USDT

MONTHLY UPDATE REPORT

TETHER — RESERVES AND RISKS

As of 31 August 2026

AUGUST 2026 EDITION

Advisory • Research • Financial Intelligence

Contents

QUICK READ — Pages 3 to 5 contain the main conclusions. The annexes document reproducible data and the evidence hierarchy.

1. Summary

The most important event of the month is Tether's 13 August announcement that KPMG U.S. had completed an audit of the 2025 financial statements of Tether International, S.A. de C.V., accompanied, according to Tether, by an unqualified opinion. This announcement potentially broadens the depth of assurance compared with point-in-time attestations: the balance sheet, income statement, changes in equity and cash flows would have been examined. However, KPMG's signed report, the audited financial statements and their notes were not accessible in the public sources verified. The precise content of the opinion therefore cannot be independently inspected by an external reader.

DefiLlama data indicate estimated circulation of 183.52bn USDT on 1 August and 183.38bn on 30 August, representing a limited net contraction of 0.14bn USDT (−0.07%).

CoinGecko's aggregated price remained within a narrow range, between USD 0.99890 and USD 1.00012 over the observed window from 1 to 30 August 2026. No sustained loss of the peg was identified. This informs aggregate market liquidity; it does not prove the absence of local spreads or platform-specific constraints.

Source: Tether, announcement of the 2025 audit, 13 August 2026

Source: DefiLlama, USDT circulating-supply history, accessed 30 August 2026

2. What has changed since our July 2026 report

2.1 A 2025 annual audit announced, but not publicly inspectable

Tether states that KPMG U.S. audited Tether International's financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2025 in accordance with the applicable professional standards and issued an unqualified opinion. Tether also states that the audit covered transactions, systems, ownership titles, valuations and counterparties, and that a physical count of the gold bars was performed.

> **SCOPE —** The verified fact here is Tether's institutional publication and its corroboration by Reuters. In the absence of the signed report and the complete financial statements, BECTRA does not classify the figures associated with this audit as level 1 evidence in this report. They remain level 3, with an explicit documentary limitation.

The USD 6.814bn surplus mentioned for 31 December 2025 does not replace the USD 4.110bn surplus attested as of 30 June 2026. The two dates, documentary perimeters and levels of public access must remain separate. The announcement reinforces the conclusion that financial-control arrangements are progressing, but does not allow the decline in the surplus between December, March and June to be reconciled.

2.2 Strategic deployment of Hadron in Saudi Arabia

On 6 August, Tether announced a collaboration with First Advanced Data for Artificial Intelligence LLC and BKN301. Hadron is to provide the technology for tokenising institutional real-estate assets; First Data is presented as the commercial lead, issuer and primary-market operator, while BKN301 is to provide integration, banking connectivity and operational support.

This project expands the group's operational footprint and adds technological, regulatory and counterparty dependencies. It demonstrates neither an investment already disbursed nor the inclusion of real-estate assets in USDT reserves. The Hadron platform must not be confused with the reserve portfolio.

2.3 Uruguayan mining project: new information, older event

Reuters published an investigation on 21 August into the abandonment of a mining project in Uruguay, valued by a cited source at approximately USD 120m. The central operational facts date back to 2025: an energy dispute, power disconnection, cessation of activity and settlement of debts. The publication sheds light on execution risk in the group's investments, but it does not constitute a loss incurred in August 2026 and does not allow the alleged amount to be attributed to USDT reserves.

2.4 Tether Gold publication of 3 August: a product distinct from USDT

Tether stated on 3 August that customer holdings in XAU₮ had increased by 9.5% in the second quarter, from 559,598.64 to 612,823.66 XAU₮, representing an additional 53,225.02 tokens. The company states that XAU₮ reserves comprised 1,759 London Good Delivery bars and smaller-format bars held in Switzerland, for an announced value of approximately USD 2.837bn at quarter-end.

This communication relates to the Tether Gold product and not to the USD 18.84bn precious-metals line included in USDT reserves as of 30 June. It does not allow a determination as to whether any of the same bars, custodians or entities are involved in both perimeters.

