# Private Briefing

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Week of
July 6, 2026

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# Key Charts



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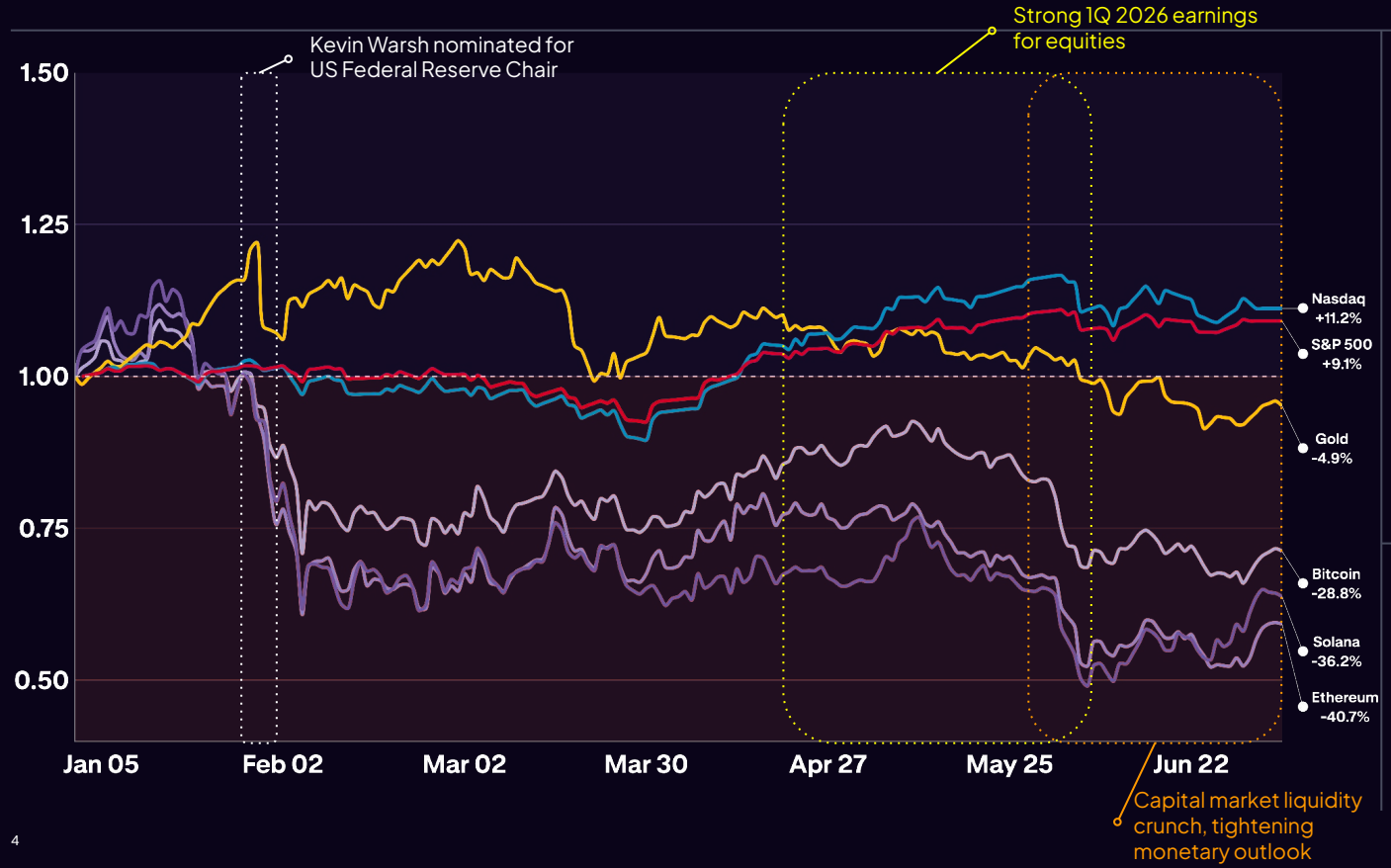
# Crypto and gold gap to YTD lows as equities consolidate.




Crypto investors are battling two narratives — high downside correlation to equities and tightening liquidity conditions.

Bitcoin's daily correlation to the S&P 500 climbs from +0.30 on up days to +0.39 on down days (Nasdaq: from +0.31 to +0.39).

The damage is starkest on a trailing-year basis: Bitcoin trailed the Nasdaq by 74 percentage points and the S&P 500 by 66 percentage points — 4th- and 5th-percentile readings since 2014, respectively.

- Bitcoin
- Ethereum
- Solana
- S&P 500
- Nasdaq
- Gold

**Notes**

YTD performance indexed to 100 at the start of the year; data from Kraken and FMP.



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# Correlations with risk-on assets rise again after tapping YTD lows.




Bitcoin's 30–day rolling correlations with other risk assets during 1H 2026 reached peak extremes relative to historical averages.

Bitcoin's positive correlation with US equity indices extended above +0.70 early in 2026, finishing 1H closer to +0.50, suggestive of Bitcoin's relationship with risk-on sentiment.

Bitcoin's correlation with crude oil and the US dollar index turned sharply negative post the US-Iran conflict, reflecting shifting expectations in monetary policy outlook.

- Bitcoin vs. S&P 500
- Bitcoin vs. Crude Oil
- Bitcoin vs. US Dollar Index

**Notes**

Correlation is calculated on a 30–day rolling window of the logarithmic price change during mutual market open days; data from FMP, Kraken.



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# Bitcoin fell to its 200W MA — historically a strong support level.




Bitcoin's current price of $63,200 is +$600 (+1.0%) relative to its 200W MA of $62,600.

Historically the 200W MA has served as a cycle-floor reference. During the 2020 COVID crash and the 2022–23 bear cycle, Bitcoin broke below for stretches before recovering. During the 2018–19 market cycle, the moving average held as the exact support — Bitcoin came within 0.4% during the December 2018 trough without closing below.

Today's reading places Bitcoin in a historically "deep value" zone.

**Notes**

200W Moving Average (200W MA) is calculated by taking the average of the weekly closing price over a rolling 200-week period; data from Kraken.



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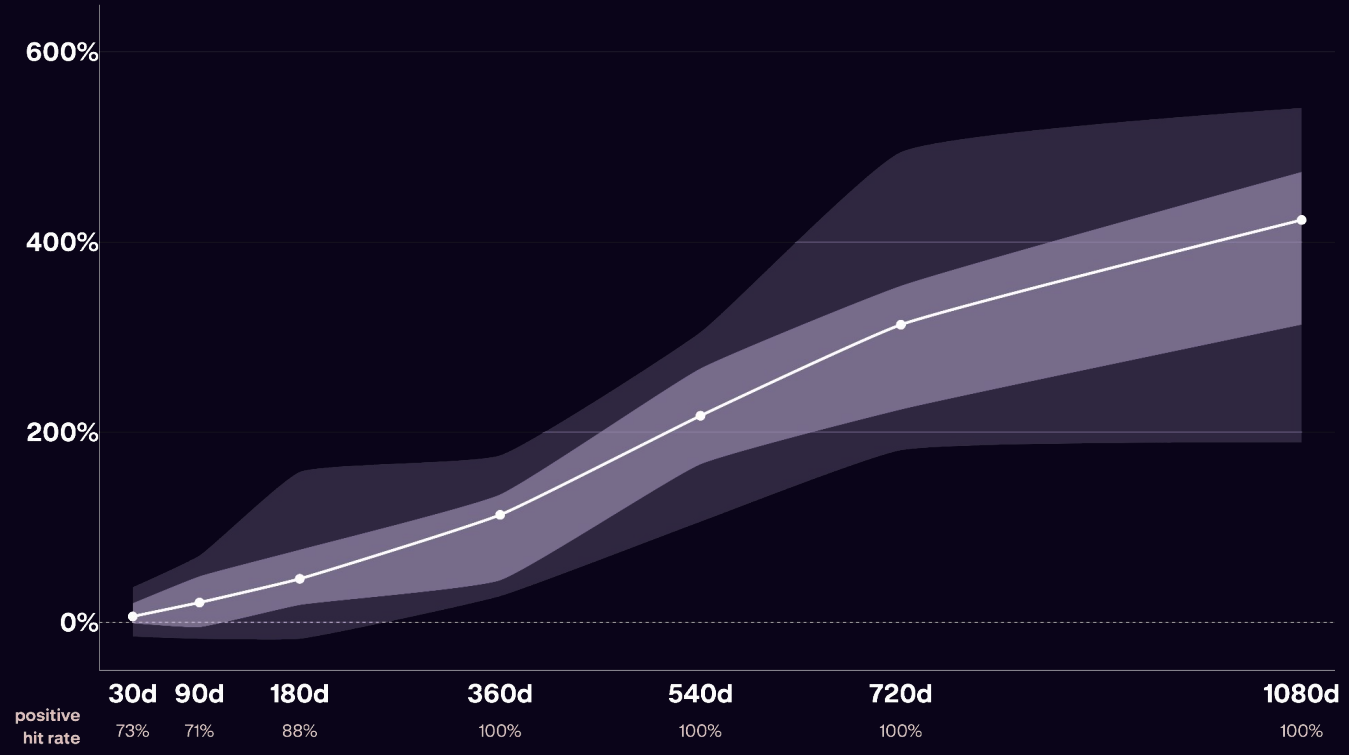
# Allocating below the 200W MA historically delivers exceptional returns.




Since 2017, Bitcoin's daily price closed below the 200W MA on 335 sessions (~10% of total days).

In prior cycles, representing 323 sessions, forward returns on a 30-, 90-, and 180-day holding period realized positive hit rates between 72% to 88%. Holding periods beyond 1-year returned a median of +113% with a 100% hit rate.

Worst case drawdowns were between -22% to -27% for holding periods under 180-day stretches.

Note: this signal triggered briefly in the 2018/19 cycle and prominently reflects the 2022/23 cycle.

**Notes**
200W MA computed as a 1400-day trailing daily SMA and forward returns computed at fixed calendar-day offsets; data from Kraken.



