

Digital Assets Education

We are observing the next evolution of money

Presented By:

Patti Wubbels, SVP

Digital Assets Advisory Practice

Strategic Resource Management

srmcorp.com

Elephant in the Room



With cryptocurrency markets in a significant readjustment, how should financial institutions think about this?



DISCLAIMER

- **All information found here**, including any ideas, opinions, views, predictions, forecasts, commentaries, or suggestions, expressed or implied herein, are for informational, entertainment or educational purposes only and **should not be construed as investment advice.**
- The cryptocurrency industry is extremely fast-moving. **Data/statistics become outdated quickly.** While the information provided is believed to be accurate, it may include errors or inaccuracies.

SRM's Digital Asset Advisory Team



SRM's digital assets/blockchain technology team's experience includes: cryptographic foundations, industry applications, the intersection of traditional finance and defi developments, regulatory environment, various crypto/digital assets, distributed ledger technology/blockchain, smart contracts and more...



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Key Takeaways

- Watch this space
- Defend your Deposits
- Drive interest and non-interest income
- Acquire new customers, market share
- Increase customer engagement
- Regulatory Guidance Exists
- SRM is helping to identify risks & opportunities

What our Clients are saying now

Embracing the rational as a
new way of moving money



Education



Opportunity



Priority



Action

Growing Popularity and Interesting Facts



20-30% of Americans

Own or Use Some Form of Cryptocurrency

Approx. 55% of Crypto Owners

Pulled Funds from their Savings or Investment Accounts

Industry Leadership

61% Of Americans

Believes the US Government
Should Support the Crypto Industry

Long View of Crypto Ownership

1 in 4 Millennials

Have Crypto in Efforts to Fund their
Retirement Needs

40% of Crypto Owners

Purchased it in 2021

Financial Institution – a Trusted Source

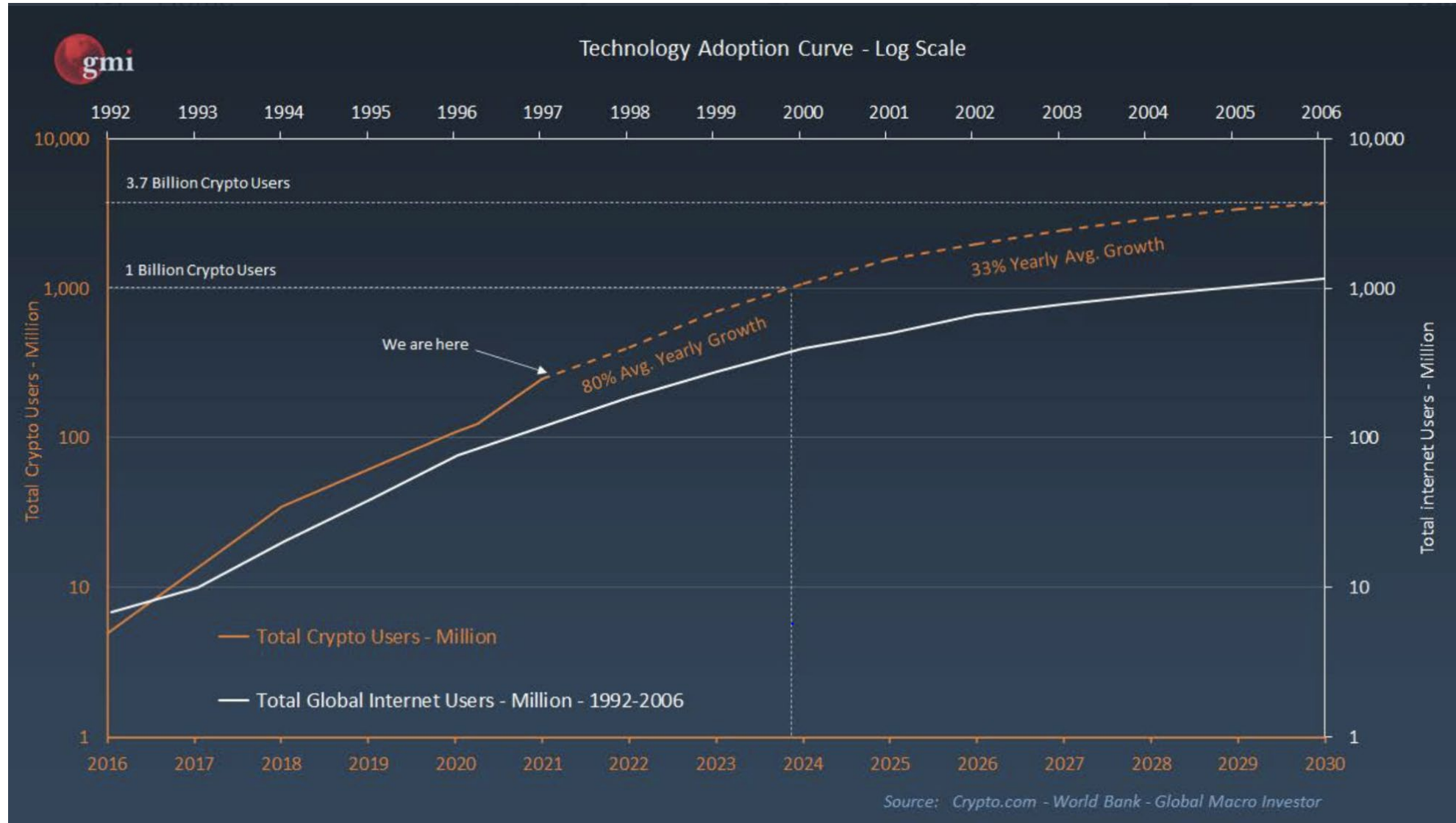
Over 50%

Surveyed¹ said they Would Definitely use a FI to Invest
in Crypto if They Could

Crypto & Market is Highly Correlated













































The Stock Market and Crypto Market have Been Moving in Similar
Manners

Digital Asset Adoption vs Internet



Generational Investing



Investment Types	Gen Z	Millenials	Gen X	Boomers
Have Investments	 54%	 64%	 38%	 43%
Stocks	 26%	 37%	 28%	 27%
Cryptocurrency	 23%	 38%	 26%	 6%
Mutual Funds	 12%	 21%	 17%	 24%
EFTs	 7%	 22%	 13%	 7%
Index Funds	 8%	 13%	 13%	 8%
NFTs	 10%	 15%	 11%	 0%
REITS	 7%	 14%	 12%	 3%
Commodities	 5%	 9%	 9%	 3%
Options	 8%	 9%	 4%	 2%
Other	 2%	 2%	 4%	 5%

