Current Market state

It was a volatile week in the crypto markets with Bitcoin prices touching as low as ~$6900 across major exchanges on Friday, before bouncing back over the weekend to end the week near $7400. Total market cap has finally passed the $200B level and reached $219B.

The BTC price bounced strongly over the weekend jumping by over US$500 in value after 5 days of bearish price activity. Despite the recent decline, bullish reversal patterns on the lower time frame highlights that a rally towards the $8,000

Nearly two years ago on this exact day, Ethereum reached an all-time high price of $1,400. Ethereum is among the few cryptocurrencies that ended 2019 lower than it started the year

Ripple failed once again near 0.1950 resistance area but the price still retains the upside bias heading into a fresh week.
$17M Funding Round in startup to bring blockchain tech into ETFs
As Bitcoin exchange-traded fund (ETF) continue to elude U.S. markets, one startup has secured $17 million that seem earmarked to bring blockchain tech to ETFs. WisdomTree announced investment in a startup called Securrency Inc., one of the top institutional-grade blockchain builders in the financial and regulatory space. An asset manager, ETF and exchange traded-product (ETP) backer, WisdomTree is looking to harness blockchain technology for the ETF market. Following the announced funding round, WisdomTree aims to work with Securrency to expand the availability of ETFs via blockchain technology. Garnering $17.65 million in total investments, Securrency received funds from WisdomTree, Abu Dhabi Investment Office (ADIO), Monex Group, Inc. and several others.

Bitcoin price rockets to $8,450 as Iran attacks US bases in Iraq
Bitcoin's strong surge from $7,000 to nearly $8,500 has been heavily influenced by the rising tensions between the United States and Iran. In fact, the most recent push above $8,500 occurred as mainstream media reported that Iran had attacked United States troops stationed at two military bases in Iraq. More than a dozen missiles were fired at both bases and at the time of writing no casualties have been reported. Gold and oil prices also increased sharply, with spot gold price topping a 6-year high at $1,603.21 and gold futures rising 2% to $1,605.80.

SEC on “unfounded fishing expedition,” Telegram lawyers tell judge
Telegram's lawyers haven’t had a quiet start to 2020. A judge gave them less than a single business day to respond to a request from the United States Securities and Exchange Commission to hand over details of how the company spent the proceeds of its $1.7 billion initial coin offering. In reply, the lawyers called for the court to throw out the regulator's demands — insisting the “voluminous and highly sensitive bank records” have little relevance to the case in question.

US SEC prioritizes crypto compliance in 2020 but hints at kinder gentler approach
The United States Securities Exchange Commission continues to scrutinize crypto as its compliance office adds fintech and digital assets to its annual priorities list. Per announcement from the SEC’s Office of Compliance Inspections and Examinations (OCIE), the agency has put new financial technologies including digital assets among major concerns in the coming fiscal year. In the words of the regulator, new technological developments in capital formation and investment advice “warrant ongoing attention and review.”
Binance crypto exchange adds support for Australian dollars and Thai baht
Major cryptocurrency exchange Binance added support for Australian dollars (AUD) and Thai baht. Thai digital asset exchange Satang Corporation will process Thai baht transfers, while Australian dollar transfers will be facilitated by Banxa, a company specialized in internationally compliant fiat-to-crypto gateways.

Android platform now home to Coinbase pro trading app
Coinbase has expanded compatibility for its trading platform, Coinbase Pro. The Coinbase Pro mobile app is now available on Android's operating system, Coinbase said in a blog announcement. The exchange unveiled its Pro app for iPhone (iOS) users in October 2019. Coinbase Pro on Android touts updates to the already-available iOS app version, including crypto and fiat currency (USD, CAD, etc.) deposit and withdrawal capabilities, as well as additional security features, the blog post said. Coinbase has also updated its Pro iOS app to include these capabilities.

Former Barclays exec to launch U.K.'s first regulated crypto bank in 2020
An executive who served as the head of technology at Barclays — and co-founded the British challenger bank Starling — has unveiled plans to launch a multicurrency account for fiat and crypto in the first quarter of 2020. Mark Hipperson’s new venture, called Ziglu, is set to allow users to spend their funds using a Mastercard debit card — with cryptocurrencies converted instantly at the point of sale. Although the venture is only going to be available within the United Kingdom to begin with, Ziglu has applied to the Financial Conduct Authority to become an official issuer of electronic money.

Google Play lifts ban on Ethereum browser extension MetaMask
Champagne corks have been popping over at MetaMask — and not just because a new decade has arrived. Google has now reversed a short-lived ban on the browser add-on, meaning its app is available on the Google Play store once again. The extension, which includes a built-in crypto wallet, enables people to run Ethereum-based decentralized applications. Google claims the blacklisting was a mistake, and that it mistakenly thought that it was an app that mined crypto on mobile devices.

Directors of Alleged crypto pyramid scheme Dunamiscoins stand trial
Two directors of Dunamiscoins, an alleged cryptocurrency pyramid scheme in Uganda, appeared before court on Monday to face 65 counts tied to obtaining money by false pretense. Local news site The Observer reported that state prosecutors had logged over 4,000 complaints against Dunamiscoins Resources Ltd., a suspected fraud that ran its course between Feb. 2018 and Dec. 2019, before summarily collapsing. Inquiries are reportedly still ongoing.
Crypto community's interest

The section below presents the most searched terms in google about recent crypto industry news for the last week. The graphs below show the percentage ratio between requests and their historical maximum.

Crypto Topics & Events

**Bitcoin**
The world's largest cryptocurrency by market capitalization began a strong upward trend from $8,080 to above $8,400 before topping out at $8,438 in just over 40 minutes. The move to fresh 2020 highs comes after Iranian missiles struck U.S.

**Binance**
Binance has added a flurry of new fiat funding options since New Year, including Faster Payments for U.K. pounds-bearing customers. The addition comes via a new partnership with fiat-to-crypto payments provider Banxa.

**Telegram**
Telegram has released updated information about their forthcoming crypto token TON. Most notable was the bombshell that the token would not be integrated into Telegram Messenger.

**Ethereum**
2019 was a huge year for Ethereum in terms of development achievements and the growing popularity of its market-reigning decentralized applications, or dApps.

**Coinbase**
Coinbase Pro, the exchange's platform for seasoned traders, has just unveiled its new Android app that is now available around the globe with 50 trading pairs.
**Volatility extremums**

This section presents three of each of the best performed tokens and the worst performed tokens during the last week. Their volatility is presented in the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Token</th>
<th>Greatest volatility</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Energi</td>
<td>+15.97%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THETA</td>
<td>+7.54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Algorand</td>
<td>+6.48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fetch.ai</td>
<td>-8.39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ravencoin</td>
<td>-5.03%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Centrality</td>
<td>-4.19%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Citation of the week**

“One of our key goals for 2020 is to bring crypto to the masses. For this, we aim to enable fiat-to-crypto trading for 180+ fiat currencies.”
—Changpeng Zhao, Binance CEO

“My wishes are 1) for cryptocurrency exchanges to work together to service the massive underbanked and unbanked community across the globe. 2) For governments to understand the needs of the blockchain community and work to support more innovation in this space, and 3) to see a world where individuals are in control of their financial assets without intermediaries.”
—Andy Cheung, former head of operations at OKEx

“For 2020, I’d like to see perception of crypto assets return back to a balanced state. I’d like to see the quality projects start to be differentiated more clearly from the garbage projects”
—Erik Voorhees, founder and CEO of ShapeShift