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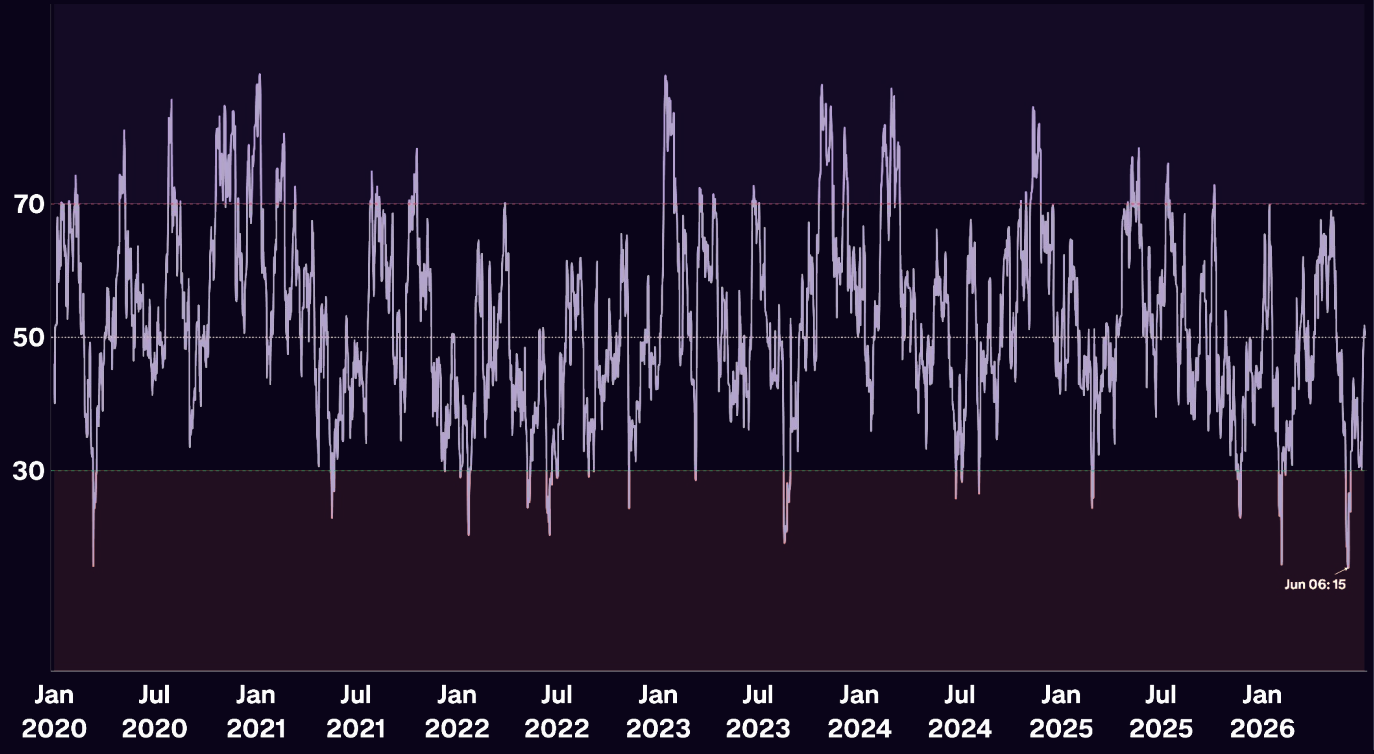
# Bitcoin RSI tests new multi-year low during recent sell-off.




Bitcoin's recent drawdown on June 6, 2026 brought the RSI down well into oversold conditions, the 5th lowest on record in Bitcoin's history and the lowest level since November 2018.

Currently, Bitcoin is trading at the lower end of neutral territory with an RSI of 50.

**Notes**
The Relative Strength Index (RSI) measures 14-day price momentum to indicate overbought and oversold market conditions; data from Kraken.



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# Ethereum fell to weakest deviation to 200W MA since mid-2025.




Ethereum's current price of $1,775 is -$695 (-28.1%) relative to its 200W MA of $2,470.

Ethereum has a mixed relationship with the 200W MA. Despite strong performance in crypto markets during 1H 2025, Ethereum traded well below its 200W MA up until the emergence of digital asset treasury companies like Bitmine (BMNR) during 3Q 2025.

After falling below the 200W MA in 2026, Ethereum has yet to successfully break out above the resistance.

**Notes**
200W Moving Average (200W MA) is calculated by taking the average of the weekly closing price over a rolling 200–week period; data from Kraken.



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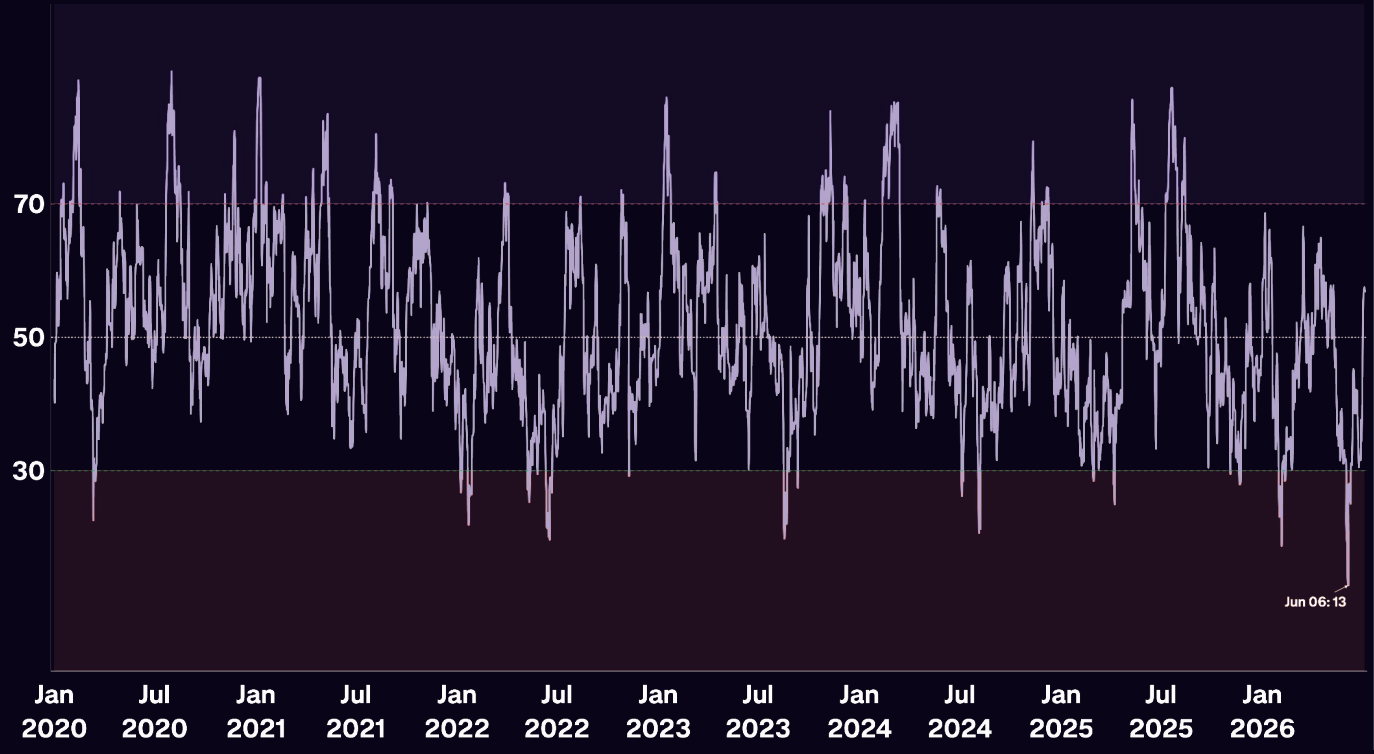
# Ethereum returns to neutral conditions after RSI falls to multi-year low.




Ethereum's recent performance brought its RSI to a fresh multi-year low, surpassing the early-February 2026 sell off.

Ethereum is currently trading at the lower end of neutral territory with an RSI of 57.

**Notes**
The Relative Strength Index (RSI) measures 14-day price momentum to indicate overbought and oversold market conditions; data from Kraken.



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# Solana now trades at weakest level relative to 200W MA in 2026.




Solana's current price of $80 is -$27 (-25.2%) relative to its 200W MA of $107.

Solana, similar to Ethereum, broke through its 200W MA early in 2026 and failed to break out above its resistance.

Solana's current discount to the 200W MA reached multi-year lows of the 2022/23 bear market cycle.

**Notes**
200W Moving Average (200W MA) is calculated by taking the average of the weekly closing price over a rolling 200–week period; data from Kraken.



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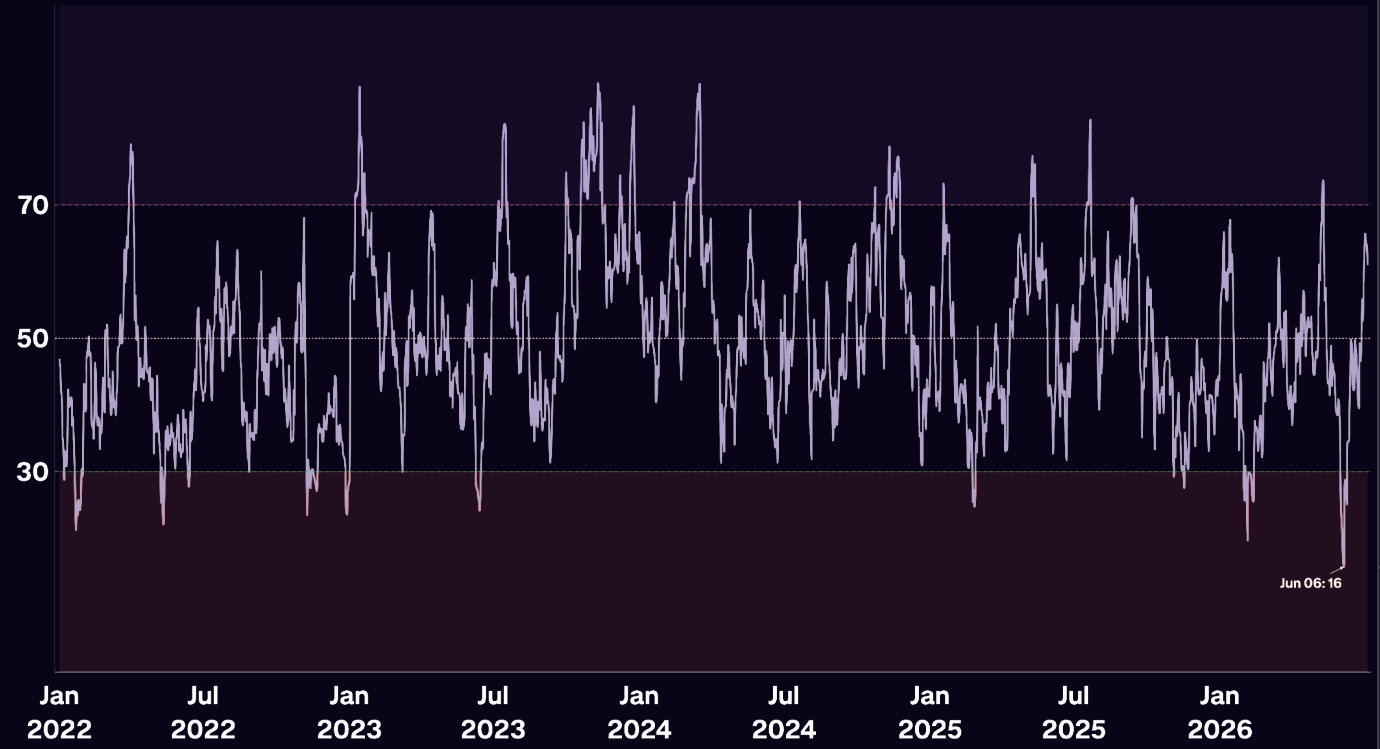
# Similar to Bitcoin and Ethereum, Solana's RSI met a new multi-year low.




