

Weekly Market Analysis #580 — 19 September 2025

Richard "Doc" Ahrens

© All Rights Reserved

This Week

The Fed lowered interest rates a quarter of a point and nobody seemed to pay any attention. Oh well.

— — — — — — — — — — —

On Tuesday Joel Litman said:

The AI euphoria is here...

Microsoft (MSFT), Alphabet's (GOOGL) Google, Meta Platforms (META), and Amazon are expected to spend a combined \$750 billion on AI infrastructure between this year and next.

By 2029, total global AI spending could hit \$3 trillion. That makes it one of the fastest capital build-outs in tech history.

Yet, a recent Massachusetts Institute of Technology survey of over 300 initiatives found that 95% of companies haven't seen a return from their AI investments. Most are still testing pilot programs... or building tools they don't yet know how to use.

Meanwhile, the biggest winners are already separating themselves from the pack. OpenAI's ChatGPT serves more than 700 million users a week. Nvidia's (NVDA) chips are sold out for months.

And companies like Nebius (NBIS) and Oracle (ORCL) announced record orders for AI infrastructure – ramping up their backlogs and sending their stocks soaring 54% and 43% the following day, respectively.

These aren't speculative plays. AI is becoming essential infrastructure... just like broadband and cloud computing before them.

And when the dust settles, these are the types of companies you'll want to be holding.

After the crash comes the consolidation...

History shows us exactly how these stories end. Overinvestment triggers a crash. Weak companies fold. Capital flees the space. But the survivors take everything.

By 2004, Amazon's stock had recovered and gained more than 500%. Cisco became the backbone of global Internet traffic. Google had just gone public and changed the world of information forever.

We're headed for the same crossroads with AI.

The hype cycle will eventually pop. Companies with no business model will disappear. But those with scale, infrastructure, and proven demand will come out on top.

The key for investors is to stay in the market... and own the companies that already have their foot on the gas. Because at the end of the day, those leaders won't just survive... they'll dominate.

That's how wealth gets built during tech revolutions. Not by chasing the hype... but by holding the winners.

— — — — — — — — — — —

Steve Blumenthal reminded us about the coming [reset in the monetary system](#), and he's not the only one warning about this. The first 5 paragraphs explain what is very probably headed our way.

— — — — — — — — — — —

If you notice some minor changes in the sector charts later today, you're not seeing things. Somehow the data for the last week got bolixed. I fixed the critical errors last night but I still have some clean up to do, so if you see some minor things on the charts change later today, it's just me fixing the data and then re-running the charts.

Market Barometers

All 5 indexes are solid green and all 5 made all-time highs this week. The last time IWM made an all-time high was 4 years ago in late 2021.

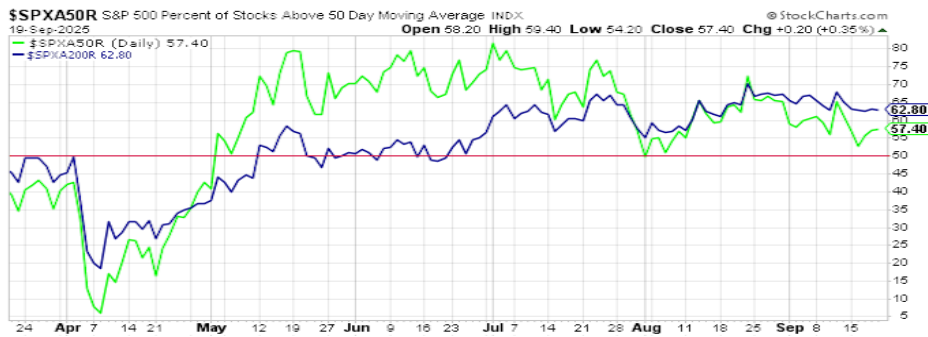


Week-over-week: **DIA: 0.8%, SPX: 1.2%, VTI: 1.3%, COMPQ: 2.2%, IWM: 1.9%**

Month-over-month: **DIA: 3.3%, SPX: 4.6%, VTI: 5.0%, COMPQ: 7.3%, IWM: 7.5%**

A Closer Look

The SPX went up Monday, then down the next two days. The advances on Thursday and Friday were less-than-impressive as all-time highs go. The BPSPX actually declined a little on Friday, as did the NYAD and the SPXA200. The SPXA50 rose Wednesday through Friday.



