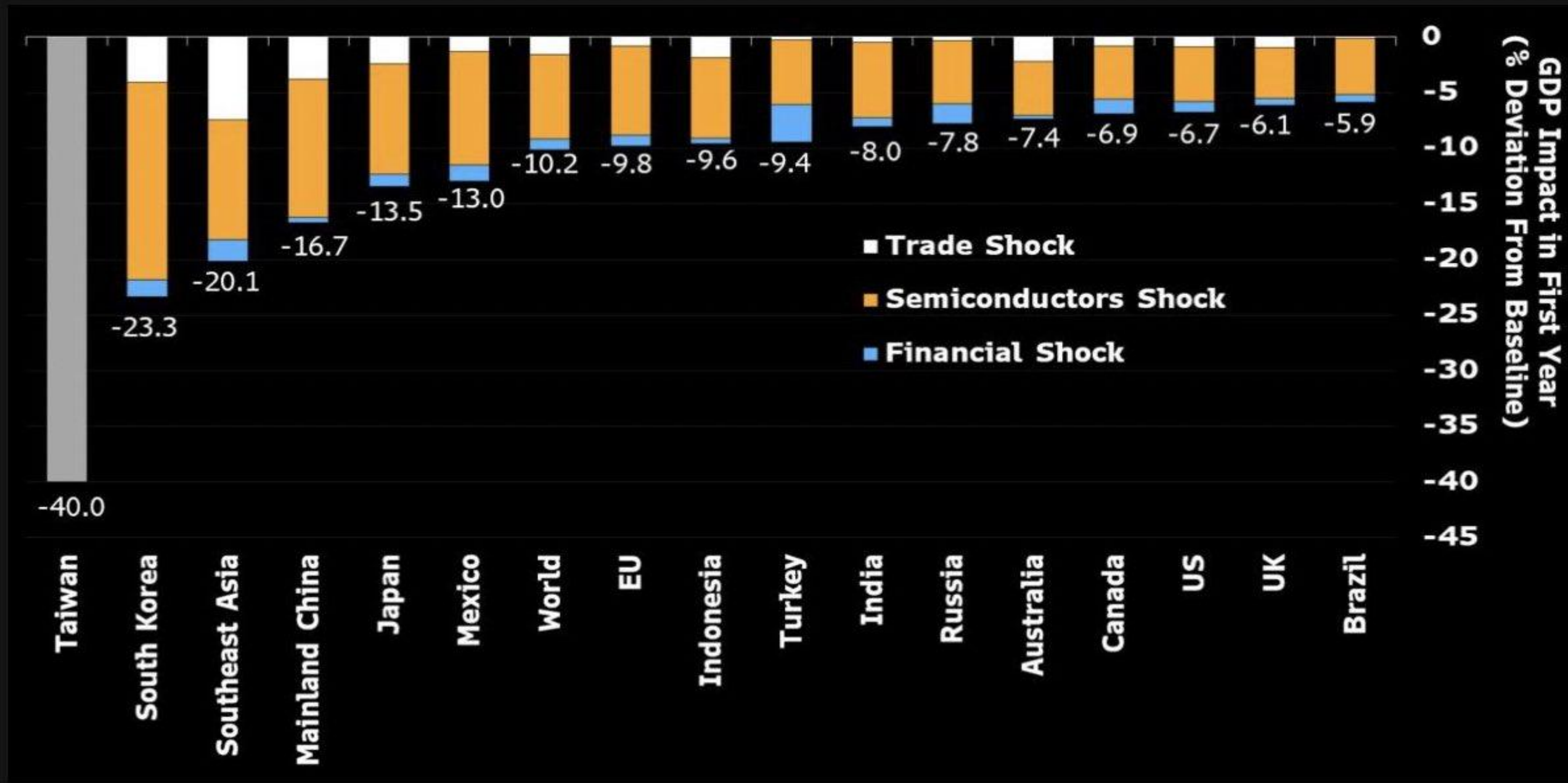


Source: CSIS China Power Project.

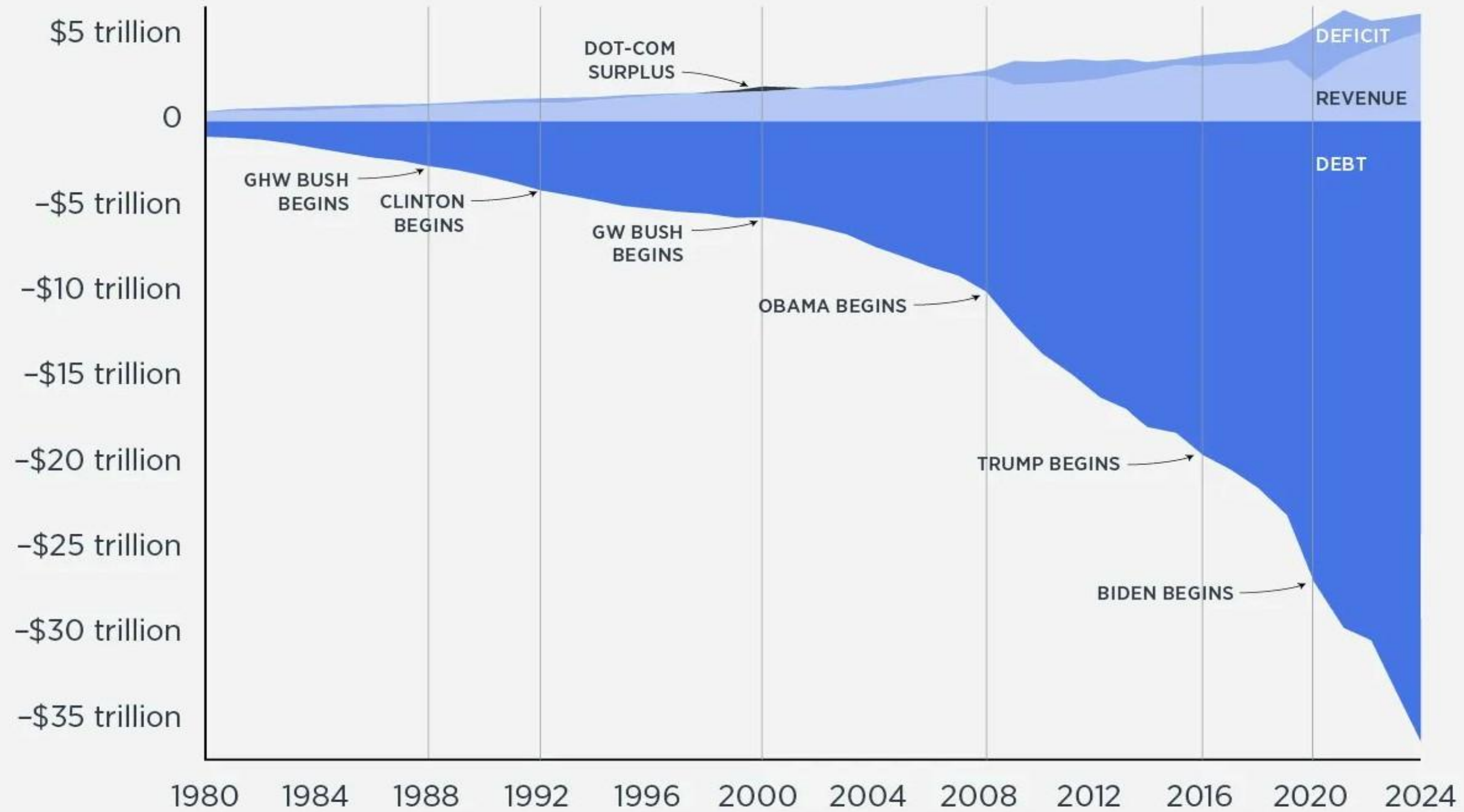




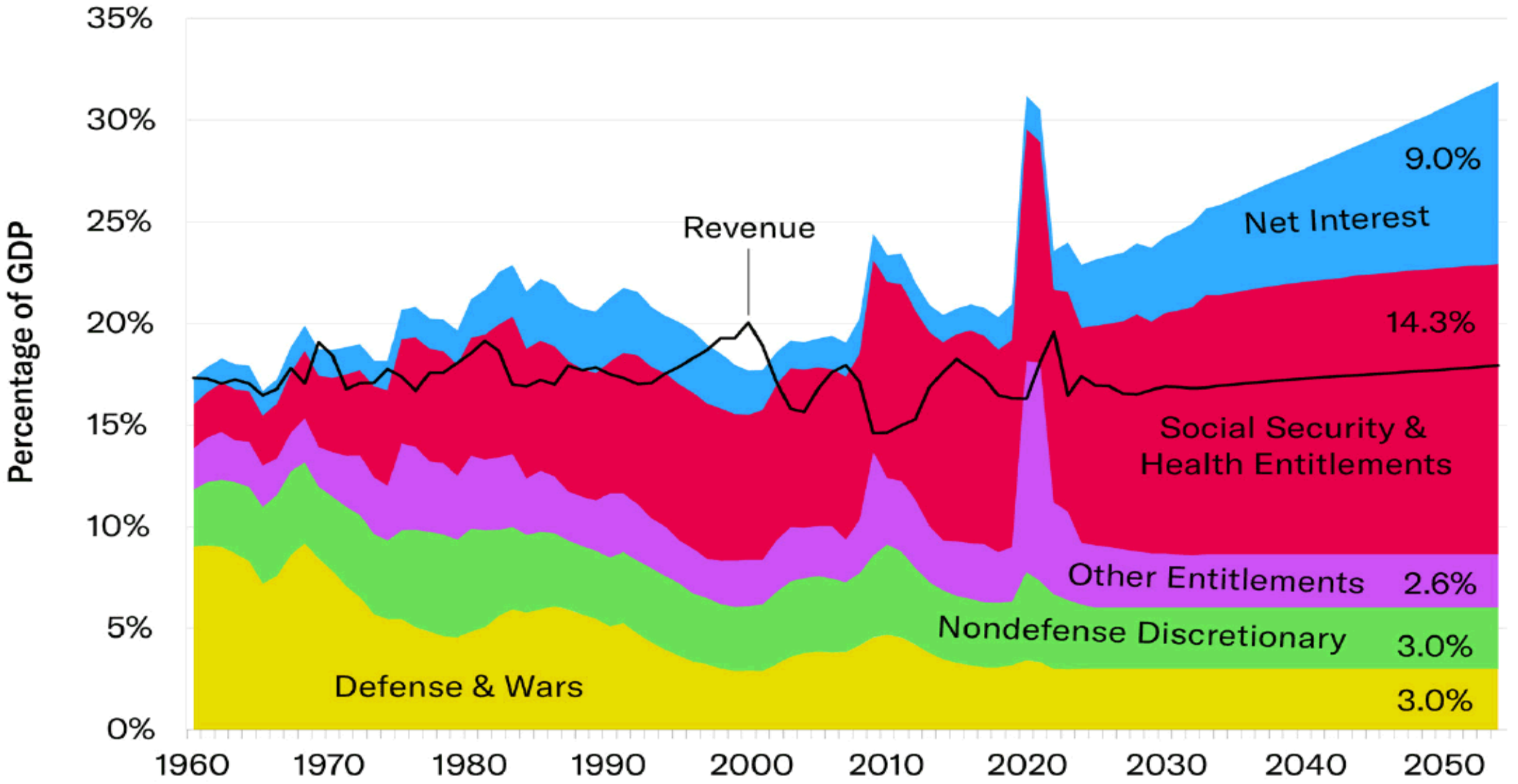
# Global Impact on GDP of War Over Taiwan





