

➤ **China's stonewall of Covid origin probe prompted Biden to reveal latest intel review.**

President Joe Biden's decision to announce an intensified 90-day review into the origins of the coronavirus pandemic came about in part because of the Chinese government's refusal to participate in an investigation by the World Health Organization, a source familiar with the decision told NBC News.

Biden released a statement Wednesday asking the intelligence community to redouble its efforts to get to the bottom of the origins of Covid-19, after new reports raised questions about whether it spread from a laboratory in Wuhan, China.

The source said the genesis of Biden's ask goes back weeks, after he'd received information on the matter that he'd asked for back in March, the source said. The information was in the President's Daily Brief, the highly classified briefing prepared for the president by the intelligence community.

Biden asked if he could declassify some of the report without compromising sources and methods so the White House could share the information publicly, the source said.

That effort was underway when China announced on Tuesday that it would not participate in "phase two" of the WHO's investigation into the origins of Covid-19. A joint WHO-China study in March found the virus had likely been transmitted from bats to humans, and that theories the virus spread through "a laboratory incident was considered to be an extremely unlikely pathway."

China's decision not to cooperate "heightened interest in us being more transparent about the steps we were taking," the source said. "We continue to believe that China has crucial information about the origins of the pandemic that it is not sharing with the international community."

Earlier this week, The Wall Street Journal reported, and NBC News confirmed, that a U.S. intelligence report identified three researchers at the Wuhan Institute of Virology that had sought treatment at a hospital after falling ill in November 2019. The lab's senior researcher had previously denied that anyone at the facility had gotten sick during that time period.

In his statement Wednesday, Biden noted that the U.S. intelligence community has been unable to reach a "definitive conclusion" on the origins of the virus and said that he'd asked national security adviser Jake Sullivan in March to prepare a report for him on what was known.

Biden said the findings concluded that while two elements of the intelligence community "lean" toward the explanation that the virus came from animal contact, other leans toward the laboratory explanation.

"I have now asked the Intelligence Community to redouble their efforts to collect and analyze information that could bring us closer to a definitive conclusion, and to report back to me in 90 days," his statement said.

Chinese officials lashed out over Biden's announcement earlier Thursday, suggesting the U.S. was being duped into believing conspiracy theories.

"Some people in the United States completely ignore facts and science," Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Zhao Lijian told reporters.

➤ **China completes another part of its own space station paving the way for astronauts to live there.**

China has completed another major part of its own space station, the latest in a string of ambitious extraterrestrial projects from the world's second-largest economy.

The Long March 7 rocket carrying the Tianzhou-2 cargo spacecraft took off at 8:55 p.m. local time on Saturday from the Wenchang launch site, according to the China Manned Space agency.

In the early hours of Sunday morning, Tianzhou-2 docked with the core module of the space station called Tianhe.

China's space station will be made of three modules which includes the Tianhe "core," cargo spacecraft such as Tianzhou-2 and laboratories. China will carry out 11 missions this year and next to complete the construction of the space station and bring astronauts and supplies up too. The space station is expected to go into operation in 2022.

The docking of Tianzhou-2 has paved the way for China to launch astronauts to the space station. The cargo spacecraft carried up astronaut supplies including space suits and food. Shredded pork and kung pao chicken are among the food items transported to space, the official Xinhua news agency reported.

China's first self-developed space station will rival the International Space Station, which is a co-operative effort between the United States, Russia, Europe, Japan, and Canada. China is not involved.

Beijing has been putting a lot of emphasis on ambitious space projects. Last year, China completed its global navigation system called Beidou, a rival to the U.S. government-owned Global Positioning System (GPS).

After China launched its first major Mars mission last year, an unmanned Chinese spacecraft landed successfully on the Red Planet. However, the Asian giant was criticized this month when the rocket carrying the core module for its space station, re-entered the earth's atmosphere uncontrolled and landed in the Indian Ocean.

➤ **China wants couples to have more kids. Chinese people are less enthusiastic.**

For many Chinese people, government restrictions have long ceased to be their main reason for not having more children. That poses a greater challenge for Chinese authorities when trying to limit the negative effects on the economy from a decades-old policy restricting households to one child.

The central government announced Monday that each couple could now have three children, generating a buzz of online discussion — primarily on why it isn't practical to have children, let alone three, in modern China.

More than 30,000 respondents to a simple online poll from state news agency Xinhua overwhelmingly said they weren't considering having more children as a result of the new policy. The poll was soon deleted.

High education costs and insufficient support for maternity leave and retirement have contributed to a growing reluctance to have children. Loosening the restrictions to two children per couple in the last few years has done little to stall a drop in births and keep a population of 1.4 billion people from aging rapidly.

The new policy is "completely inadequate to reverse the demographic decline," Rory Green, senior China economist at TS Lombard, said Tuesday on CNBC's "Street Signs Asia." He said structural changes, such as improving access to childcare, "are much more important than simply removing the numerical limit on the number of kids you can have."

"One of the jokes online, after this (new policy) came out, was, 'Why would I want to have another kid when I have to look after four elderly parents, already two kids and potentially nine grandchildren afterwards,'" he said.

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➤ **The EU is finally ready to tap markets in a \$900 billion stimulus push.**

The European Union is finally ready to raise much-needed funds from public markets and boost the economies of its 27 members after the severe shock from the coronavirus crisis.

The bloc took an unprecedented decision in July to jointly raise capital to fund the economic recovery — a fiscal effort worth 750 billion euros (\$917 billion). This stimulus is on top of what the individual governments have already deployed in the wake of the pandemic.

Now that all the legislative steps have been taken, the European Commission is able to tap capital markets in search for those funds as early as this month.

"The European Commission is ready to go to the markets to raise money to make [the] EU greener, more digital and resilient," President Ursula von der Leyen said on Twitter.

The institution said Monday that 38 financial institutions will be primary dealers, including France's BNP Paribas, Germany's Deutsche Bank and Italy's UniCredit.

The 27 EU capitals will receive a first disbursement of 13% of the total amount that's been allocated to them in the coming months. Future payments will depend on whether countries implement the necessary reforms.

Therefore, member states have put forward recovery plans outlining how they will be using the money and how they will be making their economies more competitive.

However, these documents are still being reviewed by the European Commission and must be scrutinized one final time by the member states. The EU's executive arm intends to conclude its assessment in mid-June, and member states will then have one month to give their opinion on each other's plans.

Some member states, such as Portugal, are pushing for the entire review process to be concluded by the end of June.

"It's a truly historic moment for Europe: The beginning of large-scale common borrowing, even if it is a temporary program," Erik Nielsen, chief economist at UniCredit, told CNBC via email.

"The actual borrowing — and disbursements — will not be an issue. The potential hurdles will more likely emerge in the implementation phase of the reforms and investments — but that's normal for anything big and ambitious," he said.

Sources: CNBC.com

The European Union's economy contracted 6.1% in 2020 and is expected to rebound by 4.2% in 2021, according to data from the European Commission.

Peripheral yields in the euro zone were lower on Tuesday morning.

➤ **Oil jumps to two-year high as OPEC and allies reconfirm gradual production increase.**

A group of some of the world's most powerful oil producers agreed on Tuesday to continue gradually easing production cuts amid a rebound in oil prices.

OPEC and its oil-producing allies, known as OPEC+, will boost output in July, in accordance with the group's April decision to return 2.1 million barrels per day to the market between May and July.

Production policy beyond July was not decided on, and the group will meet again on July 1.

International benchmark Brent crude futures traded at \$71.17 a barrel on Tuesday, up around 2.7%, while West Texas Intermediate crude futures stood at \$68.65, for a gain of more than 3% and the contract's highest level in more than two years. Oil prices have climbed more than 30% this year.

The Middle East-dominated group, which is responsible for over one-third of global oil production, is seeking to balance an expected upswing in demand with the potential for an increase in Iranian output.

The alliance announced massive crude production cuts in 2020 to support prices when the coronavirus pandemic coincided with a historic demand shock.

Ahead of the meeting, analysts expected the group to keep output steady.