[S&P Price](#) [Bullish Percent](#) [Advance-Decline Line](#) [Stocks Above Averages](#)

[Bullish Universe](#)

← Use this link to get to the live summary table

[Bearish Universe](#)

← Use this link to get to the live summary table

[Inflation Universe](#)

← Use this link to get to the live summary table

[Auxiliary Universe](#)

← Use this link to get to the live summary table

[Dividend Universe](#)

← Use this link to get to the live summary table

The Relative Strength History table shows all the sectors sorted by slope, with the sector with the highest slope at the top and the sector with the lowest slope at the bottom. The lower table shows the corresponding ETFs and their slopes for the current week.

Relative Strength History 27-Jun-2025 to 19-Sep-2025

27 Jun	03 Jul	11 Jul	18 Jul	25 Jul	01 Aug	08 Aug	15 Aug	22 Aug	29 Aug	05 Sep	12 Sep	19 Sep
DFEND	DFEND	SEMIS	SEMIS	SEMIS	SEMIS	SEMIS	SEMIS	SEMIS	SEMIS	SEMIS	BLDRS	SEMIS
SEMIS	SEMIS	DFEND	DFEND	DFEND	DFEND	DFEND	DFEND	DFEND	DFEND	DFEND	SEMIS	BLDRS
GOLD	TECHS	TECHS	TECHS	TECHS	TECHS	TECHS	TECHS	TECHS	TECHS	BLDRS	DFEND	TECHS
TECHS	GOLD	GOLD	INFRA	INFRA	INFRA	INFRA	INFRA	INFRA	BLDRS	TECHS	TECHS	DFEND
INDUS	INDUS	INDUS	INDUS	INDUS	INDUS	INDUS	INDUS	INDUS	SALES	INFRA	SALES	SALES
COMMS	COMMS	INFRA	COMMS	COMMS	SP500	SP500	SALES	BLDRS	SALES	INFRA	COMMS	COMMS
INFRA	INFRA	COMMS	GOLD	SALES	SALES	SALES	SP500	INDUS	COMMS	COMMS	INFRA	BIOTC
SALES	SALES	SALES	SP500	SP500	COMMS	COMMS	COMMS	SP500	INDUS	BANKS	BIOTC	DISCR
SP500	SP500	SP500	SALES	GOLD	BANKS	UTILS	UTILS	COMMS	SP500	DISCR	BANKS	GOLD
FINAN	FINAN	FINAN	BANKS	BANKS	GOLD	GOLD	BLDRS	UTILS	DISCR	SP500	DISCR	BANKS
UTILS	DISCR	BANKS	TRANS	TRANS	TRANS	BANKS	DISCR	DISCR	BANKS	INDUS	GOLD	INFRA
DISCR	UTILS	TRANS	FINAN	DISCR	DISCR	DISCR	GOLD	BANKS	UTILS	BIOTC	SP500	SP500
MATER	MATER	DISCR	DISCR	FINAN	FINAN	TRANS	BANKS	GOLD	TRANS	GOLD	INDUS	INDUS
INSUR	TRANS	MATER	MATER	MATER	UTILS	FINAN	TRANS	TRANS	BIOTC	UTILS	TRANS	TRANS
STAPL	BANKS	UTILS	UTILS	UTILS	MATER	MATER	FINAN	BIOTC	GOLD	TRANS	UTILS	FINAN
TRANS	INSUR	STAPL	ENRGY	BIOTC	BIOTC	BLDRS	BIOTC	FINAN	FINAN	FINAN	FINAN	MATER
REALE	STAPL	ENRGY	BIOTC	ENRGY	ENRGY	BIOTC	MATER	MATER	MATER	MATER	MATER	UTILS
BANKS	REALE	INSUR	REALE	REALE	REALE	REALE	STAPL	STAPL	STAPL	ENRGY	ENRGY	ENRGY
ENRGY	ENRGY	REALE	STAPL	STAPL	BLDRS	ENRGY	REALE	REALE	ENRGY	STAPL	INSUR	INSUR
BIOTC	BIOTC	BIOTC	INSUR	INSUR	STAPL	STAPL	ENRGY	ENRGY	REALE	REALE	REALE	REALE
HLTHY	HLTHY	HLTHY	BLDRS	BLDRS	INSUR	INSUR	INSUR	INSUR	INSUR	INSUR	STAPL	HLTHY
BLDRS	BLDRS	BLDRS	HLTHY	HLTHY	HLTHY	HLTHY	HLTHY	HLTHY	HLTHY	HLTHY	HLTHY	STAPL