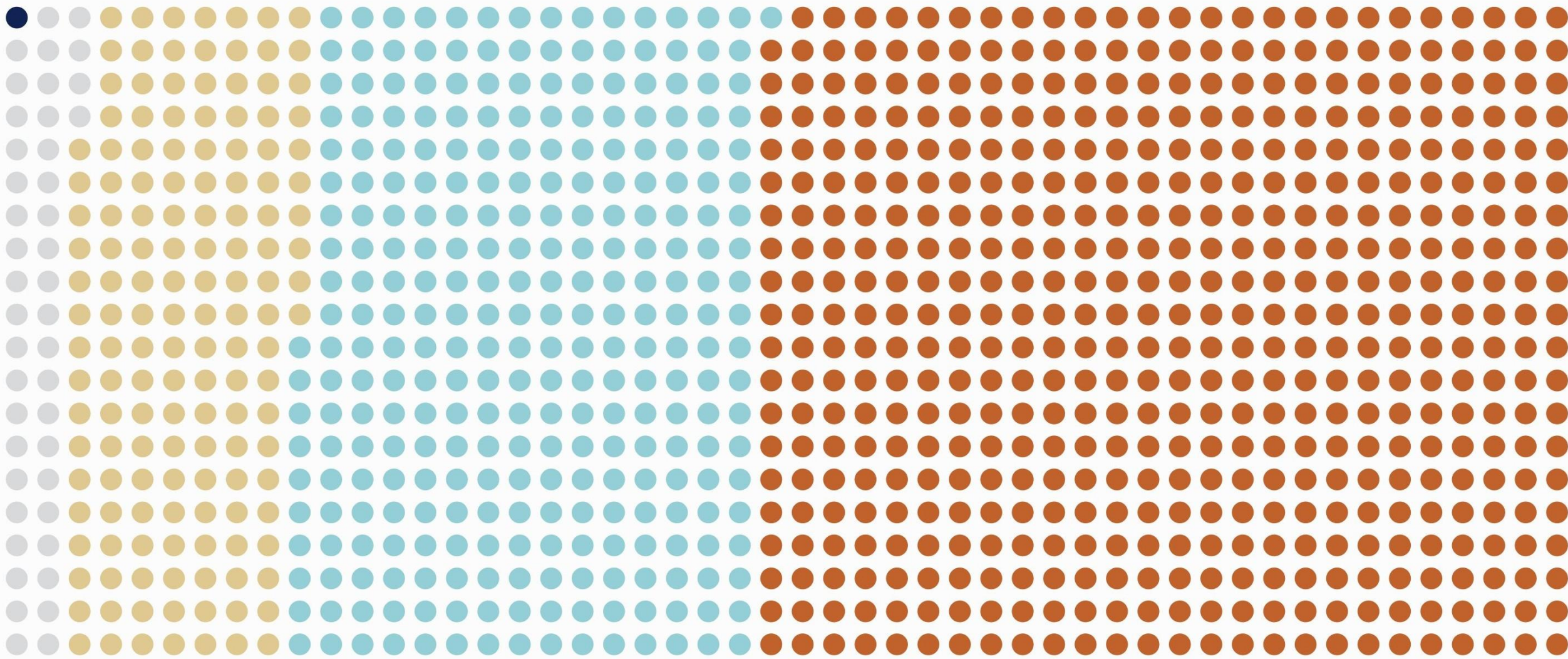


# Federal Budget, 1960–2054 (Projected)





**The U.S. accounts for 0.1%  
of global shipbuilding**



Others  
4.4%

Japan  
13.1%

South Korea  
29.1%

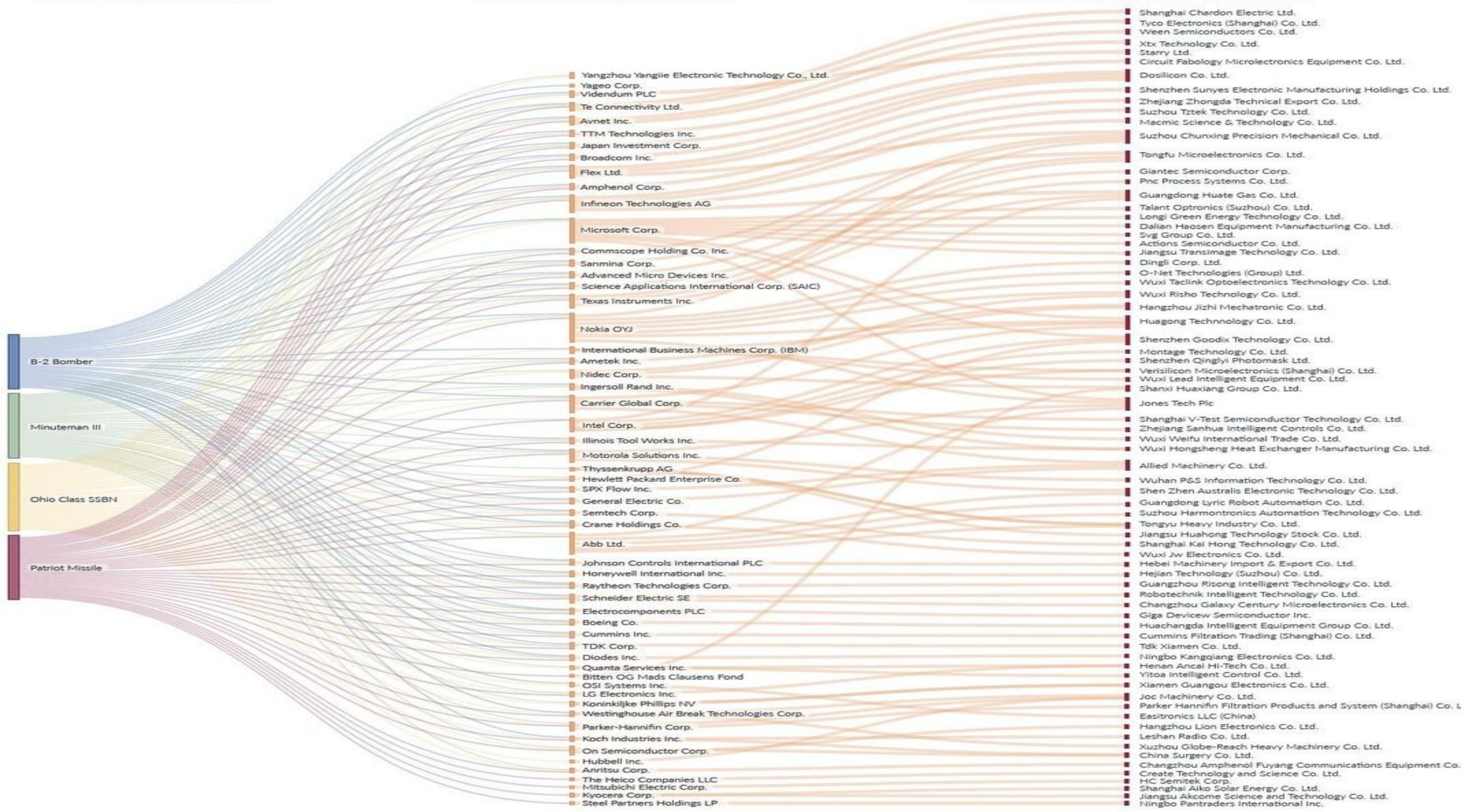
China  
53.3%



## SELECT WEAPON SYSTEM

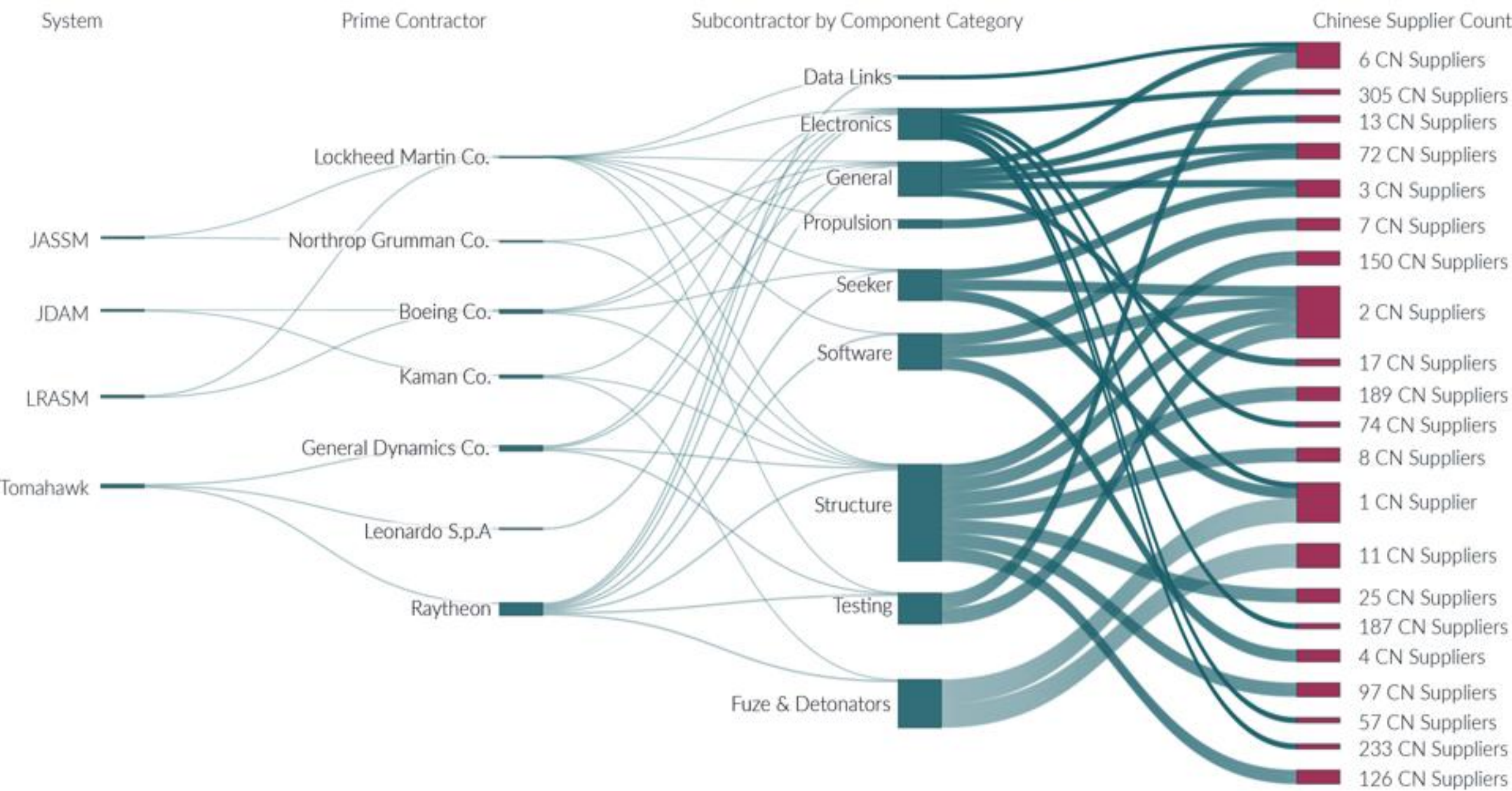
## DLA AUTHORIZED SUPPLIER

## CHINESE SEMICONDUCTOR SUPPLIER





# CHINESE SUPPLIERS IN U.S. AIR-LAUNCHED ARMAMENT SUPPLY CHAINS, 2023



## DOD'S CRITICAL MINERAL CHINESE SUPPLY CHAIN DEPENDENCE, 2025

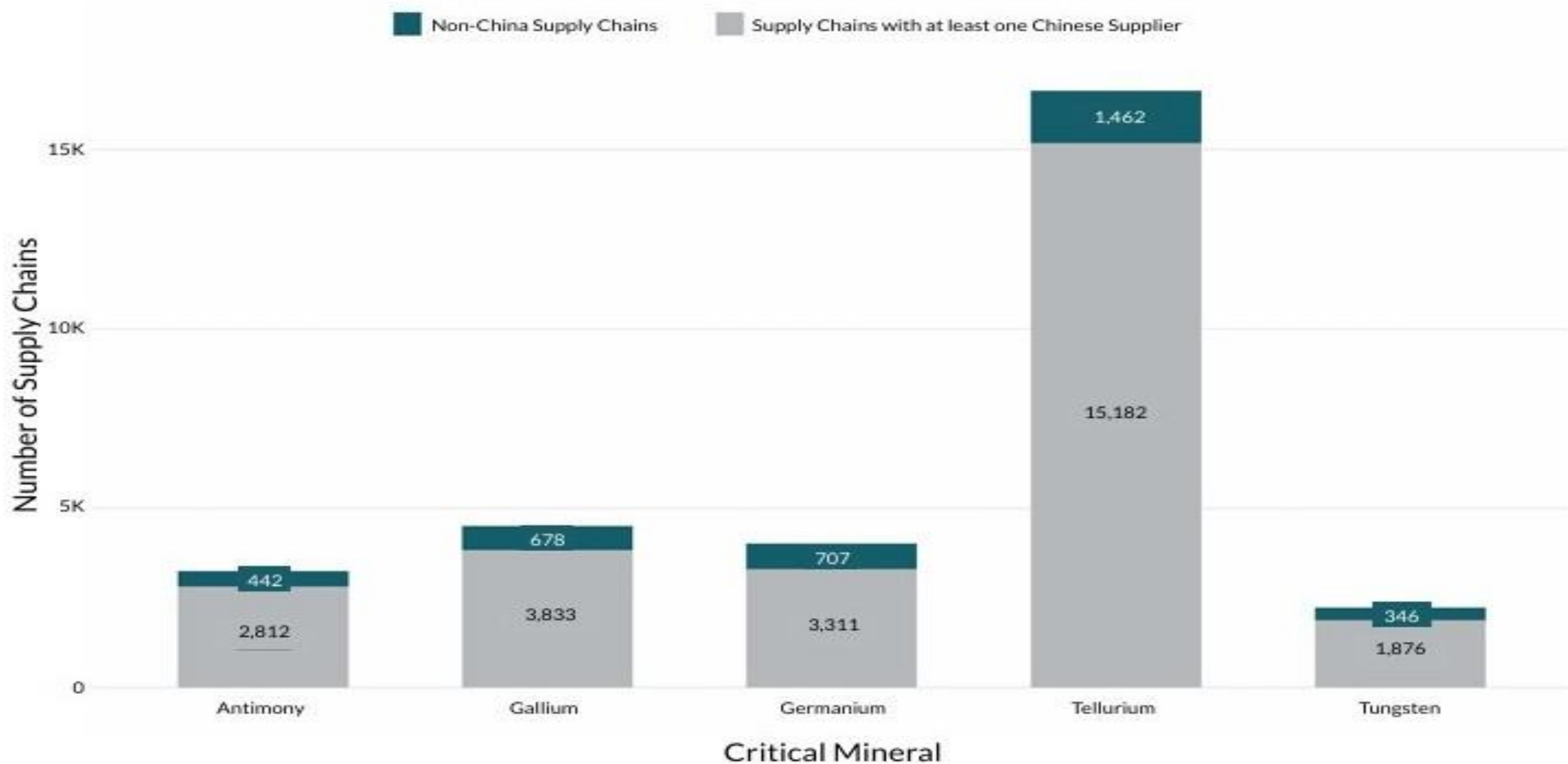


Figure 4. The majority of DoD's Supply Chains for these five critical minerals rely on at least one Chinese supplier.

