BONUS 1 · INCLUDED WITH THE DOLLAR COLLAPSE PLAYBOOK

THE EVIDENCE, IN 12 CHARTS

The Crisis Timeline Chart Pack

Twelve charts that make the argument in five seconds.

The DollarCollapse.com Editorial Team

2026 Edition · Updated Quarterly · DollarCollapse.com

How To Use This Chart Pack

A chart is an argument compressed into a single image. Done well, it can do in five seconds what an essay needs five pages to accomplish. That is why, when you are explaining why you bought gold to a skeptical son-in-law over Thanksgiving dinner, the words are never enough. You need the charts.

What follows are twelve charts. Each one addresses a single question that matters for anyone trying to understand where the US dollar is, how it got there, and what comes next. Each chart has a full-page treatment: the question it answers, the key data points plotted, what you are looking at, why it matters, and the source data behind it.

The pack is designed to be used three ways.

- As a reference. Save it to your phone or print it. When a family member asks why you are worried about the dollar, you have twelve clean answers that fit in a single document.
- As a teaching tool. Each chart includes a short explanation you can read aloud or adapt. The language is designed to be understood by a reader with no background in monetary economics.
- As a decision anchor. When markets move and you are tempted to second-guess a Playbook move, return to these charts. They show the slow, underlying trends that the daily news obscures.

A note on sources

Every chart in this pack is built from publicly-available, primary-source data. Federal Reserve H-series releases. Treasury Department Debt-to-the-Penny. World Gold Council reports. Bank for International Settlements statistics. Where possible, the chart page tells you exactly which dataset to pull so you can verify every figure yourself. This is not advocacy research. It is a compilation of the official numbers, arranged to let their own pattern speak.

The pack is updated quarterly. The 2026 edition reflects data through Q1 2026, with several series extending into Q2.

The Twelve Questions

The charts are organized around twelve questions. Before you look at the data, know the questions. This pack exists to answer them.

On the scale of the problem:

- 1. How fast has the US debt actually grown?
- 2. How much money has the Federal Reserve printed since 1971?
- 3. What has a dollar lost in purchasing power since the gold window closed?
- 4. How does the US debt burden compare to other advanced economies?

On the dollar's position in the world:

- 5. What have every major currency done against gold since 1971?
- 6. When did central banks start accumulating gold instead of dollars?
- 7. What is the dollar's share of global reserves, and how fast is it falling?
- 8. What is the trajectory of interest payments on the federal debt?

On the historical parallels and the migration:

- 9. What did Weimar Germany's mark look like in its final years?
- 10. What is the Dow priced in gold, over the past century?
- 11. How small is the gold allocation in the world's institutional portfolios?
- 12. What is the trajectory of foreign central bank Treasury holdings?

The framing

You will notice something when you finish reading the pack. Not one of these twelve charts is surprising to anyone who has been paying attention. The data has been public for years. The trend has been visible for decades. What makes the charts powerful is not novelty. It is that, assembled in one document, they make it impossible to look at the situation and conclude anything other than what the Playbook concludes.

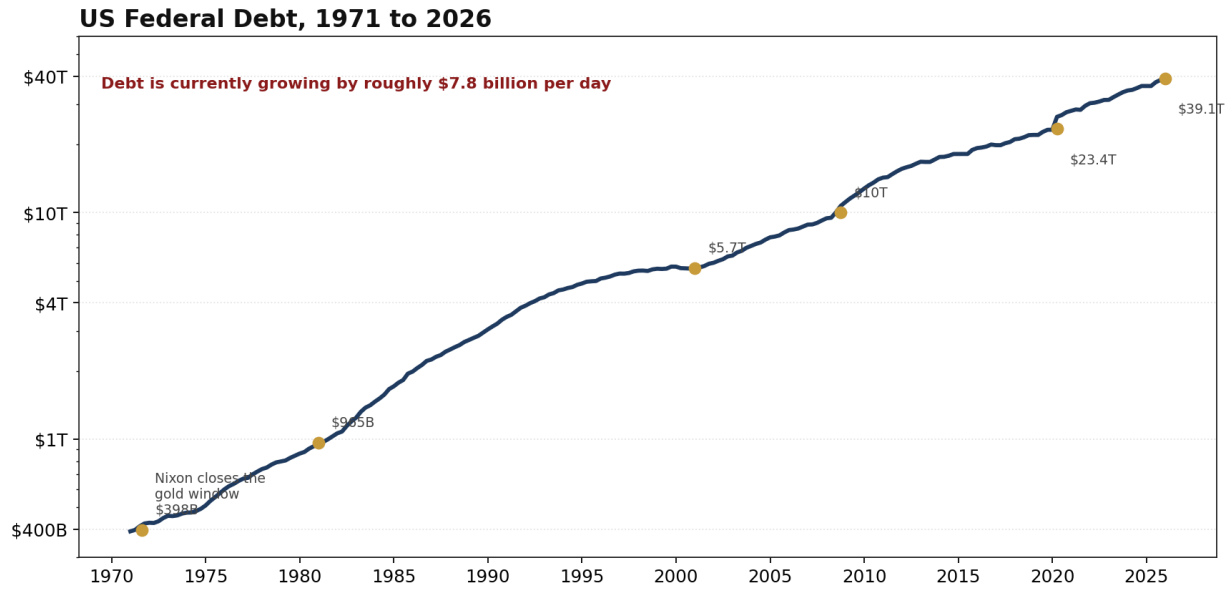
CHART 1

US Federal Debt, 1971 to 2026

The starting point of every conversation about the dollar.

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Total public debt outstanding, logarithmic scale. Each gridline step is a bigger dollar jump than the last.



Source: US Treasury, Debt to the Penny via FRED (GFDEBTN), through Q1 2026. dollarcollapse.com

The question. How fast has the US national debt actually grown, and what does the arc look like when you zoom out past the daily news cycle?

What you are looking at. The total US federal debt from August 15, 1971, the day President Nixon closed the gold window, to early 2026. The vertical axis is logarithmic, which means each major gridline represents a much larger dollar increase than the one below it. The line still climbs sharply, which tells you the growth rate has been faster than exponential across the full 55-year period.

Key data points

- August 1971: $398 billion at the closing of the gold window.
- January 1981: $965 billion, more than doubled since Nixon.
- January 2001: $5.7 trillion, ahead of the 2000s debt expansion.
- Late 2008: $10.0 trillion at the onset of the Global Financial Crisis response.
- March 2020: $23.4 trillion entering the pandemic.
- December 2022: $31.4 trillion at the end of the zero-rate era.
- Q1 2026: $39.1 trillion, growing roughly $7 billion per day.

Why it matters. The debt cannot be paid back in real terms at current trajectory. That is not a political opinion; it is arithmetic. Every scenario for

the resolution of this trajectory either involves inflating the debt away (dollar-denominated assets lose purchasing power) or defaulting on it (bondholders take losses). The Playbook is constructed around the assumption that one of these two paths will play out. This chart is why.

Source: US Treasury Department, TreasuryDirect Debt-to-the-Penny database (fiscaldata.treasury.gov), series via FRED (GFDEBTN). Historical debt series available from 1790.