"I think the event itself is going to be a nonevent. We expect them to basically reconfirm the plan that they laid out on April 1," Jeffrey Currie, global head of commodities research at Goldman Sachs, told CNBC's "Street Signs Europe" on Tuesday. "I think the bigger issue underlying this is: How are they going to deal with Iran?"

Iran is in discussions with six world powers to revive its 2015 nuclear deal. The restoration of a deal could lead to more oil on the global market in coming months.

"It's too early to give specific numbers around Iran," Currie said. "So, I think the best you can hope for in terms of how they are going to deal with Iran is the indication that they are willing to offset any increases in Iran. That could be the positive upside surprise coming out of this meeting."

OPEC Secretary General Mohammad Barkindo said Monday that he did not believe higher Iranian supply would be a cause for concern.

"We anticipate that the expected return of Iranian production and exports to the global market will occur in an orderly and transparent fashion," Barkindo said in a statement.

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➤ **U.S. Treasury Secretary Yellen and China's vice premier talk about cooperation and economic recovery.**

China's Vice Premier Liu He and U.S. Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen spoke Wednesday for the first time since President Joe Biden took office.

Both the U.S. and China said the two leaders talked about the economy and cooperation, and "frankly" discussed issues of concern.

Yellen discussed the Biden administration's plans to "support a continued strong economic recovery and the importance of cooperating on areas that are in U.S. interests," the Treasury said in a statement.

Liu and Yellen agreed the two countries' economic relationship is "very important," Chinese state media said, according to a CNBC translation. The report said the leaders held a wide-ranging discussion on the macroeconomic situation and multilateral cooperation.

Neither side shared further details on the conversation. The world's two largest economies have remained close trading partners despite geopolitical tensions.

The U.S. dollar has been weakening as the U.S. central bank keeps interest rates low to support the economy's recovery from the coronavirus pandemic. Partly as a result, the Chinese yuan is at its strongest against the greenback in about three years. That makes Chinese goods relatively more expensive for American buyers.

Many economists in China are also concerned about spillover effects from massive U.S. government spending meant to support growth.

Investors have been betting on a recovery, sending commodity prices surging. The rising prices have hit Chinese businesses, prompting the central Chinese government to announce additional support and clamp down on market speculation.

Sources: CNBC.com



Your Weekend Wire

News Flow

Chinese state media characterized the two leaders' discussion Wednesday as one bearing an attitude of "mutual respect," a phrase Beijing often uses when calling for more favorable communication with the U.S.

Last week, Liu spoke with U.S. Trade Representative Katherine Tai for the first time since Biden took office.

➤ **Huawei launches its own operating system on smartphones in challenge to Google Android.**

Huawei on Wednesday launched its self-developed operating system across a slew of devices, including smartphones. The move comes as the Chinese tech giant looks to wean itself off its reliance on U.S. technology and could pit it against software from Apple and Google. HarmonyOS launched in 2019 after the U.S. blacklisted Huawei, cutting it off from access to Google's Android operating system. That move, along with further sanctions restricting Huawei's access to critical semiconductors, crippled its smartphone business just months after it became the number one player in the world.

Huawei has been developing HarmonyOS since 2016 and bills it as an operating system that can work across many internet-connected devices from smartphones to wearables. The company claims it is easy for developers to create apps that can work across different products.

The focus on HarmonyOS working across devices is one way Huawei is trying to differentiate its operating system from Google's Android and Apple's iOS.

"HarmonyOS is designed to provide the glue between a growing array of connected devices that Huawei is targeting," Ben Wood, chief analyst at CCS Insight, said.

"Huawei will be hoping that it can follow Apple's lead, by having a single software platform that extends in all directions, providing a seamless experience to customers that buy into its ecosystem of products."

In 2019, Huawei put HarmonyOS on a TV made by Honor, a brand it had used to own. On Wednesday, Huawei launched HarmonyOS on a new version of its flagship Mate 40 smartphone as well as its Mate X2 foldable phone. Huawei's new Watch Series 3 smartwatch and MatePad Pro tablet will also be equipped with HarmonyOS.

Sanctions in 2019 that cut Huawei off from Google meant users of the Chinese company's smartphones did not receive Android updates. Huawei announced on Wednesday that many of the company's older phones will be able to upgrade to HarmonyOS. These upgrades will begin from Wednesday and be gradually rolled out through to next year.

U.S. sanctions caused a dramatic slowdown in Huawei's revenue growth in 2020, hitting the company's smartphone and its networking equipment business. Washington has maintained Huawei is a national security threat claiming data the company collects could be shared with the Chinese government. Huawei has repeatedly denied that it would do this.

Huawei has looked to pivot to software and focus on other consumer electronics like wearables and tablets to boost revenue. HarmonyOS is part of that effort along with an increasing focus on cloud computing.

The company has said that nearly 100 different Huawei products are set to support HarmonyOS in China this year. Huawei had previously said 300 million devices will run on HarmonyOS this year.

At an online event on Wednesday, Wang Chenglu, the president of software in Huawei's consumer business group, showed examples of how HarmonyOS works across devices. One example involved opening a "control panel" on a smartphone before choosing one of several music apps and what device to play songs on.

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➤ **Tesla recalls hundreds of Model 3 cars that were shipped to China.**

Tesla is recalling more than 700 units of its Model 3 electric car that were imported into China, the central government's market regulator said Thursday.

The announcement follows recalls of tens of thousands of Tesla vehicles in China and the U.S. in the last several months. Elon Musk's automaker has also come under increased regulatory scrutiny in China in the last several months after a slew of negative consumer and media reports on brake failures and collisions.

Thursday's recall affects a total of 734 vehicles produced in 2019, the State Administration for Market Regulation said on its website, citing a recall plan that Tesla filed.

The cars either have a seat belt issue that could increase the risk of passenger injury in the event of a collision, or a tire-related problem that could increase the risk of collision, the regulator said. Tesla will notify affected car owners, and conduct free inspections and repairs, the statement said.

Sources: CNBC.com



Your Weekend Wire

News Flow

Tesla shares were mildly lower in extended-hours trading, after falling 3% during Wednesday's trading session in New York.

A representative for Tesla did not immediately respond to an emailed request for comment.

The U.S.-based automaker opened a factory in Shanghai in 2019. Tesla began delivering China-made Model 3 cars to customers last year, and China-made Model Y vehicles this year.

Tesla's Model 3 has ranked among the three best-selling electric cars in mainland China, outselling similarly priced models from Chinese start-ups such as Nio. However, a budget car called the Wuling Hongguang Mini EV has climbed into first place in recent months.

➤ **Russia warns its economy is showing signs of overheating.**

There are signs that Russia's economy is overheating with annual inflation currently at 5.9%, Anton Siluanov, the country's finance minister, said Thursday.

"If we continue with increased spending, what will we get? Overheating. Elements of overheating are already visible — high inflation," Siluanov said at the St. Petersburg International Economic Forum, according to a Reuters translation.

Consumer price inflation accelerated again in May, rising from 5.5% in April. Earlier this week Russia's Central Bank Governor Elvira Nabiullina told CNBC that "inflation is accelerating" and that, unlike elsewhere, inflation was not seen as a temporary issue as economies reopened and consumer demand increased.

"In our case, it's different," Nabiullina told CNBC's Hadley Gamble earlier this week ahead of SPIEF. "We think that the inflation pressure in Russia is not transitory, not temporary. We see more persistent factors, monetary factors, that's why we started to get a rate hike back to the neutral stance."

Investors will be looking to the next central bank meeting on June 11 to see what it does next, with speculation mounting that the bank could hike interest rates by as much as 50 basis points from a current level of 5%. The central bank's inflation target is 4%.

Nabiullina said the central bank would analyze all the factors, including the inflation forecast and the situation in the economy, but said that "we see the risk that our inflation expectations are elevated, and they remain elevated for several months."

On Wednesday, Russia's central bank issued a bulletin in which it noted that the economy was continuing to grow in the second quarter and that gross domestic product could reach its pre-pandemic level in mid-2021.

However, analysts at the bank noted that "economic growth is still uneven. Industries focused on export and intermediate products as well as the services sector have been recovering at outrunning paces during the recent months."

