February 2026

Why Uranium? Why URA?

Authored by:
Kenny Zhu

Why Uranium?

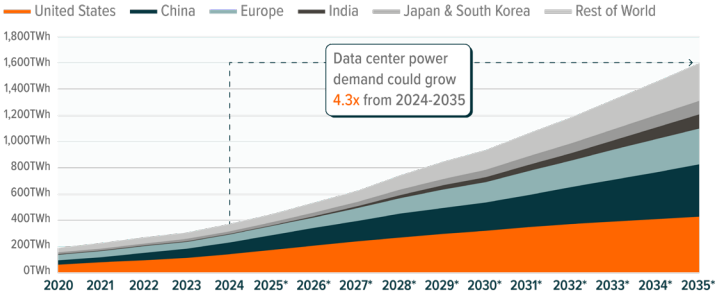
Demand: Set to grow with power demand and nuclear reactors.

— **Uranium is the critical element that fuels nuclear reactors.** Global reactor fleets consume ~67,000 tons of uranium each year;[1] meanwhile, global uranium requirements are expected to rise to 86,000 tons by 2030 and 150,000 tons by 2040, all of which will need to be fed by future mined supply.[2]

— **U.S. Power Demand is expected to rise, fueled by electrification, industrialization, and AI.** In the U.S., data centers and electrification are expected to account for as much as 80% of power demand growth through 2035.[3] Power demand from data centers alone could reach 106 GW by 2035, up from ~25 GW in 2024.[4] The magnitude of this expansion demands scalable baseload power solutions, a role for which nuclear energy is well suited.

— **Nuclear power output broke records in 2025 with global capacity expected to rise through 2050**. 440 nuclear reactors supply 9% of the world's power needs. With ~70 reactors under construction, and at least 115 more planned, global nuclear output is set to accelerate as China, the EU, and the U.S. seek to double, triple, and even quadruple their nuclear power capacity.[5]

GLOBAL DATA CENTER POWER DEMAND, BY COUNTRY



*Forecast
Source: Hostert, D., Kimmel, M., Berryman, I., Pegios, K., Quintero, R., Song, S., Verma, A., & Vasdev, A. (2025, April 15). New Energy Outlook: Energy and Climate Scenarios that Connect the Dots. BloombergNEF.

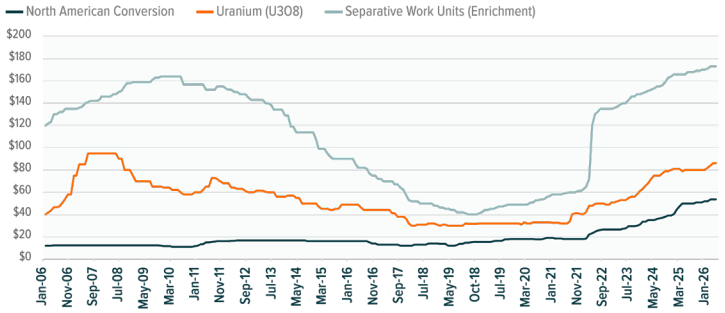
Supply: Growing deficits and vulnerable supply chains.

— **The deficit between mined uranium and global reactor demand is expected to grow.** Output from today's mines is expected to halve between 2030 and 2040 as existing mines are depleted.[6] Meanwhile deficits are expected to rise, hampered by long lead times on new mines and shrinking secondary supply, just as a new wave of reactor-driven uranium demand is expected to hit the grid.

— **U.S. overreliance on uranium imports threatens energy security and leaves utilities exposed.** In 2023, the U.S. effectively imported 99% of the uranium concentrate used in making nuclear fuels.[7] Meanwhile, Kazakhstan, which controls ~40% of global uranium output, tightened control over its reserves in 2026.[8] Should global supply chains fracture, this could leave utilities dependent on a narrowing universe of suppliers.

— **Capacity concentration in fuel processing services is vulnerable to geopolitical risks.** Russia supplies over 40% of global uranium enrichment services and 20-30% of the enriched nuclear fuel used in the U.S. and Europe.[9] Such concentration sent prices for downstream nuclear fuel services like conversion and enrichment to all-time highs in late 2025.[10] These risks have led Western nations to evaluate their nuclear fuel processing capacity, with the U.S. recently awarding $2.7 billion in task orders to expand domestic uranium enrichment.[11]

20-YEAR LONG-TERM PRICES ACROSS THE NUCLEAR FUEL CYCLE



Source: UxC, LLC (2025, December 29). UxC Historical Ux Month-End Price Data.