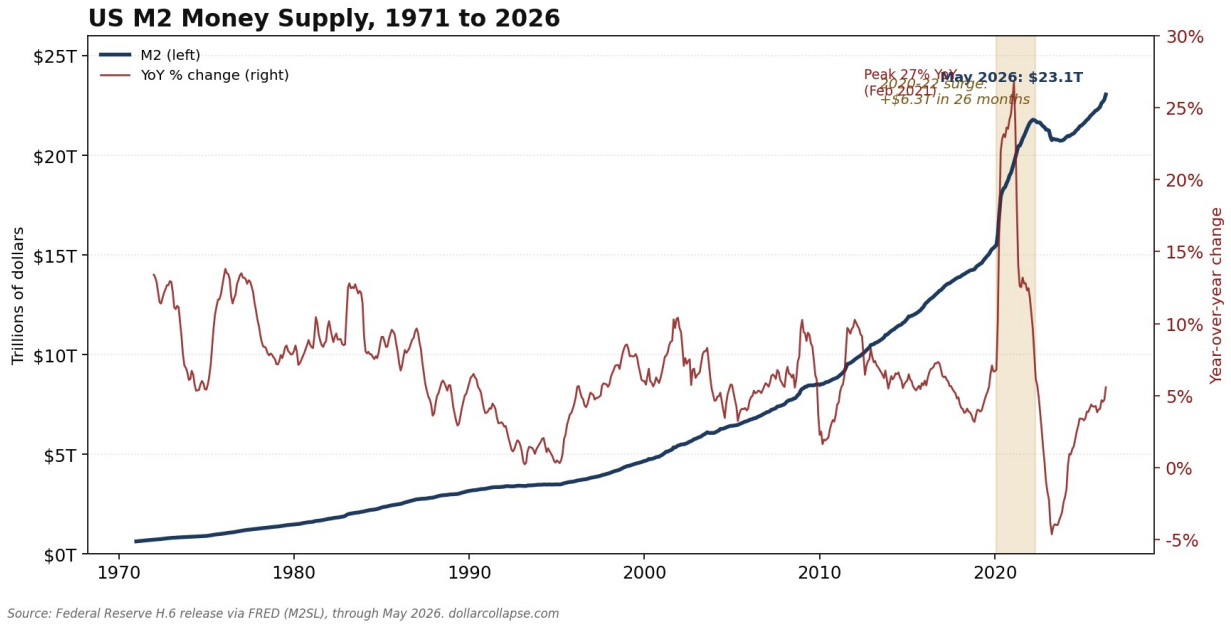
CHART 2

M2 Money Supply, 1971 to 2026

The printing press, visible.

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The stock of dollars in the US economy, with the COVID-era expansion shaded.



Source: Federal Reserve H.6 release via FRED (M2SL), through May 2026. dollarcollapse.com

The question. How much money has the Federal Reserve actually added to the monetary base over the past five decades?

What you are looking at. The M2 money supply, which includes cash, checking deposits, savings deposits, money market accounts, and small time deposits. It is the broadest commonly-used measure of the stock of dollars in the US economy. Every one of those dollars was either created by the Federal Reserve or created by commercial banks through fractional reserve lending backed by the Federal Reserve's monetary base.

Key data points

- August 1971: $685 billion.
- August 1981: $1.8 trillion. First doubling in ten years.
- September 2008: $7.8 trillion. Pre-crisis level.
- February 2020: $15.4 trillion, pre-COVID.
- April 2022: $21.7 trillion, after the COVID monetary response added $6.3 trillion in 26 months.
- May 2026: $23.1 trillion, year-over-year growth near 5 percent.
- Total growth 1971 to 2026: Approximately 3,270 percent, roughly 34-fold.

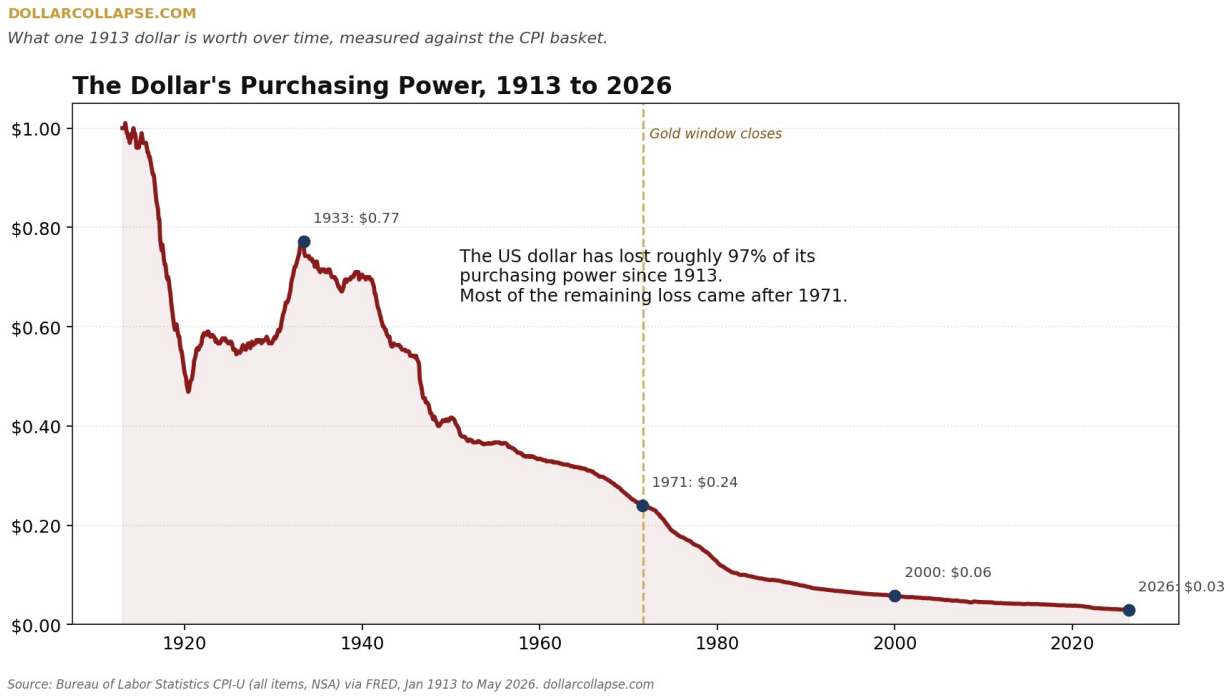
Why it matters. This chart is what inflation actually looks like, stripped of the CPI statistics that obscure it. When the stock of dollars grows faster than the stock of goods and services, each dollar loses purchasing power by simple arithmetic. The 2020-2022 monetary surge was the single largest peacetime expansion of the US money supply in history, and its effects are still working through the economy in the form of elevated asset prices, higher wage levels, and structurally higher interest rates.

Source: Federal Reserve H.6 Money Stock Measures release. Data series M2SL (seasonally adjusted, monthly) available at fred.stlouisfed.org. Chart plotted through May 2026.

CHART 3

The Dollar's Purchasing Power, 1913 to 2026

What a century of soft money actually did.



The question. What has a dollar lost in purchasing power since the Federal Reserve was founded, and how much of that loss has happened since the gold window closed in 1971?

What you are looking at. The real purchasing power of one US dollar over time, measured against the CPI basket of goods and services. A dollar at the time of the Federal Reserve's founding in 1913 bought what approximately $34 buys today. Put differently, a 2026 dollar is worth roughly 3 cents in 1913 terms. The line tells you the story of a century of monetary management.