Source: Tether, Hadron collaboration in Saudi Arabia, 6 August 2026 | Level 3

Source: Tether, Tether Gold Holdings Rise 9.5% in Q2, 3 August 2026 | Level 3

Source: Reuters, investigation into the Uruguayan mining project, 21 August 2026 | Level 6

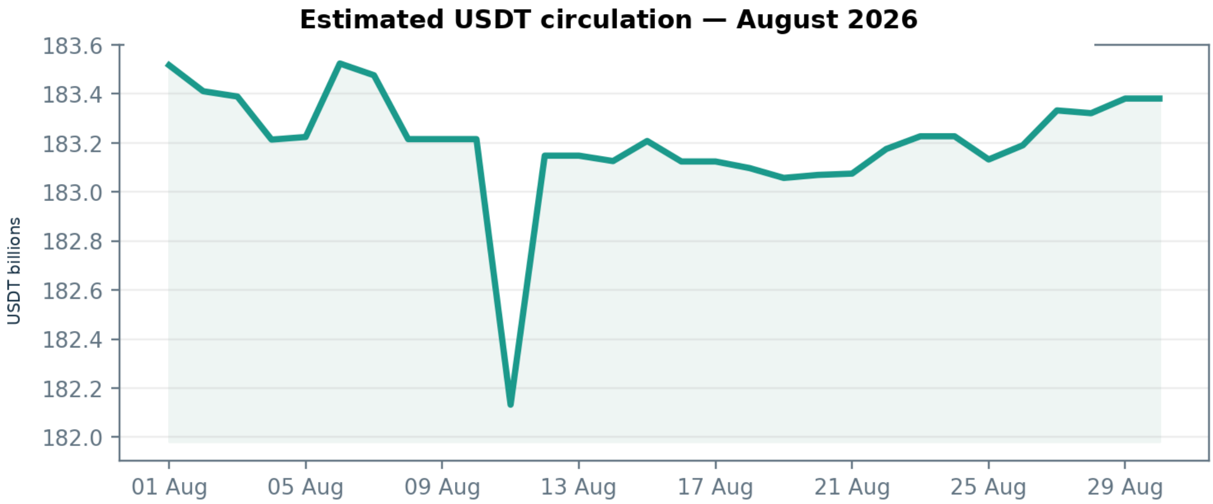
3. What remains unchanged in the absence of a new attestation

The June report remains the only assured basis for composition and amounts. The categories below are fixed at 30 June and have evolved since then. However, without a new attestation from the issuer, we remain cautious.

Assured data as of 30 June 2026	Amount	What remains unknown as of 30 August
Declared assets	USD 187.75bn	Subsequent amount, composition and valuation
Total liabilities	USD 183.64bn	Subsequent issued liabilities, debts and other obligations
Token liabilities	USD 183.62bn	Exact reconciliation with multichain supply
Published surplus	USD 4.11bn	Daily evolution, distribution or allocation
Direct U.S. Treasury bills	USD 114.96bn	Purchases, sales, maturities and remaining tenor
Overnight / term repos	USD 18.63 / 6.99bn	Counterparties, collateral, haircuts and settlement
Secured loans	USD 13.45bn	Borrowers, maturities, LTV and defaults
Gold / Bitcoin	USD 18.84 / 5.80bn	Quantities and valuations as of 30 August

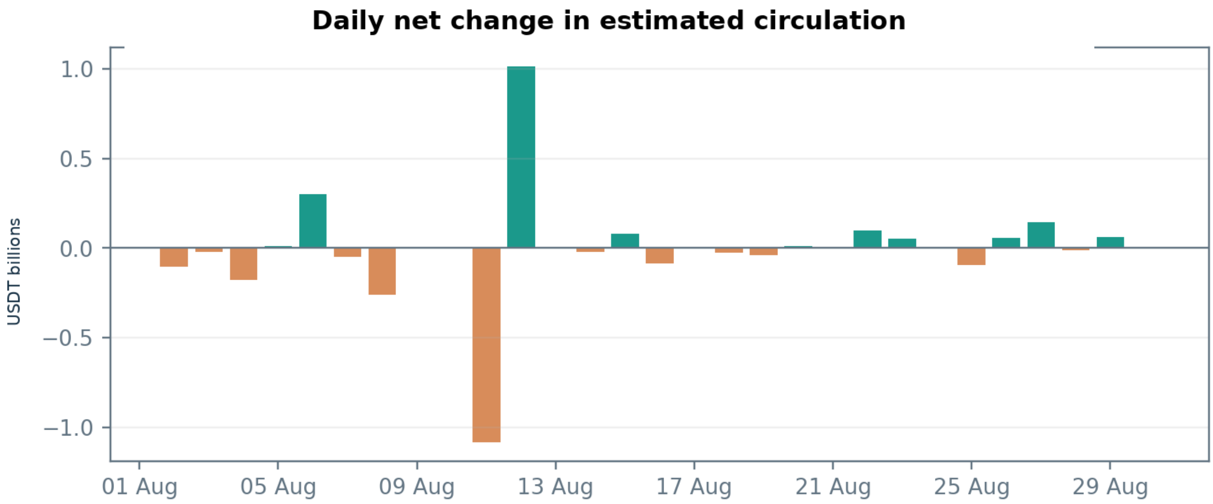
The previous conclusion therefore remains valid: evidence of nominal coverage at a given date is stronger than evidence of continuous operational liquidity. The announced 2025 audit improves the governance signal, but it predates the latest cut-off and does not directly provide information on August reserves.