It added that uncertainty with respect to medium- and long-term consequences of the coronavirus pandemic remains high.

Speaking at SPIEF on Thursday, Russian First Deputy Prime Minister Andrei Belousov said: "To be brief, the greatest challenge the world economy is going to face, I believe, is dramatic structural changes. So far, we cannot anticipate exactly what they are going to look like."

One such problem, Belousov said, was an "inflationary wave" that had unexpectedly hit the world economy, citing an "unprecedented" rise in consumer prices across the U.S. and Europe.

"I believe this is not just an indication of weakening monetary policy everyone is talking about, but it also testifies to structural changes," he continued. "These are the challenges we will have to have a long, serious look at and take decisions about because, behind that, as has been mentioned, we see such problems as growing inequality among people."

Russia's economy has been operating under international sanctions since 2014 after its annexation of Crimea.

Its role in a pro-Russian uprising in east Ukraine, 2016 U.S. election interference, a nerve agent poisoning in the U.K. and its role in the SolarWinds cyberattack, among other incidents, have also all prompted further sanctions. For its part, Russia denies any involvement or wrongdoing.

The Russian economy shrank by roughly 3% in 2020 as the pandemic took hold, marking the worst contraction in 11 years. This was due to public health measures in response to the Covid crisis and a drop in energy demand (Russia is one of the world's largest oil exporters).

Russia's central bank now believes GDP growth for 2021 will be between 3-4% but Nabiullina said "a lot depends on the situation of course ... this recovery is uneven."

The country's central bank governor told CNBC that U.S. sanctions were a "persistent risk" to the country. However, she also said Moscow's reserves were "quite big, to withstand all financial scenarios or geopolitical scenarios," and are probably more diverse than other countries' reserves.

Sources: CNBC.com

Your Weekend Wire

The week ahead

Date	Time	Country	Indicator Name	Period	Reuters Poll	Prior	SmartEstimate®	Predicted Surprise
07.06.2021	07:45	Switzerland	Unemployment Rate Unadj	May		3.3%		
07.06.2021	07:45	Switzerland	Unemployment Rate Adj	May		3.1%		
07.06.2021	08:00	Germany	Industrial Orders MM	Apr		3.0%		
07.06.2021	08:00	Germany	Manufacturing O/P Cur Price SA	Apr		29.5%		
07.06.2021	08:00	Germany	Consumer Goods SA	Apr		116.5		
07.06.2021	08:45	France	Reserve Assets Total	May		183 428M		
07.06.2021	09:00	Switzerland	Forex Reserves CHF	May		914 080.00M		

Date	Time	Country	Indicator Name	Period	Reuters Poll	Prior	SmartEstimate®	Predicted Surprise
08.06.2021	01:30	Japan	Overtime Pay	Apr		-6.2%		
08.06.2021	01:30	Japan	Overall Lab Cash Earnings	Apr		0.2%		
08.06.2021	01:50	Japan	GDP Deflator YY Final	Q1		-2.4%		
08.06.2021	01:50	Japan	GDP Rev QQ Annualised	Q1		-5.1%		
08.06.2021	01:50	Japan	GDP Revised QQ	Q1		-1.3%		
08.06.2021	01:50	Japan	GDP Cap Ex Rev QQ	Q1		-1.4%		
08.06.2021	01:50	Japan	GDP QQ Pvt Consmp Revised	Q1		-1.4%		
08.06.2021	01:50	Japan	GDP QQ External Demand R	Q1		-0.2%		
08.06.2021	08:00	Germany	Industrial Output MM	Apr		2.5%		
08.06.2021	08:00	Germany	Industrial Production YY SA	Apr		4.87%		
08.06.2021	08:45	France	Current Account	Apr		-2.9B		
08.06.2021	08:45	France	Current Account - Balance NSA	Apr		-5.23B		
08.06.2021	08:45	France	Trade Balance, EUR, SA	Apr		-6.07B		
08.06.2021	08:45	France	Imports, EUR	Apr		46.05B		
08.06.2021	08:45	France	Exports, EUR	Apr		39.98B		
08.06.2021	09:30	Sweden	Household Consumption YY	Apr		5.0%		
08.06.2021	09:30	Sweden	Household Consumption MM	Apr		0.6%		
08.06.2021	09:30	Sweden	New Orders Manuf. YY	Apr		10.0%		
08.06.2021	09:30	Sweden	Private Production YY	Apr		3.9%		
08.06.2021	09:30	Sweden	Private Production MM	Apr		0.5%		
08.06.2021	09:30	Sweden	Ind Production Val YY	Apr		5.7%		
08.06.2021	09:30	Sweden	Ind Production Val MM	Apr		1.1%		
08.06.2021	09:30	Sweden	Construction Prod YY	Apr		-2.2%		
08.06.2021	09:30	Sweden	Construction Prod MM	Apr		-3.1%		
08.06.2021	11:00	Germany	ZEW Economic Sentiment	Jun		84.4		
08.06.2021	11:00	Germany	ZEW Current Conditions	Jun		-40.1		
08.06.2021	12:00	United States	NFIB Business Optimism Idx	May		99.80		
08.06.2021	14:30	United States	International Trade \$	Apr	-72.9B	-74.4B	-71.16B	1.74B
08.06.2021	14:30	United States	Goods Trade Balance (R)	Apr		-85.23B		
08.06.2021	14:30	Canada	Trade Balance C\$	Apr		-1.14B		
08.06.2021	14:30	Canada	Exports C\$	Apr		50.62B		
08.06.2021	14:30	Canada	Imports C\$	Apr		51.76B		
08.06.2021	14:55	United States	Redbook YY	31 May, w/e				
08.06.2021	16:00	United States	JOLTS Job Openings	Apr		8.123M		

Source: Refinitiv

Your Weekend Wire

The week ahead

Date	Time	Country	Indicator Name	Period	Reuters Poll	Prior	SmartEstimate®	Predicted Surprise
09.06.2021	01:50	Japan	M2 Money Supply	May		1 160 505 000M		
09.06.2021	01:50	Japan	Broad Money	May		1 953.6T		
09.06.2021	08:00	Germany	Exports MM SA	Apr		1.2%		
09.06.2021	08:00	Germany	Imports MM SA	Apr		6.5%		
09.06.2021	08:00	Germany	Trade Balance, EUR, SA	Apr		14.3B		
09.06.2021	08:00	Germany	Current Account - Balance NSA	Apr		30.2B		
09.06.2021	13:00	United States	MBA 30-Yr Mortgage Rate	31 May, w/e				
09.06.2021	16:00	United States	Wholesale Invt(y), R MM	Apr		0.8%		
09.06.2021	16:00	United States	Wholesale Sales MM	Apr		4.6%		
09.06.2021	16:00	Canada	BoC Rate Decision	9 Jun		0.25%		
09.06.2021	16:30	United States	EIA Ethanol Ref Stk	31 May, w/e				
09.06.2021	16:30	United States	EIA Ethanol Fuel Total	31 May, w/e				

Date	Time	Country	Indicator Name	Period	Reuters Poll	Prior	SmartEstimate®	Predicted Surprise
10.06.2021	01:01	United Kingdom	RICS Housing Survey	May		75		
10.06.2021	01:50	Japan	Foreign Invest JP Bonds	31 May, w/e				
10.06.2021	01:50	Japan	Foreign Stock Investment	31 May, w/e				
10.06.2021	01:50	Japan	Corp Goods Price MM	May		0.7%		
10.06.2021	01:50	Japan	Corp Goods Price YY	May		3.6%		
10.06.2021	06:30	Netherlands	Manufacturing Output MM	Apr		3.1%		
10.06.2021	07:30	France	Non-Farm Payrolls Rev	Q1		0.3%		
10.06.2021	08:45	France	Industrial Output MM	Apr		0.8%		
10.06.2021	10:00	Italy	Industrial Output MM SA	Apr		-0.1%		
10.06.2021	10:00	Italy	Industrial Output YY WDA	Apr		37.7%		
10.06.2021	14:30	United States	Real Weekly Earnings MM	May		0.2%		
10.06.2021	14:30	United States	Initial Jobless Clm	31 May, w/e				
10.06.2021	14:30	United States	Jobless Clm 4Wk Avg	31 May, w/e				
10.06.2021	14:30	United States	Cont Jobless Clm	24 May, w/e				
10.06.2021	20:00	United States	Federal Budget,\$	May		-226.00B		