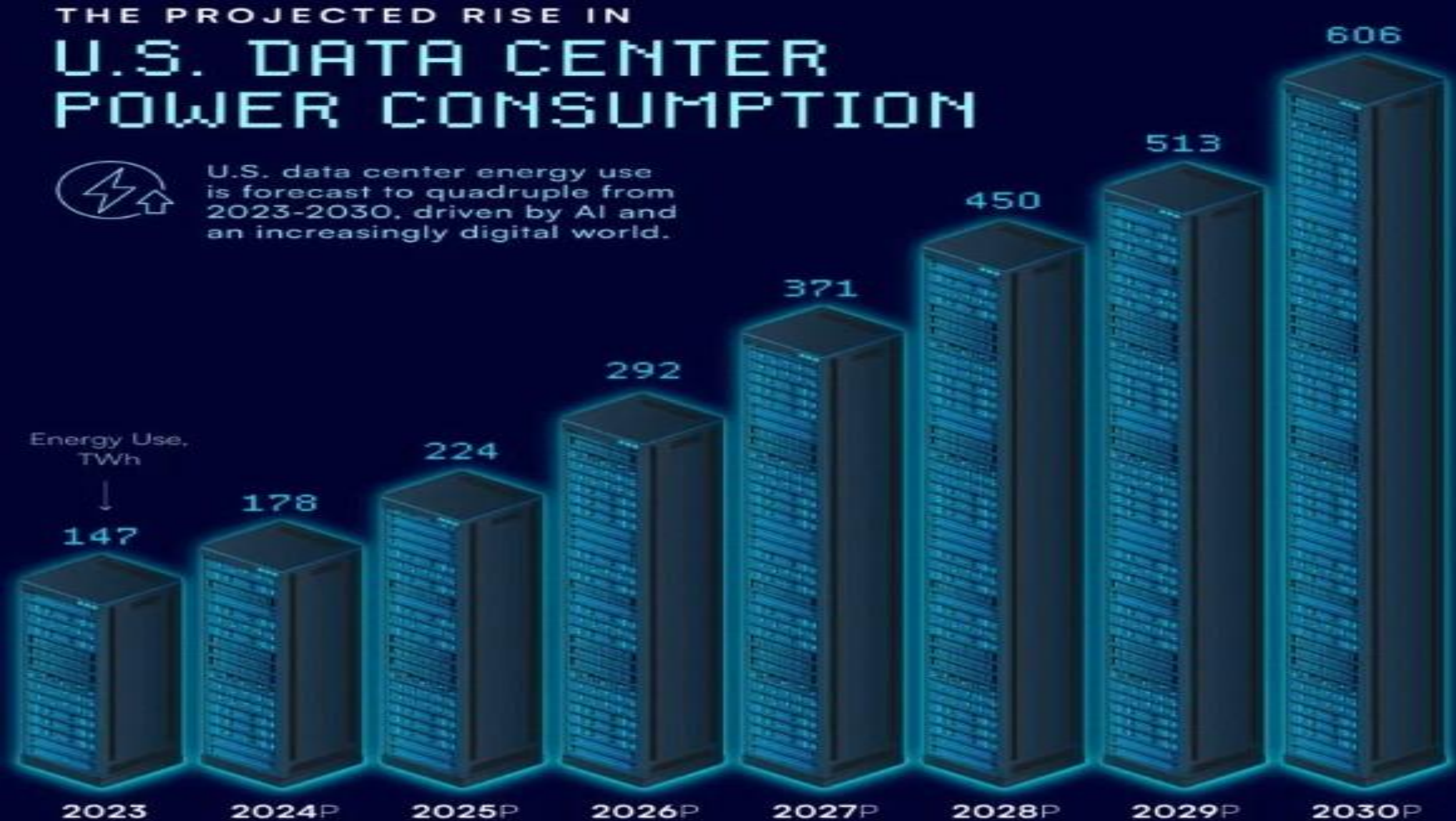


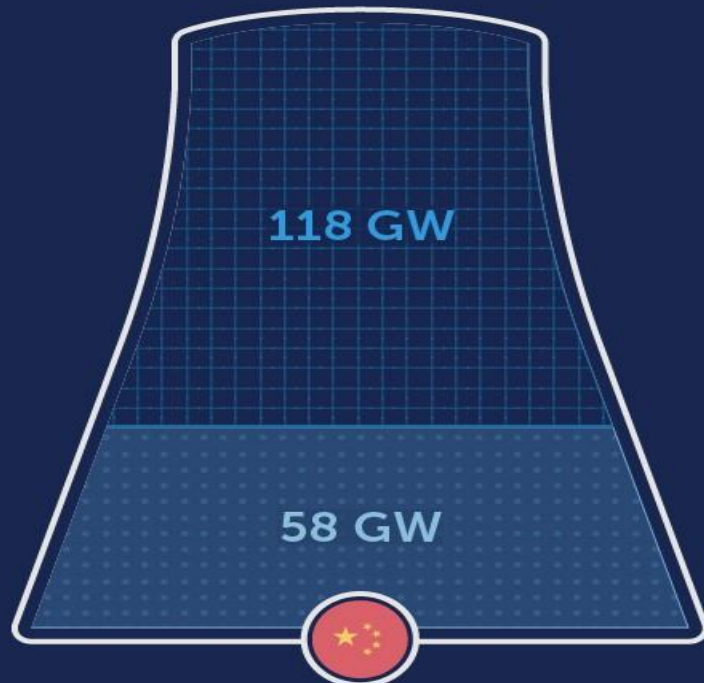
# THE PROJECTED RISE IN U.S. DATA CENTER POWER CONSUMPTION



U.S. data center energy use is forecast to quadruple from 2023-2030, driven by AI and an increasingly digital world.

Energy Use,  
TWh





China



U.S.



France



Russia

If all this prospective capacity eventually comes online, global nuclear capacity could increase to 695 GW, a jump of over 75%.



India



S. Korea



U.K.



Ukraine



Canada

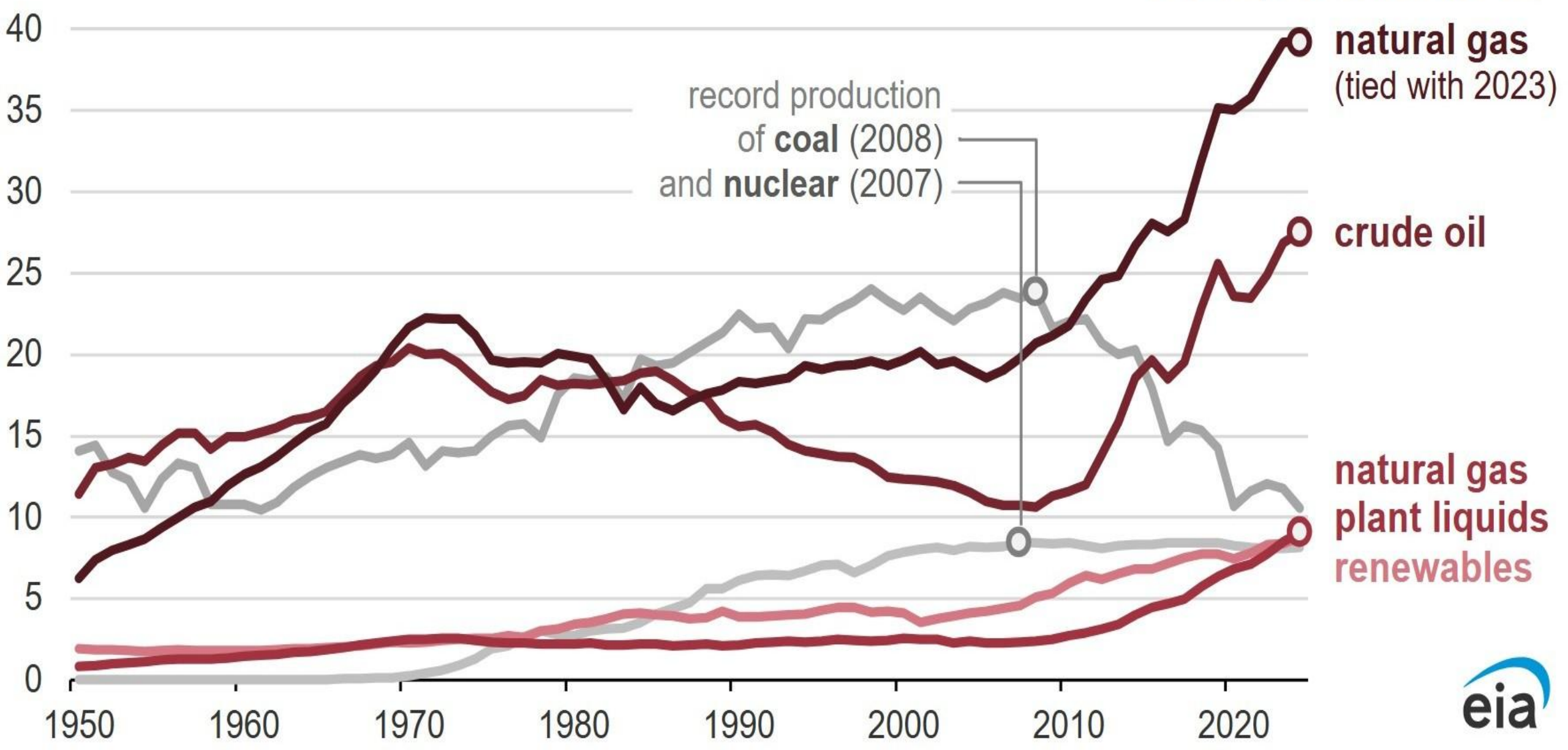


Türkiye



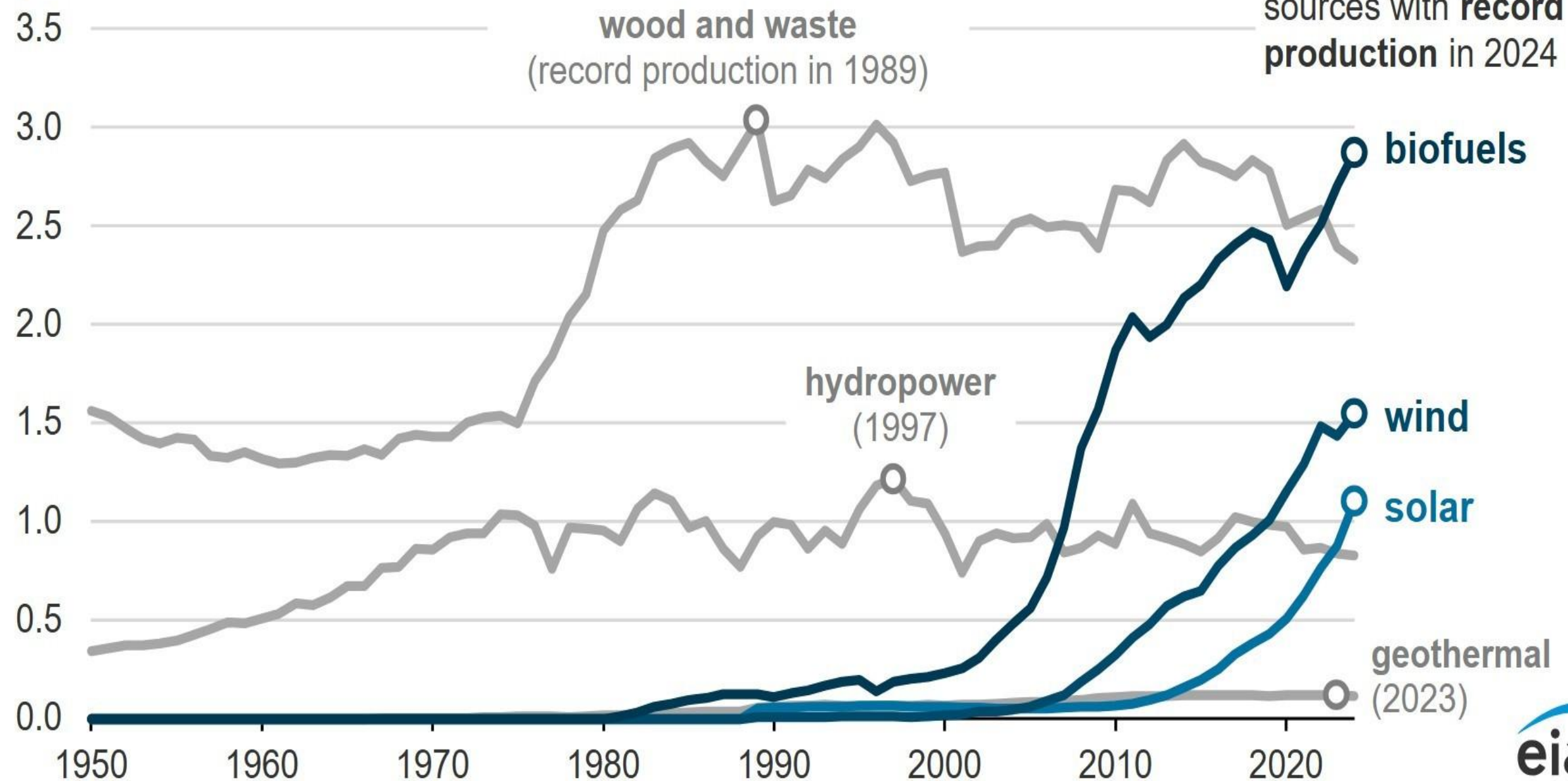
# U.S. energy production by primary source (1950–2024)

