



BTC \$ 5,228

XRP \$ 0.33

ETH \$ 166

BCH \$ 308

EOS \$ 5.44

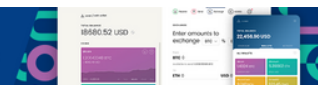
LTC \$ 80



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By Marie Huillet

OCT 22, 2018

## Visa Set to Launch Blockchain-Based Digital Identity System with IBM in Q1 2019

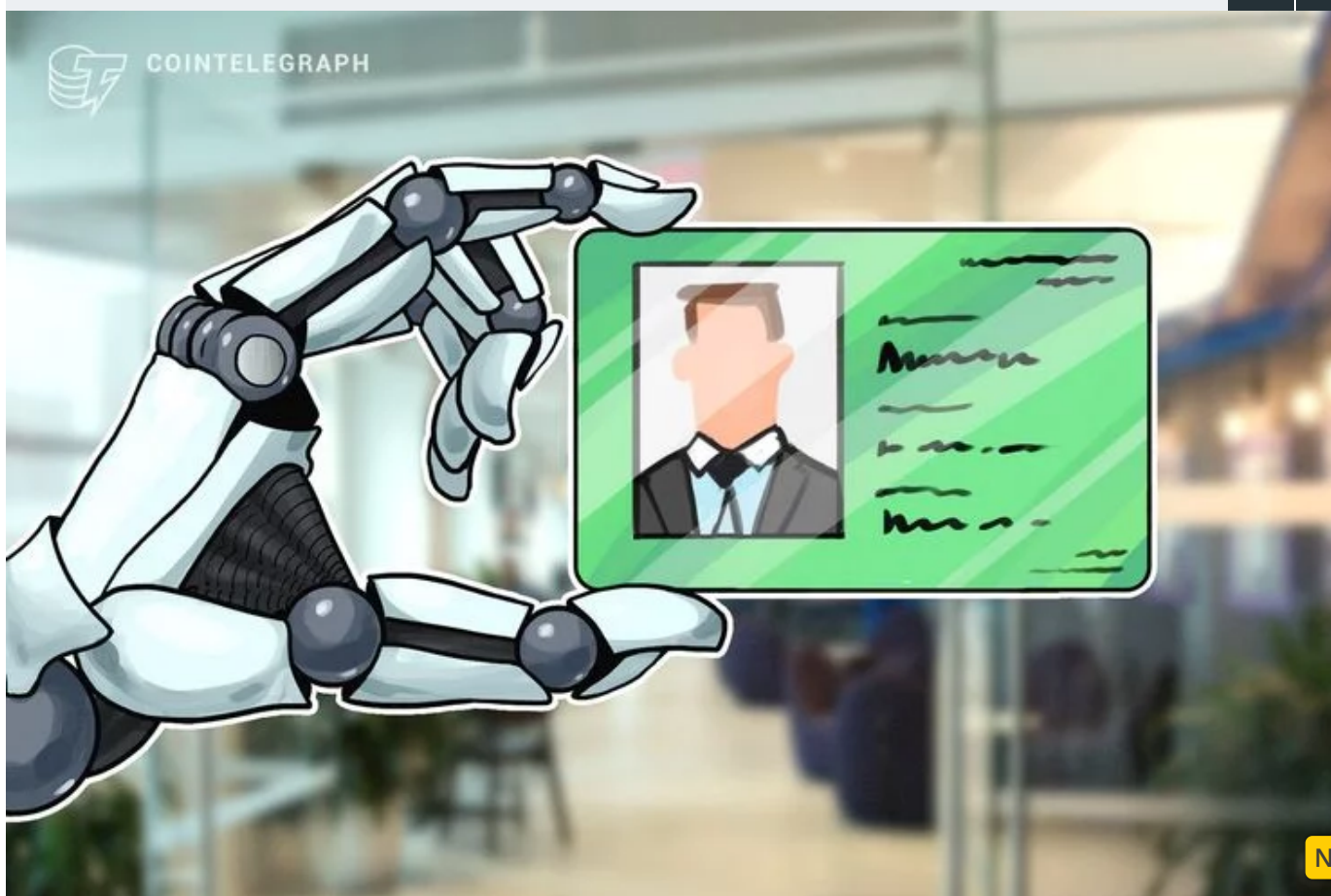
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NEWS

Visa is readying its [blockchain](#)-based digital identity system for cross-border payments for launch in the first quarter of 2019, according to a press release [published](#) October 21.

The system, dubbed Visa B2B Connect, will provide a blockchain-based digital identity solution for financial institutions to securely process cross-border payments. The system reportedly tokenizes sensitive business data – such as banking details and account numbers – granting them a unique cryptographic identifier that will be used for transactions on the platform. Cointelegraph.com uses [Cookies](#) to ensure the best experience for you.



