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STATISTICS BOOK

Banks: statistics and facts

10 full reports · 8 charts · Edition November 2026

$104.28T	500M+	3.75–4.00%	3.625%
BROAD MONEY, 4 AREAS	GLOBAL NEOBANK CUSTOMERS	FED FUNDS RANGE, NOV 2026	FEDERAL RESERVE RATE 2026

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ABOUT THIS BOOK

Banks: statistics and facts

Banks in numbers: 10 reports covering Central Bank (4 reports), each with its sources and charts.

A few of the headline figures: 3.75-4.00% (Fed Funds Range, Nov 2026), $9.46B (Goldman Sachs, 9M 2026), $5,405 (Record Price, Jan 2026) and £2.59trn (HSBC, June 2026).

The latest revisions cover Where Central Bank Interest Rates Stand in November 2026, Country by Country and Which Banks Earn the Most From Investment Banking? Reported Fees for 2025 and 2026. New and updated reports appear here automatically, the last change was on Nov 9, 2026. Each report lists its sources and lets you download its charts and data.

Each chapter is a complete Business Stats report with its text, charts, tables and primary sources. The online version of every report is updated continuously; this book shows them as of Nov 9, 2026.

CONTENTS

1. Central Bank

1 How Much Money Exists? Cash, M1 and M2 Counted With Central Bank Data 4

2 Where Central Bank Interest Rates Stand in November 2026, Country by Country 20

3 Central Banks — Statistics & Facts 2026 42

4 Gold as an Investment: Prices, Demand, Central Bank Reserves and ETF Holdings to Q3 2026 54

2. More statistics

5 Digital Banks Statistics & Facts 2026 — 500M Users, $210B Market 73

6 Bank of America Equity Hit $303B in 2025 — 2026 Data Inside 88

7 Which Banks Earn the Most From Investment Banking? Reported Fees for 2025 and 2026 98

8 The Largest Banks in the UK, Ranked by Total Assets 115

9 90% of Banks Now Use AI — The $36.6B Finance Revolution 2026 136

10 $13.5T Total — Bank Loans in the United States 2026 150

STATISTICS REPORT

How Much Money Exists? Cash, M1 and M2 Counted With Central Bank Data

The United States, China, the euro area and Japan held 104.28 trillion dollars of broad money in September 2026, but only 7.20 trillion dollars of it was physical cash. China alone accounts for 53.61 trillion dollars. This report measures money layer by layer, from notes and coins to M1 and M2, using the latest release of each central bank, explains why no official world total exists, and sets the 30.0 trillion dollar stock of above-ground gold against it.

Updated Nov 5, 2026 · businesstats.com/how-much-money-is-in-the-world

$104.28T BROAD MONEY, 4 AREAS	**$53.61T** CHINA M2, SEPT 2026	**$23.41T** US M2, SEPT 2026
$7.20T NOTES AND COINS, 4 AREAS	**$30.0T** ABOVE-GROUND GOLD, Q3 2026	**7.2%** CHINA M2 GROWTH

QUICK ANSWER

How much money is in the world? It depends which layer of money you count

Quick answer: No official body publishes one figure for all the money in the world. Adding up the central bank data for the four largest currency areas, the United States, China, the euro area and Japan, gives **104.28 trillion dollars of broad money (M2) in September 2026**. Of that, 57.42 trillion dollars is narrow money (M1) that can be spent at once, and only 7.20 trillion dollars is physical notes and coins. For comparison, the World Gold Council values all gold above ground at 30.0 trillion dollars at the end of the third quarter of 2026.

Money is not a single pile. Central banks measure it in nested layers. The narrowest layer is currency: the banknotes and coins in wallets, tills and safes. Next comes M1, which adds current account balances and other deposits that can be used for payments straight away. Broad money, usually called M2, adds savings and short term deposits that can be turned into cash quickly. Each central bank draws the lines slightly

differently, which is why the numbers below are shown economy by economy and only added together after converting them at stated exchange rates.

This page answers the question with the latest official releases available on 4 November 2026: the Federal Reserve H.6 release of 27 October 2026, the European Central Bank monetary statistics of 27 October 2026, the Peoples Bank of China financial statistics for the first three quarters of 2026, the Bank of Japan money stock release of 14 October 2026 and Bank of England money and credit data for September 2026. For how these institutions create and manage money, see our report on central banks around the world.

$104.28T

Broad money, four areas

US, China, euro area and Japan, September 2026.

$57.42T

Narrow money (M1)

Same four areas, September 2026.

$7.20T

Notes and coins

Currency held by the public, September 2026.

$30.0T

Above-ground gold

224,200 tonnes, end of Q3 2026.

FOUR WAYS TO COUNT

Cash, M1, M2 and gold: four answers of very different size

Putting the four measures side by side shows why answers to this question range from a few trillion to more than a hundred trillion dollars. Physical currency in the four largest currency areas totals 7.20 trillion dollars. Narrow money is about eight times larger at 57.42 trillion dollars, and broad money reaches 104.28 trillion dollars. Gold is not money in any official statistic today, but it is the oldest store of value and is often quoted alongside money supply figures, so it is shown for scale.

Money in the Four Largest Currency Areas by Measure, September 2026 (trillion US dollars)

Interactive chart online: businesstats.com/how-much-money-is-in-the-world

Cash is the smallest layer: notes and coins are 7.20 trillion dollars, or 6.9 percent of the 104.28 trillion dollars of broad money in the four areas.

MEASURE	WHAT IT INCLUDES	UNITED STATES	EURO AREA	CHINA	JAPAN

Currency	Notes and coins held by the public	$2,397.2B	€1,618B	15.02T yuan (M0)	¥109.4T
M1	Currency plus overnight and other transaction deposits	$20,061.2B	€11,334B	116.76T yuan	¥1,081.9T
M2	M1 plus savings and short term deposits (and US retail money funds)	$23,413.9B	€16,492B	359.63T yuan	¥1,295.6T
M3	M2 plus marketable instruments (euro area) or all depository institutions (Japan)	Not in H.6	€17,717B	Not published	¥1,638.3T
Period		Sept 2026 average	End Sept 2026	End Sept 2026	Sept 2026 average

Chinese values are in yuan and Japanese values (¥) in yen. US and euro area data are seasonally adjusted. Sources: Federal Reserve, ECB, Peoples Bank of China, Bank of Japan.

The table also shows a quirk that matters for comparisons. In the United States, M1 is 85.7 percent of M2, far higher than in China (32.5 percent) or the euro area (68.7 percent). That is a definition effect, not a sign that Americans hold unusually liquid money. Beginning with the May 2020 observation, the Federal Reserve moved savings deposits into M1 as part of a new item called other liquid deposits, which added about 11.2 trillion dollars to M1 at the time while leaving M2 unchanged. Our separate M1 money supply report looks at the narrow measure in more depth.

WHY NO WORLD FIGURE

Why there is no official number for all the money in the world

Search for this question and you will find totals of around 100 trillion dollars or more, usually without a date or a source. None of them comes from an official body, because no central bank, the IMF or the BIS publishes a world money supply total. There are four practical reasons.

Four reasons a world total does not exist

- **Money is defined nationally.** The IMF Monetary and Financial Statistics Manual and Compilation Guide describes broad money as the sum of liquid financial instruments held by money-holding sectors, and leaves each country to set the exact scope; it treats an upper maturity limit of one to

two years as acceptable. The Bank of Japan puts it simply: the scope of money varies over time and country.

- **Headline measures differ.** The Federal Reserve reports M1 and M2, the ECB uses M3 as its headline aggregate, the Peoples Bank of China and the Bank of Japan publish M2 (Japan also publishes M3 and L), and the Bank of England focuses on M4ex.
- **Exchange rates move the total.** Converting yuan, euros and yen into dollars means the world total changes every day even if no new money is created. A stronger dollar makes the same foreign money supply look smaller.
- **Some money is counted twice or not at all.** Dollar banknotes held abroad stay in US M1, deposits held in a foreign currency are treated differently by each country, and cryptoassets and stablecoins are outside every official aggregate.

For that reason this page does not invent a single world figure. It adds up the four largest currency areas, for which official data for the same month are available, and states the date, the definition and the exchange rate used for each. These are the four largest money stocks for which official data for the same month are available. The dollar also dominates official foreign exchange reserves, with 58 percent of disclosed reserves in 2024 according to IMF data cited by the Federal Reserve. A full world total would also need comparable data, for the same month, from every other central bank.

BROAD MONEY BY ECONOMY

Broad money by economy: China holds 53.61 trillion dollars, more than twice the US

China has by far the largest stock of broad money. The Peoples Bank of China reported M2 of 359.63 trillion yuan at the end of September 2026, up 7.2 percent in a year, equal to 53.61 trillion dollars at the September average exchange rate. The United States follows with 23.41 trillion dollars of M2 in September 2026, the euro area with 16,492 billion euros or 18.97 trillion dollars, and Japan with 1,295.6 trillion yen or 8.28 trillion dollars.

Broad Money (M2) by Economy, September 2026 (trillion US dollars)

Interactive chart online: businesstats.com/how-much-money-is-in-the-world

China leads by a wide margin: Chinese broad money is 2.29 times the US figure and 51.4 percent of the 104.28 trillion dollar total for the four areas.

ECONOMY	MEASURE	LOCAL VALUE	PERIOD	EXCHANGE RATE USED	US DOLLARS	ANNUAL GROWTH
China	M2	359.63 trillion yuan	End Sept 2026	6.7084 yuan per dollar	$53.61T	7.2%
United States	M2	23,413.9 billion dollars	Sept 2026 average	n/a	$23.41T	5.7%
Euro area	M2	16,492 billion euros	End Sept 2026	1.1505 dollars per euro	$18.97T	3.3%
Japan	M2	1,295.6 trillion yen	Sept 2026 average	156.4171 yen per dollar	$8.28T	2.0%
Total, four areas					$104.28T	

US growth is a BusinessStats calculation from 22,149.2 billion dollars in September 2025. Euro area M3, the ECB headline measure, was 17,717 billion euros (20.38 trillion dollars), up 3.5 percent. Japan M3 was 1,638.3 trillion yen (10.47 trillion dollars).

Why is Chinese broad money so large compared with the size of the Chinese economy? Chinese households and companies keep a very large share of their savings in bank deposits, and banks rather than bond and stock markets provide most of the credit in the economy. Every new bank loan creates a matching deposit, and those deposits are counted in M2. In the first three quarters of 2026 alone, Chinese banks added 11.52 trillion yuan of new yuan loans, and outstanding yuan loans reached 283.44 trillion yuan at the end of September. Our ranking of the countries with the largest GDP gives the economic output behind these money stocks.

Exchange rates shift these rankings as much as money creation does. Between October 2025 and September 2026 the yuan strengthened from 7.1200 to 6.7084 per dollar on Federal Reserve monthly averages, which on its own raises the dollar value of Chinese M2 by about 6 percent. The yen moved the other way, from 151.35 to 156.42 per dollar, shrinking Japanese money in dollar terms even though Japanese M2 grew 2.0 percent in yen.

M1 VS M2

Narrow money against broad money: how much can be spent today

Narrow money, M1, measures the money that can be used for payments without first moving it out of a savings or time account. Across the four currency areas it totals 57.42 trillion dollars. The United States has the largest M1, 20.06 trillion dollars, ahead of China with 116.76 trillion yuan (17.41 trillion dollars), the euro area with 11,334 billion euros (13.04 trillion dollars) and Japan with 1,081.9 trillion yen (6.92 trillion dollars).

Narrow Money (M1) and Broad Money (M2) by Economy, September 2026 (trillion US dollars)

Interactive chart online: businesstats.com/how-much-money-is-in-the-world

Different savings habits: M1 is only 32.5 percent of M2 in China, where much money sits in time and savings deposits, against 68.7 percent in the euro area.

The gap between M1 and M2 says something about how people hold their money. In China two thirds of broad money is in time, savings and other deposits outside M1. Chinese M1 grew only 3.2 percent in the year to September 2026 while M2 grew 7.2 percent, a sign that households and companies kept moving money into interest bearing deposits rather than spending it. In Japan M1 fell 0.2 percent in a year while quasi-money, which is mostly time deposits, grew 4.7 percent. Our interest rates report tracks the rate changes behind these shifts.

PHYSICAL CASH

Physical cash: 7.20 trillion dollars in the four biggest currencies

Notes and coins held by the public are the only form of money most people can touch, and they are a small slice of the total. In September 2026 the United States had 2,397.2 billion dollars of currency in circulation in the H.6 definition, China had 15.02 trillion yuan of M0 (2.24 trillion dollars), the euro area 1,618 billion euros (1.86 trillion dollars) and Japan 109.4 trillion yen (0.70 trillion dollars). Together that is 7.20 trillion dollars.

Notes and Coins in Circulation, Four Largest Currencies, September 2026 (trillion US dollars)

Interactive chart online: businesstats.com/how-much-money-is-in-the-world

The dollar leads narrowly: US currency is 33.3 percent of the four-currency total, the yuan 31.1 percent and the euro 25.9 percent.

Cash is a much smaller share of money than most people expect. It equals 10.2 percent of M2 in the United States, 9.8 percent in the euro area, 8.4 percent in Japan and just 4.2 percent in China. Yet the stock of cash keeps rising in most places. Chinese M0 grew 10.6 percent in the year to September 2026 and US currency 3.1 percent. Japan is the exception, with currency in circulation down 1.3 percent. In the United Kingdom, Bank of England notes in circulation were worth 91.5 billion pounds at the end of February 2026, up 6.6 percent in a year.

What the cash numbers hide

- **About half of dollar cash is held abroad.** Federal Reserve staff estimate that more than 1 trillion dollars of US banknotes, roughly half of the total, were held by foreigners in the first quarter of 2025.
- **Big notes dominate.** 100 dollar notes made up 1,988.8 billion of the 2,394.9 billion dollars of US currency in circulation at the end of 2025, 83.0 percent of the value.
- **Definitions differ.** Money supply cash excludes notes held in bank vaults, so it is lower than the total of notes a central bank has issued.

Country by country counts of banknotes and coins, including the value and volume of each denomination, are covered in our separate guide to how much physical cash exists in the world.

INSIDE EURO MONEY

Inside euro area money: 9,715 billion euros sit in overnight deposits

The ECB statistics show what broad money is actually made of. Of euro area M3 of 17,717 billion euros at the end of September 2026, overnight deposits accounted for 9,715 billion euros, other short term deposits for 5,158 billion euros, marketable instruments such as money market fund shares and repurchase agreements for 1,225 billion euros, and currency for 1,618 billion euros. More than nine euros in every ten exist only as entries in bank and fund accounts.

Composition of Euro Area Broad Money (M3), End of September 2026 (trillion euros)

Interactive chart online: businesstats.com/how-much-money-is-in-the-world

Deposits are the money: overnight deposits alone are 54.8 percent of euro area M3, while currency is 9.1 percent.

The growth rates of the components tell the same story as in China and Japan. In September 2026 euro area M1 grew 2.7 percent, other short term deposits 4.6 percent and marketable instruments 7.1 percent, as savers shifted toward instruments that pay interest. Lending is what drives the total: adjusted loans to households rose 3.1 percent and loans to non-financial companies 4.2 percent in the year to September. The wider structure of euro area lenders is covered in our banking sector in Europe statistics.

US MONEY SUPPLY HISTORY

US money supply: from 4.93 trillion dollars in 2000 to a record 23.41 trillion

The US M2 series shows how fast money stocks can change. M2 stood at 4,927.3 billion dollars in December 2000, 8,822.0 billion in December 2010 and 15,351.5 billion in December 2019. Pandemic relief and Federal Reserve asset purchases then lifted it to 19,119.4 billion dollars in December 2020, a 24.5 percent jump in one year, and to 21,488.2 billion in December 2021.

US M2 Money Supply, December 2019 to September 2026 (trillion US dollars)

Interactive chart online: businesstats.com/how-much-money-is-in-the-world

New record: US M2 reached 23.41 trillion dollars in September 2026, 52.5 percent above December 2019 and 13.0 percent above the October 2023 low.

Then M2 did something rare: it shrank. As the Federal Reserve raised interest rates, M2 fell from a peak of 21,770.7 billion dollars in March 2022 to 20,712.3 billion in October 2023, a decline of 4.9 percent. Money moved out of deposits into Treasury bills and other assets that paid more, and the Fed shrank its balance sheet. Growth resumed in 2024, with M2 up 3.4 percent to 21,462.0 billion dollars in December, and 4.0 percent to 22,328.8 billion in December 2025. In September 2026 M2 reached 23,413.9 billion dollars, 5.7 percent more than a year earlier.

MONTH	M2 (BILLION DOLLARS)	CHANGE OVER THE PERIOD SHOWN
December 2000	4,927.3	
December 2005	6,687.4	+35.7% in five years

December 2010	8,822.0	+31.9% in five years
December 2015	12,393.6	+40.5% in five years
December 2019	15,351.5	+23.9% in four years
December 2020	19,119.4	+24.5% in one year
December 2021	21,488.2	+12.4%
December 2022	21,272.8	-1.0%
December 2023	20,753.6	-2.4%
December 2024	21,462.0	+3.4%
December 2025	22,328.8	+4.0%
September 2026	23,413.9	+5.7% on September 2025

Source: Federal Reserve Board H.6 and FRED series M2SL, seasonally adjusted monthly averages. Percentage changes are BusinessStats calculations.

Between December 2000 and September 2026 US broad money grew 4.75 times. The link between money and inflation is loose in normal years but became visible after 2020, when the M2 surge was followed by the highest US inflation in four decades. Monthly price data are in our US monthly inflation rate series, and the wider picture in our global inflation statistics.

MONEY GROWTH 2026

Money growth in 2026: China 7.2 percent, Japan 2.0 percent

Broad money is still growing in every major economy, but at very different speeds. In the year to September 2026 Chinese M2 grew 7.2 percent, US M2 5.7 percent, UK broad money (M4ex) 4.0 percent, euro area M3 3.5 percent and Japanese M2 2.0 percent. The Bank of England does not publish a headline level in its monthly release, so the United Kingdom appears here by growth rate only.

Annual Growth of Broad Money by Economy, September 2026 (%)

Interactive chart online: businesstats.com/how-much-money-is-in-the-world

Two speeds: Chinese broad money grew 3.6 times as fast as Japanese broad money in the year to September 2026.

Faster money growth does not automatically mean faster spending. In China much of the new money is parked in time and savings deposits, which is why M1 grew far more slowly than M2. UK broad money growth slowed to 4.0 percent in September 2026 from a revised 4.5 percent in August. In Japan the widest measure, broadly defined liquidity (L), grew 4.3 percent, faster than M2. For country rankings of policy rates see our short term interest rates worldwide.

What makes the money supply grow

- **Bank lending:** most money is created when commercial banks make loans; Chinese banks added 11.52 trillion yuan of yuan loans in January to September 2026.
- **Central bank balance sheets:** asset purchases add reserves and deposits, and quantitative tightening removes them.
- **Government deficits:** borrowing that is spent into the economy raises bank deposits.
- **Interest rates:** higher rates move money from current accounts into time deposits, money funds and bonds, shifting it between M1, M2 and wider measures.
- **Exchange rates:** they change the dollar value of non-dollar money without any change at home.

GOLD

Gold: 224,200 tonnes worth 30.0 trillion dollars

Gold is not counted in any money supply, but it is the asset most often compared with money. The World Gold Council estimates the total above-ground stock at 224,200 tonnes at the end of the third quarter of 2026, valued at 30.0 trillion dollars using the LBMA Gold Price at the end of the period. Because gold barely corrodes, almost all the gold ever mined still exists. Placed together it would form a cube of about 22.6 metres on each side.

Above-Ground Gold Stock by Holding, End of Q3 2026 (tonnes)

Interactive chart online: businesstats.com/how-much-money-is-in-the-world

Jewellery holds the most: 98,700 tonnes, 44 percent of all gold, is jewellery; central banks own 39,300 tonnes or 18 percent.

In value, the World Gold Council puts jewellery at 13.5 trillion dollars, bars and coins at 6.5 trillion, central bank holdings at 5.5 trillion, over the counter holdings at 1.5 trillion and gold in exchange traded funds at 0.5 trillion dollars. Physical investment gold, which combines central bank, bar, coin, ETF and OTC holdings, comes to 101,700 tonnes worth 14.0 trillion dollars. Known reserves still underground are about 61,000 tonnes.

At 30.0 trillion dollars, gold above ground is worth 4.2 times all the notes and coins in the four largest currencies and equals 28.8 percent of their broad money. The comparison has limits: gold has no central bank behind it and its dollar value swings with the price. The investment case and price history are in our report on gold as an investment.

WHAT IS NOT COUNTED

What does not count as money: crypto, stablecoins and wealth

A lot of value that people think of as money is outside the official measures. Cryptoassets such as bitcoin are not issued by a central bank or a bank, are not counted in M1 or M2 anywhere, and their market value can move by trillions of dollars in a year. Market data for digital assets are tracked in our crypto market statistics. Stablecoins, tokens that promise to hold a fixed value against the dollar, are also outside the money aggregates.

Central banks are responding by exploring their own digital money. In the 2024 survey published by the Bank for International Settlements in August 2025, 85 of 93 central banks, or 91 percent, were exploring a retail central bank digital currency, a wholesale one or both, and more than a third said stablecoin and crypto developments had made them speed up that work.

Household wealth is a different concept again. Money is only the most liquid part of what people own. Shares, bonds, pension savings and property are not money, and they cannot simply be added to M2 because a mortgage, the deposit that funded it and the house it bought would then be counted more than once. Data on who owns that wealth are in our global wealth distribution by net worth and countries with the highest wealth per adult reports.

METHODOLOGY

Methodology and data notes

All money supply figures come directly from the central bank that publishes them, using the latest release available on 4 November 2026. United States data are from the Federal Reserve H.6 release of 27 October 2026 (September 2026, seasonally adjusted monthly averages) with history from the M2SL series of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis. Euro area data are from the ECB release of 27 October 2026 (end of September 2026, seasonally adjusted). Chinese data are from the Peoples Bank of China financial statistics for the first three quarters of 2026, released on 14 October 2026 and carried by the State Council information office. Japanese data are from the Bank of Japan money stock release of 14 October 2026 (September 2026 average, preliminary). UK growth rates are from Bank of England Money and Credit for September 2026.

How to read these numbers

- **Exchange rates:** all conversions use Federal Reserve G.5 monthly averages for September 2026: 1.1505 dollars per euro, 6.7084 yuan per dollar and 156.4171 yen per dollar.
- **Dates differ slightly:** US and Japanese figures are monthly averages, while euro area and Chinese figures are end of month stocks. All refer to September 2026.
- **Definitions differ:** M2 is not identical across economies. Japan M2 excludes Japan Post Bank, US M2 includes retail money market funds, and US M1 has included savings deposits since May 2020.
- **Our calculations:** dollar conversions, four-area totals, shares, ratios and the US growth rate are BusinessStats calculations from the published figures.
- **Gold:** values and tonnages are as published by the World Gold Council and are not part of any money aggregate.

This page replaces an earlier version that mixed data from different months and included numbers that could not be confirmed at a primary source. Corrected or removed claims include a five-economy broad money total of about 107.8 trillion dollars that relied on a UK M4 level not published in the Bank of England monthly release, Chinese M2 of 355.51 trillion yuan with 7.7 percent growth (end-September 2026 data show 359.63 trillion yuan and 7.2 percent), gold of 222,600 tonnes worth 29.0 trillion dollars (now 224,200 tonnes worth 30.0 trillion dollars), a per person money figure that depended on an unverified world

population total, and estimates of world debt, real estate and listed securities that fall outside the money measures on this page. More money and banking data are collected in our money topic overview.

KEY FACTS

Money in the world in eight numbers

$104.28T
Broad money, four areas
US, China, euro area, Japan, Sept 2026.

359.63T yuan
China M2
53.61 trillion dollars, up 7.2 percent.

$23.41T
US M2
Record high, September 2026.

€17,717B
Euro area M3
End of September 2026, up 3.5 percent.

¥1,295.6T
Japan M2
8.28 trillion dollars, up 2.0 percent.

$7.20T
Notes and coins
Four largest currencies, Sept 2026.

83.0%
100 dollar notes
Share of US currency value, end of 2025.

$30.0T
Above-ground gold
224,200 tonnes, end of Q3 2026.

FAQ

Questions about how much money exists

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How much money is in the world?

There is no official world total. The four largest currency areas, the United States, China, the euro area and Japan, held 104.28 trillion dollars of broad money (M2) in September 2026, converted at Federal Reserve September averages. Of that, 57.42 trillion dollars was narrow money (M1) and 7.20 trillion dollars was physical cash.

Which country has the most money?

China. The Peoples Bank of China reported M2 of 359.63 trillion yuan at the end of September 2026, equal to 53.61 trillion dollars. The United States was second with M2 of 23.41 trillion dollars in September 2026.

What is the US money supply right now?

The Federal Reserve reported seasonally adjusted M2 of 23,413.9 billion dollars and M1 of 20,061.2 billion dollars for September 2026, in its H.6 release of 27 October 2026. M2 was 5.7 percent higher than a year earlier and at a record high.

How much physical cash is there in the world?

In the four largest currencies there were 7.20 trillion dollars of notes and coins in September 2026: 2.40 trillion dollars of US currency, 2.24 trillion dollars of Chinese yuan, 1.86 trillion dollars of euros and 0.70 trillion dollars of Japanese yen.

What share of money is physical cash?

A small one. Currency was 10.2 percent of M2 in the United States, 9.8 percent in the euro area, 8.4 percent in Japan and 4.2 percent in China in September 2026. The rest is held as bank deposits and money market fund balances.

What is the difference between M1 and M2?

M1 is money that can be spent immediately: currency and transaction deposits. M2 adds savings deposits, small time deposits and, in the United States, retail money market funds. Since May 2020 US M1 also includes savings deposits, so US M1 is unusually close to US M2.

Why is there no official figure for all the money in the world?

Each country defines money differently, central banks publish different headline measures, and converting currencies into dollars makes any total move with exchange rates. The IMF sets out a framework for broad money but lets each country set its scope, and no central bank, the IMF or the BIS publishes a world total.

How much gold is there in the world?

The World Gold Council estimates 224,200 tonnes of above-ground gold at the end of the third quarter of 2026, worth 30.0 trillion dollars. Jewellery accounts for 44 percent and central banks for 18 percent.

Is cryptocurrency counted in the money supply?

No. Bitcoin, other cryptoassets and stablecoins are not part of M1, M2 or M3 in any of the major economies. In a BIS survey published in August 2025, 91 percent of 93 central banks were exploring their own digital currencies.

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Related reading

- M1 money supply
- How much physical cash exists
- Central banks statistics
- Gold as an investment
- Global inflation
- Interest rates
- Global currency reserves
- Foreign exchange reserves worldwide

- Global wealth distribution
- UK banks by total assets

STATISTICS REPORT

Where Central Bank Interest Rates Stand in November 2026, Country by Country

After cutting through 2024 and 2025, most major central banks raised rates again in 2026: the Fed to 3.75 to 4.00 percent, the ECB to 2.50 percent and the Bank of England to 4.00 percent. This report lists the policy rate of 16 major economies with the date of every latest decision, follows the Fed, ECB, Bank of England, Bank of Japan and RBA in detail, and adds US Treasury yields and mortgage rates.

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3.75-4.00% FED FUNDS RANGE, NOV 2026	**2.50%** ECB DEPOSIT RATE	**4.00%** BANK RATE, UK, 5 NOV 2026
1.25% BANK OF JAPAN RATE	**4.84%** US 10-YEAR YIELD, 5 NOV	**7.18%** US 30-YEAR MORTGAGE, 5 NOV

Quick answer

On **6 November 2026** the US Federal Reserve target range stood at **3.75 to 4.00 percent**, the ECB deposit facility rate at **2.50 percent**, Bank Rate in the UK at **4.00 percent** after a rise on 5 November, the Bank of Japan policy rate at **1.25 percent** and the Reserve Bank of Australia cash rate at **4.85 percent**. After two years of cuts, 2026 turned into a year of increases: 9 of the 16 central banks in this report raised rates at least once, led by Australia with five increases worth 1.25 percentage points. The highest major policy rate is Turkey at 36.00 percent and the lowest is Switzerland at 0 percent.

Scope of this page: this is a cross-country hub for central bank policy rates. It lists the rate each central bank sets, the date of its latest decision and the change since the end of 2025, then follows the biggest banks in detail and closes with the two market rates most people feel directly, US Treasury yields and the 30-year mortgage rate. Every rate is taken from the central bank that sets it. A longer US history of the benchmark is in our federal funds rate report, and money market rates such as interbank rates are covered in short-term interest rates worldwide.

NOVEMBER 2026 SNAPSHOT

Policy rates in 16 major economies on 6 November 2026

A central bank policy rate is the rate a central bank uses to set the price of overnight money in its economy. Different banks use different instruments: the Federal Reserve targets a range for the federal funds rate, the ECB steers with its deposit facility rate, the Bank of England sets Bank Rate, and China guides lending through the loan prime rate that banks quote each month. The table below uses the instrument each bank names as its policy rate, the same convention followed by the Bank for International Settlements in its central bank policy rate statistics.

ECONOMY	POLICY RATE	INSTRUMENT	LATEST DECISION	LAST CHANGE	CHANGE SINCE 31 DEC 2025
United States	**4.00%**	Federal funds target range 3.75 to 4.00 (upper bound shown)	Held, 28 Oct 2026	+0.25 on 16 Sep 2026	+25 bps
Euro area	**2.50%**	ECB deposit facility rate	Held, 29 Oct 2026	+0.25 on 10 Sep 2026 (effective 16 Sep)	+50 bps
United Kingdom	**4.00%**	Bank Rate	Raised, 5 Nov 2026	+0.25 on 5 Nov 2026	+25 bps
Japan	**1.25%**	Uncollateralized overnight call rate target	Held, 30 Oct 2026	+0.25 on 18 Sep 2026	+50 bps
Canada	**2.50%**	Target for the overnight rate	Raised, 28 Oct 2026	+0.25 on 28 Oct 2026	+25 bps
Australia	**4.85%**	Cash rate target	Raised, 3 Nov 2026 (effective 4 Nov)	+0.25 on 3 Nov 2026	+125 bps
Switzerland	**0.00%**	SNB policy rate	Held, 24 Sep 2026	-0.25 in June 2025	0 bps
South Korea	**3.00%**	Bank of Korea base rate	Held, 22 Oct 2026	Raised in July and August 2026	see text
China	**3.00%**	1-year loan prime rate (5-year: 3.50)	Unchanged, 20 Oct 2026 fixing	-0.10 in May 2025	0 bps

India	**5.50%**	Policy repo rate	Raised, 7 Oct 2026	+0.25 on 7 Oct 2026	+25 bps
Indonesia	**5.75%**	BI-Rate	Held, 21 Oct 2026	Deposit facility raised to 5.00 on 21 Oct 2026	see text
Brazil	**13.75%**	Selic target	Held, 4 Nov 2026	-0.25 on 16 Sep 2026	-125 bps
Mexico	**6.50%**	Target for the overnight interbank rate	Held, 24 Sep 2026	Cutting cycle ended in mid 2026	see text
Turkey	**36.00%**	One-week repo auction rate	Cut, 22 Oct 2026	-1.00 on 22 Oct 2026	-200 bps
Russia	**14.00%**	Key rate	Held, 23 Oct 2026	Run of cuts ended with the 11 Sep 2026 hold	see text
South Africa	**7.25%**	Repo rate	Raised, 24 Sep 2026	+0.25 on 24 Sep 2026	+50 bps

Sources: the central bank of each economy (see Sources box). US rate is the upper bound of the 3.75 to 4.00 percent target range. China shows the 1-year loan prime rate; the 5-year rate is 3.50 percent. Changes are in basis points (1 percentage point = 100 bps). "See text" marks economies where the end 2025 level could not be confirmed at the source.

Two features stand out. First, the range is enormous: 36 percentage points separate Turkey and Switzerland, and even among advanced economies the spread runs from 0 percent in Switzerland to 4.85 percent in Australia. Second, the direction of travel has flipped. In 2024 and 2025 most of these banks were cutting. In 2026 the Federal Reserve, ECB, Bank of England, Bank of Japan, Bank of Canada and Reserve Bank of Australia all raised rates, and so did India, South Korea and South Africa. Several of these banks cited higher energy prices: the Bank of England, for example, said in its 5 November 2026 summary that it expects UK inflation to peak at around 5 percent by the middle of 2027 before energy price effects fade.

ADVANCED ECONOMIES

Australia now has the highest policy rate in the developed world

Ranked by level, the Reserve Bank of Australia leads the advanced economies at **4.85 percent**, ahead of the United States and the United Kingdom, both at 4.00 percent at the top of their ranges. South Korea sits at 3.00 percent, Canada and the euro area at 2.50 percent, Japan at 1.25 percent and Switzerland at zero. A year ago the order was different: the RBA cash rate was 3.60 percent at the end of 2025, below the 3.75 percent of both Bank Rate and the upper bound of the Fed range, and it has since been raised five times.

Central Bank Policy Rates in Advanced Economies, 6 November 2026 (%)

Interactive chart online: businesstats.com/interest-rates

From laggard to leader: Australia was the last major central bank to start cutting in 2025 and the first of them to reverse, raising its cash rate in February, March, May, September and November 2026.

Japan remains the outlier on the low side for a different reason. The Bank of Japan only left negative rates in March 2024 and has raised its target step by step since then, to 0.25 percent in July 2024, 0.50 percent in January 2025, 0.75 percent in December 2025, about 1 percent in June 2026 and about 1.25 percent on 18 September 2026, the highest level since 1995. Switzerland is at zero because Swiss inflation has stayed low: CPI inflation was 0.8 percent in August 2026, according to the SNB, which held its rate on 24 September 2026.

EMERGING ECONOMIES

In emerging markets, rates range from 3 percent in China to 36 percent in Turkey

Emerging market policy rates are higher on average because inflation and inflation risk are higher, and because currencies are more exposed when US rates rise. **Turkey** remains in a class of its own at 36.00 percent, even after the central bank cut the one-week repo rate from 37 to 36 percent on 22 October 2026, its first cut since January. **Russia** held its key rate at 14.00 percent on 23 October 2026, and **Brazil** stopped a run of five 0.25 point cuts on 4 November 2026, keeping the Selic at 13.75 percent by a unanimous Copom vote.

Central Bank Policy Rates in Major Emerging Economies, 6 November 2026 (%)

Interactive chart online: businesstats.com/interest-rates

Three tiers: double digit rates in Turkey, Russia and Brazil; 5.5 to 7.25 percent in South Africa, Mexico, Indonesia and India; and 3 percent in China, where the loan prime rate has not moved since May 2025.

The middle tier is clustered between 5.50 and 7.25 percent. The **South African Reserve Bank** raised its repo rate to 7.25 percent on 24 September 2026, its second increase of the year after a rise to 7.00 percent in May. **Banco de Mexico** held at 6.50 percent on 24 September 2026, having ended its cutting cycle in mid 2026. **Bank Indonesia** held the BI-Rate at 5.75 percent on 21 October 2026 but raised its deposit facility rate to 5.00 percent amid pressure on the rupiah. The **Reserve Bank of India** raised its repo rate to 5.50 percent on 7 October 2026 and switched its stance to calibrated tightening. **China** is the low outlier: the 1-year loan prime rate has been 3.00 percent and the 5-year rate 3.50 percent since May 2025, and both were unchanged at the 20 October 2026 fixing.

CHANGE IN 2026

2026 brought the first broad round of rate increases since 2023

The chart shows how far each policy rate has moved since 31 December 2025, in basis points. Twelve economies are included where both the starting and current levels could be confirmed at the central bank. Eight raised rates on balance, two cut and two did not move. The median move is an increase of 25 basis points, which makes 2026 the first year since 2023 in which more major central banks tightened than eased.

Change in Policy Rates from 31 December 2025 to 6 November 2026 (basis points)

Interactive chart online: businesstats.com/interest-rates

Biggest movers: Australia added 125 basis points in five steps; Turkey and Brazil moved furthest the other way, by 200 and 125 basis points.

What changed in 2026

- **Federal Reserve:** six holds and one 0.25 point increase on 16 September 2026, taking the range to 3.75 to 4.00 percent.
- **ECB:** two 0.25 point increases, effective 17 June and 16 September 2026, after a full year at 2.00 percent.
- **Bank of England:** one increase, to 4.00 percent on 5 November 2026, reversing the cut of 18 December 2025.
- **Bank of Japan:** two increases, in June and September 2026, to about 1.25 percent.
- **Reserve Bank of Australia:** five increases of 0.25 point, from 3.60 to 4.85 percent.
- **Cuts:** Brazil (five cuts, from 15.00 to 13.75 percent) and Turkey (from 38 to 36 percent) were the main easing exceptions.

THE RATE CYCLE SINCE 2022

Four central banks, one cycle: hikes in 2022 and 2023, cuts in 2024 and 2025, hikes again in 2026

The chart follows the policy rates of the Federal Reserve, ECB, Bank of England and Reserve Bank of Australia at the end of each month since December 2021. All four moved together through the inflation shock that began in 2021. The Fed raised its range from 0 to 0.25 percent to **5.25 to 5.50 percent** between March 2022 and July 2023, a total of 525 basis points in 11 increases. The Bank of England raised Bank Rate 14 times, starting with the rise to 0.25 percent in December 2021 and ending at 5.25 percent in August 2023. The ECB lifted its deposit rate from minus 0.50 percent to 4.00 percent between July 2022 and September 2023, and the RBA took its cash rate from 0.10 to 4.35 percent by November 2023.

Policy Rates of the Fed, ECB, Bank of England and RBA at Each Month End, December 2021 to November 2026 (%)

Interactive chart online: businesstats.com/interest-rates

The second turn: all four lines bottomed in 2025 or early 2026 well above their pre 2022 levels, and all four have risen again since February 2026.

