

Is BTX Inflationary? BTX and Bitcoin Are One Hard-Money Design at Different Ages

BTX mints 20 coins a block and Bitcoin only 3.125, so people assume BTX is inflationary. Look closer and they run on one identical rulebook, capped at 21 million, halving to zero. The difference is age, not kind, and it decides what any 'earn yield' offer can honestly be.

JULY 6, 2026 · 9 MIN READ · [EASYBTX.COM/RESEARCH/BTX-HARD-MONEY](https://easybtx.com/research/btx-hard-money)

ABSTRACT

BTX issues 20 coins every 90 seconds while Bitcoin issues 3.125 every ten minutes, yet both stop forever at 21 million. Here is why they are the same kind of sound money at different points on the same curve, and what that means for any yield you are offered.

A question we hear often from people who have just started mining BTX: it pays 20 coins every block, roughly every 90 seconds, while Bitcoin pays only 3.125 coins every ten minutes. Does that mean BTX is inflationary, a coin that will be printed forever until it is worth nothing?

It is a fair thing to ask, and the short answer is no, for a reason that is more interesting than a simple denial. BTX and Bitcoin are not two different kinds of money, one sound and one inflationary. They are the same kind of money, built on one identical rulebook, seen at two very different ages.

Understanding that is also the key to answering a second, more important question: when someone offers you a yield on a coin like this, when is that offer honest and when is it a trap?

Everything below is drawn from public protocol rules and issuance snapshots anyone can check. No individual wallet is named anywhere in this article, and nothing here is financial advice.

Same cap, same schedule, different age

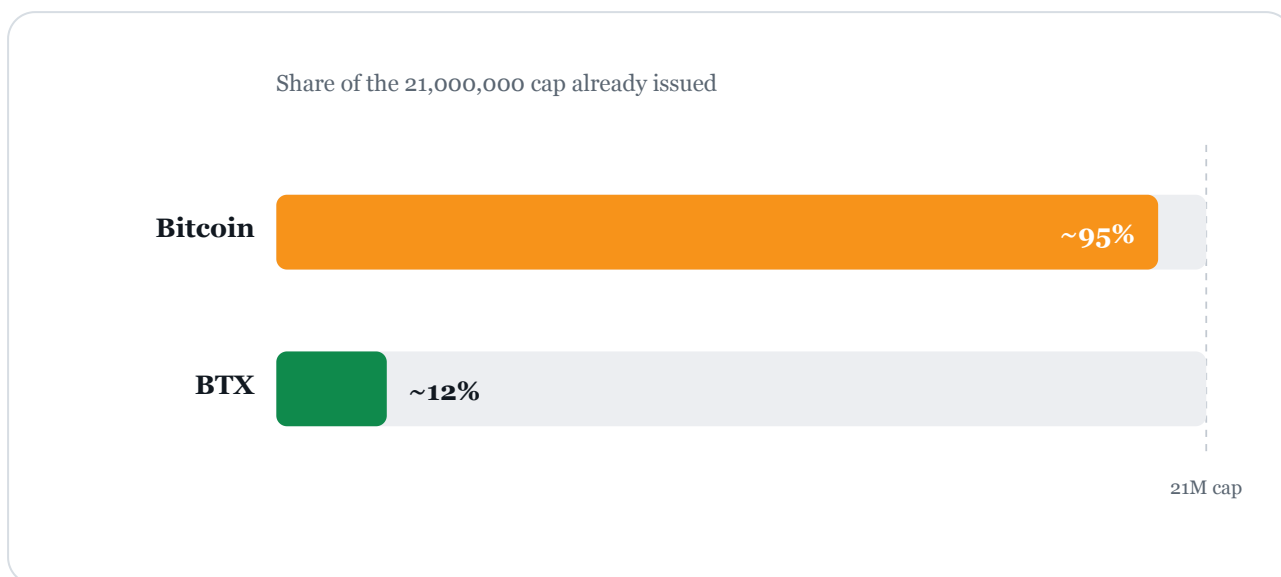
Both Bitcoin and BTX issue new coins the same way: a miner who finds a block is paid a fixed block subsidy, that subsidy halves on a fixed schedule, and the total ever issued converges to exactly 21,000,000 coins and then stops. Neither can be expanded at will by anyone. That is the definition of hard money, and BTX inherits it directly, because BTX is a fork of Bitcoin's own code that kept those rules intact.

What differs is not the design. It is where each coin sits on the identical curve.