Solana's recent performance brought its RSI to a multi-year low.

The recent pullback in asset prices has Solana trading in neutral territory with an RSI of 60.

**Notes**
The Relative Strength Index (RSI) measures 14-day price momentum to indicate overbought and oversold market conditions; data from Kraken.



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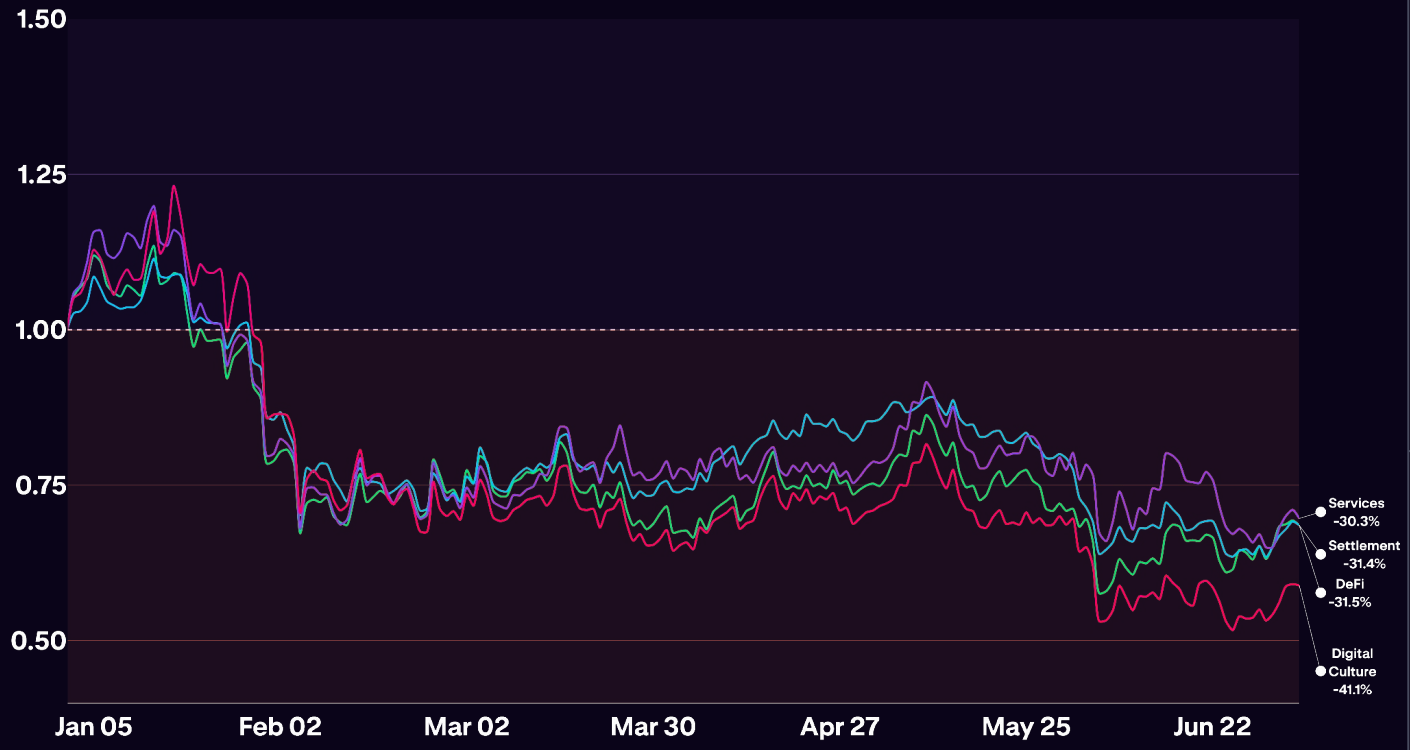
# Crypto sectors trade in unison — sector selection offers little shelter.




Leveraging CF Benchmarks' Digital Asset Classification Structure (DACS), the top-4 sectors fell in lockstep.

Pairwise correlation of daily returns is +0.86 (90-day) and cross-sector dispersion, measured as the difference between the worst and best performer, is near the low end of its historical range.

Digital Culture (-41%) was the clear laggard during 1H 2026, likely driven by underperformance in the meme coin category.

- Services
- DeFi
- Settlement
- Digital Culture

**Notes**

YTD performance indexed to 100 at the start of the year, correlations and dispersion measured using daily returns for 4 DACS sectors; data from CF Benchmarks.



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# Macro



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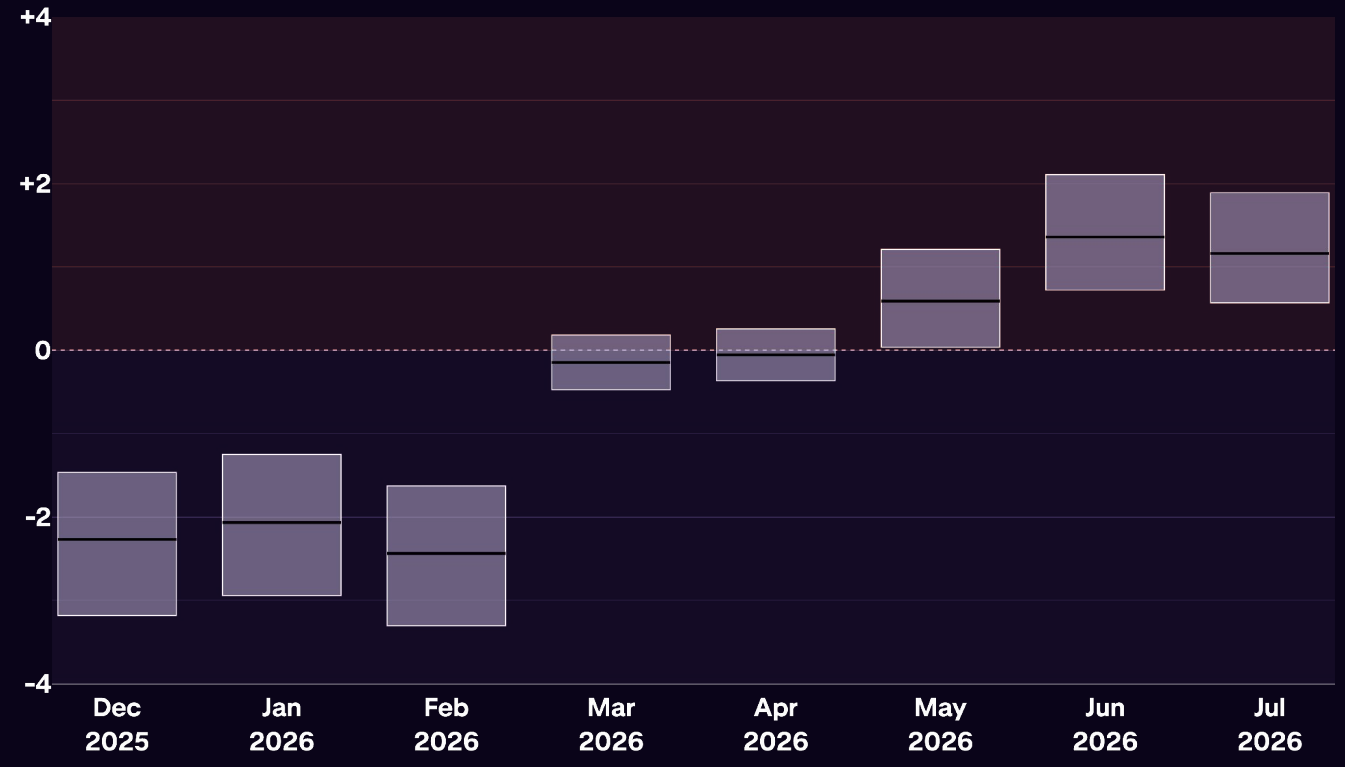
# Dec-2026 FOMC expectations flipped from 2+ cuts to 1+ hike in 1H 2026.




Entering 2026, CME futures priced 2 to 3 rate cuts in the US, totaling 37 to 80 basis points by year-end. That dovish stance held through February before collapsing in March, following the outbreak of the US-Iran conflict.

The rise in crude oil prices re-accelerated inflation to multi-year highs. By April, the dovish outlook further deteriorated with Powell's announcement that he would remain on the Board of Governors after his term as chairman expired, breaking a nearly 80 year tradition.

As of now, median expectations call for 1–2 rate hikes by year-end, a ~90 basis point swing.

**Notes**
Boxes represent the IQR of implied interest rate distribution while the line represents the median measure; data from CME FedWatch.



