WINTER 2025

MONEY METALS INSIDER

An Insider Report for Clients of Money Metals Exchange

Money Metals Expands Capabilities

with New Depository, Automatic Purchase Plans, and Loans

Money Metals, the top-rated precious metals dealer in the United States, has further beefed up the array services it offers clients.

Originally founded in 2010, Money Metals just opened the largest precious metals depository in the Western United States.

This impressive, expandable 37,000-square-foot facility – double the size of Fort Knox – sets a new standard in the industry with cutting-edge security measures and internal controls.

The facility includes top-of-the-line Class 3 vaults, physical barriers, motion and vibration sensors, AI facial recognition, laser curtains, and a team of heavily armed, highly trained security personnel.

After opening one of the world's largest vaults, Money Metals further solidified its place at the top of the industry.

Money Metals Depository undergoes regular audits, providing full transparency to clients. It's also insured by Lloyd's of London and is located literally across the street from the county sheriff, city police, and other emergency services in Eagle, Idaho.

Automatic Monthly Purchase Plan Gains Popularity

In addition to the groundbreaking new depository, Money Metals is expanding its list of services to help educate and empower investors.

For clients interested in building their precious metals holdings gradually, Money Metals offers a monthly purchase program.

This convenient "set it and forget it" service enables customers to make regular, automatic purchases of popular gold or silver products. The flexibility to choose between having metals shipped directly or securely stored in the depository makes the monthly purchase program an easy, reliable way to invest.

You Can Get a Loan Secured by Your Own Gold

Meanwhile, Money Metals has secured significant resources to further scale up its loan program, allowing clients to borrow against their stored gold or silver for investment or business purposes.

This loan program enables eligible customers to access liquidity without having to sell their assets or incur capital gains. The revolving, interest-only line-of-credit structure provides borrowers with

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maximum flexibility; borrowers can advance new funds or pay down principal at their option.

Retirement Accounts, Sound Money Advocacy

By partnering with IRA custodians, Money Metals also helps clients hold physical gold and silver within IRAs, preserving tax advantages while providing tangible asset security.

Meanwhile, building on its legislative successes in recent years, Money Metals is devoting even more resources in 2025 to defend and expand the rights of precious metals investors through its Sound Money Defense League project.

This project actively promotes legislation at both state and federal levels to remonetize gold and silver, advocating for these assets' rightful place in the U.S. economy.

This public policy mission aligns with the values of many Money Metals' customers, who provide strong grassroots support for these initiatives.

"I founded Money Metals in 2010 with my brother and brother-in-law with the vision of providing a trusted and reliable place for clients of any means and experience to do business," said Stefan Gleason, president and CEO of Money Metals.

"With attractive pricing, fast shipping, maximum-security storage, loans, and white-glove customer service, we are a one-stop shop for gold and silver investors."

To see a video tour of the new depository, search Money Metals on YouTube.

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REPORT: Gold Price Likely Suppressed by Concentrated Shorting, Could Explode

By Chris Powell

At long last, complaints of gold price manipulation and suppression got some respect from the Official Monetary and Financial Institutions Forum (OMFIF), a London-based group connected with central banks.

In December, the group published a long paper heralding gold's restoration to the center of the world financial system, "Gold and the New World Disorder," and the paper's chapter titled "Market Disruption -- The Short Squeeze" has this to say about the topic at hand:

With record demand for gold, much of it from BRICS-related countries, the risks of a squeeze are increasing. This could have several catalysts.

'Bullion banks' holding concentrated gold short positions might need to buy back the metal during another price run.

Analysts have long argued that these short positions suggest market manipulation, citing the disproportionate control held by a few entities.

Lawsuits against banks for manipulating the precious metals markets have yielded some success in recent years. During these lawsuits, some former 'bullion bank' traders have commented about how these gold market strategies might make the market vulnerable to a short squeeze -- either by accident or design.

Academic and other studies provide evidence that 'shorting gold' has historically been used to suppress the gold price, often linked to central bank sales and futures contracts on commodity exchanges.

