



Ouch!

Last week I saw a statistic that the top 10% of stockholders have lost over \$8 trillion in the recent market swoon and are down more than 22%.

Ouch!

Bear markets do happen. They are normal. They are never fun if you're on the wrong side of the market.

The losses are not always made up. Investors are notorious for dumping stocks at precisely the wrong time (near the bottom) and then missing the ride back up.

Most people do not have a defined investment strategy.

All of the strategies in this newsletter are unemotional. The systematic approach acts as a check against your emotions to do the wrong thing at the wrong time.

Most people lack such a system and, as a result, are just a mouse on a treadmill.

It could get a lot worse for these very same people.

They are homeowners too.

The housing market is showing signs of big trouble.

The government threw trillions of dollars into the system. Everything became more expensive.

Now, people are getting priced out of the housing market.

Take a look at the chart below.

Rank	Metro, State	2022 Income Needed	2020 Income Needed
1	Austin, TX	\$160,126	\$76,166
2	Boston, MA	\$170,841	\$99,434
3	Charlotte, NC	\$95,438	\$45,995
4	Columbus, OH	\$81,974	\$46,593
5	Dallas, TX	\$110,406	\$56,837
6	Houston, TX	\$87,909	\$48,994
7	Indianapolis, IN	\$67,815	\$36,272
8	Las Vegas, NV	\$106,652	\$51,553
9	Los Angeles, CA	\$222,184	\$123,329
10	Miami, FL	\$117,627	\$57,446
11	Oklahoma City, OK	\$55,676	\$31,523
12	Philadelphia, PA	\$93,269	\$55,004
13	Pittsburgh, PA	\$57,093	\$34,746
14	Seattle, WA	\$192,812	\$102,129
15	Washington, DC	\$139,453	\$84,828

*Income Calculated based on Mtg Payments & Prop Taxes at 30% DTI (Sources: Zillow / Census)

In many of these markets, the income required to afford a home has gone up 50-100% in *two years*.

Now, folks are canceling housing contracts in droves.

According to Redfin, 64,000 contracts were canceled last month. That figure represented 15.2% of all homes under contract last month.

All the highest back-out rates were in Sun Belt states and exceeded 20%.

Those areas are Jacksonville, FL at 26.1%, Las Vegas, NV at 23%, Atlanta, GA at 22.6%, Orlando, FL at 21.9%, and Ft. Lauderdale, FL at 21.7%

I'm suspicious that it is due to rising housing prices. Instead, the cost of a mortgage has skyrocketed as rates have increased.

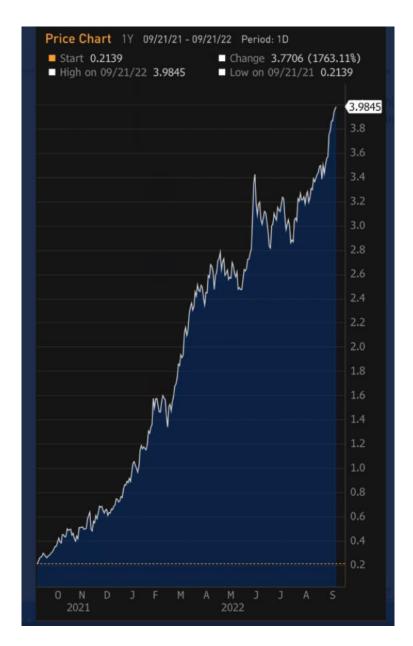
There's no sign that rate increases are about to slow.

Furthermore, the rise in rates has been historic.

Mortgage rates are about the same as they were 20 years ago when I bought my first home. We are not at a historical level that would be out of the norm.

Out of the norm was the 0% rates that drove the markets for a decade.

Here is a chart of 2-year rates.



That is historic.

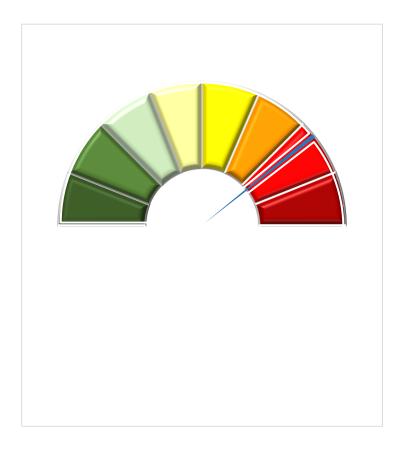
That is painful.

It's as steep as Mount Everest.