Key data points

- 1913: $1.00 baseline, Federal Reserve founded.
- 1933: $0.77, at the height of the Depression and the gold confiscation.
- 1971: $0.24, at the closing of the gold window.
- 2000: $0.06, as the dot-com era ends.
- 2026: Approximately $0.03.
- Total cumulative loss: Approximately 97 percent, with the bulk of the loss occurring after 1971.

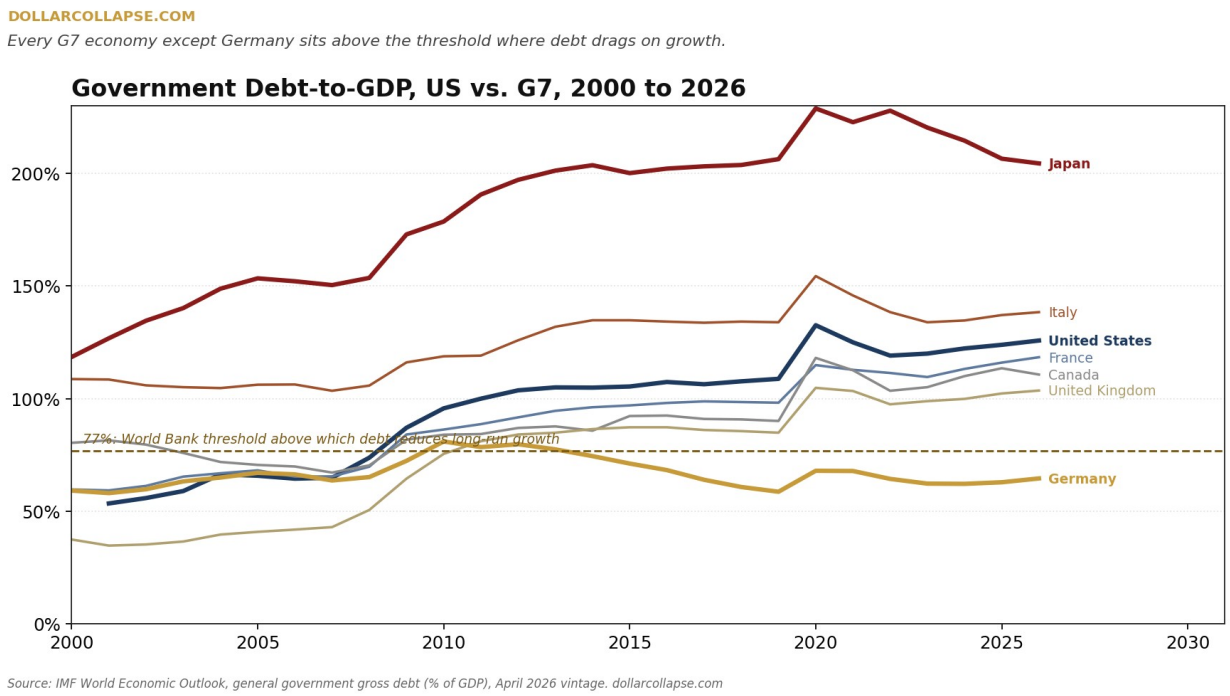
Why it matters. This is the chart that makes the case for owning anything other than cash. A dollar held in cash from 1971 to 2026 lost the great majority of its purchasing power even when earning typical savings account interest rates. A dollar converted to gold over the same period multiplied its purchasing power many times over, because gold was approximately $35 per ounce in 1971 and above $4,000 per ounce in 2026. The two lines on a single chart are the entire argument for hard money in one image.

Source: US Bureau of Labor Statistics CPI data, series CPI-U (all items, not seasonally adjusted). Calculated from monthly CPI values January 1913 to May 2026. Historical data available at bls.gov.

CHART 4

Debt-to-GDP, US vs. G7, 2000 to 2026

We are not the worst. We are not close to the best.



The question. How does the US debt burden compare to other advanced economies? Is the US an outlier, a follower, or somewhere in the middle?

What you are looking at. Government debt as a percentage of gross domestic product across the seven largest advanced economies. Debt-to-GDP is the standard measure used to assess sovereign fiscal sustainability, because it accounts for the size of the economy that produces the tax base to service the debt. A World Bank study concluded that sustained debt-to-GDP ratios above 77 percent reduce long-run economic growth. The United States crossed that threshold during the 2008 financial crisis and has been above it ever since.

Key data points

- Japan: Approximately 204 percent of GDP. Highest in the developed world. Stagnant economy for three decades.
- Italy: Approximately 138 percent. Required multiple ECB interventions during the 2010s debt crisis.
- United States: Approximately 126 percent and rising.
- France: Approximately 118 percent. Sovereign credit concerns rising.
- Canada: Approximately 111 percent.
- United Kingdom: Approximately 104 percent.

- Germany: Approximately 65 percent. The healthiest of the seven, by a meaningful margin.

Why it matters. Two things. First, the US is structurally in fiscal trouble but is not alone in it. Every major developed economy except Germany is above the World Bank threshold, which means the fiscal stress is not a US-specific problem but a systemic one affecting the entire fiat currency system. Second, Germany remains the one economy with meaningful fiscal room to maneuver, which is why the euro remains structurally stronger than the US dollar despite the euro's persistent political dysfunction. If you want currency diversification, German and Swiss exposure is where it begins.

Source: International Monetary Fund World Economic Outlook database. General government gross debt as percent of GDP. Data updated April 2026.

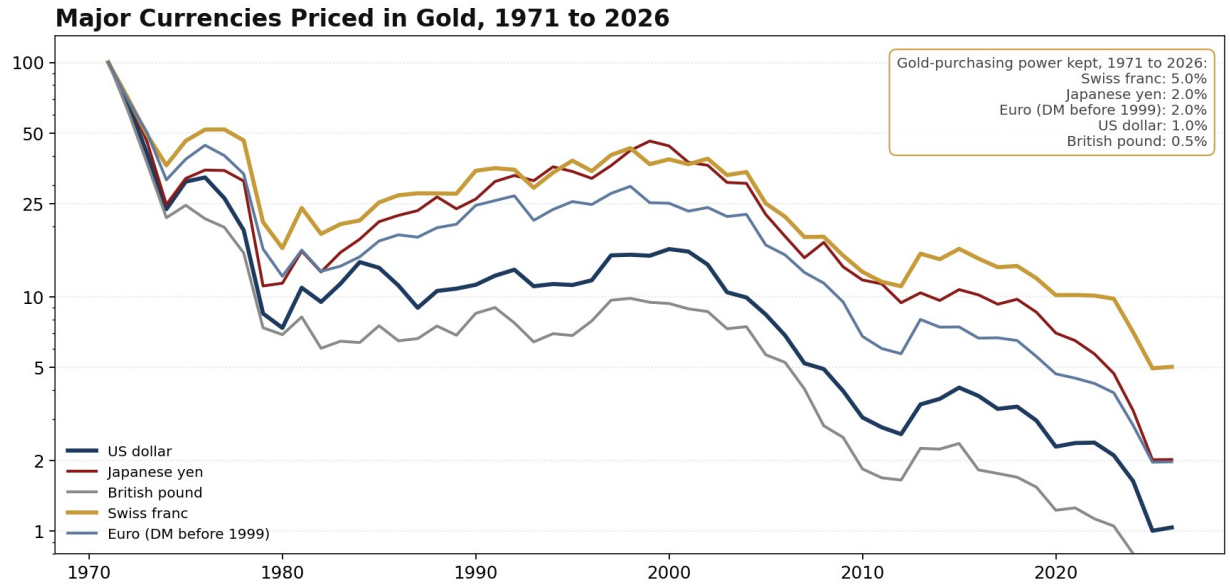
CHART 5

Major Currencies vs. Gold, 1971 to 2026

When every currency is falling against gold, it is not gold going up.