There is also room for market disruption from imbalances stemming from allocated and unallocated gold accounts, when market participants own just a claim on gold rather than specific bars.

Recent analysis suggests that the unallocated-to-allocated gold ratio at the London Bullion Market Association could range from 20:1 to even 100:1. For every ounce of physical gold backing these accounts, there might be 20 to 100 ounces of unallocated paper gold claims.

Money Metals' minted 10-oz bars are a low premium way to stack silver.

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This indicates a fractional-reserve system where future claims may far exceed the physical gold available. Predicting the timing of such a squeeze is speculative, given the size of some of these positions and growing world financial and economic tensions.

However, with suspicions rising that some BRICS countries could be considering 'weaponizing' gold against the West, financial markets could be in for a bumpy ride.

Of course, the Gold Anti-Trust Action Committee (GATA) has been documenting and screaming about this for 25 years.

If even these "official" guys now can acknowledge not only that the gold market has been heavily influenced by central banks and their bullion bank agents but also that the world has foolishly been depending on a lot of imaginary metal, the racket may be coming to an end...

...no thanks to OMFIF itself, though, which for years has been ignoring all the incriminating information placed in the public domain by GATA.

More Pressing Questions **from Gold & Silver Investors**

We get lots of questions from the public about precious metals.

Some people are curious about the basics. Others are skeptical about the case for owning gold and silver. Still, others are longtime customers who have highly specialized inquiries.

Here we will answer a few of the most common, most broadly relevant questions we get...

QUESTION: What Is the Gold:Silver Ratio and Why Is It Important?

ANSWER: The gold:silver ratio measures how expensive the spot price of gold is versus the spot price of silver. Investors who are considering how to allocate their wealth between the two metals may want to favor gold when the ratio is low and favor silver when it is high.

The ratio ranged between 80:1 and 90:1 throughout most of last year's trading. It got as high as 130:1 during the height of the pandemic panic of 2020.

Although the gold:silver ratio is below its all-time high, it remains highly elevated on a historical basis. In 2011, gold sold for as low as 32 times the price of silver. Going back many decades, a ratio of 16:1 has been observed.

Money Metals recently launched this popular half-gram gold bar in keychain assay.

If the gold:silver ratio narrows and moves toward historical benchmarks, the silver market would dramatically outperform gold. Outperformance of silver tends to happen during the latter half of a precious metals bull market.

Since silver tends to be the more volatile of the two metals (amplifying gold's gains on the upside as well as gold's declines on the downside), relative strength in silver tends to be a bullish indicator for the entire precious metals complex.

QUESTION: Do you ever report my sales of precious metals to the IRS?

ANSWER: Money Metals is only required to report the sale of your precious metals in extremely rare circumstances that almost never occur: According to IRS regulations, only those items and quantities that can be used to deliver on a regulated Futures Contract (RFC) trigger the 1099B reporting requirement.

Those items are currently as follows:

1. Sales of 50 oz. of platinum (purity requirement of .9995) in bar sizes of 10 oz. or larger trigger a 1099B.
2. Sales of 100 oz. of palladium (purity requirement of 9995) in bar sizes of 10 oz. or larger trigger a 1099B.
3. Sales of 100 oz. of gold (purity requirement of .995) in not less than one 100-oz. bar or three (3) one-kilo bars (32.15 oz each) trigger a 1099B.
4. Sales of 5,000 oz. of silver (purity requirement of .999) in not less than five 1,000-oz. bars trigger a 1099B.

Sales of silver bullion rounds, silver coins, one-, five-, 10-, kilo, and 100-oz. silver bars, or any gold coins, rounds, or bars that are smaller than one kilo – no matter how large or small the sale may be – do not ever trigger a Form 1099B filing requirement.

Meanwhile, it never ceases to amaze us how "reporting happy" Money Metals' competitors are. There is no reason whatsoever to file government reports where they are not required, and it's remarkable to us that most other dealers do not hold the same view.

