

August 11th - August 17th

PERSPECTIVES by Eric F. Risley

Architect Partners is dedicated to assisting in building enduring, long-term fundamental value. The observations below aim to keep our eye on that core objective and offer a data-led perspective and, hopefully, insight.

Let's discuss how several recent industry narratives intertwine, using data rather than opinion as our guide. To simplify, we focus on Ethereum and ETH, which is timely given ETH's rapid rise from \$1,839 on May 1 to \$4,435 as of this writing. We consider fundamentals as well as the emergence of exchange-traded funds (ETFs) and digital asset strategy companies (DATs).

Data-backed fact: Ethereum's ecosystem is robust and growing. Dapp count, user activity, stablecoin throughput, and real-world asset (RWA) tokenization adoption signal expanding commercial use. These trends make a strong long-term fundamental value case.








Data-backed fact: The timing and scale of the ETH price surge closely match the increase in ETH buying demand driven by ETFs and DATs.

Reasonable conclusion: Commercial momentum is critical and real, but recent price performance is very likely affected, and possibly distorted, by ETF and DAT demand more than by pure usage growth.

Takeaway: Long-term value follows fundamentals. Currently, ETH appreciation is far outpacing usage growth. History shows that capital markets and asset values reflect investor expectations about future fundamentals. At times, disconnects occur and reveal themselves over time. We take no position on fair value, simply observing the underlying data to better understand.

For those interested in the underlying data and sources, please reach out.

RECENT CRYPTO M&A TRANSACTIONS (click here for full AP M&A Tracker)

Target	Acquirer	Transaction Summary	M&A Alert
		Transaction Value: \$168M (64% stake); \$127M for additional 11% stake if milestones are met Rationale: Expanding its AI and HPC infrastructure Sector: Mining & Staking Target Description: HPC data centers for cloud and AI infrastructure	
50MW Bitcoin Mining Facility in Georgia		Transaction Value: \$19.5M Rationale: Strengthen its mining capabilities Sector: Mining & Staking Target Description: 50MW Bitcoin Mining Facility located in Georgia, United States	
	Tyche Holdings Inc.	Transaction Value: Not disclosed Rationale: Pivot to a more compliant and structured framework as a Delaware C-Corp. Sector: Brokers & Exchanges Target Description: Decentralized Exchange for BTC and meta-protocol assets	

OVERALL CRYPTO M&A ACTIVITY LEVELS