At Least 1 in 4 Gen Z, Millennials, and Gen X Invest in Crypto

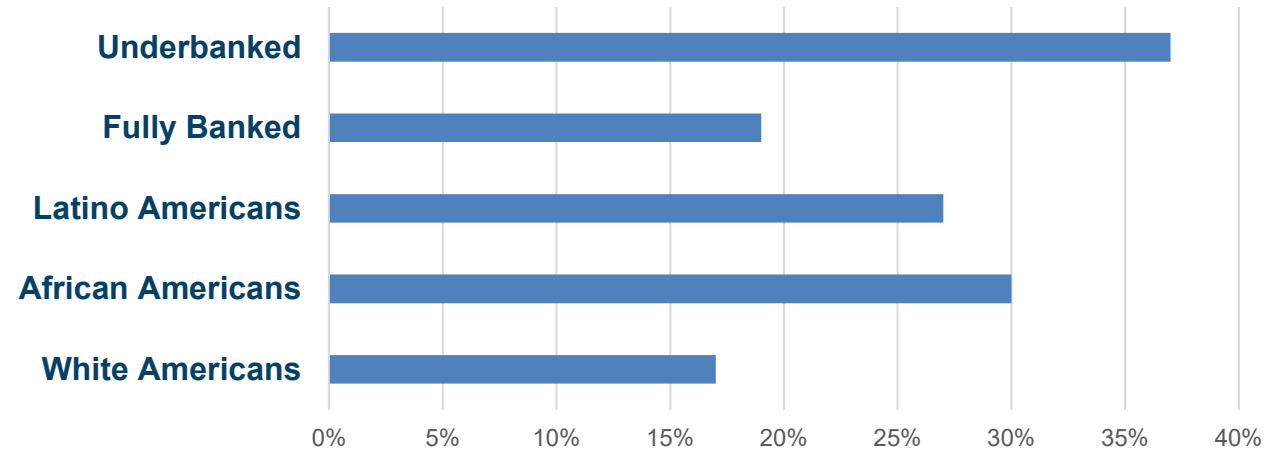
DIVERSITY

Crypto ownership attracts diversity
in both ethnicities and income
levels

First Boulevard: Black neobank

- Black-owned digital banking offering
- Piloting crypto with Visa
- Crypto as a tool to close the racial wealth gap

Digital Asset Ownership



The Underbanked were more inclined to use cryptocurrency for transactions.

- 13% of people who utilized cryptocurrency for these transactions did not have a typical bank account,
- 27% did not have a credit card, and
- Nearly 6 out of 10 persons who use cryptocurrency for transactions earn less than \$50,000, while only 24% earn more than \$100,000.

Global Perspective



Category	# of BTC	Value Today	% of 21m
ETFs ↗	828,641	\$23,715,874,463	3.946%
Countries ↗	50,699	\$1,451,015,723	0.241%
Public Companies ↗	268,271	\$7,677,970,747	1.277%
Private Companies ↗	202,068	\$5,783,227,382	0.962%
Totals:	1,359,781	\$38,917,209,615	6.475%

Countries

- Adoption as legal tender - El Salvador, Central African Republic
- Considering Bitcoin adoption - Panama, Paraguay, Mexico, Argentina¹

Companies Investing in Crypto/Blockchain



What are Digital Assets



1

In broad strokes, a cryptocurrency is a digital asset used as a medium of exchange, unit of account, or store of value.

2

Ownership and transaction records are recorded onto a digital ledger called a “blockchain”.

3

Cryptocurrencies are becoming popular with retail and institutional investors, sovereign wealth funds, and even countries.

CRYPTOCURRENCIES



COINS



DIGITAL TOKENS



STABLE COINS



CENTRAL BANK DIGITAL
CURRENCIES (CBDC)



NON-FUNGIBLE
TOKENS (NFTS)



Store of value/wealth

- “Hodling”
- Investing
- Diversifying Portfolio
- 401K and IRAs
- NFTs



Speculative

- Staking
- Yield Farming
- Invest in early startups (ICOs)



Transactional

- Low Cost Money Transfer (International Remittances)
- Real-time Settlement (P2P)
- Payments of Goods and Services (Tesla)
- Charitable Donations
- Decentralized Finance (DAPPS)
- Virtual Gaming

Digital Asset “Retail” Use Cases

What should your Bank be
considering?



Financial Institution Survey Results



35% of Financial Institutions

Have already launched or are interested in offering digital asset solutions immediately

60% of Financial Institutions

Have digital assets on their roadmap for the next 2-3 years

Non-Interest Revenue Opportunity

90 % of Financial Institutions

Want to offer clients Buy/Sell/Hold options

Interest Revenue Opportunity

30 % of Financial Institutions

Would like to offer loans against digital assets or at least consider it in the lending decision

50% of Financial Institutions

Would like to offer crypto rewards

50% of Financial Institutions

Would like to offer a Secured Digital Identity

Financial Institution Use Cases



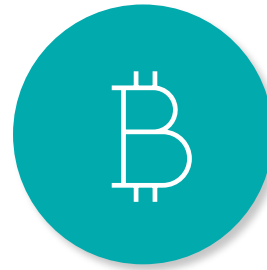
Custodial Services



Of crypto keys is something most banks and credit unions can easily provide



Trading



Integrations into existing online banking or mobile wallets can allow buying, selling, and use of crypto



Programs



Offers crypto rewards via debit & credit cards or even paying interest in crypto



Financial Institution Use Cases



Lending



To the crypto industry or against client crypto assets via low risk, over collateralized, loans



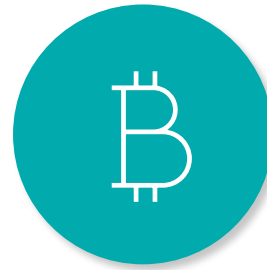
customers
bank

Goldman
Sachs

bank
prov.

Silvergate

Issuing/Backing Stablecoin



Could offer significant yields to financial by holding the underlying assets

WA Western Alliance
Bank®

Member FDIC

PayPal Coin

NYCB New York
Community Bank
Member FDIC

Signature
Bank

PNC

DLT/Blockchain/Smartcontracts



Can secure sensitive data, speed up settlement periods, and provide P2P solutions



Northern Trust

usbank

onyx
by J.P.Morgan



WELLS
FARGO



US

VISA

“Other” Digital Asset Applications



Retail Banking

Custody
Trading: Buy/Sell/Hold
Rewards/Payments
Cross-border Remittances
Lending



Corporate Banking, Treasury & Capital Markets

Custody
Collateralized Lending
Clearing/Settlement
Cross-border Remittances
Trade Finance/DLT (Block
chain)



Private & Investment Banking, Wealth Management, Trust

Custody
Staking/Yield
Digitized
Assets/Securities
Settlement





Operational Efficiencies

DLT
Smart Contracts
Digital Identity/IMS

WHAT is Distributed Ledger Technology (DLT)



Use Cases – What Problems Are We Trying to Solve?