	Bitcoin (BTC)	BTX
Supply cap	21,000,000	21,000,000
Block subsidy	3.125 BTC	20 BTX
Block time	~10 min	~90 s

	Bitcoin (BTC)	BTX
New coins per day	~450	~19,200
Issued so far	19.9M (95%)	2.5M (12%)
Current issuance rate	under ~1% / yr	steep, pre-first-halving
Halving interval	210,000 blocks	525,000 blocks (~18 mo)
Next halving	~2028	~late 2027 (first ever)
Proof of work	SHA-256	MatMul (512×512 matrix)
Signatures	ECDSA / Schnorr	ML-DSA + SLH-DSA (post-quantum)

Read the "issued so far" row and the whole apparent paradox dissolves. Bitcoin has already handed out about 95 percent of every coin it will ever create, across four halvings and sixteen years, so today it adds well under 1 percent a year. BTX has handed out only about 12 percent, and has not reached its first halving yet, so it is still on the steep opening stretch of the same schedule. Bitcoin looked exactly like this in 2011.



Both chains stop at the same 21 million coins. Bitcoin has nearly filled the bar over sixteen years; BTX has barely started. The high BTX issuance rate is what the start of this bar always looks like, on any coin that runs this schedule.

So "BTX issues far more coins per day than Bitcoin" and "BTX is a hard-capped, disinflationary coin" are both true at once. The first is a statement about its age; the second is a statement about its rules. A high issuance rate early on a fixed schedule is not the same thing as unlimited printing, and the gap between the two chains compresses hard at every BTX halving.

The one thing a BTX protocol can never do

That shared design has a sharp consequence the moment anyone builds a product on top of BTX, and it is worth stating plainly because it decides which of those products are safe.

A protocol running on BTX can issue BTX. It can never issue Bitcoin. Bitcoin's new coins are paid only to Bitcoin's own miners, who spend SHA-256 work to earn them. No outside protocol has a claim on a single satoshi of that emission. So any BTX-based product that pays you in BTX is paying

in a unit it can mint, while any product that pays you in Bitcoin must first have earned or bought that Bitcoin from somewhere real.

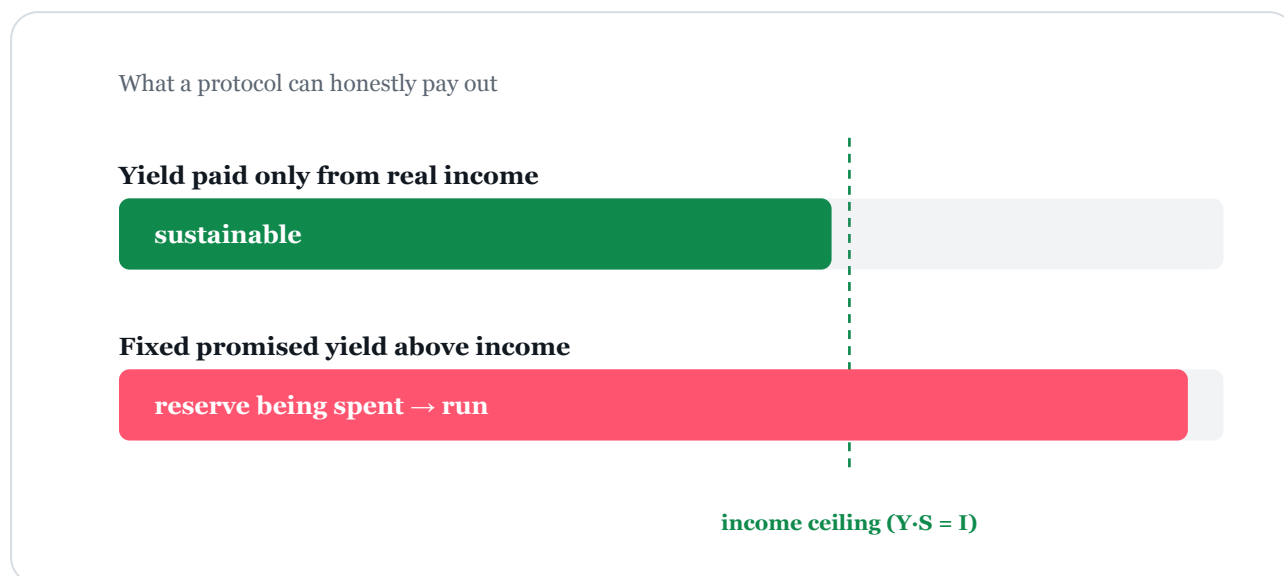
This is the difference between a cost you can print and a liability you must fund, and it is the whole reason the next section matters.