Why Nuclear Power?

The Nuclear Advantage: Clean reliable 24/7 baseload energy.

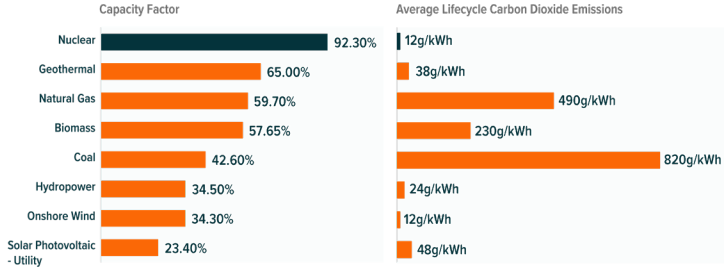
— **Nuclear power's stability and reliability allow it to anchor the grid, enabling system-wide flexibility.** Nuclear energy's 92.3% capacity factor, measuring actual output relative to maximum potential output, is the highest of any energy source, highlighting its efficiency & reliability as a 24/7 source of baseload power.[12] This dependability can anchor energy supply, giving utilities greater flexibility to integrate variable renewables, energy storage, and need-based gas generation at the margin across diverse power grids.

— **Nuclear offers high-capacity zero-carbon power generation with minimal geographic footprint**. Nuclear is a zero-emission energy source which the IEA estimates allows the world to collectively avoid over a gigaton in carbon dioxide emissions each year.[13] It also generates more power per acre than any other clean energy source; a typical 1 GW nuclear plant requires just over 1 square mile to operate.[14]

— **Day-to-day operating costs for nuclear plants are significantly cheaper than fossil fuel plants.** While initial capital costs are high, once built, the operating costs of running a reactor at high capacity are nearly 1/3 the costs of fossil fuel plants. Total fuel costs for a nuclear plant in the OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-Operation and Development) are about 1/3 to 1/2 the cost of a comparable coal-fired plant, even when factoring in the expense of managing used fuel.[15]

— **Once built, nuclear plants can operate for decades with proper maintenance and upgrades.** As of April 30, 2024, the average age of a reactor in the U.S. is 42 years old, with the oldest operational example, Nine Mile Point Unit 1, having entered service in 1969. While most U.S. nuclear plants are initially licensed to operate for 40-years, many have had their operating licenses extended to 60 and even 80 years.[16]

NOTABLE CHARACTERISTICS OF POWER GENERATION SOURCES



Source: World Nuclear Association (2025, September 3). Carbon Dioxide Emissions from Electricity. U.S. Energy Information Association (EIA). (2025, April). Levelized Cost of New Generation Resources in the Annual Energy Outlook 2025.

Why Now?

The Investment Opportunity

— **Global attitudes toward nuclear energy appear to have entered an inflection point.** Over 31 nations pledged to triple global nuclear capacity by 2050,[17] with regulators from Europe to Asia enacting pro-nuclear (or rolling back anti-nuclear) policies in recent years. Concerted policy support and global cooperation could expedite the pace of nuclear deployments, as seen in the $100 billion+ Atlantic Partnership for Advanced Nuclear Energy signed between the U.S. and UK.[18]

— **Bi-partisan policy support for nuclear power is gaining momentum within the U.S.** 2025 saw the enactment of four executive orders to jumpstart the U.S. nuclear base;[19] several strategic funding arrangements, including an $80 billion deal to build 10 new large reactors;[20] and various direct investments, partnerships, and federal loans to expand nuclear capacity.[21] All of these build on the efforts of past administrations, which historically carried bi-partisan support favoring nuclear development.[22]

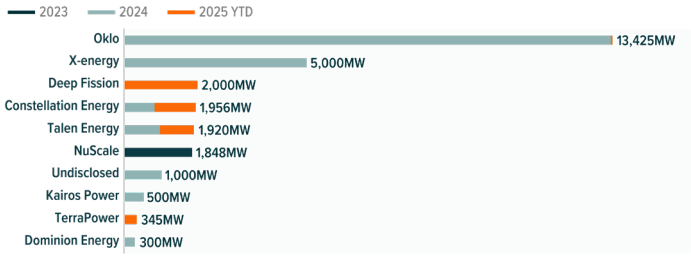
— **With global energy demand projected to rise ~50% from 2025-2040, energy security has been elevated to a policy imperative.**[23] The addition of uranium to the U.S. critical minerals list underscores proliferating trade risks.[24] Meanwhile, both the U.S. and Europe are seeking to address increasingly disjointed global supply chains, particularly as a ban on Russian uranium imports remains on track to phase out Russian nuclear fuel imports to the U.S. by January of 2028.[25]