Customers	Financial Institutions
 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identity Management Services – IMS• Lending and Trade Finance - fewer intermediaries, streamlined process, lower fees• Payments – increased speed and security for transfers and reconciliation, cross boarder payments	 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reduced counter party risk/fraud with less intermediaries• Intra and inter bank settlement• Automated settlement and reduced transaction fees• Regulatory transparency• Proof of ownership

What is a Blockchain

What is... ...a Blockchain?

1



A Digital Ledger

A Blockchain is a digital ledger which keeps records of all transactions taking place on a peer to peer network.

2



Encrypted Information

All Information transferred via blockchain is encrypted and every occurrence recorded, meaning once the block is created and added to the chain, it cannot be altered.

3



Peer to Peer

Lets you interact or send transactions with a peer, without an intermediary. Removes the middle man.

4



Data Sharing

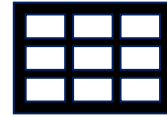
The blockchain can be used for more than the transfer of currency. It can also be used to share contracts, records and any other type of data.

5

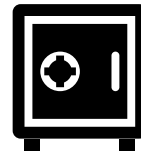


Decentralization

The blockchain is decentralized, so there isn't a need for a central, certifying authority.



A Digital Ledger



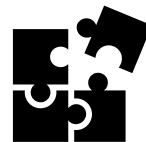
Encrypted Information



Peer to Peer



Data Sharing



Decentralization

WHAT IS A SMARTCONTRACT?

Self executing contract

- Automated software protocol that lives “on chain” to automatically implement a procedure, contract or business practice.
- When the rules are met, the contract is executed on the blockchain.
- Automation simplifies the process but still ensure speed and accuracy with each contract.
- Not a legal contract

Smart Contracts



Option contract written as code into a blockchain.



Contract is part of the public blockchain.



Parties involved in the contract are anonymous.



Contract executes itself when the conditions are met.



Regulators use blockchain to keep an eye on contracts.

Digital Identity Benefits



Financial institutions



Offerings

Firms can use detailed and trusted customer information to provide customers with tailored services.



Operations

Digital attribute transfer and handling let financial institutions streamline and automate many processes, eliminating human error.



Security

The secure, digital storage of user information reduces fraud resulting from stolen information or compromised authentication.



Compliance

Thanks to digital attribute handling and greater access to user identity, compliance becomes easier and more accurate.



Revenue

Firms get the chance to increase revenue from improved products and services as well as offer identity-as-a-service.



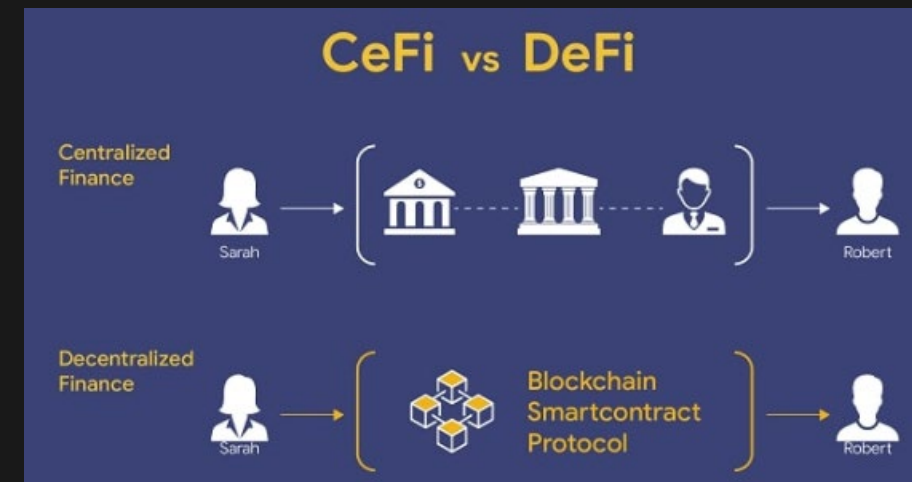
Competitiveness

Financial institutions offer a streamlined user experience and position themselves as a critical part of the digital economy.

- Extremely efficient financial applications in crypto and blockchain – **“peer-to-peer” financing using crypto.**
- Open, transparent, permissionless, trustless, decentralized, and highly interoperable protocol stack.
- DeFi applications (DAPPS) are a growing list and include borrow/lending, trading, payments, and insurance.
- Making finance more open and equitable, less expensive to build new innovative financial ecosystems.
- DeFi grew from \$30B to \$112B in one year.



DECENTRALIZED FINANCE (DEFI) – “OPEN FINANCE”



Solution Providers





- **OCC** - November 2021, 4th Interpretive Letter 1179, elaborated on the process that would be required to engage in cryptocurrencies in a “safe and sound” manner. As long as a bank shows that it has sufficient controls in place, and first obtains written notice of “non objection” by its supervisory office, then a bank is said to be engaging in a “safe and sound manner.”
- **FDIC – 4/7/2022** - *Notification of Engaging in Crypto-Related Activities.*
 - FDIC supervised institutions needs to provide information that allows to the FDIC that allows it to be reviewed and provide relevant supervisory feedback.



- **NCUA** - December 2021. Clarified that federally insured credit unions (FICUs) can establish relationships with third-party providers that offer digital asset services to the FICUs’ members, provided certain conditions are met.
- **NCUA** May 2022. Provided guidance that the NCUA does not prohibit FICUs from developing, procuring, or using DLT (Distributed Ledger Technologies).

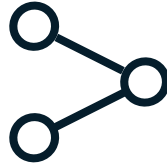
- **Lummis-Gillibrand Responsible Financial Innovation Act** – June 2022 Bi-partisan bill introduced seeking comprehensive set of regulations across the digital asset ecosystem in the U.S.
- **Presidents Working Group** – November 2021 provided congress with guidance on stablecoin legislation including requirements to hold high quality US dollar denominated assets and hold these assets at US regulated entities.
- **Biden Administration** - March 2022 released a directive to ask federal agencies to determine the risks and opportunities posed by digital assets. Should be hearing from them any day now.
- **NY Department of Financial Services** - June of 2022 became the first financial regulator to issue guidance for criteria for stablecoins.

