

In **Gold** We Trust[®] Report

In Gold We Trust report Special
September 2026

Gold iPhone Ratio



incrementum

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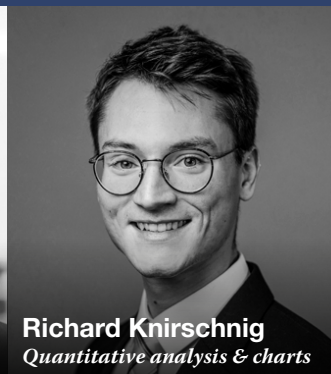
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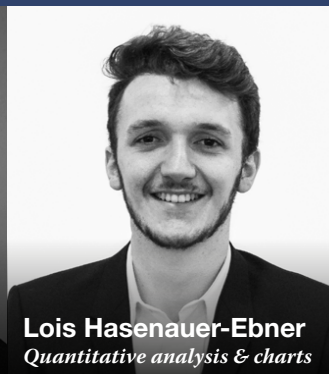
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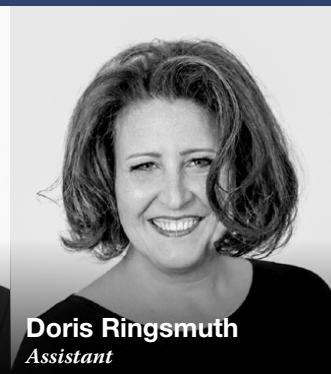
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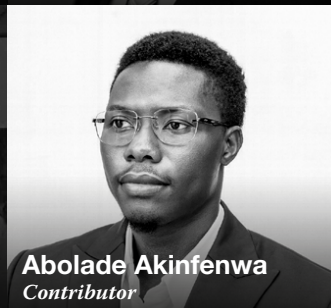
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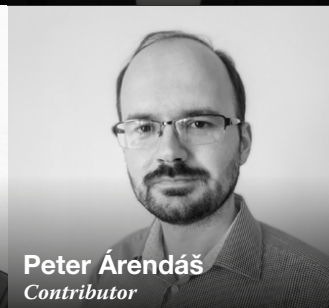
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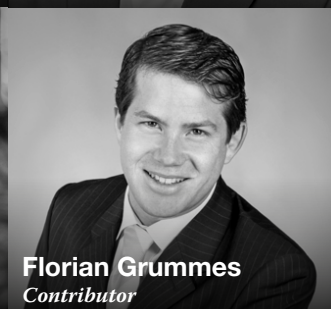
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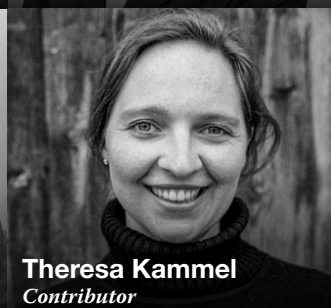
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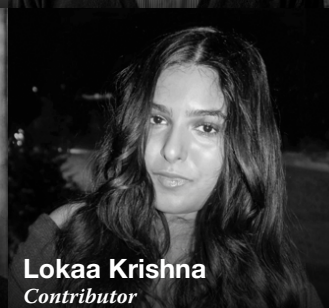
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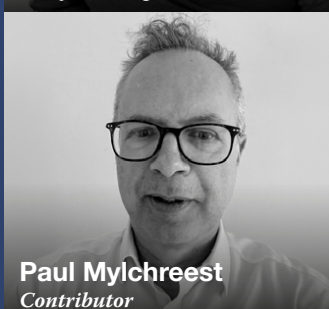
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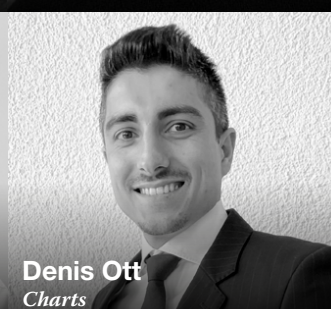
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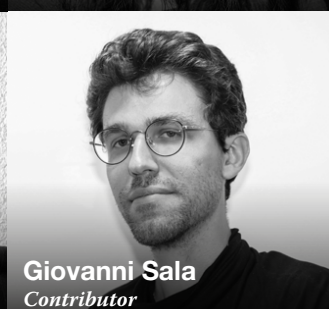
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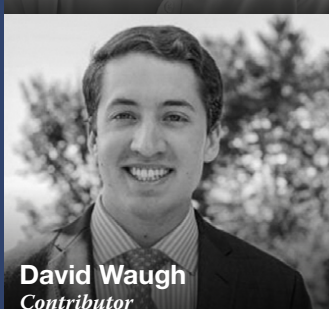
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The *In Gold We Trust* Team

Hello, again! – The iPhone/Gold Ratio 2026

iPhone/Gold Ratio



In 2026, the iPhone Pro Max costs just 0.38 ounces—a new all-time low. In 2025, it was still 0.46 ounces, and in 2018, it was as high as 1.13 ounces.