— **Tech hyperscalers are reshaping power demand, emerging as a new class of large-scale electricity consumers.** Meta became the most significant corporate buyer of nuclear energy in U.S. history on January 9, 2026, when it announced its power purchase agreements (PPAs) to support the development of 6.6 GW of nuclear power capacity.[26] This adds on to a wave of PPAs enacted between power providers and tech hyperscalers over the past few years, which include the likes of Microsoft,[27] Google,[28] and Oklo.[29]

— **Growing purchases from financial players could tighten uranium markets already facing limited output growth and inelastic demand.** The world's largest physical uranium trust grew its inventory by 9 million lbs of U3O8 in 2025, raising its total holdings of uranium to a record 72.5 million lbs.[30] The entrance of new financial buyers and the potential introduction of national strategic mineral reserves could fuel further price momentum.[31]

— **Nuclear startups are developing advanced reactor designs, aiming to bring down build times and construction costs and improve safety and scalability.** U.S. nuclear fission companies raised over $1.3 billion of corporate equity funding from the beginning of 2025 thru September, nearly double the amount raised in 2024 and the highest annual total on record.[32] Small modular reactors (SMRs) and microreactors accounted for ~75% of total nuclear fission funding.[33]

U.S. NUCLEAR PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENTS



*2025 YTD = Jan 1 – Jun 18, 2025
Source: Diaz, S., Gadornski, C., Daly, M. (2025, June 23). Developments in the U.S. Advanced Reactor Industry. BloombergNEF.

Why URA?

Broad thematic exposure to the nuclear power theme in an ETF

— **The Global X Uranium ETF (URA) is exposed to the global nuclear energy theme, spanning five industries across 10 countries.[34]** The fund invests in uranium miners, physical uranium trusts, advanced reactor developers, and the manufacturers building reactor components and supply chains for nuclear fuel.

— **Largest Nuclear Energy ETF on the U.S. market.[35]**

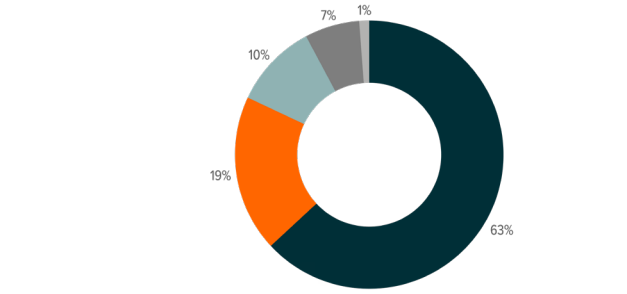
— **URA offers the liquidity and transparency of the ETF structure for a total expense ratio of 0.69%.**

Related ETFs

URA – Global X Uranium ETF

Click the fund name above to view current performance and holdings.
Holdings are subject to change. Current and future holdings are subject to risk.

GLOBAL X URANIUM ETF SECTOR EXPOSURE



Source: Altavista Research, LLC. As of December 31, 2025. Based on equity positions held by the ETF and exclude cash, currencies, and other holdings.