SRM's Digital Asset Advisory Capabilities



Education/Needs Assessment

- Inflow/Outflow Analysis
- Education – executive team, employee, board, client
- Customer survey & possible focus group
- Market Scan – list of top crypto solution providers
- High-Level Pro Forma
- SRM Crypto University



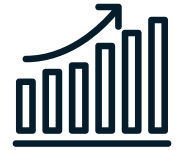
Digital Asset Strategy

- Design Thinking Sessions
- Compliance & Risk Considerations
- Strategy Development - Business Plan, Gap Analysis, Infrastructure Readiness
- Product Decisions
- Token Risk Rating: Definition of security vs. commodity
- Refined Pro Forma



Partner Selection

- Vendor Scan
- RFP, Due-Diligence Packages, Licenses
- Demos
- Negotiation
- Vendor Selection



Roll-Out

- Marketing and Roll-out Planning
- Implementation & Integration w/ Online/Mobile Banking Providers
- Market Scan
- Pricing Decisions
- Disclosures
- Regulatory Preparation
- Tracking

Digital Assets Education

QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION

Presented By:



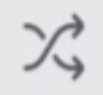

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Bitcoin compared to Gold and Fiat



	 GOLD	 BITCOIN	 FIAT CURRENCY
 DURABLE	+	+	-
 DIVISIBLE	-	+	+
 FUNGIBLE	+	+	-
 PORTABLE	-	+	+
 VERIFIABLE	-	+	-
 SCARCE	+	+	-
 TRACK RECORD	+	-	-

- Fiat currency has reigned in the last forty years, but every fiat currency that has existed in history has eventually failed.
- A study of 775 fiat currencies indicates the average life expectancy of fiat currencies is 27 years, with some taking a month to crash and others surviving for centuries.
- The two longest-surviving currencies are the British Pound and the US Dollar, both of which have lost the vast majority of their original value.
- The US is also deeply in debt, which encourages it to inflate its currency in order to reduce the dollar-value of that debt.
- Will the dollar beat the odds and survive? If it fails, what comes next? Bitcoin, CBDC, Stablecoin?

Source: Fidelity Digital Assets

PAYMENT RAIL ALTERNATIVES EMERGE



- Settlement via blockchain and App
- Settlement via Crypto Payment Gateway
- Settlement via Crypto linked Cards
- Settlement via Stable-coins or CBDCs