4. Supply, issuance, burns and multichain activity



Key takeaway: estimated circulation contracted slightly over the month, with no visible break.

Source: DefiLlama, daily USDT series



Key takeaway: the daily changes show several significant adjustments; they measure a net change in supply, not the amount of direct redemptions.

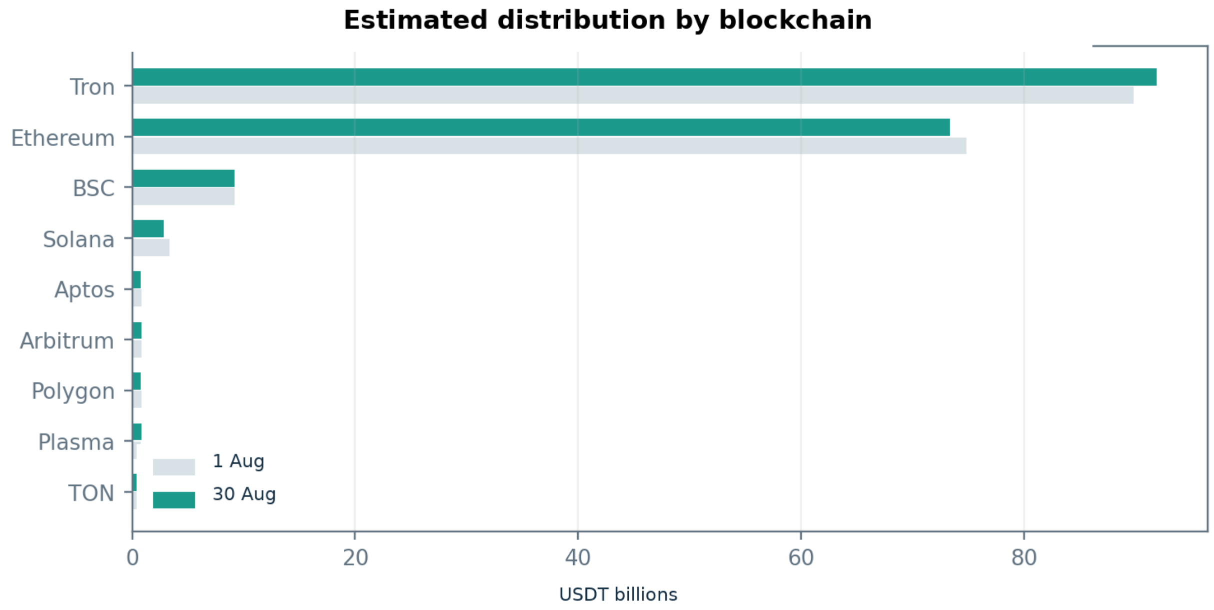
Source: DefiLlama, daily USDT series

Date	Estimated net change	Permissible interpretation
11/08/2026	−1.08bn USDT	Change in circulation; economic cause not established
12/08/2026	+1.02bn USDT	Change in circulation; economic cause not established
06/08/2026	+0.30bn USDT	Change in circulation; economic cause not established
08/08/2026	−0.26bn USDT	Change in circulation; economic cause not established
04/08/2026	−0.18bn USDT	Change in circulation; economic cause not established
27/08/2026	+0.14bn USDT	Change in circulation; economic cause not established

Date	Estimated circulation	Change

Date	Estimated net change	Permissible interpretation
30 June 2026	184.96bn USDT	On-chain data point, distinct from attested liabilities
1 August 2026	183.52bn USDT	Monthly baseline
30 August 2026	183.38bn USDT	−0.14bn / −0.07% since 1 August

The difference between the 184.96bn USDT observed by DefiLlama on 30 June and the USD 183.62bn of attested token liabilities should not automatically be interpreted as a coverage shortfall. The sources do not necessarily use the same timestamp, chain perimeter or treatment of treasury tokens, authorised but unissued units and bridged representations. The exact reconciliation cannot be publicly reproduced from the available data alone.