Image rights: Tessa Bury

The iPhone and the *In Gold We Trust* report have one thing in common: both debuted in 2007. Both are therefore celebrating their 20th edition this year. To mark the occasion, the *In Gold We Trust* report debuted a new layout — and a record-breaking length. Apple is celebrating this anniversary in two ways: With the iPhone Duo, Apple is launching its first foldable phone. And Apple is offering the classic iPhone — almost certainly without realizing it — at a lower price than ever before.¹

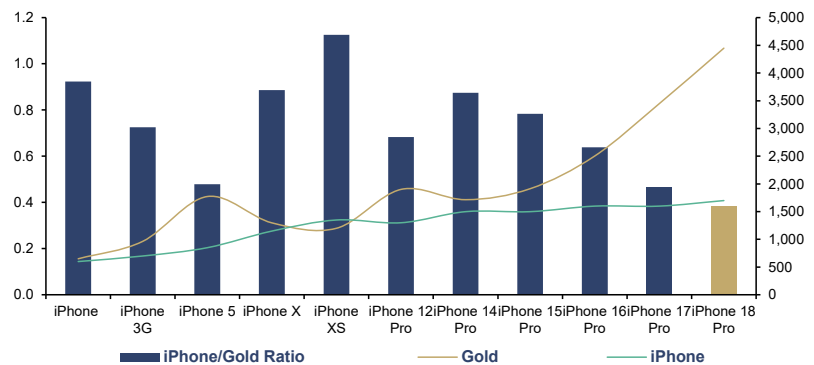
However, only iPhone enthusiasts with a penchant for gold can take advantage of this anniversary offer. The latest iPhone Pro Max is actually the cheapest iPhone ever — if you pay with gold. Priced at just 0.38 ounces, this year's model is nearly 18% cheaper than last year's model, which had already set a new record at 0.46 ounces.

This recent decline in the price of gold may come as a surprise, given the sharp correction in the first half of the year. On January 28, gold hit its most recent all-time high of USD 5,417.60. By mid-July, gold had lost nearly USD 1,500 and even briefly fell below USD 4,000. And yet, year-over-year, the price of gold had risen by a remarkable additional 29.0% as of the end of August.

Those paying in US dollars, on the other hand, are facing a price increase for the first time in many years. Under new CEO John Ternus, Apple is charging USD 1,699 for the iPhone 18 Pro Max with 1 TB of storage — USD 100, or 6.3%, more than in 2025 and 2024.

The very first iPhone, released in 2007, was priced by Apple at USD 599. Adjusted for inflation, this is equivalent to just under USD 1,000. Since then, the nominal retail price in US dollars has risen by more than 180%, or an average of 5.6% per year. By comparison: Over the same period, the price of gold rose by an average of 10.7% per year, corresponding to a total increase of 586%. Consequently, the price of the iPhone in gold has fallen by an average of 4.8% per year, or by just under 60% overall.

iPhone/Gold Ratio (lhs), and Gold and iPhone (rhs), in USD, 2007–2026



Source: venturebeat.com, LSEG, Incrementum AG



The new iPhone Duo is also being offered at an extremely low price. This statement may be surprising given a starting price of USD 1,999; the version with 1 TB of storage is available for USD 2,599. In gold, this corresponds to 0.45 and 0.58 ounces, respectively. This makes the iPhone Duo significantly cheaper than the very first iPhone (0.92 ounces).

¹ A few days ago, at the start of the traditional Oktoberfest in Munich, we published our *In Gold We Trust Gold/Oktoberfest Beer Ratio*. On the occasion of the Hahnenkamm Races in Kitzbühel at the end of January 2027, we will once again publish our *In Gold We Trust Gold/Ski Pass Ratio*. Follow us on X at @In Gold We Trust. You can subscribe to our newsletter [here](#). You can download the latest “*In Gold We Trust*” report 2026—featuring more than 450 pages of analysis on all aspects of gold—for free [here](#).