Details

Symbol	Slope	Synonym	Sector Name	Symbol	Slope	Synonym	Sector Name
1. SMH	4.55	SEMIS	SEMICONDUCTORS	12. SPX	2.33	SP500	S&P 500
2. ITB	4.30	BLDRS	HOMEBUILDERS	13. XLI	1.71	INDUS	INDUSTRIALS
3. IGM	3.87	TECHS	TECHNOLOGY	14. IYT	1.39	TRANS	TRANSPORTATION
4. ITA	3.67	DFEND	AEROSPACE & DEFENSE	15. XLF	1.37	FINAN	FINANCIALS
5. XRT	3.62	SALES	RETAIL SALES	16. XLB	1.09	MATER	MATERIALS
6. XLC	3.25	COMMS	COMMUNICATION SRVCS	17. XLU	1.03	UTILS	UTILITIES
7. XBI	2.91	BIOTC	BIOTECH	18. XLE	0.83	ENRGY	ENERGY
8. XLY	2.78	DISCR	CONSUMER DISCR	19. KIE	0.15	INSUR	INSURANCE
9. GLD	2.74	GOLD	GOLD	20. XLRE	0.13	REALE	REAL ESTATE
10. KBE	2.69	BANKS	BANKS	21. XLV	0.10	HLTHY	HEALTH CARE
11. PAVE	2.60	INFRA	INFRASTRUCTURE	22. XLP	-0.28	STAPL	CONSUMER STAPLES

The top 6 sectors were largely the same although the Semiconductors edged out the Home Builders for first place and Technology and Aerospace/Defense switched places.

Sector Universe

← Use this link to get to the live summary table

The order of the sector ETF's and their synonyms in this SPX Sector Universe Summary table should always match the order of the synonyms in the rightmost column of the Relative Strength History Table above. This table provides a quick look at sector MTA status, Relative-Strength, Chaikin Money Flow, the number of weeks since price made a New High and New Low, and the MACD Histogram score.

