©ZEROCAP Weekly Crypto Market Wrap

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Week in Review

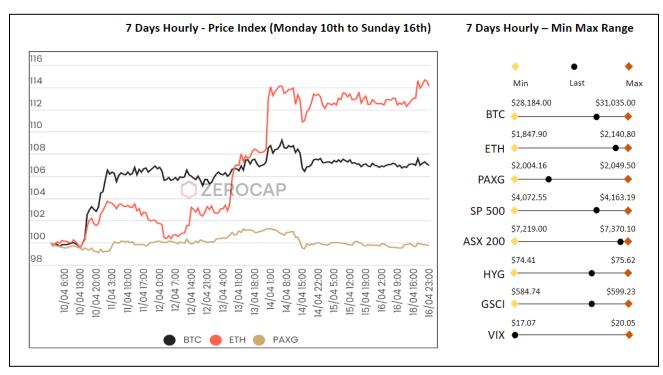
• Ethereum's <u>Shanghai Fork</u> upgrade is successfully executed - <u>Glassnode</u> estimates less than 1% of staked ETH estimated to be sold following the update.

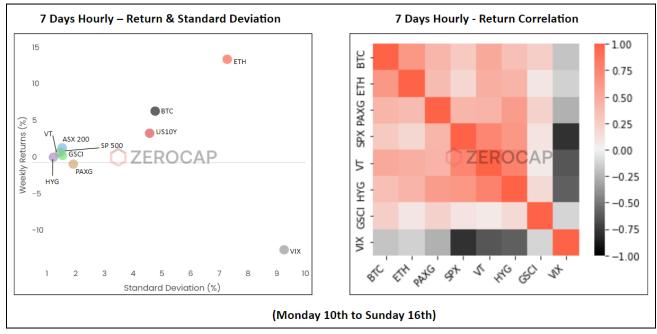
<u>Take advantage of the Shanghai upgrade</u> with Zerocap's new bespoke structured notes **for wholesale investors only** to potentially benefit from market volatility by harvesting ETH yield opportunities.

- New <u>draft stablecoin bill</u> introduced in US Congress, prior to its <u>hearing</u> this Wednesday.
- Al6z releases its yearly "State of Crypto" report read the key takeaways.
- Twitter plans to launch crypto and stock trading in partnership with eToro; CNBC report.
- FTX recovers \$7.3 B in assets, as executives consider reopening the exchange in Q2 2024.
- Fortune launches "Crypto 40" list Ethereum, Bitcoin and Polygon lead as main projects.
- UniSwap launches mobile wallet in the App Store, following Apple's previous rejection.
- CFTC chair states **Binance** intentionally broke rules for futures and commodities.
- Circle and BlockFi are <u>questioned</u> on banking with Silicon Valley Bank.
- New York Times releases hit piece on the costs of crypto mining Bitcoin proponents criticises article for alleged inaccurate reporting and deceiving headline.
- Amazon launches "Bedrock Al" project to compete with Google's Bard and ChatGPT.
- US <u>inflation</u> falls to lowest level since May 2021, prices up 0.1% from February.
- UK's monthly GDP show stagnant economy amid the impact of strikes.



Winners & Losers





Data source: Tradingview



Market Highlights

• BTC's performance was lacklustre as the week unfolded, despite breaking above the important psychological level of 30,000. However, it is worth noting that consolidation within the newly established range of 30,000 to 31,000 is considered a sign of strength. ETH's performance, which was overshadowed by BTC last week, has gained momentum after the successful implementation of the highly anticipated Shapella upgrade. Investors' risk-on sentiment also fueled the ETH/BTC pair to break above the resistance at 0.0670, with the potential to challenge 0.0700.



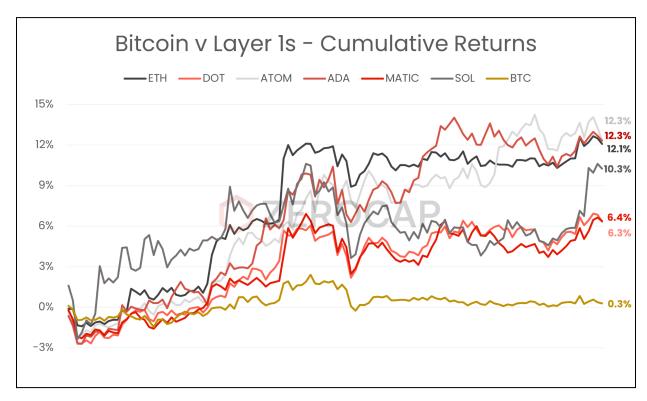
Data source: Tradingview

 Last week, we highlighted BTC's relative outperformance compared to ETH and the broader market. However, since the implementation of Shapella, we have seen a potential shift in BTC's recent relative strength. Layer 1 protocols such as ADA and SOL, as well as Layer 0 protocols like DOT and ATOM, have experienced considerable return.

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Similarly, Layer 2 protocol MATIC has seen gains since Shapella's implementation. In contrast, BTC's price action has remained relatively flat.