The easing phase was slower and shallower than the tightening. The Fed cut by 175 basis points over 15 months, from September 2024 to December 2025, leaving the range at 3.50 to 3.75 percent. The ECB cut

eight times, to 2.00 percent in June 2025, and the Bank of England six times, to 3.75 percent in December 2025. The RBA cut only three times, to 3.60 percent in August 2025. In 2026 the four lines turned up again, starting with the RBA in February. Measured from their 2025 lows, the RBA is up 125 basis points, the ECB 50, and the Fed and the Bank of England 25 each.

CENTRAL BANK	END OF DEC 2021	CYCLE PEAK	LOW AFTER CUTS	6 NOV 2026
Federal Reserve (upper bound)	0.25	5.50 (Jul 2023)	3.75 (Dec 2025)	4.00
ECB deposit facility	-0.50	4.00 (Sep 2023)	2.00 (Jun 2025)	2.50
Bank of England	0.25	5.25 (Aug 2023)	3.75 (Dec 2025)	4.00
Reserve Bank of Australia	0.10	4.35 (Nov 2023)	3.60 (Aug 2025)	4.85

Sources: official rate histories of each central bank. Dates are effective dates.

FEDERAL RESERVE

Every Federal Reserve rate change since 2022, and every 2026 decision

The Federal Open Market Committee meets eight times a year. Since March 2022 it has changed the target range for the federal funds rate 18 times: 12 increases and 6 cuts. The table lists each change with the date of the announcement and the date it took effect, which the Fed uses in its own history table. The most recent change, an increase of 0.25 percentage point announced on 16 September 2026, was unanimous. At the following meeting, on 28 October 2026, the Committee held the range at 3.75 to 4.00 percent, with Lisa Cook and Beth Hammack dissenting in favour of a further increase. US monthly inflation readings are tracked in our US monthly inflation rate page.

ANNOUNCED	EFFECTIVE	CHANGE	NEW RANGE (%)
16 Mar 2022	17 Mar 2022	+25 bps	0.25 to 0.50
4 May 2022	5 May 2022	+50 bps	0.75 to 1.00
15 Jun 2022	16 Jun 2022	+75 bps	1.50 to 1.75
27 Jul 2022	28 Jul 2022	+75 bps	2.25 to 2.50
21 Sep 2022	22 Sep 2022	+75 bps	3.00 to 3.25
2 Nov 2022	3 Nov 2022	+75 bps	3.75 to 4.00

14 Dec 2022	15 Dec 2022	+50 bps	4.25 to 4.50
1 Feb 2023	2 Feb 2023	+25 bps	4.50 to 4.75
22 Mar 2023	23 Mar 2023	+25 bps	4.75 to 5.00
3 May 2023	4 May 2023	+25 bps	5.00 to 5.25
26 Jul 2023	27 Jul 2023	+25 bps	5.25 to 5.50
18 Sep 2024	19 Sep 2024	-50 bps	4.75 to 5.00
7 Nov 2024	8 Nov 2024	-25 bps	4.50 to 4.75
18 Dec 2024	19 Dec 2024	-25 bps	4.25 to 4.50
17 Sep 2025	18 Sep 2025	-25 bps	4.00 to 4.25
29 Oct 2025	30 Oct 2025	-25 bps	3.75 to 4.00
10 Dec 2025	11 Dec 2025	-25 bps	3.50 to 3.75
16 Sep 2026	17 Sep 2026	+25 bps	3.75 to 4.00

Source: Federal Reserve Board, open market operations, changes in the target range. All other meetings from 2022 to 2025 left the range unchanged.

The 2026 meetings show how divided the Committee became as inflation rose again. In January and March two and then one member wanted a cut. By April the dissents came from both sides: Stephen Miran wanted to cut, while Beth Hammack, Neel Kashkari and Lorie Logan objected to the statement keeping an easing bias. In July those three voted for an increase, and in September the full Committee agreed to one.

MEETING (ANNOUNCED)	DECISION	TARGET RANGE (%)	VOTE	DISSENTS
28 Jan 2026	Hold	3.50 to 3.75	10 to 2	Miran and Waller preferred a 0.25 point cut
18 Mar 2026	Hold	3.50 to 3.75	11 to 1	Miran preferred a 0.25 point cut
29 Apr 2026	Hold	3.50 to 3.75	8 to 4	Miran preferred a cut; Hammack, Kashkari and Logan opposed the easing bias in the statement
17 Jun 2026	Hold	3.50 to 3.75	12 to 0	None

29 Jul 2026	Hold	3.50 to 3.75	9 to 3	Hammack, Kashkari and Logan preferred a 0.25 point increase
16 Sep 2026	Raise 0.25 point	3.75 to 4.00	12 to 0	None
28 Oct 2026	Hold	3.75 to 4.00	10 to 2	Cook and Hammack preferred a 0.25 point increase

Source: FOMC statements of 28 January, 18 March, 29 April, 17 June, 29 July, 16 September and 28 October 2026.

The federal funds rate feeds directly into other US benchmarks. On 5 November 2026 the effective federal funds rate was **3.88 percent**, the discount window primary credit rate 4.00 percent and the bank prime loan rate, which many credit cards and small business loans track, **7.00 percent**, according to the Fed H.15 release. Money supply measures that respond to the same policy are covered in M1 money supply.

FED PROJECTIONS

The Fed dot plot: an official median path of 4.1 percent for 2026 and 2027

Four times a year FOMC participants publish their own projections for the federal funds rate in the Summary of Economic Projections, the so called dot plot. These are official projections by the policymakers themselves, not a BusinessStats forecast, and they change with the data. In September 2026, 18 participants submitted projections. Their median for the end of 2026 was **4.1 percent**, which is the midpoint of a 4.00 to 4.25 percent range and therefore implies one more 0.25 point increase after the September move. In June the 2026 median had been 3.8 percent.

FOMC Median Projection for the Federal Funds Rate, June and September 2026 (%)

Interactive chart online: businesstats.com/interest-rates

Higher for longer, officially: the September median path sits 0.3 to 0.5 point above the June path for every year from 2026 to 2028.

The same September projections explain the shift. Median PCE inflation for 2026 was put at **3.7 percent** and core PCE at 3.4 percent, both far above the 2 percent goal, with inflation expected to fall to 2.3 percent in 2027 and 2.0 percent in 2029. Median real GDP growth was 2.3 percent for 2026 and unemployment 4.1

percent. The longer run rate, a rough guide to where policymakers think neutral lies, rose from 3.1 to 3.2 percent.

VARIABLE	2026	2027	2028	2029	LONGER RUN
Federal funds rate	4.1	4.1	3.9	3.6	3.2
Real GDP growth	2.3	2.4	2.2	2.1	2.0
Unemployment rate	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.2
PCE inflation	3.7	2.3	2.1	2.0	2.0
Core PCE inflation	3.4	2.5	2.2	2.0	not collected

Source: Federal Reserve, Summary of Economic Projections, 16 September 2026. Rate projections are for the end of each year; GDP and inflation are fourth quarter over fourth quarter changes.

EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK

ECB: two increases in 2026 after a year at 2 percent

The ECB sets three rates. Since its 2024 framework changes the **deposit facility rate** is the one that steers money markets, and the main refinancing rate sits 0.15 point above it. After eight cuts between June 2024 and June 2025 the deposit rate stayed at 2.00 percent for a year. The Governing Council then raised all three rates by 0.25 point on 11 June 2026 (effective 17 June) and again on 10 September 2026 (effective 16 September), and left them unchanged on 29 October 2026. The deposit rate of 2.50 percent compares with a peak of 4.00 percent from September 2023 to June 2024. For the wider banking context see the banking sector in Europe.

WITH EFFECT FROM	DEPOSIT FACILITY	MAIN REFINANCING	MARGINAL LENDING
16 Sep 2026	2.50	2.65	2.90
17 Jun 2026	2.25	2.40	2.65
11 Jun 2025	2.00	2.15	2.40
23 Apr 2025	2.25	2.40	2.65
12 Mar 2025	2.50	2.65	2.90
5 Feb 2025	2.75	2.90	3.15

18 Dec 2024	3.00	3.15	3.40
23 Oct 2024	3.25	3.40	3.65
18 Sep 2024	3.50	3.65	3.90
12 Jun 2024	3.75	4.25	4.50
20 Sep 2023	4.00	4.50	4.75

Source: ECB, key ECB interest rates. In September 2024 the spread between the main refinancing rate and the deposit rate was narrowed to 0.15 point.

BANK OF ENGLAND

Bank of England: an 8 to 1 vote for 4 percent on 5 November 2026

The Monetary Policy Committee raised Bank Rate from 3.75 to **4.00 percent** at its meeting ending 4 November 2026, announced on 5 November. Eight members voted for the 0.25 point increase and Catherine Mann voted for 0.5 point. It was the first increase since August 2023 and it reversed the cut of 18 December 2025, the last of six reductions from the 5.25 percent peak. UK CPI inflation was 3.5 percent in September 2026. In its November projections the Bank expects inflation to rise to around 5 percent by the middle of 2027 before falling back, and it stressed that policy is not on a pre set path. The next decision is due on 17 December 2026. Balance sheet data for the lenders who pass these changes on to borrowers are in UK banks ranked by total assets.

DATE CHANGED	BANK RATE (%)
5 Nov 2026	4.00
18 Dec 2025	3.75
7 Aug 2025	4.00
8 May 2025	4.25
6 Feb 2025	4.50
7 Nov 2024	4.75
1 Aug 2024	5.00
3 Aug 2023	5.25

Source: Bank of England, official Bank Rate history.

BANK OF JAPAN

Bank of Japan: from minus 0.1 percent to 1.25 percent in two and a half years

The Bank of Japan held its short-term policy rate at minus 0.1 percent until March 2024, making it the last major central bank to leave negative rates. Since then it has raised its target for the uncollateralized overnight call rate six times. The latest increase, to about **1.25 percent**, was decided on 18 September 2026 by a 7 to 2 vote, with the basic loan rate set at 1.50 percent and the complementary deposit facility rate at 1.25 percent. On 30 October 2026 the Policy Board held the rate by 8 votes to 1; one member, Hajime Takata, proposed a further rise to 1.50 percent. How Japanese government bond yields compare with other markets is shown in 10-year government bond yields by country.

DECISION	SHORT-TERM POLICY RATE
19 Mar 2024	0 to 0.1 percent (end of negative rates)
31 Jul 2024	about 0.25 percent
24 Jan 2025	about 0.50 percent
19 Dec 2025	about 0.75 percent
16 Jun 2026	about 1.00 percent
18 Sep 2026	about 1.25 percent

Source: Bank of Japan, statements on monetary policy and changes in the guideline for money market operations.

CANADA AND AUSTRALIA

Canada and Australia: both raised rates in the week before this update

The **Bank of Canada** raised its target for the overnight rate by 0.25 point to **2.50 percent** on 28 October 2026, after holding at 2.25 percent for a full year from October 2025. Its October 2026 Monetary Policy Report projects inflation around 3 percent through much of 2027 and back near the 2 percent target by mid 2028, an official projection. Its next scheduled decision is on 9 December 2026.

The **Reserve Bank of Australia** has been the most aggressive tightener of 2026. Its Monetary Policy Board raised the cash rate target by 0.25 point on 3 November 2026, effective 4 November, to **4.85 percent**, the fifth increase of the year after moves in February, March, May and September. That is 0.50 point above the 2023 peak of 4.35 percent. The RBA cut only three times in 2025, so it entered 2026 with the highest starting rate of the major advanced economies except the US and UK.

EFFECTIVE DATE	CHANGE (PERCENTAGE POINT)	CASH RATE TARGET (%)
4 Feb 2026	+0.25	3.85
18 Mar 2026	+0.25	4.10
6 May 2026	+0.25	4.35
30 Sep 2026	+0.25	4.60
4 Nov 2026	+0.25	4.85

Source: Reserve Bank of Australia, cash rate target statistics.

LOWEST RATES

Switzerland and China: the two big economies still near the floor

The **Swiss National Bank** cut its policy rate to 0 percent in June 2025 and has kept it there. At its 22 and 23 September 2026 assessment, announced on 24 September, it again left the rate unchanged, noting that inflation was likely to rise somewhat in the short term because of energy prices but stay within the range it regards as price stability. Swiss CPI inflation was 0.8 percent in August 2026 and core inflation 0.6 percent. With inflation below 1 percent, the SNB is the only central bank in this report with a zero policy rate.

China does not publish a single policy rate in the way the Fed or ECB do. The People Bank of China guides the economy mainly through the 7-day reverse repo rate and through the loan prime rate, which a panel of banks quotes on the 20th of each month and which the National Interbank Funding Center publishes under PBoC authorisation. The 1-year LPR, the reference for most corporate loans, has been **3.00 percent** since May 2025, and the 5-year LPR, the reference for mortgages, 3.50 percent. The October 2026 fixing left both unchanged for a 17th consecutive month. How the PBoC and other central banks hold their foreign assets is compared in currency reserves of selected countries.

INDIA, INDONESIA AND SOUTH KOREA

Asia: India and Korea tightened, Indonesia defended the rupiah

The **Reserve Bank of India** Monetary Policy Committee voted unanimously on 7 October 2026 to raise the policy repo rate by 0.25 point to **5.50 percent**, with the standing deposit facility at 5.25 percent and the marginal standing facility and Bank Rate at 5.75 percent. It changed its stance from neutral to calibrated tightening. CPI inflation was 4.8 percent in August 2026, up from 4.5 percent in July, and the MPC projected 5.2 percent for fiscal 2026 to 2027, with a quarterly peak of 6.0 percent in the third quarter of the fiscal year.

Bank Indonesia held the BI-Rate at 5.75 percent at its meeting of 20 and 21 October 2026 but raised the deposit facility rate to 5.00 percent amid pressure on the rupiah; the lending facility rate stayed at 6.50 percent. The **Bank of Korea** kept its base rate at 3.00 percent on 22 October 2026, pausing after two consecutive increases in July and August 2026.

HIGH-RATE ECONOMIES

Turkey, Russia and Brazil: easing from very high levels, then pausing

Turkey has reduced its one-week repo auction rate in stages: to 38 percent on 11 December 2025, 37 percent at the first meeting of 2026 and 36 percent on 22 October 2026. The overnight lending rate is now 39 percent and the overnight borrowing rate 34.5 percent. Even after these cuts, Turkey has the highest policy rate of the 16 economies in this report, more than two and a half times the Russian key rate.

The **Bank of Russia** held its key rate at 14.00 percent on 23 October 2026, the second hold in a row after a run of cuts ended on 11 September 2026. **Brazil** kept the Selic at 15.00 percent from June 2025 to January 2026, then cut it by 0.25 point at five consecutive Copom meetings, in March, April, June, August and September 2026, to 13.75 percent. On 4 November 2026 the Copom held the rate unanimously; its next meeting is on 8 and 9 December 2026.

MEETING	DECISION	SELIC (%)
27 and 28 Jan	Hold	15.00
17 and 18 Mar	Cut 0.25	14.75
28 and 29 Apr	Cut 0.25	14.50

16 and 17 Jun	Cut 0.25	14.25
4 and 5 Aug	Cut 0.25	14.00
15 and 16 Sep	Cut 0.25	13.75
3 and 4 Nov	Hold, unanimous	13.75

Source: Banco Central do Brasil, Copom decisions, 2026.

South Africa and **Mexico** sit in between. The SARB raised its repo rate twice in 2026, from 6.75 to 7.00 percent on 28 May and to 7.25 percent on 24 September, the second time unanimously, which lifted the prime lending rate of commercial banks to 10.75 percent. Banco de Mexico has held its overnight interbank rate target at 6.50 percent since mid 2026, most recently on 24 September 2026. How these rates compare with price growth is tracked in global inflation and in the countries with the lowest inflation.

RATES VERSUS INFLATION

Policy rates against the latest inflation reading each central bank cites

A policy rate means little without inflation next to it. The difference between the two, the real policy rate, shows how tight policy is. The table uses only inflation figures that the central bank itself quoted in its latest decision or projections, so the periods differ.

ECONOMY	POLICY RATE (%)	INFLATION MEASURE CITED	INFLATION (%)	DIFFERENCE (PP)
United Kingdom	4.00	CPI, September 2026 (BoE, 5 Nov 2026)	3.5	+0.5
India	5.50	CPI, August 2026 (RBI, 7 Oct 2026)	4.8	+0.7
Switzerland	0.00	CPI, August 2026 (SNB, 24 Sep 2026)	0.8	-0.8
United States	3.875 (midpoint)	PCE, median projection for 2026 (FOMC, 16 Sep 2026)	3.7	+0.2

Sources: Bank of England, Reserve Bank of India, Swiss National Bank, Federal Reserve. Differences are BusinessStats calculations; the US row compares the current range midpoint with a projection for the year, not a measured rate.

By this simple measure UK and Indian policy is only slightly restrictive, US policy is close to neutral against projected 2026 inflation and Swiss policy is mildly negative in real terms. That is the core reason the dot plot, the Bank of England and the RBI all signal that further increases remain possible. Readers who want the longer view of growth that these rates are meant to protect can turn to world GDP growth.

TREASURY YIELDS

US Treasury yields: the 10-year at 4.84 percent and the 2-year at 4.46 percent

Market interest rates move ahead of central banks. On **5 November 2026** the 2-year Treasury constant maturity yield was **4.46 percent** and the 10-year yield **4.84 percent**, according to the Federal Reserve H.15 release of 6 November, which reports the US Treasury par yield curve. Both sit above the 3.75 to 4.00 percent fed funds range, a sign that markets price US short rates at or above their current level for the next two years. The 2-year yield fell from 4.58 percent on 4 November to 4.46 percent on 5 November, its lowest reading of that week.

US Treasury Yield Curve on 5 November 2026 (%)

Interactive chart online: businesstats.com/interest-rates

An upward sloping curve: the 10-year yield is 0.38 point above the 2-year and 0.67 point above the 3-month yield, with only a small dip between the 20-year and 30-year maturities.

MATURITY	2 JAN 2026	5 NOV 2026	CHANGE (PP)
3-month	3.65	4.17	+0.52
2-year	3.47	4.46	+0.99
10-year	4.19	4.84	+0.65
30-year	4.86	5.25	+0.39

Sources: US Treasury, daily par yield curve rates (2 January 2026); Federal Reserve H.15 release of 6 November 2026 (5 November 2026).

The biggest move this year has been at the 2-year point, up almost a full percentage point, because that maturity tracks the expected path of the federal funds rate most closely. The 30-year yield, at 5.25 percent, has risen the least. The full monthly history of the benchmark long yield is in the 10-year Treasury yield by month.

MORTGAGE RATES

The US 30-year mortgage rate: from 5.98 percent in February to above 7 percent

The average 30-year fixed mortgage rate in the Freddie Mac Primary Mortgage Market Survey was **7.18 percent on 5 November 2026**, the third weekly decline in a row and down from 7.24 percent on 29 October. A year earlier, in the first week of November 2025, it was 6.22 percent. The 15-year fixed rate averaged 6.57 percent, against 5.50 percent a year ago. The survey covers conventional, conforming, fully amortizing purchase loans for borrowers with a 20 percent down payment and excellent credit, so many borrowers pay more.

Average US 30-Year Fixed Mortgage Rate, Selected Weeks, November 2024 to November 2026 (%)

Interactive chart online: businesstats.com/interest-rates

A 1.2 point swing: the rate fell from 6.84 percent in November 2024 to 5.98 percent in February 2026, then rose above 7 percent by late September 2026 as Treasury yields climbed.

Mortgage rates follow the 10-year Treasury yield more than the fed funds rate. The spread between them was 2.34 percentage points on 5 November 2026 (7.18 minus 4.84, BusinessStats calculation). That is why mortgage rates climbed from 6.00 percent in early March to 6.71 percent by 3 September 2026 while the Fed was still on hold, and passed 7 percent soon after the Fed raised its own rate on 16 September. The economic weight of housing and consumer credit in the US economy is covered in GDP of the United States.

NEXT DECISIONS

Scheduled decisions for the rest of 2026

Confirmed upcoming decisions

- **12 November 2026:** next update of the BIS central bank policy rate statistics.
- **8 and 9 December 2026:** Banco Central do Brasil Copom, final meeting of the year.
- **9 December 2026:** Bank of Canada rate announcement.
- **17 December 2026:** Bank of England Monetary Policy Committee decision.
- **December 2026:** the final FOMC meeting of the year, with a new Summary of Economic Projections.

METHODOLOGY AND DATA NOTES

How this page was built

Every policy rate on this page was checked on 6 November 2026 against the announcement or rate history published by the central bank that sets it: the Federal Reserve Board, ECB, Bank of England, Bank of Japan, Bank of Canada, Reserve Bank of Australia, Swiss National Bank, Bank of Korea, People Bank of China, Reserve Bank of India, Bank Indonesia, Banco Central do Brasil, Banco de Mexico, Central Bank of the Republic of Turkey, Bank of Russia and South African Reserve Bank. Rates are stated with the date of the decision that set them. Where a decision and its effective date differ, both are given. The choice of instrument for each economy follows the convention of the BIS central bank policy rate statistics (last released 5 November 2026).

Month end series for the Fed, ECB, Bank of England and RBA are reconstructed from each bank list of changes and effective dates; no values are interpolated. The US rate is shown as the upper bound of the target range in charts and as the range in text; the real rate table uses the midpoint. Treasury yields are constant maturity yields for 5 November 2026 from the Federal Reserve H.15 release, which are derived from the US Treasury par yield curve, and from the Treasury yield curve feed for 2 January 2026. Mortgage rates are weekly Freddie Mac PMMS averages. FOMC dot plot values are official participant projections and are labelled as such; this page makes no forecasts of its own. Saudi Arabia and Argentina, both G20 members, are not in the cross country table because their current policy rates could not be confirmed at the source on the day of this update.

Corrections to the previous edition of this page

- **Fed rate:** the old page gave 3.50 to 3.75 percent as the 2026 rate. The FOMC raised the range to 3.75 to 4.00 percent on 16 September 2026 and held it there on 28 October 2026.
- **ECB:** the old page gave 2.75 percent. The deposit rate was 2.00 percent from June 2025 to June 2026 and is now 2.50 percent after two increases in 2026.
- **Bank of England and Bank of Japan:** the old page gave 3.75 and 0.75 percent. Bank Rate rose to 4.00 percent on 5 November 2026 and the BoJ rate to about 1.25 percent on 18 September 2026.
- **Switzerland and Turkey:** the old page gave 0.25 and 40 percent. The SNB rate has been 0 percent since June 2025 and the Turkish one-week repo rate is 36 percent after the 22 October 2026 cut.
- **Mortgage rate:** the old page gave 6.6 percent. The Freddie Mac 30-year average was 7.18 percent on 5 November 2026.
- **Removed:** unsourced figures for global debt, neutral rate estimates, market based forecasts and a 25 country table whose rates could not be matched to central bank announcements.

KEY FACTS

Interest rates worldwide in eight numbers

3.75 to 4.00%
Fed funds target range
Raised 16 Sep 2026, held 28 Oct 2026.

2.50%
ECB deposit facility rate
Held 29 Oct 2026 after two 2026 increases.

4.00%
Bank of England Bank Rate
Raised 5 Nov 2026, vote 8 to 1.

1.25%
Bank of Japan policy rate
Highest since 1995, set 18 Sep 2026.

4.85%
RBA cash rate target
Five increases in 2026.

36%
Turkey one-week repo rate
Highest of the 16, cut 22 Oct 2026.

4.84%
US 10-year Treasury yield
5 Nov 2026, H.15.

7.18%
US 30-year mortgage rate
Freddie Mac PMMS, 5 Nov 2026.

FAQ

Questions about interest rates around the world

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What are interest rates in the US right now?

The Federal Reserve target range for the federal funds rate is 3.75 to 4.00 percent. The FOMC raised it by 0.25 percentage point on 16 September 2026, its first increase since July 2023, and held it on 28 October 2026 by a 10 to 2 vote, with two members preferring another increase. The effective federal funds rate was 3.88 percent on 5 November 2026 and the bank prime loan rate was 7.00 percent.

Which central bank has the highest interest rate among major economies?

Among the 16 economies in this report, the Central Bank of the Republic of Turkey has the highest policy rate at 36.00 percent after a 1 percentage point cut on 22 October 2026. Russia follows at 14.00 percent (held on 23 October 2026) and Brazil at 13.75 percent (held on 4 November 2026).

Which major economy has the lowest interest rate?

Switzerland. The Swiss National Bank policy rate has been 0 percent since June 2025 and was left unchanged at the 24 September 2026 assessment, when Swiss CPI inflation was 0.8 percent (August 2026). Japan is next at 1.25 percent.

What is the ECB interest rate in November 2026?

The ECB deposit facility rate, the rate the ECB steers policy with, is 2.50 percent. The main refinancing rate is 2.65 percent and the marginal lending rate 2.90 percent. The Governing Council raised all three by 0.25 point in June and again in September 2026 and kept them unchanged on 29 October 2026.

What did the Bank of England decide on 5 November 2026?

The Monetary Policy Committee voted 8 to 1 to raise Bank Rate by 0.25 percentage point to 4 percent, the first increase since August 2023. Catherine Mann voted for a 0.5 point rise to 4.25 percent. CPI inflation was 3.5 percent in September 2026 and the Bank expects it to rise to around 5 percent by the middle of 2027. The next decision is due on 17 December 2026.

Where does the Fed expect interest rates to go?

In the September 2026 Summary of Economic Projections, the median FOMC participant expected the federal funds rate to be 4.1 percent at the end of 2026 and 2027, 3.9 percent at the end of 2028 and 3.6 percent at the end of

2029, with a longer run level of 3.2 percent. These are participant projections, not commitments, and the median 2026 value implies one more 0.25 point increase this year.

What is the average 30-year mortgage rate in the US?

Freddie Mac reported an average 30-year fixed mortgage rate of 7.18 percent in its Primary Mortgage Market Survey of 5 November 2026, down from 7.24 percent a week earlier and up from 6.22 percent a year earlier. The 15-year fixed rate averaged 6.57 percent.

What are Treasury yields today?

On 5 November 2026 the 2-year Treasury constant maturity yield was 4.46 percent and the 10-year yield was 4.84 percent, according to the Federal Reserve H.15 release of 6 November 2026. On 2 January 2026 the two yields were 3.47 and 4.19 percent, so both have risen by more than 0.6 percentage point this year.

How many central banks raised interest rates in 2026?

Of the 16 economies tracked here, 9 central banks raised their policy rate at least once between January and early November 2026: the Federal Reserve, ECB, Bank of England, Bank of Japan, Bank of Canada, Reserve Bank of Australia, Reserve Bank of India, Bank of Korea and South African Reserve Bank. Brazil, Turkey and Russia cut, while Switzerland and China left rates unchanged.

SOURCES

Federal Reserve Board: FOMC statement, 28 October 2026, with statements of 16 September, 29 July, 17 June, 29 April, 18 March and 28 January 2026.

Federal Reserve Board: Open market operations: changes in the target range for the federal funds rate, 2022 to 2026.

Federal Reserve Board: Summary of Economic Projections, 16 September 2026.

Federal Reserve Board: H.15 Selected Interest Rates, release of 6 November 2026 (daily values to 5 November 2026).

US Department of the Treasury: Daily Treasury par yield curve rates, January 2026.

Freddie Mac: Primary Mortgage Market Survey, weekly releases from 21 November 2024 to 5 November 2026.

European Central Bank: Key ECB interest rates, history to 16 September 2026; monetary policy decision of 29 October 2026.

Bank of England: Monetary Policy Summary and minutes, November 2026; official Bank Rate history.

Bank of Japan: Statements on monetary policy 2026, including the change in guideline of 18 September 2026 and the statement of 30 October 2026.

Bank of Canada: Policy interest rate announcement, 28 October 2026, and 2026 announcement schedule.

Reserve Bank of Australia: Cash rate target history to 4 November 2026.

Swiss National Bank: Summary of the monetary policy discussion, assessment of 24 September 2026.

People Bank of China: Announcements on the loan prime rate, 2025 and 2026.

Reserve Bank of India: Monetary policy statement, 7 October 2026.

Bank Indonesia: Board of Governors meeting, 20 and 21 October 2026.

Bank of Korea: Monetary Policy Board decision, 22 October 2026.

Banco Central do Brasil: Copom decisions, 2026.

Banco de Mexico: Monetary policy announcement, 24 September 2026.

Central Bank of the Republic of Turkey: Monetary Policy Committee decisions, 2026.

Bank of Russia: Key rate decisions, 11 September and 23 October 2026.

South African Reserve Bank: Monetary Policy Committee statements, 28 May and 24 September 2026.

Bank for International Settlements: Central bank policy rate statistics, release of 5 November 2026 (instrument definitions).

Related reading

- Federal funds rate
- Federal funds rate level in the US
- Central banks
- Short-term interest rates worldwide
- 10-year government bond yields by country
- Global inflation
- Inflation topic overview
- Money topic overview

STATISTICS REPORT

Central Banks — Statistics & Facts 2026

Updated Mar 14, 2026 · businesstats.com/central-banks

3.625% FEDERAL RESERVE RATE 2026	**$31.4T** G10 COMBINED CB ASSETS	**$12.4T** GLOBAL FX RESERVES
175bps FED CUTS FROM 5.50% PEAK	**134** COUNTRIES EXPLORING CBDC	**1,037T** GOLD BOUGHT BY CBS 2024

Executive Summary

Central Banks in 2026 — $31.4 Trillion in Assets, Data-Dependent Easing, and the r-Star Question

Central banks occupy the commanding heights of the global financial system. As of March 2026, the combined balance sheets of the world's ten largest central banks have contracted from a pandemic-era peak of approximately **$43 trillion to an estimated $31.4 trillion** — reflecting the most aggressive quantitative tightening cycle in the post-Bretton Woods era. Yet even at this reduced scale, these institutions control a volume of assets larger than the GDP of the United States and China combined — a concentration of financial power that directly shapes global GDP growth rates in every major economy. The **5.24 billion** people on social media spend their attention on platforms; the **8 billion** people in the global economy live inside a monetary framework set by fewer than 100 central bankers meeting in rooms in Washington, Frankfurt, Tokyo, and London.

The year 2025–2026 marks a pivotal inflection in the post-pandemic monetary cycle. After hiking rates at a historically unprecedented pace between 2022 and 2024, the Federal Reserve, ECB, and Bank of England have entered a cautious, data-dependent easing phase. The Fed has moved from the peak of **5.25–5.50%** in mid-2023 to a target range of **3.50–3.75%** — 175 basis points of cumulative cuts. The ECB trimmed to **2.75%**, the BOE to **3.75%**. The Bank of Japan, having exited eight years of negative rates in March 2024, now holds a positive **0.75%** policy rate — the highest in three decades — after the 2024 Shunto wage negotiations delivered 5.28% wage growth, the highest since 1991. The defining phrase of every FOMC, ECB, and MPC press conference in 2026 is **"data-dependent"** — a deliberate departure from the forward guidance that characterized the zero-rate era. The broader macroeconomic context, including the United

States' $29 trillion GDP and its sensitivity to Fed rate decisions, adds further complexity to central banks' neutral rate calculations. If r-star (the neutral rate) has permanently risen to 2.5–3.0%, as many Fed economists now believe, rates will never return to the near-zero floors of 2009–2021. The era of "free money" is structurally over.

The world's central banks hold $31.4 trillion in assets and set policy rates for 8 billion people. The Federal Reserve, ECB, Bank of England, and Bank of Japan are in a cautious easing cycle in 2026, navigating the "last mile" from 3% to 2% inflation while monitoring labour markets, balance sheet reduction, and emerging CBDC deployments.

Fed Rate History

Federal Funds Rate — From Zero to 5.50% and Back Down to 3.625%

The Federal Reserve's rate history since 2018 encapsulates an extraordinary policy arc that mirrors the era's defining macro events: a 2019 "mid-cycle adjustment," the COVID-zero emergency of 2020, the inflationary surge of 2021–2022, the fastest hiking cycle in 40 years (525 basis points in 16 months), and now a cautious easing back toward neutral. The Fed hiked from 0.25% in March 2022 to **5.50% in July 2023** — the highest level since 2001 — before beginning a cutting cycle in September 2024. As of March 2026, rates stand at **3.50–3.75%**. Markets price 50–75 additional basis points of cuts by year-end 2026, contingent on PCE inflation remaining below 2.8% and unemployment staying below 4.5%.

Federal Reserve — Policy Rate History Federal Funds Rate 2018–2026 Key decision points · % · Effective Federal Funds Rate 3.625%Current Rate · Mar 2026 Historical Rate

Peak 5.50% → Now 3.625% · −175bps Source: Federal Reserve Board H.15 Statistical Release · March 2026 · Hover/tap bars to inspect

Policy Rates — All 12 Banks

Global Central Bank Policy Rates — March 2026 Complete Rankings

The global policy rate landscape in 2026 spans more than **1,300 basis points** — from Switzerland's 0.25% (CPI at 0.8%, comfortably below target) to Norway's 4.50% (services inflation still sticky from oil-sector wages). The Federal Reserve at 3.625%, ECB at 2.75%, and Bank of England at 3.75% form a broadly similar G3 easing corridor. The PBOC's 3.10% rate amid 0.5% CPI represents the outlier in the opposite direction: China faces genuine deflation risk from a property sector crisis that has depressed household

wealth since 2021, yet the PBOC's easing capacity is constrained by capital flow management and currency stability requirements.

Central Bank Policy Rates & Inflation Status — March 2026

Click column to sort

#	CENTRAL BANK	COUNTRY/ZONE	POLICY RATE	INFLATION	TARGET	STATUS
1	Federal Reserve	USA	3.50–3.75%	2.6% PCE	2.0% PCE	Near Target
2	European Central Bank	Eurozone	2.75%	2.3% HICP	2.0% HICP	Near Target
3	Bank of England	United Kingdom	3.75%	2.8% CPI	2.0% CPI	Slightly Above
4	Reserve Bank of India	India	6.25%	4.4% CPI	4.0% ±2%	Within Band
5	Reserve Bank of Australia	Australia	4.35%	2.4% CPI	2–3% CPI	On Target
6	Bank of Canada	Canada	3.25%	2.3% CPI	2.0% CPI	On Target
7	People's Bank of China	China	3.10%	0.5% CPI	~3.0%	Below Target
8	Bank of Japan	Japan	0.75%	2.9% CPI	2.0% CPI	Slightly Above
9	Swiss National Bank	Switzerland	0.25%	0.8% CPI	<2%	Comfortably Below
10	Norges Bank	Norway	4.50%	3.1% CPI	2.0% CPI	Above Target
11	Riksbank	Sweden	2.25%	1.9% CPI	2.0% CPI	On Target
12	Bank of Korea	South Korea	3.00%	2.2% CPI	2.0% CPI	On Target

Balance Sheet Comparison

Central Bank Balance Sheets — $31.4 Trillion and the World's Largest QT Programme

Perhaps the most dramatic transformation in central banking over the past two decades has been the explosion — and now partial deflation — of balance sheets. The combined G4 central bank balance sheets peaked at approximately **$28 trillion in 2022**, having grown from ~$4 trillion pre-2008 — a 7x expansion that remains one of the defining structural shifts in the modern global economy. Since then, the Fed has shed over **$2 trillion** via quantitative tightening at $60–80B/month; the ECB's PEPP reinvestments ended December 2024; the BOE is conducting active gilt sales. Yet the Bank of Japan remains the extraordinary

outlier: with assets at **128% of Japanese GDP** and roughly 50% of all outstanding JGBs on its balance sheet, Governor Ueda has pledged only "gradual and flexible" reduction, knowing that abrupt withdrawal could trigger severe JGB market dysfunction — the most consequential slow-motion central banking story of the 2020s.

Top 10 FX Reserve Holders — March 2026

$6.97TFederal Reserve Assets €6.4TECB Total Assets ¥757TBOJ (128% of GDP) £830BBank of England $6.1TPBOC China $692BRBI India BALANCE SHEET PEAK VS 2026 Central Bank Total Assets — 2022 Peak vs March 2026 USD equivalent trillions · QT reduction from peak shown · March 2026 BOJ converted at ¥150/USD. ECB converted at EUR/USD 1.08. Fed peak Apr 2022 ($8.97T). ECB peak Dec 2021 (€8.8T ≈ $9.50T). BOJ ongoing accumulation. PBOC broadly stable.

The transition from emergency monetary accommodation to sustainable normalization is the defining macro challenge of this decade. Balance sheets built over 15 years cannot be unwound in 15 months.

— BIS Annual Economic Report, 2025

The Federal Reserve, ECB, Bank of Japan, and Bank of England collectively govern monetary conditions for economies representing 55% of global GDP. Their 2026 policy stances — cautious easing in the West, first normalization in Japan — reflect the most consequential monetary divergence since the 2022 hiking cycle.

Inflation by Region

Global Inflation in 2026 — The "Last Mile" From 3% to 2%

All G7 economies experienced their worst inflation in 40 years — peaking between **8% and 11%** during 2022–2023, driven by pandemic supply disruptions, massive fiscal stimulus, and the energy shock from Russia's invasion of Ukraine. By early 2026, disinflation has substantially progressed, but the "last mile" from ~3% to 2% has proven stickier than initial progress suggested. Services inflation, driven by wages, is the universal bottleneck — and it declines only as labour market tightness eases. The distinction between "goods disinflation" and "services stickiness" is the defining monetary policy challenge of 2026.

