

“Bitcoin is Back!” - Is it?

WEEKLY RECAP

- Total market cap. reached \$182bn (a 25.8% increase), and 7 day trading volume increased 84.6% for top 100 crypto

THOUGHTS OF THE WEEK

I was told by a good friend who has next to zero connection to the cryptocurrency sector that "Bitcoin is back!" Is it? The price of BTC is up 26.4% since last week, the total market cap is up 25.8%, and trading volume for top 100 crypto is up 84.6% in the same period. Furthermore, cLedger reported on Monday that "Chinese OTC (Over-The-Counter) trades [...] showing considerable \$ premium (1 USDT = 7 CNY) over the official rate of 1 USD = 6.7 CNY." Let us have a quick look at last week's spike.

A number of market irregularities would appear to be possible contributors to the rally. Reuters reported that a "single algorithmically managed order" worth US\$100 million was issued across major exchanges, perhaps kick-starting the rally. Data from Bitfinex further indicated that the closing of short positions created further upward pressure on prices, with BTC/USD short positions dropping from ~20,700 BTC to ~17,100 BTC in the wake of the price surge.

Other less immediate factors exist that may have eased the path for the rally. Mining rewards are set to be halved in May 2020 (last time was in 2016), an event that historically affects markets up to a year in advance. BTC's 50-week Moving Average (MA) further fell below its 100-week MA in February, with CoinDesk commenting that "Put simply, it takes a great effort on the part of the bears to push the 50-week MA below the 100-week MA. As a result, the bear market is usually exhausted by the time the crossover is confirmed, which seems to be the case with BTC."

"The bear is not dead until \$6k falls with convincing volume - volume similar to that of the great dumping in November", as stated in r/Bitcoin does highlight the fact that long-term trade volumes are still low. "Volume has spiked on the weekly last week but it still does not amount to large amount of volume from our last movement down. Lower volume indicates that our move up is simple mean reversion and not driven by changes in the market."

As pointed out by Charles, Head Trader at Genesis Block, 1D RSI indicates overbought conditions. Still, I wouldn't expect average investors to pay much attention as they may fear missing out on a possible jump to the next level of resistance at the US\$5,557 mark. Signing off with another interesting bit from Charles, "Biggest talk @ Deconomy was around the pump early last week. Complete speculation but to me it appears to be two potential scenarios: 1) A direct attack on those who were short vol., or 2) Coordinated pump by miners to build FOMO ahead of Summer. I lean more towards the latter as we've been hearing of big moves by Chinese miners for the past 1-2 months. Their tactics are playing out quite well as "Bitcoin" tops search queries on both Google and Naver."

