MSCI

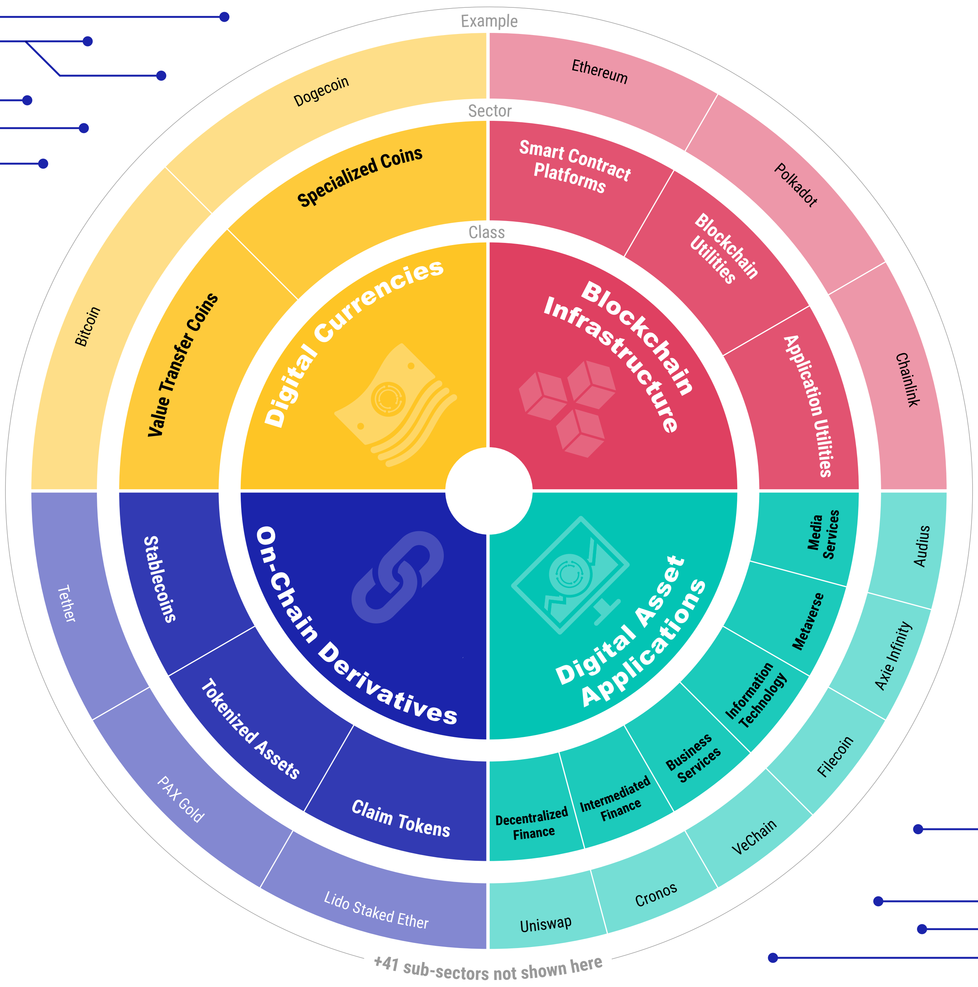
Datonomy™

A New Framework for Classifying Digital Assets

In 2009, there was one cryptocurrency: bitcoin. Now there are more than 9,000 cryptocurrencies and many digital assets with other uses.

Source: Statista (Nov 2022)

With the aim to add clarity to digital assets and their functionality, MSCI has collaborated with Coin Metrics and Goldman Sachs to develop a classification system known as datonomy.



How is each sector defined?

Specialized Coins
Facilitate value transfer on the blockchain for users with a specific interest, such as privacy, social community or cross-border payments.

Value Transfer Coins
Native to blockchains, their primary purpose is value transfer for general on-chain payments.

Stablecoins
Tokens that are pegged to a sovereign-issued currency to offer access to blockchain apps without exposure to price action in digitally native tokens.

Tokenized Assets
Tokens that provide exposure to another asset, on-chain or off-chain, and are pegged to the value of that underlying asset.

Claim Tokens
Tokens that give the holder credit toward an underlying asset that was lent or staked to earn interest.

Smart Contract Platforms
Tokens native to blockchain protocols that facilitate the execution of smart contracts and power a diverse set of decentralized apps.

Blockchain Utilities
Tokens that aim to improve a blockchain's core infrastructure for increased scale, blockchain interoperability, and low-friction operations.

Application Utilities
Tokens that allow for faster app development, easier integration, and better connectivity to participants and data on and off-chain.

Media Services
Tokens that facilitate the decentralized ownership and distribution of content across various mediums.

Metaverse
Tokens associated with a virtual blockchain-powered ecosystem that facilitate the ownership and transfer of digital property.

Information Technology
Tokens that support the storage, sharing, aggregation, computation, and manipulation of on-chain data for software developers.

Business Services
Tokens that provide products or services for the development of blockchain-based platforms at the professional or enterprise-level.

Intermediated Finance
Tokens that faciliate custodial financial activity, such as lending and payments, on a corporate entity's platform.

Decentralized Finance
Tokens that provide the user with economic interest, trading power, or an on-chain alternative to traditional financial services and products.

Datonomy and its related data analytics aim to help investors seeking to monitor market trends, analyze portfolio risk and return, and build new products.

Learn more about datonomy™

Powering better investment decisions. **msci.com**

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Source for datonomy structure and sector definitions: MSCI, Coin Metrics, Goldman Sachs (Nov 2022)

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