MICA (NATURAL)

(Data in metric tons unless otherwise specified)

Domestic Production and Use: Scrap and flake mica production, excluding low-quality sericite, was estimated to be 26,000 tons valued at $3.8 million. Mica was mined in Georgia and North Carolina. Scrap mica was recovered principally from mica and sericite schist and as a byproduct from the production of feldspar and kaolin and the beneficiation of industrial sand. Eight companies produced an estimated 59,000 tons of ground mica valued at about $20 million from domestic and imported scrap and flake mica. Most of the domestic production was processed into small-particle-size mica by either wet or dry grinding. Primary uses were joint compound, oil-well-drilling additives, paint, roofing, and rubber products.

A minor amount of sheet mica has been produced as incidental production from feldspar mining in North Carolina in the past several years. Data on sheet mica production were not available in 2025. The domestic consuming industry was dependent on imports to meet demand for sheet mica. Most sheet mica was fabricated into parts for electrical and electronic equipment.

Salient Statistics—United States:	**2021**	**2022**	**2023**	**2024**	**2025[e]**
Scrap and flake:					
Production:[e, 1]					
Sold or used	41,000	42,000	37,000	24,000	26,000
Ground	67,000	66,000	66,000	51,000	59,000
Imports[2]	24,400	22,600	16,400	19,700	18,000
Exports[3]	4,850	4,450	3,740	4,160	4,700
Consumption, apparent[e, 4]	61,000	60,000	50,000	40,000	39,000
Price, average, dollars per metric ton:[e]					
Scrap and flake	100	100	100	140	130
Ground:					
Dry	300	300	310	330	320
Wet	340	350	350	350	350
Net import reliance[5] as a percentage of apparent consumption	32	30	25	39	34
Sheet:					
Sold or used	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Imports[6]	3,990	4,400	4,320	4,520	5,100
Exports[7]	633	803	1,010	870	900
Consumption, apparent[e, 4]	3,350	3,490	3,310	3,650	4,200
Price, average value, muscovite and phlogopite mica, dollars per kilogram:[e]					
Block	W	W	W	W	W
Splittings	1.90	1.60	1.80	1.80	1.80
Net import reliance[5] as a percentage of apparent consumption	100	100	100	100	100

Recycling: None.

Import Sources (2021–24): Scrap and flake: China, 42%; Canada, 35%; India, 7%; Finland, 5%; and other, 11%. Sheet: China, 73%; Vietnam, 8%; Brazil, 5%; India, 4%; and other, 10%.

Tariff: Item	**Number**	**Normal Trade Relations 12–31–25**
Split block mica	2525.10.0010	Free.
Mica splittings	2525.10.0020	Free.
Unworked, other	2525.10.0050	Free.
Mica powder	2525.20.0000	Free.
Mica waste	2525.30.0000	Free.
Plates, sheets, and strips of agglomerated or reconstituted mica	6814.10.0000	2.7% ad valorem.
Worked mica and articles of mica, other	6814.90.0000	2.6% ad valorem.

Depletion Allowance: 22% (domestic), 14% (foreign).

Government Stockpile: None.

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MICA (NATURAL)

Events, Trends, and Issues: Domestic production of scrap and flake mica was estimated to have increased by 8% in 2025. Estimated domestic apparent consumption of scrap and flake mica decreased by 3%. At the beginning of 2025, the number of drill rigs operating for the oil and gas industry in the United States was 582;[8] by the end of November 2025 the number of rigs operating had declined to 549,[8] likely indicating that less mica was consumed in well drilling.

Apparent consumption of sheet mica was estimated to have increased by 15% compared with that in 2024, as imports were 13% higher and exports were 3% higher than those in 2024. Supplies of sheet mica for United States consumption were expected to continue to be from imports, primarily from China and some from Brazil.

World Mine Production and Reserves: World production of sheet mica has remained steady; however, reliable production data for some countries that were estimated to be major contributors to the world total were unavailable.

	Scrap and flake			Sheet		
	Mine production[e]		Reserves[9]	Mine production[e]		Reserves[9]
	2024	2025		2024	2025	
United States	24,000	26,000	Large	NA	NA	Very small
Canada	14,000	14,000	Large	NA	NA	NA
China	85,000	85,000	1,100,000	NA	NA	75,000
Finland	[10]56,900	57,000	Large	NA	NA	NA
France	14,000	14,000	Large	NA	NA	NA
India	14,000	13,000	Large	1,000	1,000	110,000
Korea, Republic of	21,000	15,000	12,000,000	—	—	NA
Madagascar	90,000	70,000	Large	—	—	NA
Spain	8,000	8,000	Large	—	—	NA
Turkey	[10]9,640	9,500	620,000	—	—	NA
Other countries	44,000	39,000	Large	200	200	Moderate
World total (rounded)	376,000	350,000	Large	NA	NA	NA

World Resources:[9] Resources of scrap and flake mica are available in clay deposits, granite, pegmatite, and schist, and are considered more than adequate to meet anticipated world demand in the foreseeable future. World resources of sheet mica have not been formally evaluated because of the sporadic occurrence of this material. Large deposits of mica-bearing rock are known to exist in countries such as Brazil, India, and Madagascar. Limited resources of sheet mica are available in the United States. Domestic resources were subeconomic because of the high cost of the hand labor required to mine and process sheet mica from pegmatites.

Substitutes: Some lightweight aggregates, such as diatomite, perlite, and vermiculite, may be substituted for ground mica when used as filler. Ground synthetic fluorophlogopite, a fluorine-rich mica, may replace natural ground mica for uses that require the thermal and electrical properties of mica. Many materials can be substituted for mica in numerous electrical, electronic, and insulation uses. Substitutes include acrylic, cellulose acetate, fiberglass, fishpaper, nylatron, nylon, phenolics, polycarbonate, polyester, polyvinyl chloride, styrene, and vulcanized fiber. Mica paper made from scrap mica can be substituted for sheet mica in electrical and insulation applications.

[e]Estimated. NA Not available. W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data. — Zero.

[1]Excludes low-quality sericite used primarily for brick manufacturing.

[2]Includes data for the following Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States codes: 2525.10.0050, <$6.00 per kilogram; 2525.20.0000; and 2525.30.0000.

[3]Includes data for the following Schedule B numbers: 2525.10.0000, <$6.00 per kilogram; 2525.20.0000; and 2525.30.0000.

[4]Defined as sold or used by producing companies + imports – exports.

[5]Defined as imports – exports.

[6]Includes data for the following Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States codes: 2525.10.0010; 2525.10.0020; 2525.10.0050, >$6.00 per kilogram; 6814.10.0000; and 6814.90.0000.

[7]Includes data for the following Schedule B numbers: 2525.10.0000, >$6.00 per kilogram; 6814.10.0000; and 6814.90.0000.

[8]Source: Baker Hughes Co., 2025, North America rotary rig count: Baker Hughes Co. (Accessed November 17, 2025, at https://bakerhughesrigcount.gcs-web.com/na-rig-count?c=79687&p=irol-reportsother).

[9]See Appendix C for resource and reserve definitions and information concerning data sources.

[10]Reported.