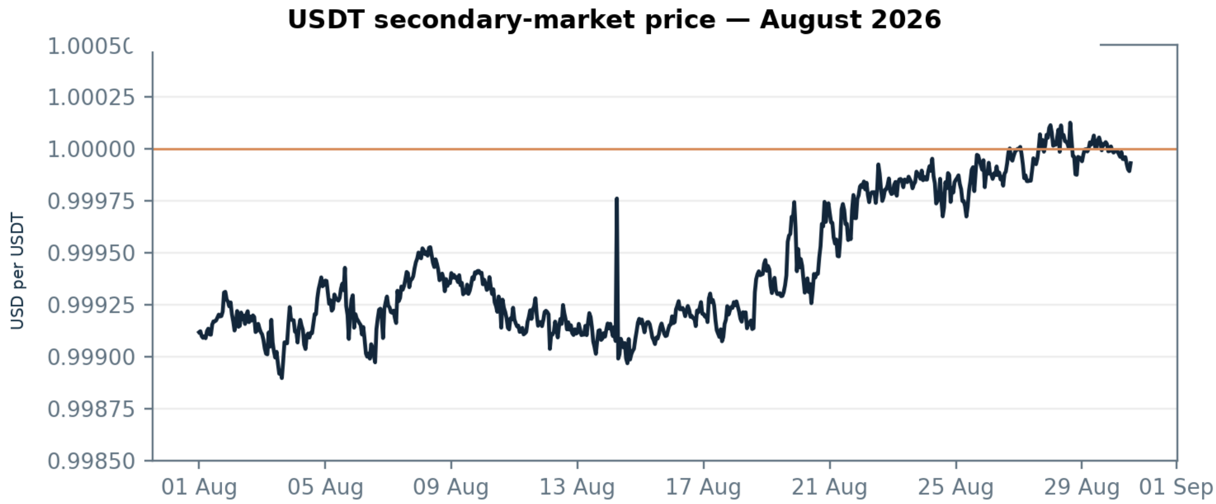
Key takeaway: Tron and Ethereum remain by far the two main infrastructures; together they account for close to 90% of estimated circulation.

Source: DefiLlama, balances by blockchain

Between 1 and 30 August, Tron increased by approximately 2.08bn USDT while Ethereum decreased by approximately 1.48bn. Solana decreased by approximately 0.53bn. These movements may reflect issuances, burns, treasury transfers, arbitrage or methodological changes; they do not prove a direct economic redemption.

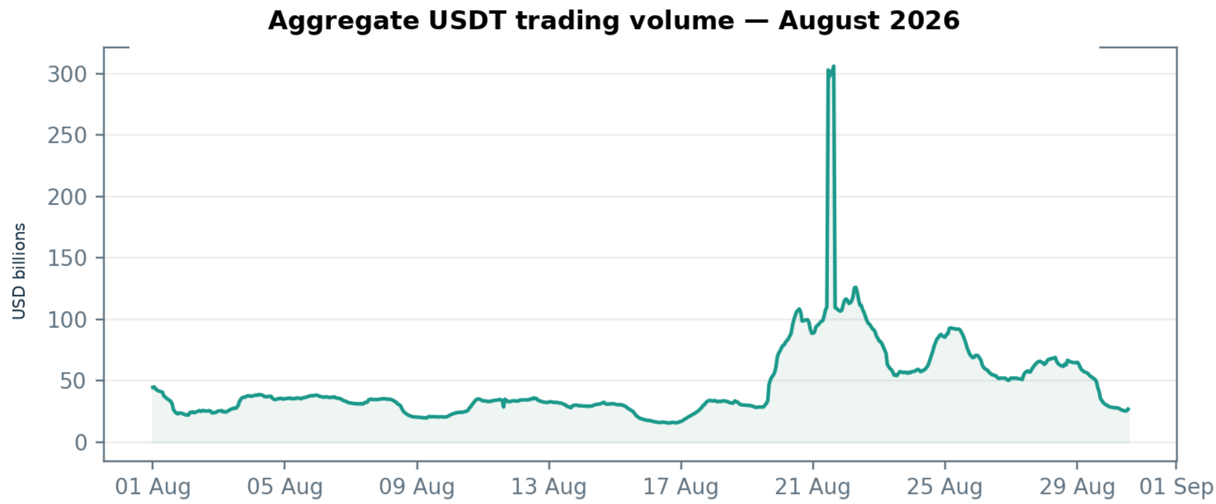
> **DOUBLE-COUNTING RISK —** DefiLlama distinguishes native, unreleased and bridged units in its data. BECTRA uses the provider's aggregate measure without manually adding bridge balances. Bridged chains nevertheless remain exposed to contract, custody and cross-network synchronisation risk.

5. Peg, market liquidity and apparent redemptions



Key takeaway: no sustained discount appears in the aggregate series; the observed low point is USD 0.99890.

Source: CoinGecko, USDT/USD market data



Key takeaway: aggregate volumes remain high but variable; on their own they do not indicate the depth available around USD 1.