Even though the first iPhone and Apple's most recent iPhone share the same product name, given the enormous differences in performance, it's hard to actually apply the same product name to both phones.

	2007	2012	2017	2022	2026
	iPhone	iPhone 5	iPhone X	iPhone 14 Pro Max	iPhone 18 Pro Max
Processor performance (Geekbench)	100–150 (estimate)	~2,000	~12,000	~19,000	~52,000
RAM	128 MB	512 MB	4 GB	6 GB	12 GB
Max. storage	16 GB	16 GB	512 GB	1 TB	2 TB
Cameras	1 (2 MP)	2 (8 MP; 1.2 MP)	3 (2 x 12 MP; 1 x 7 MP)	4 (1 x 48 MP; 3 x 12 MP)	4 (3 x 48 MP; 1 x 18 MP)
Video quality	N/A	1080p @ 30 fps	4K @ 60 fps	4K @ 60 fps	4K @ 120 fps
Battery	1,150 mAh	1,440 mAh	3,174 mAh	3,200 mAh	5,567 mAh
Resolution	480 x 320 (163 ppi)	640 x 1,136 (326 ppi)	2,436 x 1,125 (458 ppi)	2,556 x 1,179 (460 ppi)	2,868 x 1,320 (460 ppi)
Price in USD	599 USD	USD 849	USD 1,149	1,499 USD	1,699 USD
Price per ounce of gold	0.92	0.48	0.89	0.87	0.38

Another new development is keeping price-conscious iPhone users in suspense. The standard iPhone 18 won't go on sale until 2027. For long-term gold investors, however, a glance at the price tag reveals only one thing: for less and less gold, they're getting an increasingly powerful iPhone.

Appendix: iPhone/Gold Ratio

Year	Model	Price in USD*	iPhone Price Year-over-year	Gold in USD in Year-over-Year Comparison	iPhone price in ounces of gold
2007	iPhone	599	–		0.92
2008	iPhone 3G	699	+16.7%	+48.5%	0.73
2009	iPhone 3GS	699	0%	-3.2%	0.75
2010	iPhone 4	699	0%	+33.3%	0.56
2011	iPhone 4S	849	+21.5%	+35.0%	0.51
2012	iPhone 5	849	0%	+5.6%	0.48
2013	iPhone 5S	849	0%	-25.2%	0.64
2014	iPhone 6	849	0%	-7.3%	0.69
2015	iPhone 6S	849	0%	-6.7%	0.74
2016	iPhone 7	849	0%	+14.3%	0.65
2017	iPhone X	1,149	+35.3%	-1.0%	0.89
2018	iPhone XS	1,349	+17.4%	-7.5%	1.13
2019	iPhone 11 Pro Max	1,349	0%	+26.5%	0.89
2020	iPhone 12 Pro Max	1,299	-3.7%	+25.3%	0.68
2021	iPhone 13 Pro Max	1,499	+15.4%	-7.9%	0.86
2022	iPhone 14 Pro Max	1,499	0%	-2.0%	0.87
2023	iPhone 15 Pro Max	1,499	0%	+11.5%	0.78
2024	iPhone 16 Pro Max	1,599	+6.7%	+30.8%	0.64
2025	iPhone 17 Pro Max	1,599	0%	+37.8%	0.46
2026	iPhone 18 Pro Max	1,699	+6.3%	+29.0%	0.38

* These are net prices, excluding state or local taxes. Source: venturebeat.com, Reuters Eikon

Key Summary

In 2026, both the *In Gold We Trust* report and the Apple iPhone will celebrate an anniversary: their 20th edition. Apple is marking this milestone — likely without even realizing it — with a special anniversary offer: Priced at just 0.38 ounces, the iPhone 18 Pro Max is the most affordable iPhone in history.

Compared to 2025, the iPhone Pro Max has become another 17.4% cheaper. After all, the price of gold in US dollars rose by 29.0% yoy. Compared to the very first iPhone, the current iPhone Pro Max costs nearly 60% less. Since 2018 — the year the iPhone was at its most expensive when measured in gold — the price has actually fallen by two-thirds.

Apple is using this anniversary to introduce a special innovation. With the iPhone Duo, Apple is launching its first foldable iPhone. It is available starting at a price equivalent of 0.45 ounces of gold, making it significantly cheaper than the very first iPhone, which was released in 2007 and cost 0.92 ounces.

