



EXCHANGE REVIEW

November 2020



About

CryptoCompare's Exchange Review aims to capture the key developments within the cryptocurrency exchange market. Our review focuses on analyses that relate to exchange volumes, which include those related to crypto derivatives trading, market segmentation by exchange fee models, and crypto to crypto vs fiat to crypto volumes. We also conduct an analysis of bitcoin trading into various fiats and stablecoins, an additional overview of top crypto exchange rankings by spot trading volume, as well as a focus on how volumes have developed historically for the top trans-fee mining and decentralized exchanges.

CryptoCompare's Exchange Review is conducted on a monthly basis and caters to both the crypto-enthusiast interested in a broad overview of the crypto exchange market, as well as investors, analysts and regulators interested in more specific analyses.

For questions related to our research or any potential requests, feel free to contact our research department at research@cryptocompare.com.

Explore the data on the CryptoCompare API

For those interested in accessing CryptoCompare's data for their own purposes, including cryptocurrency trade data, order book data, blockchain data, social data or historical data across thousands of cryptocurrencies and 200+ exchanges, please take a look at CryptoCompare's API here: <https://min-api.cryptocompare.com>

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Key Market Insights

Top tier exchanges gain market share and set all-time daily volume high

In November, Top-Tier volumes increased 78.2% to \$619.0bn while Lower-Tier volumes increased 30.0% to \$287.4bn. Top-Tier exchanges now represent 68% of total volume (vs 61% in October). Top Tier exchanges traded a daily maximum of \$45bn on the 24th of November almost double the previous record for this year (\$23.4bn on the 13th of March).

Volume from 15 largest Top-Tier exchanges increased 114% on average

Binance (Grade A) was the largest Top-Tier exchange by volume in November, trading \$176.2bn (up 133%). This was followed by Huobi Global (Grade BB) trading \$72.1bn (up 73%), and OKEx (Grade BB) trading \$45.9bn (up 43%). Exchanges Coinbase (AA) and Kraken (A), and Bitfinex (A) followed with \$30.0bn (up 166%), \$16.6bn (up 156%) and \$12.8bn (up 198%).

Derivatives volumes double in November to an all-time monthly high of \$1.32tn

Derivatives exchanges also set a new all-time daily volume record on the 26th of November with \$93.36bn. This daily maximum breaks the previous record set on 12th March 2020 (\$56.87bn) by an additional 66%. Binance was the largest derivatives exchange in November by monthly trading volume with \$405bn¹ (up 132% since October). Huobi (up 96%), OKEx (up 83%) and Bybit (up 187%) followed with \$290.8bn, \$235.9bn and \$113.4bn traded respectively.

CME sets daily BTC contract volume record for 2020 as options volumes decline

CME set a new daily contract volume record for 2020 on the 27th of November as roughly 25,900 BTC futures contracts were traded. In terms of total USD trading volume, CME's crypto derivatives volumes have increased 76.8% to \$17.1bn in November. CME's average open interest figures have also increased substantially by 62% to \$962bn on average in November.

Meanwhile, CME options contract volumes decreased by 30.4% to 2,608 contracts traded in November.

¹ Based on USDT-M Futures

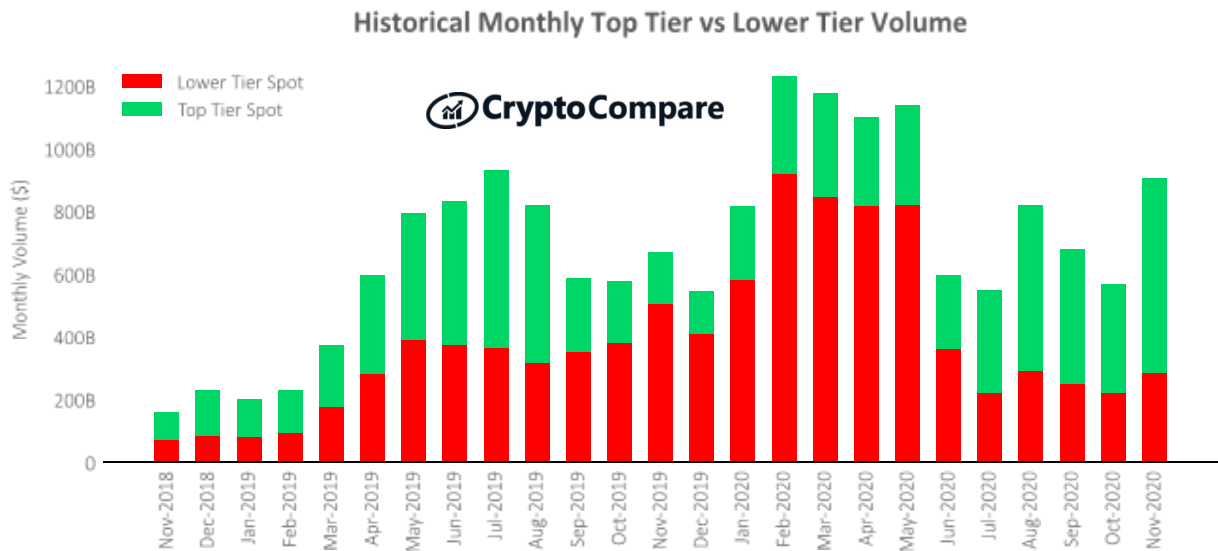
November Exchange News

COMPANY	STORY	DATE
Binance	<u>Introducing BNB Vault: One-Click Earning for Your BNB Holdings</u>	November 2
FTX	<u>Launch of Trading of Tokenized U.S. Stocks</u>	November 2
Deribit	<u>Deribit KYC – AML Programme Update</u>	November 6
BitMEX	<u>Introducing the Hybrid Composite Index</u>	November 20
Kraken	<u>Kraken Grants \$150,000 to New Bitcoin Developer Center Brink</u>	November 24
OKEx	<u>OKEx to Compensate Users With Generous Rewards Upon Resuming Withdrawals</u>	November 24
OKEx	<u>OKEx Resumes Withdrawals of Digital Assets — Restoring Its Full Range of Services for All Users</u>	November 26
FTX	<u>Introducing Spot Margin Trading on FTX</u>	November 27
Coinbase	<u>Ethereum 2.0 Staking Rewards Are Coming Soon to Coinbase</u>	November 30

