



## FACTSHEET

# Circle & USD Coin (USDC)

Circle, founded in 2013, is a global financial technology firm that enables businesses of all sizes to harness the power of digital currencies and public blockchains for payments, commerce and financial applications worldwide. Circle is the issuer of USD Coin (USDC).

Launched in 2018, USDC is a regulated, fully-reserved dollar digital currency that enjoys price parity to the U.S. dollar and is powered by blockchain technology. USDC provides business customers with a scalable way to transfer value quickly and cost-effectively, whether across the street or around the world.

## How USDC Works

- Circle issues (or “*mints*”) USDC to business customers directly through a Circle Account. Minting occurs when a customer deposits dollars in their Circle Account for USDC.
- When business customers want to withdraw dollars from their Circle Account, Circle *burns* (or takes out of circulation) the corresponding amount of USDC and deposits dollars into the customer’s account.
- USDC is also available through intermediaries – such as an exchange, brokerage, or retail wallet service – for individuals and businesses who do not have a Circle Account.
- USDC is fully backed by cash and short-dated U.S. government obligations, so that it is redeemable 1:1 for U.S. dollars.

## Circle is Committed to Transparency

Since USDC was launched in 2018, Circle has published monthly reserve attestation reports, which are prepared by Grant Thornton LLP, regarding the reserve balances backing USDC. The attestations are available here: [circle.com/usdc](https://circle.com/usdc)

Funds equal to or greater than the amount of USDC in circulation are held in cash or short-dated U.S. government obligations at U.S.-regulated financial institutions.

Circle is compliant with the prevailing U.S. regulatory standards that apply to leading fintech and payments firms, having money transmitter or equivalent licenses in applicable U.S. states and jurisdictions and registered as a money services business with the U.S. Treasury Department’s Financial Crimes Enforcement Network.

## USDC's Main Use Cases

USDC is currently being used in various ways by businesses to take advantage of a method of high-trust, low-friction payments

### **TRADITIONAL AND CRYPTO-NATIVE BUSINESSES:**

Corporate brands use USDC to support digital currency payments through Circle's API products to facilitate USDC payments, USDC payouts, and other functionalities.

### **CENTRALIZED FINANCE (CEFI):**

Institutional accredited investors can earn yield on USDC via Circle Yield.

### **DECENTRALIZED FINANCE (DEFI):**

USDC plays an important role in crypto capital markets that are driven by blockchain-based smart contracts.

### **DIGITAL ASSET TRADING:**

Institutional and retail traders use USDC as a base currency for entering and exiting positions.

### **GLOBAL PAYMENTS & REMITTANCES:**

USDC makes it possible to transfer value globally at the speed of the internet cost-effectively, and easily convert back to local currencies through hundreds of exchanges globally.

## USDC by the Numbers

USDC is designed to promote competition and interoperability in payments through leveraging open-source technology and public blockchains.

# \$52bn+

### **USDC IN CIRCULATION**

The amount of USDC in circulation is more than \$52 billion as of August 2022, up nearly 400% year over year.

# \$99.3bn

### **USDC MINTED**

During 2021, Circle minted 99.3 billion USDC.

# \$61.1bn

### **USDC REDEEMED**

During 2021, Circle redeemed 61.1 billion USDC.

# 8 chains

### **USDC IS ON 8 BLOCKCHAINS**

USDC is available on eight blockchains: Algorand, Avalanche, Ethereum, Flow, Hedera, Solana, Stellar, and TRON.