flexa



CoinPayments



Verifone®

bitpay

coinbase | Commerce

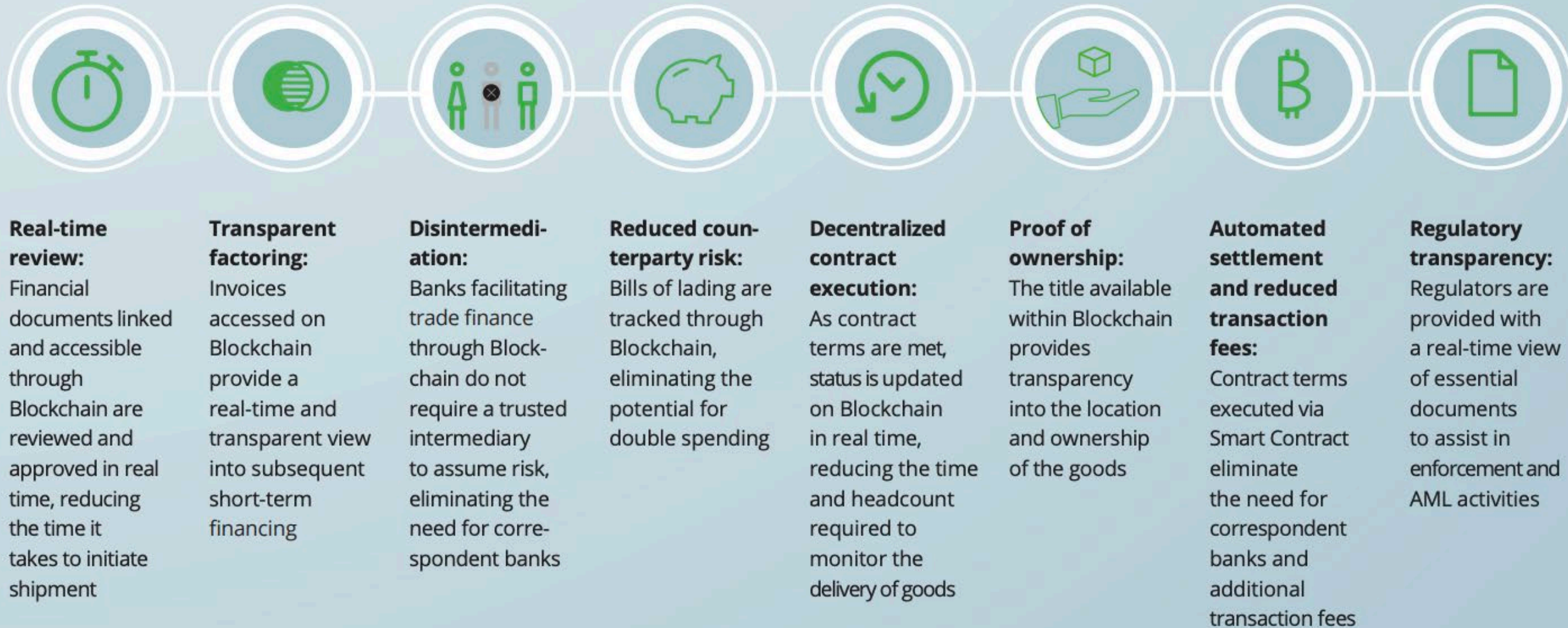


crypto.com



PayPal Coin

Trade Finance Blockchain Benefits



Source: Deloitte

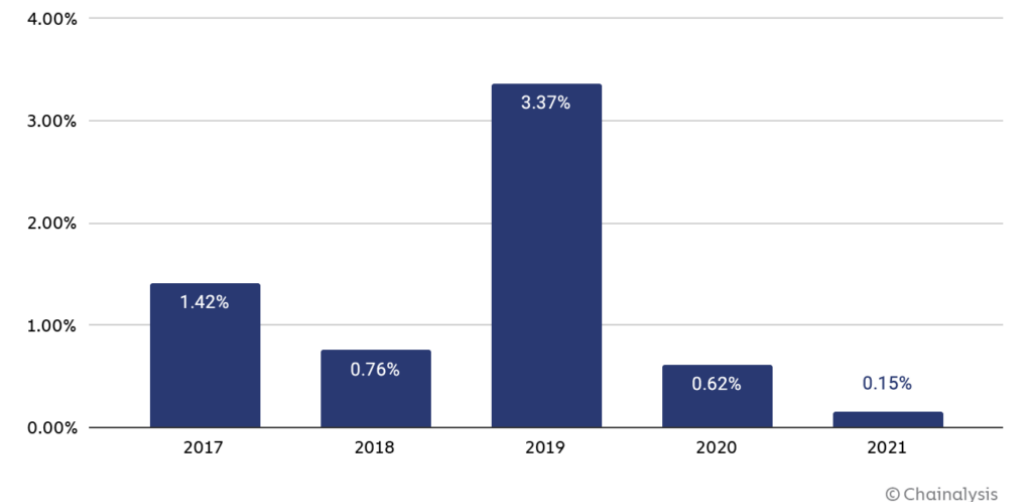
Crypto Crime trends for 2022

Illicit Transaction Activity Reaches All-Time High in Value, All-Time Low in Share of All Cryptocurrency Activity

Total cryptocurrency value received by illicit addresses, 2017 - 2021



Illicit share of all cryptocurrency transaction volume, 2017 - 2021



Top 2021 Hacks & one BIG 2022 Hack



- **Poly Network – \$611MM.** The Poly Network hack in August was the “second” largest cryptocurrency exploit ever. **Bad smart contract**
- **BitMart – \$196MM.** The BitMart hack in December saw assets stolen from two of the platform’s ‘hot wallets’ on Ethereum and Binance in December. **Stolen private key**
- **Cream Finance – \$148MM.** DeFi platform Cream Finance was hacked twice in 2021, first for \$18MM in August followed by a larger \$130MM exploit in October. **Bad smart contract**
- **Vulcan Forged – \$140MM.** In December, the play-to-earn NFT game Vulcan Forged had PYR tokens stolen from compromised wallets. **Stolen private keys**
- **Badger Finance – \$120MM.** This hack occurred in December when BadgerDAO faced a ‘front-end’ attack that saw ETH and BTC stolen from the platform. **Compromised API key**
- **2022 Axie Infinity - \$622MM.** Blockchain gaming company Sky Mavis announced that, in March, someone had used hacked private keys to drain the treasury of its popular metaverse gaming project Axie Infinity. The stolen funds were stored in Ethereum and USD Coin on the Ronin bridge, a sidechain of the Ethereum network. **Stolen private key**

7 TYPES OF CRYPTO SCAMS



- Ponzi Schemes
- Pump and dump
- Fake celebrity endorsements
- Fake exchanges
- Fake apps
- Fake press releases
- Phishing/spoofing



REGULATION & STANDARDS



Security and Exchange Commission (SEC) believes some digital assets “may be securities”

Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) considers crypto to be a commodity

Internal Revenue Service (IRS) classifies crypto as property

Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC) the OCC in 2020 and 2021 provided regulatory guidance via 3 interpretative letters

National Credit Union Administration (NCUA) announced guidance for credit unions in 4th Qtr 2021

Department of Justice (DOJ) recently announced the creation of a National Cryptocurrency Enforcement Team (NCET)

Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FINCEN) recently appointed FinCEN’s first-ever Chief Digital Currency Advisor and is working on rules requiring crypto exchanges to file reports when a client moves \$3,000 of virtual currency domestically or \$250 internationally

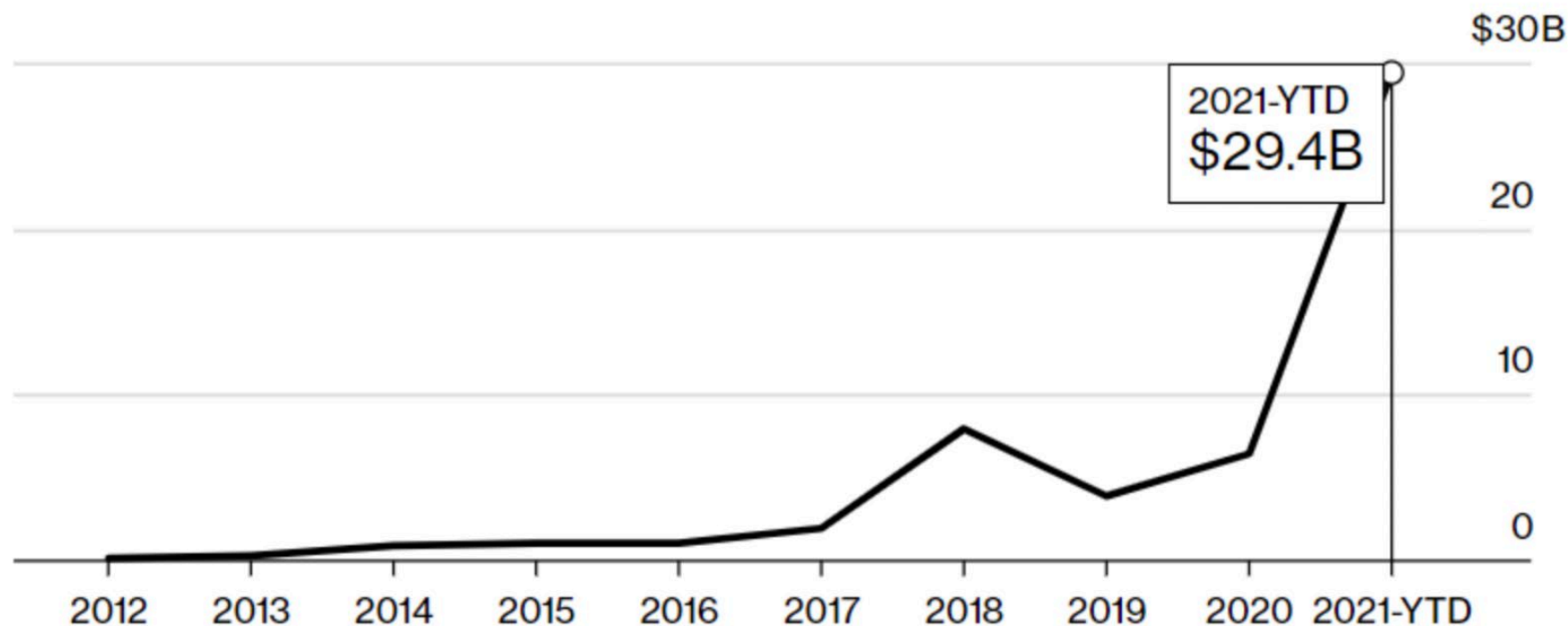
Financial Action Task Force (FATF) recently updated its guidance on the risk-based approach to virtual assets (VAS) and virtual asset service providers (VASPs)

Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) has been considering changes to accounting rules and recently requested public comment on the subject. Current GAAP accounting prohibits businesses from showing the true value of crypto assets.