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Grams of gold per 100 units of currency, indexed to 100 in 1971. Log scale. Every line goes one way.



Source: LBMA year-end gold fixes, COMEX front-month (2000-2026), Federal Reserve H.10 FX rates via FRED. dollarcollapse.com

The question. What has every major fiat currency done against gold since Nixon closed the gold window in 1971?

What you are looking at. The purchasing power of each major world currency measured in grams of gold per 100 units of the currency, indexed to 100 in 1971. When the line goes down, the currency has weakened against gold, which is another way of saying the currency has lost real purchasing power. This chart forces the right framing on what is happening to the dollar. Gold is not going up; currencies are going down.

Key data points

- Swiss franc: Best of the five. Holds roughly 4 percent of its 1971 gold-purchasing power in 2026.
- Euro (including pre-1999 Deutsche mark): Approximately 2 percent.
- US dollar: Approximately 1 percent. A 1971 dollar bought about 0.7 grams of gold; today's dollar buys less than 0.008 grams.
- British pound: Approximately 1 percent.
- Japanese yen: Under 1.5 percent. Among the worst of the major currencies over the period.

Why it matters. This is the chart that destroys the 'gold is a bubble' argument more cleanly than any other. A bubble is when one asset rises against a stable reference. When every currency declines against gold in roughly the same pattern, the asset is not in a bubble; the reference (currency itself) is eroding. The currencies are bubbles that are slowly deflating against the reality of what stable purchasing power actually costs. This is the view central banks have been taking for the past decade, which is why they have been accumulating gold, as the next chart shows.

Source: London Bullion Market Association (LBMA) gold fixing data and COMEX front-month gold combined with Federal Reserve H.10 exchange rate statistics via FRED. Calculated in grams of gold per 100 units of currency, indexed to 1971.

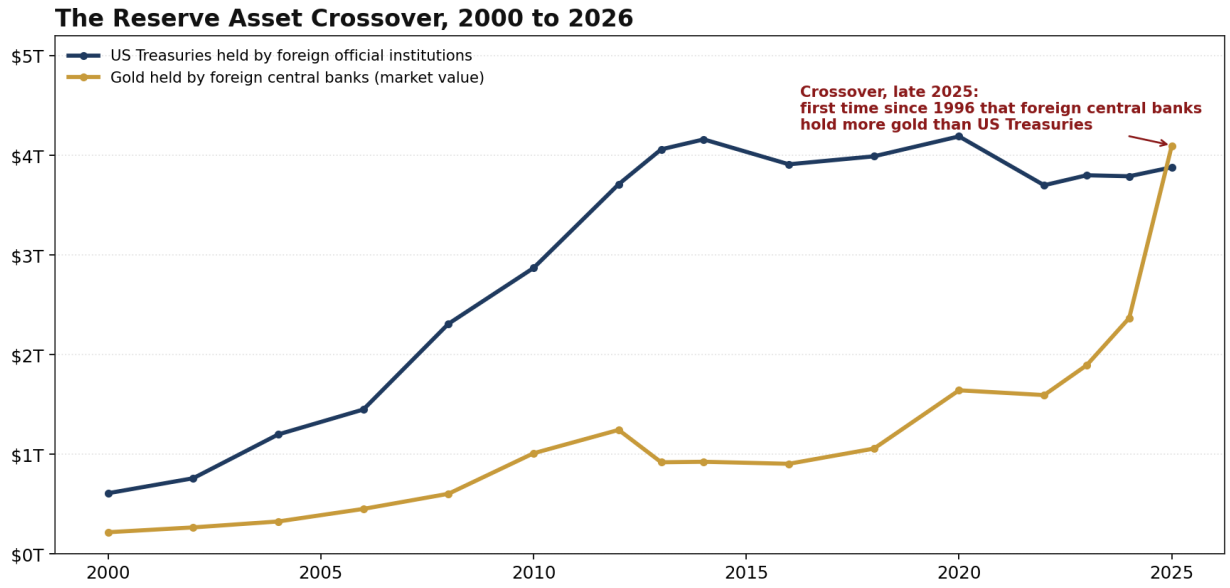
CHART 6

The Reserve Asset Crossover

The most important chart in monetary history no one is talking about.

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Foreign central bank gold versus foreign central bank Treasury holdings, in trillions of dollars.



Source: US Treasury TIC (foreign official holdings), World Gold Council / IMF IFS official gold reserves, LBMA year-end prices. dollarcollapse.com

The question. At what point did foreign central banks stop preferring US Treasuries and start preferring gold as their primary reserve asset?

What you are looking at. The total value of gold held by foreign central banks versus the total value of US Treasury securities held by foreign official institutions, measured at market prices and plotted over time. The crossover happened in late 2025. No central bank governor announced it. No Treasury Secretary held a press conference. But it happened, and it is the most important single datapoint in the global monetary system today.

Key data points

- 1996: Last time foreign central banks collectively held more gold (by value) than US Treasuries, at the end of the post-Cold-War dollar peak.
- 2014: Foreign central banks begin net selling of US Treasuries on a rolling five-year basis.
- 2022-2025: Central bank gold purchases run near or above 1,000 tonnes annually for consecutive years, roughly double the prior decade's average.
- Late 2025: Crossover complete. Foreign central bank gold holdings, approaching $4 trillion at market value, exceed their roughly $3.9 trillion in Treasury holdings for the first time in nearly 30 years.

Why it matters. This is the quiet part said out loud. The sophisticated money, the money that manages the balance sheets of countries, has spent the past decade reducing its exposure to dollar-denominated reserves and building gold positions. They did this under multiple US administrations. They did this during periods of dollar strength and dollar weakness. They did this despite public assurances from US Treasury officials that the dollar's reserve status was unshakeable. The data tells you what those officials did not. If the central banks of the world are voting with their reserve allocations, the result is already in.

Source: World Gold Council central bank gold holdings data (IMF IFS basis, ex-US official gold), valued at LBMA year-end prices. US Treasury International Capital (TIC) foreign official Treasury holdings. Cross-referenced quarterly.