Sources: Refinitiv



Your Weekend Wire

The week ahead

Date	Time	Country	Indicator Name	Period	Reuters Poll	Prior	SmartEstimate®	Predicted Surprise
11.06.2021	01:50	Japan	Business Survey Index	Q2		1.6%		
11.06.2021	08:00	United Kingdom	GDP Est 3M/3M	Apr		-1.5%		
11.06.2021	08:00	United Kingdom	GDP Estimate MM	Apr		2.1%		
11.06.2021	08:00	United Kingdom	GDP Estimate YY	Apr		1.4%		
11.06.2021	08:00	United Kingdom	Services MM	Apr		1.9%		
11.06.2021	08:00	United Kingdom	Services YY	Apr		0.7%		
11.06.2021	08:00	United Kingdom	Industrial Output MM	Apr		1.8%		
11.06.2021	08:00	United Kingdom	Industrial Output YY	Apr		3.6%		
11.06.2021	08:00	United Kingdom	Manufacturing Output MM	Apr		2.1%		
11.06.2021	08:00	United Kingdom	Manufacturing Output YY	Apr		4.8%		
11.06.2021	08:00	United Kingdom	Construction O/P Vol MM	Apr		5.8%		
11.06.2021	08:00	United Kingdom	Construction O/P Vol YY	Apr		6.0%		
11.06.2021	08:00	United Kingdom	Goods Trade Balance GBP	Apr		-11.710B		
11.06.2021	08:00	United Kingdom	Goods Trade Bal. Non-EU	Apr		-6.548B		
11.06.2021	14:30	Canada	Capacity Utilization	Q1		79.2%		

Sources: Refinitiv

Your Weekend Wire Figures

Currencies

EURUSD	1.2166	Weekly Change
Week Low	Week High	-0.19%
1.2105	1.2254	

GBPUSD	1.4182	Weekly Change
Week Low	Week High	0.03%
1.4084	1.4248	

EURCHF	1.0942	Weekly Change
Week Low	Week High	-0.22%
1.0938	1.1002	

AUDUSD	0.7736	Weekly Change
Week Low	Week High	0.44%
0.7646	0.7773	

USDCHF	0.8992	Weekly Change
Week Low	Week High	-0.08%
0.8947	0.9053	

USDCAD	1.2087	Weekly Change
Week Low	Week High	0.18%
1.2006	1.2133	

USDTRY	8.6534	Weekly Change
Week Low	Week High	0.97%
8.4655	8.7775	

EURGBP	0.8578	Weekly Change
Week Low	Week High	-0.12%
0.8566	0.8646	

Indices and Commodities

Eurostoxx 50	4 087.62
Week Change	YTD
0.25%	11.69%

Gold	1892.91
Week Change	YTD
-0.52%	-0.28%

SMI	11 554.97
Week Change	YTD
0.74%	7.54%

WTI	69.1600
Week Change	YTD
3.72%	45.23%

S&P 500	4 219.64
Week Change	YTD
-0.27%	11.63%

US 10Y Yield	1.5721
Week bp Change	YTD bp Change
-2.22	65.89

VIX	16.54
Week Change	YTD
7.64%	-20.70%

EU 10Y Yield	-0.2120
Week bp Change	YTD bp Change
-2.90	35.70

Sources: Bloomberg/Refinitiv



Your CRYPTO Weekend Wire

Crypto Market Cap: \$1,651,168,849,647

Dominance*: BTC: 41.7% ETH: 18.8%

*: Split of crypto usage within the global crypto market cap.

News Flow

➤ **China’s Robinhood rivals pile into the crypto craze as they look to compete overseas.**

Two of China’s rivals to stock trading app Robinhood are looking to cryptocurrencies to compete overseas.

The companies, Futu and Tiger Brokers, disclosed during earnings calls last month they are applying for licenses in Singapore and the U.S. that would allow local customers to trade digital currencies.

The move comes as cryptocurrencies such as bitcoin have climbed back into the spotlight in recent months, while Chinese regulators have increased their efforts to limit speculation in the market. In the last few weeks, authorities issued new warnings against digital currency trading and a crackdown on bitcoin mining — an energy-heavy computing process that allows participants to earn bitcoin.

But in the financial trading world, demand for cryptocurrencies is high as bitcoin’s price surged to record levels above \$60,000, before dropping sharply to around \$35,000.

Robinhood, which launched bitcoin and Ethereum trading in the U.S. in early 2018, has added 3 million customers a month this year for its crypto business. In April, U.S.-based cryptocurrency trading site Coinbase debuted on the Nasdaq.

“We do hear a lot of interest from our users across the world in terms of crypto. We have listened to that,” Arthur Chen, Futu’s chief financial officer, told CNBC last week. He said the company hopes to offer cryptocurrency-related products as soon as the end of this year.

Both Futu and Tiger Brokers got their start primarily from Chinese employees of major tech companies like Alibaba and Baidu. Since these companies are listed in the U.S., that piqued their employees’ interest in trading stocks abroad.

However, both companies are increasingly focused on markets outside mainland China. In addition to essentially banning yuan-bitcoin transactions, Beijing tightly controls capital flows out of the mainland.

Futu has gained 100,000 paying clients in Singapore less than three months since launching there in early March, Chen said. He said about one-fourth of new paying clients in the first quarter came from Singapore and the U.S.

In the international retail trading market, the two companies face competition not just from Robinhood but traditional players such as Interactive Brokers. Both Futu and Tiger seek to attract customers with an in-app social network where users can swap trading ideas and watch investor education courses.

By the end of March, Futu said it had 789,652 customers with assets in their trading accounts, more than three times that of a year ago.

Tiger said the number of customers with deposits more than doubled in the first quarter from a year ago to 376,000.

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➤ **Massive bitcoin mine discovered in UK after police raid suspected cannabis farm.**

Police in the United Kingdom say they inadvertently discovered an illegal bitcoin mine while looking for a cannabis farm.

The mine — located in an industrial unit on the outskirts of the English city of Birmingham — was stealing thousands of pounds worth of electricity from the power grid, West Midlands Police said Thursday.

Police searched the unit in Sandwell on May 18 on the back of intelligence that led them to believe it was being used as a cannabis farm.

Many people were visiting the unit at various points of the day, police said, adding there were numerous wiring and ventilation ducts visible. A police drone also detected a lot of heat coming from the building.

These are all “classic signs” of a cannabis farm, police said. However, officers found a bank of around 100 computers and zero cannabis on entering the building.

“It’s certainly not what we were expecting,” Jennifer Griffin, Sandwell police sergeant, said in a statement. “It had all the hallmarks of a cannabis cultivation set-up and I believe it’s only the second such crypto mine we’ve encountered in the West Midlands.”

Bitcoin miners use purpose-built computers to solve complex mathematical equations that effectively enable a bitcoin transaction to go through. The miners are rewarded for their efforts in the digital currency.

However, the entire process is incredibly energy intensive because of the amount of power used by the computers. Bitcoin has a carbon footprint comparable with that of New Zealand, producing 36.95 megatons of CO2 annually, according to Digiconomist.

Sources: Bloomberg/Refinitiv/cnbc.com

“My understanding is that mining for cryptocurrency is not itself illegal but clearly abstracting electricity from the mains supply to power it is,” Griffin said. The term “mains supply” refers to the utility grid.

The computer equipment has been seized but no arrests have been made.

➤ **Indian central bank clarifies regulations as local banks shun crypto.**

India’s central bank has issued an official notice regarding the fact that local banks are reportedly cautioning customers against using cryptocurrencies like Bitcoin (BTC).

Published Monday, the notice points out that the Reserve Bank of India is aware of media reports that certain banks have cautioned their customers against crypto by referring to the RBI’s quashed, three-year-old circular.