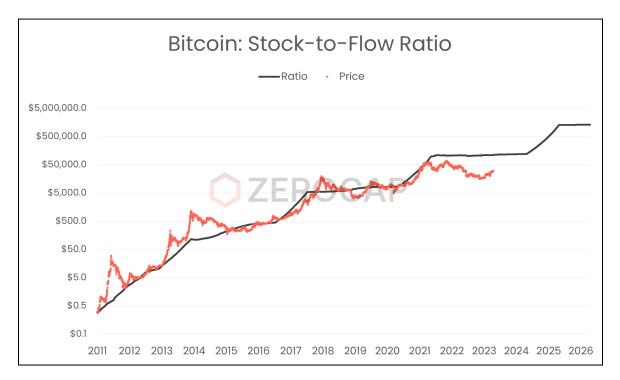
Data source: Tradingview

• The supply dynamics of Bitcoin, with its fixed maximum supply of 21 million coins and the number of new coins generated decreasing through halving events every four years, are often referred to as "stock-to-flow" (SF). This feature is considered a significant driver of the asset's price, with the SF model suggesting that BTC's increasing scarcity should increase its value as demand rises, making it an attractive asset to hold as a store of value. On the other hand, Ethereum's supply is undergoing a shift towards deflationary, with the implementation of EIP-1559 leading to a reduction in the supply of ETH over time through burning a portion of transaction fees. While BTC is typically viewed as a store of value, similar to gold, ETH is treated as oil due to its utility in powering the DeFi and NFT ecosystem on the network. However, with its deflationary tokenomics, ETH's relative increase in value may see an uptick over the medium to long term. The supply



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dynamics of both BTC and ETH are crucial in determining their value and worth considering for cryptocurrency market participants, with BTC's SF model and ETH's shift towards deflationary supply. Any change in relative value between the assets remains to be seen as investors price in the longer-term effects of both assets' unique approach to value accrual.

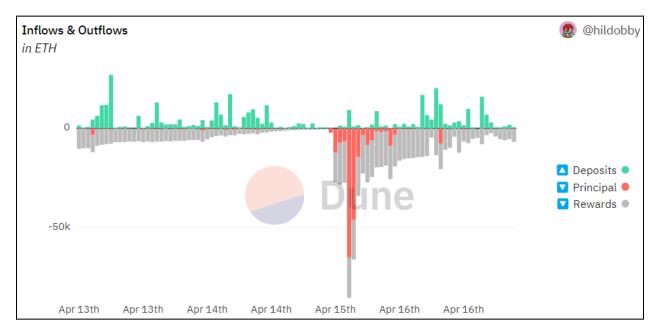


Data source: Glassnode



Ethereum's Shanghai Upgrade

• Following the successful completion of the Shanghai (Shapella) fork, a new era of staking withdrawals has begun. This allows users who have "staked" their ether (ETH) to validate and secure transactions on the blockchain to withdraw their principal and rewards. Initial fears of a downside risk event were curbed when the number of 'full' validator exits (32 ETH) submitted was significantly lower than expected, leading to the validation of a 'sell the rumour, buy the fact' event. As part of the fork, validators were required to update their credentials to facilitate partial or full withdrawals. Only ~40% of validators were 'eligible' to withdraw any of their ETH on April 12th, which led to delays particularly in 'full' exit submissions and significantly reduced any expected initial selling pressure. We have seen an increase in 'full' exits over the weekend, although deposits into the beacon chain continue to mitigate the number of validators exiting the ecosystem leading to strength in Ethereum's price.

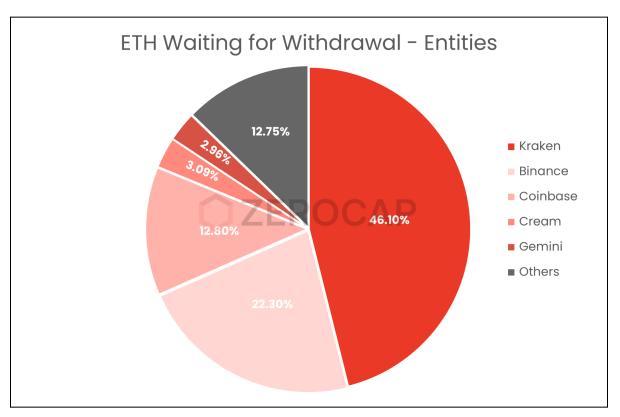


Data source: Dune Analytics



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Another closely monitored metric is the type of validator submitting full exits. What we are observing is that the majority of counterparties exiting the validator set are large centralised exchanges. Kraken, Coinbase, and Binance, all of which have been scrutinised by the SEC for their staking programs, make up around 81% of those currently in the queue waiting to receive their full principal. This dynamic was anticipated, and we expect a rotation of these retail holders to diversify their ETH into liquid staking primitives like Lido, as alternative options to stake their ETH. While it will take weeks for the validator queues to return to normalised levels, the fact that these queues were concentrated among specific entities rather than a well-diversified pool of users has been a fantastic result for Ethereum.



Data source: Nansen

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What to Watch

- Ethereum staking withdrawals following the Shanghai Fork.
- US' Empire State manufacturing index, on Monday.
- US Congress' stablecoin hearing and UK's CPI report, on Wednesday.
- US unemployment claims, on Tuesday.
- France, Germany, UK and US' manufacturing PMI reports, on Friday.

Research Lab

Decentralised Data Storage - Filecoin:

Explore Filecoin (FIL) in this comprehensive analysis of its technology, functionality, and pros & cons by Zerocap Innovation Analyst Finn Judell - from the fundamentals of this decentralized storage solution to how it impacts the digital asset ecosystem.

• <u>Decentralised Data Storage - Arweave:</u>

Providing a detailed analysis of the Arweave (AR) project, this Research Lab piece by Finn Judell offers an in-depth examination of Arweave's technology, functionality, and unique features, contributing to the ongoing conversation on decentralized storage and applications.

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* Index used:

Bitcoin	Ethereum	Gold	Equities	High Yield Corporate Bonds	Commoditi es	Treasury Yields
втс	ETH	PAXG	S&P 500, ASX 200, VT	HYG	SPGSCI	U.S. 10Y