United States · Federal ReservePCE 2.6% · Unemployment 4.2% · Soft LandingCore PCE falling steadily toward 2%. Labour market near equilibrium at estimated NAIRU (4.0–4.2%). Services inflation still ~3.8% but declining convincingly. Fed projects 50–75bps of additional cuts by year-end 2026. r-star estimate revised higher to 2.5–3.0% — meaning current policy is only modestly restrictive. Eurozone · ECBHICP 2.3% · Unemployment 5.9% · Near TargetNear headline target but services inflation (3.9%) stubbornly

sticky. Wide national divergence: Germany 3.4% vs Spain 11.6% unemployment. ECB projected to cut once more to ~2.25% by H2 2026. Weak German growth — Europe's largest economy — adds downside pressure to the easing timeline. United Kingdom · Bank of EnglandCPI 2.8% · Services 5.5% · Most Persistent G7Most persistent G7 inflation. Public sector wage settlements and regulated utility price resets anchor services stickiness at 5.5%. Wage growth at 5.5% is the primary BOE concern. Only one additional cut to 3.50% expected in 2026 — and only if wages cool below 5% in upcoming data. The UK labour market is the transmission mechanism for sticky inflation. Japan · Bank of JapanCPI 2.9% · Unemployment 2.5% · 30-Year Deflation OverAfter three decades of deflation, Japan is comfortably above 2%. Shunto 2024 wage growth of 5.28% — highest since 1991 — confirms the virtuous wage-price cycle. BOJ holds ¥757T in assets (128% GDP). One additional 25bps hike to 1.0% expected 2026 if 2025 Shunto again delivers 3.5%+ wage growth. China · PBOCCPI 0.5% · Property Crisis · Deflation RiskGenuine deflationary risk — the opposite problem from the rest of G20. Property sector collapse, manufacturing overcapacity, and weak household confidence suppress demand. PBOC has cut RRR and deployed special bond programmes but is constrained by capital flow management and currency stability requirements, limiting aggressive stimulus. India · Reserve Bank of IndiaCPI 4.4% · GDP Growth 6.8% · Best-in-Class EMTextbook soft landing. Hiked repo to 6.50% (2022–23) then cut to 6.25% (2025). CPI within 2–6% tolerance band. India growing at 6.8% — fastest major economy globally. The IMF has praised the RBI's policy calibration as best-in-class among emerging markets. FX reserves at $640B provide 11 months of import cover. India's rising

GDP per capita

reflects the structural growth story underpinning the RBI's confident monetary stance.

G4 Inflation History

G4 Inflation vs 2% Target — 2020 to Q1 2026

The inflation surge of 2021–2023 was the most severe across G7 nations in 40 years. The UK peaked at **11.1%** (October 2022); the Eurozone at **10.6%** (October 2022); and the US at **9.1% CPI** (June 2022). Japan's experience was unique — a late, moderate surge peaking at 4.3% in January 2023, driven by import cost pass-through rather than domestic demand. All four major economies have now returned close to their 2% targets, but the final descent from ~3% has been slower than the initial disinflation from double-digits.

G4 Inflation · 2020–2026 G4 CPI/HICP/PCE vs 2% Target — 2020 to 2026 Year-on-year % · Quarterly data · BLS, Eurostat, ONS, MIC Japan 11.1%UK CPI Peak · Oct 2022

UK: 11.1% Peak → 2.8% Now Sources: BLS · Eurostat · ONS · MIC Japan · BIS — Compiled March 2026

Central Bank Timeline

From the Gold Standard to Digital Money — 100 Years of Central Banking

Modern central banking traces from the Bank of England's 1694 founding to the Federal Reserve's 1913 creation to today's $31 trillion colossus of balance sheets, inflation mandates, and digital currency experiments. The past 25 years have been the most transformative in the institution's history.

1913Federal Reserve CreatedUS Federal Reserve Act signed. Created 12 regional Reserve Banks as lender of last resort after devastating bank panics of 1873, 1893, and 1907. The Fed took a decade to gain full operational authority over US monetary policy. 1944Bretton Woods System44 nations peg currencies to USD; USD pegged to gold at $35/oz. IMF and World Bank created. Defined the post-war monetary order for 27 years until Nixon's gold window closure (1971) ended the dollar-gold link. 1979Volcker Shock — Inflation ConqueredFed Chair Volcker raised rates to 20% to kill 14% inflation. Triggered the 1981–82 recession but broke the inflationary psychology. Established the Fed's inflation-fighting credibility for 40 years — the bedrock of modern central banking globally. 1990Inflation Targeting BornReserve Bank of New Zealand adopts the world's first explicit 2% inflation target. Framework spreads to Bank of England (1992), ECB (1998), and formally the Fed (2012). Now universal among G20 central banks — the defining institutional innovation of the era. 2008Global Financial Crisis — QE Era BeginsFed, BOE, ECB slash rates to zero. Fed's first QE: $600B in MBS purchases. Balance sheet expands 4x in 6 months. Zero-lower-bound era begins; G4 rates stay near zero for a full decade — creating the conditions for the 2021–2023 inflationary surge. 2012"Whatever It Takes"ECB President Draghi commits to unlimited sovereign bond purchases (OMT). One sentence ends the Eurozone sovereign debt crisis. Italian and Spanish yields collapse 200bps overnight. The most powerful seven words ever spoken by a central banker. 2020COVID Emergency — $8 Trillion InjectedG4 central banks inject $8T+ in 18 months. Fed, ECB, BOE, BOJ cut to zero/negative. Fed purchases corporate bonds for the first time in history. Global CB balance sheets reach $28T. Inflation seeds are planted. 2022Fastest Hiking Cycle in 40 YearsFed hikes 525bps in 16 months; ECB 450bps from -0.5% to 4.0%. UK CPI peaks at 11.1%, Eurozone 10.6%, US 9.1% — worst inflation in four decades. The largest synchronized global tightening cycle since the Volcker era. 2024Japan Exits Negative Rates After 8 YearsBOJ ends negative interest rate policy in March 2024; abandons Yield Curve Control. First rate hike in

17 years. Shunto 2024 wage growth of 5.28% — highest since 1991 — provides the justification. Japan's 30-year deflation battle is declared over. 2026Data-Dependent Easing EraFed at 3.625%, ECB 2.75%, BOE 3.75%, BOJ 0.75%. "Data-dependent" replaces "forward guidance." QT ongoing. CBDC pilots accelerate globally. r-star debate intensifies: neutral rate may be permanently higher at 2.5–3.0% — the era of free money is over.

Fed, ECB, BOJ, BOE Profiles

The Four Major Central Banks — Institution-by-Institution Analysis

The Federal Reserve, European Central Bank, Bank of Japan, and Bank of England collectively set monetary conditions for economies representing approximately **55% of global GDP**. Their policy decisions ripple through every currency, bond market, and equity market on the planet — affecting borrowing costs for governments, corporations, and individuals in 180+ countries through exchange rate and capital flow transmission channels.

Federal Reserve — $6.97T · Dual Mandate

Chairman Jerome Powell's "higher for longer" gave way to cuts from Sep 2024. The Fed now estimates r* at 2.5–3.0%, meaning 3.625% is only modestly restrictive. US unemployment at 4.2% near NAIRU. 150M+ digital wallet holders in the Fed's payments oversight. QT ongoing at ~$40B/month. No retail CBDC without Congressional authorization.

ECB — €6.4T · Price Stability Primary

President Lagarde navigated ECB from -0.5% to 4.0% peak (Sep 2023) and back to 2.75%. Services inflation at 3.9% is the primary concern. Digital euro project in "preparation phase" — targeting 2027–2028 launch with €3,000 per-person holding cap. Governing 20 eurozone nations with combined GDP of €15T.

Bank of Japan — ¥757T · 128% of GDP

World's most extreme balance sheet relative to GDP. NIRP ended March 2024; YCC abandoned July 2024. Rate now 0.75% — highest in Japan since 1993. Holds ~50% of all outstanding JGBs. Shunto 2024 wage growth of 5.28% validates normalization. One additional 25bps hike to 1.0% expected 2026 if wages stay above 3.5%.

Bank of England — £830B · Services Inflation

MPC cut from 5.25% peak to 3.75% through 2025–2026, but services CPI at 5.5% and wage growth at 5.5% make BOE the most cautious G4 easer. One additional cut to 3.50% expected 2026 — only if wages cool below 5%. Digital pound consultation: £10–20K per-person holding limit. Ongoing active gilt sales reducing £830B APF portfolio.

Key Risk · Balance Sheet The BOJ Holds 50% of All Japanese Government Bonds — Why Normalization Takes a Decade

QE is easy to expand; extraordinarily difficult to exit. The BOJ holds roughly 50% of all outstanding Japanese Government Bonds (¥757T in total assets, 128% of GDP). Abrupt balance sheet reduction could trigger JGB market dysfunction, a surge in Japanese government borrowing costs, and systemic risk to Japan's banking sector which holds substantial JGB portfolios. Governor Ueda has explicitly acknowledged this constraint. BOJ normalization will unfold over a decade, not years — the most consequential slow-motion central banking challenge of the 2020s, and a structural overhang on global bond markets.

FX Reserves & Gold

$12.4 Trillion in Global FX Reserves — and the Dollar's Slow Decline

Global FX reserves stood at approximately **$12.4 trillion** as of end-2025. The US Dollar remains dominant at **57.4%** of allocated global reserves — down from 71% in 2000 and 65.5% in 2016. The 2022 freezing of approximately **$300 billion** in Russian central bank dollar reserves demonstrated that USD assets can be immobilized by political decision — accelerating "de-dollarization at the margin" and driving demand for gold, RMB, and bilateral currency swaps. Meanwhile China's GDP faces deflationary headwinds as the PBOC struggles to stimulate domestic demand without triggering capital outflows. Central banks net purchased a record **1,037 tonnes of gold in 2024** — third consecutive year above 1,000 tonnes — with gold reaching **$3,100/oz** in early 2026, partly reflecting this structural demand shift.

FX Reserve Currency Composition — IMF COFER Q3 2025

FX RESERVE CURRENCY COMPOSITION 2025 Global Foreign Exchange Reserves by Currency Share of allocated reserves · Total ~$12.4T · IMF COFER Q3 2025

USD share down from 71% (2000) and 65.5% (2016). RMB grew from 0% (2016) to 2.8% (2025) — far below Beijing's internationalisation ambitions. Gold not included in currency composition but held as reserve asset.

CBDCs 2026

Central Bank Digital Currencies — 134 Countries, 3 Launched, Race Accelerating

Central Bank Digital Currencies (CBDCs) represent the most significant potential transformation of the monetary system since the gold standard's abandonment. As of early 2026: **134 countries** (98% of global GDP) are exploring CBDCs; **66 are in advanced pilot or development stage**; and three have fully launched. Unlike cryptocurrency — decentralized, volatile, speculative — a CBDC is a digital liability of the central bank itself, equivalent in legal tender status to banknotes. The geopolitical dimension is crucial: a non-dollar cross-border CBDC infrastructure (BIS mBridge, China e-CNY) is attractive to BRICS nations seeking alternatives to SWIFT-dependent USD settlements.

China e-CNY — ¥7 Trillion Transacted, 200M+ WalletsThe world's most advanced major CBDC. Over ¥7T (~$960B) in cumulative transactions across 26 pilot regions and 200M+ registered wallets. Features include "programmable money" with expiry dates and spending category restrictions. Adoption remains low vs. Alipay/WeChat Pay dominance — illustrating the challenge of displacing entrenched private payment infrastructure even with state backing. Parent company ByteDance's TikTok faces US ban; e-CNY faces no such regulatory threat and is advancing steadily. ECB Digital Euro — "Preparation Phase," 2027–2028 TargetIn "preparation phase" since November 2023. Privacy-preserving design committed. €3,000 per-person holding cap to prevent bank disintermediation. Legislation moving through European Parliament. ECB estimates 60% of eurozone citizens could benefit from improved cross-border payment access. The digital euro is designed to complement — not replace — physical cash and commercial bank deposits. Bank of England "Britcoin" — Consultation PhasePublished consultation proposing £10,000–£20,000 individual holding limit. Phased introduction to minimize systemic risk. No committed launch date; 2028 earliest technically feasible. Key unresolved debate: privacy protections vs. anti-money-laundering requirements in programmable digital cash. The Ofcom/FCA regulatory framework for the digital pound is still being designed. Federal Reserve — Congressional Opposition, No Retail CBDCThe Fed has explicitly stated it would not issue a retail CBDC without Congressional authorization. Multiple legislative bills propose explicit prohibition on a Fed retail CBDC. Political opposition spans both parties — libertarians oppose surveillance risk; some progressives oppose the displacement of commercial banks. The US is likely the last G7 nation to issue a retail CBDC, if ever. Wholesale CBDC for interbank settlement is a separate, less controversial track advancing independently at the Fed, NY Fed, and BIS. BIS mBridge — Cross-Border CBDC, Non-Dollar SettlementThe Bank for International Settlements' mBridge multi-CBDC

platform completed its minimum viable product phase in 2024. China, UAE, Saudi Arabia, and Hong Kong have participated in pilots. BIS estimates mBridge could reduce cross-border payment costs by 50% and settlement times from days to seconds. The geopolitical dimension is significant: a non-dollar cross-border payment infrastructure reduces dependence on SWIFT and creates an alternative settlement rail that BRICS-adjacent nations are actively exploring as a hedge against potential US sanctions.

2026–2027 Outlook

The Road to Neutral — Rate Forecasts, Risks, and the r-Star Question

The consensus view entering Q2 2026 is cautious optimism: inflation substantially subdued, growth modest but positive across G7, labour markets resilient. Financial stability risks — while present in non-bank finance and US commercial real estate (office vacancy 19.8%) — have not crystallized into systemic crises. Markets price approximately **50–75 basis points** of additional Fed cuts by year-end 2026, targeting 2.75–3.0%. The ECB cuts once or twice more to ~2.25%. The BOE cuts once to 3.50% if wages cool. The BOJ — the wild card — hikes once to 1.0% if 2025 Shunto delivers 3.5%+ again. The structural question: if r-star has permanently risen to 2.5–3.0%, the era of near-zero rates is over for a generation. The BIS warns that "the full effects of the 2022–2024 tightening cycle have not yet been fully felt" given the long and variable lags of monetary policy.

Central Banks 2026–2027 Projections Key Forecasts for Global Monetary Policy 2.75–3%Fed Year-End 2026 ~2.25%ECB Year-End 2026 3.50%BOE Year-End 2026 1.0%BOJ Year-End 2026 2.5–3%Estimated r* Neutral Rate ~$28TG4 Balance Sheets 2027

FAQ

Frequently Asked Questions — Central Banks 2026

3.50–3.75% as of March 2026 — 175bps below the July 2023 peak of 5.50%. Markets price 50–75bps of additional cuts by year-end 2026, targeting 2.75–3.0%, contingent on PCE inflation staying below 2.8% and unemployment below 4.5%.

The ECB's main refinancing rate (MRO) stands at **2.75%** in March 2026, down from its 4.50% peak in September 2023. The ECB is expected to cut once or twice more to approximately 2.25% by year-end 2026, contingent on services inflation declining from its current sticky 3.9%.

After three decades of deflation, Japan finally achieved sustained above-2% inflation. The catalyst was the 2024 Shunto wage negotiation delivering **5.28% wage growth** — highest since 1991 — confirming a genuine wage-price cycle. The BOJ ended NIRP in March 2024, abandoned YCC in July 2024, and raised its policy rate to 0.75% by early 2026. One additional hike to 1.0% is expected in 2026.

G4 central banks have shed approximately **$5.5 trillion** since the 2022 peak (~$43T → $31.4T). The Fed alone has reduced its balance sheet from $8.97T (April 2022) to $6.97T (March 2026) via QT at $60–80B/month. The ECB's balance sheet has declined from €8.8T to €6.4T. The BOJ remains the outlier — assets still at ¥757T (128% of GDP), declining only slowly.

Central banks net purchased **1,037 tonnes of gold in 2024** — third consecutive year above 1,000 tonnes. The primary driver is geopolitical: the 2022 freezing of ~$300B in Russian central bank dollar reserves demonstrated that USD assets can be immobilized by political decision. Emerging market central banks — China, India, Poland, Turkey — are diversifying into gold as an apolitical reserve asset. Gold has surpassed **$3,100/oz** in early 2026, partly reflecting this structural demand.

CBDCs are digital liabilities of central banks — like digital cash. **134 countries** are exploring them; 3 have fully launched (Bahamas Sand Dollar 2020, Nigeria eNaira 2021, Jamaica JAM-DEX 2022). China's e-CNY has processed ¥7T in cumulative transactions. The ECB targets 2027–2028 for a digital euro. The Federal Reserve won't issue a retail CBDC without Congressional authorization.

Data Sources & References

Primary: Federal Reserve H.4.1 (Balance Sheet), H.15 (Interest Rates), FOMC Statements 2024–2026

Primary: ECB Statistical Data Warehouse · ECB Monetary Policy Decisions · ECB Weekly Financial Statements

Primary: Bank of Japan Accounts · BOJ Monetary Policy Statements · BOJ Governor Press Conferences

Additional: IMF COFER Q3 2025 · IMF World Economic Outlook Jan 2026 · BIS Quarterly Review Dec 2025 · World Gold Council Annual Survey 2024 · Atlantic Council CBDC Tracker March 2026 · EBA Risk Dashboard Q3 2025 · FSB Annual Report 2025 · Reserve Bank of India · PBOC Monetary Policy Report

Data Note:

Policy rates as of March 14, 2026. Balance sheet figures in USD equivalent unless noted. Forward-looking projections are market consensus estimates subject to revision. Not investment advice. Central Banks 2026

Federal Reserve Rate ECB Interest Rate Bank of Japan Monetary Policy Statistics Interest Rates 2026 Quantitative Tightening CBDC 2026 FX Reserves Gold Reserves Central Banks

STATISTICS REPORT

Gold as an Investment: Prices, Demand, Central Bank Reserves and ETF Holdings to Q3 2026

Gold set a record of US$5,405 an ounce in January 2026 and then gave back part of the gain, averaging US$4,105 in October. This page brings together the price record from the LBMA benchmark, World Gold Council data on who buys gold and why, official reserve statistics from central banks and the IMF, gold ETF holdings, above-ground stocks and US Geological Survey figures on mine output.

Updated Nov 7, 2026 · businesstats.com/gold-as-an-investment-statistics-facts

$5,405 RECORD PRICE, JAN 2026	**$4,105** AVERAGE PRICE, OCT 2026	**5,002t** RECORD DEMAND, 2025
675t CENTRAL BANK BUYING, 9M 2026	**4,275t** GOLD ETF HOLDINGS, OCT 2026	**224,200t** ABOVE-GROUND STOCK, Q3 2026

Quick answer

Gold had two exceptional years in 2024 and 2025. The **LBMA gold price averaged US$3,431.5 an ounce in 2025, 44 percent more than in 2024**, and reached a record of US$5,405 in January 2026, according to the World Gold Council. It has since fallen back: the October 2026 monthly average was US$4,105, about 24 percent below the record. Demand hit a record 5,002.3 tonnes in 2025, worth US$555 billion, with investment of 2,175.3 tonnes and central bank purchases of 863.3 tonnes. In the first nine months of 2026 central banks added another 675 tonnes, and gold ETFs ended October 2026 with a record 4,275 tonnes.

PRICE IN 2026

From a record US$5,405 in January to an October average of US$4,105

The benchmark for wholesale gold is the **LBMA Gold Price**, set twice each London business day in US dollars per troy ounce and administered by ICE Benchmark Administration. Most official statistics, including World Gold Council demand values and World Bank commodity data, use the afternoon (PM) price. The World Bank publishes the monthly average of that price in its commodity price data, which is the series

charted below.

The past two years fall into two phases. From November 2024 to February 2026 the monthly average almost doubled, from US$2,651 to US$5,020. The World Gold Council records the all-time high of the benchmark at **US$5,405 in January 2026**, and a record quarterly average of US$4,872.9 in Q1 2026. After that the price drifted lower for most of the year, with a rebound in August, and the October 2026 average of US$4,105 was 18.2 percent below February. Even so, it was 1.2 percent above October 2025.

Gold Price, Monthly Average, November 2024 to October 2026 (US$ per troy ounce)

Interactive chart online: businesstats.com/gold-as-an-investment-statistics-facts

Peak and pullback: the monthly average rose 89 percent from November 2024 to February 2026, then fell 18.2 percent by October 2026.

QUARTER	AVERAGE PRICE	CHANGE ON A YEAR EARLIER
Q4 2024	2,663.4	not shown
Q2 2025	3,280.4	not shown
Q4 2025	4,135.2	+55%
Q1 2026	4,872.9 (record)	not shown
Q2 2026	4,506.3	+37%
Q3 2026	4,262	not shown

Source: World Gold Council, Gold Demand Trends Full Year 2025, Q1 2026, Q2 2026 and Q3 2026 (LBMA Gold Price PM averages). Year-on-year changes are those published by the World Gold Council; quarters without a published comparison in the reports used are marked not shown.

Why did the price fall back after January? The World Gold Council points to several forces in its Q3 2026 report. Futures markets priced in rate increases by the major central banks for the fourth quarter, long-run inflation expectations rose to a 19-year high, and in October US technology shares sold off while investors bought US Treasuries as a safe haven. For the interest rate side of that story, see our pages on interest rates worldwide and the 10-year US Treasury yield.

PRICE HISTORY

The annual average gold price has risen almost eightfold since 2005

Monthly data show the recent swing; annual averages show the long trend. The chart uses the LBMA gold price as compiled into annual averages by the Central Reserve Bank of Peru (BCRP), one of the few official bodies that publishes the full annual series openly. Its 2025 figure of US$3,441.58 is the average of monthly averages, which is why it differs slightly from the World Gold Council figure of US$3,431.5, an average of daily prices. The direction and size of every move are the same in both.

Between 2005 and 2025 the annual average rose from **US$445.47 to US$3,441.58**, a multiple of 7.7 and a compound rise of about 10.8 percent a year (BusinessStats calculation). The path was anything but smooth. The average rose every year from 2004 to 2012, fell for three years from 2013 to 2015, ending 30 percent below its 2012 level, then moved sideways until 2019. The rises since then came in two jumps: 27.1 percent in 2020, the year of the pandemic, and a combined 77 percent in 2024 and 2025.

Annual Average Gold Price, 2005 to 2025 (US$ per troy ounce)

Interactive chart online: businesstats.com/gold-as-an-investment-statistics-facts

A long climb with one long pause: the average rose 7.7 times from 2005 to 2025, but spent 2013 to 2019 below its 2012 level.

YEAR	AVERAGE PRICE	EVENT IN THE GOLD MARKET
2005	445.47	Start of the long rise
2008	871.61	Global financial crisis
2011	1,587.66	Euro area debt crisis
2012	1,668.06	Highest average until 2020
2015	1,159.91	Low point after three falling years
2020	1,769.72	Pandemic year, up 27.1 percent
2023	1,943.44	Record at the time
2024	2,387.98	Up 22.9 percent
2025	3,441.58	Up 44.1 percent, 53 record highs

Source: Central Reserve Bank of Peru, BCRPData, LBMA gold price annual averages; record count from World Gold Council, Gold Demand Trends Full Year 2025. Event descriptions are BusinessStats context.

ANNUAL PRICE CHANGES

The average price rose in 17 of the last 20 years

One simple way to see how gold has behaved as an investment is the change in its annual average price. This is not the same as a calendar year return, which runs from one year-end price to the next, but it removes the noise of single trading days and uses only official data. On this measure the price rose in 17 of the 20 years from 2006 to 2025 and fell in three, all of them in a row from 2013 to 2015.

Change in the Annual Average Gold Price, 2006 to 2025 (%)

Interactive chart online: businesstats.com/gold-as-an-investment-statistics-facts

2025 was the biggest jump in two decades: a 44.1 percent rise in the average, ahead of 35.7 percent in 2006 and 29.7 percent in 2011.

The pattern matters for anyone reading gold as a hedge. Gold rose strongly in 2008, when equities fell sharply, and again in 2020. But it also lost money in three consecutive years from 2013 to 2015, while stock markets were rising, and barely moved in 2021 and 2022 even as inflation rose sharply in many countries. Our page on global inflation gives the inflation side of that comparison. Gold pays no interest or dividend, so its return comes entirely from price changes, and periods of high real interest rates have historically been difficult for it.

DEMAND IN 2025

Record demand of 5,002.3 tonnes in 2025, led by investment

The World Gold Council (WGC) publishes the most widely used estimates of gold supply and demand in its quarterly Gold Demand Trends report, prepared with the consultancy Metals Focus. It splits demand into jewellery, technology, investment (bars and coins plus ETFs) and central banks, with a balancing item for over-the-counter trades and stock changes that cannot be observed directly.

In 2025 total demand, including over-the-counter trades, reached a record **5,002.3 tonnes**, worth US$555 billion. The most striking change was in the mix. **Investment demand rose 84 percent to 2,175.3 tonnes**,

the largest single use of gold that year, while jewellery fabrication fell 19 percent to 1,638.0 tonnes as higher prices priced out buyers. Central banks added 863.3 tonnes, down 21 percent but still far above the levels of the 2010s. Technology used 322.8 tonnes, of which 270.4 tonnes went into electronics.

Global Gold Demand by Sector, 2025 (tonnes)

Interactive chart online: businesstats.com/gold-as-an-investment-statistics-facts

Investment took the lead: bars, coins and ETFs together made up 43.5 percent of demand in 2025, against 32.7 percent for jewellery.

Gold Demand by Sector, 2024 vs 2025 (tonnes)

Interactive chart online: businesstats.com/gold-as-an-investment-statistics-facts

The ETF swing: a change of 804 tonnes in ETF demand explains most of the rise in investment between 2024 and 2025.

CATEGORY	2024	2025	CHANGE
Jewellery fabrication	2,026.6	1,638.0	-19%
Technology	326.2	322.8	-1%
Investment	1,185.4	2,175.3	+84%
of which bars and coins	1,188.3	1,374.1	+16%
of which ETFs	-2.9	801.2	n/a
Central banks	1,092.4	863.3	-21%
OTC and other	331.3	2.9	-99%
Total demand	4,961.9	5,002.3	+1%
Mine production	3,650.4	3,671.6 (record)	+1%
Recycled gold	1,365.3	1,404.3	+3%
LBMA price, average (US$/oz)	2,386.2	3,431.5	+44%

Source: World Gold Council, Gold Demand Trends Full Year 2025 executive summary. Total supply equals total demand by construction. Changes as published by the WGC.

Jewellery shows how price changes ripple through demand. Jewellery consumption fell 18 percent in volume in 2025 to 1,542.3 tonnes, yet spending rose 18 percent to a record US$172 billion, because each gram cost so much more. For the wider jewellery market, including diamonds and branded goods, see our jewelry market worldwide statistics.

DEMAND IN 2026

Central banks and ETFs carried demand in Q3 2026 as bar and coin buying slowed

Gold Demand Trends for the third quarter of 2026 was published on **3 November 2026**. Total demand was **1,369 tonnes, down 1 percent on Q3 2025**, while its value rose 22 percent to US$188 billion because the average price was higher. In the first half of 2026 demand had reached 2,522 tonnes, up 2 percent, with a record value of US$380 billion.

Q3 2026 in seven numbers

- **Central banks:** net purchases of 321 tonnes, up 42 percent on a year earlier and the highest quarter since Q4 2024. Year to date: 675 tonnes, up 6 percent.
- **Gold ETFs:** inflows of 211 tonnes after outflows in Q2, taking holdings to a record 4,256 tonnes at the end of September.
- **Bars and coins:** 268 tonnes, down 19 percent. China was the exception, up 7 percent.
- **OTC and other:** 143 tonnes, up from 101 tonnes a year earlier but below the first two quarters of 2026.
- **Jewellery:** 313 tonnes, down 17 percent and the weakest third quarter in the data series, though spending edged up to US$43 billion.
- **Technology:** 85 tonnes, up 3 percent and the highest since Q4 2021, with electronics up 5 percent to 72 tonnes on AI-related manufacturing.
- **Supply:** mine production rose 3 percent to a third quarter record of 1,071 tonnes, while recycling fell 8 percent to 314 tonnes.

Investment and Central Bank Gold Demand by Quarter, 2026 (tonnes)

Interactive chart online: businesstats.com/gold-as-an-investment-statistics-facts

A rotation through the year: bars and coins dominated Q1, OTC buying Q2, and central banks plus ETFs Q3.

CATEGORY	Q1 2026	Q2 2026	Q3 2026
Bars and coins	476.8	307.1	268
Gold ETFs	62.4	-44.8	211
Central banks	56.5	288.9	321
Jewellery consumption	294.2	278.2	313
Technology	81.6	80.4	85
OTC and other	243.7	327.1	143
Total demand	1,253.1	1,268.9	1,369
Mine production	901.3	965.6	1,071
Recycled gold	373.8	326.1	314
Average LBMA price (US$/oz)	4,872.9	4,506.3	4,262

Source: World Gold Council, Gold Demand Trends Q2 2026 executive summary (Q1 as revised, Q2) and Q3 2026 press release. Q3 values are rounded to whole tonnes as published. Totals include net producer hedging on the supply side, which is not shown.

Looking ahead, the WGC expects investment to finish 2026 around 200 tonnes above 2025, half the increase it forecast earlier in the year, and central bank demand to at least match the 2025 total. It expects mine output to reach a record for the full year while total supply dips slightly because recycling remains subdued. These are WGC estimates, not outcomes, and the council notes that central bank buying has tended to slow when prices rise fastest.

BARS AND COINS

Bar and coin buying reached 1,374.1 tonnes in 2025, led by China and India

Physical bars and coins are the most direct way for households to own gold. The WGC counts them in three groups: bars, official coins such as the American Eagle or Canadian Maple Leaf, and medals and imitation coins. In 2025 the total rose 16 percent to **1,374.1 tonnes**, worth US$154 billion. Bars made up 1,068.2 tonnes, up 24 percent, while official coins fell 15 percent to 170.5 tonnes and medals rose 8 percent to 135.4 tonnes. China rose 28 percent and India 17 percent, and together the two countries accounted for more than half of global bar and coin demand.

The early months of 2026 were even stronger. Bar and coin demand reached 476.8 tonnes in Q1 2026, the second highest quarter on record according to the WGC, before falling to 307.1 tonnes in Q2 and 268 tonnes in Q3 as prices eased. The WGC says that, even after a soft third quarter, bar and coin investment in the first nine months of 2026 was the strongest for that period since 2013.

What the bar and coin data do and do not show

- Figures measure net purchases by investors, so a fall can mean less buying or more selling back to dealers.
- Official coin sales by mints such as the US Mint are only part of the coin total. The US Mint publishes its bullion sales through an interactive report that we could not read reliably, so we do not quote it here.
- Value figures rise with the price even when tonnage falls, which is why 2025 set a value record with a tonnage increase of 16 percent.

GOLD ETFS

Gold ETFs hold a record 4,275 tonnes after a record US$89 billion of inflows in 2025

Exchange-traded funds backed by physical gold let investors own the metal through a brokerage account. The fund holds bars in a vault and issues shares against them. According to WGC data, global gold ETF holdings rose from **3,224 tonnes at the end of 2024 to 4,025 tonnes at the end of 2025**, after record inflows of US$89 billion. Assets under management roughly doubled to US$559 billion.

In 2026 flows turned more volatile. ETFs added 62.4 tonnes in Q1, lost 44.8 tonnes in Q2 and added 211 tonnes in Q3, a record US$31 billion. By **31 October 2026 holdings had reached 4,275 tonnes**, another

month-end record, with US$41 billion of net inflows in the year to date. Because the gold price fell in September and October, assets under management dropped to US$542 billion even as tonnage rose. For the biggest exchange-traded funds across all asset classes, see our ranking of the largest ETFs in the world.

Global Gold ETF Holdings, End-2024 to October 2026 (tonnes)

Interactive chart online: businesstats.com/gold-as-an-investment-statistics-facts

Up a third in 22 months: holdings rose by 1,051 tonnes, or 32.6 percent, between the end of 2024 and the end of October 2026.

North America dominated buying in 2025, with US$51 billion of inflows, about 57 percent of the global total, followed by Asia with US$25 billion and Europe with US$12 billion. The balance shifted in 2026. In Q3 2026 European funds took in US$14 billion and North American funds US$12 billion, and in October North America was the only region with outflows (US$512 million) while Europe added US$1.8 billion and Asia US$1.3 billion. By the end of October, Europe and Asia accounted for 44 and 45 percent of global net inflows for the year, and the United Kingdom was the largest single market for inflows, with China a close second.

Gold ETF Net Inflows by Region, 2025 (US$ billion)

Interactive chart online: businesstats.com/gold-as-an-investment-statistics-facts

US funds led 2025: North American funds took 57 percent of inflows, Asian funds 28 percent and European funds 13 percent.

REGION	2025	Q3 2026	OCTOBER 2026
North America	51	12	-0.5
Europe	12	14	1.8
Asia	25	4.9	1.3
Other	0.9	0.5	0.1
Global	89	31 (record quarter)	2.7

Source: World Gold Council, Gold ETF Flows: December 2025 and September 2026, and Goldhub ETF data as of 31 October 2026. Other in Q3 2026 was US$476 million and in October US$62 million; North America in October was minus US$512 million.

CENTRAL BANK BUYING

Central banks bought more than 1,000 tonnes a year from 2022 to 2024 and 863.3 tonnes in 2025

Central banks are the most important change in the gold market of the past decade. The European Central Bank notes that official purchases exceeded **1,000 tonnes a year from 2022 to 2024** before easing to around 850 tonnes in 2025; WGC data put 2024 at 1,092.4 tonnes and 2025 at 863.3 tonnes. Since 2022, the ECB says, China has bought more than 350 tonnes and Poland 320 tonnes. The ECB adds that survey evidence points to diversification and protection against geopolitical risk as the main reasons central banks hold gold. Our page on the distribution of global currency reserves shows the currency side of the same shift.

In 2026 buying resumed at a strong pace after a slow start. Net purchases were 56.5 tonnes in Q1 after revisions, 288.9 tonnes in Q2 and **321 tonnes in Q3**, for 675 tonnes in the first nine months. Part of each quarterly total is not reported by any named central bank and is estimated by the WGC. Among reported transactions, September 2026 was the strongest month of the year with 61 tonnes of net purchases, led by Poland and China, with Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Jordan, the Czech Republic and Bolivia also buying.

Reported Central Bank Gold Purchases and Sales, January to August 2026 (tonnes)

Interactive chart online: businesstats.com/gold-as-an-investment-statistics-facts

Poland and China lead, Russia and Turkey sell: Poland added 98 tonnes and China 80 tonnes, while Turkey cut its holdings by 82 tonnes, mostly in Q1.

Poland has been the most aggressive buyer. Its central bank held about 550 tonnes at the end of 2025, when it said it ranked 12th in the world, and set a target of 700 tonnes. By the end of August 2026 it held 648 tonnes. **China** reported 77.47 million fine troy ounces at the end of September 2026, or 2,409.6 tonnes, after adding 740,000 ounces in September, its largest monthly increase since September 2023 and its 23rd consecutive month of purchases. Even so, gold is only about 9 percent of the reserves of China, compared with about 79 percent for Kazakhstan and 90 percent for Uzbekistan, according to the WGC.

Russia sold 56 tonnes in the first eight months of 2026, leaving 2,271 tonnes.

Central banks expect to keep buying. In the WGC 2026 Central Bank Gold Reserves Survey, conducted between 5 February and 19 May 2026 among a record 76 central banks, **45 percent said they plan to increase their own gold reserves** over the next 12 months, also a record. 89 percent expect global central bank gold holdings to rise, 83 percent expect gold to make up a larger share of reserves in five years, and 74 percent expect the share of the US dollar to be lower. For the overall level of reserves behind these decisions, see our pages on the development of foreign exchange reserves worldwide and the world central banks.

LARGEST HOLDERS

The United States holds 8,133.5 tonnes, more than the next two countries combined

Official gold holdings are reported to the IMF in its International Financial Statistics and compiled monthly by the WGC. The chart below uses the latest figure published by each central bank or finance ministry, with the reporting date shown in the table. The ranking has been stable at the top for decades: the United States, Germany, Italy and France hold gold largely accumulated under the gold standard and Bretton Woods. The changes are further down, where China, India and Poland have added large amounts in recent years.

Ten Largest Official Gold Holders, Latest Reported (tonnes)

Interactive chart online: businesstats.com/gold-as-an-investment-statistics-facts

Concentrated at the top: the United States holds more gold than Germany and Italy together, and the top four hold about 16,370 tonnes.

RANK	HOLDER	TONNES	AS OF	DETAIL FROM THE SOURCE
1	United States	8,133.5	Monthly status report	261.5 million fine troy ounces; most is held by the US Mint at Fort Knox, Denver and West Point
2	Germany	3,350	31 Dec 2025	1,710 t in Frankfurt, 1,236 t in New York, 404 t in London; worth EUR 395.2 billion

3	Italy	2,452	Latest Bank of Italy data	44.9 percent held in Italy, 43.3 percent in the United States
4	France	2,437	2025 results, Apr 2026	129 t of non-standard bars in New York were sold and replaced in Europe in 2025
5	China	2,409.6	30 Sep 2026	77.47 million ounces; 23 consecutive months of purchases
6	Russia	2,271	31 Aug 2026	Net sales of 56 t in January to August 2026
7	Switzerland	1,040	31 Dec 2025	Unchanged; valuation gain of CHF 36.3 billion in 2025
8	India	880.5	31 Mar 2026	680.1 t held in India; gold 16.7 percent of reserves by value
9	Japan	846.0	30 Sep 2026	27.20 million ounces worth US$113.6 billion, 9.6 percent of reserves
10	Poland	648	31 Aug 2026	About 550 t at end-2025; target of 700 t

Sources: US Treasury; Deutsche Bundesbank; Bank of Italy; Banque de France; central bank of China; World Gold Council Central Bank Gold Statistics (August 2026, from IMF IFS); Swiss National Bank annual results; Reserve Bank of India Half Yearly Report on Management of Foreign Exchange Reserves (October 2025 to March 2026); Ministry of Finance Japan, official reserve assets; Narodowy Bank Polski. The Netherlands, next in line, holds more than 612 t (De Nederlandsche Bank, end-2025).

Location is part of the story. The Bundesbank keeps just over half its gold in Frankfurt, and De Nederlandsche Bank changed the split of its storage in 2026, now keeping about 32 percent of its gold at the Bank of England. India has been bringing gold home: by the end of March 2026, 680 of its 880.5 tonnes were held in India. For the wider reserve positions of these countries, see our table of currency reserves of selected countries.

