Even the markets show some growth during the last week, by the end of the week there was the common drop for almost of the gains obtained throughout the week. As a result, the total market cap has still fallen to pass $200B level.

Bitcoin (BTC) fell back towards support at the $7,250-$7,300 level on Dec. 1 after its latest sudden uptick began to fizzle and ended up with the drop. The largest cryptocurrency shedding almost 30% of its gains from earlier in the week.

Ether (ETH), the largest altcoin by market cap, fell 4.2% to $147, while others fared worse.

The third-largest coin by market capitalization, has continued to lose ground and currently came back to the level of at $0.222 per coin.
Indian government to issue national blockchain strategy
Despite taking a hardline stance on crypto, India has announced that it is working on a national blockchain strategy to accelerate the technology’s adoption. Officials believe that blockchain could transform a plethora of sectors, including governance, banking, finance and cybersecurity. Several Indian states have already been drawing up policies relating to blockchain and artificial intelligence, including Tamil Nadu and Telangana.

Russia reportedly considers ban on using crypto as a means of payment
China isn’t the only one threatening to take a hardline stance on crypto. Reports this week also suggested that Russia is planning to ban cryptocurrencies from being used to purchase goods and services. Such a proposal would be a massive setback for countless Russian programmers, designers and copywriters who receive their freelance salaries in BTC and ETH. It is believed that Moscow is concerned about crime, with a senior Ministry of Finance official recently saying: “We do not see any basis for cryptocurrencies to be used as a means of payment.”

China: Five crypto exchanges halt or shut services amid perceived crackdown
It’s been a bad month for Chinese crypto exchanges. In November, at least five platforms have either decided to halt operations temporarily or close up shop altogether. Bitsoda and Akdex brought the shutters down within 24 hours of each other, while Idax announced domestic clients will no longer be able to use its service. Btuex also made moves to suspend services immediately, with the company directly linking this decision to government policy. Biss was the first exchange to fall silent back on Nov. 4 — and since then, it’s been reported that 10 suspects have been arrested in connection with that exchange. All of this comes amid fears that Beijing is doubling down on its anti-crypto stance.

Vitalik Buterin supports petition to free arrested blockchain dev
Ethereum (ETH) co-founder Vitalik Buterin has declared his solidarity with Virgil Griffith, the American citizen arrested for his blockchain educational activities in North Korea. Vitalik shared a link to a blog post penned by blockchain firm CEO Enrico Talin, which had appealed directly to the Ethereum co-founder to start a petition in support of Griffith.

“Let’s not have another Aaron Swartz martyr in our hands,” Talin had written, in reference to the hacker and political activist who killed himself in 2013 ahead of a high-profile federal trial.
Binance crypto exchange adds four trading pairs for Russian ruble
The first trading pairs featuring the ruble include Binance Coin (BNB), Bitcoin (BTC), Ether (ETH) and XRP. Binance CEO Changpeng Zhao commented on the development in a tweet sent the same day. Binance’s addition of trading pairs follows the introduction of ruble trading on the platform in late October when Zhao announced that users could then deposit and withdraw fiat funds in rubles.

Microsoft to turn 1980s gamebook series into blockchain card game
Microsoft, major game developer Eidos and gamebook firm Fabled Lands are jointly developing a blockchain card game based on a 1980s best-selling gamebook. The new card game will be based on the 1980s best-selling book called “The Way of the Tiger,” written by Jamie Thomson and Mark Smith. The game’s title will be “Arena of Death” and its players will fight in fantasy-themed card battles with features from the original gamebook series.

IBM files a blockchain patent for fighting package theft by drone
IBM has filed for a patent of a system that uses blockchain technology to prevent drone-enabled package theft. According to a filing published by the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) on Nov. 12, IBM will track drone altitude using an Internet of Things (IoT) altimeter, while continuously uploading that data to a blockchain secure platform.

Crypto exchange Upbit confirms theft of 342,000 ETH
On Wednesday, the major South Korean crypto exchange Upbit confirmed that a whopping 342,000 Ether (ETH) had been stolen from its hot wallet — funds worth an estimated $50 million at the time of writing. The company stopped short of describing the incident as a hack and said that all remaining crypto assets have since been moved into cold storage. Deposits and withdrawals are going to be suspended for at least two weeks, and Upbit said corporate funds will be used to protect user assets. In recent days, rumors have been swirling that the incident could have been an inside job.

User forgets “brain wallet” worth $13 million
Now here’s a FUD that’ll make you wince. A Bitcoin investor claimed they have lost access to funds worth almost $13 million because they failed to record the passphrase for their wallet. The Reddit user said a balance of 1,800 BTC is out of reach. They were apparently using something known as a “brain wallet” — a form of Bitcoin storage that often does away with physical and digital records of passphrases. Instead, users create a password that is easy to recall but difficult to crack. As compelling a story as it might be, some are skeptical as to whether it’s actually true.
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

#### Coinbase
Coinbase, has not acquired digital currency brokerage firm Tagomi. Tagomi had reportedly been targeting more retail trading clients which put it in competition with Coinbase Pro.

#### Jack Dorsey
Dorsey said in a message on the social media platform that he didn’t know where he would be living, but he planned to spend up to half of next year in Africa.

#### Bitcoin
Bitcoin (BTC) is always popular to track since it had different movements recently including as growth as decline. Most of the world is followed up on it.

#### BitMEX
BitMEX, the most active futures market, is slowing down as it grinds towards the end of the year. The BTC volume on the exchange has now dropped to the lowest levels in 2019.

#### Vitalik Buterin
Ethereum cofounder Vitalik Buterin defended Griffith, and said he hoped the USA “shows strength rather than weakness and focuses on genuine and harmful corruption.”

#### Poloniex
Cryptocurrency exchange Poloniex now controls the largest decentralized exchange (DEX) on blockchain network Tron (TRX). TRX Market functions as a non-custodial exchange that does not require users to store funds in a centralized wallet.
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>+26.91%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VeChain</td>
<td>+13.26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fetch.ai</td>
<td>+9.90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enigma</td>
<td>-10.24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Siacoin</td>
<td>-7.09%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tezos</td>
<td>-5.88%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Citation of the week

“Africa will define the future (especially the bitcoin one!)”
—Jack Dorsey, Twitter and Square CEO  
@jack

“The ability to save wealth in bitcoin will bring millions of people out of debt.”
—Misir Mahmudov, Adaptive Capital  
@misir_mahmudov

“Nothing is above Bitcoin, no CBDC, no stablecoins.”
—Adam Back, Blockstream CEO  
@adam3us