FBI recently announced new cryptocurrency unit.

Big Token

Venture capital firms pour \$30 billion into crypto industry



Source: PitchBook

*Data through Dec. 15

Additional **Potential** Regulatory Changes

- The Biden Administration released an Executive Order directive to ask federal agencies to determine the risks and opportunities posed by digital assets.
- SEC recently proposed rule classifying DEFI “communication protocols” like DEX’s as exchanges. They are currently requesting public comments. <https://www.sec.gov/rules/proposed.shtml>
- The Federal Reserve recently kicked off debate about creating an official digital version of the US Dollar. This could have significant impacts to consumers and existing financial service companies. The Federal Reserve is soliciting public comment. <https://www.federalreserve.gov/apps/forms/cbdc>

**CHANGE
IS
COMING...**

THE CRYPTO **WALLET**



Public Key — This cryptographic key is usually designed to allow someone to send digital coins to an address without identifying the user. It's kind of like an account username.

Private Key — This is your own information that you use to identify yourself as the owner of the wallet. It's kind of like a PIN or a password. You can use your private key to get into your hot wallet and see what's happening.



CUSTODIAL WALLET

CUSTODIAL WALLETS ARE THIRD PARTIES SUCH AS EXCHANGES AND BROKERAGE SERVICES. THESE SERVICES HAVE CONTROL OVER YOUR COINS.



NONCUSTODIAL WALLET

NONCUSTODIAL WALLETS GIVE USERS 100% CONTROL BY PROVIDING OWNERS WITH THE PRIVATE KEYS

 [Bitcoin.com](https://bitcoin.com)

HOT VS COLD **Wallets**



- Connected to the internet
- More accessible and can be connected to the platform you trade on
- Easier to use in transactions across the internet.
- More vulnerable to hackers.
- Often free



- Only limited and controlled internet connectivity
- Even when plugged into a computer and connected to the internet, the funds can't be stolen, as the transaction must be signed by the device itself.
- Less accessible - since you need the key for each transaction.
- Designed to be thief-proof.
- More expensive

Regulatory Changes: **Tax Reporting for Brokers**

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act was effective on **November 15th 2021** includes a broad definition of "broker" to target cryptocurrency information reporting to the IRS. Requirements in the infrastructure bill will not take effect until Jan. 1, 2023, with reporting needed in 2024.

The bill imposes obligations similar to IRS Form 1099-B on various technology providers in the crypto industry, even if they do not broker digital asset transactions and lack the necessary information to comply.

Based on bill's imprecise wording, various noncustodial blockchain technology providers may represent "brokers" subject to reporting obligations. For example:

- Proof of Stake Validators and Proof of Work Miners
- Blockchain Node Operators or Delegates
- Software Developers
- Crypto Wallet Suppliers

