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Who Owns the Most Bitcoin? (2023 Updated)

Original:

<https://www.btcc.com/en-US/academy/research-analysis/who-owns-the-most-bitcoin-2023-updated>

Who Owns the Most Bitcoin Now: The largest holder of Bitcoin is believed to be Satoshi Nakamoto, the pseudonymous founder of Bitcoin. Nakamoto is estimated to own approximately 1,000,000 BTC, worth around \$25.786 billion. Other notable Bitcoin billionaires include individuals like the Winklevoss twins, institutional investors like MicroStrategy and governments such as those of the U.S. and China.

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What is Bitcoin?

Bitcoin is a peer-to-peer electronic cash system that enables its users to send payments online instantly between two parties without the use of a bank. The Bitcoin whitepaper was published in October 2008 by the fictitious creator of Bitcoin, Satoshi Nakamoto. In January 2009, the first block on the Bitcoin network was discovered, earning its discoverer the first Bitcoin. Miners who verify transactions and add the history of transactions to the open blockchain ledger are rewarded with new bitcoins.

On June 6, 2023, the market capitalization of BTC is \$500 billion at a price of about \$25,786. BTC's market cap hit more than \$1.27 trillion at its peak in November 2021, at an all-time high price of \$68,789. However, in 2022, a change in investor sentiment led to a crypto winter, with BTC down 63% as of early December 2022.

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Who Owns the Most Bitcoin?

Before learning who owns the most Bitcoin, knowing how much Bitcoin can be introduced into the market is crucial. When Bitcoin was first created in 2009, a hard cap of nearly 21 million was placed on the number of bitcoins that could enter circulation.

At the moment, the circulating Bitcoin supply is around 19.39 million. Limits have been placed on how much Bitcoin can be created each day, which means that the remaining bitcoins will be mined from now until 2140 through the process of halving, which progressively slows their mining.

Even though 19.39 million bitcoins should be on the market, it's believed that around four million BTC have been lost since the digital currency first entered circulation.

Satoshi Nakamoto, the pseudonymous founder of Bitcoin, was putatively the first miner of the currency. Nakamoto mined over 22,000 blocks and received well over one million bitcoins as cumulative block rewards. His/her/their current ownership is estimated at around 1,000,000 BTC (worth \$25.786 billion at the June 6, 2023 BTC price of \$25,786).

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3 Addresses Own the Most Bitcoin

The top bitcoin holders were found to be connected to addresses at the cryptocurrency exchanges Binance ([BNB](#)) and BitFinex.

The richest address was that of Binance, which held 250,597 bitcoins worth more than \$6 billion, or 1.3% of the total supply of bitcoins in circulation. As of now, the BitFinex wallet contained about 0.9% of the total amount of Bitcoin in circulation. The third-richest bitcoin address remained

anonymous, holding 140,165 BTC. While wallet balances and blockchain data are both viewable by anyone, it should be noted that unless a wallet address holder voluntarily shares their identity, their identity remains anonymous.



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4 Public Companies that Own the Most Bitcoin

Here are the four public companies with the biggest portfolios:

1. **MicroStrategy**
2. **Galaxy Digital Holdings**
3. **Tesla**
4. **Marathon Digital Holdings Inc.**

1. MicroStrategy

A well-known business analytics platform called MicroStrategy has chosen Bitcoin as its main reserve asset. It currently has 132,500 BTC in reserve, which is equivalent to slightly more than \$3.42 billion, though the 2022 crypto crash has wiped out billions of dollars of value from its crypto stash. MicroStrategy CEO Michael Saylor once stated that he was buying \$1,000 in Bitcoin every second.

2. Galaxy Digital Holdings

The crypto-focused merchant bank Galaxy Digital Holdings holds 16,400 BTC. However, making it the largest institutional Bitcoin holder directly associated with the cryptocurrency market. Michael Novogratz founded the business in January 2018. Also, it has collaborated with Block.one and BlockFi, among other cryptocurrency businesses. Unsurprisingly, Novogratz is a passionate supporter of bitcoin.