It should be noted, however, that individual taxpayers have their own reporting obligations as to their own tax returns. Because the IRS currently considers precious

More Pressing Questions *(continued)*

metals to be property, not money, it expects investors to accurately report any capital gains or losses on your sales, as measured in Federal Reserve note "dollars."

QUESTION: What Are the Key Differences Between Coins and Rounds… Which is Better?

ANSWER: Coins are typically issued by government mints such as the United States Mint, the Royal Canadian Mint, the Perth Mint (Australia), and others. Coins typically carry an official face value and are considered legal tender in the countries that issue them.

In the first 80 years of our nation's history, private mints produced various dollar denominations of gold and silver coins – until the federal government seized a monopoly on minting of coinage.

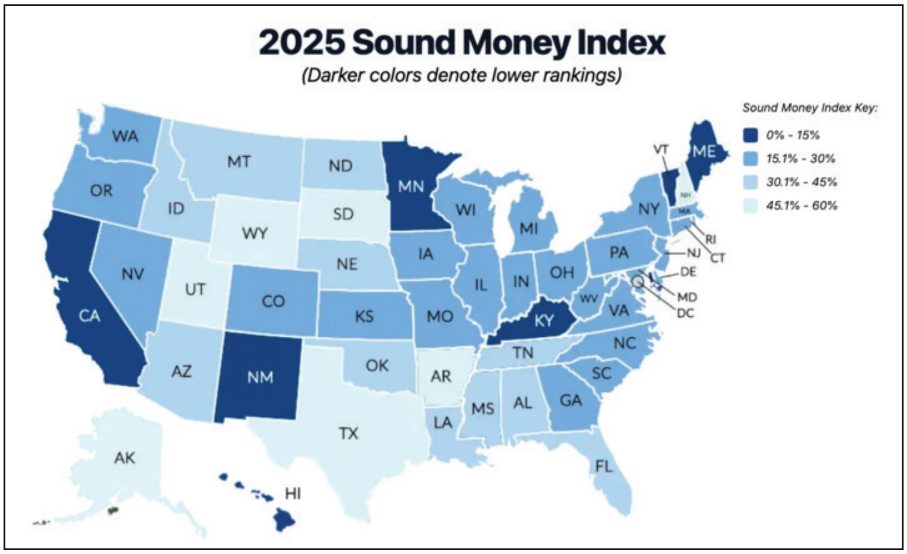
Rounds are standardized bullion items that are minted (or "coined") by private mints and come in a variety of designs that may or may not emulate the appearance of traditional coins. Unlike coins, rounds are not typically recognized as legal tender (though they can legally be used in barter transactions based on their metal content).

Most silver rounds are made of .999 pure silver – the exact same weight and purity as U.S. Silver Eagle coins. However, rounds sell at a large discount to Eagles and at still-meaningful discounts to most silver coins issued by foreign governments. For investors looking to acquire the most metal for their dollar, rounds are the better buy.

2025's BEST and WORST
U.S. States for Sound Money

The newly released 2025 Sound Money Index has identified Wyoming, South Dakota, and Alaska as the states with the most favorable policies toward constitutional sound money, while Vermont, Maine, and California take the most hostile stances.

Released annually by the Sound Money Defense League and Money Metals Exchange, the Sound Money Index is a comprehensive scorecard evaluating how each U.S. state promotes or impedes sound money policies.



Ranked policies include sales, income, and gross revenue taxes connected with precious metals, state affirmation of gold and silver as money, and legal protections for gold and silver clause contracts.

Additional criteria include issuing or investing in gold bonds, inclusion of physical gold or silver in state pension or reserve funds, state mechanisms to accept and remit taxes and other payments in gold and silver, and existence of regulatory burdens imposed on precious metals dealers and investors.

The 2025 Sound Money Index saw several states improve their rankings dramatically after having enacted pro-sound money tax legislation in 2024.