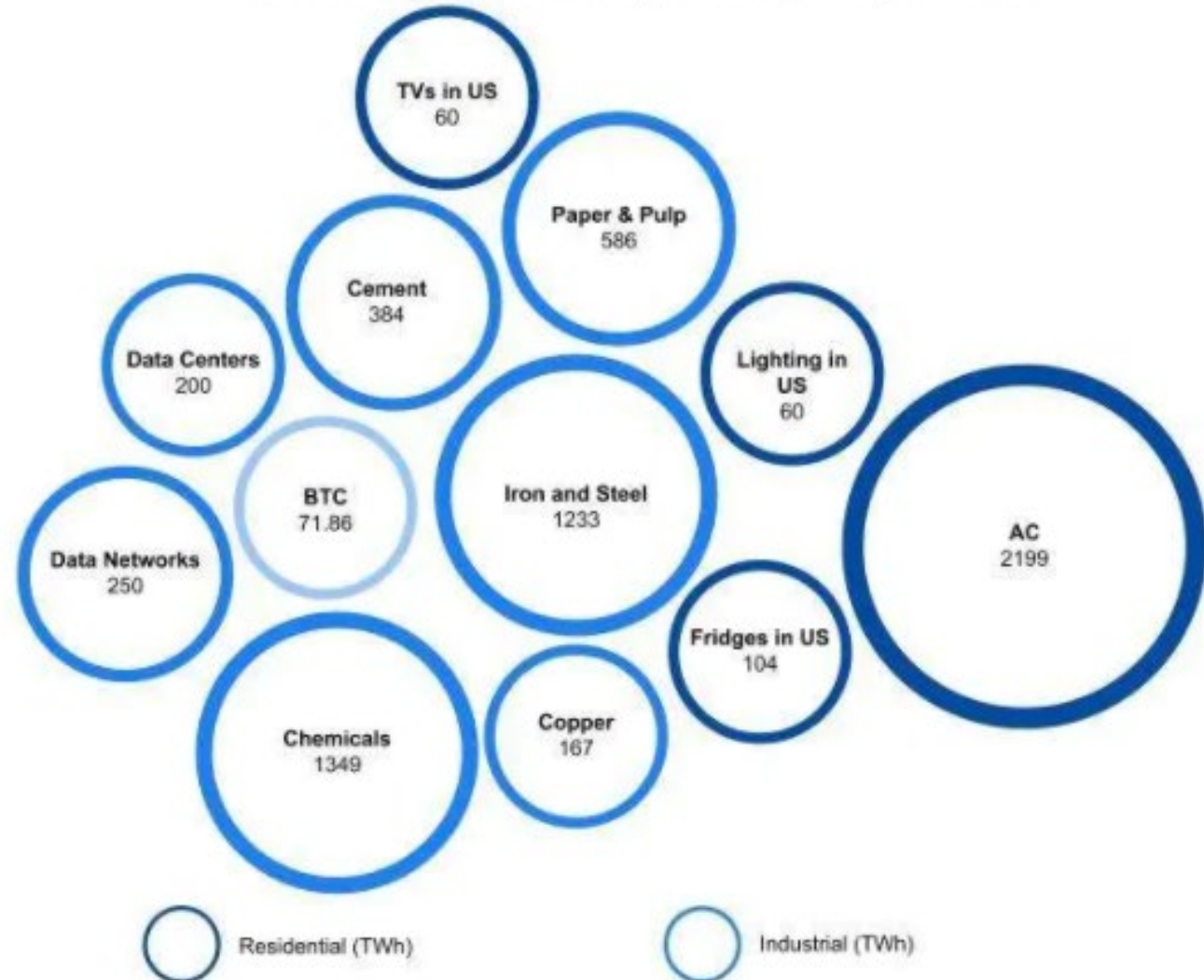


President's Working Group Recommendations

- **To address risks to stablecoin users and guard against stablecoin runs**, legislation should require stablecoin issuers to be insured depository institutions
- **To address concerns about payment system risk**, in addition to the requirements for stablecoin issuers, legislation should require custodial wallet providers to be subject to appropriate federal oversight. Congress should also provide the federal supervisor of a stablecoin issuer with the authority to require any entity that performs activities that are critical to the functioning of the stablecoin arrangement to meet appropriate risk-management standards.
- **To address additional concerns about systemic risk and concentration of economic power**, legislation should require stablecoin issuers to comply with activities restrictions that limit affiliation with commercial entities. Supervisors should have authority to implement standards to promote interoperability among stablecoins. In addition, Congress may wish to consider other standards for custodial wallet providers, such as limits on affiliation with commercial entities or on use of users' transaction data.

Bitcoin Energy Consumption

Bitcoin Energy Consumption: A Comparison



Repurposed from University of Cambridge's Bitcoin Electricity Consumption Index

Energy usage compared to current monetary alternatives

	Annual Cost	Energy Used (GJ)
Gold Mining	\$105B	457M
Gold Recycling	\$40B	25M
Paper Currency and Minting	\$23B	39M
Banking System	\$1,870B	2,340M
Governments	\$27,800B	5,861M
Bitcoin Mining	\$4.5B	183M

*One gigajoule (GJ) is equal to 277.8 kilowatt hours (kWh), 1.055 million British thermal units (Btu) or 0.17 barrels of oil.

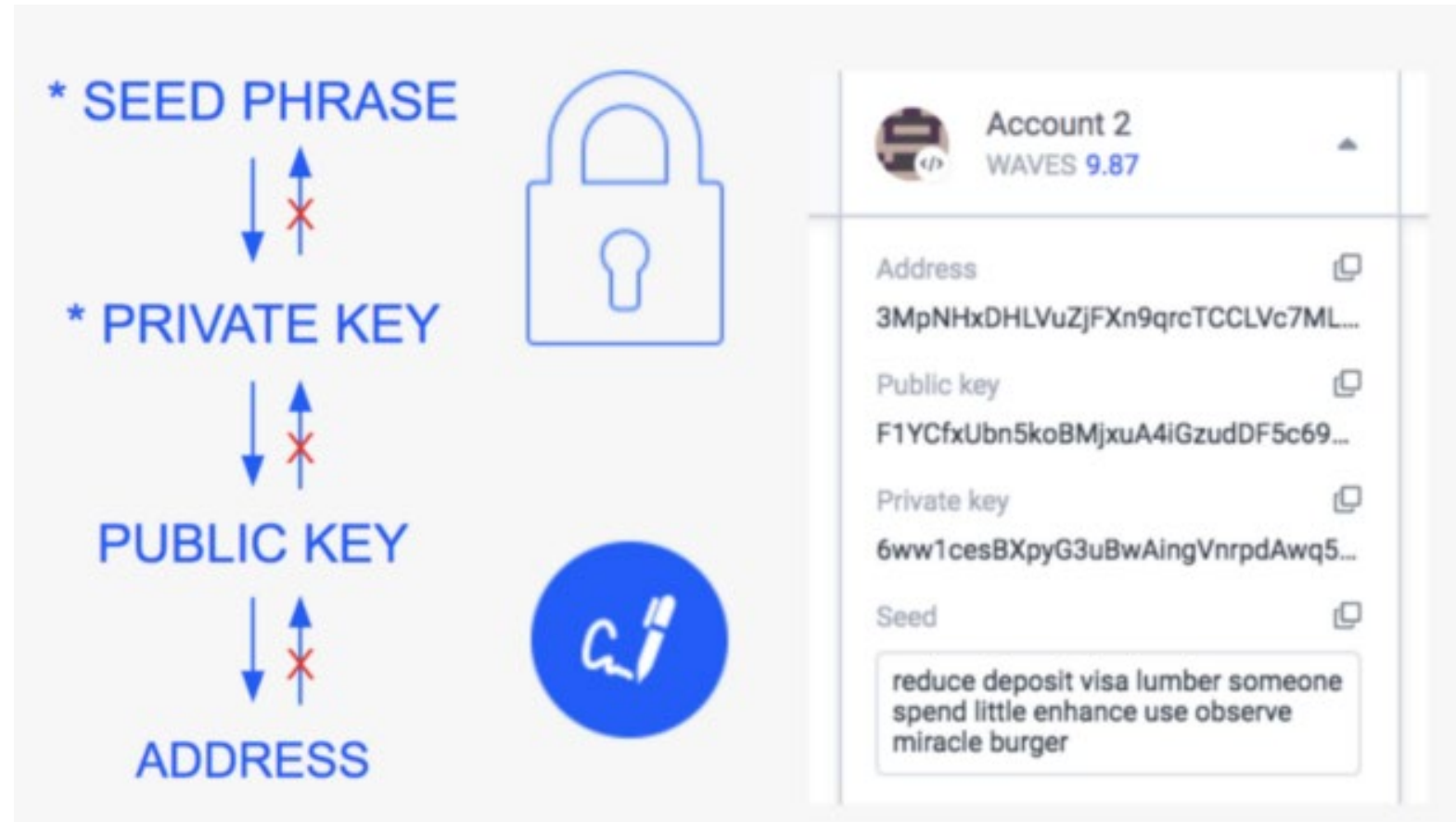
SEED PHRASE > Private and Public Keys & Wallet Address

The wallet uses the seed phrase to create the private keys.

Public keys are created using an asymmetric algorithm, which pairs the public key with an associated private key.

Public key are not the addresses, A address is like an email address that funds can be sent to.

The public key is used by the wallet to make different addresses.



MINING VS MINTING

Crypto mining is the process of earning cryptocurrencies by recording and confirming transactions on a public digital record of transactions known as a blockchain, and this is accomplished through the use of computers to solve cryptographic equations. In return for the complex mathematical problems that they solve, miners are rewarded in cryptocurrencies.



