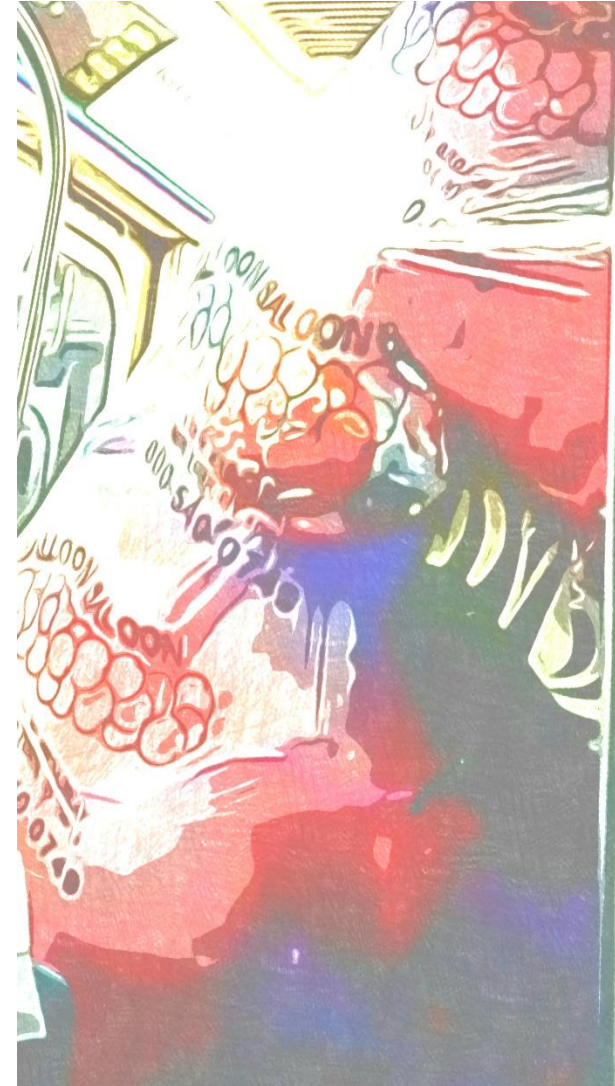


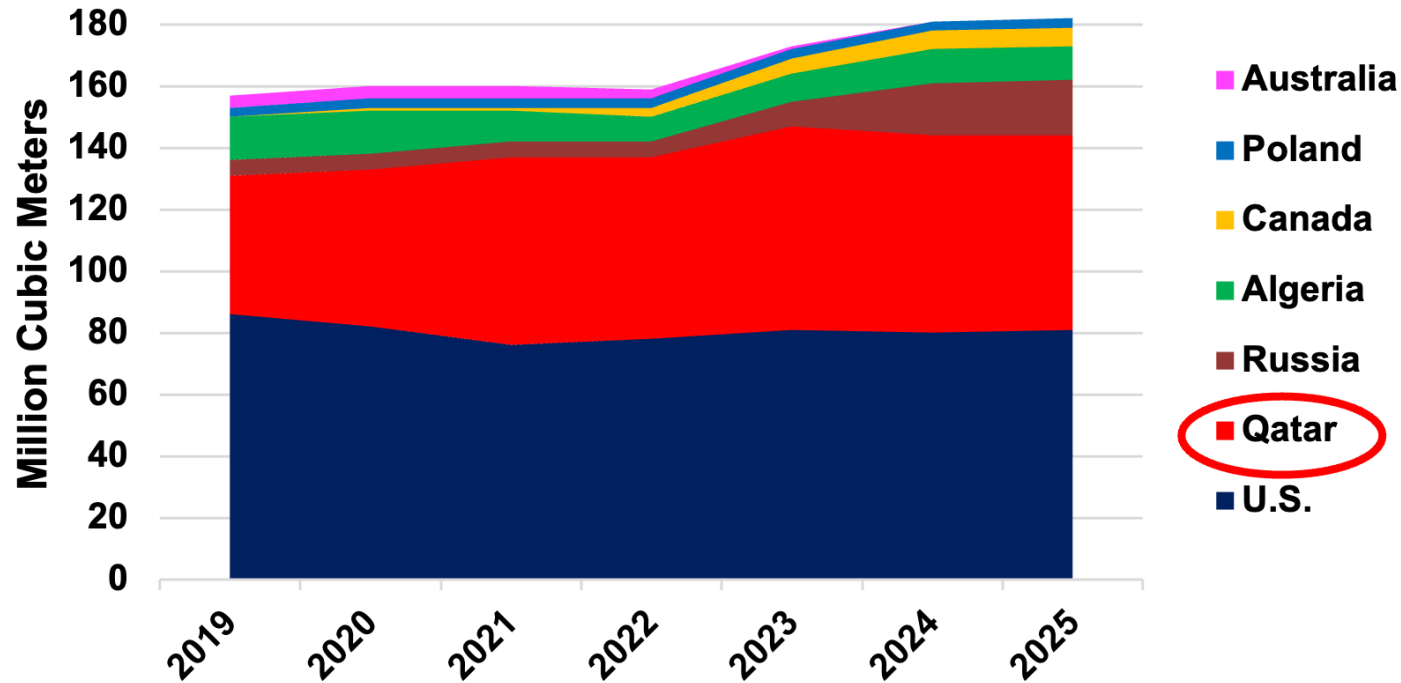
Chart of the Week #2026-113

Hormuz Strait Closure: The Case of Helium



**Max Pyziur
Matthew Sawoski
April 1, 2026
Washington, DC**

Qatari Share of Global Helium Production



Source: U.S. Geological Survey

EPRINC.org

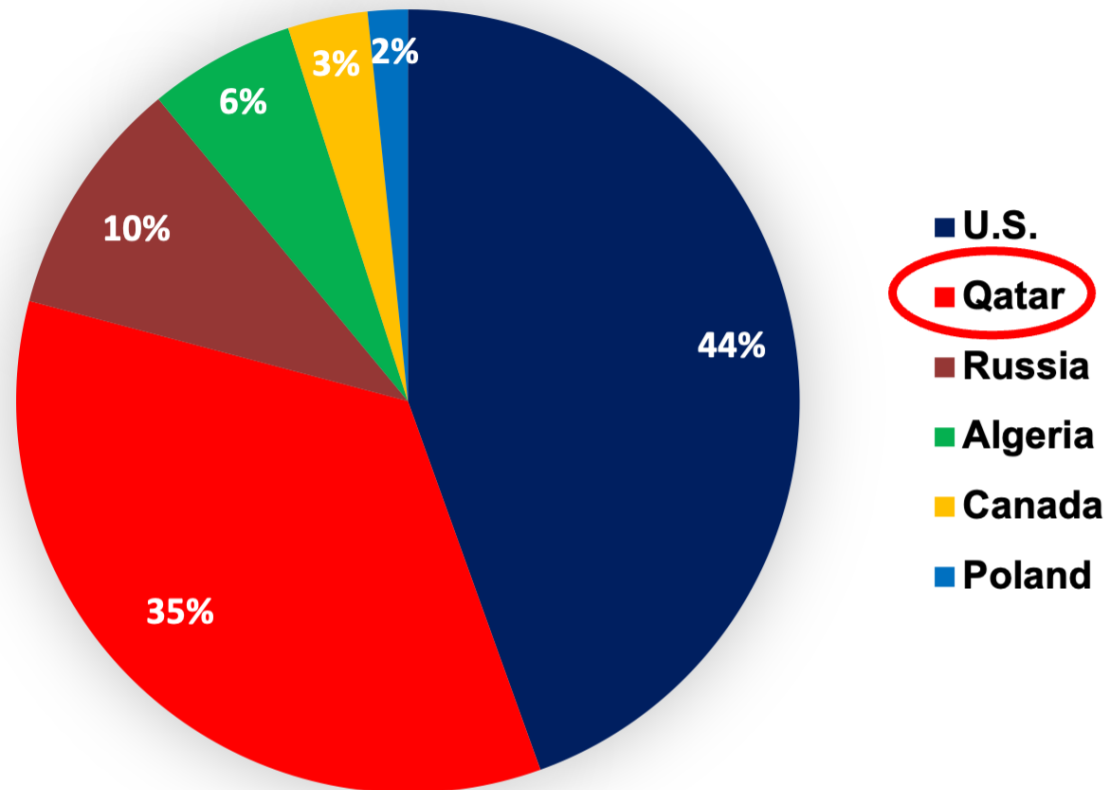
The Israel/U.S.-Iran War is now in its fifth week. Critically, it has led to the closure of the Hormuz Strait, an important channel for the transit of enabling commodities that include 25% of global crude oil supplies, 20% of global LNG trade, and 8.3% of global fertilizer production.

In addition to these, global supply of helium is substantially impaired due to Hormuz Strait closure sourced solely from Qatar. At 35% of global supplies, Qatar is the second-largest supplier at 63 million cubic meters (mcm).

In trace amounts, helium is a coproduct of natural gas production. It is critical to computer chip, flat-panel display, and fiberoptic cable manufacturing (17% of global demand), magnetic resonance imaging (MRIs) (15% of total global demand), as well as facilitating the propulsion of rockets and space satellites (9%).

Regional Korean and Taiwanese semiconductor manufacturing rely on Qatari helium supplies for up to 50% of their helium requirements.

2025 Global Helium Production



Source: U.S. Geological Survey

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- **With the rise in demand for AI chips and aerospace requirements along with the passage of the U.S. CHIPS act, global helium demand is projected to rise at an annualized rate of 6% to 246 mcm in 2030 from 182 in 2025. Helium term pricing ranges from \$350 to \$750 per thousand cubic feet (\$12,360 to \$26,486 per thousand cubic meters).**
- **With the absence of Qatar's helium supplies from global markets, prices begun to double; potentially, they could surge even higher if the Hormuz closure continues indefinitely.**
- **This slide deck is available at: <https://eprinc.org/chart-of-the-week/>**
- **For more information on these charts, please contact Max Pyziur (maxp@eprinc.org) or Matthew Sawoski (matthews@eprinc.org).**