“Such references to the above circular by banks/ regulated entities are not in order as this circular was set aside by the Hon’ble Supreme Court on March 4, 2020, in the matter of Writ Petition,” the notice reads, emphasizing that the circular is no longer valid and cannot be cited.

However, banks and other regulated financial institutions can still carry out customer due diligence processes related to Anti-Money Laundering and Know Your Customer standards under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act of 2002, the RBI noted.

The RBI’s statement comes in response to media reports claiming that some of India’s largest banks, like HDFC Bank and the State Bank of India, have cautioned their customers against dealing in digital currencies. Some users claimed that HDFC Bank cited the RBI’s 2018 order banning crypto trading in India. The ban was officially overturned in March 2020 by the Supreme Court of India.

The news adds to the prevailing uncertainty regarding the legal status of crypto in India. Earlier this year, anonymous sources claimed that the government was planning a blanket ban on crypto.

➤ **Druckenmiller: Ethereum is 'MySpace before Facebook' while Bitcoin won as 'Google'.**

Bitcoin (BTC) is at risk of a “flipping” from Ether (ETH), mainstream media claims as some familiar FUD — fear, uncertainty and doubt — returns to the spotlight.

As BTC/USD continues to flag below \$40,000, an old argument has resurfaced — but major investors are fighting back.

In an article on May 31, Bloomberg cited multiple sources claiming that in the future, Ether will overtake Bitcoin as the world’s cryptocurrency of choice.

The largest altcoin “will likely exceed Bitcoin at some point in the future, as Ethereum will be superior when it comes to innovation and developer interest,” Tegan Kline, co-founder of Blockchain firm Edge & Node, told the publication.

Another executive added that Ethereum has a “better growth story.”

The argument is far from new and has appeared regularly throughout Ethereum’s existence. The Ethereum network’s recent major upgrade has kept its profile afloat, and ETH has outperformed Bitcoin over the past year and formed the backbone of the decentralized finance (DeFi) phenomenon.

ETH/BTC, long on a losing streak, reached its highest exchange rate in three years earlier this month.

ETH has also managed to preserve more of its price gains than Bitcoin in recent days. As Cointelegraph reported, a key moving average remains intact for ETH/USD, while BTC/USD has failed to recapture “lines in the sand.”

For all its impressive performance, however, claiming that Ethereum will replace Bitcoin at the top is nonsensical, many argue — and not only staunch Bitcoin supporters.

In an interview with The Hustle last week, billionaire investor Stanley Druckenmiller became the latest non-technical figure to cast aside doubts about Bitcoin’s staying power.

“I think BTC has won the store of value game because it’s a brand, it’s been around for 13-14 years and it has a finite supply,” he said.

For Druckenmiller, Ethereum is to Bitcoin what MySpace is to Google.

“I’m a little more skeptical of whether it can hold its position. It reminds me a little of MySpace before Facebook,” he continued.

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Sources: [Bloomberg/Refinitiv/cnbc.com/coinmarketcap.com](https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2020-06-01/ethereum-is-to-bitcoin-what-myspace-is-to-google)



Your CRYPTO Weekend Wire

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➤ **Singapore's DBS Bank launches digital bond security token.**

Singapore-based multinational banking corporation, DBS Bank, has launched its first-ever security token offering, or STO, by issuing a digital bond.

The DBS digital bond has been priced at \$11.35 million and comes with a six-month tenor and coupon rate of 0.60% annually. The offering was carried out through a private placement hosted by DBS Digital Exchange, or DDEX, marking DDEX's first STO.

To encourage investor engagement, the bond is set to be traded in board lots of 10,000 Singapore dollars (roughly \$7,560) — a dramatic reduction compared to the 250,000 Singapore dollar board lots that traditional wholesale bonds are traded in.

The digital bonds will be available for secondary trading to clients of DDEX who are accredited or institutional investors.

DBS hopes its offering will pave the way for other issuers to launch security token offerings via the DDEX platform.

Eng-Kwok Seat Moey, the Group Head of capital markets at DBS, emphasized that security tokens offer an efficient and innovative method for raising capital in the Asia-Pacific region — which currency represents more than 30% of the global private equity markets.

Since launching in December 2020, Moey estimates daily volumes on DDEX have increased by 900%, with the platform now servicing more than 120 traders. DBS's crypto custody service also holds more than \$60 million in assets.

The bank also launched a trust structure offering investment management services for Bitcoin (BTC), Ether (ETH), XRP, and Bitcoin Cash (BCH) speculators in early May.

➤ **Digital currencies are the future for Russia's financial system, central bank governor says.**

As the economy moves online, digital currencies will be the future of financial systems, according to Russia's central bank governor, Elvira Nabiullina.

There is a need for fast, cheap payment systems, and central bank digital currencies can fill that gap, she told CNBC's Hadley Gamble in an exclusive interview.

"I think it's the future for our financial system because it correlates with this development of digital economy," she said.

Moscow published a consultation paper on a digital ruble in October and aims to have a prototype ready by the end of 2021. Pilots and trials could start next year, Nabiullina said.

"We will go step by step, because it's [a] very difficult, technological, legal ... project," she said.

Central bank digital currencies are not the same as cryptocurrencies, such as bitcoin. They are issued and controlled by authorities, and the value of one digital ruble will equal one cash ruble, the Bank of Russia said last year.

Cryptocurrencies were illegal in Russia until last year, and still cannot be used to make payments.

Many central banks around the world are developing sovereign digital currencies, which advocates say could promote financial inclusion and make cross-border transactions easier.

But Nabiullina predicts there will be challenges finding "common solutions" between systems that have been developed independently by different countries.

"If each bank creates [its] own system, technological systems with local standards, it will be very difficult to create some interconnections between these systems to facilitate all cross-border payments," she said.

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➤ **China to hand out \$6.2 million in digital currency to Beijing residents as part of trial.**

China will hand out 40 million renminbi (\$6.2 million) of its digital currency to citizens in Beijing in a lottery.

Residents of the Chinese capital can use two banking apps to apply to win one of 200,000 so-called red packets as part of the lottery, according to the Beijing Local Financial Supervision and Administration Bureau.

Each envelope contains 200 yuan (about \$31) of the digital currency which can be spent with selected merchants. The deadline to register is midnight on June 7.

The world's second largest economy has yet to do a nationwide rollout of the digital yuan, which it has been developing since 2014, but is instead focusing on trials in the form of lotteries around the country.

Sources: [Bloomberg/Refinitiv/cnbc.com/coinmarketcap.com/Newsnow.com](https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2021-06-07/china-to-hand-out-6-2-million-in-digital-currency-to-beijing-residents-as-part-of-trial)



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Li Bo, deputy governor of the People’s Bank of China (PBOC), said in April that the central bank would expand the scope of its pilot projects and could even allow foreign visitors at the 2022 Beijing Winter Olympics to use it.

In February, the southwestern Chinese city of Chengdu handed out 40.2 million yuan of the digital currency. Last year, other cities such as the Chinese technology hub of Shenzhen held their own lotteries.

The digital yuan is not a cryptocurrency like bitcoin. For one, it is issued by a central authority — the PBOC — while bitcoin is not and therefore “decentralized.”

Instead, China’s efforts are an example of a central bank digital currency (CBDC) and the PBOC is aiming to digitalize bank notes and coins in circulation.

In April, PBOC Deputy Governor Li reiterated the digital yuan was for domestic use and not an attempt to challenge the dominance of the U.S. dollar.

“For the internationalization of renminbi, we have said many times that it’s a natural process and our goal is not to replace (the) U.S. dollar or any other international currency,” Li said. “I think our goal is to allow the market to choose and to facilitate international trade and investment.”

China’s continued testing of the digital yuan comes as authorities renew a crackdown on the cryptocurrency sector in the country. While local cryptocurrency exchanges were banned in 2017, regulators are now turning their attention to cracking down on bitcoin mining.

➤ **Coinbase rival Kraken launches mobile app in U.S. to capitalize on crypto surge.**

Less than two months after Coinbase’s stock market debut, rival crypto exchange Kraken is bringing its mobile app to the U.S. as retail investors flock to digital currencies.

Starting Wednesday, the new Kraken App will allow many users across the U.S. to securely buy and sell more than 50 crypto tokens from their cell phones.