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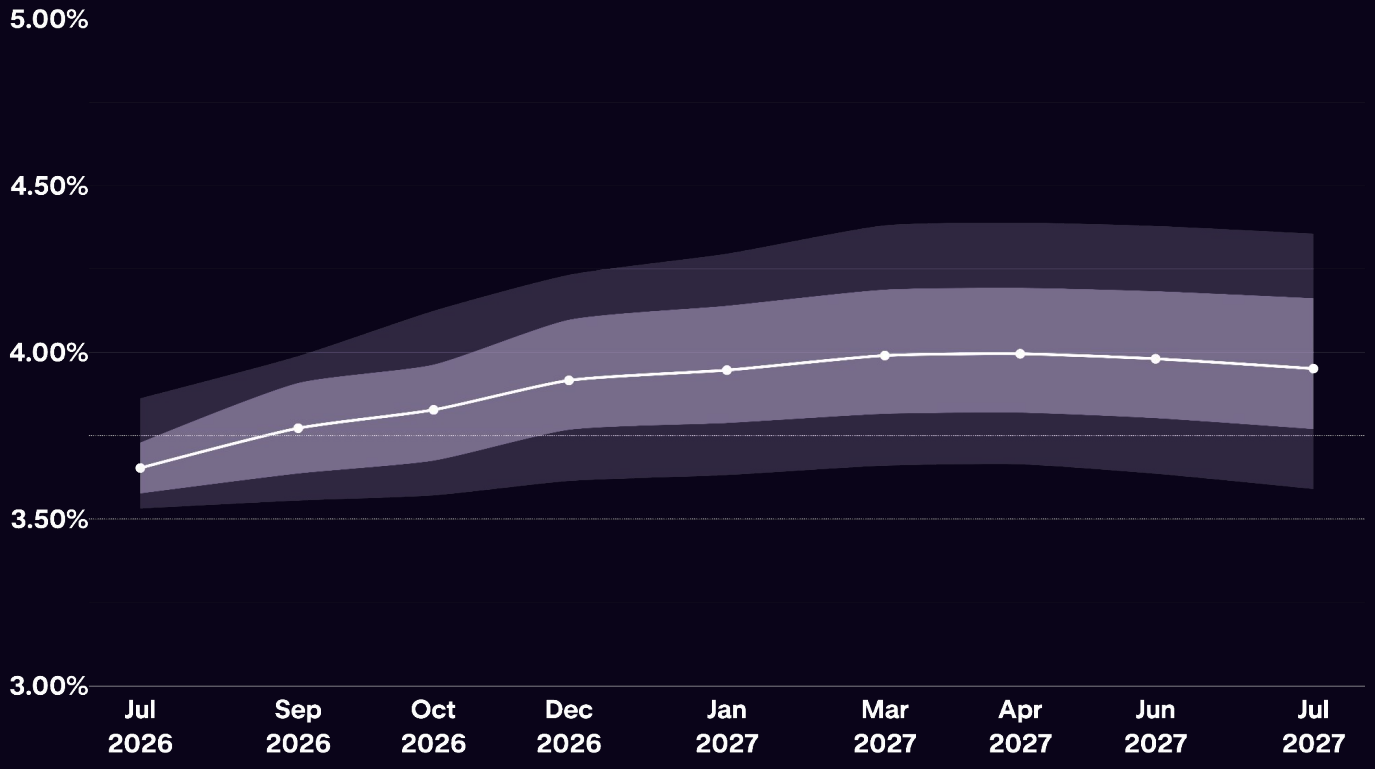
# The forward curve implies accommodative policy is 8–9 months away.




As of mid-2026, the median curve forward curve for US interest rates peak in March or April 2027 before drifting marginally lower into mid-2027.

The dispersion band is noteworthy: the IQR stays tight near-term, but widens to nearly 80 basis points by July 2027. The market is pricing total certainty that even the US is tracking towards a rate hike, but lacks confidence on whether it's 25bps or materially higher.

This pattern speaks to the path dependence and volatility of the moment.

**Notes**
Bands represent the 10–90 probability range and the IQR while the segmented line represents the median expectation; data from CME FedWatch.



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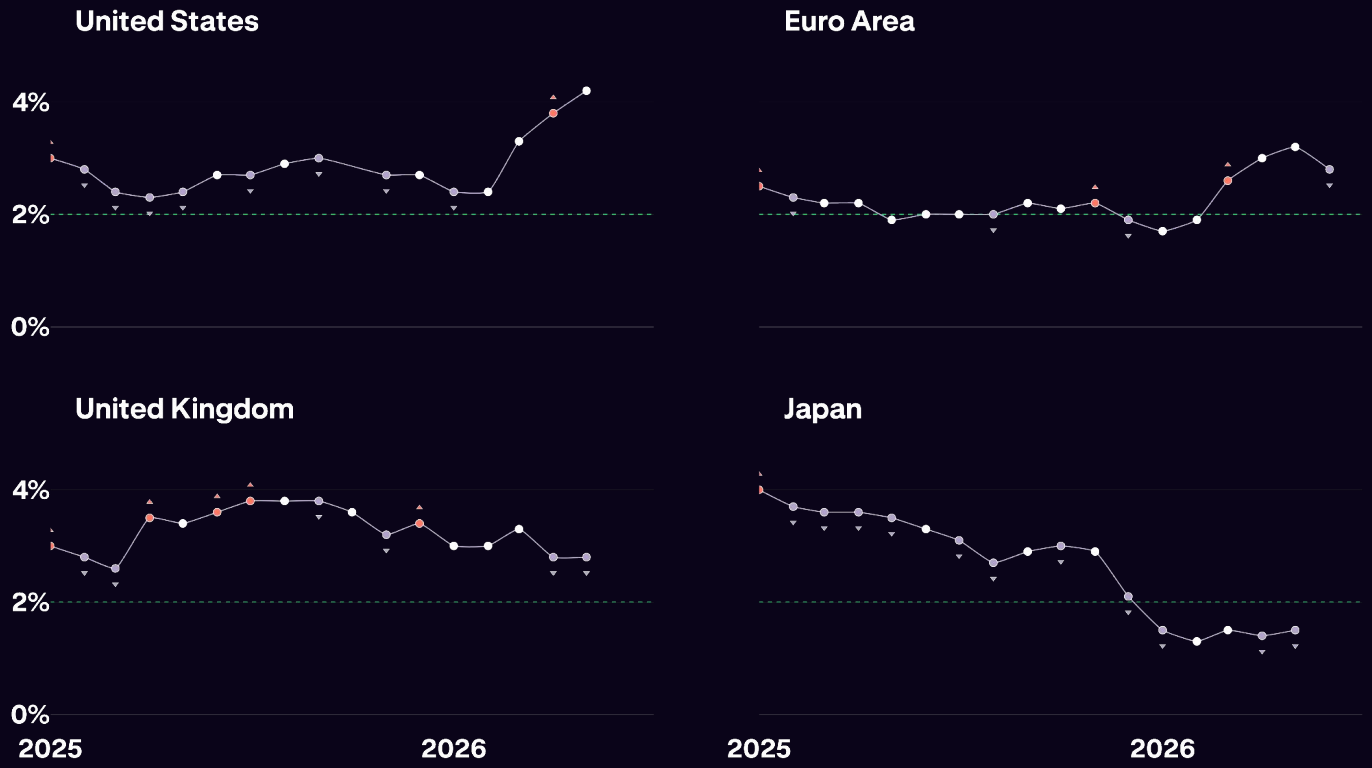
# Accelerating inflation plagues many developed economies worldwide.




The US, UK, and EU are experiencing consumer inflation substantially higher than their long-term target of 2%.

The US and EU are facing sharper, near-term acceleration in inflation, driven largely by energy prices. Inflation in 1H 2026 was generally in-line or higher-than-expected relative to consensus in both regions.

During 2Q 2026, the EU pivoted to raising interest rates for the first time since 2023. Japan followed shortly thereafter with a 25bps rate hike to counter inflationary pressures.

**Notes**
Headline consumer price index (CPI) YoY changes for US, EU, UK, and JP with indicators reflecting whether the publication was below, in-line, or above consensus expectations; data from FMP.



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# Quantitative tightening largely stalled, but did not reverse in 1H 2026.




Global central bank balance sheets tightened by -$0.6T YTD 2026 to $28.8T, representing a -2.0% change.

Expansion in China ($0.3T) and the US ($0.1T) was largely offset by tightening in the EU (-$0.5T) and Japan (-$0.4T).

Liquidity conditions in capital markets also reflect the conservative posture of central bank balance sheets with long-term sovereign yields in the US, EU, UK, and Japan reaching multi-decade highs during 1H 2026.

**Notes**
The sum of reported central bank balance sheets (total assets) across the 10 largest central banks globally, converted into USD and measured in trillions; data from MacroMicro.



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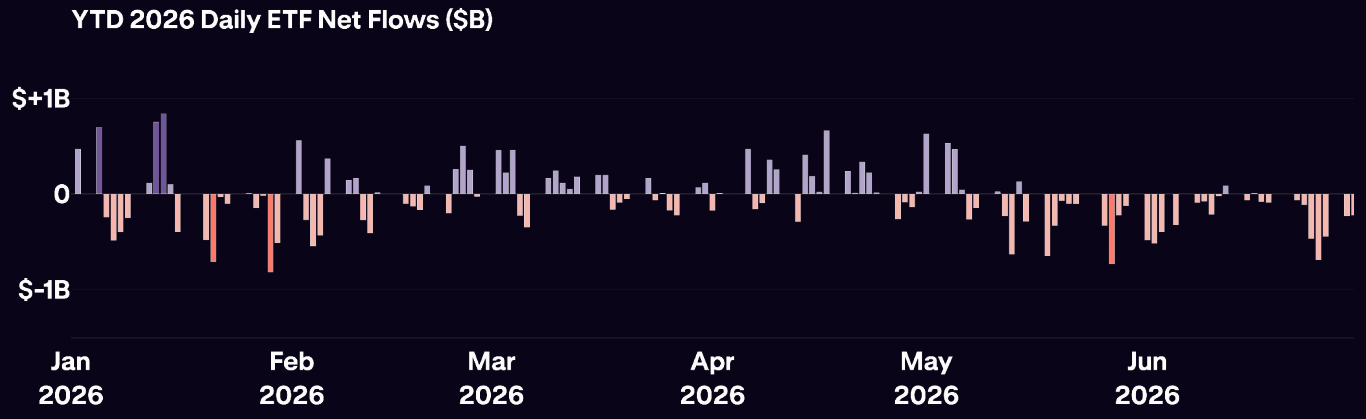
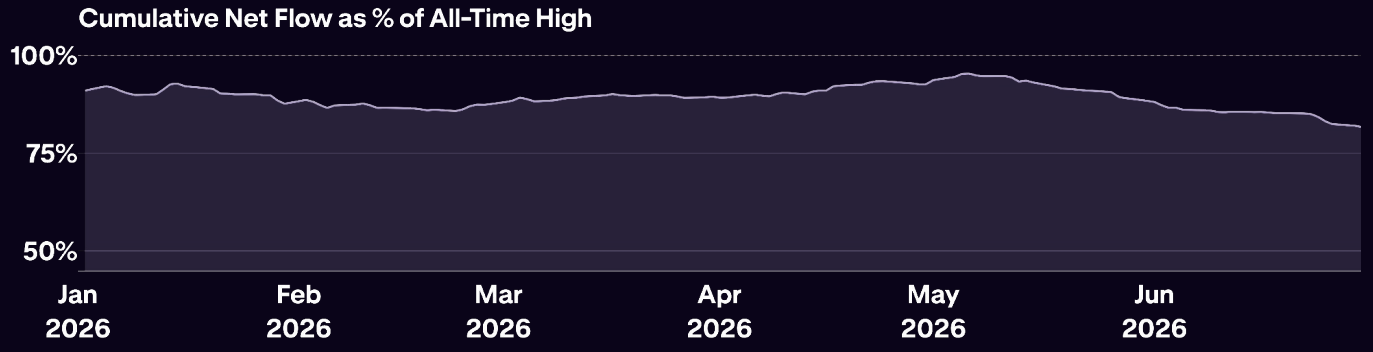
# Market



# Cumulative Bitcoin ETF flows fell to 82% of the Oct 2025 high water mark.




Bitcoin ETF flows during 1H 2026 flipped negative, totaling -$5.4B, with only 43% of trading sessions posting inflows.