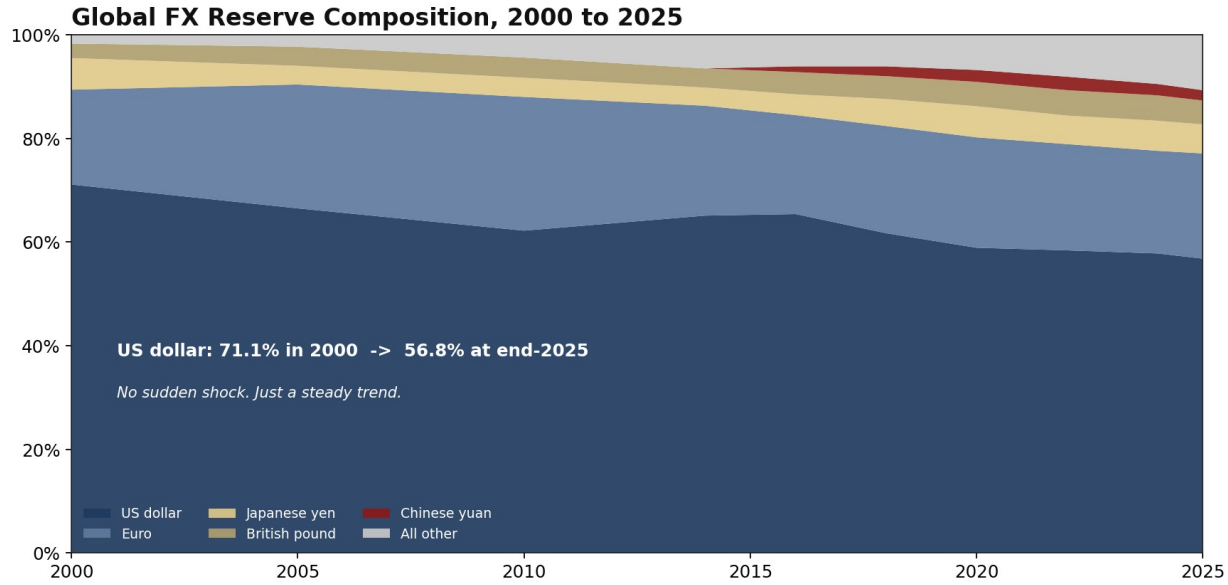
CHART 7

US Dollar Share of Global FX Reserves, 2000 to 2026

Slow-motion de-dollarization, visible.

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Currency shares of allocated official foreign exchange reserves, IMF COFER.



Source: IMF COFER database, quarterly; year-end values shown, through Q4 2025 (USD 56.77%). dollarcollapse.com

The question. How fast is the US dollar losing its position as the world's primary reserve currency?

What you are looking at. The composition of central bank foreign exchange reserves globally, expressed as percentages of total reserves. The IMF publishes this data quarterly, and the trend is unambiguous. The dollar is gradually being replaced, not by a single alternative currency, but by a distributed mix of euros, yuan, and smaller currencies. Plus, as the previous chart showed, by gold held outside the FX data entirely.

Key data points

- Q4 2000: US dollar share: approximately 71 percent of global reserves.
- Q4 2014: US dollar share: approximately 65 percent.
- Q4 2020: US dollar share: approximately 59 percent.
- Q4 2025: US dollar share: 56.8 percent, per the IMF's latest published survey.
- Chinese yuan: Grew from zero reported in 2015 to roughly 2 percent, still far from reserve-currency scale.

- 'All other' reserves: Roughly tripled as a share since 2000. This category captures currencies like the Canadian dollar, Australian dollar, and Singapore dollar.

Why it matters. The dollar's reserve status is what allows the US to run persistent fiscal and trade deficits financed by foreign holders. The exorbitant privilege of the dollar reserve system has subsidized American living standards for 55 years. That privilege is eroding. It is not disappearing overnight, but every percentage point lost is worth hundreds of billions of dollars in reduced structural demand for US Treasuries. This is the gradual process that precedes the abrupt moment when a new reserve arrangement is either announced or imposed.

Source: International Monetary Fund COFER (Currency Composition of Official Foreign Exchange Reserves) database. Quarterly reporting, available at data.imf.org. USD share 56.77% as of Q4 2025.

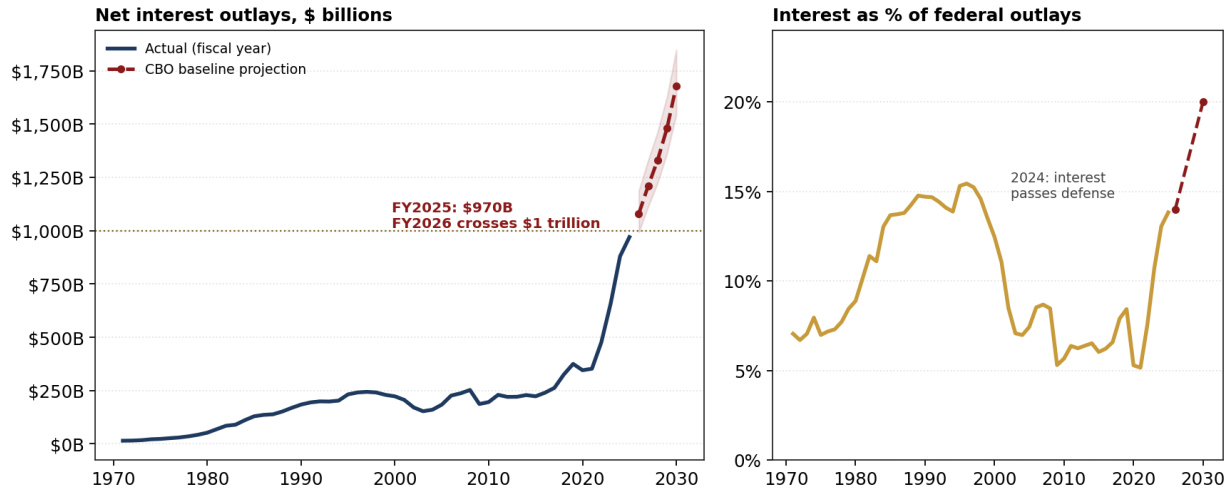
CHART 8

Federal Interest Payments, 1971 to 2030 (projected)

The fiscal trap, made visible.

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The fiscal trap in two panels: dollars, and share of everything the government spends.



Source: Treasury / OMB via FRED (FYOINT, FYONET) through FY2025; CBO Budget and Economic Outlook, Jan 2026 baseline. dollarcollapse.com

The question. What is the trajectory of interest payments on the federal debt, and when does it eat every other budget line item?

What you are looking at. Two views of the same fiscal problem. The left panel shows the absolute dollar amount of annual federal net interest payments, which have exploded since 2022 as the debt stock grew and interest rates normalized, with the CBO baseline projection through 2030. The right panel shows interest as a share of all federal spending, which has roughly doubled since 2019.

Key data points

- FY 1971: Roughly $20 billion in annual net interest. Under 7 percent of the federal budget.
- FY 2019: $375 billion, roughly 8 percent of spending.
- FY 2024: $882 billion, interest exceeds defense spending for the first time.
- FY 2025: $970 billion, approximately 14 percent of federal outlays.
- FY 2026: Crosses $1 trillion on the CBO baseline.
- CBO 2030 projection: Roughly $1.7 trillion, approaching 20 percent of federal spending.

Why it matters. Interest payments are non-discretionary. Congress cannot vote to reduce them. Only two tools exist to reduce the burden: pay down principal (requires fiscal surpluses the US has not consistently produced since 2001) or lower interest rates (which is the Fed's domain and produces its own costs). This chart shows why the fiscal trap is mathematical, not political. Every quarter that passes without structural fiscal reform makes the next quarter's arithmetic worse. The trend continues until the political system produces reform or the bond market imposes it.

Source: Treasury Department / OMB net interest outlays via FRED (FYOINT, FYONET), through FY2025. Projections: Congressional Budget Office Budget and Economic Outlook, January 2026 baseline.