Source: CoinGecko, aggregate USDT volumes

Indicator — 1 to 30 August	Value
Minimum observed price	USD 0.998896
Maximum observed price	USD 1.000124
Total range	0.123%
Final observed price	USD 0.999930

A stable peg on an aggregator is not equivalent to uniform liquidity. Platforms, geographic areas and trading pairs may display different spreads. The data used do not establish the depth available at each price level, nor the time required to convert into bank money.

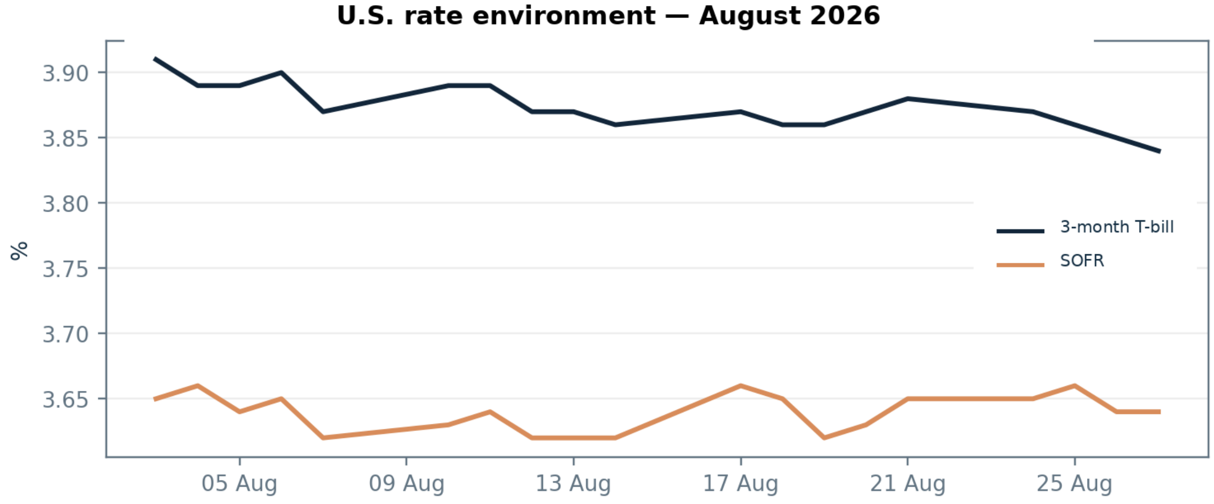
Redemptions and burns

On-chain alerts reported on 21 August a mint of approximately 1bn USDT and a burn of approximately 2bn USDT at the Tether treasury level. A treasury mint may be authorised without immediate circulation; a burn may correspond to an inventory adjustment, a migration or a redemption, without the transaction alone allowing one of these explanations to be selected.

> **THEREFORE —** The net monthly decline in circulation is compatible with net redemptions, but does not prove them. The amount of direct redemptions, their average processing time, rejection rate and operational capacity under stress remain unknown.

Source: Whale Alert, burn reported on 21 August 2026 | Level 4

6. Reserve environment and sensitivities

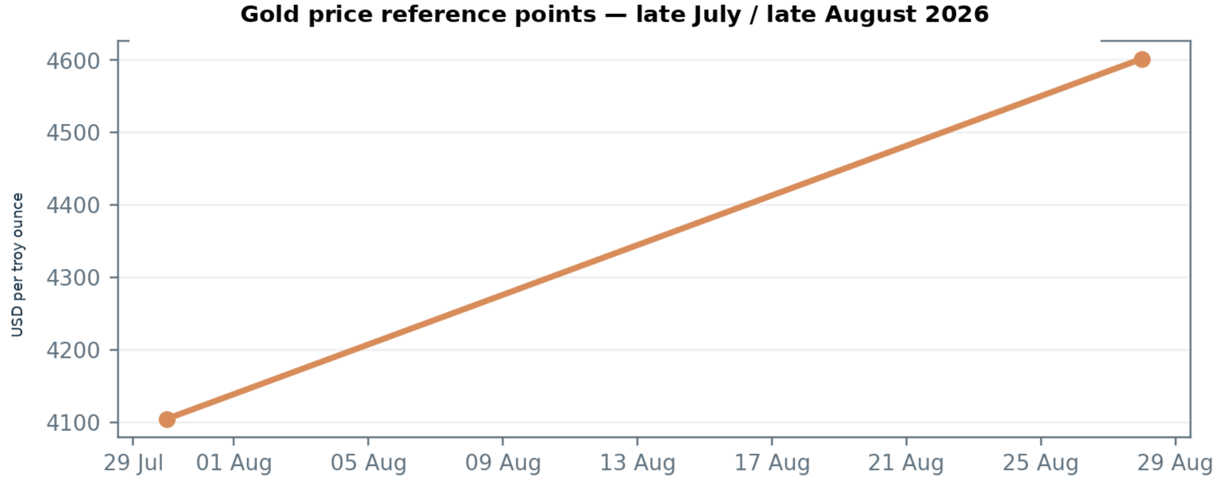


Key takeaway: short-term yields remain elevated; the 3-month T-bill rate declined from 3.91% to 3.84% across the available observations.