The period beginning mid-May and through June 2026 proved particularly painful. Against a tighter monetary policy outlook and significant capital markets activity in AI-themed investment narratives, ETFs shed -$7.5B of Bitcoin with only 3 of 31 trading sessions (10%) seeing meager inflow activity.

Cumulative net flows since inception are currently 82% of the high water market of $63.1B set in October 2025, despite the -52% drawdown.

**Notes**
Daily ETF net flows represent ETF redemptions and creations, a proxy for spot Bitcoin purchases and sales; data from CoinGlass.



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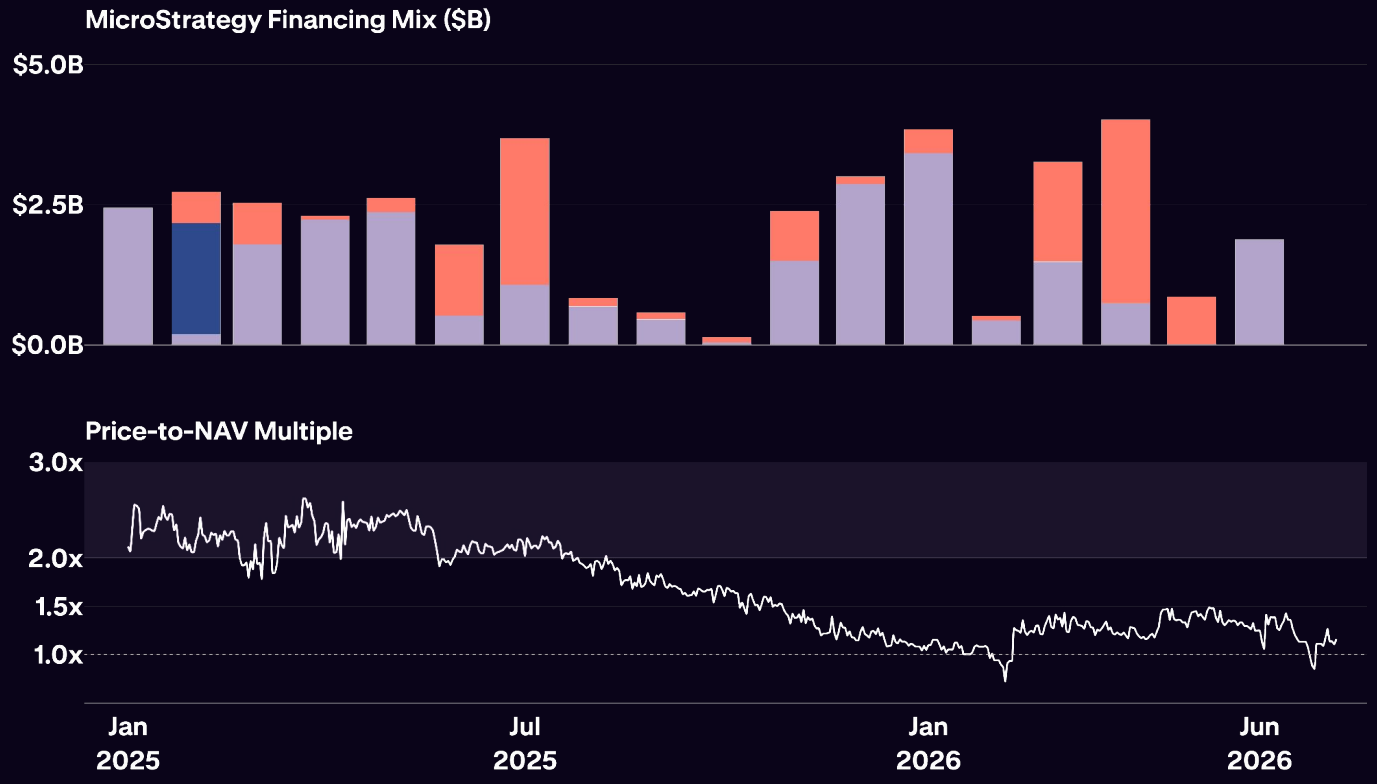
# MicroStrategy's cost of capital shifts higher during 1H 2026.




During 2025, MicroStrategy raised $16B of common equity via their at-the-market (ATM) facility. This generated significant accretion to net asset value (NAV) due to their stock trading as high as 2.62x on a price-to-NAV basis.

During 2Q 2026, MicroStrategy's capital raising shifted towards higher cost preferred equity, representing 64% of capital raised. The common equity price-to-NAV is currently ~1.2x.

- Common Equity
- Preferred Equity
- Convertible Debt

**Notes**

Price-to-NAV multiple measures the diluted market capitalization divided by Bitcoin held, less preferred equity at liquidation value and convertible debt, using treasury stock method; data from FMP, MicroStrategy.



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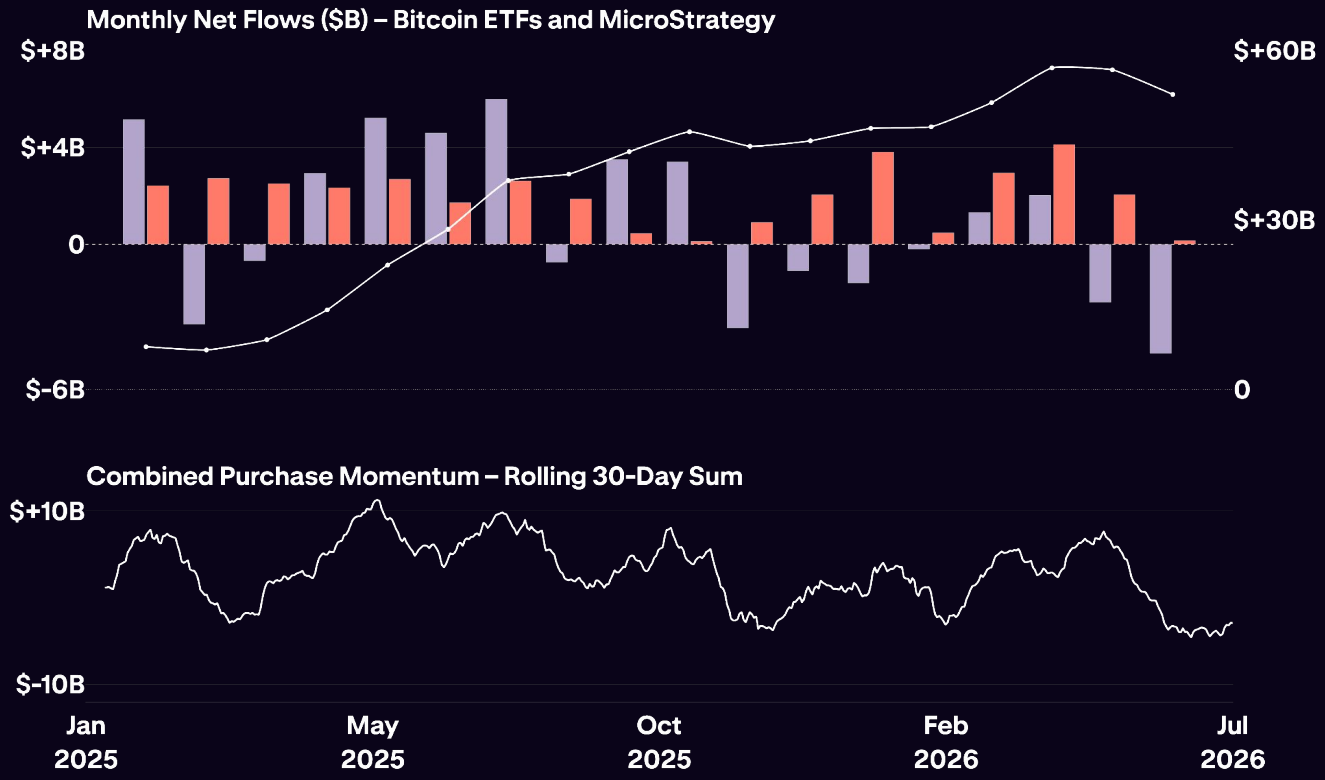
# Bitcoin ETFs swung to net outflows while MicroStrategy kept stacking.




US equity market demand for Bitcoin between ETFs and MicroStrategy peaked during 2Q 2025 and decayed to a record, 2.5-year low of -$4.3B in June 2026.

ETFs, representing price-sensitive demand, were strong net sellers during January, May, and June. MicroStrategy offset much of this weakness, driving a relief rally in the back half of March through early-May once ETFs flipped back to net buyers.

During 1H 2026, ETFs set new records for sequential sessions of outflows.

- Bitcoin ETFs
- MicroStrategy

**Notes**

Net flows represent the aggregate sum of Bitcoin ETF daily flows versus reported purchase activity from MicroStrategy; data from CoinGlass, MicroStrategy.