3. Tesla

Tesla, a maker of electric vehicles, joined the group of businesses that hold bitcoin in December 2020. An SEC filing showed that Tesla had invested “an aggregate of \$1.50 billion” in the cryptocurrency. Elon Musk, the CEO of Tesla, stated that the company sold 10% of its Bitcoin holdings in Q1 2021. However, he said it was “to prove liquidity of Bitcoin as an alternative to holding cash on the balance sheet.”

4. Marathon Digital Holdings Inc.

Unsurprisingly, the bitcoin mining company Marathon Digital is also a significant investor in cryptocurrency. However, it holds 10,055 BTC in its corporate treasury. Prior to its switch to cryptocurrency mining, the company started out as a patent holding company with the goal of creating “the largest Bitcoin mining operation in North America at one of the lowest energy costs.”

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There are Roughly 36,000 Crypto Billionaires As of 2023

Apart from the anonymous Satoshi Nakamoto, several other Bitcoin whales hold a significant amount of Bitcoin. These are individuals, institutions, governments, exchanges and companies.

Due to their status, some of these whale individuals have become crypto influencers, using their online presence to share knowledge and sentiments about the crypto market. Some of the notable Bitcoin billionaires are as follows.

Winklevoss Twins

Tyler and Cameron Winklevoss, popularly known as the Winklevoss twins, revealed in 2013 that they had bought 1% of the total Bitcoin supply. The twins, who are the founders of Gemini crypto exchange, hold around 70,000 bitcoins, with a current value of about \$18.05 billion.

The Winklevoss twins purportedly lost over 60% of their BTC wealth following the collapse of the FTX crypto exchange in November 2022.

Tim Draper

Venture capitalist and early Bitcoin investor Tim Draper is said to have bought 29,656 Bitcoins recovered by the U.S. Marshals Service from the infamous Silk Road dark web market. Draper, who invested early in leading tech companies such as Skype and Tesla, is a Bitcoin bull who's vocal about the bright future of the world's largest cryptocurrency.

Michael J. Saylor

While popular crypto influencer Michael J. Saylor may not qualify as a Bitcoin billionaire per se, he's a well-known Bitcoin whale. In 2021, he revealed that he privately possessed at least 17,732 bitcoins. Furthermore, his firm, MicroStrategy, reportedly holds about 132,500 bitcoins.

Others

Due to the anonymity of Bitcoin transactions and wallet addresses, it's hard to trace the exact amount of BTC that one holds — unless they choose to reveal that information. However, there are some other whales rumored to hold a large amount of Bitcoin, including Brian Armstrong (Coinbase CEO) and Changpeng Zhao (Binance CEO).



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Conclusion

It may be useful for retail bitcoin holders to know who has the most bitcoins, as wallets holding large amounts of BTC can have a significant influence on their price. It should be noted that all trading involves the risk of loss. Many people are still amazed to know that there are very few people who owns the maximum bitcoin. Before trading, always conduct your own due diligence by reviewing the latest news, fundamental and technical analysis, and analyst commentary. Keep in mind that a user's decision to trade should be based on their experience in the markets, risk tolerance, account size, and trading strategy. Don't ever trade with money you can't afford to lose.

FAQs

Who owns the most Bitcoin?

Satoshi Nakamoto, the mysterious creator of Bitcoin, is the largest Bitcoin holder to date, with a stash of 1,000,000 Bitcoins.

How many Bitcoin millionaires are there?

There are about 36,000 Bitcoin millionaires. However, the exact number is difficult to calculate, due to the anonymity of Bitcoin addresses and the volatility of crypto.

Which country owns the most Bitcoin?

Bulgaria is allegedly the country with the highest amount of Bitcoin, about 213,519 BTC.

What's the total supply of Bitcoin?

There's a total supply of 21 million BTC, with all of those coins expected to be mined by 2140.

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