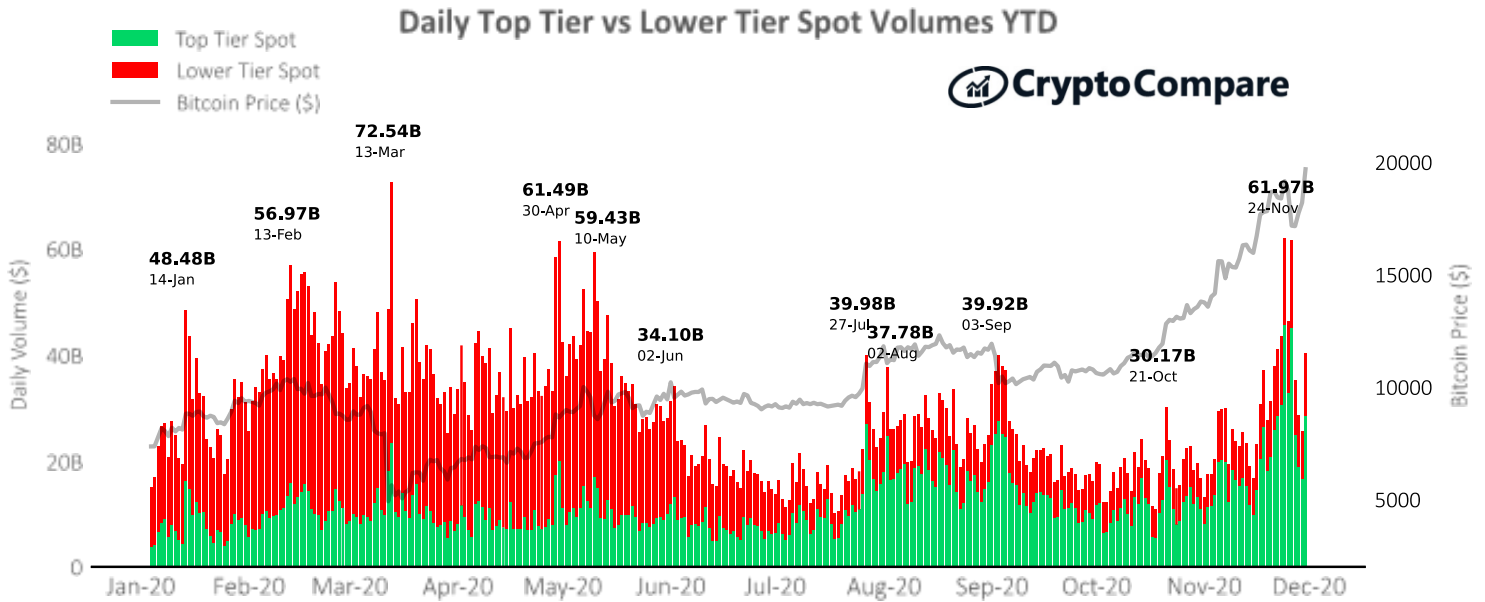
Exchange Benchmark Analysis

CryptoCompare’s Exchange Benchmark aims to serve investors, regulators and crypto enthusiasts by scoring exchanges in terms of transparency, operational quality, regulatory standing, data provision, management team, and their ability to monitor trades and illicit activity effectively. Rather than drawing attention specifically to bad actors, we instead highlight those that behave in a manner that is conducive to maintaining an efficient and fair market, ensuring greater safety of investors. We have hence introduced the notion of “Top-Tier” vs “Lower-tier” volumes.

[Explore the Exchange Benchmark here](#)



In November, Top-Tier volumes increased 78.2% to \$619.0bn while Lower-Tier volumes increased 30.0% to \$287.4bn. Top-Tier exchanges now represent 68% of total volume (vs 61% in October).

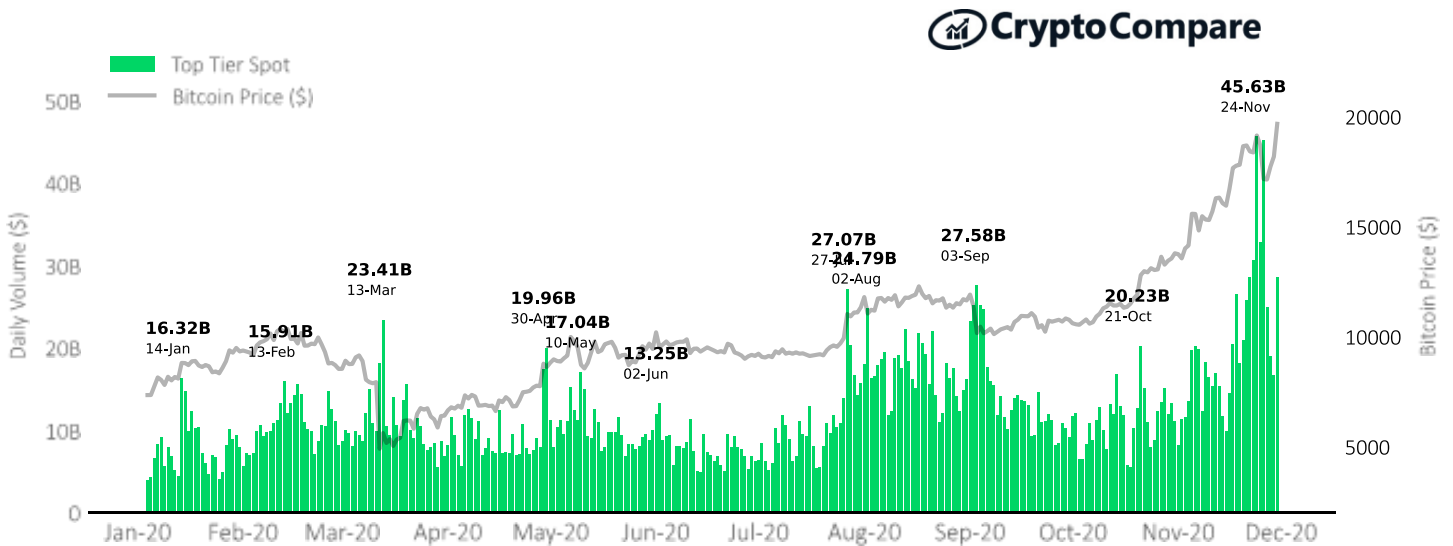


Trading activity across all spot markets throughout November has increased rapidly in line with Bitcoin’s rise to an all time high. Despite a surge in volumes, a new record for daily spot volume was not achieved.

A daily maximum of \$61.97bn was traded on the 24th of November during a market correction. This is double the previous month’s high of \$29.84bn (traded on the 21st of October). However, volumes traded on the 13th of March this year capped \$72.5bn.

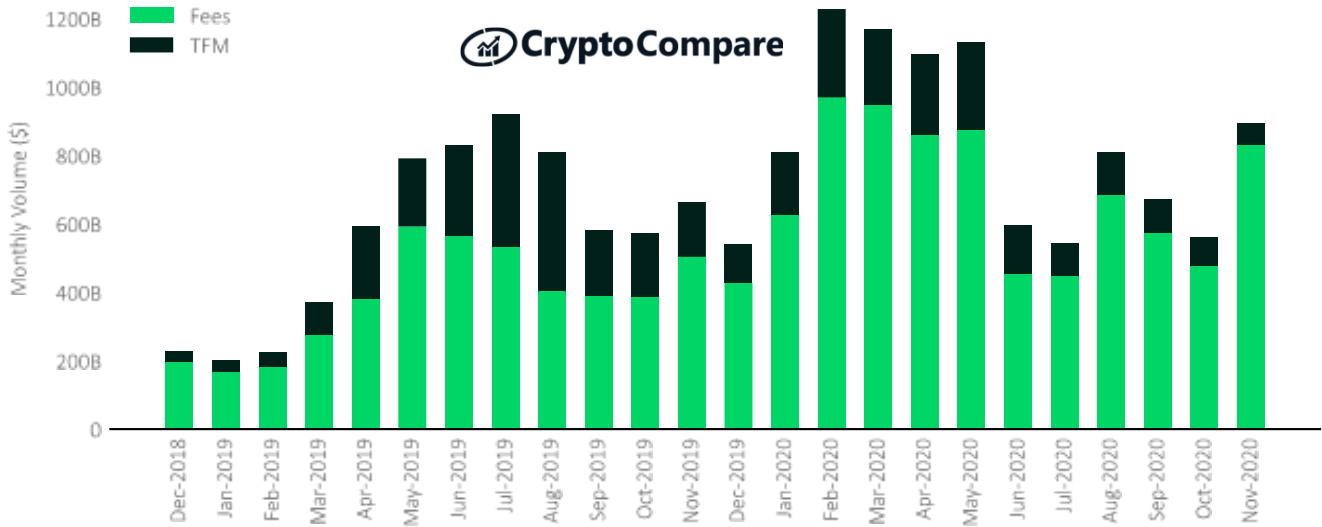
In November, Top Tier exchanges traded a daily maximum of \$45bn on the 24th of November (vs \$20.14bn on the 21st of October). This is almost double the previous record for this year as Top Tier volumes only reached \$23.4bn on the 13th of March. Top tier exchanges are selected based on our rigorous [Exchange Benchmark Methodology](#).