“This consumer app is our first major foray into supporting wider consumer adoption in a much more simplified, easy-to-use interface,” Chief Product Officer Jeremy Welch told CNBC. The app launched in Europe earlier this year.

In terms of trading volume, Kraken is the world’s fourth-largest digital currency exchange.

In a crowded field of cryptocurrency apps, Kraken claims to offer “the lowest fees in the industry.” It points to its speedy verification and onboarding times as a key benefit. The fastest onboarding and purchase test is under a minute, depending on the user’s bank.

Outside the U.S., Kraken is popular because of its margin and futures trading offerings, which are not yet available to U.S. consumers. Launched in 2013, Kraken says it has 7 million clients. It said its May trading volume grew more than sixfold from January.

“The last five months have been pretty unreal at Kraken,” said Welch. “We’ve seen a surge in new clients and in all-time highs.”

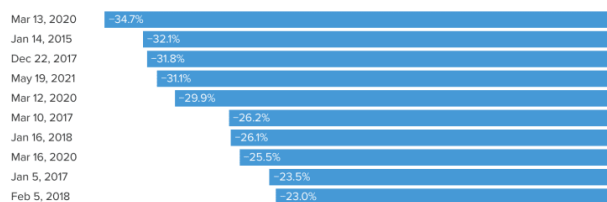
The app does not yet allow credit and debit card payments, but the company says it plans to enhance its offerings in coming weeks and months.

The company said it doesn’t offer service to residents of New York and Washington state due to the “cost of maintaining regulatory compliance.”

The move into the U.S. market comes at a time of regulatory uncertainty and during a particularly volatile cycle. While bitcoin has quadrupled in value in the past year, the price has dropped more than 40% from its high in April.

Bitcoin's 10 biggest one-day drops

Based on intraday trading



Source: Carter Worth, Cornerstone Macro



Sources: [Bloomberg/Refinitiv/cnbc.com/coinmarketcap.com/Newsnow.com](https://www.bloomberg.com/refinitiv/cnbc.com/coinmarketcap.com/Newsnow.com)



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Officials ranging from U.S. Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen to European Central Bank President Christine Lagarde have raised concerns over the nefarious use of cryptocurrencies like bitcoin.

Kraken CEO Jesse Powell previously told CNBC he thinks there could be a wider crackdown in crypto trading. Powell said the U.S. is more “shortsighted” than other nations and “susceptible” to the pressures of incumbent legacy businesses like banks, which “stand to lose from crypto becoming a big deal.”

Whereas crypto holdings on Coinbase are FDIC insured up to \$250,000 per U.S. customer, Kraken has taken a different approach and is not regulated by an American authority.

In a note to customers on its website, Kraken said that while the company takes “great care to protect the assets” of clients from loss, exchanges do not qualify for deposit insurance programs, nor should they function as cryptocurrency wallets.

Kraken is registered as a money services business with the U.S. Treasury Department’s FinCEN and says it complies “with legal and regulatory requirements in all jurisdictions” where it operates.

Before the May sell-off in the crypto market, Powell said the company was considering going public in 2022 via a direct listing, similar to the route taken by Coinbase.

➤ **Google To Reverse Crypto Exchange and Wallet Advertisement Ban.**

Google has lifted its ban on crypto advertisements, stating that it would allow them for exchanges and wallets registered with the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN). Google provided an update on its financial products and services policy in June, stating that the change would come starting Aug. 3, 2021.

The update states that cryptocurrency exchanges and wallets targeting users in the United States would be allowed to advertise their products if they meet certain conditions. These conditions include registration with FinCEN or a federal or state-chartered bank entity, compliance with state or federal legal requirements, and compliance with Google Ads policies.

Furthermore, all cryptocurrency exchange certifications will be revoked on Aug. 3, meaning that advertisers must request new certifications via an application form that will become available on July 8.

However, Google is eager to prevent any opportunity for potentially disingenuous advertising. The platform will not allow ads for initial coin offerings (ICOs), decentralized finance (DeFi) trading protocols, and other ads for the purchasing or trading of cryptocurrencies. This also includes pre-sales, crypto loans, initial decentralized exchange (DEX) offerings, token liquidity pools, celebrity cryptocurrency endorsements, unhosted wallets, and unregulated decentralized applications (dApps).

Google also will not allow “ad destinations that aggregate or compare issuers of cryptocurrencies or related products.” This list brackets cryptocurrency trading signals, cryptocurrency investment advice, aggregators, and affiliate sites containing related content or broker reviews.

Google previously banned ads related to crypto, much to the frustration of those within the crypto community, following the massive surge of interest in the space after the 2017 boom. Google was not the only company to clampdown on crypto products, as Facebook too banned related ads on its platform. The latter has also since lifted the ban on crypto ads.

Cryptocurrency investors and insiders have long been aggrieved at what they think is a harsh restriction by platforms like Google and Facebook. These two have been predominant avenues utilized by scam projects to defraud investors of their money, so the initial ban is not altogether unjust.

The decision to ease restrictions is a sign that Google is now one of many companies removing past curbs in crypto. It speaks to the sentiment and outlook on crypto from the mainstream, who are beginning to see it as a legitimate asset class. Numerous governments, financial institutions, private companies, and tech platforms have overall been taking a more liberal stance on crypto.

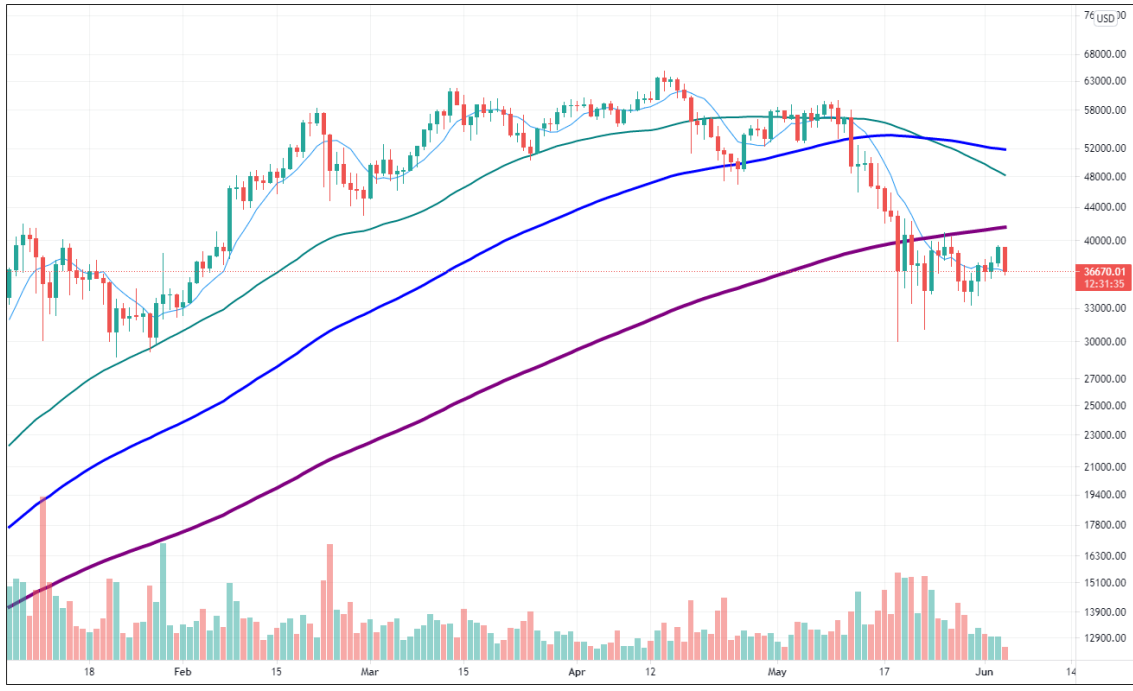
With such developments taking place, the crypto market could see a steady uptick in the number of buyers and users soon. The rise of DeFi, and especially non-fungible tokens (NFTs), are already pulling in more mainstream adoption.