GOLD VS OTHER ASSETS

Gold is now 27 percent of global official reserves, more than US Treasuries

Comparisons between gold and other assets are only meaningful when both sides come from a consistent, official or index source. Two such comparisons are available for 2025. The first is the composition of official reserves. In its June 2026 report on the international role of the euro, the European Central Bank found that **gold made up 27 percent of global official reserves at market prices at the end of 2025**, more than the euro (15 percent) or US Treasuries (22 percent). The ECB stresses that this is mostly a valuation

effect: at end-2023 gold prices, the share of gold would be 16 percent, level with the euro, and US Treasuries would still be clearly larger at 26 percent.

ASSET	SHARE AT MARKET PRICES	SHARE AT END-2023 GOLD PRICE
Gold	27	16
US Treasuries	22	26
Euro	15	16

Source: European Central Bank, The international role of the euro, June 2026 (published 2 June 2026). Shares of total official reserves, foreign exchange plus gold.

The second is the price performance against a broad equity index. The ECB states that the gold price surged by around 60 percent in 2025 and around 30 percent in 2024. Over the same calendar year 2025, the MSCI World Index of developed market shares returned 21.60 percent in US dollars with gross dividends reinvested, according to MSCI. The MSCI figure includes reinvested dividends while gold earns no income, so this compares a total return with a price change, and it covers only one exceptional year. Our page on the MSCI World Index since 1969 shows how much those returns vary from year to year, and the crypto market statistics cover the asset most often compared with gold as an alternative store of value.

Why gold behaves differently from other assets

- **No cash flow:** gold pays no interest, dividend or rent. Its value depends on what the next buyer will pay, which is why real interest rates matter so much for it.
- **No credit risk:** physical gold is not a liability of any issuer, which is the main reason central banks hold it.
- **Large and liquid:** the WGC estimates trading in the global gold market at an average of US$361 billion a day in 2025, and gold ETF trading at about US$7 billion a day.
- **Costs:** owning bars or coins involves dealer premiums, storage and insurance; ETFs charge annual fees. These costs are not included in any price series on this page.

ABOVE-GROUND STOCKS

About 224,200 tonnes of gold exist above ground, worth about US$30.0 trillion

Almost all gold ever mined still exists, because gold does not corrode and is too valuable to throw away. The WGC estimates **above-ground stocks at about 224,200 tonnes at the end of Q3 2026**, worth about US$30.0 trillion at the end-September LBMA price. All of it would form a cube about 22.6 metres on each side. About two thirds of the total has been mined since 1950, which shows how much faster production has become in the modern era.

Who Holds the Gold Above Ground, End-Q3 2026 (tonnes)

Interactive chart online: businesstats.com/gold-as-an-investment-statistics-facts

Mostly jewellery: 44 percent of above-ground gold is jewellery, while investment holdings (bars, coins, ETFs, OTC and central banks) total about 101,700 tonnes.

CATEGORY	TONNES (ABOUT)	SHARE	VALUE (US$ TRILLION, ABOUT)
Jewellery	98,700	44%	13.5
Bars and coins	48,100	21%	6.5
Central banks	39,300	18%	5.5
Other	23,800	11%	3.0
OTC	10,000	4%	1.5
Gold ETFs	4,300	2%	0.5
Total	224,200	100%	30.0

Source: World Gold Council, above-ground stocks data, end-Q3 2026. Values use the LBMA Gold Price PM at the end of the period. Shares and values are rounded by the WGC.

Below ground, the WGC estimates reserves that can be mined economically at about 61,000 tonnes, while the US Geological Survey puts them at 66,000 tonnes. At the 2025 production rate of the USGS, current reserves would last about 20 years, though reserves grow when higher prices make more deposits worth

mining. For a comparison with another finite resource, see the leading countries by oil reserves.

MINING AND SUPPLY

Mines produce about 3,300 tonnes a year, and China is the largest producer

New gold comes from two sources: mines and recycling. The US Geological Survey estimates **world mine production at 3,300 tonnes in 2025**, up from 3,280 tonnes in 2024. China, Russia, Australia, Canada and the United States together produced 41 percent of the total. The WGC, which uses Metals Focus data and a broader definition, reports record mine production of 3,671.6 tonnes in 2025 and a record third quarter in 2026 at 1,071 tonnes.

Gold Mine Production by Country, 2025 Estimate (tonnes)

Interactive chart online: businesstats.com/gold-as-an-investment-statistics-facts

No single dominant producer: China leads with about 11.5 percent of world output, and the top ten together produce about 60 percent.

Supply responds slowly to price. A new mine takes many years to develop, so higher prices show up first in recycling, as owners sell old jewellery. That link has weakened recently: recycled gold rose only 3 percent in 2025 to 1,404.3 tonnes despite the 44 percent rise in the average price, and it fell 8 percent in Q3 2026 to 314 tonnes, its lowest since Q4 2023. In the United States, the USGS estimates mine output of 160 tonnes in 2025, worth about US$17 billion, and notes that heavy unreported investor purchases made it impossible to calculate net import reliance for the year.

METHODOLOGY

How this page was built and what the data can and cannot show

Data notes

- **Prices:** monthly averages come from World Bank commodity price data (London afternoon fixing, average of daily rates). Annual averages from 2005 come from the LBMA series published by the Central Reserve Bank of Peru. Quarterly averages, the 2023 to 2025 annual averages based on daily prices and the January 2026 record come from World Gold Council reports.

- **Demand and supply:** World Gold Council Gold Demand Trends, based on Metals Focus data. The WGC revises earlier quarters; this page uses the latest published figure for each period, and notes the July 2026 revision of Q1 2026 central bank buying from 244 to 57 tonnes.
- **Reserves:** holdings come from the latest release of each central bank or finance ministry, or from WGC statistics based on IMF International Financial Statistics. Dates differ by country and are shown in the table.
- **Calculations:** annual price changes, multiples, compound growth rates, shares and ounce to tonne conversions (32,150.7 troy ounces per tonne) are BusinessStats calculations from the published figures.
- **Not included:** forecasts of future prices, US Mint coin sales (published only through an interactive report), regional ETF holdings in tonnes and daily closing prices, because we could not verify them at the primary source. Nothing on this page is investment advice.

Readers comparing this page with other sources should check three things: whether a price is a daily, monthly or annual figure; whether a return is measured between averages or between year-end prices; and whether demand totals include the over-the-counter balancing item. Most differences between published gold statistics come from one of those three. For broader context on markets, see our financial markets statistics.

KEY FACTS

Gold as an investment in eight numbers

$5,405
Record LBMA gold price
January 2026, WGC.

$4,105
Average price, October 2026
World Bank, London PM.

5,002.3t
Total demand, 2025
Record; worth US$555 billion.

2,175.3t
Investment demand, 2025
Up 84 percent on 2024.

675t
Central bank buying
January to September 2026.

4,275t
Gold ETF holdings
Record, 31 October 2026.

8,133.5t

US official gold

Largest holder in the world.

27%

Gold share of reserves

At market prices, end-2025, ECB.

FAQ

Questions about gold as an investment

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the price of gold now?

The gold price averaged US$4,105 per troy ounce in October 2026, according to World Bank monthly data based on the London afternoon (LBMA PM) price. That is 18.2 percent below the February 2026 monthly average of US$5,020 and 1.2 percent above October 2025. The World Gold Council puts the Q3 2026 average at US$4,262 per ounce.

What is the highest price gold has ever reached?

The World Gold Council reports a record LBMA price of US$5,405 per ounce, set in January 2026. The first quarter of 2026 also set a record quarterly average of US$4,872.9 per ounce. Gold set 53 all-time highs during 2025.

How much did the gold price rise in 2025?

The annual average LBMA gold price was US$3,431.5 per ounce in 2025, up 44 percent from US$2,386.2 in 2024, according to the World Gold Council. Measured from the start to the end of the year, the European Central Bank says the gold price surged by around 60 percent in 2025, after around 30 percent in 2024.

How much gold do central banks buy?

Central banks and other official institutions bought a net 863.3 tonnes in 2025 and 1,092.4 tonnes in 2024, World Gold Council data show. In the first nine months of 2026 they added 675 tonnes, including 321 tonnes in the third quarter, the highest quarter since Q4 2024.

Which country has the largest gold reserves?

The United States. The US Treasury reports 261.5 million fine troy ounces, which is 8,133.5 tonnes. Germany is second with about 3,350 tonnes at the end of 2025, followed by Italy (2,452 tonnes) and France (2,437 tonnes).

How much gold is held in gold ETFs?

Physically backed gold ETFs held a record 4,275 tonnes at the end of October 2026, worth US$542 billion, according to the World Gold Council. Holdings were 4,025 tonnes at the end of 2025 and 3,224 tonnes at the end of 2024. Investors added a record US$89 billion to gold ETFs in 2025.

How much gold exists in the world?

The World Gold Council estimates above-ground stocks at about 224,200 tonnes at the end of Q3 2026, worth about US$30.0 trillion. Jewellery accounts for 44 percent, bars and coins for 21 percent and central banks for 18 percent. About two thirds of all gold ever mined has been produced since 1950.

How much gold is mined each year?

The US Geological Survey estimates world mine production at 3,300 tonnes in 2025, up from 3,280 tonnes in 2024, with China the largest producer at about 380 tonnes. The World Gold Council, which uses a different method, reports record mine production of 3,671.6 tonnes in 2025.

What share of central bank reserves is gold?

Gold made up 27 percent of global official reserves at market prices at the end of 2025, according to the European Central Bank. That was more than the share of the euro (15 percent) and of US Treasuries (22 percent), largely because of the rise in the gold price.

SOURCES

World Gold Council: Gold Demand Trends Q3 2026 press release, 3 November 2026 (Q3 2026 demand, supply, central banks, ETFs, average price).

World Gold Council: Gold Demand Trends Q2 2026 executive summary (Q1 2026 as revised and Q2 2026 tables).

World Gold Council: Gold Demand Trends Q1 2026 executive summary and July 2026 erratum (record price of US$5,405, Q1 2026 average).

World Gold Council: Gold Demand Trends Full Year 2023 press release (2023 average price of US$1,940.54).

World Gold Council: Gold Demand Trends Full Year 2025 executive summary (2024 and 2025 supply and demand, annual average price, 53 record highs).

World Gold Council: Gold Demand Trends Q3 2026 outlook section (2026 expectations, data as of 23 October 2026).

World Gold Council: Global gold-backed ETF holdings and flows, data as of 31 October 2026; Gold ETF Flows reports for September 2026 and December 2025.

World Gold Council: Central Bank Gold Statistics, August 2026 (country purchases and holdings, based on IMF IFS), and September 2026 update.

World Gold Council: Central Bank Gold Reserves Survey 2026, 16 June 2026.

World Gold Council: Above-ground stocks, end-Q3 2026.

World Bank: Commodity Price Data (Pink Sheet), gold monthly averages, November 2024 to October 2026.

Central Reserve Bank of Peru: BCRPData series PM05570XA, LBMA gold price annual averages, 2003 to 2025.

US Geological Survey: Mineral Commodity Summaries 2026, gold (world mine production and reserves, US data).

European Central Bank: The international role of the euro, June 2026 (gold share of official reserves, central bank purchases, gold price change in 2024 and 2025).

US Department of the Treasury: Status Report of US Government Gold Reserve (261,498,926 fine troy ounces).

Deutsche Bundesbank: Die Bundesbank in Zahlen (gold holdings and storage, 31 December 2025).

Bank of Italy: Riserve in oro (2,452 tonnes and custody locations).

Banque de France: 2025 results (2,437 tonnes of gold).

Swiss National Bank: Annual results 2025, press release of 2 March 2026.

Reserve Bank of India: Half Yearly Report on Management of Foreign Exchange Reserves, October 2025 to March 2026.

Ministry of Finance Japan: International reserves, end of September 2026.

De Nederlandsche Bank: Gold holdings and storage locations, end-2025.

Central bank of China (PBoC): Official reserve assets, end of September 2026 (gold of 77.47 million fine troy ounces).

Narodowy Bank Polski: Statement on gold reserves and the 700 tonne target, 20 January 2026.

MSCI Inc.: MSCI World Index (USD) factsheet, gross returns, 30 October 2026 (2025 return).

Related reading

- iShares ETF statistics
- Global stock markets by country
- Monthly inflation rate in the United States
- Largest ETF providers in the US
- Bitcoin mining revenue statistics
- Biggest companies by market value

STATISTICS REPORT

Digital banks statistics & facts 2026

Updated May 12, 2026 · businesstats.com/digital-challenger-banks

500M+ GLOBAL NEOBANK CUSTOMERS	**$210B** MARKET SIZE 2025	**110M+** NUBANK — #1 BY USERS
76% STILL UNPROFITABLE	**$75B** REVOLUT VALUATION	**$13.2B** VC FUNDING 2025

Digital Banking Market Overview 2026

Digital Banks — Statistics & Facts 2026

Digital banks — also called neobanks or challenger banks — are purely digital financial institutions that operate exclusively online without physical branch networks. They leverage mobile apps, cloud infrastructure, AI, and open banking APIs to deliver banking services at lower cost and with superior user experience compared to legacy banks. As of 2026, the global neobanking market is valued at approximately **$210 billion**, with over **500 million customers across 80+ countries**. The market is projected to reach **$310 billion in 2026**. The neobanking industry attracted **$13.2 billion in global venture funding in 2025** alone. Despite explosive growth, the industry faces a persistent challenge: **76% of neobanks remain unprofitable** — with average revenue per user of just $45, compared to $350 at traditional retail banks. The broader financial market context is covered in our US financial markets analysis .

Top Neobanks — Global Users 2025-26 Leading Digital Banks by Customer Count — 2025-2026 (Million Users) TechBullion · CoinLaw.io · ElectroIQ · Mordor Intelligence · Company Reports · BusinessStats Research · April 2026 110M+Nubank — #1 Globally

Sources: Nubank Q1 2025 Investor Relations · Mordor Intelligence (January 2026) · TechBullion (April 2026) · CoinLaw.io · ElectroIQ · BusinessStats Research · April 2026

Top Digital Banks — Full Data 2025-26

#	NEOBANK	HQ	CUSTOMERS	REVENUE	VALUATION	PROFITABILITY	KEY MARKET

1	Nubank	Brazil	110M+	~$2.5B	~$30B	Profitable	LatAm (Brazil, Mexico, Colombia)
2	Revolut	UK	45M+	$2.1B (2025)	$75B	£790M profit (2024)	Europe, 35+ countries
3	Chime	USA	22M+	~$2.4B	~$25B	Not profitable	USA (leads US neobanks)
4	Monzo	UK	12M	~£800M	~$5B	£113.9M profit (2025)	UK, global expansion
5	Starling Bank	UK	~4M	~£700M	~$3B	Profitable since 2021	UK SME focus
6	N26	Germany	9M active	~€300M	~$9B	Not profitable	Europe (Germany, France, Spain)
7	Wise	UK	~12M	~£1.1B	$11.5B (listed)	Profitable	160 countries · FX focus
8	WeBank	China	~350M	~$2B+	~$30B	Profitable	China (Tencent-backed)
9	Varo Bank	USA	~7M	~$400M	~$2.5B	Not profitable	USA (underserved consumers)
10	Atom Bank	UK	~250K	~£180M	~$500M	Profitable	UK (mortgages, savings)

Global Users & Adoption

500M+ Global Neobank Customers — 350M Unique Users by 2026

Digital banks have achieved mass-market adoption at extraordinary speed. From just **146 million users in 2021**, the neobank ecosystem grew to **210 million in 2022** and is expected to reach **350 million unique users by 2026**. Note that total "customers" (500M+) is higher than unique users because some individuals hold accounts at multiple neobanks. **Europe leads by region with 80+ million users**, followed by Latin America (dominated by Nubank's 110M+), and a rapidly growing Asia-Pacific. In the United States, neobank Chime leads the market with over 22 million customers. **60% of consumers now prefer digital financial services**, and US neobank adoption is growing at a **34.6% CAGR through 2026**. App downloads hit an unprecedented 1.2 billion in a single year. WeBank in China serves approximately 350 million customers — though by the wider definition of digital banking that includes tech-company-backed platforms. The social

media context driving neobank discovery and adoption is in our social media statistics.

- **Global customers 2025:** 500M+ across 80+ countries (includes multi-account holders)
- **Unique neobank users 2026E:** 350M (Electroiq) — up from 146M (2021) and 210M (2022)
- **App downloads:** 1.2B neobank app downloads in a single year — unprecedented adoption rate
- **US neobank CAGR:** 34.6% through 2026 — fastest among all developed markets
- **Europe:** 80M+ neobank users — world's largest region by mature neobank customer base
- **India:** ~67% of Indian respondents use neobank services — fastest-growing developing market
- **Digital preference:** 60% of consumers globally prefer digital financial services over branch-based banking
- **Niche neobanks:** Eco-conscious and crypto-linked neobanks grew 20% in user count in 2025

Revenue & Profitability

$30B+ Collective Revenue — But 76% of Neobanks Still Unprofitable in 2025

The neobanking industry generated over **$30–40 billion in collective revenue in 2023-2025**. However, the industry's greatest challenge remains profitability. As of 2025, **76% of neobanks remain unprofitable** — primarily due to high customer acquisition costs, low product depth per customer, and a structural ARPU gap. According to a 2025 Accenture study, the average neobank generates just **$45 in annual revenue per user (ARPU), compared to $350 at traditional retail banks** — a 7.8 times gap. The root cause: most neobank customers use them as secondary accounts for everyday spending while keeping savings, mortgages, and investments at traditional banks. Only the industry leaders have cracked profitability: **Revolut (£790M net profit, 2024), Monzo (£113.9M pre-tax, 2025), and Starling Bank (profitable since 2021)**. BCG identified three viable profitability paths: premium subscriptions (Revolut's approach), lending-led revenue (Nubank), and interchange-heavy spending models (Chime). The broader banking revenue context is in our investment banking revenue analysis.

Neobanking Market — Regional Share 2025 Global Neobanking Market — Share by Region 2025 (~$210B Total) Fortune Business Insights · Grand View Research · Mordor Intelligence · BusinessStats Research · April 2026

Neobank Revenue & Profitability Snapshot — 2025

METRIC	NEOBANKS	TRADITIONAL BANKS	GAP / NOTES
Avg. Revenue Per User (ARPU)	$45/year	$350/year	7.8x gap — core profitability challenge
% Profitable (industry-wide)	~24%	~85%+	Only leading neobanks break even
Customer Acquisition Cost (CAC)	$25-$50	$150-300	Lower CAC but also lower LTV
Avg. Monthly Transaction Value (consumer)	$1,200	$2,500+	Neobank = primary spending, not savings
SME Monthly Transaction Value	$16,200	$22,000+	SME accounts most profitable neobank segment
Revolut Net Profit (2024)	£790M	N/A	2nd consecutive profitable year · 2025: $180M+
Monzo Pre-Tax Profit (2025)	£113.9M	N/A	Profitable since 2023 · 12M customers
Global VC Funding (2025)	$13.2B	N/A	Continued investor confidence despite losses

Regional Breakdown

Europe Leads (37%), Asia-Pacific Grows Fastest (51% CAGR) — Regional Neobanking Data

Global Neobanking Market Size — 2021 to 2030E Global Digital Banking Market Size — 2021 to 2030E (USD Billion) Fortune Business Insights · Grand View Research · Mordor Intelligence · BusinessStats Research · April 2026

$210B (2025) → $310B (2026E) → $9.4T (2033E) Source: Fortune Business Insights Neobanking Market Report 2025 · Grand View Research · Mordor Intelligence (January 2026) · BusinessStats Research Estimates · April 2026

Europe dominates the neobanking market with approximately **37% global market share ($78B in 2025)**, projected to reach $113B in 2026. Europe's lead reflects its advanced regulatory framework (PSD2, Open Banking), early fintech adoption, and the strength of Revolut, Monzo, Starling, N26, and Wise. The UK alone has seen over half of all bank branches close since 2015 — the most dramatic structural shift to digital banking of any major economy. **North America** is the second-largest market, growing at **34.6% CAGR**

through 2026, driven by Chime's dominance and a tech-forward millennial consumer base. **Latin America** is the most concentrated region — Nubank alone commands **32% of the LatAm neobank market**, driven by Brazil's large underbanked population and Nubank's pioneering transparency. **Asia-Pacific** is the fastest-growing region at a projected **51.8% CAGR through 2031**, with China (WeBank, Ant Group), India (UPI ecosystem), and Southeast Asia all driving extraordinary adoption. The AI transformation driving neobank efficiency is covered in our AI in finance report.

Neobanking Market — Regional Data 2025-26

REGION	MARKET SHARE 2025	MARKET SIZE 2025	GROWTH RATE	KEY PLAYERS	NOTES
Europe	37.20%	~$78B	~35% CAGR	Revolut · Monzo · Starling · N26 · Wise	Most mature neobank ecosystem · PSD2/Open Banking driven
North America	~25%	~$52B	34.6% CAGR	Chime · Varo · Current · Dave · SoFi	4,000+ US branches closed 2025 · millennial-driven
Latin America	~18%	~$38B	~45% CAGR	Nubank (32% LatAm share) · Mercado Pago	Nubank 110M+ users · Brazil/Mexico/Colombia
Asia-Pacific	~15%	~$32B	51.8% CAGR	WeBank · Ant Group · Paytm · Fi (India)	Fastest growing · India 67% neobank penetration
Middle East & Africa	~5%	~$10B	~40% CAGR	Kuda (Nigeria) · TymeBank (SA) · Ziina	Financial inclusion focus · mobile-first populations

Top Neobank Profiles

Revolut, Nubank, Chime, Monzo — The Four Defining Digital Banks of 2026

Revolut — $75B Valuation, 45M+ Users, Global Super-App

Revolut is the world's most valuable private fintech company, raising $2 billion at a **$75 billion valuation in 2025-26**. Founded in 2015 in London, Revolut generated **$2.1 billion in revenue in 2025** and **£790 million in net profit in 2024** — its second consecutive profitable year. Revolut serves **45+ million customers in 35+ countries**, offering a comprehensive financial super-app that includes currency exchange, stock trading, crypto, travel insurance, premium subscriptions, business accounts, and now mortgages (Lithuania, Ireland, France, with Spain expected in 2026). Revolut is aggressively targeting the US market — the world's largest banking economy — with high-yield savings accounts and an AI-powered financial

assistant (launched gradually in 2025). Revenue split: premium subscriptions, interchange fees, currency conversion, and financial services. Revolut's UK banking licence (obtained 2024) gives it full deposit protection rights and the ability to offer credit products in its home market. The UK financial context is in our UK banks analysis.

Nubank — 110M+ Users, Brazil's Banking Revolution

Nubank is the world's largest digital bank by customer count — surpassing **110 million customers in 2025** across Brazil, Mexico, and Colombia. Nubank dominated Latin America with approximately **32% of the LatAm neobank market**. The company completed a **$864 million public offering in May 2025** and went public on the NYSE in 2021. Nubank's extraordinary success reflects Brazil's specific market conditions: a large, underbanked population historically exploited by oligopolistic traditional banks with high fees and poor service. Nubank's transparent pricing, zero-fee accounts, and instant credit decisions via AI disrupted the Brazilian banking market structurally. Nubank's path to profitability used a lending-led model — its credit card and personal loan offerings generate the revenue that sustains its banking operations. The Latin American economic context driving Nubank's growth is covered in our global GDP analysis.

Chime — 22M+ US Customers, Leads North American Neobanks

Chime is the leading neobank in the United States with over **22 million customers** and approximately **40% share of the US neobank market**. Chime's revenue model is interchange-heavy — it earns primarily from debit card transaction fees. Transaction value grew **30% to $1.43 trillion in 2023-24**. Chime launched **Instant Loans in March 2025** — three-month installment loans up to $500 with fixed rates and no credit checks — expanding into higher-margin products to improve ARPU. Chime's core appeal is simplicity: no hidden fees, early direct deposit (up to 2 days early), automatic savings, and a clean mobile interface. Despite leading on users, Chime remains unprofitable — customer acquisition costs in the competitive US market and its interchange-first revenue model limit margins. The US retail economy driving Chime's payment volume is covered in our retail market analysis.

Monzo — 12M UK Customers, £113.9M Profit, Expanding Globally

Monzo is the UK's most prominent digital bank, reaching **12 million customers globally in 2025** and recording a **pre-tax profit of £113.9 million** — its second consecutive profitable year after turning profitable in 2023. Monzo's path to profitability combined premium subscription tiers (Monzo Plus, Monzo Premium) with expanding lending, business accounts, and investments. Monzo recorded a **45% increase in its user base in 2025**, concentrating on budgeting tools and financial management features that 72% of neobank

users say are better than traditional banks. Monzo raised additional capital in late 2024 following a period of strategic investment. Starling Bank, Monzo's primary UK competitor, has been consistently profitable since 2021 and serves approximately 4 million customers, focusing on SME banking — a high-ARPU segment where Starling earns approximately £700M+ in revenue.

User Demographics

78% Millennials & Gen Z — Digital Banks' Core Customer Base

Digital banks have a strikingly young user base, reflecting both deliberate product positioning and the reality that younger consumers have no attachment to legacy banking relationships. **Millennials and Gen Z make up 78% of the global neobank user base in 2025**. Over **62% of neobank users are aged 18 to 35**. This demographic doesn't merely tolerate digital banking — they expect it as the baseline, rejecting physical branches, hidden fees, and slow processes. Unlike previous generations who built decade-long relationships with legacy banks, Gen Z is establishing first financial accounts with neobanks — creating **loyalty patterns that could last 50+ years**. Women represent **48% of neobank users worldwide** — a substantially closed gender gap compared to traditional banking. **35% of neobank users identify freelancing or gig work as their primary income source** — reflecting neobanks' appeal to non-traditional workers who face friction with legacy bank income verification requirements. The digital content platform context driving Gen Z's financial choices is in our Instagram statistics.

Top Neobanks — Revenue 2025 (USD/GBP) Leading Digital Banks by Annual Revenue — 2025 TechBullion · CoinLaw.io · ElectroIQ · Company Reports · BusinessStats Research Estimates · April 2026

Neobank User Demographics — 2025 Global Survey Data

DEMOGRAPHIC METRIC	NEOBANK USERS	SOURCE / NOTES
Millennials + Gen Z (18-40)	78% of users	CoinLaw.io 2025 · Dominant user demographic globally
Users aged 18-35	62% of users	Core target: mobile-native, fee-sensitive consumers
Women as % of users	48%	Near gender parity — unusual for financial services
Gig/freelance workers	35% of users	Non-traditional income earners prefer neobanks' flexibility
Users preferring neobank budgeting tools	72%	Over traditional bank tools — key retention driver
Digital banking preference (all consumers)	60%	Prefer digital financial services over branch-based
Users with e-commerce as primary use	45%	Avg transaction $185 for e-commerce · growing segment

International remittance users	+33% growth	Avg transaction $1,120 · growing 33% YoY in 2025
Users age 18-24	10.6%	Gen Z segment — fastest growing user cohort
SME digital banking monthly spend	$16,200/month	Highest ARPU segment · key growth target for all neobanks

Digital Banks vs Traditional Banks

Digital Banks vs Traditional Banks — 4,000 US Branches Closed in 2025 Alone

The competitive pressure from digital banks is forcing a structural reconsidering of the traditional retail banking model. **More than 4,000 US bank branches closed in 2025 alone**, according to S&P Global Market Intelligence data. In the UK, **more than half of all bank branches have closed since 2015**. The branch network that once provided traditional banks' primary competitive advantage is becoming a cost liability as digital adoption accelerates. **40% of global banks plan collaborations with neobanks in 2025** to strengthen their digital capabilities — acknowledging that building these capabilities in-house is slower and more expensive than partnering. Tech giants are also entering: Amazon Lending and Apple Card (issued by Goldman Sachs) are significant competitors to both neobanks and traditional banks. The Amazon context is in our Amazon statistics.

Neobanks vs Traditional Banks — Key Metrics Digital Banks vs Traditional Banks — Revenue Per User & Cost Comparison 2025 Accenture 2025 Neobank Revenue Models Study · S&P Global · BusinessStats Research · April 2026 7.8xTraditional ARPU Advantage

Source: Accenture 2025 Study on Neobank Revenue Models · S&P Global Market Intelligence · BusinessStats Research · April 2026

Digital Banks vs Traditional Banks — Head-to-Head Comparison 2025

FEATURE	DIGITAL BANKS (NEOBANKS)	TRADITIONAL BANKS
Branch Network	None — 100% digital	Costly physical branches (declining)
Monthly Account Fees	Often $0 (freemium model)	$5-$15/month typical
Account Opening Time	Minutes (via smartphone)	Days-weeks (in-person/documents)
Avg. Revenue Per User (ARPU)	$45/year	$350/year
Customer Acquisition Cost	$25-$50	$150-$300

Operating Cost Per Account	~$50-$100/year	~$250-$400/year
International Transfer Fees	Near-zero (Wise, Revolut)	$25-$45 per wire
AI / Personalization	70% offer AI predictive insights	Limited (legacy systems)
Deposit Insurance	Varies (FDIC-insured in US · UK FSCS)	Fully insured (FDIC/FSCS)
Mortgage / Loan Products	Limited (Revolut, Nubank expanding)	Full product suite
Trust & Reputation	Still building (less than 5% breakeven)	Established (centuries of history)
Profitability (industry-wide)	~24% profitable	~85%+ profitable

Key Insight — The $45 vs $350 ARPU Problem Neobanks Earn 7.8x Less Per Customer Than Traditional Banks — And That Is the Industry's Core Challenge

The average neobank earns just **$45 per user per year**. The average traditional retail bank earns **$350 per user per year** — 7.8 times more. This gap exists because most neobank customers treat them as secondary accounts: the neobank gets the everyday spending card, but the traditional bank gets the savings account, mortgage, and investment portfolio — the high-margin products. To survive long-term, neobanks must close this gap. Three proven models exist: **Revolut's subscription model** (premium tiers at £9.99/month for Revolut Metal), **Nubank's lending model** (credit cards and personal loans generate the margin), and **Chime's scale model** (so many interchange transactions that even small margins compound). The neobanks that fail to move up the product stack — from free current accounts to mortgages, investments, and business banking — will face consolidation pressure as compliance costs rise and customer acquisition slows. The AI transformation helping neobanks bridge this gap cost-efficiently is in our AI in finance report.

Key Statistics

Digital Banks — Key Statistics & Facts 2026

500M+Global Digital Bank CustomersAcross 80+ countries. 350M unique users by 2026 (Electroiq). Up from 146M (2021). 1.2B app downloads in one year. 60% of consumers prefer digital financial services. US CAGR: 34.6% through 2026. Europe leads: 80M+ users. $210BNeobanking Market Size 2025Fortune Business Insights consensus estimate. Growing to $310B (2026E). Long-term: $9.4T by 2033 (Grand View Research) at 61.9% CAGR. Europe: 37.2% share ($78B). Asia-Pacific fastest growing at 51.8% CAGR. $13.2B VC funding raised in 2025. 76%Neobanks Still Unprofitable — 2025Only 24% profitable despite

explosive growth. ARPU: $45 neobank vs $350 traditional bank. Only 18% projected to break even. Exceptions: Revolut (£790M net profit 2024), Monzo (£113.9M profit 2025), Starling (profitable since 2021), Nubank, Wise, Atom Bank. $75BRevolut Valuation — 2025-26Raising $2B at $75B valuation — world's most valuable private fintech. Revenue $2.1B (2025). Net profit £790M (2024). 45M+ customers, 35+ countries. UK banking licence obtained 2024. Launching mortgages in Europe. AI assistant rolling out 2025. 110M+Nubank Customers — #1 GloballyWorld's largest digital bank by customer count. Brazil-based. 32% LatAm neobank market share. $864M public offering (May 2025). NYSE listed. Profitable via lending-led model (credit cards + personal loans). Serves Brazil, Mexico, Colombia. 4,000+US Bank Branches Closed — 2025More than 4,000 US bank branches closed in 2025 alone (S&P Global). UK: 50%+ of all branches closed since 2015. 40% of global banks plan neobank collaborations in 2025. Traditional banks investing billions in digital upgrades. Chime leads US with 22M+ customers. 78%Millennials & Gen Z of Neobank Users62% of neobank users aged 18-35. 35% identify as gig/freelance workers. Women: 48% of users (near gender parity). 72% say neobanks have better budgeting tools. Gen Z establishing first financial accounts with neobanks — creating 50-year loyalty patterns. $45Neobank ARPU vs $350 TraditionalAverage annual revenue per user: $45 neobank vs $350 traditional (Accenture 2025). 7.8x gap. Root cause: neobanks get spending card, traditional banks keep savings/mortgages. SMEs: $16,200/month transaction volume (highest ARPU neobank segment). Three viable paths: subscriptions, lending, interchange scale.

Key Trends 2025–2026

7 Defining Digital Banking Trends — AI, Super-Apps, Consolidation & Embedded Finance

1. AI Integration Becomes Standard: 70% of neobanks now offer AI-powered predictive financial insights on their apps. Revolut launched an AI financial assistant in 2025, adapting to customer needs and guiding financial decisions. Machine learning raised fraud detection accuracy by **40%** and improved user retention by **25%** through personalization. **65% of neobanks run entirely on cloud infrastructure**, enabling rapid AI deployment at scale. **50% use Open Banking APIs** for third-party integrations. The AI context is fully covered in our AI in finance report.

2. Super-App Expansion: Leading neobanks are shedding their single-purpose origins to become comprehensive financial ecosystems. Revolut now offers banking, stock trading, crypto, insurance, mortgages, and is pursuing phone plans in some markets. Nubank is expanding credit products. Chime launched Instant Loans. This super-app model aims to increase ARPU from $45 toward $200+ by capturing

a greater share of customers' total financial wallet.

3. Profitability Over Growth: The narrative has definitively shifted from user growth to profitability. Investors in 2025 are asking about ARPU, lifetime value (LTV), and path to profitability — not just monthly active users. Revolut's £790M profit, Monzo's £113.9M profit, and Nubank's public market performance have demonstrated that the neobank model can generate sustainable returns. This shift is forcing weaker neobanks to either find a profitable niche or face consolidation.

4. Niche Neobanks Growing: Eco-conscious neobanks (Tomorrow, Aspiration), crypto-linked banks, teen banking platforms, and immigrant-serving neobanks (like DNERO, launched March 2026 for US-Mexico corridor) grew by **20%** in 2025. These specialized players often achieve better unit economics because their niche community has higher engagement and trust.

5. Embedded Finance: Neobanks are embedding financial services into non-financial platforms. Revolut's "Banking-as-a-Service" model allows other businesses to embed banking functionality. The global payments market reached **$3.12 trillion in 2025**, projected to reach $5.34 trillion by 2030, with mobile-first transactions fuelling growth. The digital commerce context is in our YouTube statistics — platforms like YouTube increasingly offer creator-focused financial tools.

6. Traditional Bank Response: 40% of global traditional banks plan collaborations with neobanks in 2025. JPMorgan Chase launched Chase UK as a digital bank. Goldman Sachs built Marcus. HSBC and Lloyds are investing heavily in digital capabilities. The competitive response from incumbents is significant — they have balance sheets, customer trust, and regulatory standing that neobanks lack. The UK traditional banking context is in our UK banks analysis.

7. Regulatory Tightening: Europe's Digital Operational Resilience Act (DORA) standardizes operational risk controls for digital banks from January 2025. Higher compliance costs are expected to accelerate consolidation among smaller neobanks. N26 completed its conversion to a European Company (Societas Europaea) in January 2025 to align with pan-European regulatory goals. Basel III Endgame frameworks may further increase compliance requirements.

Forecast 2026–2030E

Digital Banking Market Forecast — $310B in 2026, $9.4T by 2033

The global neobanking market is expected to grow from **$210 billion in 2025 to $310 billion in 2026** — and potentially to **$9.4 trillion by 2033** (Grand View Research, 61.9% CAGR). While the long-term projections

vary widely by analyst — some use transaction volume (Mordor: $7.38T in 2025) and some use revenue/valuation metrics — the direction is unambiguous: digital banking is replacing traditional banking as the primary financial services model globally. Key growth drivers for 2026-2030: continued smartphone adoption, AI-powered personalization improving retention and ARPU, neobank geographic expansion into underserved markets, embedded finance integration, and traditional bank branch network collapse creating service gaps that only digital banks can fill efficiently. **Asia-Pacific at 51.8% CAGR** will likely overtake Europe as the world's largest neobank region by 2028. The wealth management and investment market context is in our US wealth analysis.

- **2026E market:** $310B (Fortune Business Insights) — +48% from 2025's $210B
- **2033E market:** $9.4T (Grand View Research, 61.9% CAGR) — reflecting transaction volume growth
- **Asia-Pacific 2031E:** 51.8% CAGR — fastest regional growth; expected to lead global market by user count by 2028
- **Profitability trend:** Profitable share expected to grow from 24% (2025) to 40%+ by 2028 as weak players exit
- **ARPU convergence:** Leading neobanks targeting $150+ ARPU through super-app expansion and lending
- **Consolidation wave:** 200+ smaller neobanks expected to merge or exit 2026-2028 as compliance costs rise
- **Revolut 2026:** US market push + Spain mortgage launch + AI assistant maturation
- **India growth:** UPI-integrated neobanks targeting 600M+ smartphone users with government backing

FAQ

Frequently Asked Questions — Digital Banks Statistics 2026

Digital banks serve over **500 million customers across 80+ countries** as of 2025-2026. Unique neobank users are expected to reach **350 million by 2026**. The largest neobank is Nubank (110M+), followed by Revolut (45M+), WeBank China (~350M under a broader definition), Chime (22M+ US), Monzo (12M). Europe leads with 80M+ users. India's 67% neobank penetration rate is the highest of any major market.

The global neobanking market was valued at approximately **$210 billion in 2025** (Fortune Business Insights consensus), projected to reach **$310-322 billion in 2026**. Long-term: Grand View Research projects $9.4 trillion by 2033 at 61.9% CAGR, reflecting the inclusion of transaction volumes. Collective neobank revenue

exceeded **$30-40 billion in 2025**. The market attracted **$13.2 billion in VC funding in 2025**.