Daily Top Tier Spot Volumes YTD



Macro Analysis and Market Segmentation

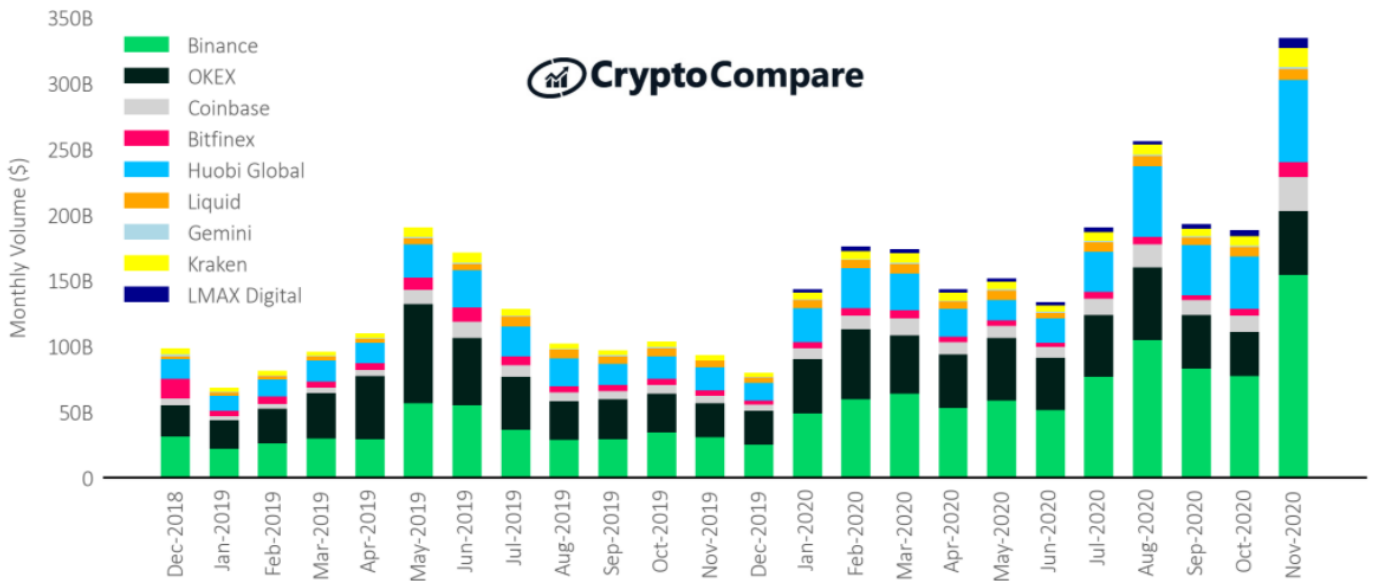
Historical Volume by Fee Model



Exchanges that charge traditional taker fees represented 93% of total exchange volume in November (vs 85% in October), while those that implement Trans-Fee Mining (TFM) represented less than 7%.

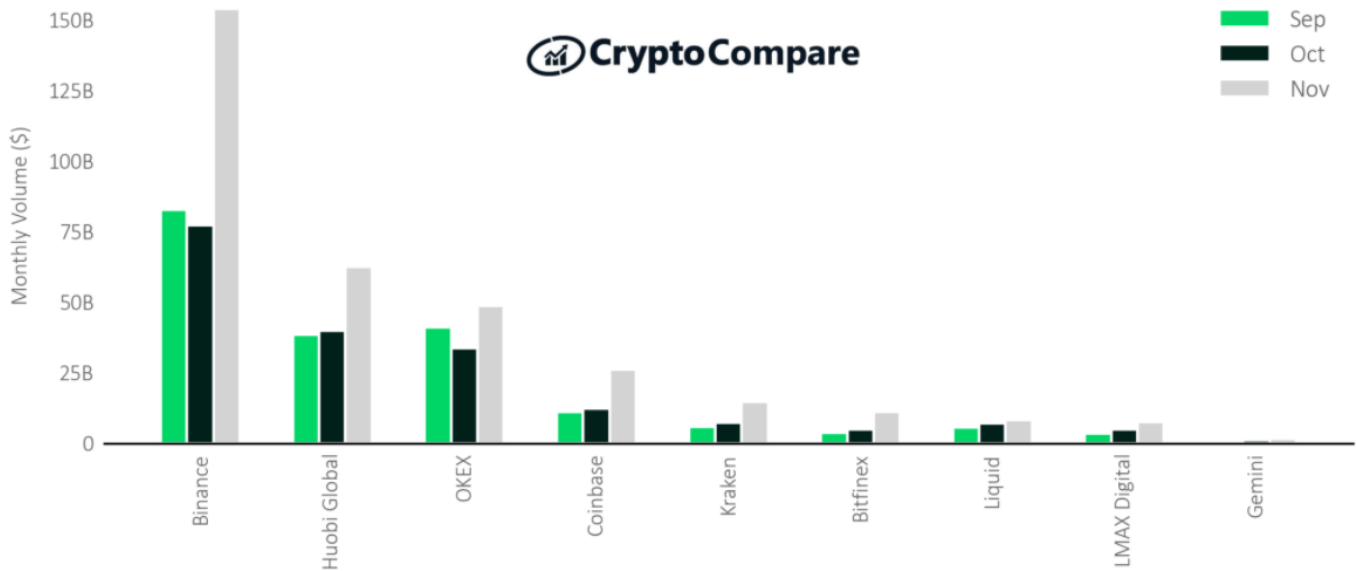
Fee-charging exchanges traded a total of \$831.7bn in November (up 74.0% since October), while those that implement TFM models traded \$63.4bn (down 24.7% since October).

Monthly Top Tier Spot Volume



In November, volume from the 15 largest Top-Tier exchanges increased 114% on average (vs October). Among these exchanges, Binance represented 44% of volume.

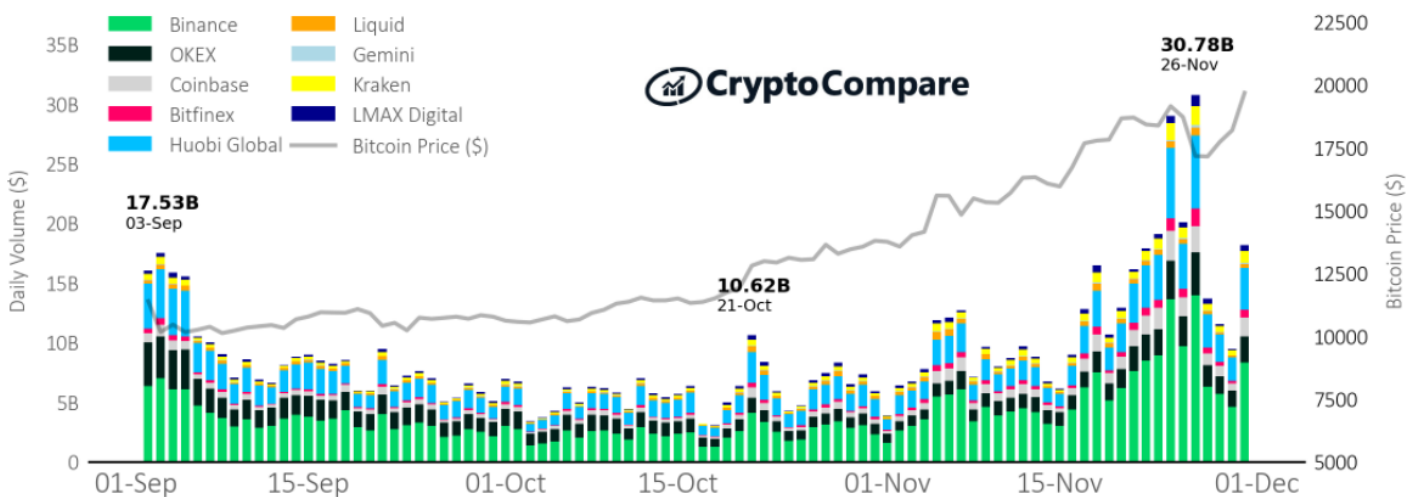
Historical Monthly Top Tier Spot Volume - 3 Months



Binance (Grade A) was the largest Top-Tier exchange by volume in November, trading \$176.2bn (up 133%). This was followed by Huobi Global (Grade BB) trading \$72.1bn (up 73%), and OKEx (Grade BB) trading \$45.9bn (up 43%).