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*"B2B Connect's digital identity greatly reduces the opportunity for fraud that might otherwise exist with checks, ACH and wire transfers today, while also helping companies remain compliant as part of the regulated financial ecosystem."*

From a technical standpoint the solution will integrate a [Hyperledger](#) Fabric framework (which is hosted by the [Linux](#) Foundation and was [developed](#) with input from IBM) with Visa's "core assets," which the release claims will establish a scalable permissioned network for use in the financial sector.

Jason Kelley, general manager at IBM Blockchain Services, is quoted as saying that the system represents one of the most "powerful examples to date of how blockchain is transforming payments."

Fintech provider Bottomline Technologies – which serves 1,200 financial institutions, according to the release – is also partnering with Visa on the B2B Connect system, a partnership that will enable "mutual financial institution clients" to access the system.

As reported last month, Thailand's fourth largest bank, Kasikornbank, just recently [joined](#) the B2B Connect corporate cross-border payments initiative.

According to Visa's [website](#), B2B Connect was first previewed back in 2017, and counted the [U.S.](#) Commerce Bank, South Korea's Shinhan Bank, the Union Bank of Philippines, and the United Overseas Bank in Singapore as among the first partners processing pilot payments ahead of commercial launch.

Even as it embraces blockchain's potential, Visa – alongside [MasterCard](#) – has this month reportedly moved to [group](#) cryptocurrency and Initial Coin Offering ([ICO](#)) under a new "High-Risk Securities Merchants" classification, meaning interaction with them will be subject to additional monitoring.

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By Adrian Zmudzinski

1 HOUR AGO

## Bitcoin Approaches \$5,250, US Stocks Slightly Down

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NEWS

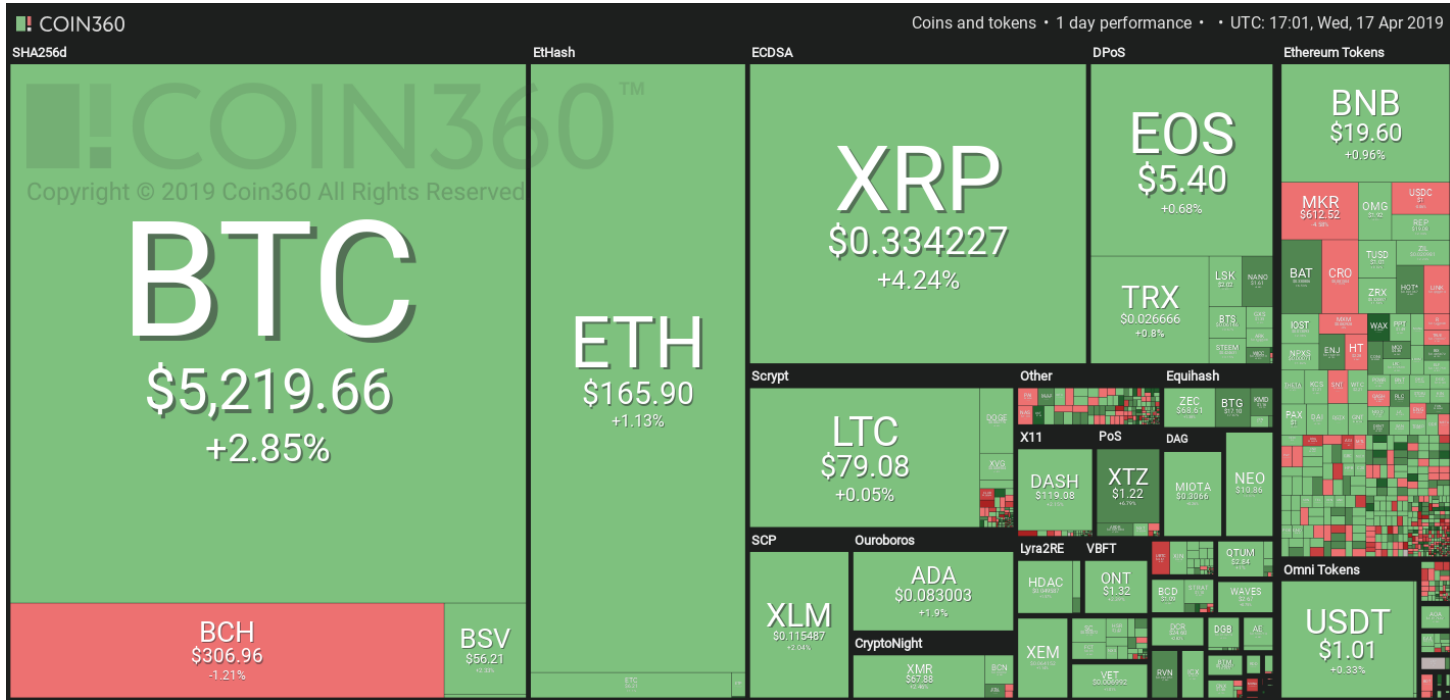
Wednesday, April 17 — most of the top 20 [cryptocurrencies](#) are reporting discreet gains on the day by press time, as bitcoin (BTC) approaches the \$5,250 mark.