SPX Sector Universe Summary for 19-Sep-2025								
Symbol	Synonym	Description	Instr	MTA 3	RelStr	CMF	NH/NL	MCHist
SMH	SEMIS	SEMICONDUCTORS	ETF	UP	4.55:2.43	=UP=	999/0	0.8
ITB	BLDRS	HOME CONSTRUCTION	ETF	UP	4.30:2.43	<<DN>>	0/3	-1.1
IGM	TECHS	EXPANDED TECH SECTOR	ETF	UP	3.87:2.43	UP	999/0	0.7
ITA	DFEND	SPACE & DEFENSE	ETF	UP	3.67:2.43	-UP-	999/0	0.2
XRT	SALES	RETAIL	ETF	UP	3.62:2.43	up	186/0	0.0
XLC	COMMS	COMMUNICATION SRVCS	ETF	UP	3.25:2.43	=up=	999/0	0.6
XBI	BIOTC	BIOTECHNOLOGY	ETF	UP	2.91:2.43	<<up>>	38/1	0.0
XLY	DISCR	CONSUMER DISCR	ETF	UP	2.78:2.43	=up=	999/0	0.2
GLD	GOLD	SPDR GOLD SHARES	ETF	UP	2.74:2.43	<<UP>>	999/0	0.3
KBE	BANKS	S&P BANK SECTOR	ETF	UP	2.69:2.43	<<up>>	40/3	-0.2
PAVE	INFRA	INFRASTRUCTURE	ETF	UP	2.60:2.43	up	0/0	-0.1
SPX	SP500	CAP-WTD S&P 500 INDEX	INDEX	UP	2.33:2.43	up	999/0	0.2
XLI	INDUS	INDUSTRIALS	ETF	UP	1.71:2.43	-UP-	2/0	0.0
IYT	TRANS	TRANSPORT NDX	ETF	UP	1.39:2.43	<<UP>>	2/4	-0.1
XLF	FINAN	FINANCIALS	ETF	UP	1.37:2.43	=up=	999/0	0.0
XLB	MATER	MATERIALS	ETF	DN	1.09:2.43	up	0/0	-0.2
XLU	UTILS	UTILITIES	ETF	UP	1.03:2.43	UP	0/0	-0.0
XLE	ENRGY	ENERGY	ETF	DN	0.83:2.43	up	2/0	0.1
KIE	INSUR	INSURANCE SECTOR	ETF	UP	0.15:2.43	<<UP>>	0/4	-0.3
XLRE	REALE	REAL ESTATE	ETF	DN	0.13:2.43	≡DN≡	0/1	0.1
XLV	HLTHY	HEALTH CARE	ETF	DN	0.10:2.43	up	0/1	-0.2
XLP	STAPL	CONSUMER STAPLES	ETF	UP	-0.28:2.43	=DN=	0/21	-0.2

8 Sectors made all-time highs this week.

MoM price changes for the top 5 sectors: **SMH: 9.8%, ITB: 1.4%, IGM: 10.3%, ITA: 4.4%, XRT: 4.9%**

MoM price changes for the Big 7 are: **AAPL: 9.2%, AMZN: 4.3%, GOOGL: 27.5%, META: 5.3%, MSFT: 2.7%, NFLX: 1.7%, TSLA: 33.1%**

This Week's Selections

Last week my sector choices were: ITA, ITB, IGM, PAVE, SMH, URA, XLC, XLY, and XRT.

Top Sector ETFs By Slope

Symbol	MTA	ARI	SSlope	8% Stop	Close	Position
SMH	UP	Up	4.49%	\$291.61	\$315.71	Hold 10%
ITB	UP	Up	4.35%	\$107.77	\$108.83	Watch –
IGM	UP	Up	3.84%	\$116.42	\$126.54	Hold 10%
ITA	UP	Up	3.66%	\$187.17	\$203.45	Hold 10%
XRT	UP	Up	3.60%	\$81.41	\$87.29	Hold 10%
XLC	UP	Up	3.24%	\$109.86	\$119.41	Hold 10%
XBI	UP	Up	2.86%	\$88.95	\$95.60	No
XLY	UP	Up	2.78%	\$222.81	\$241.39	Hold 10%
GLD	UP	Up	2.75%	\$312.42	\$339.18	No
KBE	UP	Up	2.67%	\$57.03	\$61.35	No
PAVE	UP	Up	2.60%	\$43.37	\$46.81	Hold 10%
SPX	UP	Up	2.33%	\$6131.21	\$6664.36	INDEX
URA	UP	Up	7.68%	\$45.48	\$49.43	Hold 10%

Legend: Up: ↑, Down: ↓, Flat/Stable: —

Analysis

[SMH](#) closed near \$317 and made an all-time high on Thursday. [ITB](#) fell for a second week and is close to its 8% stop. If it's down an hour after the open on Monday I will sell it. [IGM](#) made another all-time high and closed above \$125. [ITA](#) made an all-time high and ended the week at \$203.

[XRT](#) made a 3.57-year high, flirted with \$90 on Wednesday, but closed the week at \$87.29. [XLC](#) made an all-time high on Friday. [XBI](#) still needs to get above \$100 to become interesting. [XLY](#) got above \$240 on Monday and then went to sleep. [GLD](#) spent most of the last 2 weeks between \$335 and \$339.