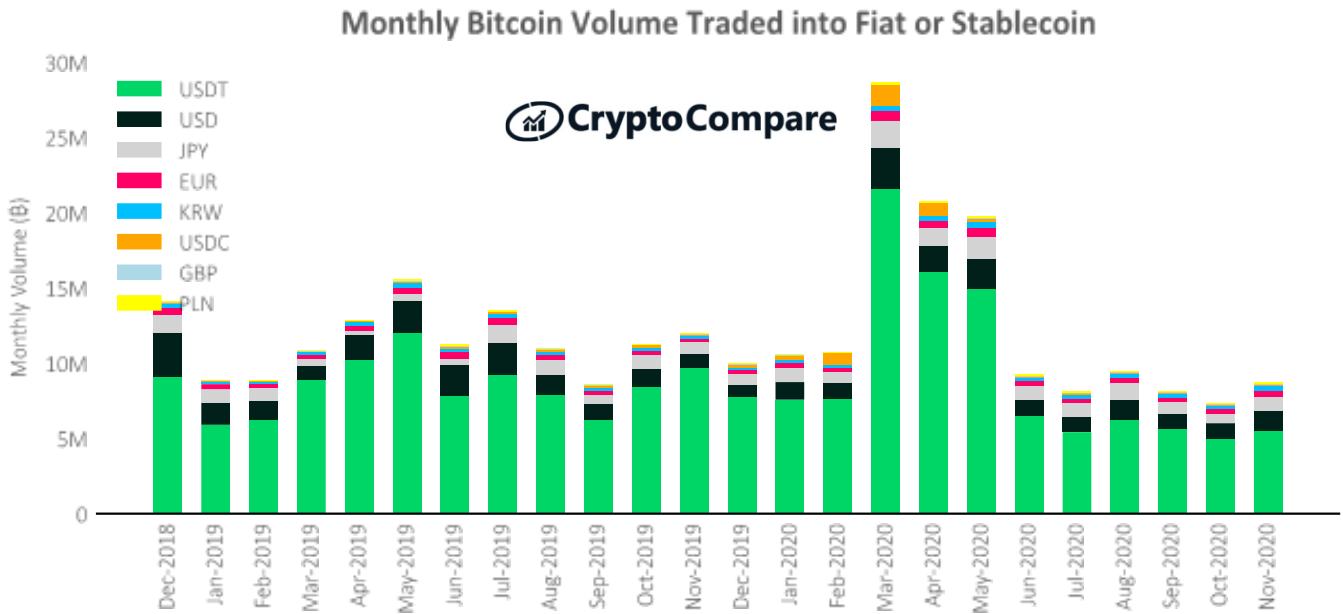
Exchanges Coinbase (AA) and Kraken (A), and Bitfinex (A) followed with \$30.0bn (up 166%), \$16.6bn (up 156%) and \$12.8bn (up 198%).

Daily Top Tier Spot Exchange Volumes



Binance (A), OKEx (BB) and Huobi Global (BB) remained the top players in terms of volume in November relative to other Top-Tier exchanges. Among the top 15 Top-Tier exchanges, they represented 73% of the volume in November (vs 77% in October).

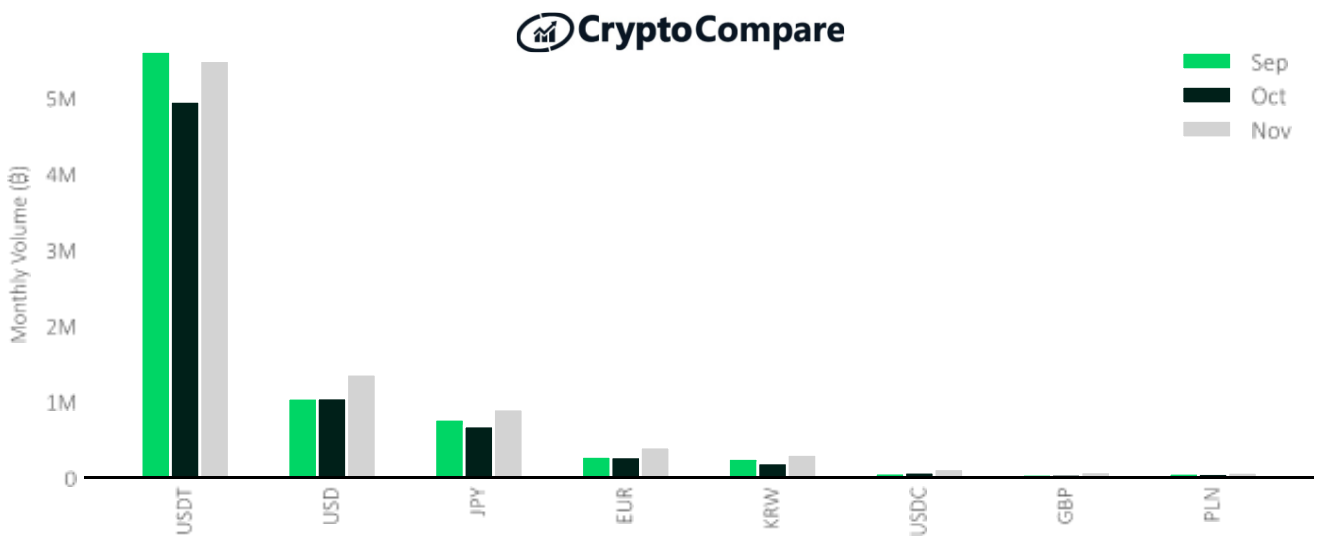
Bitcoin to Fiat Volumes



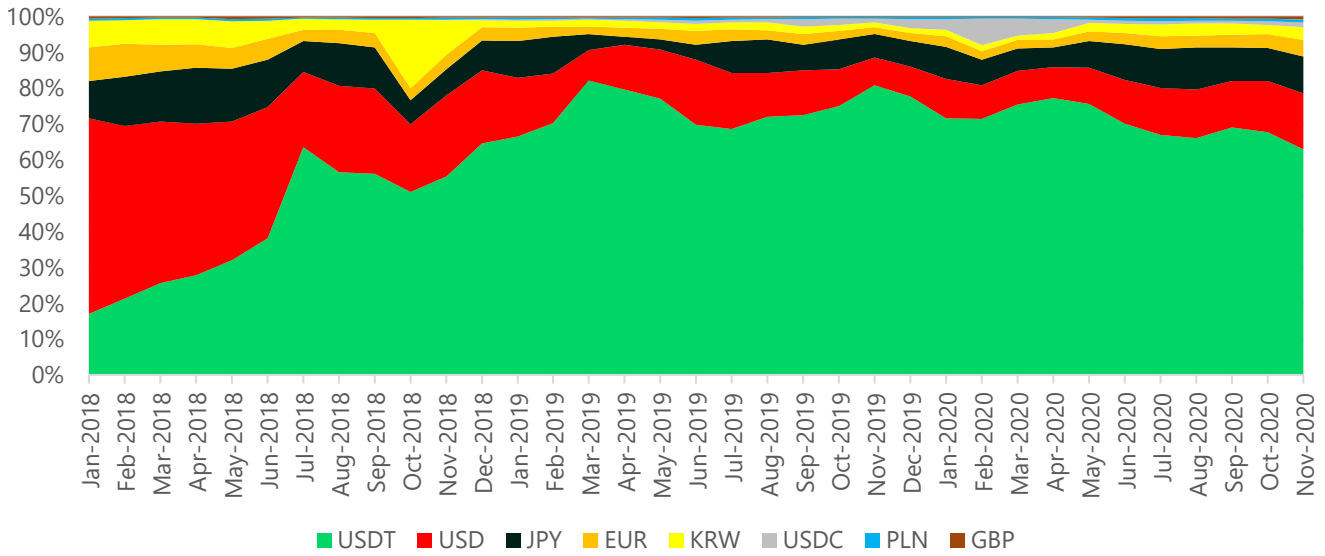
BTC trading into USDT increased 10.8% in November to 5.49mn BTC vs 4.96mn BTC in October. Trading into USD increased to 1.36mn BTC (up 29.9%) while trading into JPY increased to 0.9mn BTC (up 32.9%). EUR markets increased 47.2%, while BTC trading into KRW increased 57.4%.