Nebraska's elimination of capital gains taxes on precious metals propelled it from 22nd to 8th place, while Alabama leapt almost twenty spots from 28th to 9th place. Both of these states had already eliminated their state sales tax on purchases of gold and silver coins, bars, and rounds, so removing income taxes on sales was the next logical step.

Louisiana jumped from 17th to 12th place after Gov. Jeff Landry signed a bill reaffirming gold and silver as legal tender in the state.

Wisconsin and New Jersey also saw major improvements from their previous year's ranking after repealing sales taxes on precious metals. Wisconsin climbed from 44th to 26th place, and New Jersey moved from 49th to 39th.

"Money Metals has spent a full decade promoting state-level sound money reforms, and I'm proud to say these bills tend to be among the most popular proposals considered in recent legislative seasons," said Stefan Gleason, CEO of Money Metals. "For example, today there are 45 states that have partially or fully exempted sales taxes on precious metals."

Only five states—Kentucky, Maine, Vermont, New Mexico, and Hawaii—continue to tax ALL precious metals purchases (regardless of purchase size), despite the impact on individuals, businesses, and families seeking a vehicle through which to preserve the purchasing power of their savings.

However, not all precious metals sales tax exemptions are created equal.

Wisconsin Gov. Tony Evers signed a full exemption on purchases of gold and silver from the state sales tax without any restrictions. The measure did not include an exemption for platinum and palladium.

The New Jersey bill ultimately signed by the governor exempts all bullion items but not all coins. That's because "investment coin" is defined as "any numismatic coin manufactured of gold, silver, platinum, palladium, or any other metal, including non-precious metals, and having a fair market value of not less than $1,000. 'Investment coin' shall not include jewelry or works of art made of coins, nor shall it include commemorative medallions.

Accordingly, New Jersey only received 13 points out of a possible 18 in the sales tax categories of the 2025 Sound Money Index, while Wisconsin's partial exemption earned the state only 14 points.

Several other states also considered capital gains exemptions on precious metals this year, setting the stage for more sound money reforms in the coming years.

Repatriated Gold Reaches Historic Highs

By Jan Nieuwenhuijs

The share of global official gold reserves *not* stored at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York (FRBNY) and Bank of England (BOE) in London has reached 78% in 2024, up from 51% in 1972.

The shift in this ratio appears to be accelerating and can be seen as a proxy for the West's decline in financial dominance.

The Original Buildup of Foreign Gold in New York and London

"Gold is the bedrock of stability for the international monetary system," wrote former President of the German central bank, Jens Weidmann, in 2019. Not surprisingly, no national currency has ever become the world reserve currency without a substantial amount of precious metal supporting it.

Before the U.S. dollar, the pound sterling was the world reserve currency. In the 19th century, a significant part of global commerce was transacted in sterling (backed by gold) and cleared in London. Central banks could redeem British pounds for gold and build their metallic reserves at the vault of the BOE in the most liquid gold market globally: London.

After the Second World War, the dollar officially took over from sterling during the monetary arrangement dubbed "Bretton Woods." In the aftermath of the war, the U.S. had the largest gold reserves of all countries by far, assuring confidence in the currency issued by the United States.

