

Bullish consensus for 2026

With 2026 already on its way, and a rather quiet news week, we dedicate today's newsletter to highlighting the main news headlines from 2025 while providing a brief summary of the 2026 BTC price predictions from various institutions.

2025's Main News

Q1

January

[Trump memecoin launch propels Moonshot into top 10 on US Apple App Store](#)

[Dogecoin logo appears on new Department of Government Efficiency website](#)

[President Trump tasks working group to evaluate creation of national crypto reserve](#)

[SEC rescinds controversial crypto accounting guidance SAB 121](#)

[Nasdaq files to change BlackRock's Bitcoin ETF to allow for in-kind redemptions](#)

[Trump signs executive order to pardon Ross Ulbricht](#)

February

[Czech central bank approves proposal to assess investing reserves in bitcoin](#)

[Kraken relaunches staking in US roughly two years after settling SEC charges](#)

[Argentinian President Javier Milei charged with fraud over \\$LIBRA token scandal](#)

['The largest crypto theft of all time': Historic \\$1.4 billion Bybit hack shocks world of digital assets](#)

March

[President Trump signs order to establish Strategic Bitcoin Reserve, will hold as store of value akin to Fort Knox](#)

[At crypto summit, Trump vows to sign stablecoin legislation before August and end crypto debanking](#)

[Russia using crypto in oil trade with China and India to skirt Western sanctions](#)

[Binance secures \\$2 billion investment from Abu Dhabi's MGX in landmark crypto deal](#)

Q2

April

[FDIC shifts stance on digital assets and will allow financial institutions to engage in crypto activities without getting prior sign-off](#)

[President Trump announces reciprocal tariffs](#)

[Former Binance CEO CZ joins Pakistan Crypto Council as advisor](#)

[JPMorgan rolls out GBP blockchain payments, extending EUR and USD offerings](#)

[Crypto advocate Paul Atkins officially sworn in as SEC chairman](#)

[Charles Schwab CEO says spot crypto trading will 'likely' launch within 12 months](#)

[SEC Chair Paul Atkins signals sharp shift on digital assets at crypto roundtable](#)

[Payments giant Stripe building 'new stablecoin product.'](#)

[Russia launching crypto exchange for qualified investors](#)

May

[Trump-affiliated mining firm American Bitcoin to go public via merger with Gryphon Digital](#)

[Jamie Dimon says JPMorgan will allow clients to buy Bitcoin but firm will not custody it](#)

June

[SEC says PoS activities do not constitute securities transactions](#)

[JD Vance calls for market structure bill at Bitcoin 2025](#)

[FCA to lift ban on crypto ETNs for retail investors](#)

[Texas Governor Greg Abbott signs strategic Bitcoin reserve bill into law](#)

[Germany's largest banking group Sparkassen adds cryptocurrency trading services](#)

Q3

July

[Galaxy sells more than 80,000 BTC for a Satoshi-era investor](#)

[Trump signs stablecoin GENIUS Act](#)

[UK Home Office working towards sale of \\$7 billion seized BTC stockpile](#)

[White House's working group releases lengthy crypto report including legislative proposals](#)

August

[SEC Chair Atkins debuts 'Project Crypto' to update rules and regulations](#)

[CFTC kicks off new 'Sprint' initiative to advance Trump's crypto regulatory roadmap](#)

[Trump signs executive order allowing 401\(k\) plans to include digital assets](#)

[President Trump signs executive order to stop 'unfair banking' of crypto industry](#)

[Harvard had more money Bitcoin ETFs than Google shares at end of last quarter](#)

[US Federal Reserve shuts crypto bank supervision program](#)

[Bessent says government won't buy bitcoin for strategic reserve but will retain seized assets](#)

September

[Nasdaq seeks SEC nod to trade tokenized securities alongside traditional stocks](#)

[BBVA taps Ripple custody tech for retail crypto push in Spain](#)

[London Stock Exchange Group rolls out blockchain platform for tokenized private funds](#)

[SEC approves new exchange listing standards fast-tracking crypto ETF listings](#)

[ING, UniCredit and seven other European banks to jointly develop euro stablecoin](#)

Q4

October

[U.S. Government Shutdown.](#)

[Morgan Stanley sets 4% crypto cap for 'opportunistic' portfolios](#)