quadrillion British thermal units



# U.S. renewable energy production by primary source (1950–2024)

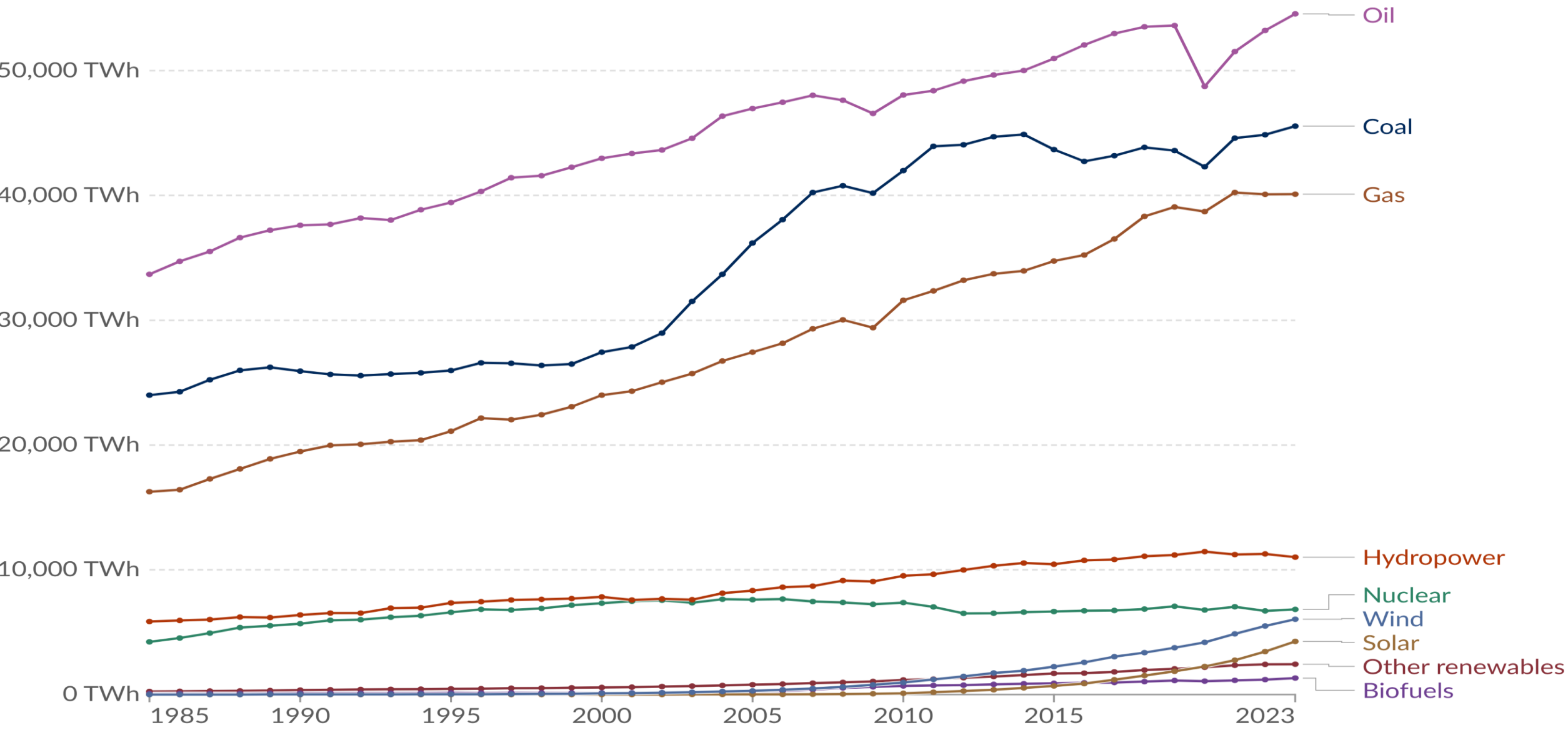
quadrillion British thermal units





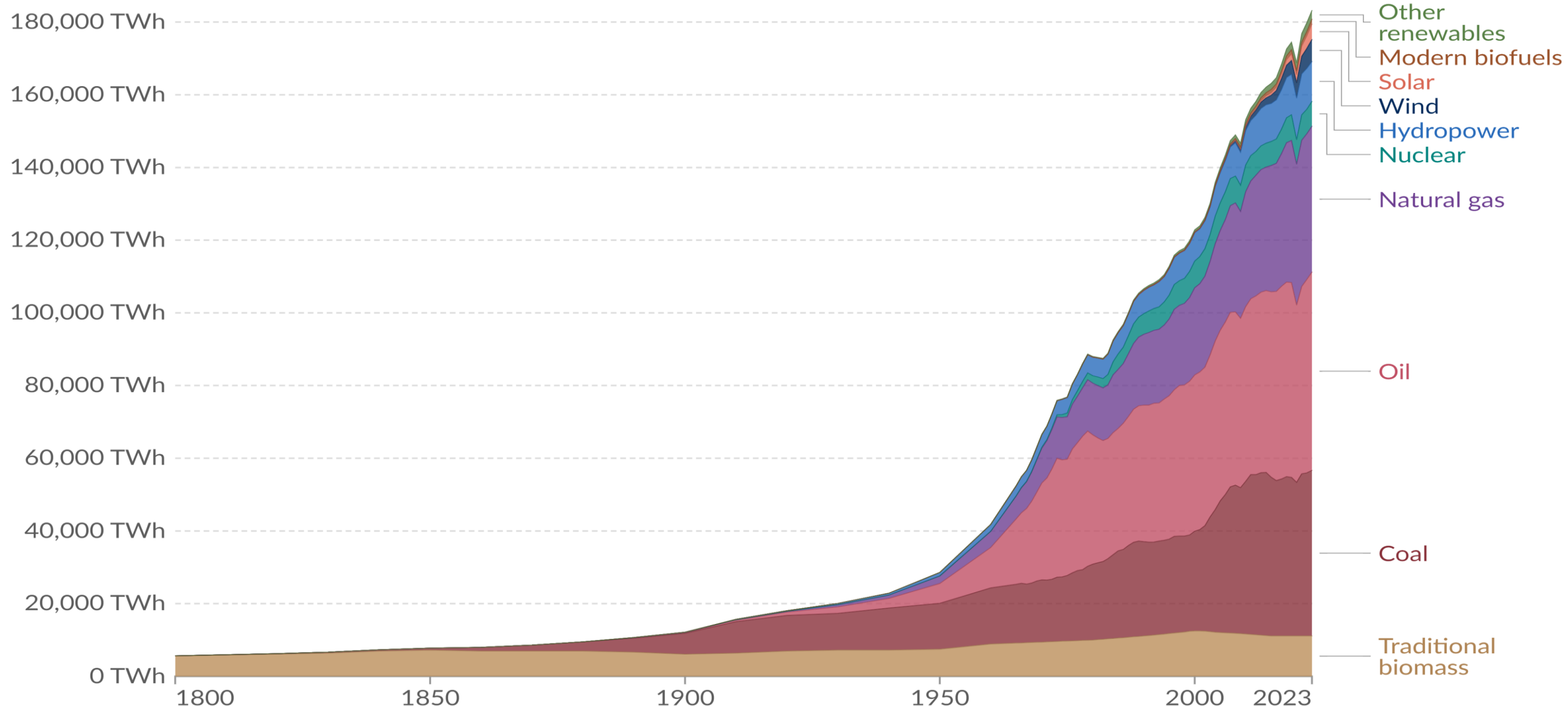
# Primary energy consumption by source, World

Primary energy<sup>1</sup> is measured in terawatt-hours<sup>2</sup>, using the substitution method<sup>3</sup>.



# Global primary energy consumption by source

Primary energy<sup>1</sup> is based on the substitution method<sup>2</sup> and measured in terawatt-hours<sup>3</sup>.



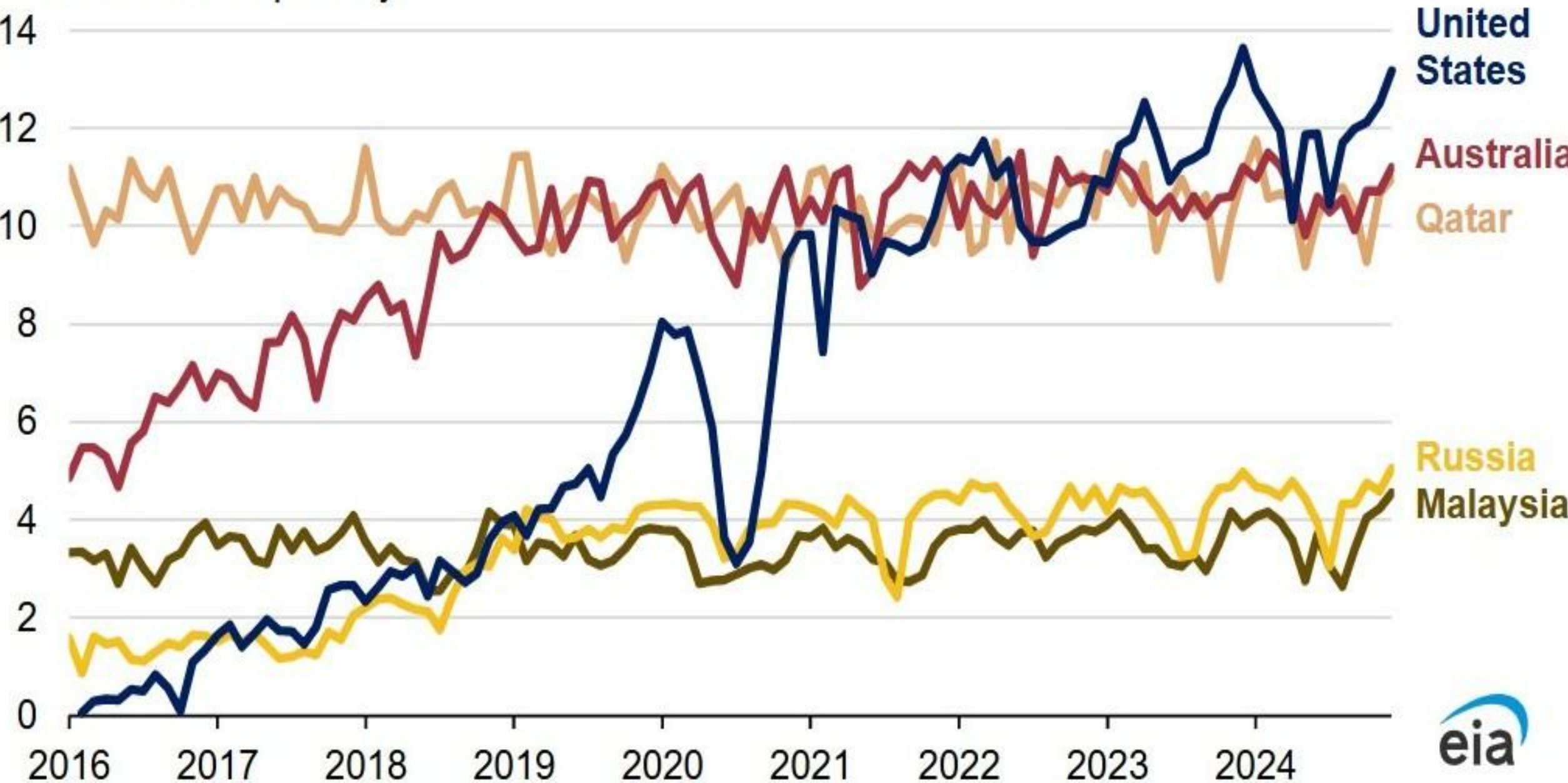
**Data source:** Energy Institute - Statistical Review of World Energy (2024); Smil (2017)

OurWorldInData.org/energy | CC BY

**Note:** In the absence of more recent data, traditional biomass is assumed constant since 2015.



**Monthly liquefied natural gas exports from select countries (Jan 2016–Dec 2024)**  
billion cubic feet per day



# US crude output on the rise, while Saudi Arabia, Russia cut







THANK YOU!





# JEANANN NICHOLS

## LEADERSHIP AND EXECUTIVE EXPERT

JeanAnn Nichols is an accomplished executive with more than 30 years of professional experience. She has led a wide range of functions—including engineering, product design, manufacturing, marketing, sales, communications, and IT operations—within Fortune 500 companies, and most recently served as a Vice President and General Manager for a \$60B global technology company. Her ability to foster open communication, inspire urgency, and drive rapid execution has consistently delivered meaningful and measurable bottom-line results.

Widely regarded as a skilled leader, JeanAnn excels at navigating complex business environments and managing rapid, large-scale change. She is an exceptional communicator with a deep understanding of how globalization and technology continue to shape modern business strategy.

Outside of her professional work, JeanAnn actively gives back to her community. She volunteers with the California State Parks Foundation as a Park Champion, leading teams in habitat restoration projects.

A lifelong learner and avid reader, JeanAnn enjoys exploring ideas across a wide range of authors and drawing connections between themes across time. She is also an experienced global traveler who values learning through direct engagement with new cultures and communities.

She lives with her husband in the San Francisco Bay Area, has two grown children, and is currently accepting applications for a new family pet.



# NAWWAR SUPERVISOR FORUM

June 2025

## POWER SKILLS Essential Leadership Skills

Led by Jean Ann Nichols



# Agenda

- New Workplace, New Leadership Required
- Modern Leadership Model
- 3 Tools To Build Power Skills NOW





# Hello



Jean Ann Nichols

Keynote Speaker and  
Executive Coach

- Engineer
- Parent
- Former F50 Vice President
- Executive coach
- Author
- Keynote speaker
- Leadership instructor
- Board member



# Defining Great Leadership

## GROUP SHARE

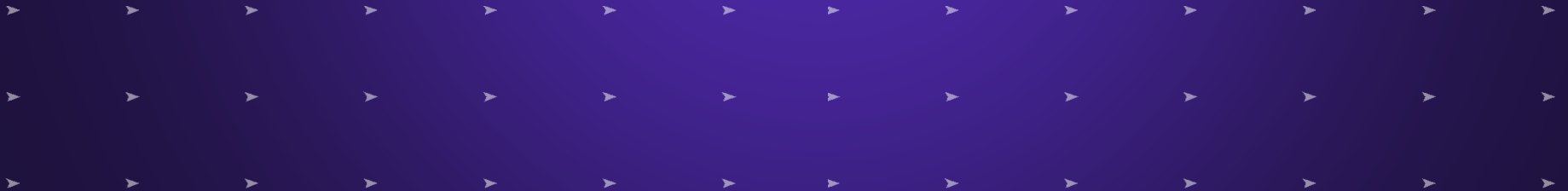
Think of a modern leader you admire. What is one trait of the leader that makes them special?





# The New World of Work

Everything's Changed



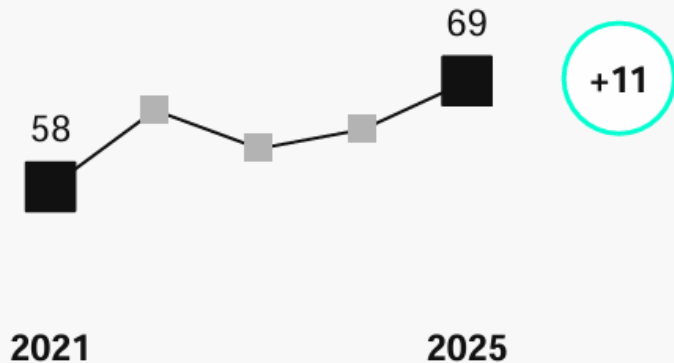
# Current Sentiment of the Global Workforce

“I believe government officials purposely mislead people”

# 82%

of employees  
don't trust  
their boss to  
tell the truth

## Government leaders





# *The Workplace Was Already Changing...*

## Demographics:

Generational shifts  
in attitudes and  
values around how  
we work and who  
we work with

## Transparency:

Shifting power  
dynamics due to the  
democratizing  
impact of social  
media, apps

## Purpose:

Shifting role of the  
corporation from  
**shareholder** -focused  
to **stakeholder** -  
focused

## Technology:

Continuing  
evolution of LLMs,  
generative AI,  
agentic AI, AGI



# What Used to Work at Work No Longer Does

## Old Way of Working

- Hierarchical
- Cultures of “What”
- Productivity-Focused
- Profit over People
- “Boomer” “Gen Xer”

## New World of Work

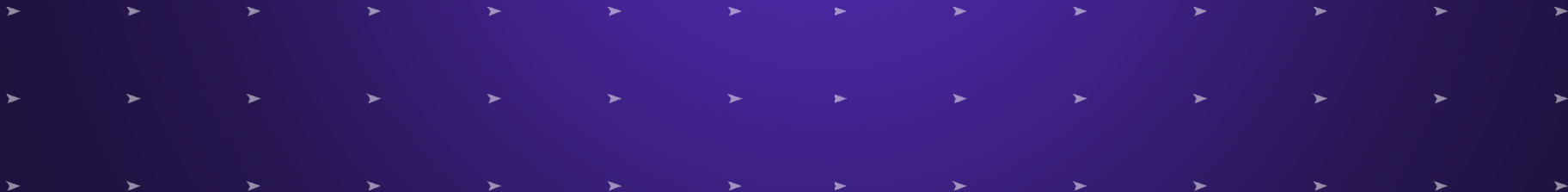
- Collaborative
- Cultures of “Why”
- People-Focused
- Purpose, People, AND Profits
- “Millennial” “Gen Z”





# Modern Leadership in the New World of Work

Yes, everything's changed!



# Traditional Leadership No Longer Works

---

## Traditional Leadership Me Me Me

Authoritarian, Secretive

Inflexible, Rigid

Guarded, "The Expert"

"Get It Done Fast"

Micro -Manager, "In the Weeds"





# Modern Global Leaders Must Adapt

## Traditional Leadership “Me Me Me”

Authoritarian, Secretive

Inflexible, Rigid

Guarded, "The Expert"

“Get It Done Fast”

Micro -Manager, "In the Weeds"

## Modern Leadership “We We We!”

Authoritative, Transparent

Collaborative, Agile

Vulnerable, Authentic

“Get It Done Right”

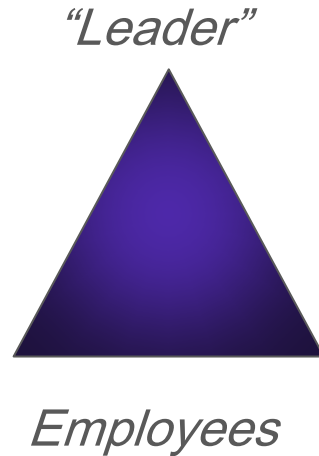
Visionary, Delegates



# Power Dynamics Have Shifted

---

Traditional Leadership =  
Power OVER



Modern Leadership =  
Power WITH





# Redefining Power



## *Traditional Power*

- Focuses on **domination and control** (power “over”)
- Maintains the **status quo**
- **Limits empathy** and **collaboration**
- Rewards **self-serving** behavior
- Reinforces a **belief in exceptionalism**

## *Intentional Power*

- Focuses on **influence and impact** (power “in partnership with”)
- Encourages **adaptability**
- Rewards **collaboration**
- Promotes **civility and respect**
- Reinforces a belief in **community** and **collective action**



“Hard skills are soft and soft skills are hard. These ‘soft’ skills are the most important and the ‘hardest’ skills in business. Without them you will never be a big success.”