Source: Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis (FRED), DGS3MO and SOFR

The level of interest rates continues to support the potential income of money-market assets and short-dated Treasury bills. The slight decline observed in August may produce limited valuation gains on fixed-rate securities, but the exact effect depends on maturities, purchases, sales and hedges, which are not published after 30 June.

Bitcoin increased from approximately USD 62,820 to USD 78,736 in the CoinGecko series, with a low of USD 62,470 and a high of USD 80,698. This increase would have improved the value of a portfolio unchanged since 30 June, but the quantity actually held as of 30 August is not known. No theoretical gain is therefore incorporated into the coverage calculation.



Key takeaway: between the Reuters reference point of 30 July and the LBMA AM fixing of 28 August, gold increased by approximately 12.1%. This movement is not applied to the 30 June precious-metals line.

Source: Reuters (30 July) and LBMA (28 August 2026)

The spot price cited by Reuters on 30 July was USD 4,104.59 per ounce; the LBMA fixing on 28 August was USD 4,602.00 in the morning and USD 4,562.75 in the afternoon. A rise in gold would be favourable to an unchanged exposure, but neither the quantities, the transactions nor any hedges after 30 June are public.

Parametric sensitivities based on 30 June

Hypothetical isolated shock	Loss on 30 June exposure	Theoretical residual surplus	Nature
Gold −10%	USD 1.88bn	USD 2.23bn	Market risk
Gold −30%	USD 5.65bn	−USD 1.54bn	Market risk
Bitcoin −30%	USD 1.74bn	USD 2.37bn	Market risk
Bitcoin −80%	USD 4.64bn	−USD 0.53bn	Market risk
Secured loans: 10% loss	USD 1.35bn	USD 2.76bn	Credit risk

READING — These scenarios do not measure Tether as of 30 August. They only show that the surplus published as of 30 June remains sensitive to volatile assets and credit losses if exposures are assumed to be unchanged. They exclude correlations, hedges, taxation, sales, issuances and redemptions.

Source: CoinGecko, Bitcoin/USD data over the review window | Level 4

7. Legal, regulatory and operational developments

7.0 Documentary review of institutional sources

Source	Result	Assessment
Tether — News	Publications dated 3, 6 and 13 August identified	Material new developments analysed
Tether — Transparency / reserves	No new attestation after Q2 identified	Latest assured cut-off: 30 June
BDO Italia / BDO Advisory Services	No August Tether publication found in the accessible results	No result found; not evidence that no internal publication exists
KPMG U.S.	No signed Tether report found on the public website	Tether announcement corroborated by Reuters
OFAC / U.S. Treasury	No August action targeting Tether identified	July freezes kept outside the review window
SEC	General proposal of 18 August	Not specific to Tether
Accessible Salvadoran authorities	No new Tether decision identified	Status unchanged in the sources reviewed

7.1 U.S. regulation

On 18 August, the SEC proposed “Regulation Crypto Assets”, an offering regime adapted to certain investment contracts involving crypto assets. The proposal is not a measure directed at Tether and, by itself, does not alter USDT redemption rights. Its potential impact mainly concerns the tokenisation, distribution and financing environment for projects such as Hadron.

No new proceeding by the SEC, CFTC, FinCEN, OCC or U.S. Department of Justice targeting the Tether issuer was identified during the period reviewed. The absence of a search result does not guarantee the absence of a non-public proceeding.

7.2 Sanctions, freezes and cooperation with authorities

The freezes associated with Iranian wallets mentioned in our research file pre-date the 1 August to 31 August 2026 review window, notably 16 July. They are not counted as August events. They nevertheless remain relevant for companies: centralised freezing capability is both a compliance tool and an operational-availability risk in the event of a false positive, contamination or a decision by an authority.

7.3 Contractual framework and redemption rights

No material change to issuance and redemption terms could be established during the review window from the public sources verified. Indirect holders remain dependent on their platform or intermediary. The contractual right to redeem directly with Tether is not automatically passed on to every holder in the secondary market.