FOOTNOTES

1. Power Magazine (2025, December 10). The Uranium Renaissance: Revitalizing America's Nuclear Supply Chain.
2. NucNet (2025, September 5). Nuclear Renaissance Could Create Shortage of Uranium Supply, Says WNA.
3. Bank of America (2025, December 3). Watt's really driving US power demand?
4. UtilityDive (2025, December 3). U.S. data center power demand could reach 106 GW by 2035: BloombergNEF.
5. World Nuclear Association (2025, December 30). Plans for New Reactors Worldwide.
6. The Financial Times (2025, September 5). Uranium shortfall threatens nuclear energy renaissance, industry warned.
7. World Nuclear Association (2025). World Uranium Mining Production.
8. Energy Intelligence (2026, January 2). Kazakh Subsoil Use Law Change to Squeeze Foreign Uranium Partners.
9. U.S. Department of Energy (2025, November 4). Uranium Enrichment, Explained.
10. UxC, LLC (2025, December 29). UxC Historical Ux Month-End Price Data.
11. American Nuclear Society (2026, January 6). DOE awards $2.7B for HALEU and LEU enrichment.
12. U.S. Department of Energy (2025, March). What is Generation Capacity?
13. International Atomic Energy Agency (2021, September). Nuclear Energy for a Net Zero World.
14. U.S. Department of Energy (2021, March 31). 3 Reasons Why Nuclear is Clean and Sustainable.
15. World Nuclear Association (2026, January 12). Economics of Nuclear Power.
16. U.S. Energy Information Administration (2024, May 8). How old are U.S. nuclear power plants, and when was the newest one built?
17. World Nuclear Association (2025, November 13). Tripling Global Nuclear Energy by 2050 Within Reach – If Governments Act Now.
18. Power Magazine (2025, September 24). U.S.-UK Nuclear Partnership Spurs Historic wave of Fuel, SMR, and EPC Deals – Here's the Rundown.
19. The White House (2025, May 23). Reinvigorating the Nuclear Industrial Base.
20. Reuters (2025, October 28). US strikes $80 billion deal for new nuclear power plants.
21. U.S. Department of Energy (2026, January 20). Fact Sheet: The Energy Department is Delivering On Accelerating The Deployment of Nuclear Power.
22. Reuters (2025, May 19). Bipartisan group of US lawmakers introduce bill to boost nuclear power.
23. Hostert, D., Kimmel, M., Berryman, I., Pegios, K., Quintero, R., Song, S., Verma, A., & Vasdev, A. (2025, April 15). New Energy Outlook: Energy and Climate Scenarios that Connect the Dots. BloombergNEF.
24. Reuters (2025, November 6). Trump expands critical minerals list to copper, met coal, uranium.
25. United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission (2024, October 31). Backgrounder on Uranium Import Ban.
26. World Nuclear News (2026, January 9). Meta announces 'landmark agreements for new nuclear.
27. Constellation Energy (2024, September 20). Constellation to Launch Crane Clean Energy Center, Restoring Jobs and Carbon-Free Power to The Grid.
28. Kairos Power (2024, October 14). Google and Kairos Power Partner to Deploy 500 MW of Clean Energy Generation.
29. Oklo (2024, December 18). Oklo and Switch Form Landmark Strategic Relationship to Deploy 12 Gigawatts of Advanced Nuclear Power, One of the Largest Corporate Clean Power Agreements Ever Signed.
30. Reuters (2026, January 14). Is the US uranium market about to go nuclear in 2026?
31. Bloomberg (2025, September 15). US Looks to Boost Uranium Reserves for Nuclear Power.
32. Global Corporate Venturing (2025, September 26). Corporate investment in nuclear startups jumps amid growing data center demand.
33. Net Zero Insights (2025, October 28). Nuclear Fission Investment Surges in 2025.
34. As of December 31, 2025
35. ETF.com (2026, January 27). Nuclear Energy ETF List as of January 27, 2026.

This material represents an assessment of the market environment at a specific point in time and is not intended to be a forecast of future events, or a guarantee of future results. This information is not intended to be individual or personalized investment advice and should not be used for trading purposes. Please consult a financial advisor for more information regarding your situation.

Investing involves risk, including the possible loss of principal. International investments may involve risk of capital loss from unfavorable fluctuation in currency values, from differences in generally accepted accounting principles, or from economic or political instability in other nations. Emerging markets involve heightened risks related to the same factors as well as increased volatility and lower trading volume. Narrowly focused investments may be subject to higher volatility. There are additional risks associated with investing in Uranium and the Uranium mining industry. URA is non-diversified.

Shares of ETFs are bought and sold at market price (not NAV) and are not individually redeemed from the Fund. Brokerage commissions will reduce returns.

Carefully consider the Fund's investment objectives, risks, and charges and expenses before investing. This and other information can be found in the Fund's summary or full prospectuses, which may be obtained at globalxetfs.com. Please read the prospectus carefully before investing.

Global X Management Company LLC serves as an advisor to Global X Funds. The Funds are distributed by SEI Investments Distribution Co. (SIDCO), which is not affiliated with Global X Management Company LLC or Mirae Asset Global Investments. Global X Funds are not sponsored, endorsed, issued, sold or promoted by Solactive AG, nor does Solactive AG make any representations regarding the advisability of investing in the Global X Funds. Neither SIDCO, Global X nor Mirae Asset Global Investments are affiliated with Solactive AG.

605 THIRD AVENUE
NEW YORK, NY 10016

1 (888) 493-8631
GLOBALXETFS.COM
@GLOBALXETFS