Stablecoin markets BTC/USDC and BTC/PAX traded 118,000 BTC (up 61.9%) and 19,000 BTC (up 12.9%) respectively in November.

Monthly Bitcoin Volume Traded into Fiat or Stablecoin - 3 Months



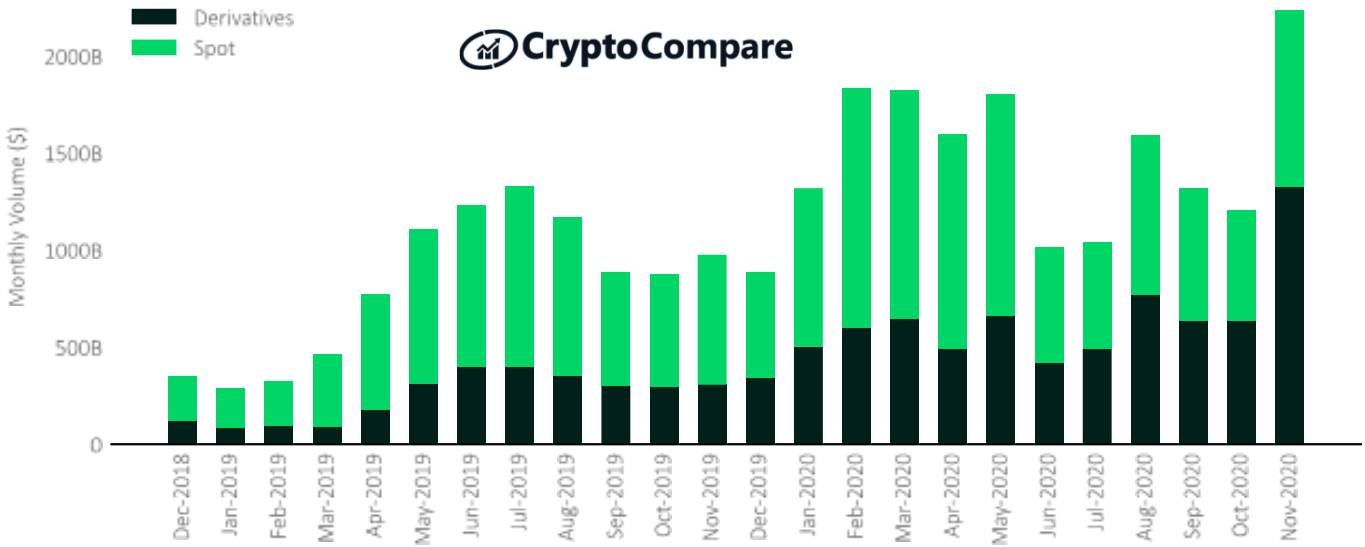
Monthly Bitcoin Volume Traded into Fiat or Stablecoin



The BTC/USDT pair still represents the majority of BTC traded into fiat or stablecoin in November at 61.8%. Its proportion of total volume in October was 66.5%.

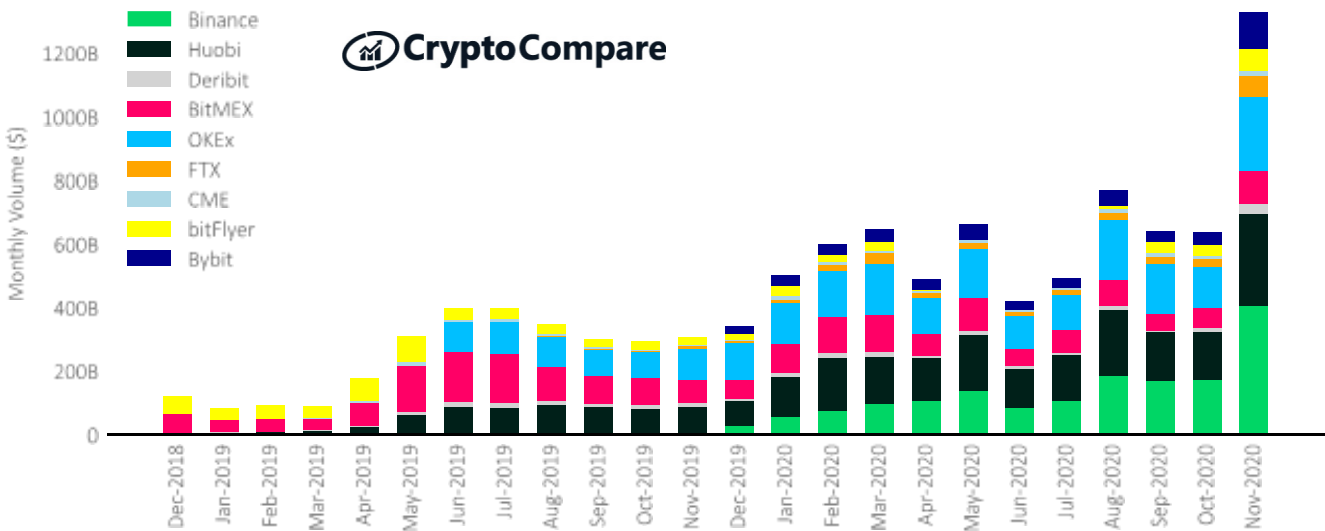
Derivatives

Monthly Spot vs Derivatives Volume

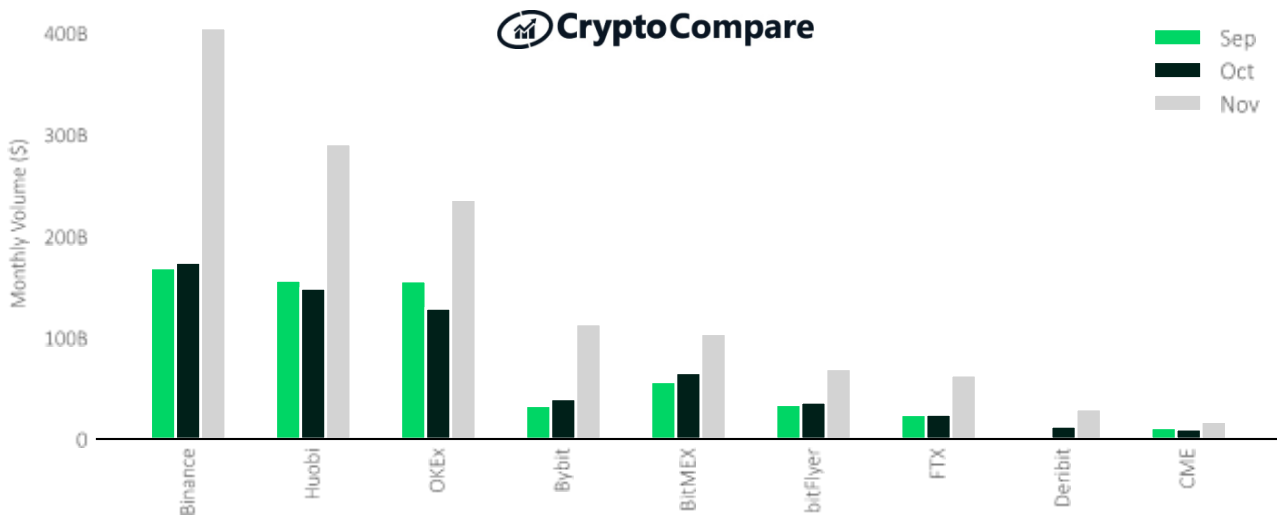


Derivatives volumes surged 108% in November to an all-time monthly high of \$1.32tn. Meanwhile, total spot volumes increased by 59% to \$906bn. The derivatives market now represents almost 60% of the total crypto market (vs 53% in October).