Sources: [Bloomberg/Refinitiv/cnbc.com/coinmarketcap.com/Newsnow.com](https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2021-07-28/google-reverses-crypto-ad-ban)



Your CRYPTO Weekend Wire Figures and Charts

Bankmed-Advisory published on TradingView.com, June 04, 2021 11:28:27 UTC
 COINBASE:BTCUSD, 1D 36670.01 ▼ -2578.54 (-6.57%) O:39248.54 H:39291.24 L:36250.00 C:36670.01



BTC	36 575.85	Weekly Change
Week Low	Week High	1.39%
33 450.69	39 488.05	
Circulating Supply		
18 726 212.00		
Market Cap		
\$ 688 689 214 356.00		

TradingView

Bankmed-Advisory published on TradingView.com, June 04, 2021 11:28:57 UTC
 COINBASE:ETHUSD, 1D 2630.21 ▼ -226.47 (-7.93%) O:2856.73 H:2859.85 L:2587.53 C:2630.21



ETH	2 627.03	Weekly Change
Week Low	Week High	7.15%
2182.88	2893.80	
Circulating Supply		
116 148 226.00		
Market Cap		
\$ 309 259 297 508.00		

TradingView

Sources: Bloomberg/Refinitiv/TradeView.com/Coinmarketcap. com



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Your CRYPTO Weekend Wire Glossary

A

- ❖ **Address (Crypto Address):** An address is comparable to a bank account number. It is a unique collection of numbers and letters. This identification code is required to carry out a blockchain transaction and is unique for each owner. (ie: 1GyWgXtkVG5gsm9Ym1rkHoJHAftmPnTHQj)
- ❖ **Airdrop:** An airdrop is a way to distribute coins. End users can generally get coins for free or in exchange for a small task, such as subscribing to a newsletter, sending a tweet or inviting other people via a personal affiliate link.
- ❖ **Algorithm:** The 'algorithm' is a way to solve a task using data processing and calculations. There are different types of algorithms in use by blockchains.
- ❖ **Altcoin:** An altcoin is any cryptocurrency or token created after the Bitcoin was developed.
- ❖ **Anti-Money Laundering (AML):** AML is the abbreviation for 'anti-money laundering'. AML stands for policy and legislation on money laundering. This prevents illegally acquired funds from being converted into a legal variant. Within the crypto world, it is no longer unusual for AML techniques to be used by exchanges and wallets. This term is often used as AML/KYC, where KYC stands for 'Know your customer'.
- ❖ **APY:** APY is short for 'annual percentage yield', which is the total return rate that is earned on an interest-bearing asset or savings account. The compounding interest should be considered when the APY percentage is projected. An APY of 5% will turn \$100 into \$105 after exactly one year.
- ❖ **ATH:** ATH is the abbreviation of 'All-Time High' and means the highest price ever paid for a particular coin. ATH is also often used to indicate that someone's total portfolio has reached the highest value ever.
- ❖ **ATL:** ATL stands for 'all-time-low' and is the opposite of ATH, or 'all-time-high'. ATL is used to indicate that the price of a coin or the entire wallet of a person is at the lowest level ever in terms of value.

B

- ❖ **Bitcoin (BTC):** Bitcoin is the very first, best known and currently the most valuable digital coin.
- ❖ **Bitcoin (unit of Currency):** The bitcoin is the very first cryptocurrency invented in 2008 by an anonymous developer named Satoshi Nakamoto. It can be divided up to 8 digits after the comma. The smallest one is called a satoshi (0.00000001 BTC).
- ❖ **Blockchain:** The blockchain is a technique that makes it possible to safely store data in a decentralized way. This data can be money, but it could be other data as well.



Your CRYPTO Weekend Wire Glossary

- ❖ **Bot:** A 'bot' is an autonomous program on a network, such as the Internet, that can interact with systems or users. It is often designed to automate certain manual tasks. Bots are often used in Telegram chat groups to prevent spam.

C

- ❖ **CBDC:** CBDC stands for 'Central bank digital currency' and is the fully digital form of fiat money. Unlike at Bitcoin, this type of currency would be created by a centralized authority like a central bank or a monetary authority. It might or might not have a distributed ledger. Each central bank in the world can have a custom implementation. Currently, it is still in test phase or just a concept on paper.
- ❖ **Centralized:** Centralized means that one organization has control. For example, governments and companies are centralized. The opposite of centralized is decentralized, such as the Internet and the blockchain.
- ❖ **Coin:** A Coin is the umbrella term for cryptocurrencies and tokens.
- ❖ **Cold Storage:** Cold storage refers to storing cryptocurrency on a place where the private key cannot be accessed via the internet. This can be done on a hardware wallet, paper wallet or software wallet in an offline environment.
- ❖ **Cold Wallet:** A cold wallet is a wallet for storing cryptocurrency where the private key is not exposed to the Internet.
- ❖ **Cryptocurrency:** A cryptocurrency, also known as 'crypto', is a type of currency that is transferred via a blockchain. It uses strong cryptography to secure the transactions, that usually have value. While traditional fiat currencies are subject to counterfeiting, this is not possible in a cryptocurrency. Bitcoin is still the most valuable cryptocurrency.

D

- ❖ **DAO:** DAO is an abbreviation of 'Decentralized Autonomous Organization'. This is an organization that runs automatically on itself without any human interventions. The work is automatically executed through Smart contracts.
- ❖ **DeFi:** DeFi is the abbreviation of 'Decentralized Finance'. It can be defined as a new financial ecosystem consisting of various financial tools, apps and services utilizing blockchain technology. It's an umbrella term for all these projects combined and is growing daily. Examples of DeFi functionality are banking services in the form of stablecoins, decentralized exchanges, derivatives, prediction markets, or lending and borrowing systems. The last one can be either peer-to-peer or with a pool. It is a combination of replicating products and services in the traditional finance industry as well as innovative new ones only possible with blockchain technology.



Your CRYPTO Weekend Wire Glossary

❖ **DEX:** A DEX is short for Decentralized Exchange. This is an exchange where people can trade cryptocurrencies and tokens without the need of a middleman. It is usually run by code in a 'smart contract'. The transactions are generally written to the blockchain, which makes a DEX by default slower than a centralized exchange that uses fast databases. The main benefit of a DEX is that nobody, but yourself, holds the private key to the funds. Even though a DEX will not have a middleman regarding the trades, the exchange and the website are centrally managed. Therefore, it's not 100% decentralized in fact. The level of decentralization differs per DEX. Use the filters in this list with exchanges to find each DEX.

E

- ❖ **ERC-20:** ERC20 coins are all tokens on the Ethereum blockchain. These coins are also supported by most Ethereum wallets.
- ❖ **ETF:** ETF is an abbreviation for 'Exchange-Traded-Fund' or a listed fund on a stock exchange. This is a tradable product (security) that follows the price of an underlying asset. Examples are an equity index, a basket of certain securities, bonds and commodities. There are several applications for a Bitcoin ETF, but none of these has yet been approved by the SEC in the United States of America.
- ❖ **Ethereum:** Ethereum (ETH) consists of one blockchain where both its own transactions (Ether) and those of numerous other coins (tokens) are recorded. Ethereum distinctive feature is the so-called "smart contract". The programming language of Ethereum is written in such a way that programmers can write their own programs based on the Ethereum blockchain.

F

- ❖ **Fiat Currency:** Fiat currency or also simply called fiat is money issued by a government or organizations that can issue it, like banks for example. It doesn't have any value by itself and is for decades not backed by gold anymore either. It instead remains value based on the trust of the people. Once the trust goes away it will decrease in value and could eventually cause hyperinflation.
- ❖ **Fully Diluted:** Fully Diluted in crypto refers to fully diluted market cap. This is the market cap of a coin based on its total supply instead of the circulating supply. This is an important metric for investors to compare coins and help with the decision if it's overvalued or undervalued.

H

- ❖ **HODL:** HODL is the wrong spelling of 'hold'. This spelling mistake was once made by someone accidentally or intentionally on a forum. Since then, this term has been used to indicate that you keep or should be holding your position.