Source: SEC, proposed Regulation Crypto Assets, 18 August 2026 | Level 3

Source: Tether, Relevant Information Document, accessed 30 August 2026 | Level 3

8. Impact on risk assessment

Risk	August signal	Assessment	Evidence
Accounting coverage	No new cut-off	Unchanged as of 30 June; not reassessable thereafter	1 / 8
Transparency	2025 audit announced; documents not published	Governance improvement; external due diligence still limited	3
Market liquidity	Aggregate peg stable	No sustained stress detected; depth not measured	4
Operational liquidity	No D1/D7/D30 data	Still insufficiently documented	8
Multichain	Tron + Ethereum dominant	Persistent operational concentration	4
Credit	No new breakdown of loans	Material risk cannot be reassessed	8
Market	BTC higher; short-term rates elevated	Favourable context, without measurement of the actual portfolio	4 / 5
Group investments	Re-examination of the Uruguayan failure	Execution risk confirmed outside the reserves	6

Cross-cutting view

- Reserves and coverage: there is no basis for calculating a new coverage ratio as of 30 August.
- Operational liquidity: the absence of a market depeg does not answer questions relating to settlement, banking, custody and redemption sequencing.
- USDT system: overall stability masks strong dependence on two networks and on intermediaries whose risks differ.
- Professional holder: good practice remains to document rights, custody, valuation, exit routes and sanctions controls.
- Strategic signal: the announced audit may indicate a normalisation of financial governance; the absence of full publication prevents its full significance from being assessed.

9. Implications for companies and professionals

Function	Priority decision or control	Evidence to retain
Executive / CFO	Set limits, holding period and permitted uses	Approved policy and delegation matrix
Treasurer	Test two conversion routes and several authorised networks	Dated tests, limits, fees and processing times
Bank / PSP	Identify USDT flows and settlement dependencies	Contracts, service-provider chain, AML/KYT controls
Chartered accountant	Reconcile wallet, platform, bank and accounting records	Signed exports, hashes, timestamps and valuation
Statutory auditor	Separate existence, rights, valuation and presentation	Independent evidence and subsequent events
Investor	Do not extrapolate the attestation to group solvency	Legal perimeter and assurance limitations
EU–US–Africa company	Anticipate local restrictions, sanctions and regional liquidity	Mapping of countries, platforms and counterparties

Recommended alert thresholds

- Persistent discount beyond the internal threshold or a marked divergence between platforms.
- Change in redemption terms, restricted countries or the contractual entity.
- New attestation, publication of the KPMG financial statements, or change of auditor/signatory.
- Rapid decline in circulation accompanied by burns and widening spreads.
- Major incident affecting Tron, Ethereum, a bridge, a custodian, a bank or a platform used.
- Address freeze, sanctions alert or exposure to a high-risk counterparty.

> **ACCOUNTING POINT —** Tether’s attestation does not constitute sufficient evidence of the existence of the company’s own USDT holdings or of the company’s rights over them. The company must retain its statements, addresses, control keys, platform confirmations and valuation method as of the reporting date.

10. Updated conclusions

Previous conclusion	New August developments	Status	Evidence
Declared assets exceeded liabilities as of 30 June.	No new cut-off.	Confirmed as of 30 June; not reassessable thereafter	1 / 8
The USD 4.11bn surplus remains limited relative to volatile assets.	No new composition; BTC higher.	Confirmed, without recalculation at end-August	1 / 5
Nominal liquidity does not prove D1 availability.	No new operational data.	Confirmed	1 / 8
Counterparties and loans remain insufficiently detailed.	2025 audit announced, but documents not public.	Qualified, not resolved	3 / 8
Financial governance requires monitoring.	Unqualified KPMG opinion announced.	Positively strengthened	3
Multichain concentration is material.	Tron and Ethereum close to 90% of the estimated total.	Strengthened	4
Group investments must be kept separate from reserves.	Saudi project; Uruguayan investigation.	Strengthened	3 / 6
The market peg may diverge from the right of redemption.	Aggregate peg stable in August.	Confirmed; no stress observed	4

As of 30 August 2026, the overall assessment is neither a mechanical improvement in solvency nor a demonstrated deterioration. More precisely, it reflects an improvement in the financial-governance signal, combined with apparent stability of the USDT system in the market and the persistence of documentary limitations regarding the reserve position after 30 June.

Future publication of the signed KPMG report and the complete financial statements could materially change the analysis of counterparties, cash flows, related parties and the reconciliation of the surplus. Until such publication, prudence requires that Tether’s announcement not be treated as assurance directly verified by BECTRA.

11. Methodology and limitations

11.1 Differential update

The Q2 attestation published on 31 July is not presented as an August development; it remains the assured baseline for this report.