Yes. Revolut reported **£790 million in net profit for 2024** — its second consecutive profitable year. In 2025, Revolut generated **$2.1 billion in annual revenue and $180 million in profit**. Revolut is raising $2 billion at a **$75 billion valuation** in 2025-26, making it the world's most valuable private fintech. It operates in 35+ countries with 45M+ customers across banking, trading, crypto, insurance, and mortgages.

No — **76% of neobanks remain unprofitable in 2025**. Only 18% are projected to break even. The core challenge: neobank ARPU of $45/year vs $350 at traditional banks. Profitable exceptions: **Revolut (£790M net profit 2024), Monzo (£113.9M profit 2025), Starling Bank (since 2021), Nubank, Wise, and Atom Bank**. BCG identifies three viable paths: premium subscriptions, lending-led revenue, and interchange scale.

Chime has over **22 million customers** in the United States, making it the leading neobank in the US with approximately 40% of the US neobank market share. Chime completed a **$864 million public offering in May 2025**. Transaction value grew 30% to $1.43 trillion. Chime launched Instant Loans in March 2025. Despite leading on users, Chime remains unprofitable — its interchange-first model generates relatively low ARPU.

According to Accenture's 2025 study, the average neobank generates **$45 in annual ARPU** compared to **$350 at traditional retail banks** — a 7.8x gap. This exists because most neobank customers use them as secondary accounts for everyday spending, while keeping savings, mortgages, and investments at traditional banks. To close this gap, leading neobanks are expanding into mortgages (Revolut), lending (Nubank, Chime), and premium subscriptions (Revolut Metal at £12.99/month).

By penetration rate: **India leads with approximately 67% of respondents currently using neobank services**. Brazil has the highest individual neobank concentration (Nubank 110M+ in a population of 215M). The UK has seen over **50% of all branches close since 2015** — the most dramatic branch decline of any major economy. As a region, Europe leads with 37% global neobanking market share and 80M+ users. Asia-Pacific is the fastest growing.

In the United States, **more than 4,000 bank branches closed in 2025 alone** (S&P Global Market Intelligence). In the UK, **more than half of all bank branches have closed since 2015**. This accelerating closure trend creates service voids in local communities, particularly for elderly and rural populations — while simultaneously pushing younger, digital-native consumers toward neobanks. Branch networks are now primarily a cost liability for traditional banks rather than a competitive advantage.

The four principal challenges for digital banks in 2025-2026: (1) **Profitability** — 76% unprofitable; $45 ARPU vs $350 for traditional banks; (2) **Trust and security** — neobanks face fraud at higher rates than traditional banks; (3) **Regulatory compliance** — DORA in Europe, banking licence requirements, AML/KYC costs rising; (4) **Customer acquisition cost** — while lower than traditional banks ($25-50 vs $150-300), CAC is still significant relative to the $45 ARPU. Scale is the solution to all four — larger neobanks can spread compliance and acquisition costs over more customers.

Nubank holds approximately **32% of the Latin American neobanking market** — the highest concentration of any major neobank in its home region. With 110M+ customers, Nubank is the world's largest digital bank by customer count. In Brazil specifically, Nubank serves approximately 51% of the adult population. Globally, Nubank is expanding through Mexico and Colombia. The company went public on the NYSE in 2021 and completed a $864M public offering in May 2025.

Digital banking in 2026-2030 will be shaped by: (1) **AI super-apps** — neobanks evolving from single products to full financial operating systems; (2) **Profitability consolidation** — weaker neobanks merging or exiting; (3) **Geographic expansion** — Revolut targeting US, Nubank expanding LatAm, neobanks entering Africa and Southeast Asia; (4) **Embedded finance** — banking services embedded into non-financial platforms; (5) **Traditional bank response** — JPMorgan Chase UK, Goldman Marcus, HSBC digital investments; (6) **Asia-Pacific dominance** — projected 51.8% CAGR making APAC the world's largest neobank region by 2028.

Monzo generates revenue through: (1) **Premium subscriptions** — Monzo Plus (~£5/month) and Monzo Premium (~£15/month) offering travel insurance, higher cashback, and exclusive features; (2) **Lending** — overdrafts, personal loans, and Monzo Flex buy-now-pay-later; (3) **Business accounts** — Monzo Business (Pro and Lite) for SMEs, which generate higher ARPU; (4) **Interchange fees** — per-transaction fees from card payments. Monzo turned profitable in 2023 and recorded £113.9M pre-tax profit in 2025 across 12 million customers.

The neobank industry attracted **$13.2 billion in global venture funding in 2025** — demonstrating continued investor confidence despite widespread unprofitability. Revolut is raising $2B at $75B valuation. Chime completed a $864M public offering in May 2025. Monzo raised capital in late 2024. Nubank is publicly listed (NYSE). Global fintech funding surged 21% to $53 billion in 2025, with neobanking a major beneficiary. The investor shift is from pure growth metrics to profitability timelines.

Data Sources & References

Primary: TechBullion (April 2026) — Digital Banks Profitability Transition: Revolut £790M net profit (2024), Monzo £113.9M profit (2025), Starling profitable since 2021, 4,000+ US branch closures in 2025

Primary: CoinLaw.io — Neobank Industry Statistics 2025: Revolut $2.1B revenue, Chime $4.8B combined, 76% unprofitable, $13.2B VC funding, ARPU data, demographics

Primary: Fortune Business Insights — Neobanking Market Report 2025: $210.16B market size 2025, $310.15B 2026E, Europe 37.20% share, CAGR 49.30%

Primary: Mordor Intelligence (January 2026) — Global Neobanking Market: Nubank 110M+ users ($864M offering May 2025), Asia-Pacific 51.80% CAGR, Europe 35.96% share

Supporting: MEXC (March 2026) — Rise of Neobanks: $45 ARPU vs $350 traditional (Accenture 2025), Chime 22M users, 60% consumers prefer digital, $150B valuation (Grand View)

Supporting: ElectroIQ — Neobank Statistics: 146M (2021) to 210M (2022) to 350M (2026E), 70% AI predictive insights, 65% cloud, Cash App 16% global share

Market size figures vary significantly by source due to different definitions: some analysts measure transaction/deposit volume ($7.38T — Mordor), others measure revenue ($30-40B) or enterprise valuation ($150-210B). BusinessStats Research uses the $210B consensus figure (Fortune Business Insights) as the most widely cited revenue/valuation-based metric for 2025. User counts represent total customers (including multi-account holders) unless specified as "unique users." All company revenue figures from official filings or analyst estimates as noted. 2026E projections are estimates. This article does not constitute financial or investment advice.

STATISTICS REPORT

Bank of America Corp total equity 2021–2026

Updated May 12, 2026 · businesstats.com/bank-of-america-corp-total-equity

$303.2B TOTAL EQUITY 2025	**$270.1B** TOTAL EQUITY 2021	**+12.3%** GROWTH 2021–2025
$38.66 BOOK VALUE/SHARE Q1 2026	**16%** ROTCE — Q1 2026	**$30.5B** NET INCOME 2025

Total Equity 2021–2025 — Official

Total equity of Bank of America Corp from 2021 to 2026

Bank of America's total shareholders' equity has grown consistently from 2021 to 2025, reflecting sustained profitability and strong capital management. The largest single-year jump was **2022→2023 at +6.75%** ($291.65B), driven by higher retained earnings as net income grew and AOCI (Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income) losses began stabilizing following the 2022 rate shock. Total equity reached **$303.24 billion in 2025** — the highest in the bank's history. The global financial market context driving BAC's performance is covered in our US financial markets analysis.

2021 $270.1B Base Year Yahoo Finance · Official 2022 $273.2B +1.16% MacroTrends · Official 2023 $291.6B +6.75% MacroTrends · Official 2024 $295.6B +1.34% Yahoo Finance · Official 2025 $303.2B +2.59% Yahoo Finance · Official 2026E ~$315B +~4% BS Research Estimate

Total Equity — Annual 2021–2026E Bank of America Corp — Total Shareholders' Equity 2021 to 2026E (USD Billion) Yahoo Finance · MacroTrends · BAC Annual Reports · Q1 2026 Earnings (April 2026) · BusinessStats Research $303.2B2025 — Official

Source: Yahoo Finance Balance Sheet · MacroTrends BAC Shareholder Equity · BAC Annual Reports 2021–2025 · BusinessStats Research · April 2026

Common vs Preferred Equity Breakdown

Bank of America Equity Breakdown — Common, Preferred & Total (2021–2025)

Total shareholders' equity consists of two components: **common shareholders' equity** (retained earnings + paid-in capital + AOCI) and **preferred stock equity**. Common equity has grown from **$244.80 billion (2022)** to **$277.25 billion (2025)** — a +13.3% increase. Preferred equity has decreased from **$28.40 billion (2022–2023)** to **$25.99 billion (2025)** as Bank of America redeemed some preferred share series. Common equity is the key metric for shareholders and is used to calculate book value per share and ROTCE. The broader capital context is in our UK banks analysis for comparison with European bank equity structures.

BAC Equity Breakdown — Annual 2021–2025 (USD Billion)

YEAR	TOTAL EQUITY	COMMON EQUITY	PREFERRED EQUITY	YOY CHANGE	NET INCOME	BOOK VALUE/SHARE	STATUS
2021	$270.07B	~$241.7B	~$28.4B	Base Year	$32.0B	~$30.00	Official
2022	$273.20B	$244.80B	$28.40B	+1.16%	$27.5B	~$30.60	Official
2023	$291.65B	$263.25B	$28.40B	+6.75%	$26.3B	~$33.08	Official
2024	$295.56B	$270.80B	$23.16B	+1.34%	$27.0B	~$34.88	Official
2025	$303.24B	$277.25B	$25.99B	+2.59%	$30.5B	~$35.10	Official
Q1 2026	~$307B*	~$281B*	~$26B*	+~1.3%	$8.6B	$38.66	Official Apr 2026

* Q1 2026 total equity estimated — book value per share of $38.66 is official from BAC Q1 2026 earnings release. ~7.94B diluted shares × $38.66 ≈ $307B common equity estimate.

Common vs Preferred Equity — 2021–2025 Bank of America — Common vs Preferred Shareholders' Equity 2021–2025 (USD Billion) Yahoo Finance · BAC Annual Reports · BusinessStats Research · April 2026 $277BCommon Equity 2025

Common Shareholders' Equity Preferred Stock Equity Source: Yahoo Finance · MacroTrends · BAC 10-K Annual Reports 2021–2025 · BusinessStats Research · April 2026

Book Value Per Share

Book Value Per Share — $30.00 (2021) to $38.66 (Q1 2026) — +28.9% Growth

Book value per share (BVPS) is the most direct measure of shareholder equity on a per-share basis — total common equity divided by shares outstanding. Bank of America's book value per share grew from approximately **$30.00 in 2021** to **$38.66 in Q1 2026** — a **+28.9% increase over 5 years**. This growth reflects both rising retained earnings and share buybacks reducing the share count. **Tangible book value per share (TBV)** in Q1 2026 was **$28.84** — also up 7% year-on-year. TBV strips out goodwill and intangibles, giving a more conservative measure of the bank's net worth. Both BVPS and TBV grew 7% YoY in Q1 2026 — a sign that equity is growing faster than new shares are being issued. Bank of America's market cap context and how it compares globally is covered in our global company valuations analysis.

Book Value Per Share — 2021 to Q1 2026 Bank of America Book Value Per Share (BVPS) and Tangible Book Value (TBV) — 2021 to Q1 2026 BAC Earnings Releases · Yahoo Finance · MacroTrends · BusinessStats Research · April 2026

Q1 2026: BVPS $38.66 · TBV $28.84 (+7% YoY) Source: Bank of America Earnings Releases 2021–Q1 2026 · Yahoo Finance · BusinessStats Research · April 2026

Net Income & Return on Equity

Net Income $32B→$27B→$30.5B — ROTCE 16% in Q1 2026

Net income directly drives equity growth through retained earnings. Bank of America's net income history: **2021 $32.0B** (strong post-COVID recovery) → **2022 $27.5B** (-14%, impacted by AOCI losses from rate hikes) → **2023 $26.3B** (-4.4%) → **2024 $27.0B** (+2.7%) → **2025 $30.5B** (+12.9%). Q1 2026 net income was **$8.6 billion — up 17% year-on-year**, the highest Q1 net income in years, driven by 9% NII growth, 30% equities trading growth, and fee income expansion. Return on tangible common equity (ROTCE) reached **16% in Q1 2026** — within the company's medium-term guidance of **16–18%**. The bank's consumer spending data and economic context is covered in our US wealth and spending analysis.

Net Income by Year — Bank of America 2021–2025 Bank of America Net Income — 2021 to 2025 (USD Billion) Bank of America Investor Relations · BAC 10-K · BusinessStats Research · April 2026

- **2021 $32.0B:** Strong post-pandemic recovery · Low loan losses · Strong investment banking fees
- **2022 $27.5B (-14%):** AOCI losses from Fed rate hikes suppressed equity · NII starting to rise but transition year

- **2023 $26.3B (-4%):** Higher credit provisions · Net interest income growth partially offset by higher expenses
- **2024 $27.0B (+2.7%):** NII recovery · Fee income growth · Efficiency improvements beginning
- **2025 $30.5B (+12.9%):** Full NII recovery · Record fee income · Lower credit losses · Equities trading surge
- **Q1 2026 $8.6B (+17%):** Highest Q1 net income in years · EPS $1.11 — highest in almost 2 decades

Key Insight — AOCI: The Hidden Equity Story Why BAC Equity Barely Grew in 2022 Despite $27.5B Net Income

In 2022, Bank of America earned **$27.5 billion** in net income — yet total equity only grew **$3.1 billion** (+1.16%). The explanation: **AOCI (Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income)**. The Federal Reserve's aggressive 525 basis point rate hiking cycle in 2022 caused the mark-to-market value of BAC's massive held-to-maturity and available-for-sale securities portfolio to plunge — creating unrealized losses of over **$100+ billion** that flowed through AOCI and reduced equity without appearing in the income statement. This was Bank of America's biggest structural weakness in 2022–2023. As rates stabilized and partially declined in 2024–2025, AOCI losses reversed — which is why equity grew **+6.75% in 2023** as retained earnings compounded with recovering AOCI. By 2025, the AOCI headwind had substantially normalized, allowing equity growth to reflect underlying earnings power more accurately. The broader interest rate environment and its impact on US banks is tracked in our investment banking revenue analysis.

Q1 2026 — Latest Official Results

Q1 2026: $8.6B Net Income (+17%), EPS $1.11 — Best in Nearly 20 Years

Bank of America's Q1 2026 results (reported April 15, 2026) were strong across all metrics. Net income rose **17% to $8.6 billion**. EPS of **$1.11** (+25% YoY) was the bank's highest earnings per share in almost two decades. Revenue climbed **7.2% to $30.43 billion**. Net interest income grew **9% to $15.9 billion**. Equities trading revenue jumped **30% to $2.83 billion** — the bank's best trading quarter in 15 years. Book value per share was **$38.66 (+7% YoY)**. Tangible book value per share was **$28.84 (+7%)**. ROTCE reached **16%** — within the 16–18% guidance range. The bank returned **$9.3 billion to shareholders** — $7.2 billion in buybacks and $2.0 billion in dividends. Full-year 2026 NII growth guidance was raised to **6–8%**. Average deposits Q1 2026: **$2.017 trillion**. The economic context driving BAC's consumer business is covered in our US demographic data.

- **Net income Q1 2026:** $8.6B (+17% YoY vs $7.4B in Q1 2025)
- **EPS Q1 2026:** $1.11 (+25% YoY) — highest EPS in almost 20 years
- **Revenue Q1 2026:** $30.43B (+7.2%) — beat analyst estimate of $29.93B
- **Net interest income:** $15.9B (+9% YoY) — driven by loan/deposit growth and fixed rate asset repricing
- **Equities trading:** $2.83B (+30%) — best trading quarter in 15 years
- **Book value per share:** $38.66 (+7% YoY); Tangible BV: $28.84 (+7%)
- **ROTCE:** 16% — +200 basis points YoY; within 16–18% medium-term guidance
- **Capital returns:** $9.3B returned — $7.2B buybacks + $2.0B dividends
- **CET1 ratio:** 11.2% (down 14bps) — above regulatory minimum, $200B+ CET1 capital
- **NII guidance raised:** Full-year 2026 NII growth +6–8% (up from prior guidance)

Peer Comparison

Bank of America vs JPMorgan, Wells Fargo & Citigroup — Equity Comparison

Bank of America's $303 billion in total equity makes it the second-largest US bank by equity — behind JPMorgan Chase. In return metrics, BAC's ROTCE of 16% (Q1 2026) represents significant improvement but still trails JPMorgan's consistently higher returns. Wells Fargo and Citigroup have significantly smaller equity bases. The global company valuations context for these US banking giants is in our world's biggest companies report.

US Major Banks — Total Equity Comparison 2022–2025 Bank of America vs Peers — Total Shareholders' Equity 2022–2025 (USD Billion) Yahoo Finance Balance Sheets · MacroTrends · BusinessStats Research · April 2026

BAC $303B — 2nd largest US bank by equity Source: Yahoo Finance · MacroTrends · Company Annual Reports 2022–2025 · BusinessStats Research · April 2026

Key Statistics

Bank of America Total Equity — Key Statistics & Facts 2026

$303.2BTotal Equity 2025 — OfficialCommon equity $277.25B + Preferred equity $25.99B. Up from $270.07B in 2021 (+12.3%). Largest single-year growth: 2023 (+6.75%). Total assets 2025: $3,403.7B.

Equity-to-assets ratio: ~8.9%. US banking sector's 2nd largest equity base after JPMorgan. $38.66Book Value Per Share — Q1 2026Q1 2026 official (April 2026) — up 7% YoY. Tangible book value per share Q1 2026: $28.84 (+7% YoY). Full-year 2025 BVPS approximately $35.10. Growth from ~$30.00 (2021) to $38.66 (Q1 2026) = +28.9% over 5 years. 16%ROTCE — Q1 2026 (Official)Return on tangible common equity — up 200+ basis points YoY. Within BAC's medium-term guidance of 16–18%. Return on average common equity (ROE): 12% Q1 2026. Operating leverage reached 290 basis points. Efficiency ratio improved 170bps to 61%. $30.5BNet Income 2025+12.9% from $27.0B in 2024. Net income history: 2021 $32.0B → 2022 $27.5B → 2023 $26.3B → 2024 $27.0B → 2025 $30.5B. Q1 2026: $8.6B (+17% YoY). EPS Q1 2026: $1.11 (+25%) — highest in almost 2 decades. $9.3BCapital Returned — Q1 2026$7.2B in share buybacks + $2.0B in dividends in Q1 2026 alone. CET1 ratio: 11.2% (Q1 2026) — $200B+ CET1 capital, well above regulatory minimums. Full-year 2026 NII growth guidance: +6–8%. Average deposits Q1 2026: $2.017T. +12.3%Total Equity Growth 2021–2025$270.07B (2021) → $303.24B (2025) = +$33.17B absolute growth. Driven by: retained earnings ($30B+ net income annually), AOCI recovery (2023 reversal), partially offset by share buybacks. 2026E equity: ~$310–320B. $3,404BTotal Assets 2025$3,403.7B at year-end 2025 — +2.39% YoY. Q1 2026: ~$3,496B. Equity-to-assets: ~8.9%. Average deposits Q1 2026: $2.017T (+3% YoY). Average loans Q1 2026: $1.14T (+5% YoY). Global liquidity sources: $960B+. 11.2%CET1 Capital Ratio — Q1 2026CET1 (Common Equity Tier 1) ratio Q1 2026: 11.2% — down 14bps QoQ from capital returns. $200B+ in CET1 capital. Regulatory minimum requirement: ~8%. BAC has 320+ basis points of excess CET1 above minimum. Strong buffer for economic downturns.

Forecast & Outlook 2026E

Bank of America Equity Forecast 2026 — ~$310–320B as NII Growth Compounds

Bank of America's equity trajectory in 2026 is positive across all key metrics. The bank raised its full-year 2026 NII growth guidance to **6–8%** following Q1's strong performance. ROTCE guidance is **16–18%** — Q1 2026 already hit 16%. If BAC earns approximately **$33–35 billion in net income for full-year 2026** and returns approximately $15–18 billion to shareholders through buybacks and dividends, **total equity could reach $310–320 billion by end-2026E**. The bank's Q1 2026 book value per share was already $38.66 — 7% above Q1 2025. The bank also plans to maintain positive operating leverage of 200+ basis points for the full year. Commercial real estate office portfolio showed its first stabilisation in 3 years — no new inflows of non-performing assets in Q1 2026. Net charge-offs stable at approximately $1.4 billion. The digital economy and consumer spending context is in our retail and e-commerce analysis.

- **NII growth 2026E:** +6–8% (raised guidance from Q1 results) — driven by loan/deposit growth and repricing
- **ROTCE 2026E:** 16–18% medium-term target — Q1 2026 already at 16% (within range)
- **Total equity 2026E:** ~$310–320B — net income accumulation partially offset by buybacks
- **Book value/share 2026E:** ~$40–42 (extrapolating Q1's +7% YoY trajectory)
- **Capital returns:** Continued aggressive buybacks + dividend growth — NWG-style reprivatization complete
- **CRE office:** First stabilisation in 3+ years — no new non-performing office assets in Q1 2026
- **Credit losses:** NCOs ~$1.4B/quarter — stable, declining from 2024 peak
- **AI investment:** $4B annual AI budget driving efficiency — efficiency ratio target: below 60% by 2027

FAQ

Frequently Asked Questions — Bank of America Total Equity 2026

Bank of America total shareholders' equity for full-year 2025 was **$303.24 billion** — up from $295.56B in 2024 (+2.6%). Breakdown: common shareholders' equity $277.25B + preferred stock equity $25.99B. Total equity grew from $270.07B in 2021 to $303.24B in 2025 — a +12.3% increase. Q1 2026 book value per share: $38.66 (+7% YoY).

Bank of America book value per share (Q1 2026, official): **$38.66 — up 7% year-over-year**. Tangible book value per share Q1 2026: **$28.84 — also up 7% YoY**. Book value has grown from approximately $30.00 (2021) to $38.66 (Q1 2026) — a +28.9% increase over 5 years, reflecting retained earnings growth and share count reduction through buybacks.

Bank of America total equity by year: **2021 $270.07B → 2022 $273.20B (+1.2%) → 2023 $291.65B (+6.75%) → 2024 $295.56B (+1.3%) → 2025 $303.24B (+2.6%)**. Net growth 2021–2025: +$33.17B (+12.3%). The smallest year was 2022 (+1.2%) due to AOCI losses from rate hikes. The largest was 2023 (+6.75%) as AOCI recovered and earnings grew.

Bank of America return on tangible common equity (ROTCE) in Q1 2026: **16%** — up more than 200 basis points year-over-year. This is within BAC's medium-term guidance of **16–18%**. Return on average common equity (ROE): 12% Q1 2026. Net income Q1 2026: $8.6B (+17% YoY). 2025 full-year ROTCE improved significantly driven by NII recovery, fee growth, and expense discipline.

Bank of America Q1 2026 (April 15, 2026): **Net income $8.6B (+17%) · EPS $1.11 (+25%) — highest in almost 20 years · Revenue $30.43B (+7.2%) · NII $15.9B (+9%) · Equities trading $2.83B (+30%) — best quarter in 15 years · Book value/share $38.66 (+7%) · Tangible BV $28.84 (+7%) · ROTCE 16% · CET1 11.2% · Returned $9.3B to shareholders · NII guidance raised to +6–8%**.

Despite earning $27.5 billion in net income, BAC's equity only grew $3.1B (+1.16%) in 2022 due to massive **AOCI (Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income) losses**. The Federal Reserve's 525 bps rate hikes in 2022 caused BAC's large securities portfolio to lose market value — creating unrealized losses of **$100+ billion** that flowed through AOCI directly into equity (without appearing in net income). These losses reversed substantially in 2023 (+6.75% equity growth) as rates stabilized. By 2025, AOCI headwinds had substantially normalized.

Bank of America CET1 (Common Equity Tier 1) capital ratio in Q1 2026: **11.2%** — down 14 basis points from the prior quarter due to capital returns to shareholders above earnings generation. The bank holds **over $200 billion of CET1 capital**, well above regulatory minimums (~8%). Global liquidity sources exceed $960 billion. CET1 may benefit from reductions in future periods if Basel III Endgame frameworks are adopted as proposed.

In Q1 2026 alone, Bank of America returned **$9.3 billion to shareholders** — $7.2 billion in share repurchases and $2.0 billion in dividends. This aggressive capital return reflects BAC's strong capital position (CET1 11.2%) and improving profitability. Share buybacks reduce the share count over time, mechanically increasing book value per share and EPS even without equity growth.

Bank of America net income by year: **2021 $32.0B → 2022 $27.5B (-14%) → 2023 $26.3B (-4.4%) → 2024 $27.0B (+2.7%) → 2025 $30.5B (+12.9%) → Q1 2026 $8.6B (+17% YoY)**. The 2022–2023 dip reflected AOCI headwinds and higher credit provisions. The 2024–2025 recovery was driven by NII growth, fee income, and lower credit losses. Q1 2026 EPS of $1.11 was the highest in nearly 20 years.

US major bank equity comparison (2024–2025): **JPMorgan Chase ~$340–360B** (largest); **Bank of America $303B** (2nd); **Wells Fargo ~$185B**; **Citigroup ~$170B**. BAC's equity-to-assets ratio of ~8.9% is in line with peers. BAC's ROTCE of 16% (Q1 2026) is improving but historically trails JPMorgan's. The CET1 ratio of 11.2% is above regulatory minimums and similar to peers.

Bank of America total assets at year-end 2025: **$3,403.7 billion ($3.4 trillion)** — up 2.39% from 2024's $3,261.5B. Assets grew from $3,169.5B (2021) to $3,403.7B (2025) — a +7.4% increase over 4 years. Q1 2026 total assets approximately $3,496B. Average deposits Q1 2026: $2.017 trillion. Average loans: $1.14 trillion. Equity-to-assets ratio: approximately 8.9%.

AOCI (Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income) represents unrealized gains/losses on certain assets, primarily the available-for-sale (AFS) securities portfolio. When rates rise, bond values fall — creating AOCI losses that reduce equity without flowing through net income. In 2022, BAC had over **$100 billion in unrealized AOCI losses** — this is why total equity grew only 1.2% despite $27.5B in net income. As rates stabilize or fall, AOCI losses reverse — driving the 2023 equity surge (+6.75%). By 2025, AOCI headwinds had substantially normalized.

Bank of America equity 2026E: approximately **$310–320 billion** — assuming ~$33–35B net income with ~$15–18B in capital returns (buybacks + dividends). Book value per share is expected to grow toward **$40–42** by year-end 2026 (from $38.66 in Q1 2026), extrapolating the 7% YoY growth rate. Full-year 2026 NII growth guidance: +6–8%. ROTCE target: 16–18%.

Tangible book value (TBV) is common equity minus goodwill and intangible assets (excluding mortgage servicing rights), net of deferred taxes. It is a more conservative measure than book value as it excludes assets that may not have realizable value in liquidation. BAC tangible book value per share Q1 2026: **$28.84 (+7% YoY)** vs book value per share $38.66. The $9.82 difference ($38.66 – $28.84) reflects goodwill and intangibles, primarily from historical acquisitions (Merrill Lynch, Countrywide, etc.).

BusinessStats does not provide investment advice. The equity data shows: BAC's book value per share of $38.66 (Q1 2026) vs the current market price implies a price-to-book ratio investors can compare to peers and historical norms. ROTCE of 16% is within management's 16–18% guidance range. Net income grew 12.9% in 2025 and +17% in Q1 2026. Total equity has grown +12.3% over 4 years. Investors should consult a licensed financial advisor before making investment decisions. All data from official BAC earnings releases.

Data Sources & References

Primary: Bank of America Investor Relations — Q1 2026 Earnings (April 15, 2026) · Net income $8.6B · EPS $1.11 · Book value/share $38.66 · NII $15.9B · ROTCE 16%

Primary: Yahoo Finance — BAC Balance Sheet · Total Equity 2021–2025 · Common equity $277.25B (2025) · Preferred equity $25.99B · Total equity $303.24B

Primary: MacroTrends — Bank of America Shareholder Equity 2011–2025 · 2024 $295.56B · 2023 $291.65B · 2022 $273.20B

Supporting: CNBC — Bank of America Q1 2026 Earnings Beat · Net income $8.6B · EPS $1.11 · ROTCE 16% · Best trading quarter in 15 years

Total equity figures 2021–2025 from official BAC 10-K Annual Reports via Yahoo Finance and MacroTrends. Q1 2026 figures from BAC earnings release (April 15, 2026) — book value per share $38.66 and ROTCE 16% are official. Total equity for Q1 2026 (~$307B) is BusinessStats Research estimate based on $38.66 BVPS × ~7.94B diluted shares + preferred equity estimate. Net income data from BAC Investor Relations official page (2021: $32.0B; 2022: $27.5B; 2023: $26.3B; 2024: $27.0B; 2025: $30.5B). 2026E equity and book value forecasts are BusinessStats Research estimates — not official BAC guidance. Historical 2021 common/preferred equity split is estimated — total is official. This article does not constitute investment advice.

STATISTICS REPORT

Which Banks Earn the Most From Investment Banking? Reported Fees for 2025 and 2026

Goldman Sachs reported $9.46 billion of investment banking fees in the first nine months of 2026, the highest of any bank, after JPMorgan Chase led the full year 2025 with $9.62 billion. This ranking compares ten banks on the advisory and underwriting fees they disclose in their own earnings releases and filings, shows how each splits its fees between advisory, equity and debt, and explains why the numbers differ from league tables.

Updated Nov 3, 2026 · businesstats.com/leading-global-investment-banks-by-revenue

$9.46B GOLDMAN SACHS, 9M 2026	$9.03B JPMORGAN, 9M 2026	$9.62B JPMORGAN, FULL YEAR 2025
+39.9% GOLDMAN SACHS GROWTH, 9M	$6.71B MORGAN STANLEY, 9M 2026	$102.9B GLOBAL IB REVENUE 2025, DEALOGIC

QUICK ANSWER

Goldman Sachs leads 2026 so far, JPMorgan led 2025

On the figures the banks report themselves, Goldman Sachs earned the most from investment banking in the first nine months of 2026: $9.46 billion in advisory and underwriting fees, 39.9 percent more than a year earlier. JPMorgan Chase followed with $9.03 billion, then Morgan Stanley with $6.71 billion, Bank of America with $5.78 billion and Citi with $3.94 billion. For the full year 2025 the order at the top was the other way round: JPMorgan reported $9.62 billion of investment banking fees and Goldman Sachs $9.34 billion.

The ranking on this page uses only numbers taken from earnings releases, financial supplements and annual or quarterly filings of each bank, for calendar 2025 and for January to September 2026, the period covered by third quarter results published between 13 and 28 October 2026. That makes it different from league tables, which estimate the fees a bank earned deal by deal. Both views are shown, because they rarely agree to the dollar and because each bank labels and scopes its own number differently. Readers

who want the wider picture of US capital markets can start with our overview of financial markets in the US.

$9.46B

Goldman Sachs, 9M 2026

Up 39.9% on 9M 2025.

$9.03B

JPMorgan Chase, 9M 2026

Firmwide IB fees, up 23.8%.

$9.62B

JPMorgan Chase, 2025

Highest reported total for 2025.

$34.9B

Five largest US banks, 9M 2026

Up 26.7% on a year earlier.

THE 2025 RANKING

Full year 2025: ten banks ranked by reported investment banking fees

In calendar 2025 JPMorgan Chase reported $9.615 billion of investment banking fees on its consolidated income statement, up 7.9 percent from $8.910 billion in 2024. Goldman Sachs was close behind at $9.339 billion, a rise of 20.8 percent and the largest dollar gain of any bank in the group. Morgan Stanley reported $7.619 billion in its Institutional Securities segment, up 23.5 percent, and Bank of America $6.630 billion after deducting fees on deals it led for itself.

Below the four leaders the gap widens. Citi reported $4.618 billion, Jefferies $3.790 billion for its fiscal year to 30 November 2025 and Wells Fargo $3.027 billion. The three European banks in the ranking report in their own currencies and use different segment names. Converted at the Federal Reserve average exchange rates for 2025, Barclays earned about $3.25 billion (2.464 billion pounds), UBS reported $3.198 billion of Global Banking revenue and Deutsche Bank about $2.10 billion (1.861 billion euro). All three earned less than in 2024, while every US bank in the list grew.

Investment Banking Fees by Bank, Full Year 2025 (US$ billion)

Interactive chart online: businesstats.com/leading-global-investment-banks-by-revenue

A two horse race at the top: JPMorgan and Goldman Sachs were $276 million apart in 2025, while third placed Morgan Stanley trailed Goldman Sachs by $1.72 billion.

Even at the top the order depends on what is counted. JPMorgan reports a consolidated fee line that differs slightly from the figure for its Commercial and Investment Bank ($2.960 billion against $3.005 billion in the third quarter of 2026), while the figure for Morgan Stanley covers only Institutional Securities. On a consolidated basis Morgan Stanley reported $8.199 billion of investment banking revenue in 2025, because its wealth management arm also earns underwriting and placement income. Ranking by that wider number would not change the order of the first four banks, but it shows how much the scope of a segment matters. JPMorgan is also the largest US lender by market value, as our list of the biggest companies in the world by market value shows.

FIRST NINE MONTHS OF 2026

January to September 2026: Goldman Sachs moves ahead

Third quarter results put Goldman Sachs in first place for the year to date. Its investment banking fees for the nine months to 30 September 2026 reached $9.459 billion, against $9.026 billion for JPMorgan on the same consolidated basis, a lead of $433 million. Goldman Sachs added $2.70 billion of fees compared with the first nine months of 2025, more than any rival, helped by equity underwriting of $985 million in the second quarter alone and advisory fees of $4.53 billion for the nine months.

JPMorgan still ranks first in the industry league table compiled by Dealogic. In its third quarter release the bank stated that it held the number one position in global investment banking fees with a 9.2 percent wallet share for the year to date, as of 1 October 2026. The difference between that ranking and the reported numbers is explained in the section on why bank figures differ.

Investment Banking Fees, First Nine Months of 2026 (US$ billion)

Interactive chart online: businesstats.com/leading-global-investment-banks-by-revenue

Goldman Sachs edges JPMorgan: the two banks are $433 million apart after nine months, while Morgan Stanley is $2.3 billion behind JPMorgan in third place.

Growth was strong almost everywhere. The chart below compares the first nine months of 2026 with the same period of 2025 in each currency of account, so the percentages are not distorted by exchange rates. Goldman Sachs (up 39.9 percent) and Jefferies (up 36.6 percent) grew fastest, both because of advisory and equity underwriting. Morgan Stanley rose 28.9 percent and JPMorgan 23.8 percent. Citi, Bank of America, Barclays, Wells Fargo and Deutsche Bank all grew between 13 and 19 percent.

Growth in Investment Banking Fees, First Nine Months of 2026 vs 2025 (%)

Interactive chart online: businesstats.com/leading-global-investment-banks-by-revenue

Every bank in the chart grew: even the slowest, Deutsche Bank, added 13.0 percent in euro terms, while Goldman Sachs added $2.70 billion of fees.

FULL DATA TABLE

Reported investment banking fees, 2024 to the first nine months of 2026

The table brings the reported totals together with the name each bank gives to the line. Values are in millions of the reporting currency. Year on year changes are BusinessStats calculations from the reported figures.

BANK	REPORTED LINE	2024	2025	CHANGE	9M 2025	9M 2026	CHANGE
Goldman Sachs	Investment banking fees (firmwide)	$7,732	$9,339	+20.8%	$6,762	$9,459	+39.9%
JPMorgan Chase	Investment banking fees (consolidated)	$8,910	$9,615	+7.9%	$7,289	$9,026	+23.8%
Morgan Stanley	Institutional Securities investment banking	$6,170	$7,619	+23.5%	$5,207	$6,712	+28.9%
Bank of America	Total investment banking fees, net of self-led	$6,186	$6,630	+7.2%	$4,964	$5,778	+16.4%
Citi	Investment banking fees (Banking)	$3,857	$4,618	+19.7%	$3,331	$3,943	+18.4%
Jefferies	Investment banking net revenues (fiscal year to November)	$3,445	$3,790	+10.0%	$2,602	$3,556	+36.6%
Wells Fargo	Investment banking fees (consolidated)	$2,665	$3,027	+13.6%	$2,311	$2,629	+13.8%
Barclays	Banking fees and underwriting (Investment Bank)	£2,504	£2,464	-1.6%	£1,858	£2,157	+16.1%
UBS	Global Banking revenues (Investment Bank)	$3,454	$3,198	-7.4%	n/a	n/a	n/a

Deutsche Bank	Investment Banking and Capital Markets (Investment Bank)	€1,990	€1,861	-6.5%	€1,366	€1,543	+13.0%

Sources: company filings listed in the Sources box. Jefferies fiscal periods end on 30 November (full year) and 31 August (nine months). Deutsche Bank nine month totals are the sum of the reported quarters (BusinessStats calculation). n/a: not available in the accessible sections of the UBS third quarter report.

Two patterns stand out. First, the five largest US banks by these fees (Goldman Sachs, JPMorgan, Morgan Stanley, Bank of America and Citi) together reported $37.82 billion of investment banking fees in 2025 and $34.92 billion in the first nine months of 2026, so the group needs only $2.90 billion more to match its 2025 total; in the fourth quarter of 2025 alone it earned $10.27 billion. Second, growth was concentrated in advisory and equity underwriting, as the product section shows. Third, the European banks lost ground in 2025 but recovered in 2026, with Barclays up 16.1 percent and Deutsche Bank up 13.0 percent in local currency over nine months.

QUARTER BY QUARTER

Five quarters of fees: a strong second quarter, a mixed third

Quarterly figures show where the momentum came from. All five of the largest US banks had their best quarter of the period in the second quarter of 2026, when equity underwriting surged: Goldman Sachs earned $985 million from equity underwriting alone in that quarter, more than double the $428 million of a year earlier. The third quarter was softer. Goldman Sachs and JPMorgan still grew by 21 and 13 percent on the third quarter of 2025, but Morgan Stanley grew only 2 percent and Bank of America fell 10.6 percent.