Your CRYPTO Weekend Wire Glossary

I

- ❖ **ICO:** An 'initial coin offering' (ICO) can be compared a bit with an IPO. Investors get an opportunity to invest in a certain coin for the first time. The difference with the stock market however is that a company must meet all kinds of requirements before the IPO can take place. The market of ICO's is much less regulated. Therefore, it happens more often that an ICO is fraudulent.
- ❖ **Interoperability:** The term interoperability in crypto refers to blockchain interoperability. In short, this means the ability to share information between different blockchains. Since the launch of Bitcoin, a lot of new blockchains have emerged of which the most well known Ethereum. All these new blockchains are in a way competing to get adoption by developers and users and results in a lot of silos. Since each blockchain usually has its own speciality, it would make sense for developers to utilize more than one blockchain. For this to work there is a need for the interoperability and several projects are working on this.

K

- ❖ **Key Pairs:** A key pair is the combination of a public and private key together. During the process of creating a wallet, a pair of keys is generated. The private key is the most important one and should be backed up safely and not shared with anyone.
- ❖ **KYC:** KYC is an abbreviation for 'Know Your Customer' and was created to combat money laundering via cryptocurrencies. At almost every ICO it is mandatory to prove that you are who you say you are. This is also regularly requested at crypto exchanges.

M

- ❖ **Masternode:** A masternode is a server, ran from home or in a data center, that has an essential role in a decentralized network. It usually performs specific tasks, like storing files or data and keeping it accessible in the network. It could also function to validate the transaction or for consensus purposes like voting on proposals. The technical (memory, CPU, etc.) and financial criteria (number of coins needed) are different for each coin. If the masternode you set up does not perform well it's possible to lose your coins if those are meant as collateral. The rewards could also just stop and then you can just start over again. A masternode usually gives a high reward that's paid out in the coin itself.
- ❖ **Maximum Supply:** This is the maximum number of coins that will exist for a token or cryptocurrency. If there is a max supply defined, no more coins can be created. 'Burned' coins are part of this supply, so therefore it is always larger than or equal to the total supply.
For Bitcoin, the maximum is set to 21 million.
- ❖ **Mining:** Mining is also known as 'Cryptocurrency mining' or 'Cryptomining'. It is a process where blocks are added to a blockchain by solving a mathematical puzzle. The block can also contain transactions on that blockchain and will then become verified and immutable. Depending on the blockchain, mining can be done with a CPU, GPU, specialized hardware or a combination of all.



Your CRYPTO Weekend Wire Glossary

N

- ❖ **NFT:** *NFT is the abbreviation of non-fungible token. This is a type of token representing a unique asset. These can be either digital or represent real-world assets. Examples are a sword in a game or ownership of a piece of land. NFT's are generally scarce, unique and indivisible. The Ethereum blockchain makes it easy to create NFT's with it's ERC-721 and ERC-1155 standards.*

O

- ❖ **ODN:** *ODN is the abbreviation of 'OriginTrail Decentralized Network'. This is an open-source and permissionless network that relies on an off-chain technology stack consisting of several inter-related layers. It is a decentralized network of data providers, data creators, data holders, and data viewers. The glue between all entities is the ERC-20 based Trace Token (TRAC). This is used as a collateral stake to keep data holders honest and for payments to compensate the data holders for providing their resources.*

P

- ❖ **Paper Wallet:** *A paper wallet is an alternative to a hardware or software wallet. It is a piece of paper or a PDF containing the information to access the cryptocurrency in that wallet. It normally consists of a 'public key' and a 'private key'.*
- ❖ **Permissioned Blockchain/ledger:** *Anyone can mine Bitcoins because it is a public blockchain. This is not the case with a permissioned blockchain. There is a layer above it that determines which entity can write transactions in a block. The XRP coin from the company Ripple Labs is an example of such a blockchain and has CGI, MIT and Microsoft as approved entities for example. These are called "transaction validators".*
- ❖ **PoA (Proof of Authority):** *PoA stands for 'Proof of Authority'. This is a validation method to process transactions and blocks in a blockchain only by approved accounts. These are known as 'validators' and run specific software to store the transactions in blocks. Since the identity is linked to the system, it can contribute to more trust.*
- ❖ **Private Key:** *A private key in the crypto space can be defined as the combination of letters and numbers that corresponds to a specific public key. The private key can be used to gain access to the assets on that public key, also known as the wallet address. Once you share your private key with somebody, store it on your computer in plain text or type it in a website or app, you risk losing all your funds stored on its a corresponding public address.*
- ❖ **Public Key:** *A public key in the crypto space can be defined as a combination of letters and numbers and forms the address to which the cryptocurrencies or tokens can be sent to. Everybody who knows the public key of somebody can see the assets stored on that address. Only the owner of the corresponding private key can send those assets out.*



Your CRYPTO Weekend Wire Glossary

Q

- ❖ **QR Code:** A QR code is a type of barcode in the form of a square. The letters QR stand for 'Quick Response'. The code contains many dots, a few small squares and sometimes a small logo in the middle. This is different from most other barcode types, which are rectangular with lines. A QR code can therefore contain much more information. Within the crypto world, it is often used to make a 'wallet' address scannable. This speeds up the process of transferring crypto and prevents errors.

S

- ❖ **Satoshi Nakamoto:** Satoshi Nakamoto is the alias of the creator of Bitcoin, who wants to remain anonymous. Nobody knows who it is. It could be a person, a group, a company or even a government. It is quite likely that it is a person because there are people who have communicated with him or her via e-mail.
- ❖ **SEC:** SEC is the abbreviation of 'Securities and Exchange Commission'. This is an independent government organization of the United States of America. The SEC holds the primary responsibility regarding the financial markets. They enforce the federal securities laws, propose new rules and regulate the US financial markets.
- ❖ **Stablecoin:** Stablecoins are tokens or cryptocurrencies attempting to have a minimized volatility of its price. It usually tries to keep a stable price of a related asset like USD for example. It can be backed by the related asset or replicated using smart contracts. Stablecoins are usually pegged to fiat money, but it's also possible to be pegged to precious metals like gold or silver, or even other assets. It enables an easily accessible way to store crypto wealth, temporarily, in a more stable asset during market volatility instead of using the traditional financial ecosystem. Fiat withdrawals can take a few days and could be costly as well.

T

- ❖ **Tether:** The Tether is often abbreviated as USDT on exchanges. This is a non-government regulated 'stablecoin' with a value of around 1 US dollar. The company behind this coin claims that every Tether in circulation is covered with real dollars on their bank account.
- ❖ **Total Supply:** The 'total supply' indicates the number of coins already in circulation, supplemented with the coins that are not tradable yet. So, it only applies to coins already in existence. This is different from the 'max supply', in which future coins are included. The total supply is greater than or equal to the 'circulating' supply. It can consist of tradable and non-tradable coins, such as reserved or not yet released coins for the team or investors.
- ❖ **Transaction Fee:** The 'transaction fee' is the amount that must be paid to execute transactions on the Blockchain. This fee is usually paid to the 'Miners', but sometimes they are burned. There are also several cryptocurrencies, where you don't have to pay a fee.



Your CRYPTO Weekend Wire Glossary

W

- ❖ **Wallet:** A 'wallet' is a place to store cryptocurrencies encrypted. There are several variants, such as a paper wallet, hardware wallet or software wallet. Each coin has one or more supported wallets.
- ❖ **Whale:** A 'whale' is someone with a very large position in a coin.
- ❖ **Whitepaper:** A 'whitepaper' is a document that is almost always written for the launch of a new coin through an ICO. All aspects of a coin should be explained here: how it is used, for what and sometimes also the price expectation. After the ICO new versions can be released if the situation changes.

Y

- ❖ **Yield Farming:** Yield farming is the process of generating the most returns possible on your crypto assets by putting them to work. Within the crypto space, DeFi has taken on a big role and services inside this space are making yield farming possible. There are nowadays ways to move your crypto assets to pools to gain interest on those assets giving it an annual percentage yield (APY). Just buying crypto-assets and holding them in your wallet, won't generate any yield, but lending them out with DeFi services like, Compound, for example, does make this possible. A term closely related to yield farming is liquidity mining.

Sources: blockspot.io/crypto-dictionary

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