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Market visualization courtesy of [Coin360](#)

Bitcoin is up over two percent on the day, trading at around [\\$5,242](#) by press time, according to [CoinMarketCap](#). Looking at its weekly chart, the current price is also about 1% lower than the price at which bitcoin started the week.



Bitcoin 7-day price chart. Source: [CoinMarketCap](#)

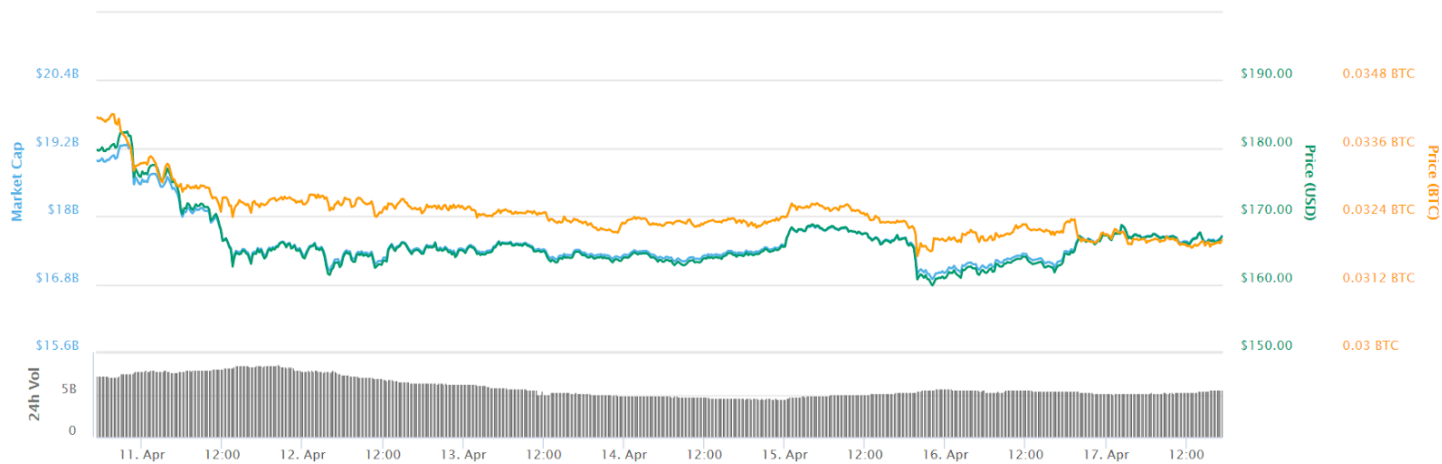
Ethereum ([ETH](#)) is holding onto its position as the largest altcoin by market cap, which is at about \$17.6 billion. The second-largest altcoin, Ripple ([XRP](#)), has a market cap of about \$13.9 billion by press time.

CoinMarketCap data shows that ETH's value has grown just over 1% over the last 24 hours. At press time, ETH is trading around \$167. On the week, the coin has also seen its value fall by over 7%.