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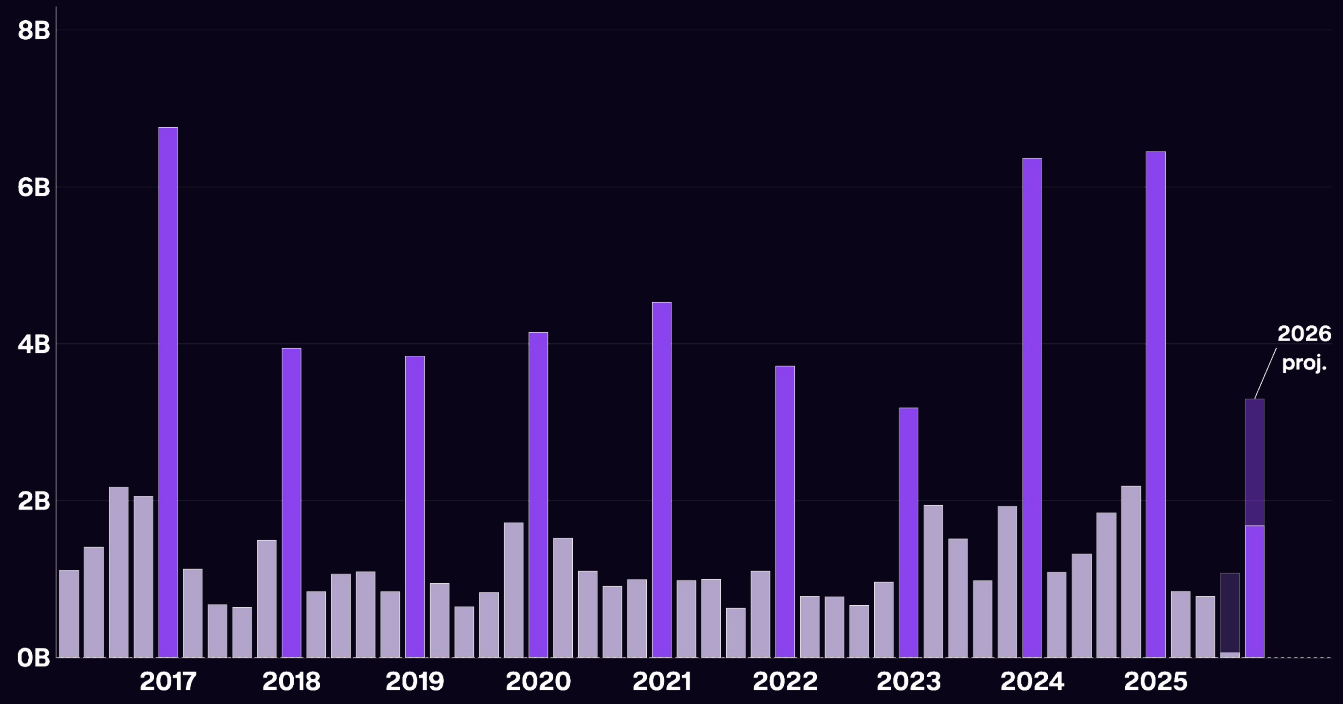
# Bitcoin coin days destroyed tracks toward 3-year low.




Coin days destroyed (CDD) — the age-weighted measure of dormant bitcoins moving on-chain — spiked to 6.4B in 2024 and 6.5B in 2025, the heaviest back-to-back years of long-term holder distribution since the 2017 peak (6.8B).

Based on 1H 2026 activity, 2026 is projected to realize a -49% YoY decline (projected 3.3B).

Historically, this level of activity coincides with bear market accumulation and consolidation of supply into lower prices.

Quarterly Period

Annual Period

**Notes**

Bitcoin coin days destroyed (CDD) in billions of days, transparent areas are linear projections for the associated period; data from Blockchair.



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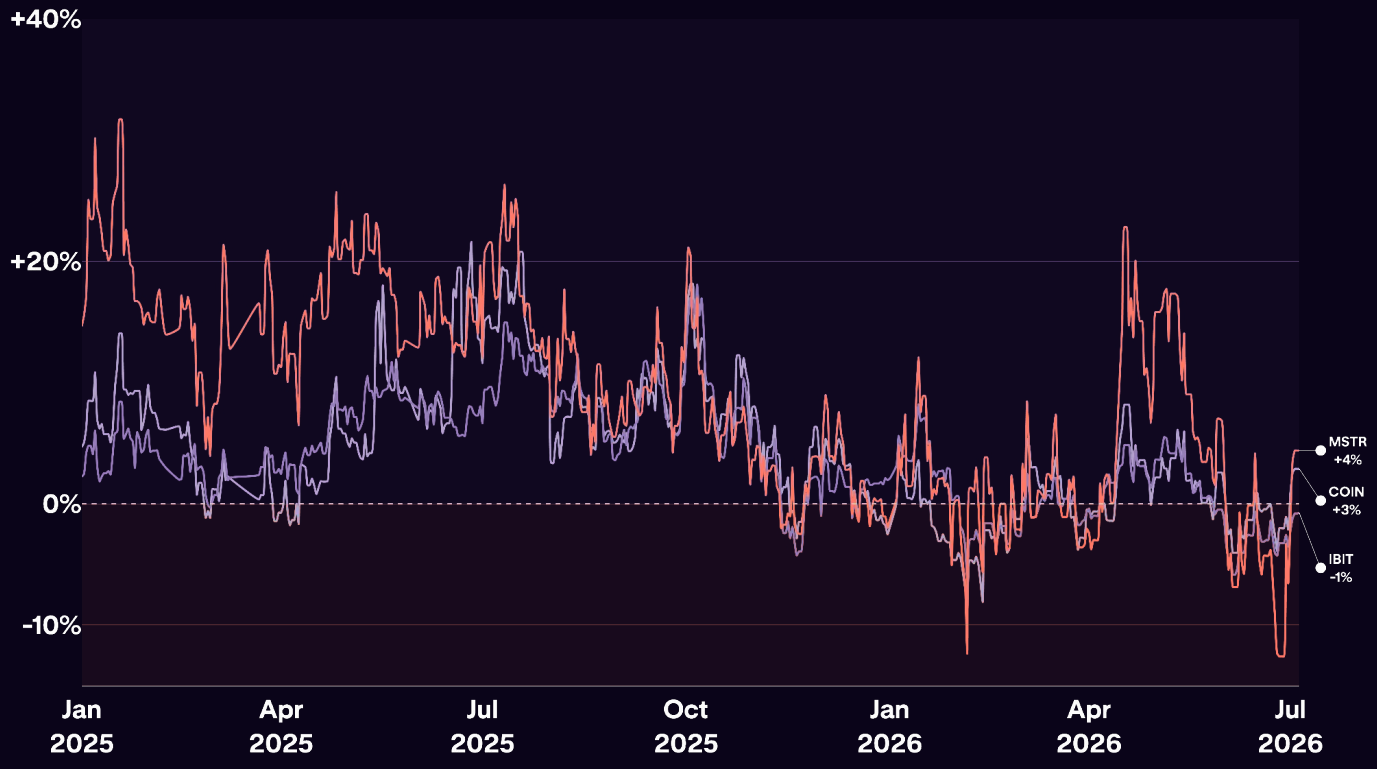
# Options positioning in crypto-themed equities turns bearish in 1H 2026.




Synthetic net long positioning in option markets for crypto-themed equities peaked during mid-2025 and October 2025, corresponding with record capital flows and asset prices.

During 1H 2026, option positioning flipped notably bearish, indicative of both hedging activity and speculative net short positioning.

- Coinbase (COIN)
- Blackrock Bitcoin ETF (IBIT)
- MicroStrategy (MSTR)

**Notes**

Option positioning represents net total open interest, calculated using the delta-adjusted notional value, and presented as a percentage of market capitalization ; data from FMP, the OCC.



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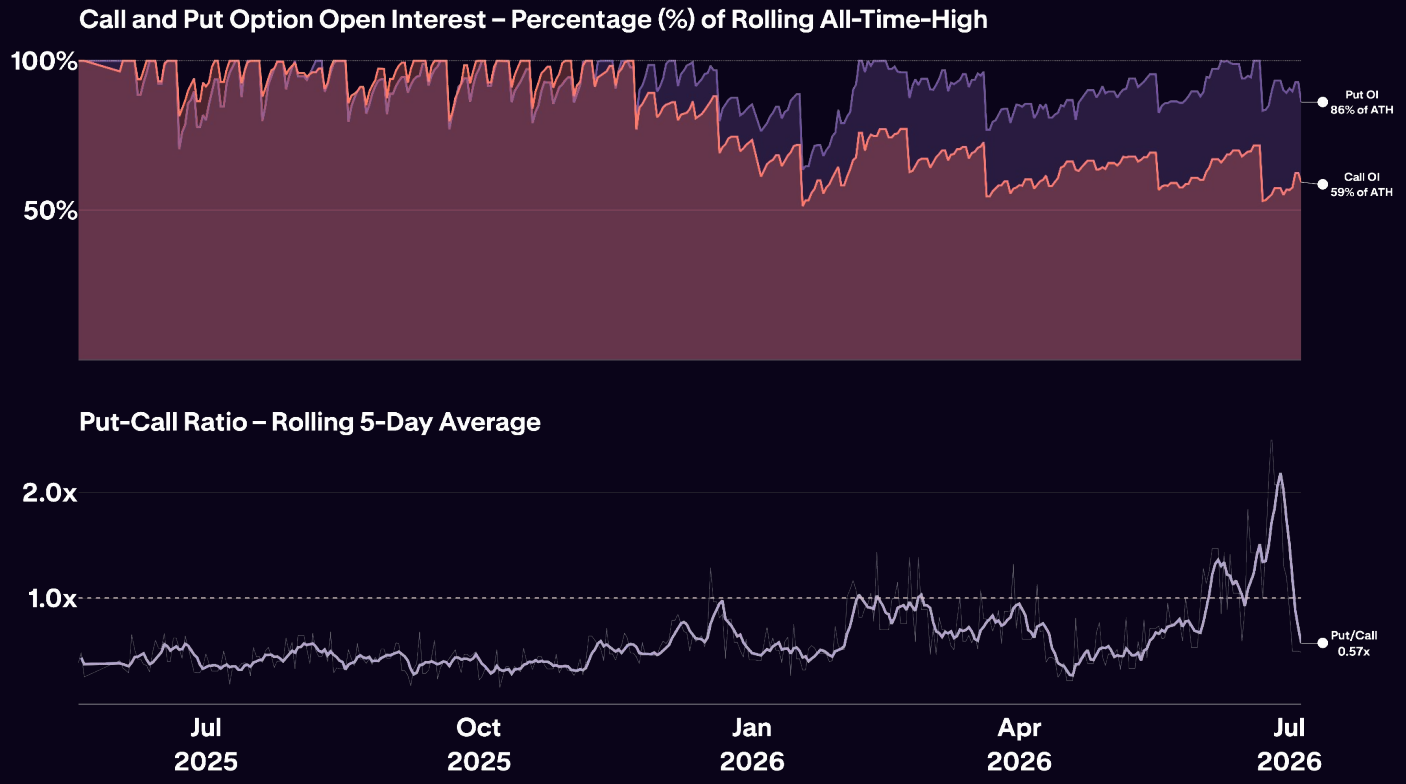
# IBIT positioning turns defensive — calls fade while puts hold near records.




Call option open interest drew down to 57% of its all-time-high during 1H 2026.