**- Josh Bersin**

HR Thought Leader and Analyst

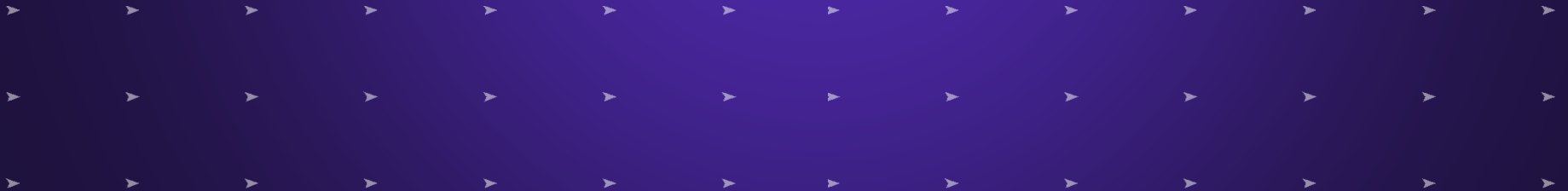
Author of *Irresistible: The Seven Secrets of the World's Most Enduring, Employee -Focused Organizations*





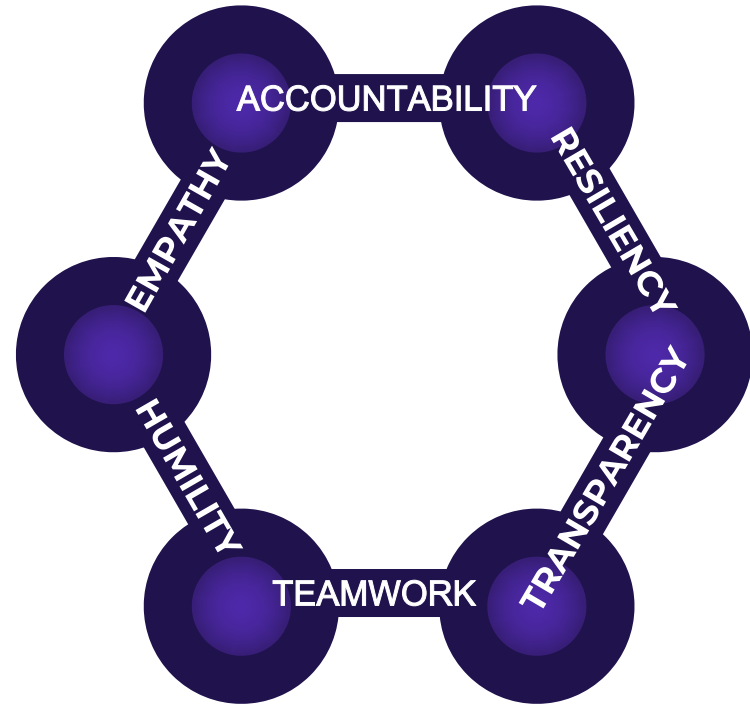
# The HEARTT Model:

Six Essential Power Skills for Modern Leaders



# The HEARTT Model of Modern Leadership

- H u m i l i t y
- E m p a t h y
- A c c o u n t a b i l i t y
- R e s i l i e n c y
- T r a n s p a r e n c y
- T e a m w o r k







## POLL

When you think of your own strengths as a leader, which of these power skills do you consider your strongest?

- Hum ility
- Em path y
- Accoun tab ility
- Resiliency
- Transparency
- Team work



# The “ART” of Leadership





# Redefining Accountability



## *Traditional Definition*

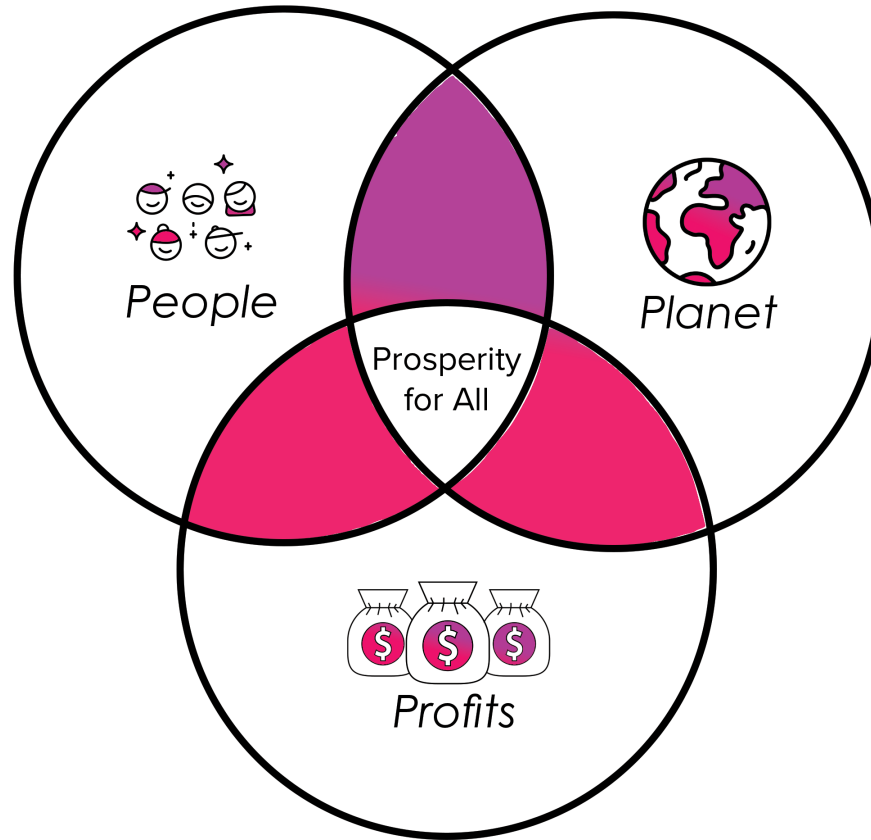
- An obligation or willingness to **accept responsibility** or to **account for one's actions**

## *Modern Leader's Definition*

- A commitment to not only **deliver results**, but to **drive triple bottom line impact**

*Modern leaders understand that accountability is not just about taking responsibility for one's actions, but about using one's power to drive impact.*

# Triple Bottom Line Impact





## ..Because It Is Good For Business



If the company didn't meet changing consumer tastes, it couldn't grow.

If the company failed to manage its impact on the environment, its costs would rise.

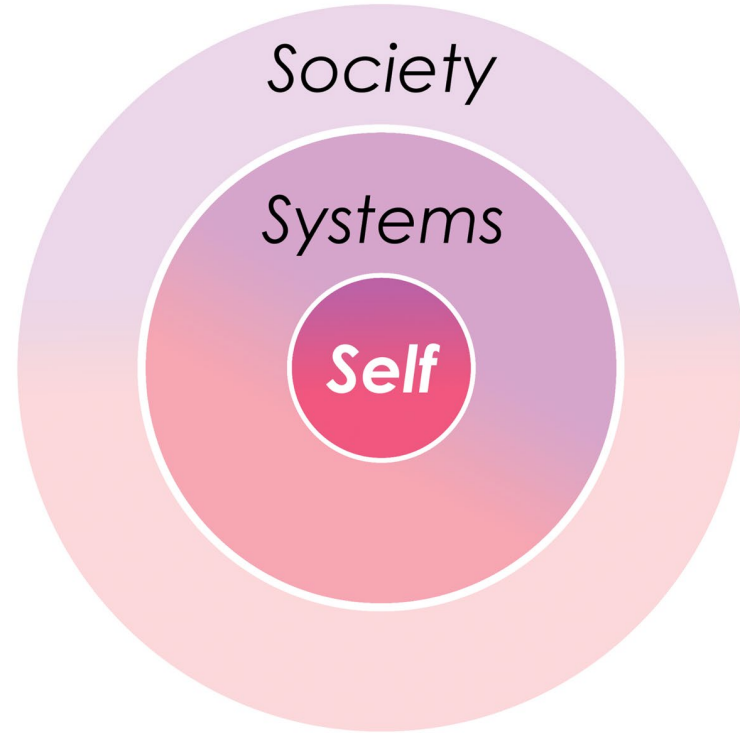
If the company didn't encourage people to bring their whole selves to work, it wouldn't attract the best employees.

Altogether, if the company didn't deliver performance, it couldn't fund its purpose.

Indra Nooyi  
Former Chairman & CEO, PepsiCo

# The Three S's of Modern Leader Accountability

**300% Accountability**





# Holding Others Accountable is Difficult Because...

- 
- - 
  - 
  -



# Holding Others Accountable is Difficult Because...

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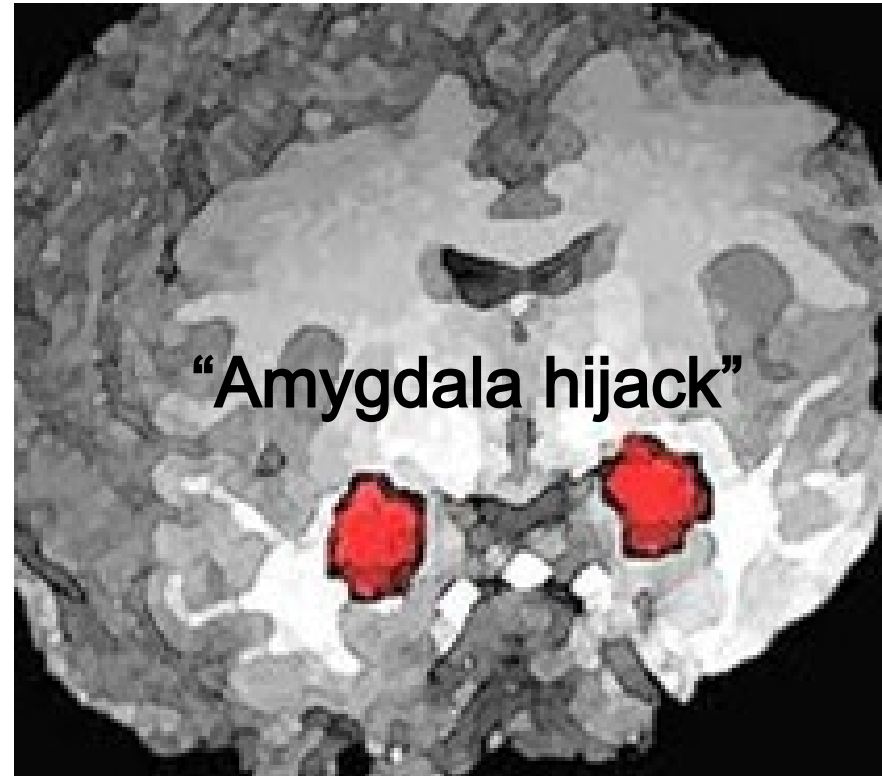
- Don't know how to have the conversation
- Don't like conflict
- Don't have enough time
- Company bureaucracy / policies
- Lack of clarity/agreement over what was committed
- Lack of role models
- Lack of a culture of accountability



# Why Do People Resist Being Held Accountable?

---

Our brain treats certain  
“social threats” with the  
same intensity as  
physical threats





# Power Skill Tool





# SCARF: Accountability Triggers

- **S**tatus - our relative importance vs others
- **C**ertainty - our ability to predict the future
- **A**utonomy - our control over events
- **R**elatedness - our sense of connectedness with others
- **F**airness - how fair we feel events and exchanges to be





## Small Group Discussion



You've been leading a team for 3 years and have received very positive feedback on your performance. You believe you are up for a promotion in the next cycle.

Your manager is suddenly let go and you'll be reporting to a peer who is known as a micro-manager.

**Which elements of the SCARF model might be triggered for you?**

Choose one person to report

# Small Group Discussion: What's Triggered?

---

- Status -
- Certainty -
- Autonomy -
- Relatedness -
- Fairness -



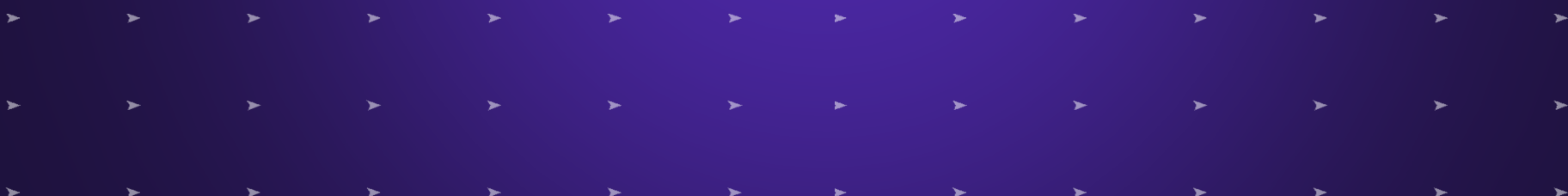
# Accountability Triggers - Leader

---

- **S**tatus – lateral instead of promotion, passed over
- **C**ertainty – what other parts of my job change in reorg?
- **A**utonomy – don't like being told what I must do
- **R**elatedness - loss of relationships, less access to leaders
- **F**airness – no open interview process, criteria for decision



# Power Skill:      Resiliency



# Redefining Resiliency



## *Traditional Definition*

**Grit** is about sustained, consistent effort toward a goal even when we struggle, falter, or temporarily fail.

## *Modern Leader's Definition*

**Resiliency** Ability to withstand, recover and grow in the faces of stressors and changing demands. Bouncing forward after failure.