Historical Monthly Derivatives Volume



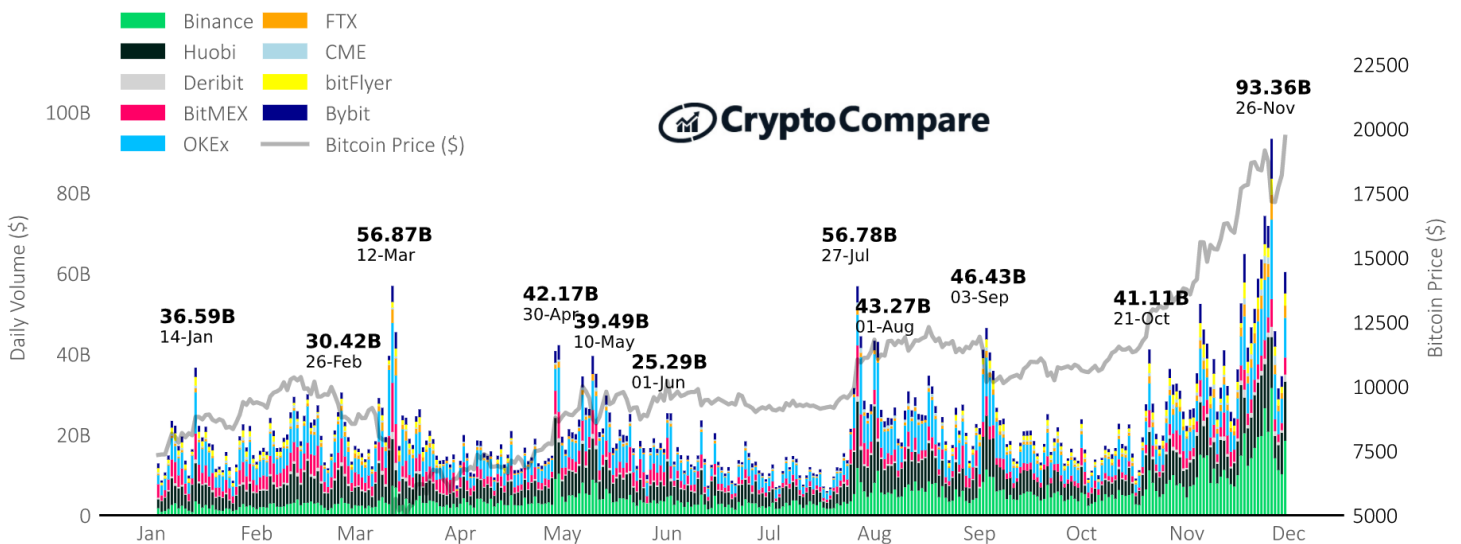
Historical Monthly Derivatives Volumes - 3 Months



Binance was the largest derivatives exchange in November by monthly trading volume with \$405bn² (up 132% since October).

Huobi (up 96%), OKEx (up 83%) and Bybit (up 187%) followed with \$290.8bn, \$235.9bn and \$113.4bn traded respectively.

Daily Derivatives Exchange Volume YTD



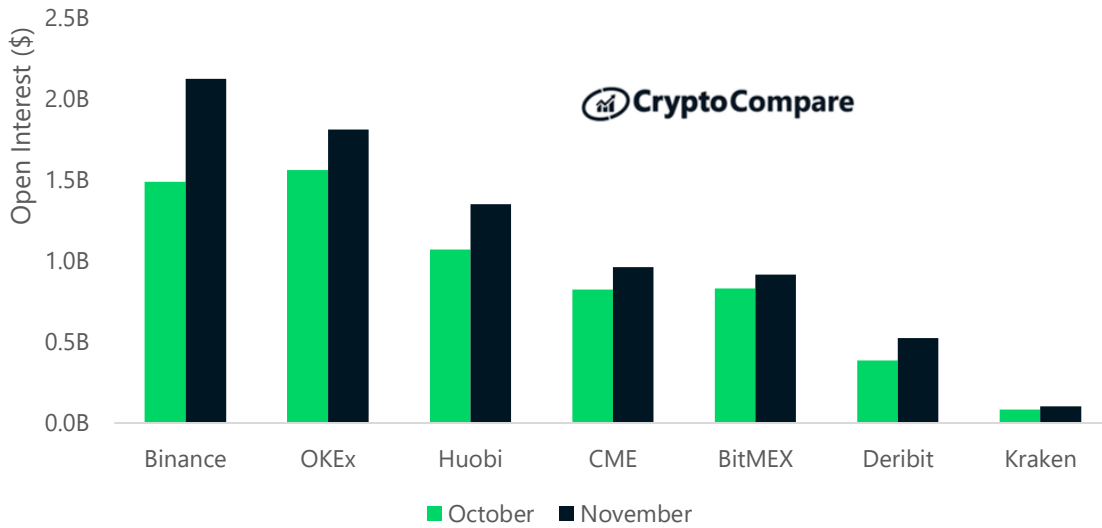
Derivatives exchanges set a new all-time daily volume record on the 26th of November with \$93.36bn traded just after BTC reached a new all-time high. The top 4 exchanges Binance, Huobi, OKEx, and BitMEX represented 79% of the volume traded on this day. This daily maximum breaks the previous record set on 12th March 2020 (\$56.87bn) by an additional 66%.

² Based on USDT-M Futures

Open Interest

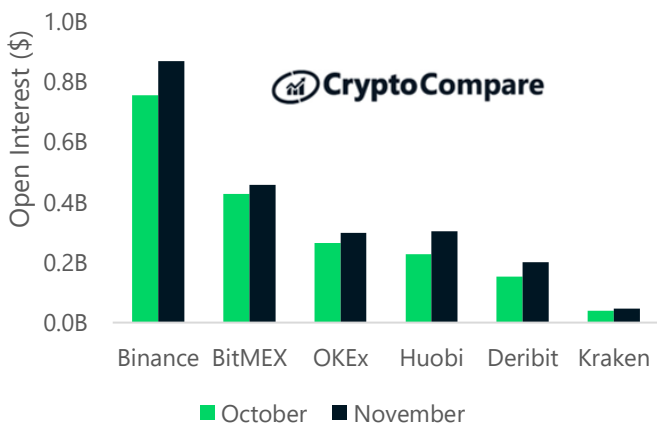
Towards the end of November, Binance had the highest open interest across all derivatives products at \$2.1bn (up 42% since end of October). This was followed by OKEX (\$1.8bn, up 16%) and Huobi (\$1.4bn, up 26%) while CME took the 4th spot at \$1.0bn (up 16.7%).

Aggregate Derivatives Open Interest (\$)

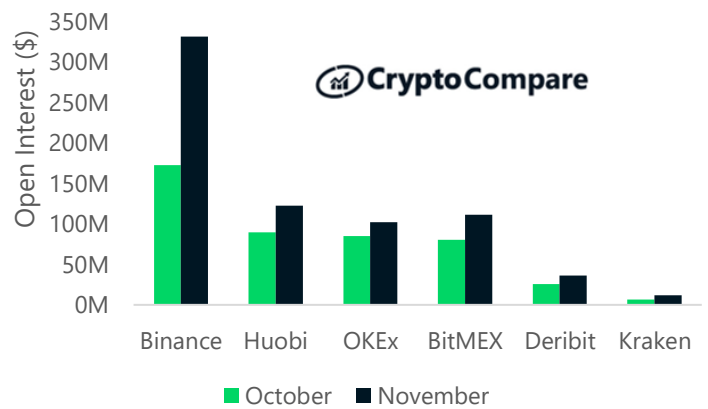


In terms of BTC perpetual futures, Binance had the highest open interest at \$867mn (up 15%) followed by BitMEX at \$458mn (up 7.1%). Binance also has the highest open interest figures for ETH perpetual futures contracts at \$331mn (up 92%), followed by Huobi at \$122mn (up 37%).