Conversely, put option open interest set multiple all-time-highs in February and June of 2026 (peak 3.1M).

Positioning in 1H 2026 became very defensive towards the end of the period, with the put-call ratio pushing records above 2.18× (5–day rolling).

The average put-call ratio in 1H 2026 grew +68% to 0.78× versus 0.46× during 2H 2025.

**Notes**
Open interest as a percentage of all-time-high (top panel) and put-call ratio with 5–day rolling average (bottom panel); data from the OCC.



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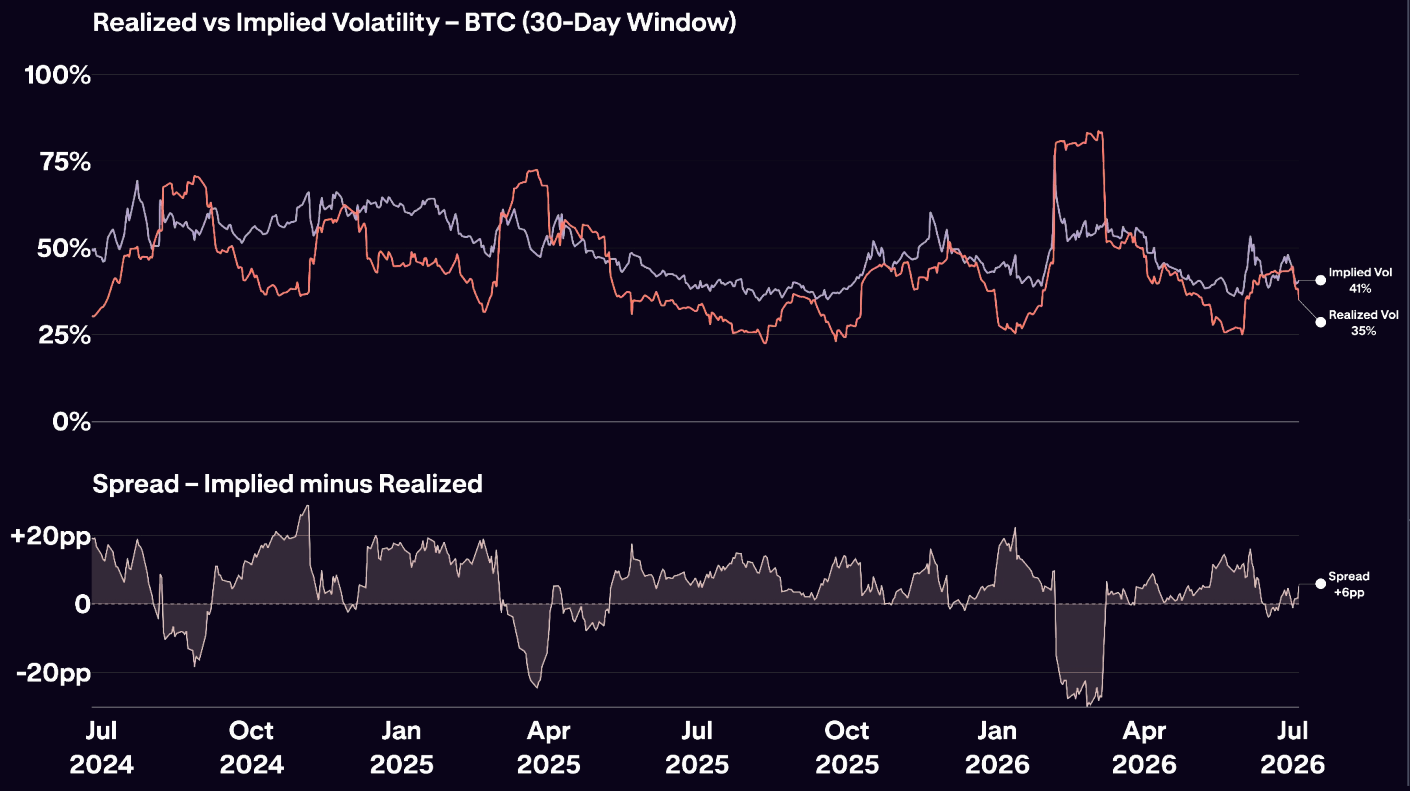
# Bitcoin realized and implied volatility normalize after tapping YTD lows.




Both Bitcoin realized and implied volatility rose to multi-year highs through the early-Feb 2026 sell-off.

Both have since cooled with realized and implied volatility averaging 45% and 47% in 1H 2026, respectively.

During this period, the spread between implied and realized volatility grew to multi-year highs, a similar pattern during macro unwind events – for example, the Japan carry trade unwind during August 2024 and Liberation Day in April 2025.

- Realized Volatility
- Implied Volatility (BVXS)

**Notes**
Realized volatility measured over a 30-day rolling basis and implied volatility references BVXS; data from Kraken, CF Benchmarks.



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# Catalyst Calendar

Near-term events to keep an eye out for.

| North America | | Consensus | Prior Report |
|---|---|---|---|
| July 8, 2026 | US Fed FOMC Meeting Minutes | – | – |
| July 10, 2026 | Canada Unemployment Rate (June 2026) | 6.6% | 6.6% |
| July 14, 2026 | US Inflation Data (June 2026) | Headline: +3.9% (YoY)<br>Core: +2.9% (YoY) | Headline: +4.2% (YoY)<br>Core: +2.9% (YoY) |

| Europe | | Consensus | Prior Report |
|---|---|---|---|
| July 9, 2026 | EU ECB Meeting Minutes | – | – |

| Asia Pacific | | Consensus | Prior Report |
|---|---|---|---|
| July 8, 2026 | New Zealand RBNZ Interest Rate Decision | 2.5% | 2.2% |
| July 9, 2026 | China Inflation Data (June 2026) | +1.2% (YoY) | +1.2% (YoY) |
| July 13, 2026 | India Inflation Data (June 2026) | +3.8% (YoY) | +3.9% (YoY) |
| July 14, 2026 | South Korea Unemployment Rate (June 2026) | 2.8% | 2.8% |



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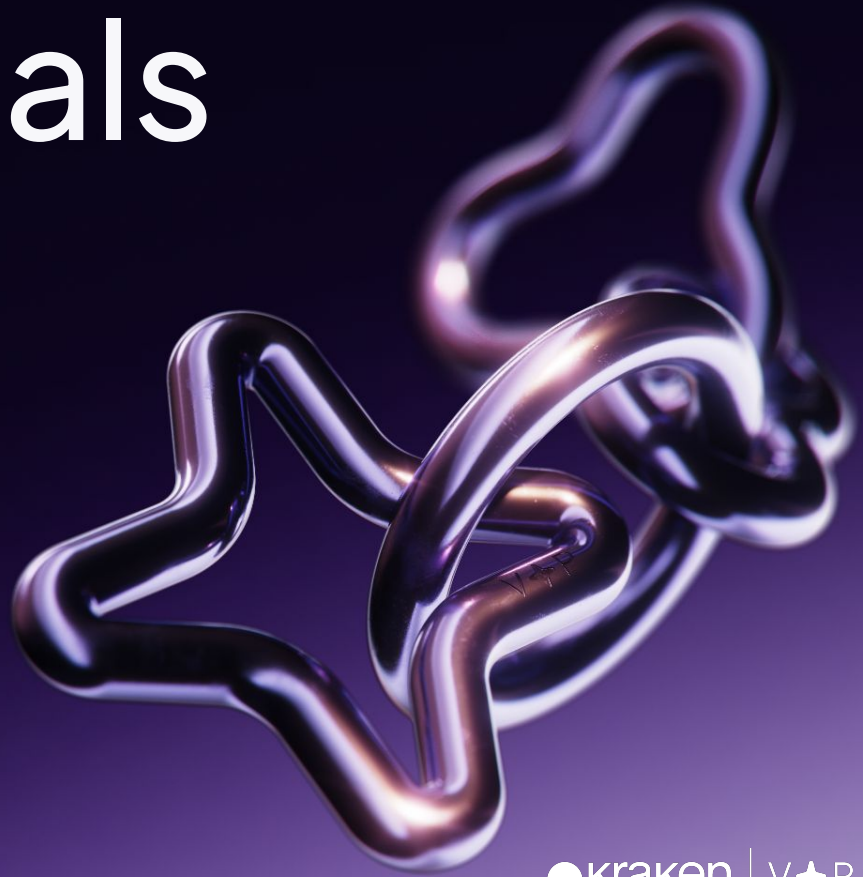
# Fundamentals



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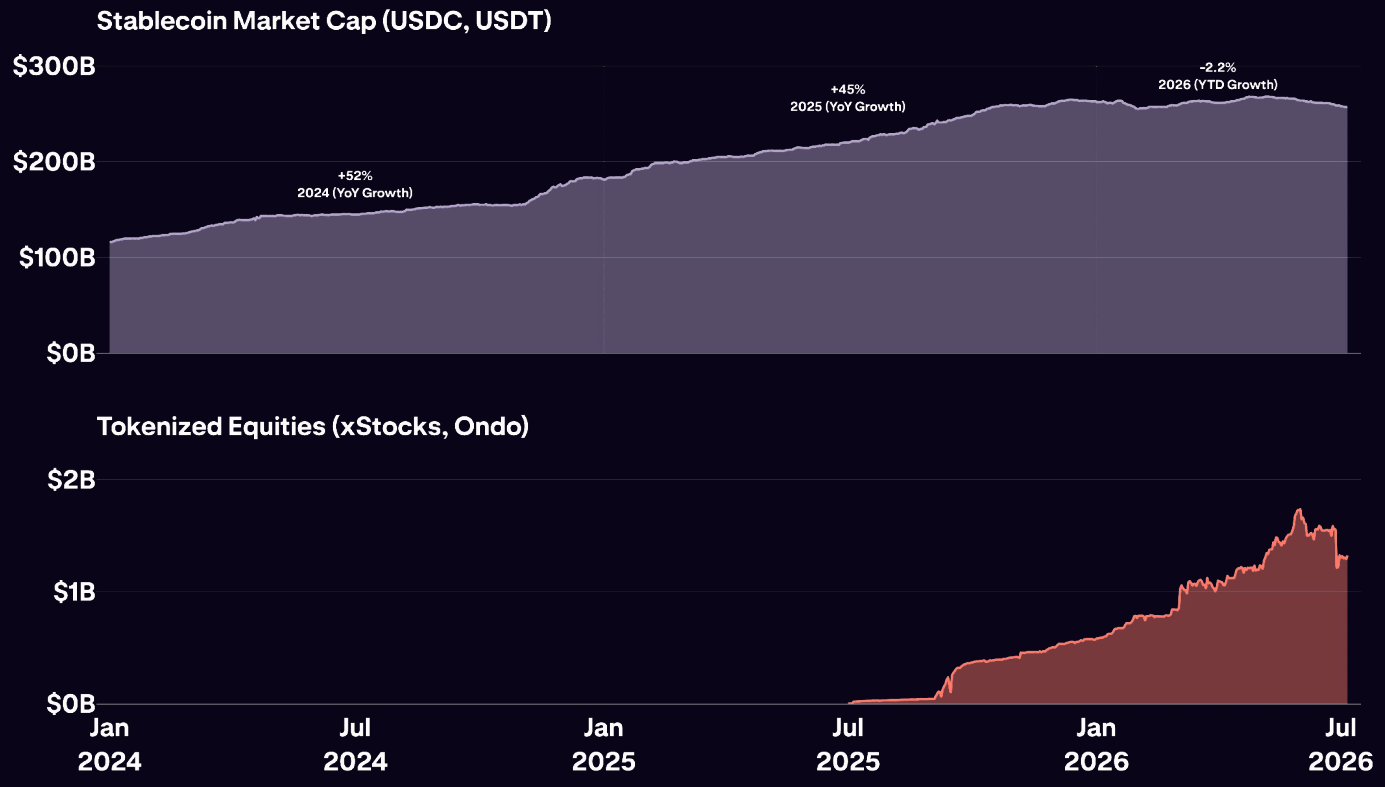
# Stablecoin growth stalls in 2026 while tokenized equities take off.