## 3 Traits of Resilient People

- A staunch acceptance of reality
  - Realistic Optimists
  - Optimistic Pessimists
- A deep belief that life is meaningful
  - Context for today's challenges
- An ability to improvise
  - Creative problem solving



# Resiliency Downsides

- Burnout
  - Self
  - Team
- Miss the opportunity for structural change
  - Not recognizing when “enough is enough”



**What is the very  
first step to  
increase your  
resiliency?**

**FAIL**



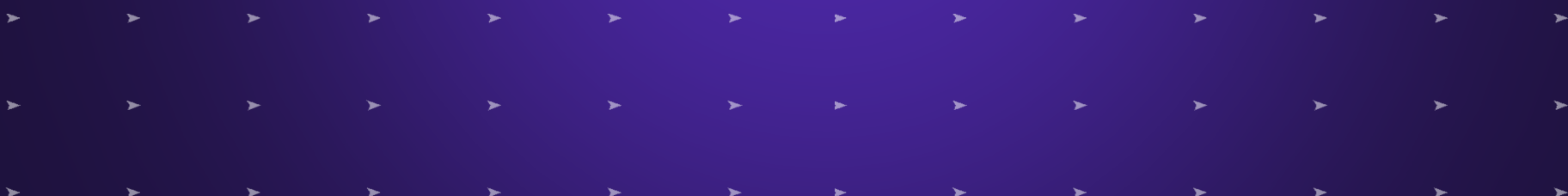


“ Work resilience is about  
strengthening  
future performance  
rather than coping better.”

- Kathryn McEwen



# Power Skill Tool





# 3 P's for Building Resiliency

## Gain Perspective:

- **P**ersonalization
  - What was beyond my control?
- **P**ervasiveness
  - Which areas of my life are affected?
- **P**ermanence
  - When will it change?





## Self Reflection

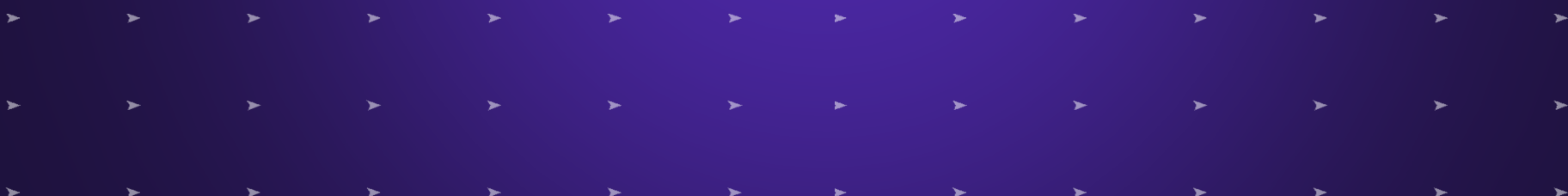


# Building Resiliency: Practicing Perspective

- 1) Take a minute to consider a recent failure.
- 2) Which of the 3 Ps tripped you up?
- 3) Consider how you could have failed forward by employing the 3 Ps.
- 4) What is one thing you can do differently next time?



# Power Skill: Transparency



# Redefining Transparency



## *Traditional Definition*

Having thoughts, feelings or motives that are easily detected

## *Modern Leader's Definition*

Knowing what you stand for and making it clear to others:

- Integrity (ethics)
- Clarity of Purpose
- Courage
- Effective communication
- Trust



# Transparent Leaders

- Know where they stand
- Stand in their “Why”
- Align organization on vision, goals, policies
- Explain their decisions
- Communicate with candor
- Use discretion
- Seek feedback, disclose it, and share their action plan
- Make themselves available

# 300% Transparency



```
graph LR; A[Core Leaders] --> B[Company]; B --> C[Community];
```

## Core Leaders

- Integrity
- Candor
- Trustworthy & trusting

## Company:

- Information
- Reporting
- Decision-making
- Culture

## Community:

- Human
- Social
- Environmental
- Fiduciary



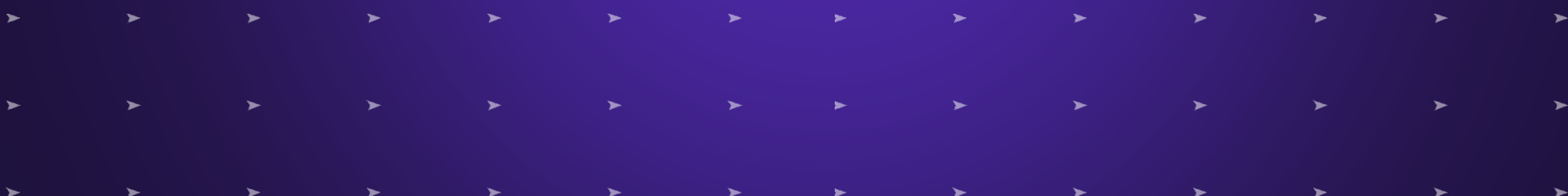
“A good Commander is transparent; he does not hide facts; he provides knowledge. He imbues his crew with confidence, because they know where the ship is, they know where it is going, and why.”

- Captain John Paul Jones  
US Navy





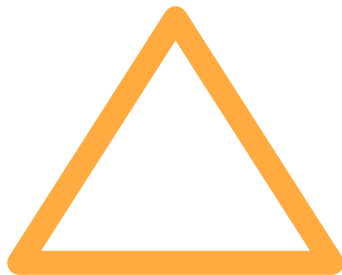
# Power Skill Tool



# Transparency: Leader's Trust Triangle

**Authenticity**

I experience the  
real you



**Logic**

Your reasoning  
and judgment  
are sound

**Empathy**

I believe you  
care about me  
and my success



# Where is Your Trust “Wobble”?



Think of a challenging work relationship. With a partner, in the next 6 minutes, share: **he**

- In what category (logic, empathy, authenticity) might trust be low?
- What is one thing you could do to increase their trust in you?



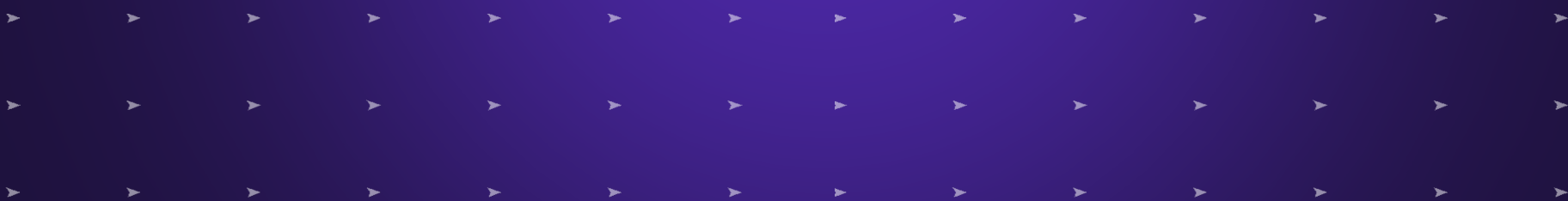


# Your Power Skills

- New Workplace, New Leadership
- The “ART” of Power Skills
- Three Power Skill Tools to Use TODAY
  - Accountability: SCARF model
  - Resiliency: 3 P’s
  - Transparency: Trust Triangle



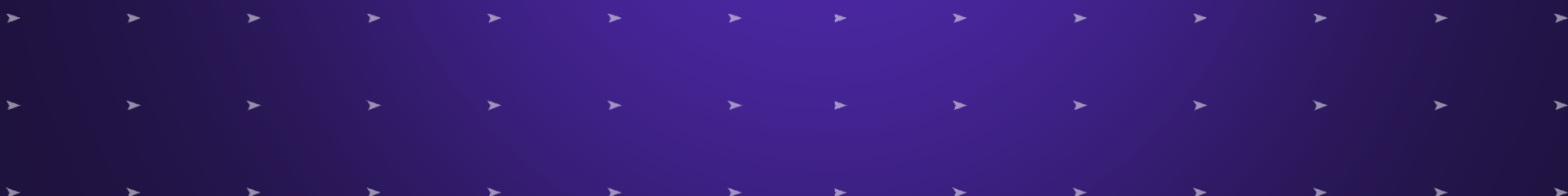
# Thank YOU





# Continue the Conversation:

- Connect with me on LinkedIn
- Read leadership blogs at [www.JeanAnnNichols.com](http://www.JeanAnnNichols.com)
- Ask questions at [JeanAnn@JeanAnnNichols.com](mailto:JeanAnn@JeanAnnNichols.com)







# CHRISTOPHER KIRCHHOFF

## CO-AUTHOR OF UNIT X

Christopher Kirchhoff is an expert in emerging technology who founded the Pentagon's Silicon Valley office and has led teams for President Obama, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and CEO of Google. He is the author of [Unit X: How the Pentagon and Silicon Valley are Transforming the Future of War](#).

Most recently Dr. Kirchhoff worked special projects at Anthropic. Earlier, he helped grow the philanthropy of Google CEO Eric Schmidt from 10 to 100 people and \$1 billion in programs. Previously he led the 67-person Defense Innovation Unit X, which piloted flying cars and microsatellites in military missions and created a new acquisition pathway for start-ups now responsible for \$70 billion dollars of technology acquisition by the Department of Defense.

During the Obama Administration, Kirchhoff was Director for Strategic Planning at the National Security Council, the senior civilian aide to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and an advisor to Presidential Counselor John Podesta. He led the 8-member Chairman's Initiatives Team on the Joint Staff and the 15-person NSC Strategic Planning Small Group, working on issues ranging from how technology will change the future to Operation United Assistance, which deployed 3,000 U.S. service members to end the Ebola epidemic in West Africa. Kirchhoff penned four landmark reports: the Obama Administration's Lessons Learned Report on Ebola, White House Big Data Report, Hard Lessons: The Iraq Reconstruction Experience, coined "the Iraq Pentagon Papers" by the New York Times, and the Space Shuttle Columbia Accident Investigation report.

An expert in strategic forecasting, technological systems, and the social impacts of technology, Kirchhoff graduated in History and Science from Harvard College and holds a doctorate in politics from Cambridge University, where he was a Gates Scholar. He has been awarded the Secretary of Defense Medal for Outstanding Service and the Civilian Service Medal for hazardous duty in Iraq.

An avid trail runner, Ironman triathlete, and dog dad, from 2011-2014 he was the highest ranking openly gay advisor in the U.S. Department of Defense. He and his husband John live in San Francisco.

"Inspiring . . . a riveting reminder of how hard protecting our nation's security can be, and how much depends on the ingenuity of a select few. A must-read."  
—WALTER ISAACSON, *New York Times* bestselling author of *STEVE JOBS* and *ELON MUSK*

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SHORTLISTED



RAJ M. SHAH AND CHRISTOPHER KIRCHHOFF



SOURCE: RIA | MARCH 30







# CognitiveDrone: A VLA Model and Evaluation Benchmark for Real-Time Cognitive Task Solving and Reasoning in UAVs

Artem Lykov\*, Valerii Serpiva\*, Muhammad Haris Khan, Oleg Sautenkov, Artyom Myshlyayev, Grik Tadevosyan, Yasheerah Yaqoot, and Dzmirty Tsetserukou

**Abstract**—This paper introduces *CognitiveDrone*, a novel Vision-Language-Action (VLA) model tailored for complex Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) tasks that demand advanced cognitive abilities. Trained on a dataset comprising over 8,000 simulated flight trajectories across three key categories—Human Recognition, Symbol Understanding, and Reasoning—the model generates real-time 4D action commands based on first-person visual inputs and textual instructions. To further enhance performance in intricate scenarios, we propose *CognitiveDrone-R1*, which integrates an additional Vision-Language Model (VLM) reasoning module to simplify task directives prior to high-frequency control. Experimental evaluations using our open-source benchmark, *CognitiveDroneBench*, reveal that while a racing-oriented model (RaceVLA) achieves an overall success rate of 31.3%, the base *CognitiveDrone* model reaches 59.6%, and *CognitiveDrone-R1* attains a success rate of 77.2%. These results demonstrate improvements of up to 30% in critical cognitive tasks, underscoring the effectiveness of incorporating advanced reasoning capabilities into UAV control systems. Our contributions include the development of a state-of-the-art VLA model for UAV control and the introduction of the first dedicated benchmark for assessing cognitive tasks in drone operations. The complete repository is available at <https://cognitivedrone.github.io>.

## I. INTRODUCTION

In an era marked by rapid advancements in robotics and artificial intelligence, enabling robots to perform a wide range of complex tasks in dynamically changing environments has emerged as a critical challenge. Cognitive robotics strives not only to endow machines with precise control but also to equip them with high-level reasoning and decision-making capabilities that allow them to adapt to unpredictable real-world scenarios. Despite notable progress in various domains of robotics, one persistent challenge remains: how to objectively evaluate and compare cognitive robotic systems, particularly when they are expected to tackle a multitude of intricate tasks.

The scarcity of standardized, open-source benchmarks and datasets is especially evident in the realm of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs), where existing evaluation frameworks are largely confined to racing or basic navigation tasks. This limitation not only hinders fair comparison among different cognitive UAV systems but also restricts the ex-

\* These authors contributed equally to this work.  
The authors are with the Intelligent Space Robotics Laboratory, Center for Digital Engineering, Skolkovo Institute of Science and Technology. {Artem.Lykov, Valerii.Serpiva, haris.khan, Artyom.Myshlyayev, oleg.sautenkov, grik.tadevosyan, yasheerah.yaqoot, d.tsetserukou}@skoltech.ru