Expressed in US dollars, the price of an iPhone has risen by 184% since 2007. This results in an average annual iPhone inflation rate of 5.6% since then. Over the same period, the price of gold has risen by an average of 10.7%, or 586% over 19 years. Consequently, the price of the iPhone in gold has fallen by an average of 4.8% per year, or 59% overall.

In Gold We Trust[®] Report

2026

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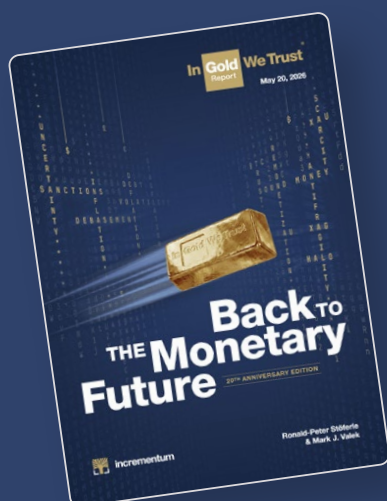




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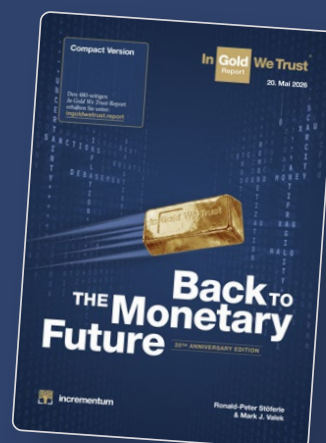
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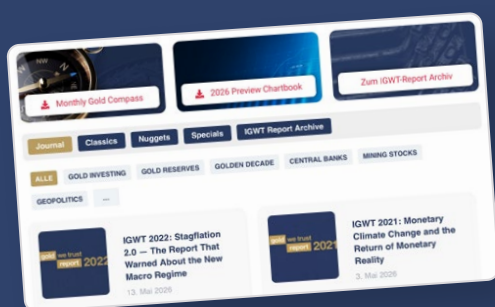
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About us



Ronald-Peter Stöferle, CMT

Ronnie is managing partner of Incrementum AG and responsible for Research and Portfolio Management.

He studied business administration and finance in the USA and at the Vienna University of Economics and Business Administration, and also gained work experience at the trading desk of a bank during his studies. Upon graduation, he joined the research department of Erste Group, where in 2007 he published his first *In Gold We Trust* report. Over the years, the *In Gold We Trust* report has become one of the benchmark publications on gold, money, and inflation.

In 2014, Ronnie co-authored the international bestseller *Austrian School for Investors*, and in 2019 *The Zero Interest Trap*. He is a member of the board of directors at Tudor Gold Corp. (TUD), and Goldstorm Metals Corp. (GSTM). Moreover, he is an advisor to *Von Greyerz AG*, a global leader in wealth preservation in the form of physical gold stored outside the banking system. He is also a Member of the Advisory Board at *Monetary Metals*.



Mark J. Valek

Mark is a partner of Incrementum AG and is responsible for Portfolio Management and Research.

While working full-time, Mark studied business administration at the Vienna University of Business Administration and has continuously worked in financial markets and asset management since 1999. Prior to the establishment of Incrementum AG, he was with Raiffeisen Capital Management for ten years, most recently as fund manager in the area of inflation protection and alternative investments. He gained entrepreneurial experience as co-founder of philoro Edelmetalle GmbH. Since 2024, he has been a Member of the Advisory Board at *Monetary Metals*. In 2014, he co-authored the book *Austrian School for Investors*.



Incrementum AG

Incrementum AG is an owner-managed and FMA-licensed investment and asset management company based in the Principality of Liechtenstein. Our core competence is the management of investment funds and asset management. We evaluate investments not only on the basis of the global economic situation, but also always see them in the context of the current global monetary system. Independence and self-reliance are the cornerstones of our philosophy, which is why the five partners own 100% of the company.

www.incrementum.li

We would like to thank the following people for their outstanding support in creating the *In Gold We Trust* report 2026:

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www.edrsilver.com



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First Mining is a gold developer advancing two of the largest gold projects in Canada, the Springpole Gold Project in northwestern Ontario and the Duparquet Gold Project in Quebec.

www.firstmininggold.com



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Fortuna Mining is a Canadian precious metals company with three operating mines and exploration projects in Argentina, Côte d'Ivoire, Mexico, Peru, and Senegal, where Diamba Sud is advancing toward a potential mid-2026 construction decision.

www.fortunamining.com



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www.harmony.co.za



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