When "earn yield" is honest, and when it is a countdown

People naturally ask the mirror-image question: if you can lock Bitcoin to earn BTC, can you lock or stake BTC to earn Bitcoin? On a calculator the two directions look symmetric. In monetary reality they are not, and the asymmetry is entirely about where the payout comes from.

Paying BTC yield is cheap, because the protocol can issue BTC; the cost is dilution, spread across all holders, not cash out the door. Paying Bitcoin yield is a real expense, because every unit must already exist and be earned. That gives any "earn Bitcoin on your BTC" product a natural ceiling: it can distribute no more Bitcoin than it actually earns, for example from trading or bridge fees. Push past that line and the extra is not being earned, it is being taken out of a reserve.

There is an exact way to state the safe boundary. If a protocol promises a yield rate Y on a staked value S , and it earns real income I , then it is solvent only while $Y \times S \leq I$. The instant promised payouts exceed income, the shortfall comes out of reserves, and once depositors realize the yield is subsidized rather than earned, the reserve draw becomes a run.



A payout funded by realized income (green) can never exceed what the protocol earns, so it is solvent by construction. A fixed promised rate (red) that overshoots real income is financed from a reserve, and a reserve financing its own payout is the Terra/UST failure pattern.

This is not a hypothetical. Terra's UST paid a fixed, headline yield backed by a soft, self-issued asset; when confidence broke, that asset fell exactly when it was needed to defend the promise, and roughly 40 billion dollars evaporated in days. The lesson generalizes to any young coin: a fixed high yield in a hard asset, funded by issuing or selling a soft one, is short exactly the tail risk that shows up in a crisis. Real yield, distributing only fees actually earned, is the version that survives, which is why the durable protocols in DeFi (the ones that pay out realized revenue) are built that way on purpose.

So the honest answer to "can I earn Bitcoin with BTX" is: yes, but only a variable amount funded by real income, never a fixed promised rate. If you are ever shown a fixed, headline high yield on a young asset, the useful instinct is to ask where the money comes from, and to treat "trust us" as a no.

Why self-custody and a young chain's security matter here

There is one more practical point that follows from BTX being young, and it is good news if you act on it. A proof-of-work chain's resistance to attack scales with how much mining power defends it. BTX's hashrate has grown very fast, but it is still small compared to Bitcoin's, which means the cost to reorganize its recent history is far lower than Bitcoin's. That is fine for holding and mining, but it is exactly why responsible design keeps large pooled reserves off a young chain: a big Bitcoin reserve made redeemable against an easy-to-reorganize chain is a honeypot, the precise setup that drained several small chains in past years.

The takeaway for a holder is simple and protective. The safest way to hold BTX, or any coin, is the way that creates no honeypot at all: your keys, on your own device, nothing deposited into a pool or bridge that someone could drain. Most large losses in crypto have come from custodians and bridges, not from coins sitting in a user's own wallet. A young network is a reason to prefer self-custody and to be skeptical of anything that asks you to hand your coins over for a promised return, not a reason to avoid the coin itself.

The honest summary

BTX is not inflationary in any meaningful sense. It is a hard-capped, halving-scheduled, proof-of-work coin that happens to be near the start of the same emission curve Bitcoin is near the end of. Its high issuance today is youth, not printing, and it falls at every halving. That same youth means two things worth remembering: any Bitcoin-denominated yield built on BTX is only honest up to the income it genuinely earns, and the safest way to hold the coin is in your own custody. None of that requires trusting a marketing claim. All of it can be checked against the chain's own rules, which is the whole point.

BTX is early-stage, thin, and volatile, and everything here is educational, not a prediction or advice. But the monetary facts are not a matter of opinion, and they are more reassuring, and more demanding, than the "is it inflationary?" question first suggests.

Postscript added 22 August 2026

This article was published on 6 July 2026 and carries numbers that move with the clock. The argument has not changed, but three of its figures have. The body, the comparison table and the chart are left exactly as published, so you can see the drift rather than take our word for it. Two answers in the FAQ at the foot of the page have been corrected in place, each carrying its own dated note.

Age. This article was written when BTX was about four months old. Genesis block 0 is stamped 19 March 2026 and the first mined block landed on 23 March 2026, so as of 22 August 2026 BTX is about five months old.

Share of the cap issued. The comparison table and the bar chart say about 12 percent. At block 197,897 on 22 August 2026, with the subsidy still at 20 BTX and no halving yet, 3,957,940 BTX have been mined. That is 18.85 percent of the 21,000,000 cap. The chart shows the July reading and is not being redrawn.