TOP CRYPTO PERFORMANCE SUMMARY

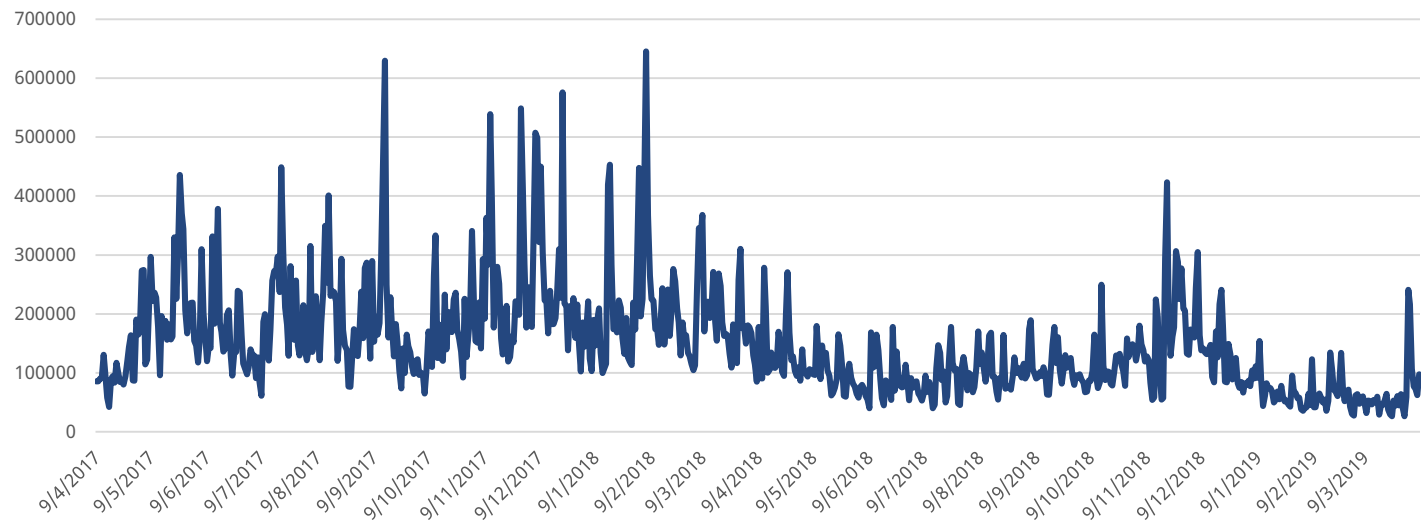
| Name | Price | 7D% | Vol. | 7D% | Mkt Cap. | % Total Mkt |
|------|------------|--------|----------|---------|----------|-------------|
| BTC | \$5,198.90 | 26.40% | 107.49bn | 75.65% | 91.67bn | 50.45% |
| ETH | \$174.53 | 23.19% | 49.91bn | 74.12% | 18.42bn | 10.14% |
| XRP | \$0.36 | 16.20% | 10.54bn | 123.48% | 15.02bn | 8.27% |
| BCH | \$319.60 | 89.66% | 14.36bn | 355.68% | 5.66bn | 3.12% |
| LTC | \$92.31 | 52.00% | 23.70bn | 107.98% | 5.65bn | 3.11% |
| EOS | \$5.46 | 30.63% | 19.62bn | 47.17% | 4.94bn | 2.72% |
| BNB | \$19.11 | 10.07% | 1.11bn | -2.47% | 2.70bn | 1.48% |
| XLM | \$0.13 | 20.80% | 2.19bn | 29.32% | 2.51bn | 1.38% |
| ADA | \$0.09 | 28.82% | 0.91bn | 62.68% | 2.35bn | 1.29% |
| USDT | \$1.00 | 0.44% | 110.72bn | 100.03% | 2.09bn | 1.15% |

NETWORK FUNDAMENTALS

| | BTC | ETH |
|---------------------------|---|--|
| Hashrate | 45,517,651 TH/s | 142,544 GH/s |
| 7D Av. | (-1.7%) | (+2.9%) |
| Hashrate | 45,131,957 | 143,233 GH/s |
| 30D Av. | (+0.8%) | (-1.2%) |
| Wallet Users | 34,813,746 | 60,475,126 |
| 7D Av. | (+0.9%) | (+0.9%) |
| Wallet Users | 34,425,565 | 59,578,963 |
| 30D Av. | (+0.6%) | (+1.0%) |
| Top 4 Mining Pools | BTC.com (19%) AntPool (13%) SlushPool (10%) F2Pool (10%) | Ethermine (26%) SparkPool (22%) F2Pool (13%) Nanopool (12%) |

CHART OF THE WEEK

2 Year Bitcoin Trading Volume per Bitcoin.org (Volume in BTC)



STANDARD KEPLER

WEEKLY SUMMARY | 1 – 7 APRIL

DISCLAIMER

Abbreviations: ADA: Cardano; BCH: Bitcoin ABC; BSV: Bitcoin Satoshi Vision; bn: billion; BTC: Bitcoin; Central Bank Digital Currency: CBDC; crypto: cryptocurrencies; ETH: Ethereum; ICO: Initial Coin Offerings; Market Cap: Market Capitalization; mn: million; RPS: Retail Payment System; Trading Vol.: Trading Volume; tx: transaction(s); US\$: United States Dollars; USDT: USD Tether; WPS: Wholesale Payment System; XLM: Stellar Lumens; XMR: Monero; XRP: Ripple

Chart of The Week: Sources: data.bitcoinify.org, Standard Kepler Research

Network Fundamentals: Sources: Blockchain.com, Blocktrail, Etherchain.org, Etherscan.io, Standard Kepler Research

Thought of The Week: Sources: CoinTelegraph, CoinDesk, Genesis Block, Standard Kepler Research

Top Crypto Performance Summary: Sources: Coinmarketcap, Standard Kepler Research

Week Ahead: Sources: Cryptocalendar.pro, Standard Kepler Research

Weekly Recap: Sources: Coinmarketcap, Standard Kepler Research

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The price of Bitcoin and other cryptocurrencies are highly volatile in nature. It is suggested that clients should perform their own due diligence and consult a fully qualified independent professional financial adviser before making any investments in cryptocurrencies.

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Unless otherwise stated, all data is as of April 7, 2019 or as of most recently available.

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