Minting, is the act of authenticating data, creating a new block, and storing that data onto the blockchain via the Proof-of-Stake method. The minting method for how blocks are formed and data is added to a block is known as Proof-of-Stake.

Coins are minted through staking rather than mining under the Proof-of-Stake process. Proof-of-Stake doesn't have miners; instead, it has validators, and it doesn't allow individuals to mine new blocks; instead, they can mint or fake them.

Proof of Work vs. Proof of Stake



Blockgeeks



Proof of Work

vs.

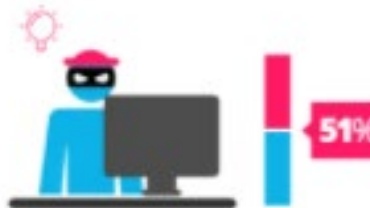
Proof of Stake



To add each block to the chain, miners must compete to solve a difficult puzzle using their computers processing power.



There is no competition as the block creator is chosen by an algorithm based on the user's stake.



In order to add a malicious block, you'd have to have a computer more powerful than 51% of the network.



In order to add a malicious block, you'd have to own 51% of all the cryptocurrency on the network.



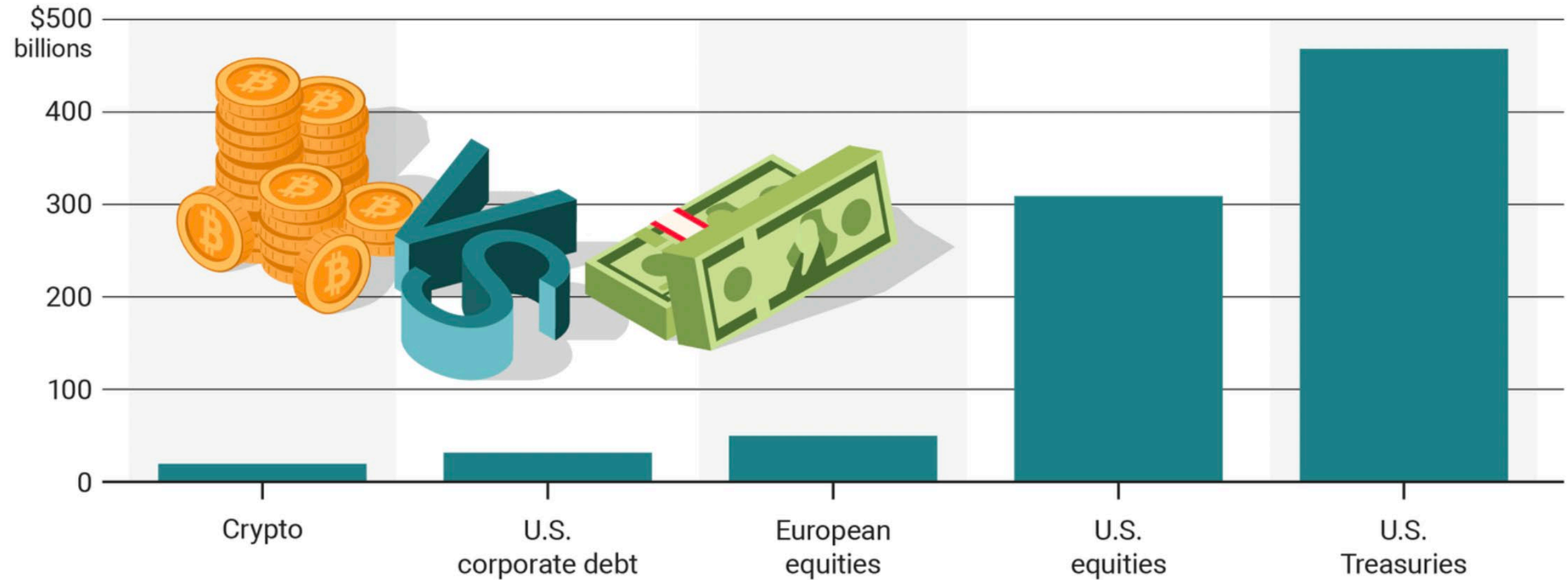
The first miner to solve the puzzle is given a reward for their work.



There is no reward for making a block, so the block creator takes a transaction fee.

Crypto volume vs the rest

Crypto daily trade volume compared with other segments*



*30 day average

Source: Sanford C. Bernstein note citing CoinMarketCap, CBOE, Coindance, SIFMA

INSIDER PRO

10 SUCCESSFUL STARTUPS FOUNDED DURING 2008 GREAT RECESSION



DROPBOX,
2007



WordStream
WORDSTREAM,
2007



zendesk
ZENDESK,
2007



GROUPON,
2008

cloudera

CLOUDERA,
2008



WHATSAPP,
2009

UBER

UBER,
2009



VENMO,
2009



SLACK,
2009

 Square

SQUARE,
2009



INSTAGRAM,
2010



PINTEREST,
2010

Americans want Crypto from their Financial Institutions!!

- 1/4 of Gen Zers (21-26yo) are crypto investors and 3 in 10 plan to invest in 2022
- Millennials (27-41) 30% have already invested in crypto and 27% planning to do so this year
- Among both, with crypto, 40% bought or sold it five or more times in 2021
- Americans already holding crypto, 1/2 said they would definitely use a FI to invest in crypto if they could

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STRONG AWARENESS & ADOPTION



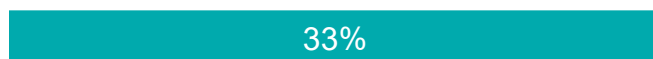
Receptive Audience

Most consumers are familiar with crypto and owners are open to broader applications

Are aware of cryptocurrency



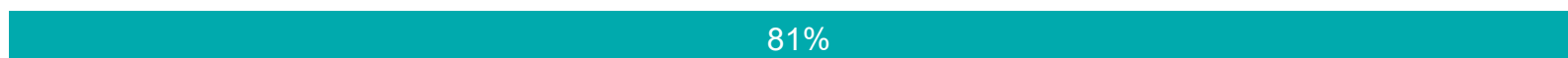
Own cryptocurrency



Own it and are interested in crypto rewards



Own it and are interested in crypto-linked cards



Are likely or very likely to switch banks based on crypto services








0% 10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100%

Source: Visa (Survey of 6,000 household decision-makers)

Market Participants



Exchange	 	Staking, lending, ability to move digital assets on and off platform, & rewards card
Brokerage		Low fees, ability to also trade stocks, and ability to self-custody assets
FinTech & Neobanks		Ability to trade stocks, self-custody assets & earn rewards
Banks & CUs		Low fees, 12 asset options, & insurance