Quarterly Investment Banking Fees, Five Largest US Banks (US$ billion)

Interactive chart online: businesstats.com/leading-global-investment-banks-by-revenue

Second quarter peak: Goldman Sachs reached $3.40 billion and JPMorgan $3.21 billion in 2Q26, the highest quarters in the series for both banks.

BANK	3Q 2026	3Q 2025	CHANGE	WHAT THE BANK SAID DROVE THE QUARTER
Goldman Sachs	$3,224m	$2,657m	+21.3%	Higher advisory, equity and debt underwriting fees
JPMorgan Chase	$2,960m	$2,612m	+13.3%	CIB fees up 14%, predominantly higher advisory fees

Morgan Stanley	$2,159m	$2,108m	+2.4%	Advisory up on completed M&A; IPOs and blocks lower
Bank of America	$1,799m	$2,013m	-10.6%	Lower debt issuance and advisory fees
Jefferies (Jun to Aug)	$1,331m	$1,135m	+17.3%	Advisory $818m, equity underwriting $306m
Citi	$1,219m	$1,169m	+4.3%	ECM revenue up 77%; advisory down 4%
Wells Fargo	$894m	$840m	+6.4%	Not split by product
Barclays	£656m	£646m	+1.5%	Advisory and ECM up, DCM down
Deutsche Bank	€507m	€502m	+1.0%	Advisory and equity origination up; leveraged debt lower
UBS	$670m	n/a	-21%	Advisory down 44% against a record prior year quarter

Sources: third quarter 2026 releases, supplements and, for UBS, the third quarter earnings call transcript filed on Form 6-K. Bank of America drivers are BusinessStats readings of its product table; Citi drivers refer to its investment banking revenue measure.

The softer third quarter matters for the full year ranking. Goldman Sachs said its investment banking backlog at the end of September was lower than at the end of June and slightly lower than at the end of 2025, while UBS said it expected Global Banking revenue to rise in the fourth quarter on its current pipeline. Debt underwriting, the most rate sensitive product, fell at Morgan Stanley, Bank of America, Citi, Barclays and Deutsche Bank in the quarter; interest rate levels that drive bond issuance are tracked on our pages on the federal funds rate and ten year government bond yields.

ADVISORY VS UNDERWRITING

Where the fees come from: advisory, equity underwriting and debt underwriting

Investment banking fees come from three products. Advisory fees are paid for work on mergers, acquisitions, divestitures and restructurings, usually when a deal completes. Equity underwriting fees are earned on initial public offerings, follow-on share sales, block trades and convertible bonds. Debt underwriting fees come from arranging bond issues and syndicated or leveraged loans. Each bank has a different mix, and the mix explains much of the difference in growth.

Investment Banking Fees by Product, First Nine Months of 2026 (US$ billion)

Interactive chart online: businesstats.com/leading-global-investment-banks-by-revenue

Different engines: Goldman Sachs earns almost half of its fees from advisory, while Bank of America earns more than half from debt underwriting.

Goldman Sachs is the clearest advisory house among the large banks. In 2025 advisory fees of $4.726 billion made up 50.6 percent of its investment banking fees, and in the first nine months of 2026 advisory rose 34.3 percent to $4.526 billion. Its equity underwriting grew even faster, up 73.1 percent to $2.186 billion. Jefferies has an even higher advisory share, 57.4 percent of its three product lines in the nine months to August, and its equity underwriting more than doubled to $982 million while debt underwriting fell 20.7 percent.

Advisory Share of Investment Banking Fees, 2026 Year to Date (%)

Interactive chart online: businesstats.com/leading-global-investment-banks-by-revenue

Advisory heavy vs debt heavy: the advisory share ranges from 57.4 percent at Jefferies to 26.7 percent at Bank of America.

Bank of America and the European banks sit at the other end. Debt issuance made up 51.6 percent of the fees of Bank of America before the self-led deduction in the first nine months of 2026, and debt capital markets 53.6 percent of the Barclays total. For Barclays and Deutsche Bank, debt underwriting was also the weak spot of 2026: Barclays debt capital markets income was 1.5 percent lower over nine months, while its advisory income rose 43.9 percent and equity capital markets 51.4 percent. JPMorgan is more balanced, with advisory at 37.7 percent of its first half fees and debt underwriting at 40.8 percent.

Goldman Sachs Investment Banking Fees by Product, First Nine Months of 2026

Interactive chart online: businesstats.com/leading-global-investment-banks-by-revenue

Advisory first: advisory brought in $4.53 billion, 47.8 percent of the total, against $4.93 billion for equity and debt underwriting combined.

BANK	ADVISORY	EQUITY UNDERWRITING	DEBT UNDERWRITING	TOTAL OF PRODUCTS	ADVISORY SHARE

Goldman Sachs	$4,726	$1,784	$2,829	$9,339	50.6%
Morgan Stanley	$2,888	$1,965	$2,766	$7,619	37.9%
Bank of America (before self-led)	$1,890	$1,259	$3,698	$6,847	27.6%
Citi	$1,908	$699	$2,011	$4,618	41.3%
Jefferies (FY to Nov 2025)	$2,145	$772	$870	$3,787	56.6%
Barclays	£676	£278	£1,510	£2,464	27.4%
Deutsche Bank	€536	€225	€1,100	€1,861	28.8%

Sources: 2025 full year releases and supplements of each bank. Citi labels its products Advisory, ECM and DCM; Deutsche Bank uses Advisory, Equity Origination and Debt Origination. Jefferies total excludes $3 million of other investment banking revenue. Shares are BusinessStats calculations.

BANK BY BANK

What each bank reported and how it labels the number

JPMorgan Chase: largest in 2025, number one in the league table

JPMorgan reported consolidated investment banking fees of $9.615 billion in 2025 and $9.026 billion in the first nine months of 2026. Its Commercial and Investment Bank, which earns almost all of these fees, reported $3.0 billion in the third quarter of 2026, up 14 percent, and described investment banking revenue of $3.1 billion. Its quarterly filing for the first half of 2026 shows advisory fees up 48.7 percent to $2.286 billion and equity underwriting up 64.9 percent to $1.303 billion, while debt underwriting rose 5.4 percent to $2.477 billion. Debt is the largest product for JPMorgan, which explains why its growth was slower than at Goldman Sachs in an equity and advisory led year.

Goldman Sachs: the fastest grower among the largest banks

Goldman Sachs reports investment banking fees inside its Global Banking and Markets segment. Fees rose 20.8 percent to $9.339 billion in 2025, and the bank followed that with $2.840 billion, $3.395 billion and $3.224 billion in the first three quarters of 2026. Its 2025 total was within 3 percent of JPMorgan; in 2026 the order reversed, mainly because advisory fees grew by $1.16 billion and equity underwriting by $923

million over nine months. The bank warned that its backlog had declined since mid year.

Morgan Stanley: segment figure vs consolidated figure

Morgan Stanley reported Institutional Securities investment banking revenue of $7.619 billion in 2025, of which advisory was $2.888 billion, equity underwriting $1.965 billion and fixed income underwriting $2.766 billion. In the first nine months of 2026 the segment earned $6.712 billion, up 28.9 percent, with advisory up 51.7 percent. The third quarter was almost flat at $2.159 billion as equity underwriting fell to $525 million from $652 million on lower IPO and block activity. Its wealth business adds underwriting income that appears only in the consolidated line.

Bank of America: debt heavy and net of self-led deals

Bank of America shows a separate deduction for fees on deals where it underwrote its own securities. Total investment banking fees including self-led deals were $6.847 billion in 2025 and $6.630 billion after the $217 million deduction. In the first nine months of 2026 the net figure was $5.778 billion, up 16.4 percent, but third quarter fees fell to $1.799 billion from $2.013 billion as debt issuance fees dropped to $958 million from $1.109 billion. The fees are shared between its Global Banking and Global Markets segments.

Citi: fees vs the new investment banking revenue measure

Citi reported investment banking fees of $4.618 billion in 2025, up 19.7 percent, with advisory fees up 53 percent to $1.908 billion. From the second quarter of 2026 Citi changed the measure it highlights to investment banking revenue, which adds other fee revenue, principal transactions revenue and net interest income on loans linked to investment banking deals. On that basis it earned $4.224 billion in the first nine months of 2026, against $3.943 billion of investment banking fees, so the choice of measure moves Citi by $281 million.

Wells Fargo: growing from a smaller base

Wells Fargo reported $3.027 billion of investment banking fees in 2025, up 13.6 percent, and $2.629 billion in the first nine months of 2026, up 13.8 percent. Its Corporate and Investment Banking segment also shows a narrower investment banking revenue line of $1.841 billion for the nine months within its Banking business. Wells Fargo does not split its fees into advisory and underwriting in its quarterly supplement.

Jefferies: a different fiscal calendar

Jefferies has a fiscal year ending 30 November, so its periods do not line up with the calendar banks. Investment banking net revenues were $3.790 billion in fiscal 2025, of which advisory was $2.145 billion. In the nine months from December 2025 to August 2026 the total rose 36.6 percent to $3.556 billion, with equity underwriting up 127 percent. Its third quarter, June to August 2026, brought $1.331 billion, up 17.3 percent, led by advisory fees of $818 million.

Barclays, UBS and Deutsche Bank: Europe catches up in 2026

Barclays reports banking fees and underwriting within Barclays Investment Bank. The total fell 1.6 percent to 2.464 billion pounds in 2025 but rose 16.1 percent to 2.157 billion pounds in the first nine months of 2026; its rank among UK lenders by balance sheet is covered in our UK banks total assets ranking. Deutsche Bank renamed its Origination and Advisory line to Investment Banking and Capital Markets; revenue was 1.861 billion euro in 2025 and 1.543 billion euro in the first nine months of 2026, up 13.0 percent. UBS reports Global Banking revenue of $3.198 billion for 2025, down from $3.454 billion, and $670 million for the third quarter of 2026, down 21 percent on a record quarter a year earlier.

BNP Paribas is often named among the largest investment banks in Europe, and Dealogic places it at the top of the EMEA debt capital markets league table for 2025. It is not ranked here because its quarterly results report Global Banking revenues that combine lending, transaction banking and capital markets, and do not publish a separate advisory and underwriting fee total that could be compared with the figures above.

WHY FIGURES DIFFER

Five reasons the same bank can show different investment banking numbers

What counts as investment banking fees

- Advisory: fees for mergers, acquisitions, divestitures and restructuring work, usually recognised when a deal completes.
- Equity underwriting: fees on IPOs, follow-on offerings, block trades and convertibles.
- Debt underwriting: fees on investment grade and high yield bonds and on syndicated and leveraged loans.

- Not included: trading revenue, lending income and wealth management fees, unless a bank chooses a wider measure.
- **Segment scope.** JPMorgan, Goldman Sachs and Wells Fargo report a firmwide fee line; Morgan Stanley reports Institutional Securities only ($7.619 billion in 2025) next to a consolidated $8.199 billion.
- **Self-led deals.** Bank of America removes fees on its own securities issues, $217 million in 2025; other banks do not show such a deduction.
- **Fees vs revenue.** Citi now highlights investment banking revenue, which was $281 million higher than its investment banking fees in the first nine months of 2026; UBS reports Global Banking revenue rather than fees.
- **Fiscal calendars.** Jefferies closes its year on 30 November, so its nine month figure runs from December to August.
- **Currency.** Barclays reports in pounds and Deutsche Bank in euro; any dollar ranking depends on the exchange rate used.

League table providers add a sixth difference. Dealogic and LSEG estimate the fee on every deal from public information and allocate it among the banks involved, so their totals include deals a bank may account for in another quarter and exclude some fees banks book. That is why the Dealogic estimate for Morgan Stanley in 2025, $6.10 billion, is $1.52 billion lower than the segment figure the bank reported, while for Citi the estimate of $4.94 billion is higher than its reported fees.

MARKET CONTEXT

The global fee pool: what the data providers measured

Dealogic, part of ION Analytics, estimated global investment banking revenue at $102.9 billion in 2025, up 15 percent on 2024 and the second highest total on record after 2021. Global M&A volume rose 42 percent to $5.1 trillion, driven by megadeals, ECM revenue rose 18 percent on 21 percent higher issuance and syndicated loan volume rose 9 percent. Mergermarket, also part of ION Analytics, counted $4.44 trillion of announced M&A in the first nine months of 2026, 27 percent more than the $3.48 trillion a year earlier and close to the 2021 record for the period of $4.55 trillion, although the number of deals fell 1 percent to 32,419. Many of the largest 2025 and 2026 deals involved technology groups; their scale is covered in our big tech revenue comparison.

RANK	BANK	IB REVENUE (US$ MILLION)	SHARE OF GLOBAL TOTAL

1	JPMorgan	8,601	8.4%
2	Goldman Sachs	7,948	7.7%
3	BofA Securities	6,158	6.0%
4	Morgan Stanley	6,101	5.9%
5	Citi	4,937	4.8%
6	Barclays	3,025	2.9%
7	Jefferies	2,972	2.9%
8	Wells Fargo	2,689	2.6%
9	UBS	2,179	2.1%
10	Deutsche Bank	2,152	2.1%

Source: Dealogic (ION Analytics), Quarterly Rankings, IB Revenue, Full Year 2025 (January 2026). These are Dealogic estimates, not figures reported by the banks. The top ten together held 45.4 percent of the $102.9 billion total (BusinessStats sum).

Reported Investment Banking Fees vs Dealogic Estimates, 2025 (US$ billion)

Interactive chart online: businesstats.com/leading-global-investment-banks-by-revenue

Estimates run lower: for six of the seven US banks the Dealogic estimate is below the reported figure, by up to $1.52 billion for Morgan Stanley; Citi is the exception.

The two sources agree on the leader for 2025, JPMorgan, and on the fact that the five largest US banks dominate the business. On Dealogic numbers the top five held 32.8 percent of the global fee pool in 2025 and the top ten 45.4 percent, which leaves more than half of the pool to regional banks, boutiques and Asian houses. Equity issuance depends on stock market valuations, which are tracked in our pages on global equity market capitalization by region and stock markets by country. New York and London, where most of these fees are earned, lead the Global Financial Centres Index.

METHODOLOGY

How this ranking was compiled

Every bank figure on this page comes from documents published by the bank itself: earnings releases, quarterly financial supplements, Forms 8-K, 10-Q and 6-K filed with the US Securities and Exchange Commission, and investor relations releases. Full year 2025 figures come from fourth quarter 2025 releases published in January and February 2026. Year to date 2026 figures come from third quarter releases published between 13 and 28 October 2026 (Jefferies on 28 September 2026 for its quarter to 31 August).

For each bank we used the line that the bank itself presents as its investment banking fee or revenue total: the consolidated line for JPMorgan, Goldman Sachs and Wells Fargo, the Institutional Securities segment for Morgan Stanley, the total net of self-led deals for Bank of America, the Banking segment fee line for Citi, banking fees and underwriting for Barclays, Investment Banking and Capital Markets for Deutsche Bank and Global Banking revenue for UBS. Product splits use the categories each bank publishes. Growth rates, shares, sums of quarters and currency conversions are BusinessStats calculations. Conversions to dollars use the Federal Reserve G.5A annual averages for 2025 (1.3192 dollars per pound and 1.1306 dollars per euro) and are applied only to full year figures.

Market totals and league table estimates from Dealogic and Mergermarket are labelled as such and are never mixed with reported figures in the same ranking. Where a figure could not be confirmed in a primary document, such as a nine month Global Banking total for UBS or a third quarter product split for JPMorgan, it is left out rather than estimated. The previous edition of this page ranked Goldman Sachs at about 9 billion dollars and JPMorgan at about 8.5 billion dollars for 2025, gave a global fee pool of more than 130 billion dollars and said the top five US banks held 55 to 60 percent of it; these figures have been replaced with the reported and Dealogic values above. For a broader view of where these banks sit in the markets, see our financial markets hub and the list of top companies by market capitalization.

KEY FACTS

Investment banking fees in eight numbers

$9.62B
JPMorgan, 2025
Largest reported total for 2025.

$9.46B
Goldman Sachs, 9M 2026
Largest total for 2026 so far.

+39.9%
Goldman Sachs growth
9M 2026 vs 9M 2025.

$4.73B
Goldman Sachs advisory, 2025
50.6% of its IB fees.

9.2%
JPMorgan wallet share
Dealogic, year to 1 Oct 2026.

$102.9B
Global IB revenue, 2025
Dealogic estimate, up 15%.

$4.44T
Global M&A, 9M 2026
Mergermarket, up 27%.

-10.6%
Bank of America, 3Q26
Only top five US bank to fall.

FAQ

Questions about the investment banking revenue ranking

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Which investment bank has the highest revenue?

It depends on the period. On reported fees JPMorgan Chase was first in 2025 with $9.615 billion, ahead of Goldman Sachs with $9.339 billion. In the first nine months of 2026 Goldman Sachs led with $9.459 billion against $9.026 billion for JPMorgan. On Dealogic estimates JPMorgan was first in 2025 with $8.6 billion and held a 9.2 percent wallet share in 2026 to 1 October.

How much did Goldman Sachs earn from investment banking in 2025?

Goldman Sachs reported investment banking fees of $9.339 billion in 2025, up 21 percent from $7.732 billion in 2024. Advisory brought in $4.726 billion, equity underwriting $1.784 billion and debt underwriting $2.829 billion.

How much did JPMorgan earn from investment banking fees?

JPMorgan Chase reported consolidated investment banking fees of $9.615 billion in 2025, up 7.9 percent, and $9.026 billion in the first nine months of 2026, up 23.8 percent. Third quarter 2026 fees in its Commercial and Investment Bank were $3.0 billion, up 14 percent.

How big is the global investment banking fee pool?

Dealogic estimated global investment banking revenue at $102.9 billion in 2025, up 15 percent on 2024 and the second highest on record after 2021. The ten largest banks held 45.4 percent of that total.

What is the difference between advisory and underwriting fees?

Advisory fees are paid for advice on mergers, acquisitions and restructurings. Underwriting fees are earned for arranging and selling new shares (equity underwriting) or bonds and loans (debt underwriting). At Goldman Sachs advisory was 47.8 percent of fees in the first nine months of 2026, at Bank of America 26.7 percent.

Which European bank earns the most from investment banking?

Among the European banks in this ranking, Barclays reported the largest total for 2025 with 2.464 billion pounds of banking fees and underwriting, about $3.25 billion at the 2025 Federal Reserve average rate. UBS reported $3.198 billion of Global Banking revenue and Deutsche Bank 1.861 billion euro.

Why do league tables differ from what banks report?

League tables such as Dealogic estimate the fee on each deal from public information and split it among the banks involved. Banks report the fees they recognised, under their own segment definitions. For 2025 Dealogic estimated Morgan Stanley at $6.10 billion while the bank reported $7.619 billion for Institutional Securities.

Is 2026 a stronger year for investment banking than 2025?

Yes, so far. The five largest US banks reported $34.92 billion of investment banking fees in the first nine months of 2026, 26.7 percent more than a year earlier, and Mergermarket counted 27 percent more M&A value. The third quarter was slower for some banks: Bank of America fees fell 10.6 percent and UBS Global Banking revenue fell 21 percent.

SOURCES

Goldman Sachs: Third quarter 2026 earnings results, Form 8-K, October 2026 (quarter and nine month investment banking fees by product, backlog).

Goldman Sachs: Second quarter 2026 earnings results, July 2026 (1Q26 and 2Q26 fees).

Goldman Sachs: Fourth quarter and full year 2025 results, 15 January 2026.

JPMorgan Chase: Earnings release financial supplement, third quarter 2026, and the 3Q26 earnings release (CIB fees, Dealogic wallet share).

JPMorgan Chase: Earnings release financial supplement, fourth quarter 2025 (2025 and 2024 fees).

JPMorgan Chase: Form 10-Q for the quarter to 30 June 2026, noninterest income note (fees by product), and the 10-Q for the quarter to 30 September 2025.

Morgan Stanley: Financial supplement, third quarter 2026, and the fourth quarter and full year 2025 earnings release.

Bank of America: Supplemental information, third quarter 2026, and the fourth quarter 2025 supplemental information.

Citigroup: Quarterly financial data supplement, third quarter 2026, the 3Q26 earnings release and the 4Q25 earnings release.

Wells Fargo: Quarterly financial supplement, third quarter 2026, and the fourth quarter 2025 supplement.

Jefferies Financial Group: Fourth quarter 2025 financial results, 7 January 2026, and the third quarter 2026 results release, 28 September 2026.

Barclays PLC: Results announcement for the nine months to 30 September 2026, Form 6-K, and the full year 2025 results announcement.

Deutsche Bank: Financial data supplement Q4 2025, plus the Q1 2026 results, Q2 2026 release and Q3 2026 release.

UBS Group: Fourth quarter 2025 report, Form 6-K, and the 3Q26 earnings call transcript, 29 October 2026.

Dealogic (ION Analytics): Quarterly Rankings, IB Revenue, Full Year 2025, and Global Markets Rankings FY2025.

Mergermarket (ION Analytics): M&A Highlights 9M26, 1 October 2026.

Federal Reserve Board: G.5A Foreign Exchange Rates, annual averages for 2025, 5 January 2026.

Related Reading

- Financial markets in the US
- UK banks ranked by total assets
- Biggest companies by market value
- Equity market capitalization by region

- BlackRock assets under management
- Federal funds rate
- Stock markets by country
- Financial markets hub

STATISTICS REPORT

The Largest Banks in the UK, Ranked by Total Assets

HSBC is the largest bank in the United Kingdom, with total assets of $3,438 billion (about £2,590.3 billion) on 30 June 2026, followed by Barclays at £1,730 billion and Lloyds Banking Group at £994 billion. Standard Chartered and NatWest Group complete a top five that together held £6,808.7 billion. This ranking uses the balance sheets the banks themselves published for the end of 2025 and the middle of 2026, converts the two dollar reporters at Bank of England spot rates, and shows how the order shifts with the date and the exchange rate.

Updated Oct 26, 2026 · businesstats.com/uk-banks-total-assets-ranking

£2.59trn HSBC, JUNE 2026	**£1.73trn** BARCLAYS, JUNE 2026	**£994bn** LLOYDS BANKING GROUP
£6.81trn TOP FIVE COMBINED	**75%** SEVEN MAJORS, SHARE OF UK LENDING	**1.3273** US$ PER £, 30 JUNE 2026

THE RANKING

HSBC, Barclays and Lloyds lead the UK bank ranking by total assets

Measured by total assets, the value of everything a bank owns, from mortgages and company loans to government bonds, derivatives and cash held at central banks, HSBC Holdings is the largest bank in the United Kingdom by a wide margin. Its interim report shows **total assets of $3,438.2 billion on 30 June 2026**, or about £2,590.3 billion at the Bank of England spot rate for that day. Barclays follows with £1,730.4 billion, then Lloyds Banking Group with £994.2 billion, Standard Chartered with $993.4 billion (£748.4 billion) and NatWest Group with £745.4 billion.

Below the five listed groups the gap widens sharply. Nationwide Building Society, the largest mutual lender, reported £382.3 billion at 31 March 2026, and Santander UK reported £273.9 billion at 31 December 2025, four months before it completed its purchase of TSB. Coventry Building Society (£88.2 billion) and Yorkshire Building Society (£66.3 billion) complete the list of UK institutions with balance sheets above £60

billion. Each bar in the chart uses the most recent balance sheet the institution has published, and the dates are set out in the table further down.

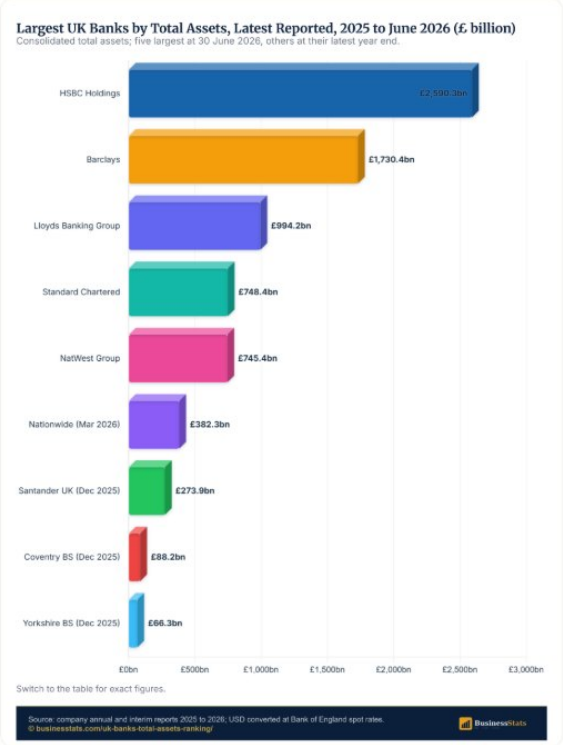


Figure 1: Largest UK Banks by Total Assets, Latest Reported, 2025 to June 2026 (£ billion)

Two banks, well over half: HSBC and Barclays together hold £4,320.7 billion, 56.7 percent of the £7,619.4 billion held by the nine institutions in the chart.

Size by total assets is not the same thing as size in the British economy. HSBC and Standard Chartered are headquartered in London and regulated as UK groups, but most of their income is earned in Asia and, for Standard Chartered, also in Africa and the Middle East. Standard Chartered does not run a retail bank for British households at all. Lloyds Banking Group, with 28 million customers and around 1 million business clients, is the largest bank whose business is almost entirely in the UK, and NatWest Group serves more than 20 million customers. Which bank counts as the biggest therefore depends on the question: the largest global balance sheet belongs to HSBC, the largest domestic lending book to Lloyds and the largest mutual to Nationwide.

This page ranks banks only by the balance sheets they report. Stock market value is a different measure, covered in our ranking of the biggest companies in the world by market value, and for a comparison with lenders in other countries see our overview of the banking sector in Europe.

£2.59trn

HSBC, largest UK bank

$3,438.2 billion at 30 June 2026.

1.5x

HSBC versus Barclays

£2,590.3 billion against £1,730.4 billion.

£6.81trn

Top five combined

30 June 2026, sterling equivalent.

£382.3bn

Nationwide, largest mutual

Year end 31 March 2026.

FULL DATA TABLE

Every major UK bank: latest total assets, reporting date and change

The table sets out the figure behind each bar. Total assets are taken from the consolidated balance sheet of the listed parent company or society, in the currency in which it reports. The sterling column converts the two dollar reporters at the Bank of England spot rate for the balance sheet date. The change column compares the latest figure with the previous year end in the reporting currency, so currency moves do not distort it.

RANK	INSTITUTION	TYPE AND HEAD OFFICE	CURRENCY	TOTAL ASSETS	BALANCE SHEET DATE	STERLING EQUIVALENT	PREVIOUS YEAR END	CHANGE
1	HSBC Holdings	Universal bank, London	USD	$3,438.2bn	30 Jun 2026	£2,590.3bn	$3,233.0bn	+6.3%
2	Barclays	Universal bank, London	GBP	£1,730.4bn	30 Jun 2026	£1,730.4bn	£1,544.2bn	+12.1%
3	Lloyds Banking Group	Retail and commercial bank, London	GBP	£994.2bn	30 Jun 2026	£994.2bn	£944.1bn	+5.3%
4	Standard Chartered	International bank, London	USD	$993.4bn	30 Jun 2026	£748.4bn	$920.0bn	+8.0%

5	NatWest Group	Retail and commercial bank, Edinburgh	GBP	£745.4bn	30 Jun 2026	£745.4bn	£714.6bn	+4.3%
6	Nationwide Building Society	Mutual, Swindon	GBP	£382.3bn	31 Mar 2026	£382.3bn	£367.9bn	+3.9%
7	Santander UK	Retail bank, London (Banco Santander subsidiary)	GBP	£273.9bn	31 Dec 2025	£273.9bn	£267.1bn	+2.5%
8	Coventry Building Society	Mutual, Coventry	GBP	£88.2bn	31 Dec 2025	£88.2bn	£64.0bn	+37.8%
9	Yorkshire Building Society	Mutual, Bradford	GBP	£66.3bn	31 Dec 2025	£66.3bn	£65.5bn	+1.2%

Source: company annual reports 2025, interim reports for the six months to 30 June 2026, Nationwide preliminary results to 31 March 2026. Change is measured against 31 December 2025 for the five June figures, 31 March 2025 for Nationwide and 31 December 2024 for the three December figures. US dollar figures converted at 1.3273 (30 June 2026) by BusinessStats.

Three caveats sit behind the table. First, the dates differ: the five largest groups publish half year balance sheets that are less than four months old, while Santander UK, Coventry and Yorkshire are shown at the end of 2025 and Nationwide at its March year end. Second, Santander UK completed the acquisition of TSB on 30 April 2026 and has consolidated it since 1 May, but its second quarter management statement does not give a total asset figure. It shows customer loans rising from £200.6 billion to £238.9 billion and its UK leverage exposure, a regulatory measure close to total assets, rising from £251.7 billion to £283.2 billion, so its June total will be markedly higher than the £273.9 billion shown. Third, Coventry Building Society includes The Co-operative Bank, which it acquired on 1 January 2025, explaining its unusually large increase.

The ranking would change little if the newer Santander UK figure were available. Even with TSB, Santander UK remains well below Nationwide, and the gap between NatWest Group and Nationwide is close to £360 billion. The more interesting movement is at the top, where Standard Chartered and NatWest Group now sit only £3.0 billion apart once the dollar figure is converted.

DOLLARS AND POUNDS

Why HSBC and Standard Chartered need two numbers

HSBC Holdings and Standard Chartered both prepare their accounts in US dollars, even though both are incorporated in England and listed in London. Most of their business is in Asia, where the Hong Kong dollar is pegged to the US dollar and much trade finance is priced in dollars, so reporting in dollars matches the economics of the groups. Every other bank on this page reports in sterling. To place them on one scale, this page converts dollar totals with the Bank of England daily spot rate for the balance sheet date: 1.3451 US dollars per pound on 31 December 2025 and 1.3273 on 30 June 2026.

BANK	BALANCE SHEET DATE	TOTAL ASSETS (US$)	RATE USED (US$ PER £)	TOTAL ASSETS (£)
HSBC Holdings	31 Dec 2025	$3,233.0bn	1.3451	£2,403.6bn
HSBC Holdings	30 Jun 2026	$3,438.2bn	1.3273	£2,590.3bn
Standard Chartered	31 Dec 2025	$920.0bn	1.3451	£683.9bn
Standard Chartered	30 Jun 2026	$993.4bn	1.3273	£748.4bn

Source: HSBC Holdings and Standard Chartered annual reports 2025 and interim reports 2026; Bank of England spot exchange rate, US dollar into sterling (series XUDLUSS). Conversion by BusinessStats.

Currency has a visible effect on the ranking. Between December 2025 and June 2026 the pound weakened from 1.3451 to 1.3273 dollars. HSBC grew its balance sheet by 6.3 percent in dollars over those six months, but by 7.8 percent when measured in pounds. At the June 2026 balance, a move of five cents in the exchange rate shifts the sterling value of HSBC by roughly £100 billion: at 1.2773 dollars it would be about £2,691.7 billion, at 1.3773 about £2,496.3 billion. That swing is larger than the entire balance sheet of Coventry Building Society.

The previous edition of this page showed HSBC at £2.57 trillion against $3.23 trillion, which implies an exchange rate of about 1.26 dollars per pound rather than the year end rate of 1.3451. At the correct rate

the December 2025 figure is £2,403.6 billion. Readers comparing older rankings should check which rate was used, because a sterling ranking built with a stale rate can overstate or understate HSBC and Standard Chartered by tens of billions of pounds. Shifts in the dollar and sterling also feed through to interest rates and to the value of the large government bond portfolios that all of these banks hold.

2025 VS MID 2026

End of 2025 versus mid 2026: all five large balance sheets grew

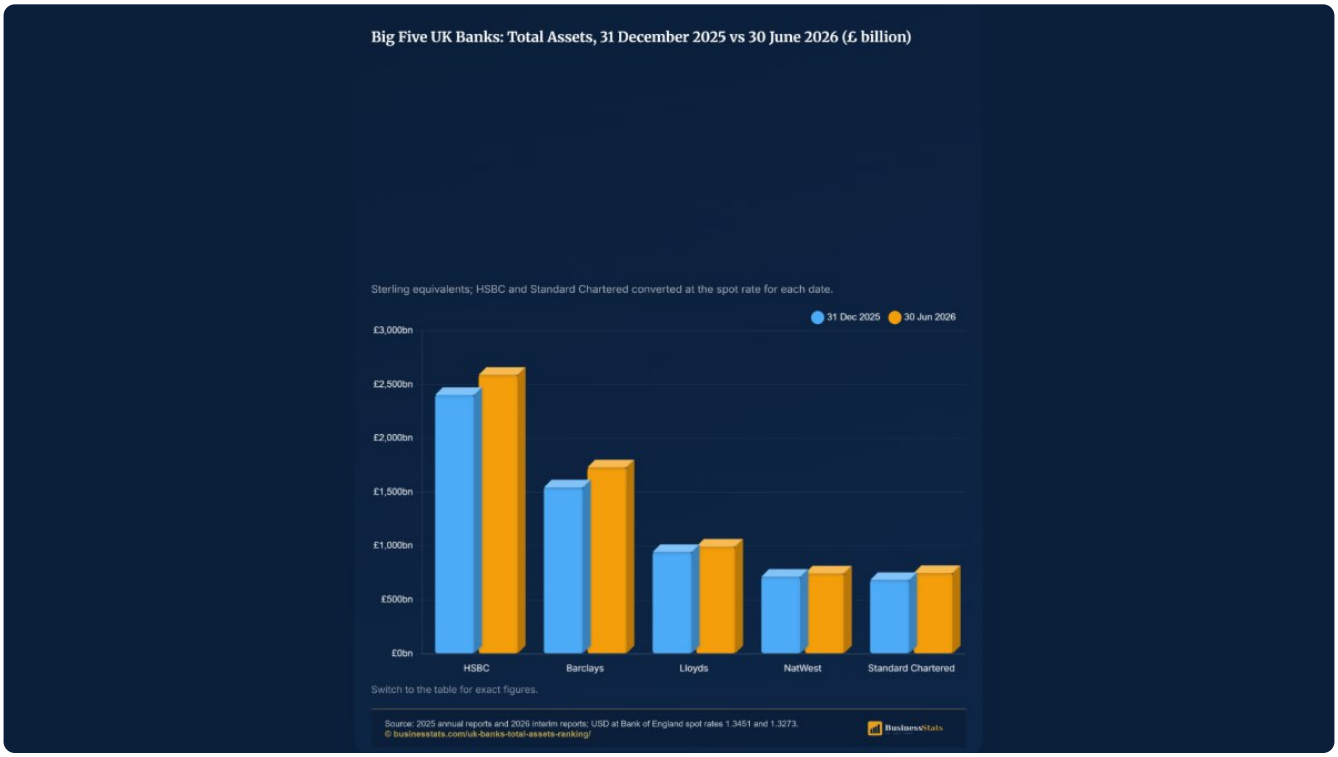


Figure 2: Big Five UK Banks: Total Assets, 31 December 2025 vs 30 June 2026 (£ billion)

Barclays grew the most in sterling: its balance sheet expanded by £186.2 billion in six months, more than the combined assets of Coventry and Yorkshire building societies.

Every one of the five largest groups ended June 2026 with a bigger balance sheet than at the end of 2025. In their own currencies, HSBC added $205.1 billion (6.3 percent), Barclays £186.2 billion (12.1 percent), Standard Chartered $73.5 billion (8.0 percent), Lloyds £50.1 billion (5.3 percent) and NatWest £30.8 billion (4.3 percent). Combined, the sterling value of the top five rose from £6,290.4 billion to £6,808.7 billion.

Half year figures should be read with care. Barclays has the largest markets business of any UK bank, and its trading assets, derivative positions and settlement balances move with client activity, so its total can swing by more than £100 billion between reporting dates without any change in its lending to households

and companies. Its loans and advances to customers at amortised cost rose far more modestly, from £352.8 billion to £359.3 billion. At Lloyds the growth was mainly ordinary banking: underlying customer loans rose from £481.1 billion to £491.5 billion and customer deposits from £496.5 billion to £500.9 billion.

NatWest Group grew net loans to customers from £418.9 billion to £435.9 billion and completed its acquisition of the wealth manager Evelyn Partners on 30 June 2026, adding £71.7 billion of assets under management and administration, most of which are client assets that do not sit on the bank balance sheet. At Standard Chartered, customer accounts rose from $530.2 billion to $552.6 billion and customer loans from $286.8 billion to $299.3 billion. HSBC reported deposit growth of $129 billion, or 8 percent, over the twelve months to June 2026, including balances held for sale.

CONCENTRATION

Seven banks, £6.95 trillion and three quarters of UK lending



Figure 3: Seven Major UK Banks: Share of Combined Total Assets, Latest Year End 2025 (£ billion)

HSBC alone holds a third: 34.6 percent of the £6,946.6 billion combined balance sheet of the seven major banks, more than Lloyds, NatWest and Standard Chartered together.

The Bank of England treats seven institutions as the core of the British banking system: Barclays, HSBC, Lloyds Banking Group, Nationwide, NatWest Group, Santander UK and Standard Chartered. These are the

participants in its annual bank capital stress test, and the Bank states that together they represent 75 percent of lending to the UK real economy. At their latest year ends they held £6,946.6 billion of assets between them, of which HSBC accounted for 34.6 percent, Barclays 22.2 percent and Lloyds 13.6 percent.

Share of assets and share of UK lending are very different things. HSBC and Standard Chartered together hold 44.4 percent of the combined balance sheet but most of it is outside Britain, while Nationwide and Santander UK hold only 9.4 percent of the assets yet are two of the largest mortgage lenders in the country. Beyond these seven, the Prudential Regulation Authority supervises around 1,300 banks, building societies, credit unions, insurers and major investment firms, including UK branches of overseas banks. The Building Societies Association counts about 27.3 million members across the mutual sector. The role of the central banks in setting capital rules for this group is explained in our separate overview.

