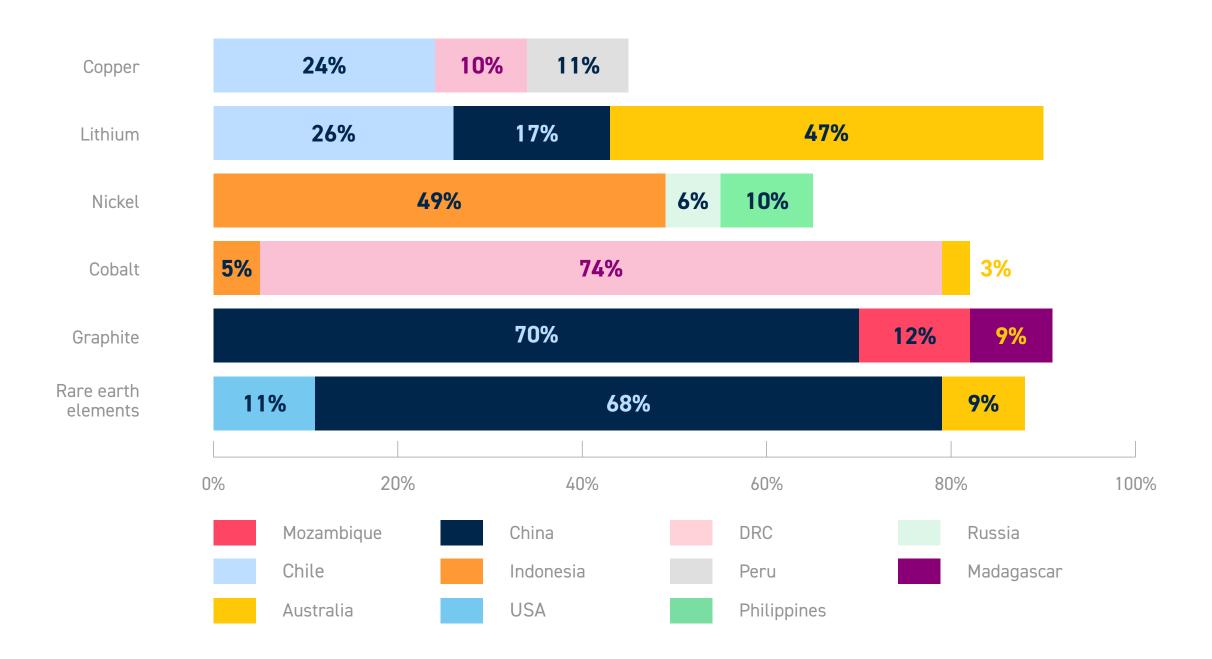
FIG.**30**a

SHARE OF TOP THREE PRODUCING COUNTRIES IN MINING OF SELECTED MINERALS, 2022

Source: International Energy Agency



The prospect of a rapid rise in demand for critical minerals necessary for the technologies required in energy transitions poses huge questions about the availability and reliability of supply. The production of these minerals is more concentrated than that of oil. For lithium, cobalt, graphite and rare earth elements, the world's top three producing nations control well over three-quarters of global output. In some cases, a single country is responsible for around half of worldwide production. The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and China were responsible for some 74% and 68% of global production of cobalt and rare earth elements respectively in 2022.