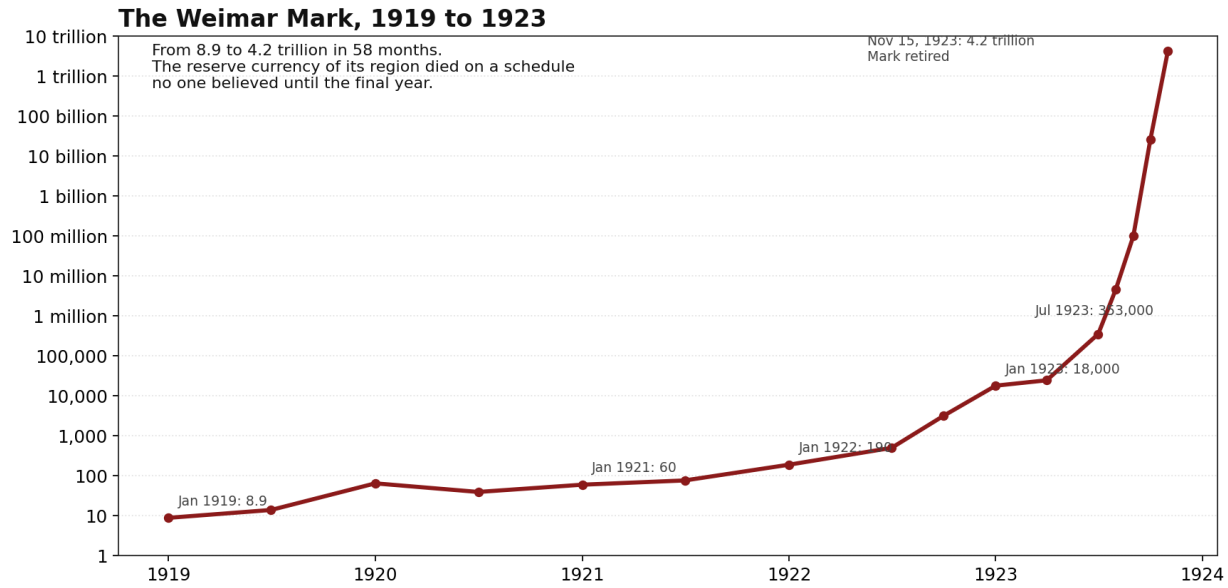
CHART 9

The Weimar Mark, 1919 to 1923

What a fiat currency actually looks like when it fails.

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German marks per US dollar, logarithmic scale. Each gridline is a tenfold loss.



Source: Reichsbank monthly reports as compiled in Fergusson, When Money Dies (1975) and Bresciani-Turroni (1937). dollarcollapse.com

The question. What does a fiat currency actually look like when it fails? Not in theory, but in recorded history, with dates and numbers?

What you are looking at. The exchange rate of the German mark to the US dollar during the Weimar hyperinflation, the most documented currency collapse in modern history. The chart uses a logarithmic scale because the mark's collapse was too extreme to show on a linear scale; by the end, the exchange rate reached 4.2 trillion marks to the dollar. Note that the collapse was not instant. It took four full years of progressive monetary expansion before the mark entered its terminal phase in mid-1923.

Key data points

- January 1919: 8.9 marks per US dollar, post-armistice baseline.
- January 1921: 60 marks per dollar, a 6.7x devaluation in 24 months.
- January 1922: 190 marks per dollar, accelerating.
- January 1923: 18,000 marks per dollar. Ruhr occupation had begun.
- July 1923: 353,000 marks per dollar. Hyperinflation officially underway.
- October 1923: 25.3 billion marks per dollar. Wheelbarrow era.
- November 15, 1923: 4.2 trillion marks per dollar. Mark retired; Rentenmark introduced.

Why it matters. This is the reference case for monetary collapse. The mechanics that destroyed the mark (massive government deficits, central bank monetization of government debt, eroding foreign confidence in the currency, a breaking point when both citizens and foreign holders fled the currency simultaneously) are present in varying degrees in every advanced economy today. The US is not Weimar. But the trajectory is similar in direction if different in pace. History does not repeat itself, but it does rhyme. And it rhymes in the direction that favors hard assets over paper promises.

Source: Adam Fergusson, When Money Dies: The Nightmare of Deficit Spending, Devaluation, and Hyperinflation in Weimar Germany (1975). Bresciani-Turroni, The Economics of Inflation (1937). Exchange rate data from Reichsbank monthly reports.

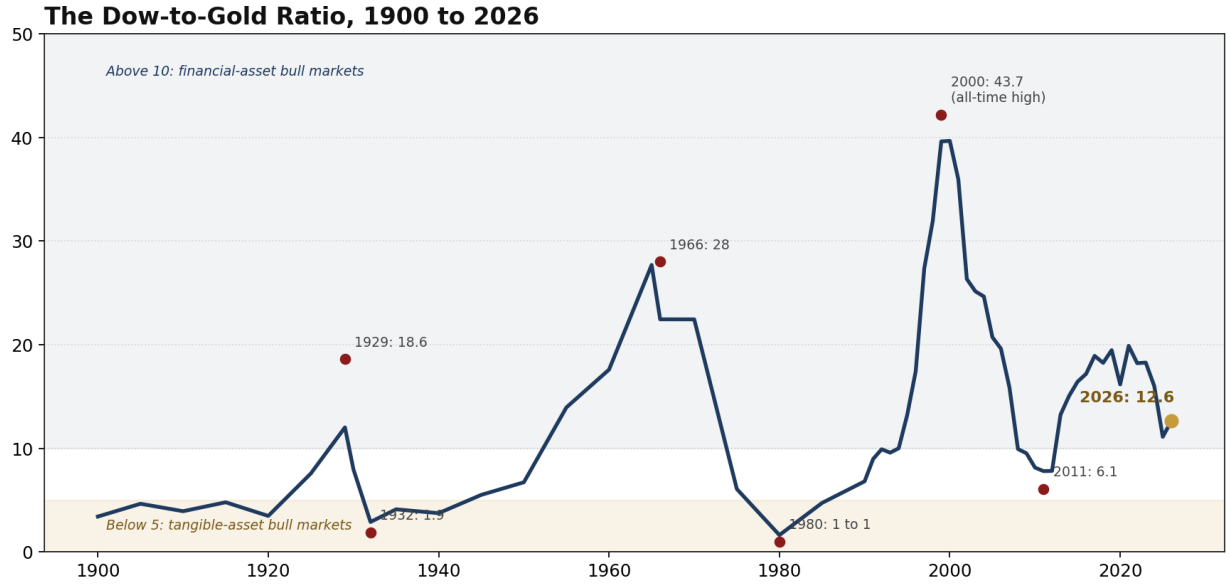
CHART 10

The Dow-to-Gold Ratio, 1900 to 2026

How many ounces of gold does it take to buy the Dow?

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Ounces of gold required to buy the Dow. Year-end values, with famous intra-year extremes marked.



Source: S&P Dow Jones Indices year-end closes, LBMA gold fixes, COMEX front-month from 2000. Framework: Turk & Rubino, The Money Bubble. dollarcollapse.com

The question. How many ounces of gold does it take to buy the Dow Jones Industrial Average, and what does the long-run pattern tell us about where we are in the cycle?

What you are looking at. A century of the Dow-to-Gold ratio, a benchmark first popularized by Richard Russell of Dow Theory Letters and documented extensively by James Turk and John Rubino in The Money Bubble. The ratio captures the great cyclical migration between financial assets (like equities) and tangible assets (like gold). When the ratio is high, financial assets are relatively overvalued versus hard assets. When the ratio is low, hard assets are relatively overvalued versus financial assets. The pattern has repeated three times in the past century.