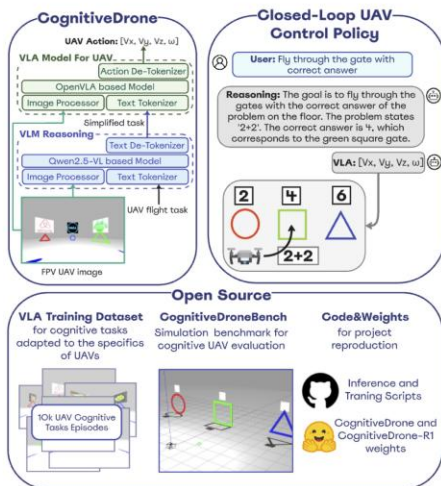
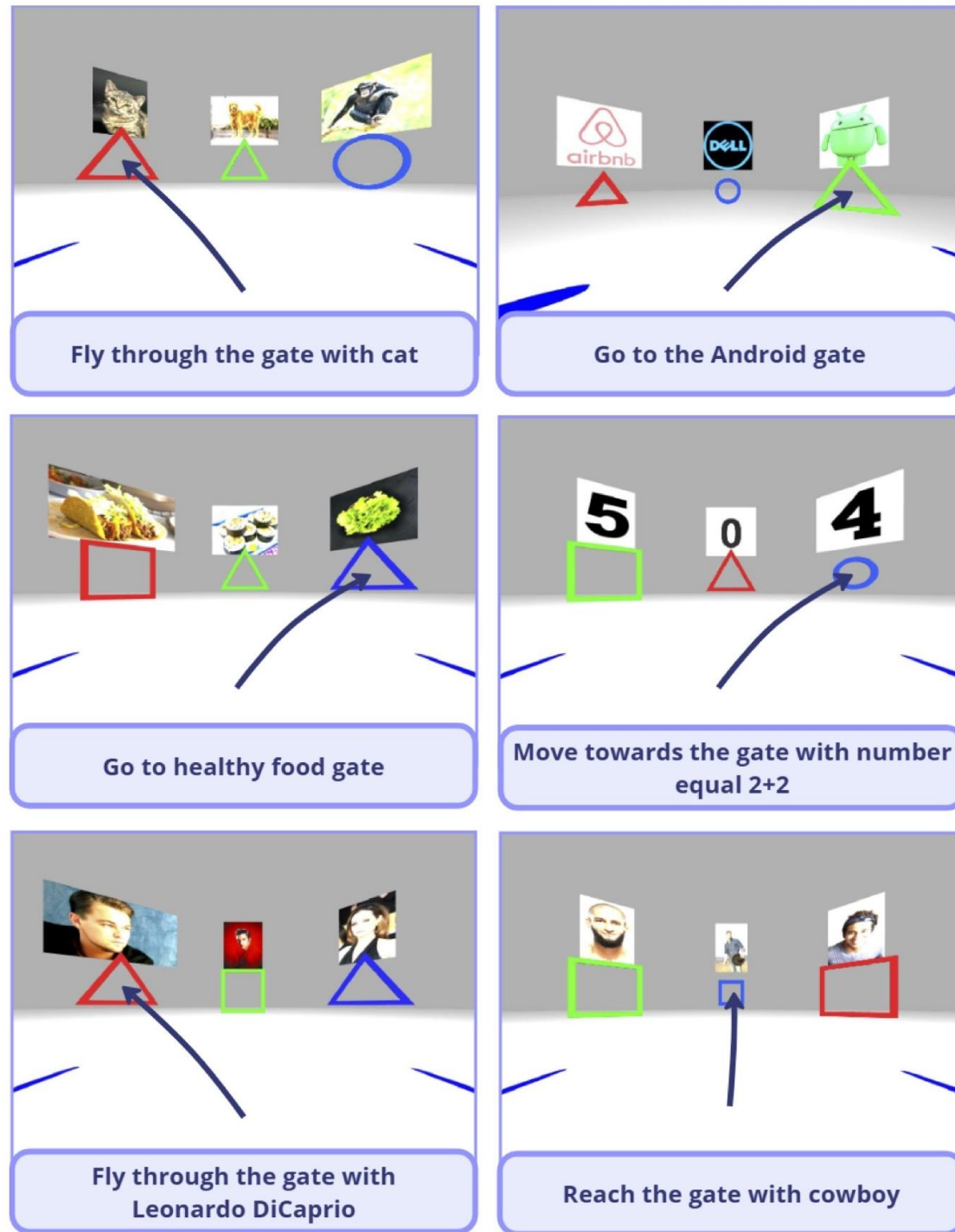


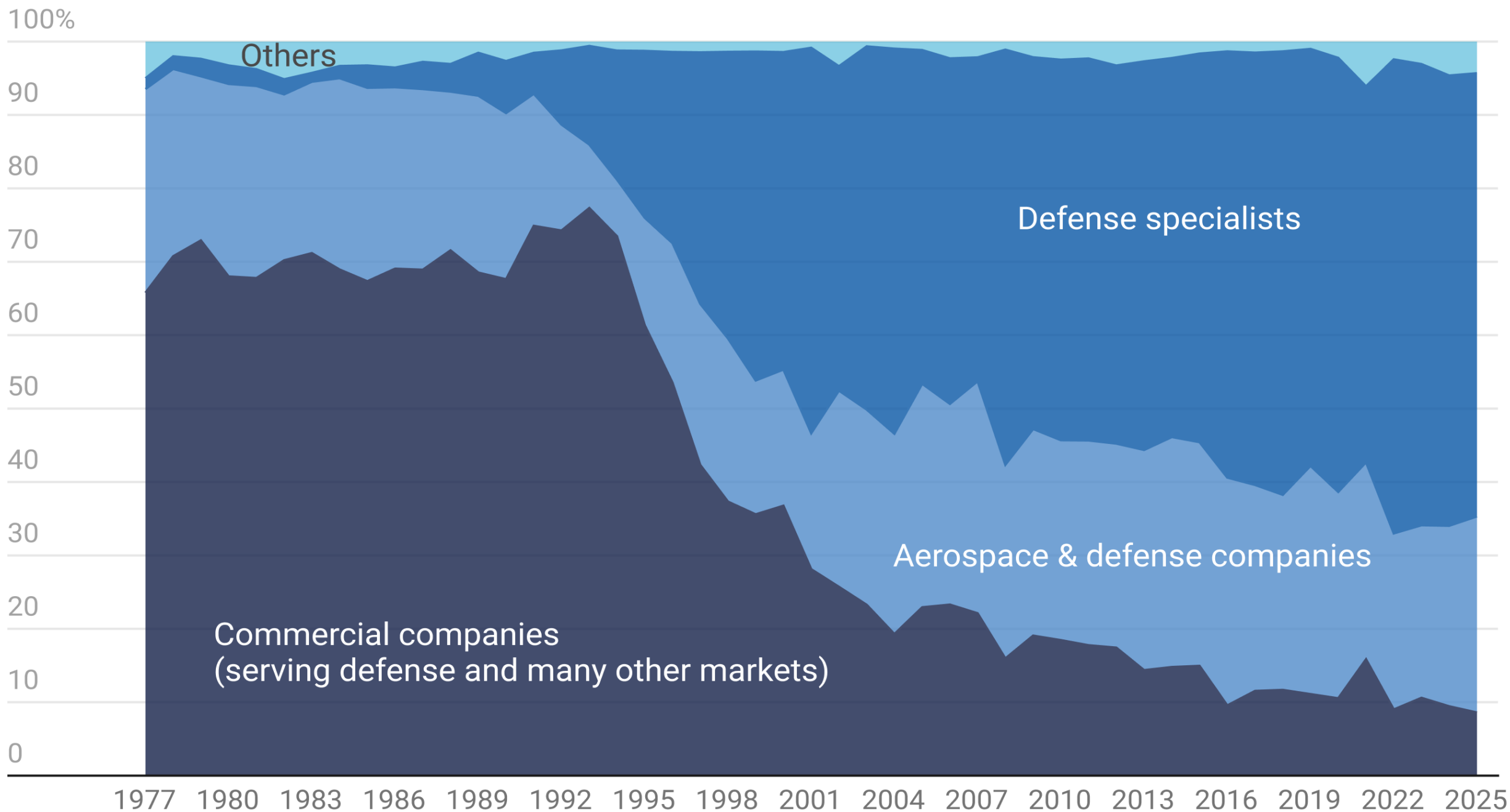
Fig. 1. CognitiveDrone is a VLA system for UAVs that generates smooth 4D control commands from first-person visual inputs and natural language instructions. It combines a 7B-parameter VLA model trained on an extensive open-source dataset of cognitive tasks—including reasoning, human recognition, and symbol understanding—with a 7B-parameter VLM reasoning module that refines task directives. The system is evaluated within CognitiveDroneBench—the first evaluation benchmark for VLA systems tailored to cognitive UAVs—where the drone must navigate a track with gates by selecting the appropriate gate through solving cognitive tasks. We have released the complete dataset, benchmark environment, model weights, and training/inference code as open source.

ploration of more sophisticated cognitive functions such as reasoning, human recognition, and symbolic understanding.

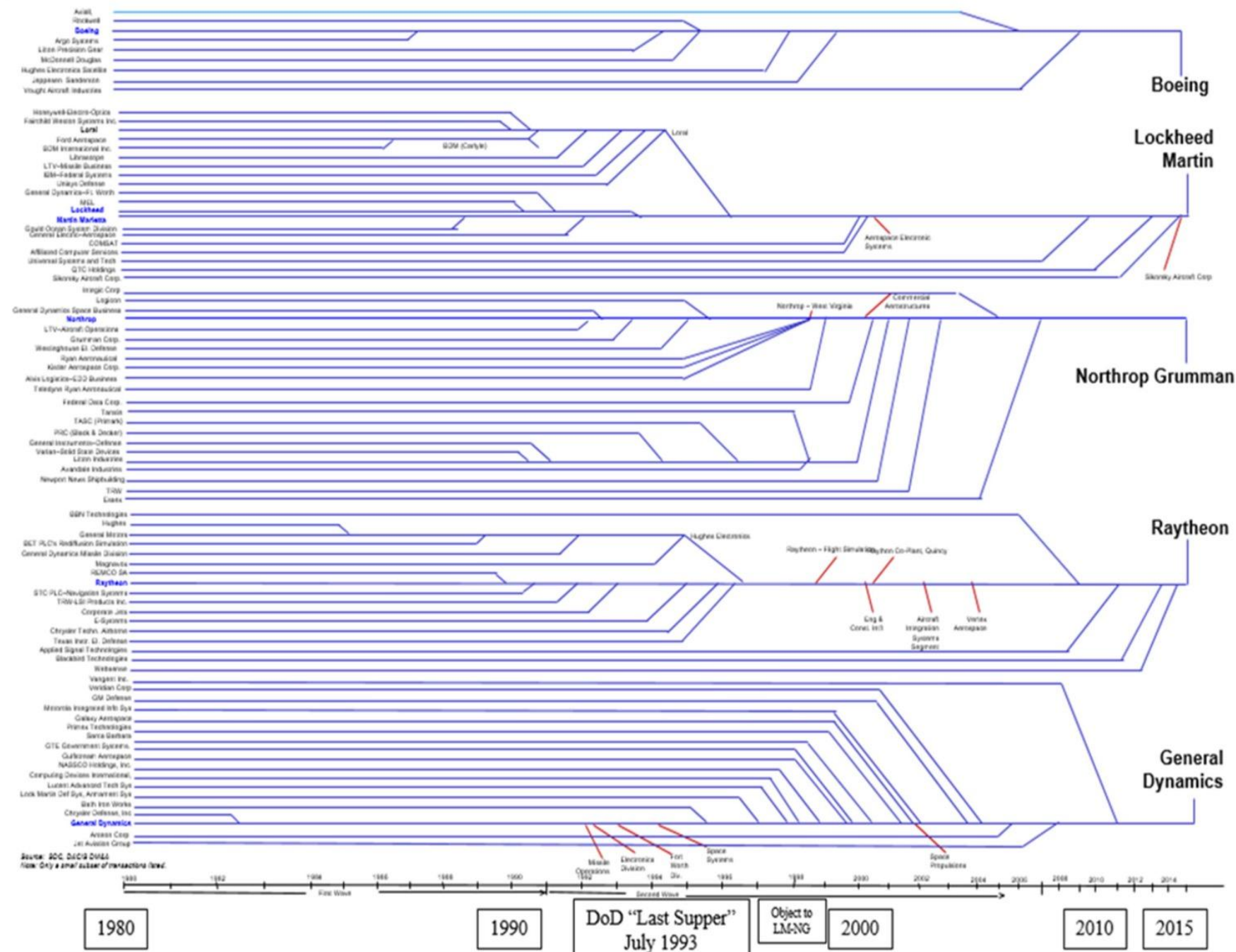
To address these challenges, we introduce *CognitiveDrone* — a novel VLA model designed for real-time cognitive task solving and reasoning in UAVs. In conjunction with the model, we propose *CognitiveDroneBench*, an open-source benchmark built upon a Gazebo-based physical simulation environment that integrates a drone racing track with cognitive checkpoints. At each stage of the track, the UAV is required to select specific gates by solving a cognitive task, thus providing a comprehensive performance evaluation that transcends traditional racing metrics.

Furthermore, we augment our system with an auxiliary















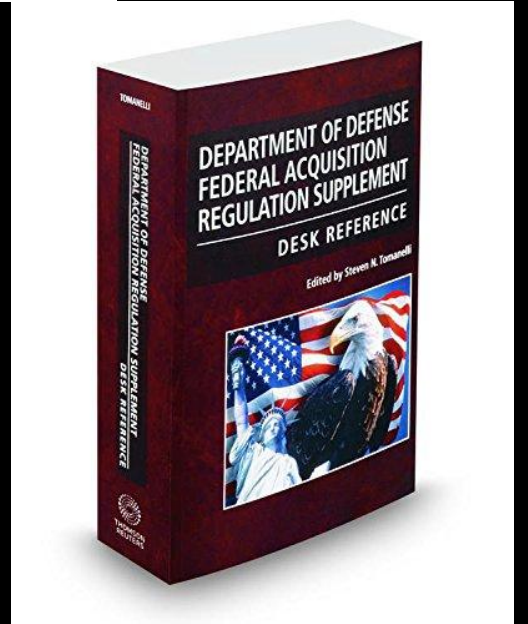
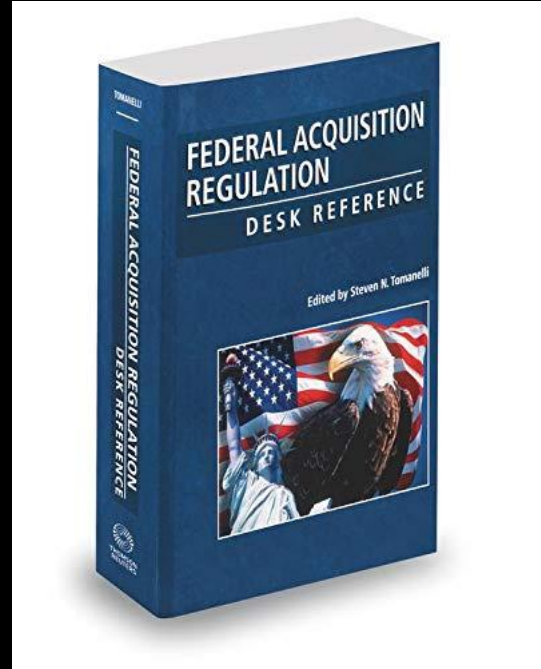
DEFENSE INNOVATION  
UNIT EXPERIMENTAL















SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
1000 DEFENSE PENTAGON  
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1000

MAR - 6 2025

MEMORANDUM FOR SENIOR PENTAGON LEADERSHIP  
COMMANDERS OF COMBATANT COMMANDS  
DEFENSE AGENCY AND DOD FIELD ACTIVITY DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: Directing Modern Software Acquisition to Maximize Lethality

The Department of Defense (DoD) has been slow to recognize that software-defined warfare is not a future construct, but the reality we find ourselves operating in today. Software is at the core of every weapon and supporting system we field to remain the strongest, most lethal fighting force in the world. While commercial industry has rapidly adjusted to a software-defined product reality, DoD has struggled to reframe our acquisition process from a hardware-centric to a software-centric approach. When it comes to software acquisition, we are over pivoting to a performance-based outcome and, as such, it is the Warfighter who pays the pi

It is a top priority for DoD to reform its acquisition processes in order to acquire, d and iterate on our weapon and business systems — including software — at speed and scal our Warfighter. To start, DoD must maximize the use of its existing authorities, contractin strategies, and processes for software acquisition. This will enable us to immediately shift construct designed to keep pace with commercial technology advancements, leverage the e commercial ecosystem for defense systems, rapidly deliver scaled digital capabilities, and our systems faster than adversaries can adapt on the battlefield.