HSBC

HSBC: a $3.4 trillion balance sheet run from London



Figure 4: HSBC Holdings Total Assets, 2021 to June 2026 (US$ billion)

Flat for four years, then a jump: HSBC assets stayed between $2.95 trillion and $3.04 trillion from 2021 to 2024, then rose by $216.0 billion in 2025 and a further $205.1 billion in the first half of 2026.

HSBC traces its origins to Hong Kong and Shanghai in 1865 and has had its head office in London since the early 1990s. The group says it serves customers from offices in 56 countries and territories. Its balance sheet was remarkably stable between 2021 and 2024, held between $2.95 trillion and $3.04 trillion while it sold businesses in Canada and France and reshaped its structure. Growth resumed in 2025, when total assets rose 7.2 percent to $3,233.0 billion, and continued into 2026.

HSBC Holdings in figures

- **Total assets:** $3,233.0 billion at 31 December 2025 (£2,403.6 billion) and $3,438.2 billion at 30 June 2026 (£2,590.3 billion).
- **Customer accounts:** $1,786.8 billion at the end of 2025, up from $1,655.0 billion a year earlier.
- **Loans and advances to customers:** $988.4 billion at the end of 2025, 30.6 percent of total assets.
- **Profit before tax:** $29.9 billion in 2025, 7 percent lower than in 2024; $19.5 billion in the first half of 2026, up 23 percent.
- **Revenue:** $68.3 billion reported for 2025.
- **Capital:** common equity tier 1 ratio of 14.9 percent at the end of 2025 and 14.1 percent at 30 June 2026.

Because deposits are the main source of funding, HSBC is unusually liquid: customer accounts of $1,786.8 billion were 1.8 times its customer loans at the end of 2025, and loans made up less than a third of total assets. The rest is mainly cash at central banks, government securities, trading assets and derivatives. In the UK, its retail and commercial business is run through the separately capitalised ring fenced bank HSBC UK, which is much smaller than the group total. For a view of how London compares with Hong Kong, New York and Singapore as a base for such groups, see our ranking of the top financial centres.

BARCLAYS

Barclays: the biggest half year jump in the ranking

Barclays is the second largest UK bank and the only British group with a large investment bank operating at scale in the United States. Its balance sheet was £1,384.3 billion at the end of 2021, peaked at £1,513.7 billion in 2022, dipped to £1,477.5 billion in 2023 and then grew to £1,518.2 billion in 2024 and £1,544.2 billion in 2025. In the first six months of 2026 it jumped to £1,730.4 billion, the highest figure in the period covered by this page.

Barclays in figures

- **Total assets:** £1,544.2 billion at 31 December 2025; £1,730.4 billion at 30 June 2026.
- **Loans and advances to customers at amortised cost:** £352.8 billion at the end of 2025 and £359.3 billion in June 2026, about 21 to 23 percent of total assets.
- **Deposits at amortised cost:** £585.6 billion at the end of 2025 and £594.4 billion in June 2026.
- **Profit before tax:** £9,139 million in 2025, up from £8,108 million in 2024; £6,066 million in the first half of 2026.
- **Total income:** £29,140 million in 2025 and £16,501 million in the first half of 2026.
- **Capital:** common equity tier 1 ratio of 14.3 percent at both dates.

Customer lending is a smaller part of Barclays than of any other bank on this page. Most of its assets sit in the corporate and investment bank as trading securities, reverse repurchase agreements, derivatives and cash collateral, which is why total assets move so much from quarter to quarter. Its UK retail arm, Barclays UK, reported 13.9 million digitally active customers at the end of 2025, a figure that excludes the former Tesco Bank customers it has taken on. How the Barclays investment bank compares with Wall Street rivals is covered in our ranking of leading global investment banks by revenue.

LLOYDS BANKING GROUP

Lloyds Banking Group: the largest domestically focused bank

Lloyds Banking Group, which owns Lloyds Bank, Halifax, Bank of Scotland and Scottish Widows, is the largest bank in the ranking whose business is almost entirely British. It reported total assets of £944.1 billion at the end of 2025, £37.4 billion or 4.1 percent more than a year earlier, and £994.2 billion at 30 June 2026. Measured over a longer period its balance sheet has been steady: £881.3 billion at the end of 2021 and £873.4 billion in 2022 on the restated basis, £881.5 billion in 2023 and £906.7 billion in 2024.

Lloyds Banking Group in figures

- **Underlying loans and advances to customers:** £481.1 billion at the end of 2025, up £22.0 billion in the year, and £491.5 billion in June 2026.
- **Customer deposits:** £496.5 billion at the end of 2025 and £500.9 billion in June 2026.
- **Statutory profit before tax:** £6,661 million in 2025, 12 percent higher than in 2024; £4,293 million in the first half of 2026.
- **Underlying net income:** £18,301 million in 2025, up 7 percent.

- **Customers:** 28 million, plus around 1 million businesses.
- **Capital:** common equity tier 1 ratio of 14.0 percent at the end of 2025 and 13.6 percent in June 2026.

The Lloyds balance sheet is close to a textbook commercial bank: customer loans make up about half of total assets and are almost fully funded by customer deposits, with a loan to deposit ratio of roughly 97 percent at the end of 2025. Its insurance and pensions business, Scottish Widows, also adds assets held on behalf of policyholders, which is one reason the group total is larger than its lending book alone. Lloyds and Halifax together make it the largest mortgage lender in the UK, so its balance sheet tracks the housing market and Bank of England rate decisions more closely than those of HSBC or Barclays.

NATWEST GROUP

NatWest Group: back in private ownership and growing again

NatWest Group, the former Royal Bank of Scotland Group, returned to full private ownership in 2025 when the government sold its remaining shares, ending the stake taken during the 2008 rescue. Its balance sheet shrank in the years after 2021, from £782.0 billion to £720.1 billion in 2022 and £692.7 billion in 2023, before growing again to £708.0 billion in 2024, £714.6 billion in 2025 and £745.4 billion at 30 June 2026.

NatWest Group in figures

- **Net loans to customers at amortised cost:** £418.9 billion at the end of 2025 and £435.9 billion in June 2026.
- **Customer deposits:** £443.0 billion at the end of 2025 and £448.6 billion in June 2026.
- **Operating profit before tax:** £7,708 million in 2025 on total income of £16,641 million; £4,318 million in the first half of 2026.
- **Employees:** 58,700 full time equivalents at the end of 2025, down from 59,200 a year earlier.
- **Customers:** more than 20 million people, families and businesses across the UK.
- **Capital:** common equity tier 1 ratio of 14.0 percent at the end of 2025 and 13.2 percent in June 2026.

Most of the group sits inside its ring fenced bank, National Westminster Bank Plc, which reported total assets of £449.5 billion at the end of 2025 and £466.1 billion in June 2026. NatWest has the highest share of customer loans in its balance sheet among the five largest groups, 58.6 percent at the end of 2025, and the strongest return on assets, which the profitability section below compares directly. The completion of the Evelyn Partners deal on 30 June 2026 makes it one of the larger wealth managers in the country, a

business that adds fee income without adding much to total assets.

STANDARD CHARTERED

Standard Chartered: overtaking NatWest in sterling terms

Standard Chartered is the odd one out among the big five. It is headquartered in London and listed on the London Stock Exchange, but it has no British retail bank and earns most of its income in Asia, Africa and the Middle East, with Hong Kong, Singapore, India and the United Arab Emirates among its largest markets. Its balance sheet held between $819.9 billion and $849.7 billion from 2021 to 2024, then rose 8.3 percent to $920.0 billion in 2025, the fastest growth of the five largest groups, and to $993.4 billion at 30 June 2026.

That growth has changed the order of the ranking. At the end of 2025 NatWest Group was fourth with £714.6 billion and Standard Chartered fifth with £683.9 billion. By 30 June 2026 Standard Chartered, at £748.4 billion, had moved just ahead of NatWest at £745.4 billion. The lead is narrow and depends on the exchange rate: at 1.3373 dollars per pound, one cent above the June rate, Standard Chartered would be worth £742.8 billion and back in fifth place.

Standard Chartered in figures

- **Total assets:** $920.0 billion at 31 December 2025 (£683.9 billion) and $993.4 billion at 30 June 2026 (£748.4 billion).
- **Customer accounts:** $530.2 billion at the end of 2025 and $552.6 billion in June 2026.
- **Loans and advances to customers:** $286.8 billion at the end of 2025 and $299.3 billion in June 2026.
- **Profit before tax:** $6,963 million in 2025, up from $6,014 million; $4,784 million in the first half of 2026.
- **Operating income:** $20,942 million in 2025 and $11,604 million in the first half of 2026.
- **Capital:** common equity tier 1 ratio of 14.2 percent at 30 June 2026.

FIVE YEAR TREND

Five years of sterling balance sheets at Barclays, Lloyds and NatWest

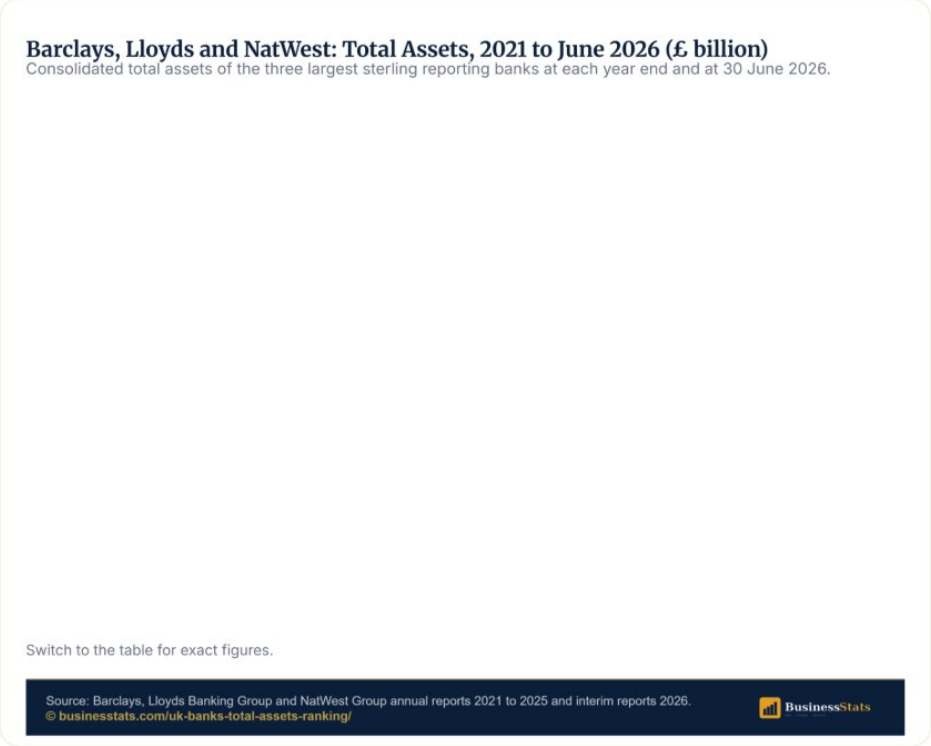


Figure 5: Barclays, Lloyds and NatWest: Total Assets, 2021 to June 2026 (£ billion)

Diverging paths: between the end of 2021 and June 2026 Barclays grew its balance sheet by 25.0 percent and Lloyds by 12.8 percent, while NatWest is still 4.7 percent smaller than in 2021.

Over the five years the three sterling banks have moved in different directions. Barclays added £159.9 billion between 2021 and 2025 and a further £186.2 billion in the first half of 2026, reflecting the size of its markets business. Lloyds grew slowly and steadily, by £62.8 billion over the four years to 2025. NatWest lost £89.3 billion between 2021 and 2023 before recovering, and its June 2026 total is still £36.6 billion below the 2021 level.

GROWTH IN 2025

Who grew fastest in 2025



Figure 6: UK Banks: Growth in Total Assets in the Latest Financial Year, 2025 (%)

Acquisition beats organic growth: Coventry grew 37.8 percent by absorbing The Co-operative Bank; among the big five, Standard Chartered (8.3 percent) and HSBC (7.2 percent) grew fastest.

In absolute terms the ranking of 2025 growth looks different. HSBC added $216.0 billion and Standard Chartered $70.3 billion, while among sterling reporters Lloyds added £37.4 billion, Barclays £26.0 billion, Coventry £24.2 billion, Nationwide £14.5 billion, Santander UK £6.8 billion and NatWest £6.6 billion. Yorkshire Building Society was close to flat, up £0.8 billion.

Two of the fastest growing institutions owe their growth to deals rather than to new lending. Coventry Building Society bought The Co-operative Bank with effect from 1 January 2025, lifting its assets from £64.0 billion to £88.2 billion and its residential mortgage book from £51.8 billion to £71.7 billion. Nationwide had already absorbed Virgin Money in October 2024, so its 3.9 percent growth in the year to March 2026 is mostly organic. The next round of consolidation, Santander UK and TSB, completed in April 2026 and will show up in the 2026 annual figures.

LENDING MIX

Loans versus everything else: how business models differ



Figure 7: Customer Loans as a Share of Total Assets, UK Banks, 2025 (%)

Two kinds of bank: mortgage lenders keep three quarters or more of their assets in customer loans, while at Barclays, HSBC and Standard Chartered less than a third is lending.

This ratio is the quickest way to see what kind of institution sits behind a total asset figure. At Coventry, Nationwide and Santander UK customer loans, overwhelmingly residential mortgages, account for between 73 and 81 percent of all assets. NatWest Group and Lloyds sit in the middle at 59 and 51 percent. At HSBC and Standard Chartered the share is around 31 percent, and at Barclays only 23 percent, because the rest of their balance sheets is made up of trading assets, derivatives, securities and cash.

The funding side tells a similar story. Lloyds lent £481.1 billion against £496.5 billion of customer deposits at the end of 2025, a loan to deposit ratio of about 97 percent, and NatWest about 95 percent. Santander UK, at about 105 percent, lends slightly more than it takes in deposits and fills the gap with wholesale funding of £52.7 billion. HSBC and Standard Chartered, by contrast, hold customer deposits that are around 1.8 times their loans, which leaves them with very large holdings of liquid assets.

PROFITABILITY

Profit per pound of assets: who earns the most from its balance sheet



Figure 8: UK Banks: Pre Tax Profit as a Share of Total Assets, 2025 (%)

Smaller can be more profitable: NatWest earned £1.08 of pre tax profit for every £100 of assets in 2025, almost twice the rate at Barclays.

Pre tax profit divided by total assets, a simple return on assets, strips out the effect of size. NatWest Group earned 1.08 percent in 2025, ahead of HSBC at 0.93 percent and Standard Chartered at 0.76 percent. Lloyds earned 0.71 percent, Barclays 0.59 percent and Santander UK 0.55 percent. Nationwide, at 0.39 percent, is lowest, which partly reflects its model: as a mutual owned by its members it returns value through pricing and member payments rather than aiming to maximise profit for shareholders.

BANK	PROFIT BEFORE TAX, 2025	PROFIT BEFORE TAX, FIRST HALF 2026	REPORTING CURRENCY
HSBC Holdings	$29,907m	$19.5bn (reported)	USD
Barclays	£9,139m	£6,066m	GBP
NatWest Group	£7,708m (operating)	£4,318m (operating)	GBP
Standard Chartered	$6,963m	$4,784m	USD

Lloyds Banking Group	£6,661m (statutory)	£4,293m (statutory)	GBP
Santander UK	£1,510m	£528m	GBP
Nationwide	£1,490m (year to Mar 2026)	not applicable	GBP

Source: company annual results 2025 and interim results 2026; Nationwide preliminary results to 31 March 2026 (underlying profit £2,026 million). Santander UK first half 2025 profit was £764 million.

First half 2026 results show the larger banks still growing profits. HSBC reported pre tax profit up 23 percent to $19.5 billion, and Standard Chartered reported record first half operating income of $11.6 billion. Santander UK was the exception, with first half profit falling from £764 million to £528 million as TSB acquisition costs and motor finance provisions weighed on results. Profit is not the subject of this ranking, but it explains why balance sheet size alone does not determine stock market value, which is covered in our analysis of global stock markets.

BEYOND THE BIG FIVE

Nationwide, Santander UK and the consolidation of the second tier

Nationwide Building Society

Nationwide is the largest building society in the world and the sixth largest institution in this ranking. In the year to 31 March 2026 its total assets rose to £382.3 billion from £367.9 billion. Residential mortgages of £286.3 billion make up three quarters of the balance sheet, member deposits were £217.1 billion and total retail deposit balances £270.8 billion. Statutory profit before tax was £1,490 million, down from £2,302 million a year earlier, while underlying profit rose to £2,026 million from £1,852 million. Its common equity tier 1 ratio of 19.1 percent is higher than that of any of the five largest groups. It runs 605 Nationwide branches and 91 Virgin Money branches.

Santander UK and TSB

Santander UK, the British subsidiary of Spain based Banco Santander, reported total assets of £273.9 billion at the end of 2025, up from £267.1 billion, with customer loans of £200.6 billion and deposits of £190.2 billion. Its 2025 profit before tax was £1,510 million. On 30 April 2026 it completed the cash purchase of TSB Banking Group, which brought around 5 million customers. By June 2026 customer loans had risen to £238.9 billion and deposits to £227.2 billion, and the combined bank plans to keep 480

Santander and TSB branches. Santander says the deal makes it the third largest UK bank by personal current account balances.

Coventry, Yorkshire and the challengers

Coventry Building Society became the second largest mutual after taking over The Co-operative Bank: its group assets reached £88.2 billion at the end of 2025 and it serves more than 4.5 million members and customers. Yorkshire Building Society held £66.3 billion of assets and reported profit before tax of £377.9 million for 2025. Digital banks are still far smaller by assets despite large customer numbers. Monzo, for example, reported 15.2 million customers and £25.7 billion of customer deposits for its financial year to March 2026, about one twentieth of the £500.9 billion of deposits held by Lloyds. Their rise is tracked in our pages on digital challenger banks and fintech in Europe.

READING THE NUMBERS

How to read a bank ranking by total assets

Total assets are the most common way to rank banks because every bank publishes them and they are audited. They are not a perfect measure of importance. Derivatives are reported gross under the accounting standards used in the UK, so banks with large trading businesses, such as Barclays and HSBC, look larger than a lender with the same economic exposure that nets its positions. American banks reporting under US accounting rules can net more of their derivatives, which makes cross border comparisons harder.

Regulators therefore use other measures alongside total assets. Risk weighted assets adjust each exposure for its riskiness and drive capital requirements; the leverage exposure measure adds off balance sheet commitments; and lending to the UK real economy is the figure the Bank of England uses when it describes the seven major banks as 75 percent of the market. A bank can also be measured by deposits, customers, branches or stock market value, and each produces a slightly different order.

Group totals also hide structure. Since 2019 the largest UK groups have had to place their British retail banking in separately capitalised ring fenced banks, such as HSBC UK, Barclays Bank UK, Lloyds Bank and National Westminster Bank. These subsidiaries are what most British customers deal with, and they are considerably smaller than the parent groups. As an example, National Westminster Bank Plc held £449.5 billion of assets at the end of 2025 compared with £714.6 billion for NatWest Group. More context is available in our UK topic overview, our overview of financial institutions and our ranking of the largest asset

managers worldwide.

KEY FACTS

The largest UK banks in eight numbers

$3,438bn

HSBC total assets

30 June 2026, about £2,590.3 billion.

£1,730bn

Barclays total assets

30 June 2026, up 12.1 percent in six months.

£994bn

Lloyds Banking Group

Largest domestically focused bank.

£748bn

Standard Chartered

Just ahead of NatWest at £745bn.

£6,946.6bn

Seven major banks combined

Latest year ends, sterling.

75%

Share of UK lending

Seven stress tested banks.

1.3273

Dollars per pound used

Bank of England spot, 30 June 2026.

+37.8%

Fastest growth in 2025

Coventry, after The Co-operative Bank.

FAQ

Questions about the largest banks in the UK

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the largest bank in the UK?

HSBC Holdings. It reported total assets of $3,438.2 billion on 30 June 2026, about £2,590.3 billion at the Bank of England spot rate of 1.3273 dollars per pound. Barclays is second with £1,730.4 billion and Lloyds Banking Group third with £994.2 billion.

What are the five largest banks in the UK by total assets?

At 30 June 2026: HSBC Holdings (about £2,590.3 billion), Barclays (£1,730.4 billion), Lloyds Banking Group (£994.2 billion), Standard Chartered (about £748.4 billion) and NatWest Group (£745.4 billion). Together they held about £6,808.7 billion.

Is HSBC bigger than Barclays, Lloyds and NatWest combined?

No. At the end of 2025 HSBC held about £2,403.6 billion of assets, while Barclays, Lloyds and NatWest together held £3,202.9 billion. HSBC was about 1.6 times the size of Barclays and about 2.5 times the size of Lloyds.

Why do HSBC and Standard Chartered report in US dollars?

Both groups earn most of their income outside the UK, mainly in Asia, where the Hong Kong dollar is pegged to the US dollar and much business is priced in dollars. This page converts their totals to pounds at the Bank of England spot rate for each balance sheet date: 1.3451 on 31 December 2025 and 1.3273 on 30 June 2026.

Which is the largest UK bank focused on the domestic market?

Lloyds Banking Group, owner of Lloyds Bank, Halifax and Bank of Scotland. It had total assets of £994.2 billion at 30 June 2026, serves 28 million customers and had underlying customer loans of £491.5 billion, the largest lending book of any bank focused on the UK.

How big is Nationwide Building Society?

Nationwide had total assets of £382.3 billion at 31 March 2026, up from £367.9 billion a year earlier, including £286.3 billion of residential mortgages. It is the largest building society and the sixth largest institution in this ranking.

How big is Santander UK after buying TSB?

Santander UK reported total assets of £273.9 billion at the end of 2025. It completed the TSB purchase on 30 April 2026, and by 30 June 2026 its customer loans had risen to £238.9 billion from £200.6 billion. Its June statement does not give a new total asset figure.

Which UK bank grew its assets fastest in 2025?

Coventry Building Society, up 37.8 percent to £88.2 billion after it acquired The Co-operative Bank on 1 January 2025. Among the five largest groups, Standard Chartered grew fastest at 8.3 percent, followed by HSBC at 7.2 percent, both measured in US dollars.

Which banks does the Bank of England stress test?

Seven: Barclays, HSBC, Lloyds Banking Group, Nationwide, NatWest Group, Santander UK and Standard Chartered. The Bank says they represent 75 percent of lending to the UK real economy. Their combined assets at their latest year ends were about £6,946.6 billion.

Has Standard Chartered overtaken NatWest?

In sterling terms, yes, narrowly. At 30 June 2026 Standard Chartered held $993.4 billion, about £748.4 billion, against £745.4 billion at NatWest Group. At the end of 2025 NatWest was larger, £714.6 billion against about £683.9 billion. A one cent rise in the pound would reverse the order.

SOURCES

HSBC Holdings: Interim Results 2026 (total assets $3,438 billion at 30 June 2026, profit, CET1), August 2026.

HSBC Holdings: Annual Results 2025 announcement, 25 February 2026 (balance sheet, customer accounts, loans, profit, revenue).

Barclays PLC: Full Year 2025 Results, Form 6-K filed with the US SEC, February 2026.

Barclays PLC: Half Year Financial Report 2026 (total assets £1,730.4 billion at 30 June 2026).

Lloyds Banking Group: 2025 Results, FCA National Storage Mechanism, January 2026.

Lloyds Banking Group: 2026 Half Year Results, FCA National Storage Mechanism, July 2026.

NatWest Group: Annual Results 2025, February 2026.

NatWest Group: Interim Results 2026, July 2026; and National Westminster Bank Plc H1 2026 results.

Standard Chartered: Full Year 2025 Results, FCA National Storage Mechanism, February 2026.

Standard Chartered: Half Year Results 2026, FCA National Storage Mechanism, July 2026.

Nationwide Building Society: Preliminary Results for the year to 31 March 2026, 21 May 2026.

Santander UK: Quarterly Management Statement Q4 2025; Q2 2026 statement; TSB completion announcement, 1 May 2026.

Coventry Building Society: Group 2025 Full Year Results investor presentation.

Yorkshire Building Society: 2025 Summary Financial Statement and 2025 results announcement.

Monzo Bank: Annual Report 2026, year to 31 March 2026.

Bank of England: Key elements of the 2025 Bank Capital Stress Test (seven participants, 75 percent of lending to the UK real economy).

Prudential Regulation Authority: Which firms does the PRA regulate, lists dated October 2026.

Bank of England: Database, daily spot exchange rate US dollar into sterling (XUDLUSS): 1.3451 on 31 December 2025 and 1.3273 on 30 June 2026.

Building Societies Association: Yearbook key statistics 2025/26.

STATISTICS REPORT

Artificial intelligence (AI) in finance — 2026 statistics, use cases & market data

Updated May 12, 2026 · businesstats.com/ai-in-finance

$36.6B AI FINTECH MARKET 2026	**22%** CAGR 2026–2031	**90%** BANKS USING AI — FRAUD
80% US TRADES BY AI ALGO	**$1.5B** JPMORGAN AI SAVINGS	**Aug 2026** EU AI ACT ENFORCEMENT

Market Overview 2026

AI in Finance Market — $36.6B in 2026, $99B by 2031, $190B by 2030

Artificial intelligence is reshaping every layer of the financial industry — from the millisecond execution of algorithmic trades to the instant assessment of loan applications and the real-time detection of fraudulent transactions. The AI in fintech market stands at approximately **$36.61 billion in 2026**, growing at a **22.04% CAGR** toward $99.09 billion by 2031. The broader AI in finance market — including banking, insurance, and investment management — is estimated at **$38–45 billion in 2026** and projected to reach **$190 billion by 2030** at a 30.6% CAGR. North America accounts for approximately **37–45% of global revenue** and leads in AI fintech patents (45% global share). The broader financial market context powering AI investment is covered in our US financial markets analysis.

AI Use Case Distribution in Banking — 2026 AI in Finance — Top Use Cases by Bank Adoption Share (2026) Survey of 174 Banking Professionals, January 2026 · Blott Financial Services AI Report · BusinessStats Research

53%Fraud Detection#1 use case · 90% of banks · 300× faster than rules 39%Back-Office AutomationDocument processing · KYC · Onboarding · Compliance 39%Customer Service AIChatbots · Virtual assistants · 40% cost savings 30%Risk & ComplianceAML · Regulatory monitoring · Credit risk 24%Credit ScoringLoan processing 2 days → 5 mins · 25% better approval 18%Wealth ManagementRobo-advisors · Portfolio AI · $1.4T AUM

Market Growth 2021–2031E

AI in Finance Market Growth — From $9.5B (2021) to $99B by 2031E

The AI in finance market has experienced explosive growth over the past five years. Starting from approximately **$9.5 billion in 2021**, the market crossed **$36.6 billion in 2026** — nearly a 4× increase in five years. The compound annual growth rate of **22%** is projected to hold through 2031, when the AI fintech market is expected to reach **$99 billion**. Key growth accelerators: the proliferation of large language models (LLMs) in financial workflows from 2023 onward; regulatory pressure forcing banks to modernise compliance systems; and the proven ROI from fraud detection AI — which cuts detection costs by 60% while achieving 96% accuracy. The tech giants powering this infrastructure are profiled in our global company valuations report.

AI in Finance — Market Size 2021–2031E AI in Fintech Market Size — 2021 to 2031E (USD Billion, 22% CAGR) Mordor Intelligence 2026 · Grand View Research · Blott Financial Services AI Report 2026 · BusinessStats Research $99B2031E Forecast

Source: Mordor Intelligence AI in Fintech Report 2026 · Grand View Research AI Agents in Financial Services 2025 · BusinessStats Research · April 2026

AI Fraud Detection

AI Fraud Detection: 90% of Banks, $1.5B Saved, 300× Faster — But a New Threat Is Rising

Fraud detection is the single most widespread AI application in financial services — and the one with the most mature ROI data. **90% of financial institutions** now use AI for fraud detection as of 2026. AI-powered systems analyse thousands of behavioral features per transaction in milliseconds — JPMorgan's system processes **5,700+ behavioral signals per transaction** including typing cadence, location patterns, and payment instruction language. The result: JPMorgan's AI fraud system prevents an estimated **$1.5 billion in losses annually** with a **98% accuracy rate**. AI detects fraud approximately **300 times faster** than traditional rule-based systems. AI fraud detection systems cut detection costs by **60%** while improving accuracy to **96%**. However, there is a critical dual-use paradox: the same generative AI powering bank defenses is also powering attacks. Generative AI-enabled fraud losses in the US are projected to reach **$40 billion by 2027** — more than triple the $12.3 billion recorded in 2023.

- **Adoption:** 90% of financial institutions use AI for fraud detection (Feedzai 2025 AI Trends Report)
- **Speed:** AI detects fraud 300× faster than rule-based systems — critical for real-time digital payments
- **Accuracy:** AI fraud systems achieve 90–99% detection accuracy vs 58–70% for traditional methods
- **Cost:** AI cuts fraud detection operational costs by 60% while improving accuracy
- **JPMorgan:** $1.5B in fraud prevention savings · 98% accuracy · 5,700+ behavioral features per transaction
- **HSBC:** 60% reduction in false positives · JPMorgan: 50% improvement in false positive rate
- **Gen-AI fraud threat:** US AI-enabled fraud losses $12.3B (2023) → $40B projected by 2027
- **Deepfake risk:** 30% of enterprises expect biometric authentication to be unreliable in isolation by 2026

Algorithmic Trading

AI Algorithmic Trading: 80% of US Trades, Microsecond Execution, $3.8T Value Opportunity

AI has fundamentally transformed how markets function. Approximately **70–80% of US stock market trades** are now executed by AI-powered algorithms — up from under 50% a decade ago. These systems can process market data, news articles, social media sentiment, and economic indicators simultaneously, executing trades in **microseconds** and reducing trading slippage by approximately **15%**. McKinsey estimates AI could generate an additional **$3.8 trillion in annual value** for the global financial services industry — the majority coming from trading, portfolio management, and risk modelling. **82% of investment firms** use AI for algorithmic trading, with 70% of trades executed automatically. BlackRock, the world's largest asset manager with $10T+ in AUM, has integrated AI throughout its portfolio management and risk systems. AI has also eliminated many of the manual trading tasks — what once required a team of analysts now runs autonomously. AWS powers the majority of bank AI infrastructure — see our Amazon statistics for the full cloud AI context. The broader digital economy growth patterns are covered in our retail e-commerce analysis.

- **Market share:** 70–80% of US trades executed by AI algorithms — mainstream in 2026
- **Speed:** AI executes trades in microseconds · reduces slippage by ~15% vs human execution
- **82% of investment firms** use AI for algorithmic trading · 70% of those trades fully automated
- **Value:** McKinsey projects AI generates additional $3.8T annually in global financial services value
- **BlackRock:** AI integrated across $10T+ AUM portfolio management and risk systems

- **49% of hedge funds** use AI for portfolio optimisation — up 15% from 2022
- **Sentiment analysis:** AI processes news, earnings calls, and social media in real-time to inform trading decisions

Banking & Cost Savings

AI in Banking: $120B Saved in 2025, $500B by 2030, 40% Service Cost Reduction

AI is delivering measurable, significant cost savings across banking operations. The global banking industry saved approximately **$120 billion in 2025** from AI implementation — a figure projected to reach **$500 billion annually by 2030**. Banks deploying AI for customer service see **40% operational cost reductions** and **25% higher customer satisfaction scores**. AI has reduced loan default prediction time from **2 days to 5 minutes**. Robo-advisors have cut wealth management fees from 1.5% to approximately 0.25% of AUM — an **85% fee reduction** that has democratised investment access. Despite these gains, **only 4 of the 50 largest banks** reported realised ROI from AI use cases in 2025 — exposing a gap between AI adoption and actual value capture that Goldman Sachs has called the defining challenge of 2026. The consumer wealth context powering demand for AI banking is covered in our US wealth and spending analysis.

- **Industry savings 2025:** ~$120B saved globally from AI — projected $500B annually by 2030
- **Customer service:** AI deployment → 40% cost reduction + 25% higher satisfaction
- **Loan processing:** AI cut loan default prediction time from 2 days to 5 minutes
- **Credit unions:** 68% of US credit unions use AI for loan origination · 25% better approval rates
- **Advisory fees:** AI robo-advisors reduced fees from 1.5% to 0.25% AUM — 85% reduction
- **Underwriting:** AI accelerated policy issuance by 80% · increased sales velocity 35%
- **ROI gap:** Only 4 of 50 largest banks reported realised ROI from AI in 2025 — adoption ≠ value
- **AI chatbots:** 77% of global insurers use AI chatbots handling 30% of all customer queries

Top Banks — AI Investment 2026

JPMorgan, Bank of America, Goldman Sachs — $10B+ Industry AI Spend Annually

The world's largest banks are committing billions to AI — not as an experiment, but as a core infrastructure investment. **JPMorgan Chase** directs approximately **$2 billion of its $18 billion technology budget** to AI, having captured $1.5 billion in cumulative savings. **Bank of America** allocates **$4 billion of its $13 billion tech budget** to AI and related initiatives. Across the industry, financial sector IT spending on AI-specific initiatives exceeds **$10 billion annually**. **Goldman Sachs** launched its GS AI Assistant firmwide in mid-2025 — accessible to all employees and powered by multiple LLMs including GPT, Gemini, and Claude. Goldman's CIO has described 2026 as the year of "scaling and harvesting" following years of AI experimentation. **Morgan Stanley** deployed its AI @ Morgan Stanley Assistant to financial advisors in 2023, drawing on 100,000+ research documents for wealth management queries. JPMorgan employs **over 2,000 AI and machine learning specialists** — AI roles grew 13% in 6 months even as overall headcount declined in 2025.

JPMorgan Chase $2B Annual AI Budget (of $18B tech total) AI Cost Savings

~$1.5B cumulative

AI Specialists

2,000+

Fraud Accuracy

98%

Use Cases

400+ deployed

Bank of America $4B Annual AI Budget (of $13B tech total) AI Value Target

$2.5B by 2025

AI Tool

Erica Virtual Assistant

AI Hiring

Top 3 AI employer

AI Coverage

Multiple business lines

Goldman Sachs $B+ AI & Tech Investment (ongoing) GS AI Assistant

Firmwide — mid-2025

LLMs Used

GPT · Gemini · Claude

2026 Strategy

"Scaling & Harvesting"

Focus Areas

Trading · Research · Risk

Morgan Stanley AI@MS GPT-4 Wealth Management Assistant Deployed

September 2023

Knowledge Base

100,000+ documents

Users

Financial Advisors firmwide

Function

Research · Client queries

AI Adoption Trend

AI Adoption in Finance — From 45% (2022) to 85%+ (2025) to Near-Universal by 2026

AI adoption across the financial industry has accelerated dramatically. In 2022, approximately **45% of financial firms** used AI in some capacity. By 2025, that figure reached approximately **85%** — with 60% using AI across multiple business functions simultaneously. Top fintech startups have reached **88% AI adoption**. Looking at specific functions: 90% of institutions use AI for fraud, 82% for algorithmic trading,

73% of wealth firms have AI robo-advisors, and 64% of US banks have AI for anti-money laundering. The important caveat: **95% of generative AI implementations** in financial services remain in pilot phases rather than scaled production. Goldman Sachs identifies this gap — between adoption ambition and actual production-scale deployment — as the defining challenge of 2026. The digital commerce and platform patterns paralleling this adoption wave are covered in our social media and digital platform statistics.

AI Adoption by Use Case — Financial Services 2022–2026 AI Adoption Rate by Key Use Case — Financial Services (% of Institutions Deployed) Feedzai 2025 AI Trends Report · GITNUX 2026 · Blott Financial Services AI Report 2026 · BusinessStats Research · April 2026

90% AI fraud adoption — industry standard Source: Feedzai 2025 AI Trends · GITNUX Financial Industry Statistics 2026 · Mordor Intelligence 2026 · Blott 2026 · April 2026

Robo-Advisors & Wealth AI

Robo-Advisors: $1.4T AUM (2024) → $3.2T by 2033 — Fees Cut 85%

Robo-advisors represent one of AI's most visible and consumer-facing applications in finance. The global robo-advisor market managed **$1.4 trillion in assets under management (AUM) in 2024** and is projected to reach **$3.2 trillion by 2033** — a 10.5% CAGR. The fee disruption has been dramatic: traditional human advisors charged approximately 1.5% of AUM annually; AI robo-advisors charge approximately **0.25% — an 85% reduction** — making wealth management accessible to everyday investors for the first time. **73% of wealth management firms** had adopted AI robo-advisors by 2024. Betterment, Vanguard, Wealthfront, and Schwab Intelligent Portfolios are among the leading platforms. By 2026, AI is positioned as a "personal CFO" for retail investors — analysing spending habits, predicting future needs, and providing tax-optimised investment recommendations. **55% of robo-advisor users** trust algorithms over human advisors for portfolio decisions. The semiconductor infrastructure powering these AI systems is covered in our ARM Holdings statistics — ARM chips are at the heart of AI inference across banking hardware.

Robo-Advisor vs Traditional — Key Metrics Comparison AI Robo-Advisors vs Traditional Advisors — AUM, Fees & Accessibility Market Research Intellect 2025 · Statista 2024 · GITNUX 2026 · BusinessStats Research · April 2026

- **AUM:** $1.4T (2024) → $3.2T (2033) — 10.5% CAGR over 9 years
- **Fee disruption:** Traditional 1.5% AUM → Robo-advisor 0.25% AUM — 85% reduction
- **Adoption:** 73% of wealth management firms deployed AI robo-advisors by 2024

- **Trust:** 55% of robo-advisor users trust algorithms over human advisors for portfolio decisions
- **Access:** Some platforms allow investing from as little as $1 — democratising wealth management
- **Regional growth:** APAC fastest-growing robo-advisor market driven by China and India mobile-first adoption
- **2026 capability:** AI analyses spending, predicts life events (mortgage, retirement, college), and optimises tax harvesting automatically

Regulation — EU AI Act 2026

EU AI Act August 2026: Finance's Biggest Regulatory Moment — 7% Turnover Penalty

The single most important regulatory event for AI in finance in 2026 is the **EU AI Act's high-risk system provisions becoming enforceable on 2 August 2026**. Any financial institution using AI for credit scoring, fraud detection, automated lending, or anti-money laundering — and operating in or serving European customers — must comply with strict requirements for transparency, explainability, human oversight, and audit trails. Non-compliance penalties can reach **up to 7% of global annual turnover** — for a bank with $50B in revenue, that is a potential $3.5B fine. This has forced European banks to fundamentally redesign their AI-powered credit and fraud systems. Many institutions are rebuilding credit scoring models to provide "explainable AI" outputs — being able to tell a rejected customer specifically why the algorithm denied their application. The EU's PSD3 directive (live since 2024) simultaneously requires banks to share customer data via APIs with AI systems — creating both a compliance burden and an AI innovation opportunity for institutions that move quickly. The global regulatory economic context is covered in our global GDP and regulatory analysis.