Key data points

- 1920: Ratio near 2, after World War I financial stress. Entering a financial-asset bull market.
- 1929: Ratio peaks at 18.6, at the height of the Roaring Twenties. Financial assets wildly overvalued.
- 1932: Ratio bottoms at 1.9, at the depression low. Financial assets wildly undervalued.
- 1966: Ratio peaks at 28, at the end of the post-war boom.

- 1980: Ratio hits 1:1 exactly, at the peak of the gold bull market.
- 2000: Ratio reaches 43.7, the highest level in recorded history. Dot-com peak.
- 2011: Ratio bottoms at 6.1, during the gold secular top.
- Mid-2026: Ratio approximately 12.6. Down sharply from the 2018-2021 highs above 20, but not yet at historical extremes.

Why it matters. The migration from financial to tangible assets is already in progress, but it is not yet complete. Historically, the ratio has bottomed in the 1 to 5 range at the end of each tangible-asset bull market. From a current reading near 13, the historical pattern implies additional relative strength in gold versus the Dow over the remaining years of this cycle. This is not a prediction about absolute levels. Both the Dow and gold can rise together in nominal terms. The point is their relative performance, which has historically favored gold strongly during the late stages of migrations like the one we are in.

Source: Calculated as Dow Jones Industrial Average divided by gold price at year-end. Historical Dow data from S&P Dow Jones Indices. Gold data from LBMA and COMEX front-month from 2000.

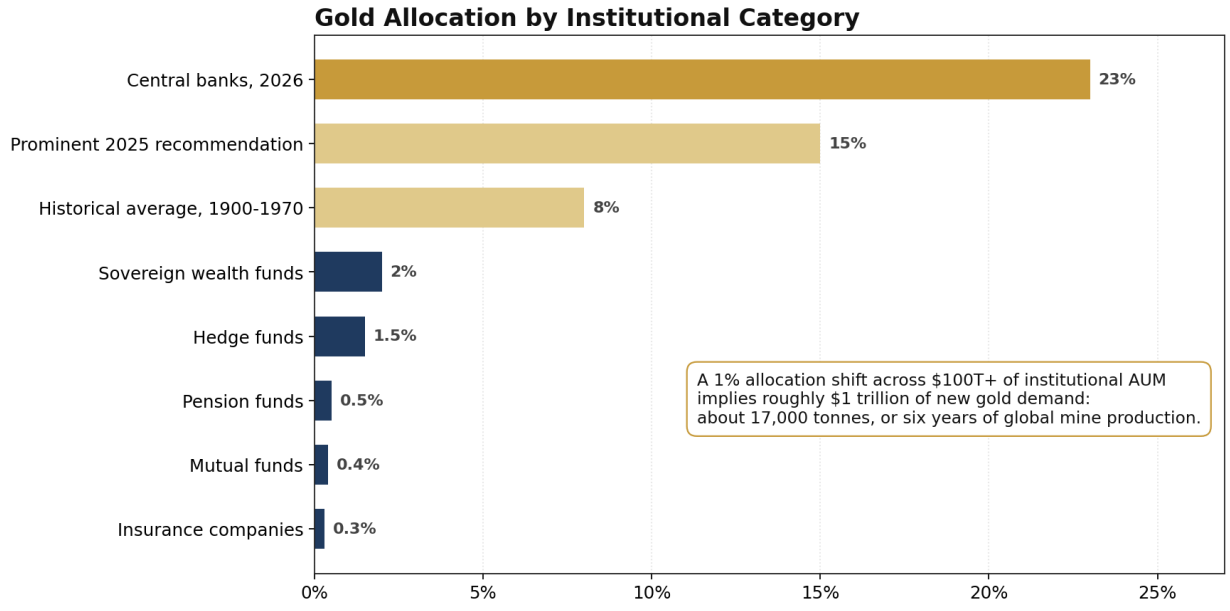
CHART 11

Institutional Gold Allocation Gap

The world's biggest investors own almost none.

DOLLARCOLLAPSE.COM

Share of assets under management allocated to gold. The world's biggest pools of money own almost none.



Source: World Gold Council institutional reports; IMF IFS reserve data (central bank share by market value, 2026). dollarcollapse.com

The question. How small is the gold allocation in the world's institutional portfolios today, and what would happen if those institutions moved their allocations back toward historical norms?

What you are looking at. The percentage of assets under management allocated to gold across major institutional investor categories. Central banks have been accumulating aggressively, as shown in earlier charts; by market value, gold is now roughly 23 percent of total official reserves. But every other institutional category (pension funds, insurance companies, mutual funds, hedge funds) remains at vanishingly small gold allocations relative to both historical norms and recent prominent recommendations in the 15 percent range.

Key data points

- Historical average 1900-1970: Approximately 8 percent of institutional portfolios in gold, across most of the 20th century before the gold window closed.
- Prominent 2025 recommendations: Major macro fund managers have publicly recommended allocations around 15 percent.
- Central banks (2026): Roughly 23 percent of total official reserves in gold by market value, and rising.

- Pension funds (2026): Approximately 0.5 percent. A small fraction of the historical average.
- Insurance companies: Approximately 0.3 percent.
- Mutual funds: Approximately 0.4 percent.
- Total institutional AUM globally: Over $100 trillion.
- Implied demand shock from a 1% allocation shift: Approximately $1 trillion of new gold demand, which is in the range of six years of global mine production at recent prices.

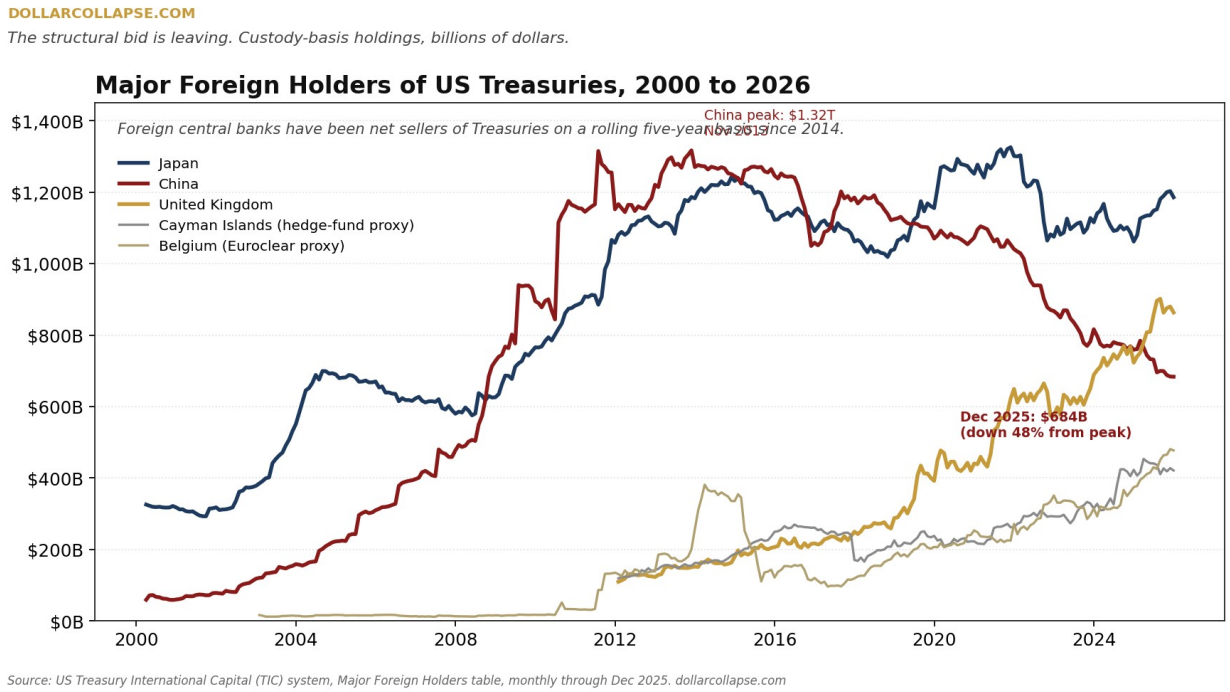
Why it matters. This is the supply-demand argument compressed into a single image. If institutional investors move their gold allocations back toward even half the historical average (say 4 percent), the demand shock is measured in years of mine production, not months. Mine supply responds to price only with a multi-year lag; it takes roughly 10 to 15 years to bring a new mine online from discovery. The result of a modest institutional reallocation would be a gold price that moves in ways we do not have recent historical precedent for. This chart is why the supply case for higher gold prices is so asymmetric over the medium term.