To meet this challenge, I am directing all DoD Components to adopt the Software Acquisition Pathway (SWP) as the preferred pathway for all software development components of business and weapon system programs in the Department.

The Department must also align contracting strategies and maximize the use of existing authorities. Effective immediately, for efforts that meet the threshold requirements enabling the application of authorities provided at title 10, U.S.C., § 3458 or title 10, U.S.C., § 4022. **I am directing the use of Commercial Solutions Openings and Other Transactions as the default solicitation and award approaches for acquiring capabilities under the SWP.** This applies to any software pathway program in the planning phase prior to execution. **Department Components are prohibited from implementing further guidance on this point that would set out restrictive measures, guidelines, frameworks, directives, or policies other than required by statute.**

The Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment, in coordination with the Director of the Defense Innovation Unit, will develop and submit an implementation plan within 30 calendar days.

PBJh  
SD29



OSD001079-25/CMD001535-25

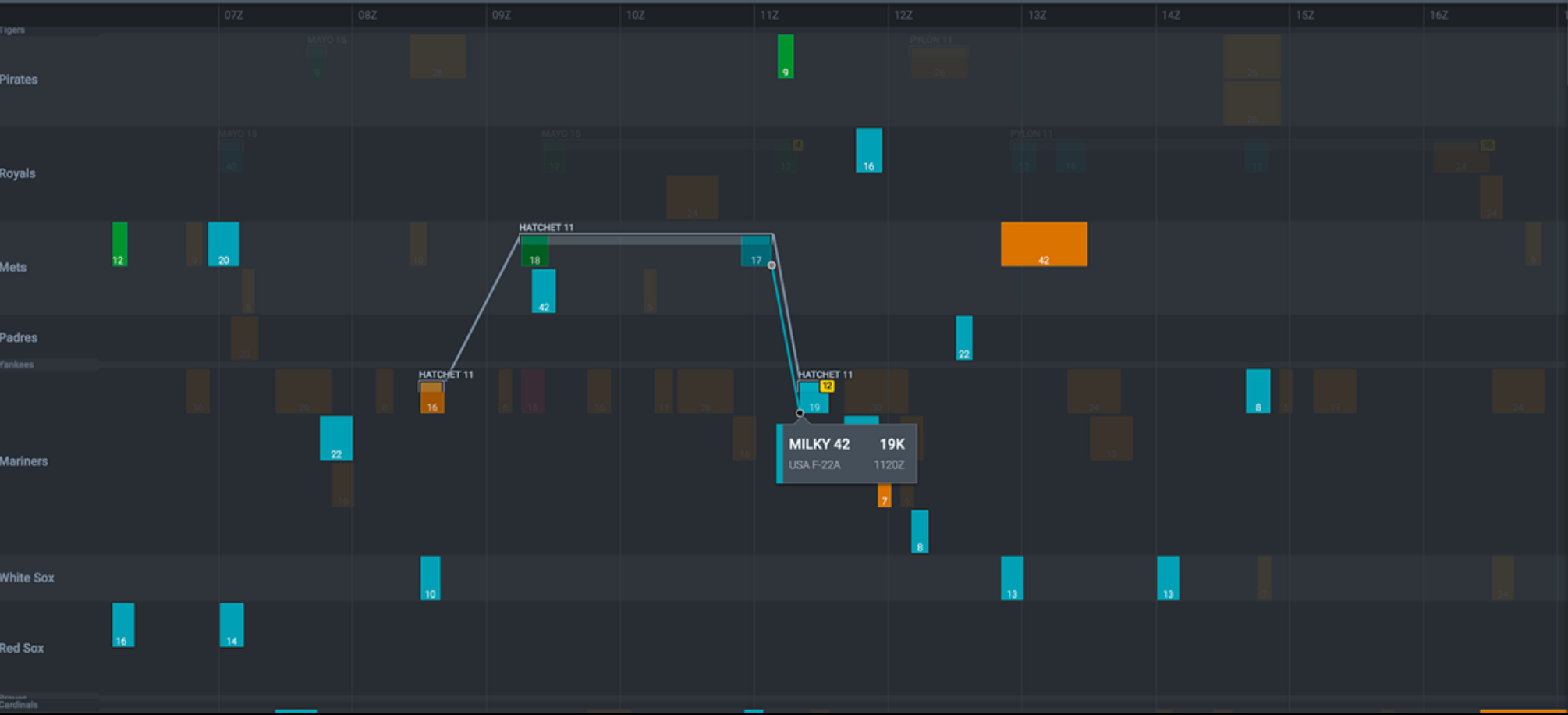
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× **HATCHET 11** Front Line  
BOM  
Total Offload 140K/152 K  
Duration 4h55

0732 Z

INCK

53min transit

Mariners

0830 Z

SENTRY 27 16K

32min transit

Mets

0915 Z

QUILL 62 18K

1055 Z

MILKY 42 17K

32min transit

Mariners

1120 Z

MILKY 42 19K

53min transit

1227 Z

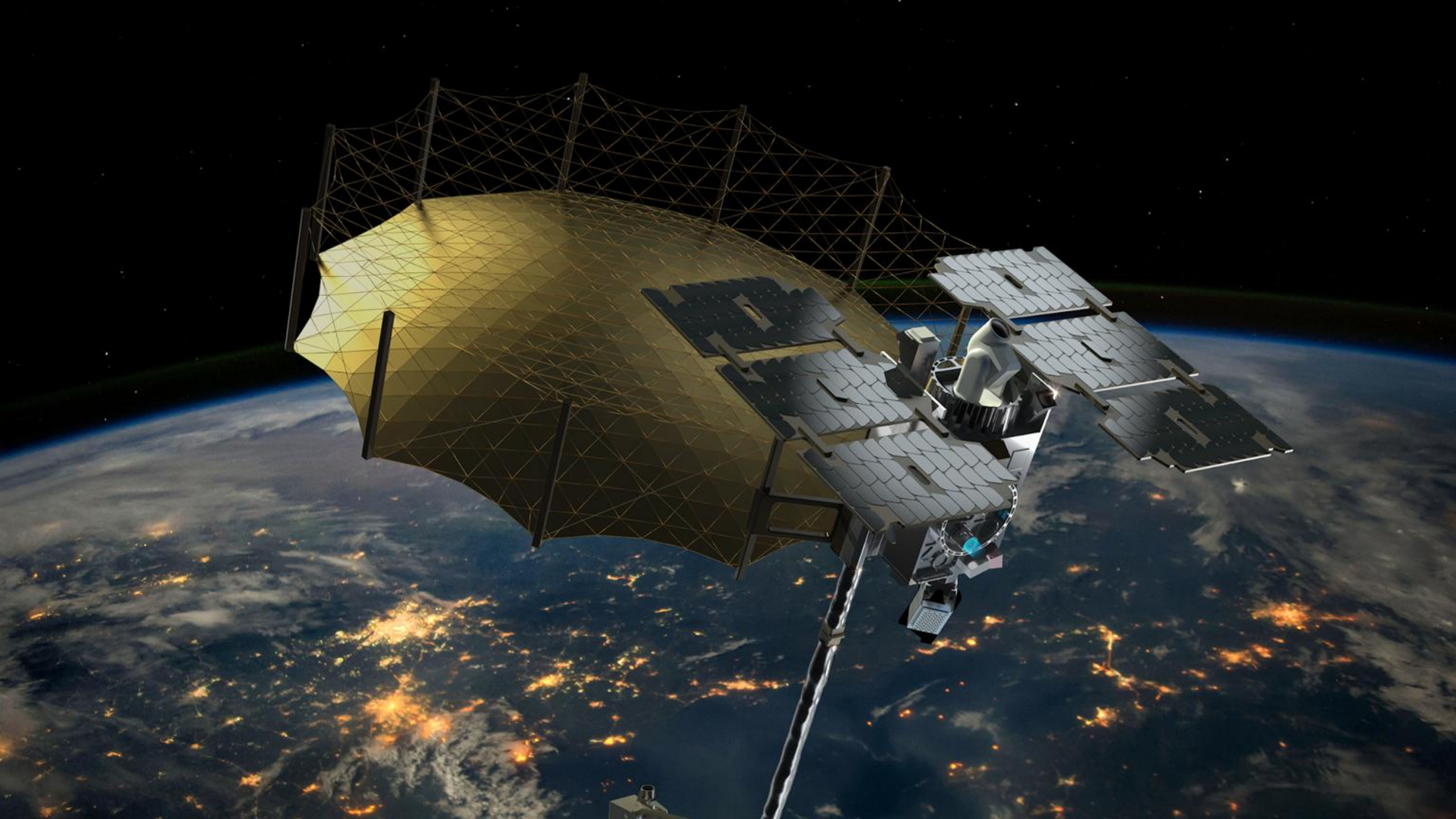
INCK



















# Defense Innovation

10X Warfighters

+

Real Tech

+

Modest Money

+

Senior Top Cover

Co-Opt Entrenched Interests

+

Healthy Irreverence

+

Team

+

[International Cooperation]





"Inspiring . . . a riveting reminder of how hard protecting our nation's security can be, and how much depends on the ingenuity of a select few. A must-read."  
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# Telework Dashboard

**NAVWAR**





# Telework Code Use and Transparency

- Time-Card use of telework codes should be accurate
- Accurate usage of telework codes builds Transparency and Accountability
- Monitoring internally, in anticipation of monitoring externally
- Compliance and Reporting
- Competency/PEO Leadership will receive access, and can identify exempt employees for legitimate policy exemptions

# Telework Code Guidance

## Telework codes:

### 1. TS: Situational Telework

Should be used in cases of an approved exception or for ad hoc instances where their telework is unscheduled. This code can also be used for employees who are approved to telework perhaps to complete a training or work some comp time on a special project etc.

### 2. TW: Regular/Recurring Telework

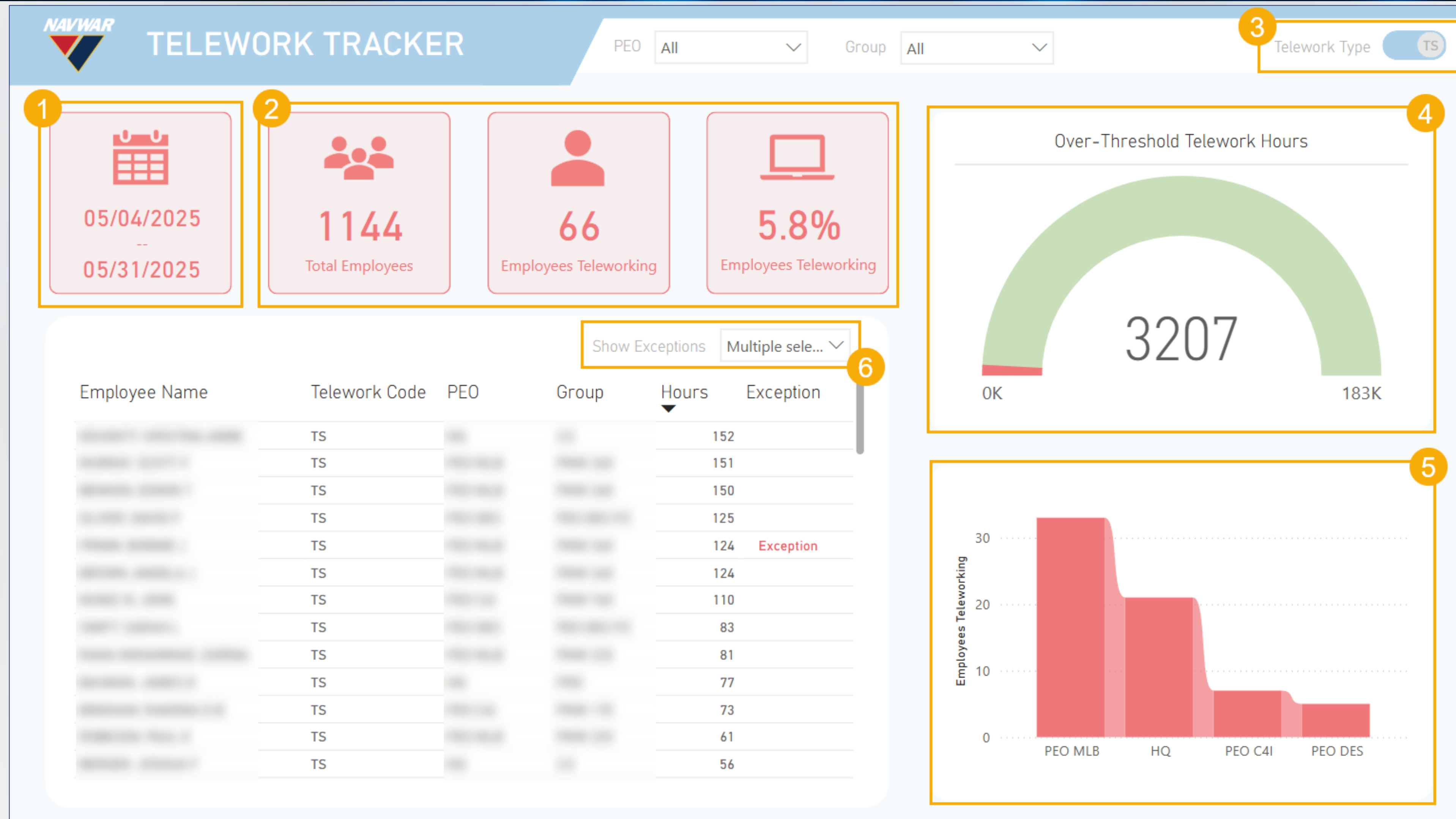
Should be used in cases where an approved exception has an arrangement covering some but not all time. For example, every Tuesday and Thursday they are approved to telework.

### 3. TR: Remote Work

Should be used in cases where an approved exception was for 100% remote, meaning no requirement to come on site at all.



# Telework Monitoring Dashboard







# Training Event: AWF Continuous Learning Credit

---

- ▼ **Acquisition Workforce members: Receive 10 hours (5 hours/day) of Continuous Learning by entering the following in eDACM:**

**Activity Name:** FY25 Supervisor Forum

**Activity Type:** Other Functional Training

**Description:** Annual leadership development training session to introduce topics important to NAVWAR workforce.

**Start Date:** June 17, 2025 (5 hrs.)

**End Date:** June 18, 2025 (5 hrs.)

**Points Requested:** 10 (both days); otherwise 5 points per day

**Comments:** This training was approved by the NAVWAR DAWIA Program Director.