[KBE](#) has been consolidating between \$60 and \$62.50 for three, uh, four weeks. [PAVE](#) has run between \$45.50 and \$47 for the last five, uh, six weeks. [SPX](#) made a up-down-down-up-up pattern, gaining ground, but not a lot. [URA](#) mumbled through the week and then jumped almost to \$50 on Friday.

Thoughts and Decisions

5 of the last 6 ITB days closed lower than they opened and Thursday closed exactly where it opened. If it's not up during the first hour Monday's trading session, I'm going to sell it.

My sector choices this week are: ITA, [ITB](#), IGM, PAVE, SMH, URA, XLC, XLY, XRT, BIL (10%).

New Highs and New Lows

Once again there were 60 all-time highs, but 5 all-time lows.

SECURITIES MAKING NEW HIGHS DURING THE WEEK OF 19-Sep-2025					
SYMBOL	COMPANY	INSTR	MTA	SLOPE	WEEKS
ABBV	ABBVIE INC	STOCK	UP	3.52	999
ALAB	ASTERA LABS	STOCK	DN	30.21	999
BMO	BANK OF MONTREAL (DS 1829)	STOCK	UP	5.13	999
CAT	CATERPILLAR	STOCK	UP	4.43	999
CM	CANADIAN IMPERIAL BANK (DS 1868)	STOCK	UP	4.32	999
COMPQ	NASDAQ COMPOSITE	INDEX	UP	3.31	999
DIA	DOW JONES INDUSTRIALS	ETF	UP	1.66	999
EMXC	EMERGING MARKETS x CHINA	ETF	UP	2.50	999
GDV	MARKET VECTORS GOLD MINERS	ETF	UP	8.99	999
GLD	SPDR GOLD SHARES	ETF	UP	2.75	999
GLDM	GOLD MINISHARES	ETF	UP	2.76	999
GOOGL	ALPHABET INC	STOCK	UP	8.80	999
GS	GOLDMAN SACHS GROUP	STOCK	UP	5.25	999
IEFA	EUROPE/AUSTRALIA/FAR-EAST	ETF	UP	2.11	999
IGM	EXPANDED TECH SECTOR	ETF	UP	3.84	999
IGV	SOFTWARE	ETF	UP	1.70	999
INFL	INFLATION BENEFICIARIES	ETF	UP	1.11	999
IONQ	IONQ INC.	STOCK	UP	9.28	999
IQLT	GLOBAL QUALITY	ETF	UP	1.24	999
ITA	SPACE & DEFENSE	ETF	UP	3.66	999
IWM	SMALL-CAP OVERVIEW	ETF	UP	3.12	999
JPM	JPMORGAN CHASE	STOCK	UP	3.22	999
KBWB	BIG BANKS	ETF	UP	3.60	999
PSTG	PURE STORAGE	STOCK	UP	11.84	999
QLTY	GMO U.S. QUALITY	ETF	UP	2.04	999
QQQ	NASDAQ 100	ETF	UP	2.80	999
RY	ROYAL BANK OF CANADA (DS 1870)	STOCK	UP	3.95	999
SMH	SEMICONDUCTORS	ETF	UP	4.49	999
SOXX	PHLX SEMICONDUCTORS	ETF	UP	4.00	999
SPX	CAP-WTD S&P 500 INDEX	INDEX	UP	2.33	999
SECURITIES MAKING NEW LOWS DURING THE WEEK OF 19-Sep-2025					
CRB-PA	EQUAL-WEIGHT COMMODITY EX-AG	ETF	UP	-33.87	999
FLO	FLOWERS FOODS	STOCK	DN	-4.98	999
HRL	HORMEL FOODS (DK)	STOCK	DN	-3.93	999
STZ	CONSTELLATION BRANDS	STOCK	DN	-5.62	999
TGT	TARGET (DK)	STOCK	DN	-3.64	999
DXY	US DOLLAR INDEX	INDEX	DN	-0.79	179
KVUE	KENVUE	STOCK	DN	-3.81	58