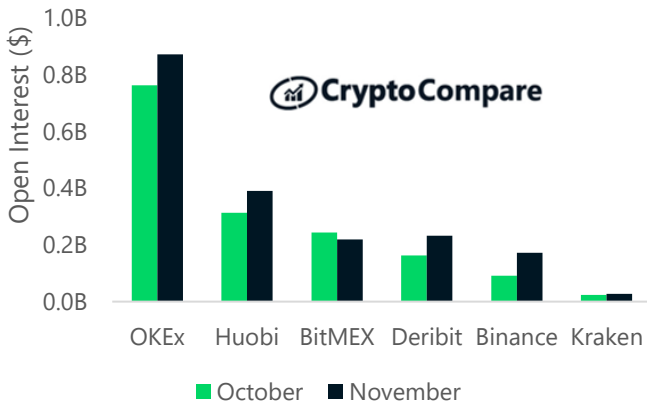
Perpetual BTC Open Interest (\$)



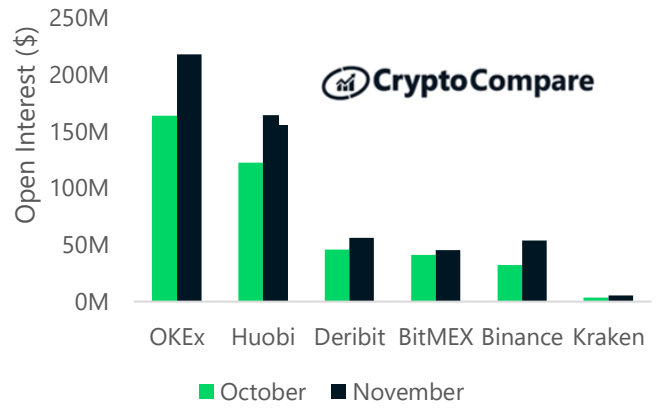
Perpetual ETH Open Interest (\$)



BTC Futures Open Interest (\$)



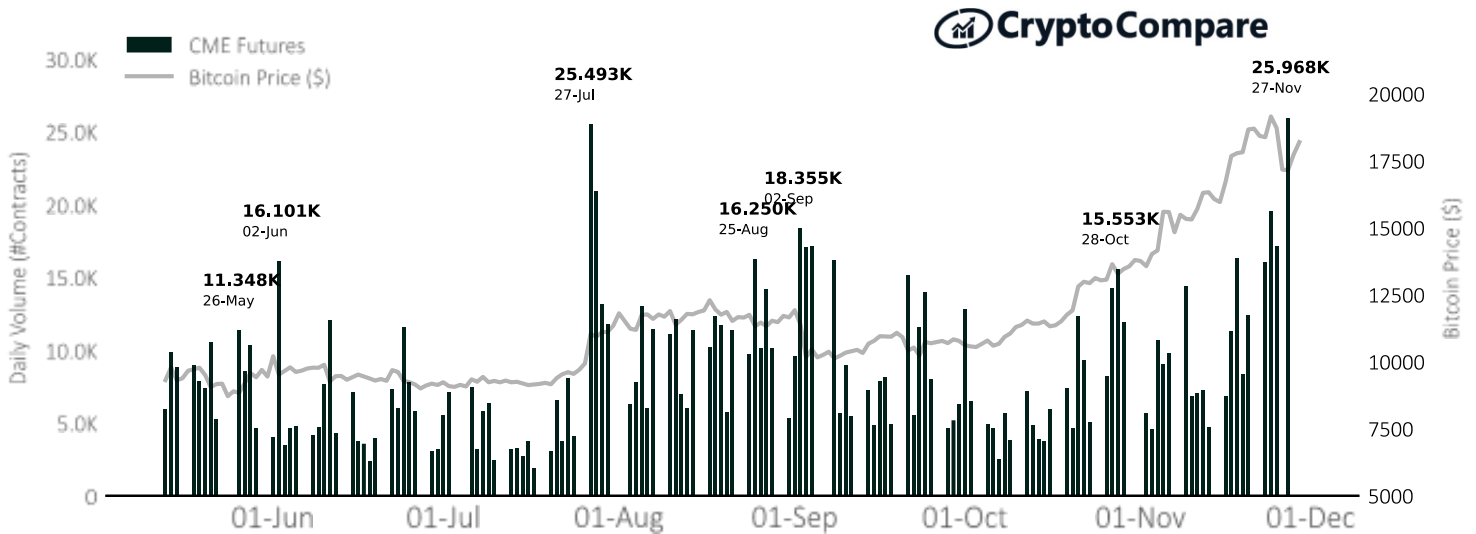
ETH Futures Open Interest (\$)



Meanwhile, OKEx had the highest open interest for BTC futures at \$872mn (up 14.5%) followed by Huobi at \$389mn (24.4%). OKEx also has the highest open interest figures for ETH futures contracts at \$218mn (up 33%), followed by Huobi with \$164mn (up 34%).

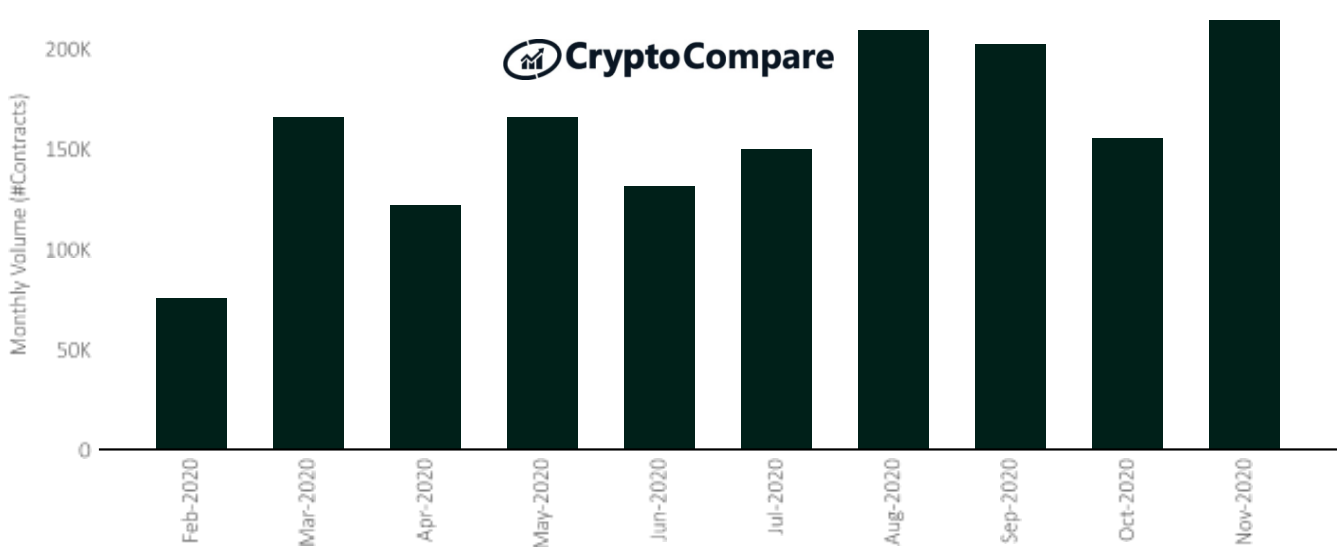
CME Institutional Volume and Open Interest