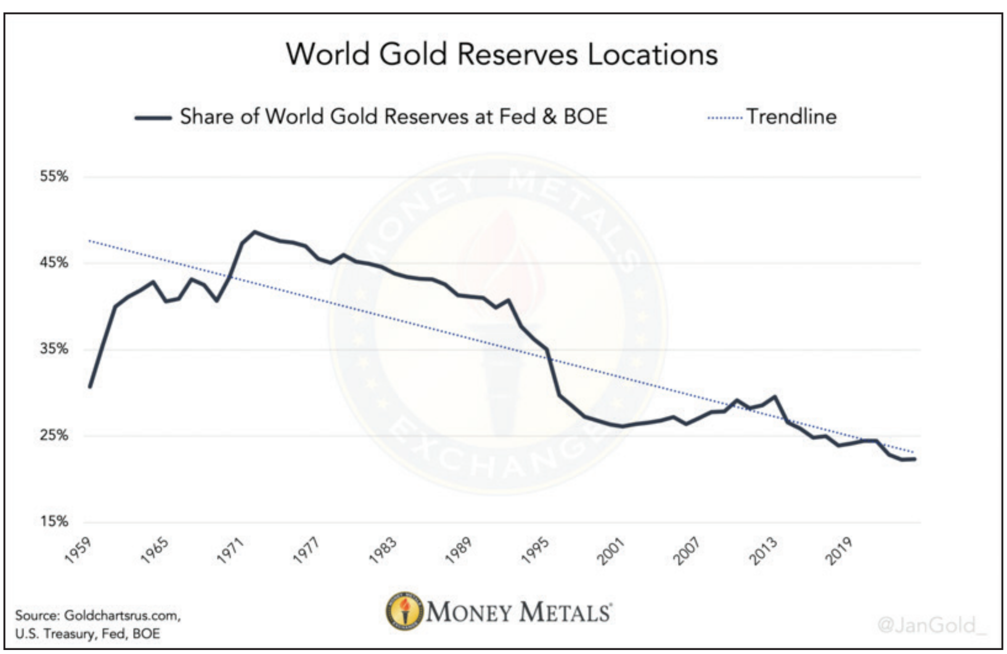
Lady Liberty .9999 gold rounds are available in six different sizes.

As trade was conducted primarily in dollars during Bretton Woods—which could be converted into gold at the Fed (acting as an agent for the Treasury)—countries with balance of payment (BOP) surpluses increased their gold reserves at the FRBNY vault.

Many would rather own gold than dollars, especially as concerns grew (particularly by the French) that the greenback would be devalued due to America's BOP deficit.

Technically, the U.S. monetary gold is owned by the Treasury; the Federal Reserve itself does not own gold. Foreign central banks and official international organizations store gold at the New York Fed, no individuals or private sector entities. Data by the Federal Reserve System on its "earmarked" (custodial) gold does not reveal which entities make use of the vault.

Total earmarked gold at the FRBNY reached an astronomical high of 12,711 tonnes in 1972. At that point, the BOE's total gold holdings accounted for 8,364 tonnes.



The World Starts to Repatriate Its Gold

Countries were pressured by the U.S. not to redeem dollars for gold during Bretton Woods, which *de facto* ended in 1971. During the demise of Bretton Woods, New York lost some significance as a global gold market to the advantage of London and Zurich.

Since the early 1970s, foreign central banks slowly began withdrawing metal from the Fed's vault in lower Manhattan. Withdrawals accelerated in the early 1990s, which was

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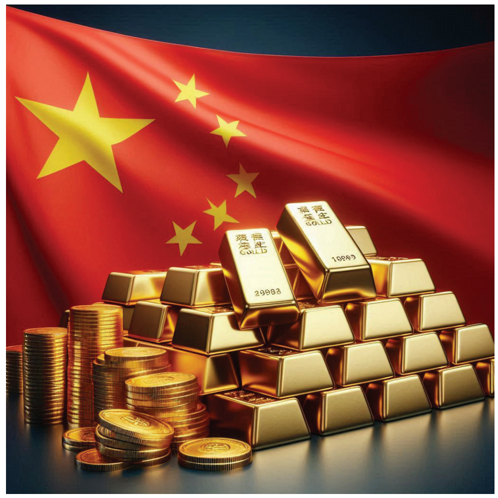
likely due to selling by European central banks at the time.