The stock market remains deeply oversold. It's gone from oversold to very oversold to very, very oversold. Too many people are leaning in the same direction as well – bearish. While the market could crash – anything can happen – the odds favor a rally to clear out some of the excess bearishness.

However, the liquidity situation is unfavorable. We are still in a bear market, and any rally should be treated with suspicion until that changes.

The Risk-O-Meter remains firmly in the "red zone."

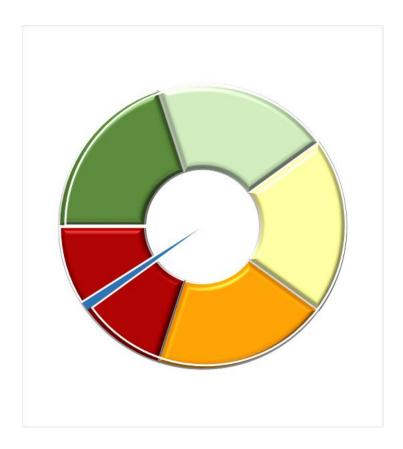


Investable Risk-O-Meter

No changes this month. Everything is in the "red zone."

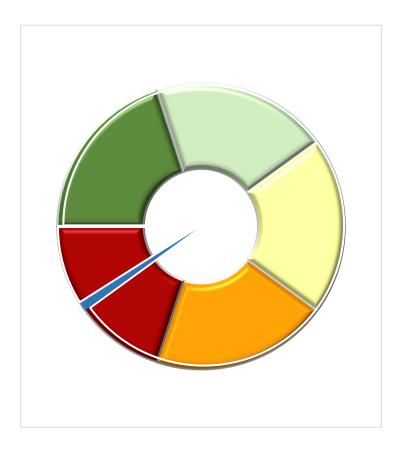
Component	Position	Position Size	Risk ON or OFF	
Market Trend	Cash	25.0%	OFF	
Sentiment	Cash	25.0%	OFF	
Volatilty Levered Volatility	IEF UST	22.5% 2.5%	OFF OFF	
Credit Risk Levered Credit Risk	TLT UBT	22.5% 2.5%	OFF OFF	

Year-to-date the strategy is down 10.25% with the worst month of the year being September. The global 60/40 benchmark is down 21.8% and the S&P 500 is down 23.9%



Levered ETF Model

The levered ETF model remains 100% in cash. As I noted last month, at least cash pays some interest while your money sleeps softly and avoids all of this market volatility.



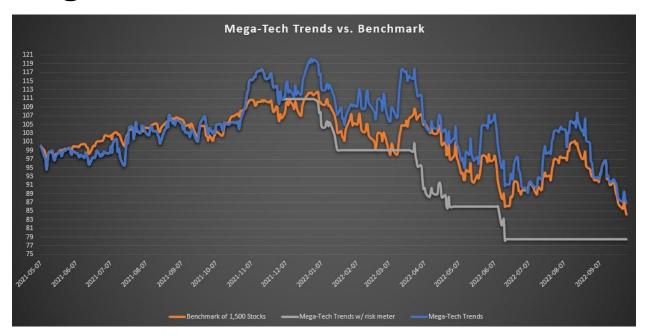
Micro-Cap Millions



No trades this week. Here is the current portfolio:

Ticker	Name	Return	Days Held	Sector
BELFB	Bel Fuse, Inc.	-8.65%	39	Technology
CTG	Computer Task Group, Inc.	-25.47%	116	Technology
EDAP	EDAP TMS SA	-2.25%	24	Healthcare
GNFT	Genfit SA	-4.70%	4	Healthcare
HCKT	The Hackett Group, Inc.	-16.61%	193	Technology
MRAM	Everspin Technologies, Inc.	-13.97%	24	Technology
PCTI	PCTEL, Inc.	-1.67%	46	Technology
PERI	Perion Network Ltd.	9.04%	74	Technology
UTMD	Utah Medical Products, Inc.	-7.17%	18	Healthcare
WSTG	Wayside Technology Group, Inc.	-28.32%	130	Technology

Mega-Tech Trends



There is one trade this week.

Buy TTEC Holdings, Inc. (Nasdaq: TTEK)

Sell NetApp, Inc. (Nasdaq: NTAP)

Here is the current portfolio:

Ticker	Name	Return	Days Held	Sector
AMKR	Amkor Technology, Inc.	-24.72%	53	Technology
CDW	CDW Corp.	-2.40%	4	Technology
CNXN	PC Connection, Inc.	-6.22%	53	Technology
CRUS	Cirrus Logic, Inc.	-8.79%	18	Technology
JBL	Jabil, Inc.	-2.75%	60	Technology
SANM	Sanmina Corp.	-7.66%	53	Technology
SGH	SMART Global Holdings, Inc.	-8.37%	24	Technology
TTEC	TTEC Holdings, Inc.	0.00%	NEW	Technology
TTMI	TTM Technologies, Inc.	-20.51%	46	Technology

Large Cap Leaders



There is one trade this week.