Daily CME BTC Futures Contract Volumes

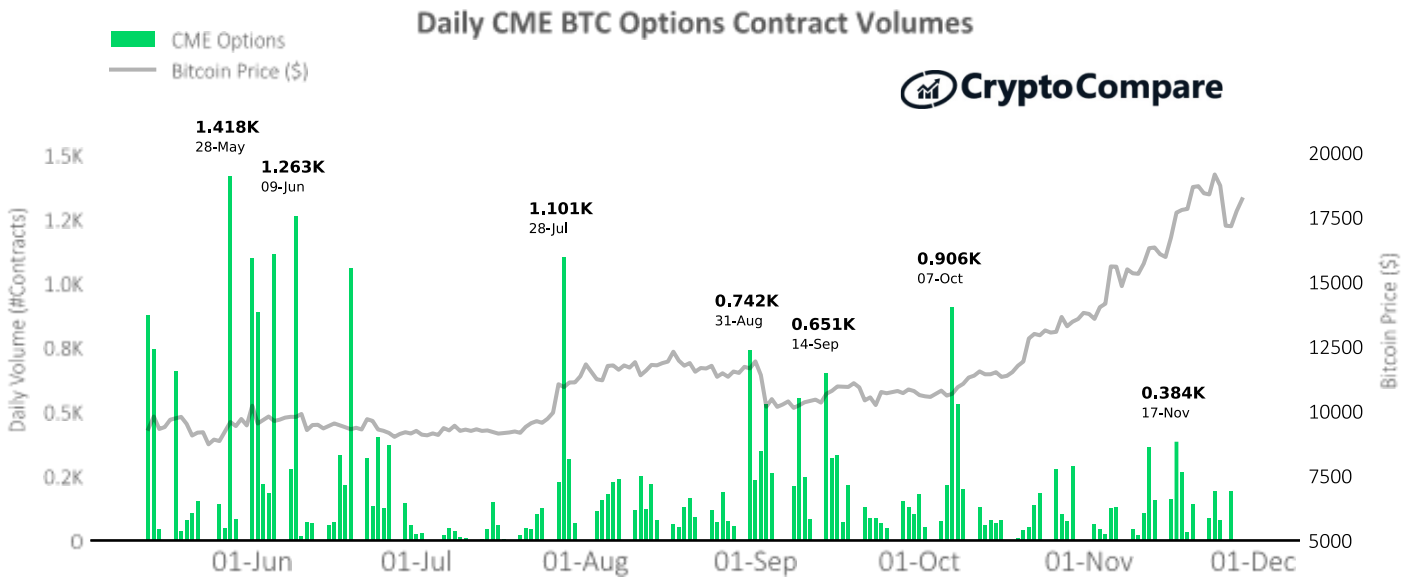


CME set a new daily contract volume record for 2020 on the 27th of November as over 25,900 BTC futures contracts were traded. This closely follows the previous record of 25,500 contracts traded on the 27th of July. This however, is not an all-time high given that 33,000 contracts were traded on the 13th of May 2019.

Historical Monthly CME BTC Futures Contract Volumes

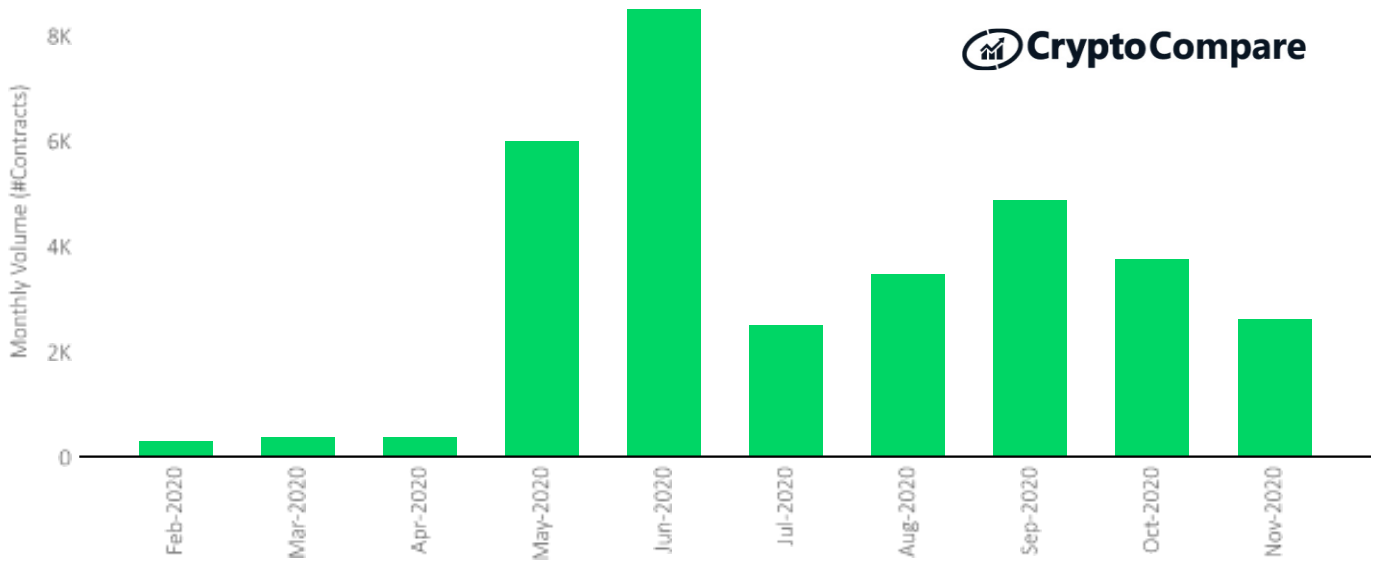


In terms of monthly contract volumes, roughly 214,000 contracts were traded in November (up 37.9% since October).



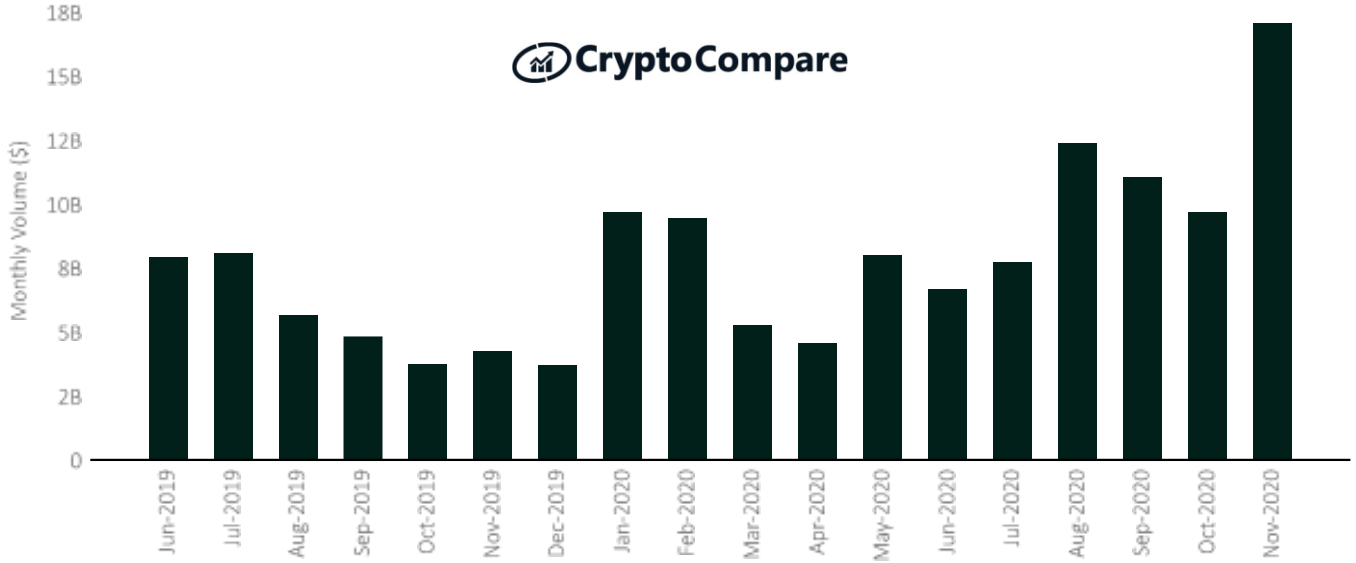
CME options contract volumes decreased of 30.4% in November to 2,608 contracts traded. Options contract volumes reached a daily maximum of 384 contracts traded on the 17th of November.

Historical Monthly CME BTC Options Contract Volumes



In terms of total USD trading volume, CME’s crypto derivatives volumes increased by 76.8% to \$17.1bn in November.

Historical Monthly CME Volumes



CME’s average open interest figures also increased substantially by 62% to \$962mn on average in November.

CME BTC Futures Average Open Interest (\$)