11.2 Evidence hierarchy

Level	Applied definition
1	Information within the scope of an assurance conclusion directly inspected
2	Official information in a report, outside the assurance conclusion
3	Institutional publication by Tether or an authority
4	Reproducible primary data, including on-chain or market data
5	Analytical calculation from identified data
6	Corroborated secondary source
7	Explicitly qualified assumption or interpretation
8	Unknown or non-verifiable information

11.3 Main limitations

- No attestation as of 31 July or 30 August 2026.
- The signed KPMG report, audited financial statements and detailed notes were not publicly available in the sources verified.
- No complete table of counterparties, maturities, collateral and concentrations. Including such a table would make the present report excessively long.
- Differences in perimeter and timestamp between attested liabilities and multichain supply.
- Aggregated price data do not describe every platform and region.
- A direct redemption cannot be inferred from an isolated burn.
- No strategic investment is attributed to reserves without explicit evidence.

> **CLOSING DATE —** Research was closed on 30 August 2026 inclusive. Information published subsequently, even if relating to August, falls within the next report.

Annex A — Public register of material changes

Information	Previously included?	Publication / underlying period	Level	Impact
Q2 attestation as of 30 June	Yes	31 Jul / 30 Jun	1	Unchanged baseline
2025 KPMG audit announced	No	13 Aug / FY2025	3	Governance strengthened; August coverage unchanged
Hadron — Saudi Arabia	No	6 Aug / future project	3	Operational and group-counterparty risk
Uruguay mining investigation	No	21 Aug / 2024–2025 events	6	Execution risk; no attribution to reserves
Estimated supply	No	Daily August data	4	Near-stability; not equivalent to liabilities
USDT peg	No	Intraday August data	4	No sustained depeg detected
U.S. short-term rates	No	August observations	4	Favourable yield environment
SEC Regulation Crypto Assets	No	18 Aug / proposal	3	General environment, not a Tether-specific measure

Annex B — Selected multichain data

Blockchain	1 August	30 August	Change
Tron	89.86bn	91.93bn	+2.08bn
Ethereum	74.88bn	73.40bn	−1.48bn
BSC	9.18bn	9.18bn	−0.00bn
Solana	3.36bn	2.84bn	−0.52bn
Aptos	0.87bn	0.73bn	−0.14bn
Arbitrum	0.86bn	0.87bn	+0.01bn
Polygon	0.85bn	0.76bn	−0.08bn
Plasma	0.77bn	0.80bn	+0.03bn
TON	0.67bn	0.61bn	−0.07bn

Method: daily DefiLlama extraction; amounts rounded to USD/USDT 0.01bn. Bridged representations are retained in accordance with the provider's methodology. BECTRA does not add them separately to native units.

Sources

Tether — Tether Completes the Largest Inaugural Financial Audit in History (13 August 2026). Announcement of the 2025 audit — level 3.

Reuters / Elizabeth Howcroft — Stablecoin issuer Tether says KPMG US has audited its 2025 statements (14 August 2026). Corroboration and absence of publication — level 6.

Tether — Hadron by Tether launches strategic collaboration... Saudi Arabia (6 August 2026). Operational development — level 3.

Tether — Tether Gold Holdings Rise 9.5% in Q2 (3 August 2026). XAU₮ product distinct from USDT reserves — level 3.

Reuters / Elizabeth Howcroft — How Tether's bitcoin mining plans in Uruguay unraveled (21 August 2026). Corroborated secondary investigation — level 6.

Tether / BDO — Q2 performance and reserves report (31 July 2026; position as of 30 June). Latest assured cut-off — level 1 for the signed report.

Tether International — Relevant Information Document (accessed 30 August 2026). Legal framework — level 3.

DefiLlama — USDT historical circulating supply (1–30 August 2026). Reproducible data — level 4.

DefiLlama — USDT chain balances (1–30 August 2026). Multichain data — level 4.

CoinGecko — Tether market chart range (1–30 August 2026). Aggregate price — level 4.

CoinGecko — Bitcoin market chart range (1–30 August 2026). Market environment — level 4.

Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis — DGS3MO — 3-Month Treasury Bill Secondary Market Rate (August 2026). Official rate disseminated by FRED — level 4.

Federal Reserve Bank of New York / FRED — SOFR (August 2026). Reference repo rate — level 4.

London Bullion Market Association — LBMA Precious Metal Prices (28 August 2026). Gold fixing — level 4.

Reuters — Gold rises on weaker U.S. dollar, soft inflation data (30 July 2026). Initial gold-price reference point — level 6.

U.S. SEC — SEC Proposes New Regulation Crypto Assets (18 August 2026). Regulatory proposal — level 3.

Whale Alert — Transaction feed — USDT burn (21 August 2026). On-chain observation — level 4.

> **TRACEABILITY —** URLs are clickable. Secondary sources were used to corroborate or contextualise events.