Buy Analog Devices, Inc. (Nasdaq: ADI)

Sell Microchip Technology, Inc. (Nasdaq: MCHP)

Here is the current portfolio:

Ticker	Name	Return	Days Held	Sector
AAPL	Apple, Inc.	-8.13%	4	Technology
ADI	Analog Devices, Inc.	0.00%	NEW	Technology
APH	Amphenol Corp.	-14.98%	235	Technology
AVGO	Broadcom, Inc.	-10.96%	102	Technology
BIO	Bio-Rad Laboratories, Inc.	-1.14%	4	Healthcare
CDW	CDW Corp.	-8.63%	11	Technology
MPWR	Monolithic Power Systems, Inc.	-2.11%	4	Technology
MRK	Merck & Co., Inc.	-1.82%	11	Healthcare
SNPS	Synopsys, Inc.	-15.84%	39	Technology
WST	West Pharmaceutical Services, Inc.	-15.54%	24	Healthcare

The Forensic Accounting Stock Tracker™ (FAST)

Below are the top and bottom 50 stocks in the FAST Model for October 2022. The Model is updated monthly.

How to Use FAST™

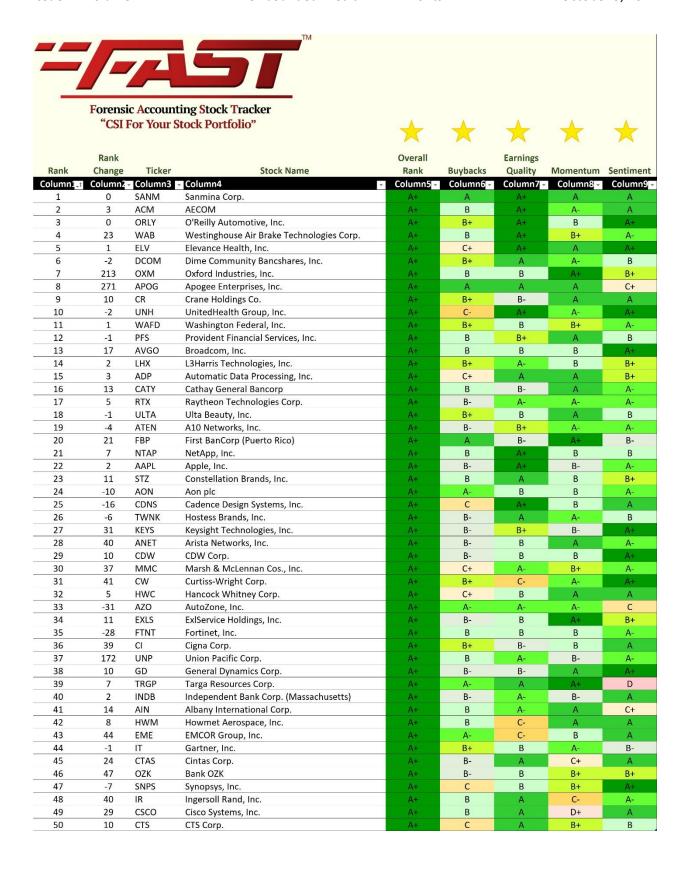
There are several ways to use FAST™ in your investing process.

Among them:

- Individual stock selection -- FAST™ can help you analyze individual stocks and narrow your investment opportunities to the highest earnings quality equities.
- Options Trades FAST™ is built around identifying companies with the highest opportunities or risks to generate earnings results that exceed or fall short of investor expectations. Stocks tend to have more volatility around earnings releases. Using options on high/low ranked FAST stocks may improve returns or hedging opportunities by betting on stocks that may exceed or fall short of analysts' and investors' expectations.
- Building an Entire Portfolio While FAST™ ranks stocks in order of earnings quality, there may ultimately be little difference between the #1 and #22 ranked stock, for example. Buying an entire basket of the top 25 or 50 stocks may provide a diversified portfolio with similar underlying characteristics: strong earnings quality, reasonable valuations, and expectations that could lead to upward revisions in the coming quarters.

The bottom 50 stocks are ranked by their actual rank (1447-1496) instead of 1-50 because the 50th stock was the lowest-ranked stock in the Model, but some subscribers found that confusing with the 1-50 rank.

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