

Editor's Choice



Wholesalers check the quality of frozen tuna displayed during the first tuna auctions on the opening day of the new Toyosu fish market in Tokyo



U.S. President Donald Trump holds a campaign rally in Erie, Pennsylvania, U.S., October 10, 2018. REUTERS/ Leah Millis TPX IMAGES OF THE DAY



An employee works on a cardboard cutout of German Chancellor Angela Merkel at a printing shop in Yavne



A firefighter is covered with AFFF as he tries to control a fire that broke out in a thinner manufacturing plant on the outskirts of Ahmedabad



A McDonald's sign damaged by Hurricane Michael is pictured in Panama City Beach



Social humanoid robot Sophia, a latest creation by Hanson Robotics company, attends a news conference after a meeting with young inventors and officials in Kiev, Ukraine October 11, 2018. REUTERS/Valentyn Ogirenko TPX IMAGES OF THE DAY



Auctioneers take part in a wasabi auction at the greengrocery area on the opening day of the new Toyosu market



Teri Watson participates in axe throwing, a sport that started in the Canadian backwoods and is growing in popularity in U.S. cities, at LA Ax in North Hollywood, Los Angeles

Seventy percent of mothers with children under the age of 18 are in today's workforce, according to the U.S. Department of Labor. In a tight labor market, it's a great time for companies to focus on creating work environments that empower working parents. Each year, Working Mother magazine releases a list of the 100 Best Companies for working mothers. To make the cut, companies submit an application that includes more than 400 questions about leave policies, workforce representation, benefits, childcare assistance, advancement programs and flexibility. The application also inquires about whether employees are actually taking advantage of a company's benefits. "That all of these programs and policies are offered is just half of it," Working Mother President Subha Barry tells CNBC Make It. "The other half is that you encourage people to use it, and don't penalize them."



Working Mother presents this list as a group of 100 companies, without assigning specific rankings to any of the companies with the exception of No. 1. They also identify the group of companies that fall in the top 10, which are presented here in alphabetical order. Barry praises Unilever for earning the top spot this year. Fifty-two percent of the company's managers are women, and Unilever offers paid maternity and paternity leave as well as paid adoption leave. The consumer goods company also offers employee reimbursement on in vitro fertilization and other fertility treatments. Also of note: Not all of these companies offer substantial maternity leave benefits. WellStar Health System offers just three weeks of paid maternity

The 10 Best Companies For Working Moms

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor



leave, while most of the companies in this group offer at least 16 weeks. However, with fertility benefits and a high percentage of women employees and women managers, Working Mother still placed WellStar Health System among its best 10 companies. Check out the 10 best companies for working mothers:

1. Unilever
Percentage of employees who are women: 44 percent
Percentage of managers who are women: 52 percent
Paid maternity leave offered: 16 weeks
Reimbursement on in vitro fertilization: yes
Percentage of workforce that has the option to telecommute: 49 percent (Remaining companies in the top 10 presented in alphabetical order)



2. AbbVie

Percentage of employees who are women: 53 percent
Percentage of managers who are women: 57 percent
Paid maternity leave offered: 14 weeks
Reimbursement on in vitro fertilization: yes
Percentage of workforce that has the option to telecommute: 94 percent
3. Deloitte
Percentage of employees who are women: 43 percent
Percentage of managers who are women: 43 percent
Paid maternity leave offered: 22 weeks offered
Reimbursement on in vitro fertilization: yes
Percentage of workforce that has the option to telecommute: 95 percent



4. Ernst & Young LLP

Percentage of employees who are women: 45 percent
Percentage of managers who are women: 47 percent
Paid maternity leave offered: 16 weeks
Reimbursement on in vitro fertilization: yes
Percentage of workforce that has the option to telecommute: 95 percent
5. IBM
Percentage of employees who are women: n/a