The circulating supply of USDC and USDT, representing capital flows into the crypto ecosystem is down -2.2% YTD 2026. This takes place after 2 years of strong, consistent growth (+52% in 2024, +45% in 2025).

Tokenized equities, in contrast, are in the early stages of achieving product-market fit, growing +127% during the same period.

Combined xStocks and Ondo Global Markets AUM finished 1H 2026 at $1.3B, up nearly $0.7B in the period.

**Notes**

Stablecoin growth measured as the combined market capitalization of USDC, USDT and tokenized equities represented by xStocks and Ondo Global Markets; data from DefiLlama.



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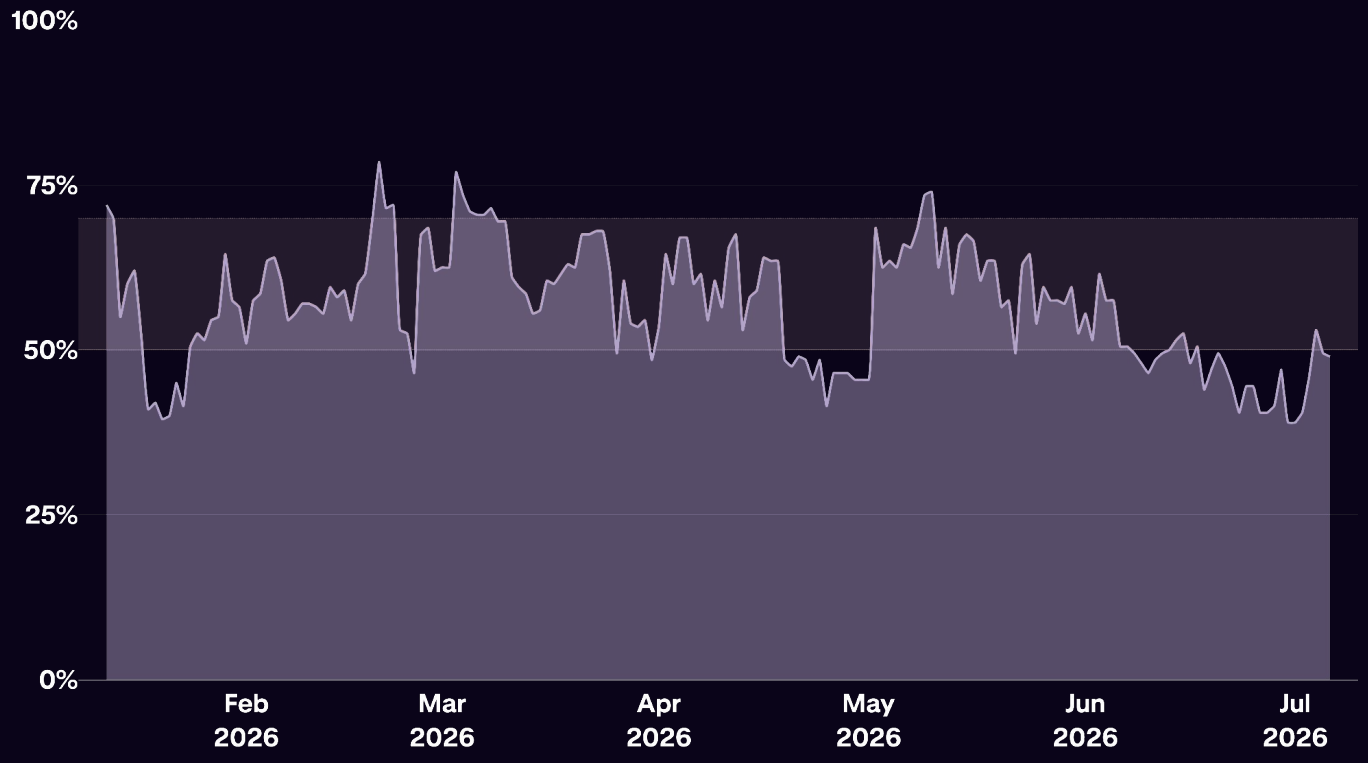
# Market turns skeptical on CLARITY Act odds given current timeline.




The CLARITY Act is an important proposed US legislation that will define market structure, regulation, and licensing for operators of US crypto market platforms.

The legislation will delineate the roles of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC).

The bill has been embroiled in debate between crypto lobbyists and banking industry lobbyists relating to the offering of stablecoin rewards to platform customers.

**Notes**
Historical time series open, high, low, close probability of CLARITY Act passage in 2026; data from Polymarket.



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# Bitcoin’s valuation parity with gold implies a price of $1.5M.




With gold’s significant outperformance over the last year, the hurdle for Bitcoin to achieve valuation parity is risen to an implied value of $1.5M per bitcoin.

Since the outbreak of conflict with Iran, oil markets are driving yields and USD strength higher. This has driven sharp gold underperformance recently.

- Bitcoin Market Price
- Bitcoin Gold Parity Price
- Valuation Gap

**Notes**

Bitcoin Gold Parity Price is the price required for Bitcoin to achieve valuation parity with the estimated above-ground supply of gold; data from World Gold Council, FMP, and Kraken.



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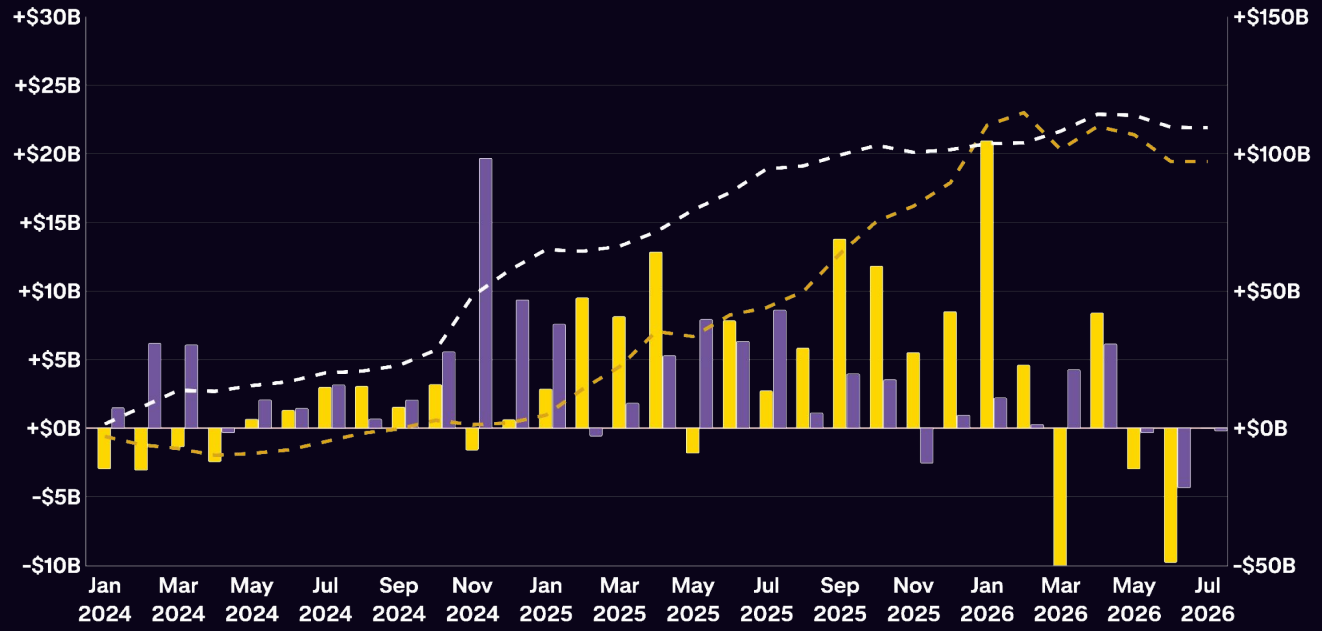
# Capital flows into gold match Bitcoin, but within compressed timeframe.




Gold and Bitcoin realized $97B and $110 of net inflows from equity market vehicles, respectively, since January 2024.

However, the totality of net flows into gold came almost exclusively in 2025, signaling possible rotation from Bitcoin.

- BTC ETF + MSTR Net Flows
- Cumulative BTC Net Flows
- Global Gold ETF Net Flows
- Cumulative Gold Net Flows

**Notes**
Monthly flows in US-listed Bitcoin ETFs plus MicroStrategy purchases versus global gold ETFs (LHS) in billions of USD; cumulative net flows (RHS) in billions of USD; data from CoinGlass, MacroMicro, and MicroStrategy.



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**Thomas Perfumo, CFA** is seasoned finance and strategy leader with deep expertise in digital assets and traditional capital markets.

He currently serves as Kraken's Chief Economist. During his 8-year tenure at Kraken he also led Business Operations and Strategy for the company.

Prior to Kraken, Thomas was a Long/Short Equity Analyst at Moore Capital Management, where he developed expertise in event-driven and special situation investment strategies.

Thomas is a Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) charterholder. He earned a bachelor's degree in Finance & Mathematics from the NYU Stern School of Business.





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# Thank you

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