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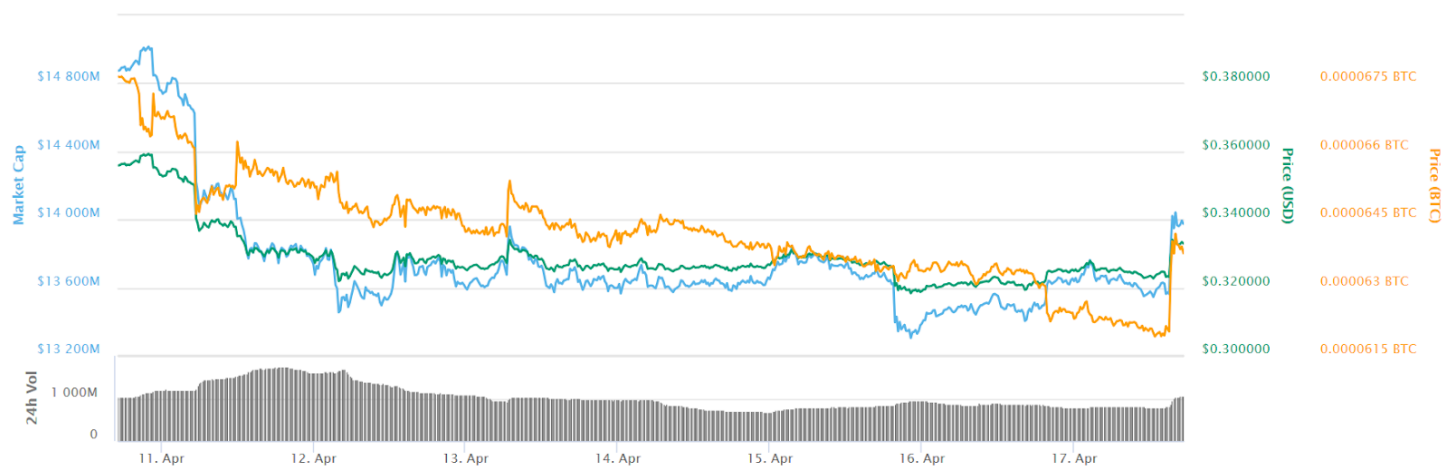




Ethereum 7-day price chart. Source: [CoinMarketCap](#)

As Cointelegraph [reported](#) earlier today, the [Enterprise Ethereum Alliance](#) has launched a [blockchain](#)-neutral Token Taxonomy Initiative in partnership with major firms, including Accenture and JPMorgan Chase.

The price of the second-largest altcoin, XRP, has gained a more solid 3% over the 24 hours to press time and is currently trading at around [\\$0.332](#). Looking at the coin's weekly chart, however, its current price is also nearly 7% lower than what it reported one week ago.



Ripple 7-day price chart. Source: [CoinMarketCap](#)

Among the top 20 cryptocurrencies, the only one reporting notable gains is Tezos ([XTZ](#)), which is up almost 10% at press time to trade at \$1.22.

The [total market cap](#) of all cryptocurrencies is currently equivalent to \$176.9 billion, which is over 3% lower than the value it reported a week ago.

In industry news, an official from the [Romanian](#) central bank recently [stated](#) that cryptocurrency will not replace fiat issued by central banks as it is not necessarily a currency.

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In traditional markets, the United States stock market is seeing a slight downturn so far today, with the [S&P 500](#)

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Major oil futures and indexes are showing mixed movements today, with WTI Crude down 0.19%, Brent Crude down 0.22% and Mars US up 0.96% to press time. Opec Basket is also down 0.14% and the Canadian Crude Index has lost 0.37% in the 24 hours to press time, according to [OilPrices](#).

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By Helen Partz

2 HOURS AGO

## Cambridge Study: Lack Of Standard Terms for Crypto Hampers Global Regulatory Response

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The lack of standard global terminology for [crypto](#) assets is a major impediment for the [adoption](#) of clear [regulatory](#) policies in the industry, according to a [study](#) by the Cambridge Centre for Alternative Finance (CCAF) released on April 16.

According to the report, a variety of major terms in the crypto industry is often used interchangeably and without a clear definition, which hampers global regulatory response.

Conducted with support from the Nomura Research Institute (NRI), the research provides a detailed analysis of the regulatory landscape on crypto asset activities in 23 jurisdictions. The research data was collected mainly through desktop research from November 2018 to early February 2019, the report notes.

According to the study, the term “cryptoasset” itself lacks a specific definition and is widely used as an umbrella term to refer to digital [tokens](#) that are issued and transferred on distributed ledger technology ([DLT](#)), specifically blockchain, systems. The research argues that the terms crypto asset and token have different meanings depending on the context.

As such, the report provides three major contexts for the definition of crypto assets. In a broad sense, the term encompasses all types of digital tokens issued and distributed on a blockchain. From an intermediate perspective, a crypto asset includes all types of digital tokens on a blockchain with open access, which do not necessarily need to perform a function. In a narrow view, crypto assets exclusively refer to digital tokens on open DLT systems that play

an essential role in functioning, the report reads. Cointelegraph.com uses [Cookies](#) to ensure the best experience for you.

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of the different terms and identify the terminology that is most suitable to their regulatory objectives.

In addition, the CCAF research says that the 82% of analyzed jurisdictions have distinguished crypto assets that have characteristics of a security from other types of cryptos. Based on that, activities relating to crypto assets that are considered securities are automatically brought under the authority of local securities laws, the report says.

Recently, Cointelegraph [reported](#) that the [French](#) government is planning to convince other [European Union](#) member states to adopt cryptocurrency regulations similar to its own.

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