

Cryptocurrency prices, charts and market capitalizations

Price volatility has long been one of the features of the cryptocurrency market. When asset prices move quickly in either direction and the market itself is relatively thin, it can sometimes be difficult to conduct transactions as might be needed. To overcome this problem, a new type of cryptocurrency tied in value to existing currencies — ranging from the U.S. Dollar, other fiats or even other cryptocurrencies — arose. These new cryptocurrencies are known as stablecoins, and they can be used for a multitude of purposes due to their stability. For beginning investors, it can also be worthwhile to examine how widely a cryptocurrency is being used.

The same equation used to create the code can “unlock” it (like a virtual key). As we begin 2024, the original crypto is worth more than double its recent low point, at about \$43,000. Grow your portfolio automatically with daily, weekly, or monthly trades. Altcoins are no better, with Cardano (ADA) and Solana (SOL) shedding more than 70% and 55% of their value year to date, respectively.

While some buy into [Crypto investment](#) crypto for short-term speculation, for others, owning cryptos can be viewed as a kind of diversification away from traditional assets, like shares, bonds or property. Bitcoin is the most popular cryptocurrency, followed by other cryptocurrencies such as Ethereum, Binance Coin, Solana, and Cardano. They promise to streamline existing financial architecture to make it faster and cheaper. In theory, cryptocurrencies are meant to be decentralized, their wealth distributed between many parties on a blockchain. Just 100 addresses hold roughly 15% of circulating Bitcoin and total value. Cryptocurrencies have become a popular tool with criminals for nefarious activities such as money laundering and illicit purchases.

Of course, the total value of an investor's cryptocurrency holdings could just as easily go to zero. Bitcoin and Ethereum are the two largest cryptocurrencies by market capitalization, and are more established than many other crypto options. Investors need to understand that owning crypto involves taking on a great deal of risk in their portfolios. But for investors who understand how to manage risk, crypto could present great opportunities.

However, more speculative investors may want to take a chance on it. If it's possible to give it an F-, that's how it performed,” says Procasky. With all the excitement around crypto, many backers have touted the prospect of it becoming a global currency. This is significantly below its high of more than \$65,000 in November 2021. Crypto has delivered tremendous profits for some investors, while others have lost significant sums. The Securities and Exchange Commission has set its sights on the sector generally.