7. McKinsey & Company
Percentage of employees who are women: 46 percent
Percentage of managers who are women: 45 percent
Paid maternity leave offered: 16 weeks
Reimbursement on in vitro fertilization: yes
Percentage of workforce that has the option to telecommute: 100 percent
8. Moody's
Percentage of employees who are women: 40 percent
Percentage of managers who are women: 38 percent
Paid maternity leave offered: 16 weeks
Reimbursement on in vitro fertilization: yes
Percentage of workforce that has the option to telecommute: 95 percent

MOODY'S

Percentage of managers who are women: n/a
Paid maternity leave offered: up to 20 weeks
Reimbursement on in vitro fertilization: yes
Percentage of workforce that has the option to telecommute: n/a
6. Johnson & Johnson
Percentage of employees who are women: 45 percent
Percentage of managers who are women: 46 percent
Paid maternity leave offered: 15 weeks
Reimbursement on in vitro fertilization: yes
Percentage of workforce that has the option to telecommute: 75 percent

9. Procter & Gamble
Percentage of employees who are women: 36 percent
Percentage of managers who are women: 42 percent
Paid maternity leave offered: 16 weeks
Reimbursement on in vitro fertilization: yes
Percentage of workforce that has the option to telecommute: 80 percent
10. WellStar Health System
Percentage of employees who are women: 81 percent
Percentage of managers who are women: 76 percent
Paid maternity leave offered: 3 weeks
Reimbursement on in vitro fertilization: yes
Percentage of workforce that has the option to telecommute: 15 percent (Courtesy <https://www.cnbc.com>)



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OVERVIEW

Assuming that 2 percent of servers one day run on blockchain, Bank of America estimates the technology could be a \$7 billion market. The firm identified nine companies that stand to benefit from eventual mainstream adoption of blockchain, including Amazon, Microsoft and Oracle. "Amazon will benefit from incremental cloud services demand from blockchain implementation, while improved supply chain tracking should make Amazon's retail operations more efficient," says Bank of America research analyst Kash Rangan.

Blockchain adoption will eventually be a multi billion-dollar opportunity for tech companies like Amazon and Microsoft, according to new estimates from Bank of America.

Based on the analysis, the entire total addressable market for blockchain will eventually hit \$7 billion, though the analysts did not "attempt to put a time stamp" on it, as the technology is not yet widely adopted.

The potential beneficiaries could marry blockchain with existing cloud computing operations and improve supply chain operations, according to Bank of America research analyst Kash Rangan.

"Amazon will benefit from incremental cloud services demand from blockchain implementation, while improved supply chain tracking should make Amazon's retail operations more efficient," Rangan said in a note to clients Tuesday. The estimates assume that 2 percent of servers will be used to run blockchain, at \$5,500 per server, per year.

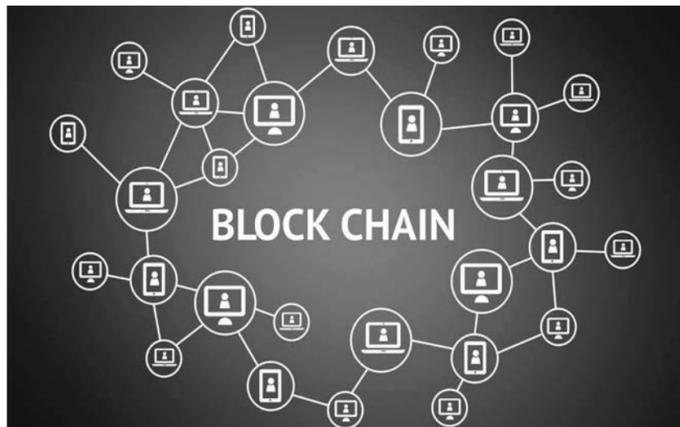
CRYPTOCURRENCY Blockchain is a software protocol that underpins cryptocurrencies like bitcoin. Also called distributed ledger technology, it shares data on a distributed, secure, and unalterable ledger in a way that "databases have not been able to in the past," Rangan said. Walmart became one of the first retailers to provide a near-term use case, and said last week it would require lettuce suppliers to upload data about their foods to blockchain within a year.

What Is Blockchain?