Source: World Gold Council institutional investor reports and IMF IFS reserve data. Estimated global institutional AUM from BlackRock, PwC Global AUM Survey.

CHART 12

Foreign Central Bank US Treasury Holdings, 2000 to 2026

The structural bid for US debt is leaving.



Source: US Treasury International Capital (TIC) system, Major Foreign Holders table, monthly through Dec 2025. dollarcollapse.com

The question. Who actually owns the US Treasury debt today, and what does the trend in foreign central bank holdings tell us about who will fund future US deficits?

What you are looking at. The composition of foreign holders of US Treasury securities, broken into major countries and custody centers. The key pattern: China has been steadily reducing its Treasury holdings from a 2013 peak of $1.32 trillion to $684 billion at the end of 2025. Japan's holdings have stayed within a narrow band. UK holdings have grown, but much of that growth represents private investment flows routed through London, not official allocations.

Key data points

- November 2013: Peak foreign official Treasury holdings, approximately $4.1 trillion.
- 2014: Foreign central banks begin net selling of Treasuries on a rolling five-year basis. First sustained reversal since the 1970s.
- China holdings peak: $1.32 trillion in November 2013, down to $684 billion by December 2025, a 48 percent decline.

- Japan holdings: Approximately $1.19 trillion at end-2025, held within a $1.0 to $1.2 trillion band for a decade.
- Foreign official share of total foreign Treasury holdings: Down from roughly 45 percent in 2014 to near 40 percent in 2025, with private and custody-center flows doing the buying.
- Marginal buyer of new issuance (2023-2026): Domestic money market funds and private foreign investors, not foreign central banks.

Why it matters. The structural foreign official bid for US Treasuries is what kept yields artificially low for most of the past three decades. As that bid erodes, the US Treasury increasingly depends on either Federal Reserve balance sheet expansion (which is inflationary), domestic money market funds (which are sensitive to short-term rates), or leveraged private flows through custody centers (which are flighty) to absorb new issuance. None is a long-term strategic buyer the way foreign central banks used to be. This shift is the mechanism by which the structural decline in foreign official demand translates into higher US yields, tighter US fiscal constraints, and eventually into the monetary responses the Playbook is designed to anticipate.

Source: US Treasury International Capital (TIC) reports, Major Foreign Holders table, monthly through December 2025. Foreign holders data available at home.treasury.gov/data/treasury-international-capital-tic-system.

Using the Charts

You now have twelve charts. Each one is a complete argument by itself. Together, they form a comprehensive evidence base for the thesis of the Playbook.

In a conversation

When someone challenges the hard-money thesis at a dinner or a family gathering, you do not need to win a debate about monetary theory. You need to show them two or three charts. Our recommendation on which to reach for:

- For the skeptical son-in-law who thinks you are worrying too much: Chart 1 (US federal debt, showing the exponential trajectory) and Chart 3 (dollar purchasing power, showing the 97 percent decline since 1913). These two charts make the problem visceral without requiring the listener to have any background in economics.
- For the financial-media reader who thinks the dollar is fine: Chart 6 (reserve asset crossover) and Chart 7 (dollar share of global reserves). These two show that the sophisticated money is already acting on the thesis, without waiting for the news to report it.
- For the index-fund advocate who thinks stocks beat gold over the long run: Chart 10 (Dow-to-Gold ratio). The 100-year pattern is undeniable and it shows that the outperformance works in both directions, in cycles, and we are in the part of the cycle that favors gold.

In your own decision-making

When the daily news makes you nervous about a Playbook position, return to these charts. The short-term volatility that drives daily headlines is noise against the long-term trends these charts document. A 10 percent pullback in gold looks terrifying on a CNBC chyron. On Chart 5 (currencies vs. gold since 1971), it is a barely-visible blip. The Playbook is built around the long-term trends, not the daily ones.

In your own learning

Every chart includes a source citation. Every source is publicly available and free. If you want to verify any of the numbers or go deeper into any of the trends, the sources are listed. We do not cite behind paywalls or proprietary databases for this pack. We want readers to be able to verify everything.

A final framing

Twelve charts is a small document. It can be read in twenty minutes. It can be shown in two minutes. It can be summarized in a single sentence.

That sentence:

> *“Every major trend in global monetary data for the past fifty years points to the same conclusion, and that conclusion is what the Playbook is built to help you act on.”*

Data Sources and Updates

Primary sources used in this pack

All twelve charts in this pack draw from publicly-available, primary-source data. The list below is the complete source bibliography.

- US Treasury Department, Debt-to-the-Penny database, fiscaldata.treasury.gov.
- US Treasury Department, Treasury International Capital reports, home.treasury.gov/data/treasury-international-capital-tic-system.
- Federal Reserve, H.6 Money Stock Measures release, federalreserve.gov/releases/h6.
- Federal Reserve, H.10 foreign exchange rates release.
- Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, FRED economic data, fred.stlouisfed.org.
- US Bureau of Labor Statistics, CPI data, bls.gov.
- International Monetary Fund, COFER database, data.imf.org.
- International Monetary Fund, World Economic Outlook database.
- World Gold Council central bank gold holdings reports, gold.org.
- London Bullion Market Association (LBMA) historical gold fixing data.
- Bank for International Settlements statistics, bis.org.
- Congressional Budget Office, Budget and Economic Outlook reports.
- S&P Dow Jones Indices historical data.

Historical reference works

Two book-length works inform the historical perspectives in this pack and are strongly recommended for readers who want to go deeper on specific topics.

- When Money Dies by Adam Fergusson. The definitive narrative history of the Weimar hyperinflation, and the source material for Chart 9. Out of print for years, then reissued after the 2008 financial crisis. Read it once.
- The Money Bubble by James Turk and John Rubino. The underlying analytical framework for the Playbook's approach to tangible vs. financial assets, and the source material for Chart 10 (the Dow-to-Gold ratio analysis). Still in print, still readable, still accurate.

Update cycle

This pack is refreshed quarterly. All current Playbook owners receive the latest edition automatically at no additional cost. Insiders Edition holders receive the chart pack within 48 hours of each quarterly data release, ahead of the public update.

If you find an error in any figure, a stale citation, or a data update we missed, write to feedback@dollarcollapse.com. Every chart pack edition is better than the last because of reader correction. We depend on it.

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