[S&P Global to launch first hybrid index combining cryptocurrencies and crypto-related stocks](#)

[Morgan Stanley to open crypto access to all client accounts, including retirement plans](#)

[\\$19bn liquidation cascade in crypto derivatives](#)

[US government BTC holdings balloon to \\$36bn following record-breaking DOJ seizure](#)

[JPMorgan to let institutional clients pledge BTC and ETH as loan collateral by year-end](#)

[President Trump pardons former Binance CEO Changpeng Zhao](#)

November

[IRS issues guidance for allowing crypto ETPs to stake digital assets](#)

[Standard Chartered, DCS partner to support stablecoin credit card in Singapore](#)

[DBS, JPMorgan to develop interoperability framework for tokenized deposits](#)

[China accuses US of stealing \\$13bn in BTC hack](#)

[Czech central bank buys \\$1 million in bitcoin](#)

[U.S. Government Shutdown Ends](#)

[MSCI is reviewing whether to exclude digital asset treasury companies from its indexes](#)

[US Senate banking chair eyes vote on crypto market bill next month](#)

December

[Vanguard enables clients to trade funds holding crypto like Bitcoin, XRP and Solana](#)

[BofA backs 4% crypto allocation cap, ending adviser restrictions and adding BTC ETF coverage](#)

[Brazil's largest bank recommends a 3% Bitcoin portfolio allocation](#)

Trending Topics

Summarizing Bitcoin Price Predictions for 2026

Happy New Year!

With 2026 already on its way, and a rather quiet news week, we dedicate today's newsletter to summarize and highlight 2026 price predictions from various institutions.

Broadly, the various outlooks highlight how the market has changed today compared to past cycles. Retail speculation has faded, leverage is lower, and institutions now play a central role through spot Bitcoin ETFs, corporate treasuries, and regulated investment platforms.

Because of this shift, forecasts for 2026 focus less on hype and more on structure, flows, and macro conditions.

Some bears present, despite bullish consensus

Analyst expectations for Bitcoin's price in 2026 span a wide range. Bearish scenarios see prices falling toward \$60,000 to \$70,000, while bullish views point to \$150,000 or even \$250,000 if conditions align.

Most institutional forecasts cluster in the middle, roughly between \$120,000 and \$170,000 by year end.

Several cautious voices warn that 2026 could be difficult, at least early on. Fundstrat expects a meaningful drawdown in the first half of the year, with Bitcoin potentially falling to \$60,000 to \$65,000 before stabilizing.

Fidelity's Jurrien Timmer also believes the four-year halving cycle remains intact. In his view, Bitcoin peaked in late 2025 and could spend much of 2026 in a grinding bear phase, with support in the \$65,000 to \$75,000 range. These analysts point to historical patterns and weak momentum as reasons for caution.

This cycle is different

On the other side, many institutions argue that this cycle is different. Bitwise, Grayscale, K33, Bitcoin Suisse, and Galaxy Digital all emphasize that Bitcoin is now embedded in traditional finance. Spot Bitcoin ETFs, approved in 2024, have created a steady channel for institutional demand.

Regulatory clarity in the United States and Europe is lowering barriers for banks, asset managers, pensions, and wealth advisors. K33 and Grayscale also note that selling from early holders has been absorbed and is likely to fade in 2026, reducing downside pressure.

Macro conditions are another key factor. Several forecasts assume easier monetary policy in 2026, with rate cuts supporting risk assets and scarce stores of value. In this environment, consensus is for BTC to show strength as its scarcity shines like gold.

Galaxy Digital and K33 notes that volatility is falling and market behavior is starting to resemble traditional macro assets. This supports the idea of steadier price appreciation rather than explosive rallies.

Price targets reflect these themes. Citigroup's base case sees Bitcoin around \$143,000 within 12 months, with a bull case near \$189,000 and a bear case below \$80,000.

Standard Chartered and Bernstein expect roughly \$150,000 by the end of 2026. Bitcoin Suisse and Grayscale believe new all-time highs are likely during the year, especially if ETF inflows accelerate.

Overall, 2026 is not expected to look like past boom-and-bust years. Instead, many expect extended consolidation, wide ranges, and institutional-driven price discovery. The key question is not whether Bitcoin continues to gain adoption, but how and when large pools of capital choose to deploy.