2023

EU AI Act passed

— establishes risk tiers for AI systems. Finance classified as high-risk for credit scoring, fraud detection, AML, and insurance underwriting. 2024

PSD3 live

— European banks required to share customer data via open APIs. European banks begin redesigning AI workflows to meet Act requirements. 55% of European banks adopt AI for compliance monitoring. Feb 2025

EU AI Act general-purpose AI provisions

take effect. Financial institutions must begin documenting AI system capabilities and limitations across all deployments. 2 Aug 2026

High-risk AI systems enforceable

— Credit scoring, fraud detection, lending, and AML systems must fully comply.

Penalties up to 7% of global annual turnover

. Banks unable to explain AI credit decisions face regulatory action. 2027+

Full enforcement landscape

— Regulators expected to begin formal investigations. US regulators watching EU framework with potential federal AI regulation in finance following similar principles. 2026 Key Insight The Paradox: AI Saves Banks Billions While AI Costs Banks Billions

AI in finance presents a deep paradox in 2026. Banks collectively save **$120 billion annually** from AI — fraud prevention, automation, faster processing. Yet simultaneously: generative AI-enabled fraud costs are racing toward **$40 billion by 2027**; EU AI Act compliance is costing European banks hundreds of millions in system redesigns; and **95% of generative AI implementations** remain in pilot phases with unproven ROI. Goldman Sachs calls 2026 the year of "scaling and harvesting" — the institutions that invested early in AI infrastructure (JPMorgan's 400+ use cases, Bank of America's $4B budget) are now capturing competitive advantages. The **14%** of financial institutions that have achieved full-scale AI implementation are pulling ahead of the **86%** still in experimentation mode. The window for catching up is narrowing fast, particularly with the EU AI Act's August 2026 deadline creating a compliance floor that also defines a capability floor.

Key Statistics

AI in Finance — Key Statistics & Facts 2026

$36.6BAI Fintech Market Size 2026Up from ~$17B (2025) · 22% CAGR 2026–2031 → $99B by 2031. Broader AI in finance (incl. banking + insurance): $38–45B in 2026 → $190B by 2030 at 30.6% CAGR. North America: 37–45% of global share. Asia-Pacific: fastest growing at 33.1% CAGR. 90%Banks Using AI for Fraud Detection90% of financial institutions deployed AI fraud detection (Feedzai 2025). AI detects fraud 300× faster than rule-based systems. Accuracy: 90–99%. Cost reduction: 60%. Gen-AI fraud losses: $12.3B (2023) → $40B projected (2027 US) — dual-use threat accelerating. $1.5BJPMorgan AI Cost

SavingsJPMorgan: $2B of $18B tech budget on AI · cumulative $1.5B in savings · 98% fraud accuracy · 2,000+ AI specialists · 400+ use cases. Industry total: $10B+ annually on AI-specific investment. Only 4 of top 50 banks reported realized ROI in 2025. 80%US Stock Trades by AI Algorithms70–80% of US market trades executed by AI algorithms. 82% of investment firms use AI for algorithmic trading · 70% of those trades fully automated. Execution: microseconds · slippage reduction: ~15%. McKinsey: AI generates additional $3.8T annually in financial services value. $3.2TRobo-Advisor AUM by 2033$1.4T AUM (2024) → $3.2T by 2033 (10.5% CAGR). Fee disruption: traditional 1.5% AUM → robo 0.25% (85% reduction). 73% of wealth firms adopted AI robo-advisors by 2024. 55% of robo-advisor users trust algorithms over human advisors. Aug 2026EU AI Act — Financial EnforcementHigh-risk AI provisions enforceable 2 August 2026 for credit scoring, fraud detection, AML, and lending AI. Penalties: up to 7% of global annual turnover. European banks racing to make AI systems "explainable" and auditable. Defines new global standard for AI in finance regulation. $120BAI Banking Savings 2025Global banking saved ~$120B from AI in 2025 → projected $500B annually by 2030. AI customer service: 40% cost reduction + 25% higher satisfaction. Loan prediction: 2 days → 5 minutes. AI underwriting: 80% faster policy issuance, 35% higher sales velocity. $4BBank of America AI BudgetBank of America allocates $4B of its $13B tech budget to AI — the largest AI budget share (31%) among major US banks. Target: $2.5B in annual AI value by end-2025. AI deployed across operations, compliance, customer service, credit, and trading. Top 3 AI employer among US banks.

Forecast 2026–2030E

AI in Finance Forecast — $99B by 2031, $1T in Savings by 2030, $40B Fraud Threat

The trajectory of AI in finance through 2030 is clear: faster adoption, higher market value, deeper integration — and simultaneously, larger risks. The AI in fintech market grows from **$36.6B (2026)** to **$99B by 2031** at 22% CAGR. The broader AI in finance market reaches **$190B by 2030**. Banking industry AI savings scale from **$120B annually (2025)** to **$500B by 2030**. Robo-advisor AUM grows from **$1.4T (2024)** to **$3.2T by 2033**. Agentic AI — autonomous systems that trade, onboard, and comply without human input — grows from a $985M market in 2026 to **$6.7B by 2033**. The countervailing force: generative AI-enabled fraud accelerates from **$12.3B (2023)** to a projected **$40B by 2027** in the US alone. The institutions that capture AI's upside while managing its downside risk will define financial services leadership through 2030.

AI in Finance — Forecast 2026–2031E AI in Finance Market Segments — Growth Forecast 2026 to 2031E (USD Billion) Mordor Intelligence · Grand View Research · Market Research Intellect · McKinsey · BusinessStats Research · April 2026 $99BFintech AI — 2031E

AI in Fintech (Total) Robo-Advisor AUM ($T) Bank AI Savings ($B/yr) AI Fraud Losses ($B) Source: Mordor Intelligence 2026 · Market Research Intellect 2025 · Grand View Research 2025 · McKinsey Global Institute · BusinessStats Research · April 2026

- **AI fintech market:** $36.6B (2026) → $44.7B (2027E) → $66.5B (2029E) → $99.1B (2031E) — 22% CAGR throughout
- **Broader AI in finance:** $38–45B (2026) → $190B (2030E) at 30.6% CAGR — includes banking, insurance, investment management
- **Banking savings:** $120B/yr (2025) → $200B/yr (2027E) → $350B/yr (2029E) → $500B/yr (2030E)
- **Robo-advisors AUM:** $1.4T (2024) → $1.9T (2026E) → $2.5T (2029E) → $3.2T (2033E) at 10.5% CAGR
- **AI fraud threat:** $12.3B US losses (2023) → $20B (2025E) → $40B (2027E) — 3.3× in 4 years
- **Agentic AI market:** $691M (2025) → $985M (2026) → $2.2B (2028E) → $6.7B (2033E) at 31.5% CAGR
- **AI AML solutions:** $1.8B (2024) → $3.2B (2027E) → $7.9B (2032E) at 20.2% CAGR
- **Algorithmic trading value:** McKinsey $3.8T additional annual value potential — majority still unrealised by 2026
- **AI jobs in finance:** AI/ML roles in top banks grew 13% in 6 months (2025) even as overall headcount fell

FAQ

Frequently Asked Questions — AI in Finance 2026

The AI in fintech market is valued at approximately **$36.61 billion in 2026**, growing at a 22.04% CAGR, projected to reach $99.09 billion by 2031. The broader AI in finance market (banking, insurance, and investment combined) is estimated at **$38–45 billion in 2026** and projected to reach **$190 billion by 2030** at a 30.6% CAGR. North America accounts for approximately 37–45% of global revenue. Asia-Pacific is the fastest-growing region at 33.1% CAGR through 2031.

JPMorgan Chase directs approximately **$2 billion of its $18 billion annual technology budget** to AI. The bank has generated nearly **$1.5 billion in cumulative cost savings** from AI across fraud prevention, trading, credit decisions, and operations. JPMorgan employs over 2,000 AI and machine learning specialists, has deployed 400+ internal AI use cases, and its fraud AI achieves 98% accuracy analysing 5,700+ behavioral

signals per transaction.

90% of financial institutions use AI for fraud detection as of 2026 (Feedzai 2025 AI Trends Report). AI detects fraud **300 times faster** than traditional rule-based systems and achieves 90–99% accuracy. AI fraud systems cut detection costs by 60%. The parallel risk: generative AI-enabled fraud losses are projected at **$40 billion in the US by 2027** — nearly 3.3× 2023's $12.3 billion. AI is simultaneously the best defense and a powerful new attack vector.

Approximately **70–80% of US stock market trades** are executed by AI-powered algorithms. 82% of investment firms use AI for algorithmic trading, with 70% of those trades fully automated. AI trading systems execute in microseconds, reduce slippage by ~15%, and can simultaneously process market data, news, earnings transcripts, and social media sentiment. McKinsey estimates AI generates an additional **$3.8 trillion in annual value** for global financial services — much of it from trading efficiency.

Top AI use cases in banking (survey of 174 banking professionals, January 2026): **Fraud detection — 53%** (deployed by 90% of banks); **Back-office automation — 39%**; **Customer service chatbots — 39%**; **Risk management and compliance — 30%**; **Credit scoring and underwriting — 24%**; **Wealth management and advisory — 18%**. AI has cut loan prediction time from 2 days to 5 minutes, reduced customer service costs by 40%, and improved underwriting speed by 80%.

The global robo-advisor market managed **$1.4 trillion in AUM in 2024**, projected to reach **$3.2 trillion by 2033** (10.5% CAGR). Key disruption: AI robo-advisors charge approximately 0.25% of AUM vs traditional advisors' 1.5% — an **85% fee reduction**. 73% of wealth management firms adopted AI robo-advisors by 2024. 55% of users trust algorithms over humans for portfolio decisions. Some platforms now allow investing from as little as $1, fully democratising wealth management.

The EU AI Act's high-risk system provisions became enforceable on **2 August 2026**. Financial institutions using AI for credit scoring, fraud detection, lending, and anti-money laundering must comply with full transparency, explainability, and audit requirements. **Penalties: up to 7% of global annual turnover** for non-compliance. For a bank with $50B revenue, that is a potential $3.5B fine. European banks have spent 2024–2026 redesigning AI credit systems to produce explainable decisions — a customer must be able to understand why an AI denied their loan application.

Global banking saved approximately **$120 billion from AI in 2025**, projected to reach **$500 billion annually by 2030**. Key savings: JPMorgan ~$1.5B cumulative; AI customer service: 40% cost reduction + 25% higher satisfaction; AI fraud detection: 60% cost reduction; loan prediction: 2 days → 5 minutes; underwriting: 80% faster. However, only 4 of the 50 largest banks reported realized ROI in 2025 — most

savings are concentrated in AI-mature institutions.

Agentic AI refers to AI systems that autonomously plan, decide, and execute multi-step financial tasks without human intervention — think autonomous trading, self-directed compliance monitoring, or fully automated client onboarding. In 2026, **70% of financial services organisations** are deploying or exploring agentic AI. But only **14% have achieved full-scale implementation**, and 95% of generative AI implementations remain in pilot phase. The AI agents in financial services market was $691M in 2025 and is projected at $985M in 2026, growing to $6.7B by 2033 at 31.5% CAGR.

Goldman Sachs launched its **GS AI Assistant firmwide in mid-2025** after piloting with approximately 10,000 employees. It is model-agnostic — employees can access OpenAI GPT, Google Gemini, and Anthropic Claude securely within Goldman's audited environment. The tool handles document summarisation, data analysis, pitch drafting, research translation, and compliance queries. Goldman's CIO described 2026 as the year of **"scaling and harvesting"** — moving from AI experimentation to production deployment and ROI capture across trading, research, compliance, and client service.

AI has transformed credit scoring by analysing thousands of data points beyond simple credit history — including spending patterns, transaction velocity, employment stability, and behavioral signals. AI credit scoring reduced loan default prediction time from **2 days to 5 minutes**. 68% of US credit unions use AI for loan origination, with **25% improvement in approval rates**. 71% of Asian financial institutions use AI for credit scoring. AI underwriting accelerated policy issuance by 80%. However, EU AI Act compliance now requires explainability — rejected applicants must understand why the algorithm denied them.

North America leads with approximately 37–45% of global AI finance revenue and 45% of AI fintech patents. The US has the deepest bank AI investment (JPMorgan $2B, Bank of America $4B) and highest algorithmic trading penetration (70–80% of trades). **Europe** is second — 55% of European banks use AI for compliance monitoring, now accelerating under EU AI Act pressure. **Asia-Pacific** is the fastest-growing at 33.1% CAGR, driven by mobile-first financial services in China, India, and Southeast Asia, plus 71% AI adoption for credit scoring across Asian financial institutions.

Key AI risks in finance 2026: (1) **Gen-AI fraud acceleration** — US AI-enabled fraud $12.3B (2023) → $40B projected by 2027; (2) **Model risk** — AI algorithms reacting identically can amplify market volatility; (3) **Deepfake attacks** — 30% of enterprises expect biometric authentication to fail in isolation by 2026; (4) **Regulatory exposure** — EU AI Act penalties up to 7% of turnover; (5) **Adoption gap** — 95% of generative AI implementations still in pilot; only 4 of 50 major banks with realized ROI; (6) **Bias** — AI credit models trained on historical data can perpetuate lending discrimination.

AI is deployed across the full insurance value chain in 2026: **automated underwriting** and dynamic pricing that adjusts premiums in real time; **AI claims processing** resolving cases in minutes vs days; **fraud detection** using computer vision and network analysis; **customer service** — 77% of global insurers have AI chatbots handling 30% of queries; and embedded distribution using AI to cross-sell coverage. AI underwriting has accelerated policy issuance by **80%** and increased sales velocity by **35%**. The AI AML solutions market is $1.8B (2024) → $7.9B by 2032 (20.2% CAGR).

AI in finance forecasts to 2030: AI in finance market reaches **$190 billion by 2030** at 30.6% CAGR. AI generates over **$1 trillion in global banking savings and revenue by 2030**. Banking industry AI savings: **$500 billion annually by 2030**. Robo-advisor AUM: **$3.2 trillion by 2033**. AI AML solutions: $7.9B by 2032. Agentic AI in financial services: $6.7B by 2033. Global AI market (all industries): $1.85 trillion by 2030 — financial services among the largest verticals. McKinsey's $3.8T annual financial services value creation estimate positions finance as AI's highest-value application sector.

Data Sources & References

Primary: Mordor Intelligence — AI in Fintech Market Report 2026 ($36.61B, 22% CAGR, North America 37.6% share)

Primary: Blott — AI in Financial Services 2026: From Experimentation to Enterprise Scale (174-bank survey, JPMorgan/BofA/GS data, EU AI Act analysis)

Primary: Grand View Research — AI Agents in Financial Services Market Report 2025 ($691M to $6.7B, 31.5% CAGR)

Supporting: Market Research Intellect — Robo Advisor Market Report 2025 ($1.4T to $3.2T by 2033)

Supporting: GITNUX — AI in the Financial Industry Statistics 2026 (verified statistics, updated April 2026)

AI in finance market size figures vary across research firms due to differing scope definitions (fintech-only vs broad financial services). All figures represent widely cited estimates from reputable research institutions. Bank investment figures (JPMorgan $2B, Bank of America $4B) are from their official annual reports and investor presentations. EU AI Act enforcement timeline is per official EU legislative text. Robo-advisor AUM figures from Market Research Intellect and Statista. Algorithmic trading percentages are industry estimates — exact figures vary. Forecasts to 2030–2033 are analyst projections and subject to market conditions.

STATISTICS REPORT

Bank Loans in the United States — Statistics & Facts 2026

Updated Mar 25, 2026 · businesstats.com/bank-loans-in-the-united-states

$13.5T TOTAL BANK LOANS Q4 2025	**$18.59T** HOUSEHOLD DEBT (RECORD)	**$13.17T** MORTGAGE DEBT
$1.28T CREDIT CARD BALANCES	**4.8%** DELINQUENCY RATE Q4 2025	**$77.7B** BANK NET INCOME Q4

Overview

US Bank Lending in 2026 — A $13.5 Trillion System Navigating Divergent Signals

The United States banking system — the world's largest and most complex — entered 2026 sending divergent signals that reflect the broader tension in the American economy. On one hand, the industry demonstrated remarkable resilience: total bank loans and leases reached **$13.5 trillion by Q4 2025**, growing 5.9% year-over-year, with quarterly net income of $77.7 billion running 16.5% above the prior year and net interest spreads at their widest since 2019. On the other hand, stress signals are accumulating in specific corners of the lending market: credit card delinquencies have risen to their highest levels since the Global Financial Crisis, auto loan delinquency rates remain elevated across income levels and credit scores, student loan serious delinquencies spiked after the pandemic-era moratorium ended, and commercial real estate portfolios — particularly office properties — face deep structural challenges from the permanent shift to remote work.

The US banking industry consists of approximately **4,500+ FDIC-insured commercial banks and savings institutions**, though the sector has been consolidating for decades (there were approximately 8,300 institutions in 2000). Loans and leases represent the single largest asset category on the banking industry balance sheet, accounting for approximately 55-60% of total bank assets. The remaining assets consist primarily of government and agency securities, mortgage-backed securities, and cash reserves. Domestic deposits across the industry totalled approximately **$17.7 trillion in 2024**, growing 2.3% year-over-year,

though estimated insured deposits grew only 0.5%. The net loans-to-deposits ratio — a key measure of how aggressively banks are lending relative to their funding base — has been gradually rising, indicating that banks are deploying a larger share of their deposit base into loans. For context on how the banking sector fits within the broader US economic picture, see our analysis of US GDP and economic trends.

The Federal Reserve's interest rate policy has profoundly shaped bank lending dynamics over the past three years. The Fed raised the federal funds rate from near zero to 5.25-5.50% between March 2022 and July 2023, creating a dramatically different lending environment from the ultra-low-rate period that preceded it. Higher rates simultaneously benefited bank net interest margins (the difference between what banks earn on assets and pay on liabilities) while dampening loan demand — particularly for rate-sensitive categories like mortgages, commercial real estate, and business expansion financing. The Fed began cutting rates in September 2025, easing some pressure on borrowers, but the path of future rate adjustments remains uncertain amid persistent inflation concerns and economic uncertainty from tariff policy. The interaction between monetary policy and bank lending is one of the most important transmission mechanisms in the US economy, as explored in our analysis of interest rate dynamics.

US bank loans reached $13.5 trillion in Q4 2025, growing 5.9% year-over-year. Household debt hit a record $18.59 trillion. The banking industry reported Q4 net income of $77.7 billion with net interest spreads at 3.39% — the highest since 2019. However, delinquency rates rose to 4.8% across household debt.

Total Bank Loans

Total Bank Loans — From $4.8T in 2004 to $13.5T in 2025

The trajectory of total bank loans and leases in the United States tells the story of two decades of expansion punctuated by one severe contraction (the 2008-2010 financial crisis) and one brief pandemic-driven slowdown (March-November 2023). Total loans grew from approximately **$4.8 trillion in 2004** to approximately **$7.3 trillion at the pre-crisis peak in 2008**, before declining to approximately $6.8 trillion during the deleveraging period of 2009-2010. The post-crisis recovery saw steady growth through the 2010s, accelerating during the pandemic-era stimulus period, and reaching the current level of **$13.5 trillion by Q4 2025**. The Q4 2025 increase of $267.8 billion (2.0% quarter-over-quarter) was driven by loans to non-depository financial institutions (NDFIs), securities-related loans, credit cards, nonfarm nonresidential commercial real estate, and 1-4 family residential mortgages.

The composition of bank lending has shifted meaningfully over time. **Loans secured by real estate** remain the largest category, encompassing residential mortgages, commercial real estate, multifamily properties,

construction and development, and farmland. **Commercial and industrial (C&I) loans** — business lending for working capital, equipment, expansion, and operations — represent the second-largest category and serve as a key barometer of business confidence and economic activity. **Consumer loans** (credit cards, auto loans, personal loans) have grown significantly, particularly credit card balances which have been climbing steadily since the pandemic-era paydown period ended. A notable emerging trend is the rapid growth in **bank lending to non-depository financial institutions (NDFIs)** — private equity firms, private credit funds, and other non-bank lenders — which has grown significantly since the Global Financial Crisis as banks increasingly provide credit lines to the shadow banking system rather than lending directly to end borrowers.

Total US Bank Loans & Leases — 2010 to 2025 ($ Trillions)

Total Bank Loans & LeasesFDIC-Insured Institutions — 2010 to 2025USD Trillions · BusinessStats Research$13.5TQ4 2025 Total Loans & Leases+5.9% YoY (2024→2025) Sources: BusinessStats analysis of FDIC data

Household Debt

Household Debt — Record $18.59 Trillion, Mortgage Dominates at 74%

Total US household debt reached a record **$18.59 trillion in Q3 2025**, rising $197 billion in the quarter, before climbing further to approximately **$18.8 trillion by Q4 2025**. Nominal household debt has been growing at approximately the pre-pandemic trend rate of 3.5% annually, though there is considerable variance across individual debt categories. The composition of household debt reveals the centrality of housing to American household balance sheets: **mortgage debt accounts for approximately 74%** of total household debt, while the remaining 26% comprises auto loans, student loans, credit cards, HELOCs, and other consumer obligations.

The household debt breakdown as of Q4 2025 illustrates the scale of each component. **Mortgage balances totalled $13.17 trillion**, having grown $98 billion in the quarter. **Credit card balances reached $1.28 trillion**, rising $44 billion — a significant quarterly increase reflecting both seasonal holiday spending and the ongoing normalisation of revolving credit after the pandemic-era paydown. **Auto loan balances stood at $1.67 trillion**, increasing $12 billion after holding flat the prior quarter. **Student loan balances reached $1.66 trillion**, growing $11 billion, with the resumption of delinquency reporting after the pandemic-era moratorium causing sharp increases in reported delinquency rates. **Home equity line of credit (HELOC) balances rose to $434 billion**, marking the fourteenth consecutive quarterly increase as

homeowners tapped record levels of housing equity. Understanding how these debt levels interact with broader economic output is essential — see our analysis of the global economy.

US Household Debt Breakdown — Q4 2025

Household Debt Composition US Household Debt by Category — Q4 2025 ~$18.8T total · BusinessStats Research

Mortgage Lending

Mortgage Lending — $13.17T Outstanding, $512B Quarterly Originations

Mortgage debt is by far the largest component of US household debt and the single most important category of bank lending. Outstanding mortgage balances reached **$13.17 trillion by Q4 2025**, growing steadily throughout the year as home prices continued to appreciate in most markets despite elevated mortgage rates. Mortgage originations increased to **$512 billion in Q3 2025** — the strongest quarter since 2022 — as mortgage rates drifted lower from their 2023 peaks (above 7.5% for a 30-year fixed) toward approximately 6.5-6.8%, providing some relief to affordability-constrained buyers.

Mortgage credit quality remains the brightest spot in the consumer lending landscape. Overall mortgage delinquency rates stayed at **the lower end of their historical distribution** through the first half of 2025, reflecting the combination of tight underwriting standards implemented after the 2008 crisis, ample homeowner equity (the average homeowner has significant equity cushions from a decade of price appreciation), and the "lock-in effect" where homeowners with sub-4% mortgage rates are reluctant to sell and take on higher-rate mortgages, reducing turnover and the potential for distressed sales. However, early payment delinquency rates have begun to tick up, and the deterioration is concentrated in lower-income areas and markets with declining home prices. Mortgage originations remain heavily concentrated among borrowers with the highest credit scores — a structural feature of post-crisis lending standards that limits credit access for subprime and near-prime borrowers. The housing and mortgage market's health has significant implications for US financial markets more broadly.

Consumer Credit

Consumer Credit — Credit Cards $1.28T, Auto $1.67T, Student Loans $1.66T

Credit card debt has been one of the most closely watched segments of the consumer lending market. Balances reached **$1.28 trillion by Q4 2025**, rising $44 billion in the quarter. The growth trajectory has

been dramatic: credit card balances plummeted during the pandemic as stimulus payments and restricted spending allowed consumers to pay down revolving debt, but since mid-2021 balances have climbed relentlessly, surpassing pre-pandemic levels in 2023 and setting new records in every subsequent quarter. The number of outstanding bankcard accounts reached approximately **582 million in mid-2025**, growing 5.7% year-over-year. Average bankcard utilisation stood at approximately **20.8%** — a slight decrease year-over-year, suggesting that while balances are growing, available credit is growing slightly faster. Interest rates on credit cards have reached record levels, with the average rate on accounts assessed interest exceeding 22%, meaning that revolving credit card debt has become extraordinarily expensive for consumers who carry balances.

Auto loan balances totalled $1.67 trillion as of Q4 2025, with approximately **87 million outstanding accounts**. Unlike credit card debt, auto loan growth has been modest — largely because higher vehicle prices and elevated interest rates (average new car loan rates of approximately 7-8%) have dampened demand, and an increasing share of vehicles are being purchased with cash rather than financing. Auto loan originations were approximately **$184 billion in Q3 2025**, a slight dip from the prior quarter. A key concern in the auto lending market is that delinquency rates remain elevated across credit scores and income levels — not just among subprime borrowers, as was the case in previous credit stress episodes. The severe balance delinquency rate (60+ days past due) on auto loans was approximately **1.44% as of mid-2025**, four basis points higher than the prior year.

Student loan balances reached $1.66 trillion, making student debt the second-largest consumer debt category after mortgages. The student loan market has been profoundly disrupted by the pandemic-era repayment moratorium (March 2020 through late 2024), during which missed payments were not reported to credit bureaus. When reporting resumed in Q1 2025, it caused a dramatic spike in reported delinquency rates: **9.4% of aggregate student debt was reported as 90+ days delinquent or in default as of Q3 2025**, compared to just 0.5% in Q4 2024 (before reporting resumed). Approximately one million borrowers who were more than 120 days past due had their loans transferred to the Department of Education's Default Resolution Group. Student loan delinquencies disproportionately affect Gen Z, Millennial, and Gen X borrowers, dampening their credit demand and consumption capacity — with cascading effects on housing market entry, auto purchases, and overall consumer spending.

US Household Debt by Quarter — Q4 2024 to Q4 2025

Household Debt Quarterly Breakdown — $ TrillionsClick column to sort

CATEGORY	Q4 2024	Q1 2025	Q2 2025	Q3 2025	Q4 2025
Mortgage	$12.61T	$12.80T	$12.94T	$13.07T	$13.17T
Credit Cards	$1.21T	$1.18T	$1.21T	$1.23T	$1.28T
Auto Loans	$1.66T	$1.64T	$1.66T	$1.66T	$1.67T
Student Loans	$1.62T	$1.63T	$1.64T	$1.65T	$1.66T
HELOC	$396B	$402B	$411B	$422B	$434B

Consumer Debt Growth Trends — YoY Change by Category

Consumer Debt GrowthYear-over-Year Change by Debt Category — %BusinessStats Research · Credit bureau data+4.2%Credit Card YoY+1.7%Auto YoY

Credit cards growing fastest among consumer categories Sources: BusinessStats Research · Credit bureau data

Commercial & CRE

Commercial & CRE Lending — $3T in Real Estate Exposure, Office Stress Persists

Commercial and industrial (C&I) loans represent one of the most economically significant categories of bank lending, as these loans directly fund business operations, working capital, equipment purchases, and expansion plans. C&I lending growth was modest through 2024 and early 2025 as businesses navigated uncertainty from elevated interest rates, tariff policy shifts, and cautious economic sentiment. The Federal Reserve's Senior Loan Officer Opinion Survey (SLOOS) indicated that banks reported tighter lending standards and weaker demand for commercial loans through much of 2024, though conditions began easing modestly in 2025 as rate cuts progressed.

Commercial real estate (CRE) lending remains the most closely watched risk area in the US banking system. Banks provide nearly **$3 trillion in financing to the CRE sector**, with exposure particularly concentrated among smaller and mid-size banks — community banks and regional banks typically hold CRE loans representing 25-40% of their total assets, compared to single-digit percentages at the largest banks. The CRE stress is centred on the **office property subsector**, where the permanent shift to remote and hybrid work has driven vacancy rates to historic highs. According to regulatory data, the **non-owner-occupied CRE past-due-and-nonaccrual (PDNA) rate at banks with greater than $250 billion in assets**

was 4.33% in Q2 2025 — down from the recent peak of 4.99% in Q3 2024 but still dramatically above the pre-pandemic average of 0.59%. For smaller banks, CRE delinquency rates remain lower but are trending upward. The CRE challenges have direct implications for global financial markets, as international investors hold significant US CRE debt through CMBS (commercial mortgage-backed securities) markets.

A notable emerging trend in bank lending is the rapid growth of **loans to non-depository financial institutions (NDFIs)** — private credit funds, hedge funds, private equity firms, and other alternative lenders. This lending category has grown significantly since the Global Financial Crisis as banks increasingly serve as credit providers to the "shadow banking" system rather than lending directly to end borrowers. While NDFI loans present relatively low direct credit risk on paper, the interconnections between regulated banks and less-regulated non-bank financial institutions create potential systemic risk channels that regulators are monitoring closely. The growth in alternative lending has been a defining feature of the post-crisis financial landscape, as discussed in our analysis of fintech and alternative finance trends.

Bank Loan Portfolio — Major Categories

Loan Composition US Bank Loan Portfolio by Category — 2025 BusinessStats Research · FDIC data Banks provide nearly $3 trillion in CRE financing, with elevated delinquencies in office properties. The net interest spread reached 3.39% in Q4 2025 — the highest since 2019. FDIC-insured institutions hold $13.5 trillion in total loans, with the industry reporting strong profitability but rising credit stress in consumer portfolios.

Delinquency & Risk

Delinquency & Credit Risk — 4.8% Delinquent, Net Charge-Offs Elevated

Credit quality in the US banking system presents a nuanced picture: aggregate metrics remain within historically normal ranges, but specific pockets of stress are intensifying. As of Q4 2025, **4.8% of outstanding household debt was in some stage of delinquency**, up from 4.5% in Q3 and 3.6% in Q4 2024. The sharp increase between Q4 2024 and Q1 2025 was primarily driven by the resumption of student loan delinquency reporting, which added approximately 76 basis points to the overall rate in a single quarter. Excluding the student loan reporting effect, the underlying delinquency trend shows more gradual deterioration — consistent with a maturing credit cycle rather than an imminent crisis.

The **net charge-off rate** for FDIC-insured institutions was approximately **0.6% in Q2 2025**, declining 6 basis points from the prior quarter and 8 basis points year-over-year. While the absolute level is approximately 12 basis points above the pre-pandemic average of 0.48%, it remains far below crisis-era

peaks (approximately 2.5-3.0% during the 2009-2010 period). Credit card, auto, and other consumer loans drove the quarterly decline in net charge-offs, suggesting some stabilisation in consumer credit losses. However, most loan categories continue to have charge-off rates above their pre-pandemic averages, indicating that the exceptionally benign credit environment of 2021-2022 (when pandemic stimulus artificially suppressed defaults) has fully normalised.

The **FDIC's problem bank list** reached **60 institutions as of Q4 2025** (1.4% of all banks), up from 57 the prior quarter. While this is well below the crisis-era peak of approximately 884 problem banks in 2010, the gradual increase reflects ongoing stress in CRE-concentrated portfolios and, in some cases, exposure to the cryptocurrency sector or other concentrated risks. The **Deposit Insurance Fund (DIF)** grew to **$153.9 billion**, providing a substantial buffer against potential bank failures. One notable bank failure occurred in late January 2026: the $261 million-asset Metropolitan Capital Bank & Trust in Chicago was closed by regulators, causing an estimated $19.7 million hit to the DIF. The monetary policy environment and its impact on bank profitability and lending standards is closely tied to central bank decision-making.

Risk FocusStudent Loan Delinquency Spike — The Moratorium Hangover

The resumption of student loan delinquency reporting in Q1 2025 revealed the true extent of borrower distress that had been masked during the pandemic-era moratorium. In Q4 2024, just 0.5% of student loan balances were reported 90+ days delinquent. By Q2 2025, that figure spiked to 10.2%, before easing slightly to 9.4% in Q3 2025. Approximately one million borrowers had loans transferred to the Default Resolution Group. The transition rate into serious delinquency rose to 14.3% in Q3 2025 — the highest ever recorded. This delinquency surge disproportionately affects younger borrowers, dampening their credit demand, delaying homeownership, and reducing consumption capacity across the broader economy.

Delinquency Rates by Loan Category — Q3 2025

Key Statistics

US Bank Loans — Key Statistics at a Glance

$13.5TTotal Bank Loans Q4 2025+5.9% YoY, +2.0% QoQ — loans & leases FDIC-insured $18.59THousehold Debt Q3 2025Record — mortgage 74%, consumer 26% of total $13.17TMortgage Debt Q4 2025$512B originations Q3 — strongest since 2022 $1.28TCredit Card Balances+4.2% YoY — 582M accounts, 20.8% utilisation $1.67TAuto Loan Balances87M accounts — delinquencies elevated across income levels $1.66TStudent Loan Balances9.4% serious delinquency — moratorium reporting effect

$77.7BBank Net Income Q4 2025+16.5% YoY — ROA 1.13%, NI spread 3.39% 60Problem Banks Q4 20251.4% of all banks — DIF at $153.9B

Outlook

Outlook 2026-2027 — Rate Cuts, CRE Resolution, and Consumer Bifurcation

The US bank lending outlook for 2026-2027 will be shaped by several key dynamics. **Interest rate policy** remains the dominant variable: further Fed rate cuts would ease borrowing costs, boost mortgage originations, reduce the pressure on CRE refinancing, and lower the cost of carrying revolving credit card debt. However, persistent inflation, tariff-induced price pressures, and fiscal uncertainty may limit the pace and magnitude of rate reductions, keeping lending conditions tighter than the pre-pandemic norm for an extended period.

Consumer credit bifurcation is likely to deepen. Prime and super-prime borrowers — those with strong credit scores, ample home equity, and stable employment — continue to have abundant access to credit at competitive rates. Subprime and near-prime borrowers face an increasingly difficult environment: tighter lending standards, higher interest rates, and reduced access to credit card limits and auto financing. This "K-shaped" consumer credit market means that aggregate statistics can mask significant stress at the lower end of the income and credit spectrum, even as headline figures like bank profitability and total loan growth appear healthy.

Commercial real estate will remain the banking industry's most significant risk management challenge through at least 2027. The office property segment faces a structural — not cyclical — decline in demand, meaning that vacancy rates are unlikely to return to pre-pandemic levels regardless of economic conditions. Banks with concentrated CRE exposures will need to work through maturing loans through a combination of loan extensions (the "extend and pretend" strategy), forced sales, write-downs, and restructurings. The resolution process will be gradual rather than sudden, but the cumulative impact on smaller and mid-size bank earnings could be significant.

US Bank Lending OutlookKey Projections 2026-2027 4-5%Expected Loan Growth 2026 $14T+Total Loans 2026E ~$19THousehold Debt 2026E 0.5-0.7%Net Charge-Off Range CREKey Risk — Office Sector Rate CutsKey Catalyst — Fed Policy

FAQ

Frequently Asked Questions — US Bank Loans

$13.5 trillion in Q4 2025, +5.9% YoY, +2.0% QoQ. Largest categories: real estate-secured loans, C&I loans, consumer loans. Annual loan growth rate of 4% — below pre-pandemic average of 4.9%.

$18.59T record in Q3 2025. Mortgage: $13.17T (74%). Credit cards: $1.28T. Auto: $1.67T. Student: $1.66T. HELOC: $434B. Growing at ~3.5% annually — consistent with pre-pandemic trend.

4.8% in Q4 2025. Net charge-offs: 0.6% (12bp above pre-pandemic avg). Student loans: 9.4% serious delinquency. Credit card 60+ DPD: ~2.79%. CRE office PDNA: 4.33% at large banks vs 0.59% pre-pandemic.

Q4 2025 net income **$77.7B** (+16.5% YoY). ROA: 1.13%. Net interest spread: 3.39% — highest since 2019. 60 problem banks. DIF: $153.9B. Industry well-capitalised but navigating CRE and consumer stress.

Banks provide **~$3T in CRE financing**. Office sector hit hardest — structural decline from remote work. PDNA rate at large banks: 4.33% (vs 0.59% pre-pandemic). Smaller banks have highest CRE concentration (25-40% of assets). Extend-and-pretend strategy dominant.

Data Sources & References

Primary: Federal Reserve — H.8 Assets and Liabilities of Commercial Banks

Primary: FDIC — Quarterly Banking Profile

Primary: NY Fed — Household Debt and Credit Report

BusinessStats: All analysis, trend calculations, segment breakdowns, and forecasts are based on BusinessStats proprietary research combining Federal Reserve releases, FDIC Call Reports, NY Fed Consumer Credit Panel data, and macroeconomic modelling.

Bank loan and balance sheet data from FDIC Call Reports and Federal Reserve H.8 releases. Household debt data from NY Fed Consumer Credit Panel/Equifax. Consumer credit trends from Federal Reserve G.19 and credit bureau reports. All figures are seasonally adjusted unless otherwise noted. All analysis and commentary by BusinessStats Research Desk. This report does not constitute financial or investment advice. US Bank Loans 2026Household DebtMortgage LendingCredit Card DebtAuto LoansStudent LoansFDIC BankingCommercial Real EstateDelinquency RatesConsumer Credit

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