Time to the first halving. The article reaches "late 2027" by multiplying 525,000 blocks by the protocol's 90 second target. Ninety seconds is the target, not the observed rate. Blocks have been arriving faster than target over the chain's life, which pulls the first halving earlier. We are not naming a replacement date here, because the observed average moves depending on the window you measure it over, and a date we would have to correct again is worse than no date.

What has not changed. The cap is still 21,000,000. The subsidy is still 20 BTX, confirmed on chain at the tip. The halving interval is still 525,000 blocks and no halving has happened. Everything this article argues about hard money, real yield and self-custody stands.

Frequently asked questions

Is BTX inflationary?

Not in the way the word usually means. BTX has a fixed maximum supply of 21 million coins, the same cap as Bitcoin, and its block reward halves on a schedule until issuance reaches zero. It has a high issuance rate today because it is young and early on that schedule, not because anyone can print unlimited coins. A currency with a hard cap and a disinflationary, code-enforced emission schedule is the opposite of a fiat currency that can be expanded at will.

Will BTX ever exceed 21 million coins?

No. The 21 million cap is enforced by the same kind of consensus rule Bitcoin uses. The block subsidy starts at 20 BTX and halves every 525,000 blocks, so the total ever issued converges to just under 21 million and then new issuance stops. Any block trying to pay itself more than the current subsidy is rejected by every honest node, so no miner can mint extra coins.

Why does BTX issue so many more coins than Bitcoin right now?

Because BTX is young and Bitcoin is about sixteen years old, and they are at very different points on the same curve. Bitcoin has already issued roughly 95 percent of its coins over four halvings, so it now emits under 1 percent a year. BTX has not had its first halving yet, so it is still on the steep early part of the schedule. Bitcoin looked exactly like this in its own first years. Figures refreshed 22 August 2026: BTX is about five months old and has issued 3,957,940 BTX at block 197,897, which is 18.85 percent of the cap. This answer has been updated in place. The ~12 percent in the comparison table and the bar chart further down are the July 2026 readings and are left as published.

When does BTX halve?

The BTX block reward halves every 525,000 blocks, cutting it from 20 BTX to 10. Each halving roughly halves the new-supply rate, which is why a young chain's high issuance falls quickly rather than continuing forever. Note added 22 August 2026: the 'late 2027' estimate in this article assumes the protocol's 90 second target block time. Observed blocks have been arriving faster than target, so

the first halving may land earlier than that. We are not going to name a replacement date, because the observed average shifts depending on the window you measure.

Is BTX the same as Bitcoin?

It is the same monetary design on different technology. BTX is a fork of Bitcoin Knots that keeps the 21 million cap, the halving schedule, and proof-of-work issuance, but changes two things: it uses a matrix-multiplication proof-of-work instead of SHA-256, and it uses post-quantum signatures (ML-DSA and SLH-DSA) instead of Bitcoin's ECDSA and Schnorr. So it is a separate, younger network with Bitcoin's economics and different, quantum-resistant cryptography, not the same coin.

Can you earn Bitcoin by holding or staking BTX?

Only as real yield, and only up to what a protocol genuinely earns in Bitcoin. No protocol built on BTX can issue Bitcoin, it can only pay out Bitcoin it has actually earned from fees or revenue. So a variable payout funded by real income can be honest, but any fixed, headline Bitcoin yield above that income is not yield, it is a reserve being spent down, and that is the pattern that ended Terra. Treat a promised fixed rate in a hard asset as a warning sign, not a feature.

What is 'real yield' and why does it matter?

Real yield means a payout funded entirely by income the system actually earns, such as trading or bridge fees, rather than by issuing new tokens or drawing down a reserve. It matters because real yield is solvent by construction, it can never pay out more than it takes in, while a subsidized or fixed promise depends on a reserve that can run out or a token price that can fall exactly when it is needed. Durable protocols distribute realized fees; the ones that promise a fixed high rate on a young asset tend to fail.

Does a low price or thin market make BTX unsafe to hold?

It makes BTX volatile and hard to value, which is a real risk, but holding BTX in your own wallet is not the same as depositing it somewhere. The safest way to hold any coin, BTX included, is self-custody: your keys on your own device, nothing deposited into a pool or bridge that could be hacked or drained. Most large crypto losses have come from custodians and bridges, not from coins sitting in a user's own wallet. Hold what you can afford to lose, and keep your keys.

easyBTX is an independent participant in the BTX ecosystem, not its founder. This paper is educational research, not financial advice. Read the live version and check the sources at easybtx.com/research/btx-hard-money.