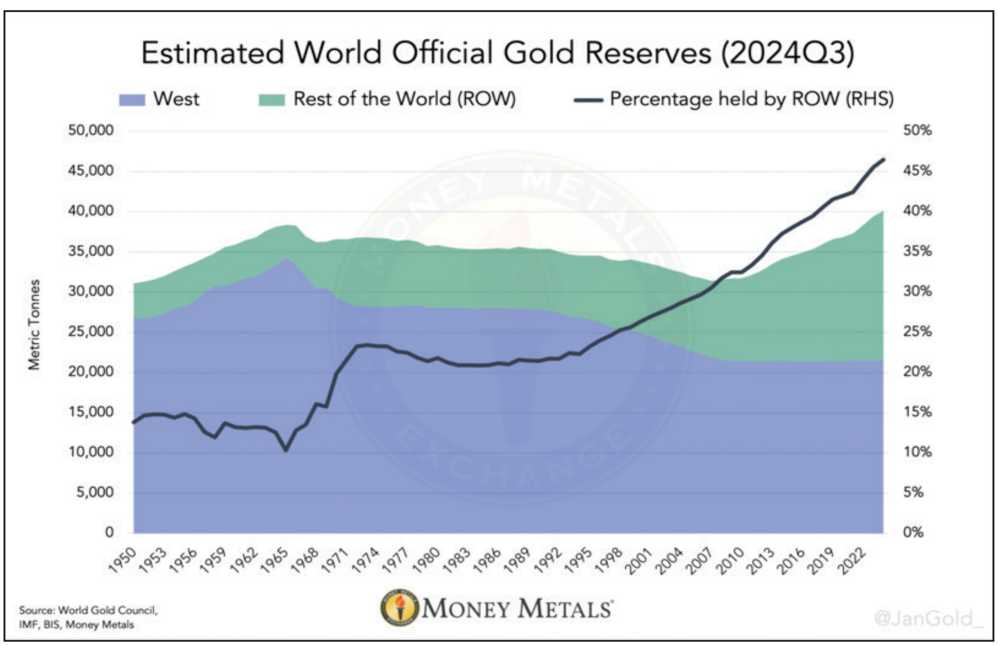
The BOE doesn't own any gold either, but it stores the U.K.'s monetary gold (owned by HM Treasury), foreign official gold reserves, *and* private gold by bullion banks.

Sadly, the composition of official and private gold at the BOE is unknown. So, in order to get a sense of how much gold official institutions store at the Bank of England, I have relied on research by Ronan Manly and Nick Laird from 2015 and extrapolated the numbers.



China Is Stockpiling Gold Hand Over Fist

Finally, as I have reported in recent months, the People's Bank of China (PBoC) and the Saudi Central Bank (SAMA) are buying vast amounts of gold under the radar. In the case of the PboC, it buys extraordinarily large amounts of gold in the London Bullion Market and repatriates immediately, not to risk being denied access to its reserves like Venezuela and Afghanistan.



Nearly half of the world's gold reserves are now owned by non-Western nations.

As far as I can tell, outflows of foreign custodial gold at the Fed and BOE have stabilized in recent years, but there is no question the amount of gold held by the rest of the world within national borders has risen dramatically.

Consequently, the amount of world official gold reserves *not* stored at the infamous vaults of the FRBNY and BOE has gone up to a historic high of 78%.

Put differently, world official gold reserves (minus the gold owned by the U.S. and U.K.) stored in New York and London have reached a historic low of 22%.

The West Is Losing Power

Not only is the West losing leverage over countries in the East as they repatriate gold, but non-Western countries are quickly catching up, relative to the West, by accumulating more gold.

Based on calculations of how much Asian central banks keep off the record, my estimate is that non-Western countries ("rest of the world," or ROW) possess 18,643 tonnes of gold versus 21,470 by the West. Pretty soon, the majority of official gold reserves will be owned by ROW (currently, ROW holds 46%).

Interestingly, the shift in the share of world gold reserves towards ROW is illustrative of global changes in economic and military power. As we are moving towards a more multipolar world, so too are global gold reserves distributed accordingly.

As the saying goes, "Whoever has the gold makes the rules!" Eastern countries will implement rules not in favor of the greenback. They will likely be able to circumvent the dollar by trading in national currencies through Project mBridge and store surpluses in gold.