Blockchain is the idea of decentralization. By design, the blockchain is a decentral-

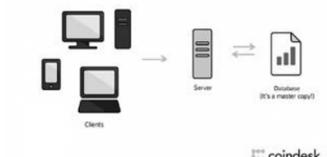
Potential Major Boost To Amazon And Microsoft, Reports Bank Of America
Blockchain Could Be A \$7 Billion Market

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor



ized technology. ... A global network of computers uses blockchain technology to jointly manage the database that records Bitcoin transactions. That is, Bitcoin is managed by its network, and not any one central authority.

Using Wikipedia As Example
With a blockchain, many people can write entries into a record of information, and a community of users can control how the record of information is amended and updated. Likewise, Wikipedia entries are not the product of a single publisher. No one person controls the information.



On ground level, however, the differences that make blockchain technology unique

become more clear. While both run on distributed networks (the internet), Wikipedia is built into the World Wide Web (WWW) using a client-server network model.

A user (client) with permissions associated with its account is able to change Wikipedia entries stored on a centralized server.

Whenever a user accesses the Wikipedia page, they will get the updated version of the 'master copy' of the Wikipedia entry. Control of the database remains with Wikipedia administrators allowing for access and permissions to be maintained by a central authority.

While it's not being used in many other consumer instances yet, blockchain could improve existing parts of "software as a service" or SaaS. Microsoft's Azure for example, could rely on what Rangan called "blockchain as a service" or "BaaS," on its popular cloud computing platform.

"BaaS on Azure offers services such as smart contracts and other third party apps,

and should benefit as use of blockchain on Azure increases," Rangan said.



Bank of America also said Oracle, IBM, Salesforce.com, VMware, and real estate and mortgage players like Redfin, Zillow, LendingTree stand to benefit from blockchain implementation.

To be sure, Bank of America said there are a wide range of blockchain estimates out there, and its money-making ability is still unproven.

"Many blockchain use cases have been identified, but full products/services have not yet been built out and are not used in production," Rangan said. (Courtesy <https://www.cnbc.com/>)

Related

Nearly \$13 billion wiped off of cryptocurrency market as major coins plunge
The price of major cryptocurrencies bitcoin, XRP and ethereum plunged last Thursday.

The move came after the International Monetary Fund warned that cryptocurrencies "could create new vulnerabilities in the international financial system."

Around \$13 billion of value was wiped off of the cryptocurrency market in about three hours.

The price of major cryptocurrencies plunged on Thursday with nearly \$13 billion of value being wiped out in a matter of hours.



One Bitcoin

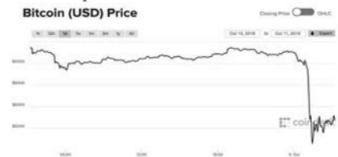
At approximately 10:23 a.m. HK/SIN on Thursday, bitcoin had fallen nearly 5 percent to \$6,303, while XRP and ethereum both tanked over 10 percent, according to data from Coinmarketcap.com. It's not unusual to see bitcoin lead other digital tokens lower.

In just three hours, nearly \$13 billion of value had been erased from the entire cryptocurrency market.

The drop comes amid fresh warnings from financial authorities about the rapid growth of digital coins and the potential threat to the economy.

"Continued rapid growth of crypto assets could create new vulnerabilities in the international financial system," the International Monetary Fund said in a recent report.

Many cryptocurrency enthusiasts hoped 2018 would be a year that regulators warmed up to the idea of professionalizing the trading of digital assets through new financial products like



exchange-traded funds. But the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission has rejected several ETFs including a highly anticipated one planned by the Winklevoss twins. Other countries, including China, have come down hard on cryptocurrencies.

At the same time, the year has been marked by high-profile hacks on cryptocurrency exchanges as well as a number of scams tied to people carrying out so-called initial coin offerings.

All of those factors have meant that bitcoin, XRP and ethereum have not recovered to the record highs seen toward the end of 2017 and beginning of this year. On Thursday, bitcoin was more than 68 percent off of its record high of \$19,783.21, which it hit on Dec. 17 of last year. (Courtesy <https://www.cnbc.com/2018/>)

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