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Used GPUs Flood the Market as Ethereum's Price Crashes Below \$150

posted by [Fnord666](#) on Monday July 17, @01:46PM
from the [let-the-games-begin](#) dept.

[MrPlow](#) writes:

Submitted via IRC for Bytram

Over the past few months, there has been a GPU shortage, forcing the prices of mid-range graphics cards up as cryptocurrency miners from across the world purchased hardware in bulk in search for quick and easy profits.

This has forced the prices of most modern AMD and certain Nvidia GPUs to skyrocket, but now these GPUs are starting to saturate the used market as more and more Ethereum miners sell up and quit mining. Some other miners are starting to look at other emerging Cryptocurrencies, though it is clear that the hype behind Ethereum is dying down.

Earlier this week Ethereum's value dropped below \$200, as soon as the currency experienced a new difficulty spike, making the currency 20% harder to mine and significantly less profitable. This combined with its decrease in value has made mining Ethereum unprofitable for many miners, especially in regions with higher than average electricity costs.

Now Ethereum is valued at less than \$150, with the currency costing \$134.97 at the time of writing, which is less than half of the currency's peak value. The currency has the potential to bounce back, though it is difficult to see the currency go back over £250 [sic*] in the near future.

On second-hand sales websites like eBay and Gumtree, we have seen a lot of new GPU listing appear in recent days, with plenty of used AMD RX series GPUs appearing over the weekend. More hardware is expected to hit these sites over the coming days as some miners wind down their operations, though many will simply move to a more profitable currency or to invest their computing power into an emerging Cryptocurrency that has the prospect of high values in the future.

Source: https://www.overclock3d.net/news/gpu_displays/used_gpus_flood_the_market_as_ethereum_s_price_crashes_below_150/1

Recent related Ethereum/GPU coverage: [Ethereum Mining Craze Leads to GPU Shortages](#); and [Cryptocoin GPU Bubble?](#)

[* I'm not sure where they got a *pound* value from, or why, but a little bit of research shows [ethereum peaked at \\$401](#) on June 13. (Needs javascript from *.coindesk.com and *.hotjar.com). Oops, spent too long editing this, it went out before I'd completed my changes, sorry -- Ed.(FP)]

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[Cryptocoin GPU Bubble?](#) 11 comments

[takyon](#) writes:

<http://www.cnbc.com/2017/06/23/cramer-bitcoin-ethereum-craze-boosts-nvidia-and-amd-but-it-shouldnt-be.html>

There are many reasons for investors to buy chipmakers Nvidia and Advanced Micro Devices, but the recent rush for an indirect way to play skyrocketing cryptocurrencies [bitcoin](#) and [ethereum](#) should not be one of them, CNBC's Jim Cramer said Friday. "One of the reasons why AMD and Nvidia have been going up is their chips are used for mining, for cryptocurrency mining," Cramer told "[Squawk on the Street](#)." But he warned, "Do not play it for this is what I'm saying. But it is being played for that." [...] Cramer cited a [recent note from RBC Capital Markets](#), which said the growing cryptocurrency mining market has contributed \$100 million worth of GPU sales for Nvidia in the past 11 days alone. "AMD chips are the best ones for the ethereum platform," he added.

[Ethereum Mining Craze Leads to GPU Shortages](#) 30 comments

[takyon](#) writes:

German retailer MindFactory has [removed many AMD and Nvidia graphics cards from sale](#) because the products have a delivery time of 3 months. According to them, the GPU shortage affects "the whole of Germany" or even the "whole Europe".

The demand for GPUs to mine cryptocurrencies, particularly [Ethereum](#), has led to OEMs [creating products specifically tailored to cryptocurrency mining](#). For example, new cards that are smaller, have fewer display ports, with cooling systems:

While the GPU shortage continues, there are some signs of improvement. There are now several models of Nvidia's GeForce GTX 1070 in stock from various OEMs, but prices remain high and relatively close to the price of the GTX 1080. There are also a few more GTX 1060 6GB graphics cards available, and the price on the least expensive one has dropped significantly, down from \$484.80 to \$259.99.

At the same time, however, the price on the least expensive GTX 1050 Ti has climbed by about \$10, and several models now cost around \$200. The price on the least expensive Geforce GTX 1060 3GB has also climbed by roughly \$20, as well. This likely indicates that sales of these cards have increased somewhat, pushing prices up accordingly.

Meanwhile, several OEMs, including Asus, [Biostar](#), Sapphire, and [Zotac](#), have announced new mining graphics cards that are tailored for cryptocurrency mining. We have also seen a new [motherboard from Asrock](#) that can support up to 13 GPUs for mining. [Biostar](#) has a similar board for AM4 CPUs that can support six GPUs. Although we haven't seen them yet, EVGA and MSI also have mining GPUs coming soon, and MSI will also have a motherboard designed for mining. Although these may be attractive to cryptocurrency miners, one source told us that they use the same GPU cores as traditional graphics cards, and thus don't address the underlying supply problem.

The shortages go [all the way to the source](#). OEMs are reportedly having trouble getting GPU cores from Nvidia, and Nvidia can't get enough from [TSMC](#). This is presumably the same situation for AMD and [GlobalFoundries](#).

Previously: [BitCoin, Ethereum and Gold Cryptocoin GPU Bubble?](#)

[Original Submission](#)

(1)

- **The perils of used, or perils of tech support? (Score: 2)** by [DannyB](#) on Monday July 17, @02:14PM

by [DannyB \(5839\)](#) on Monday July 17, @02:14PM ([#540311](#))

Customer: Dear tech support, my PC feels like it has a vibration and I can hear sort of a faint buzzing sound. Could it be my CPU fan or a fan on one of my used GPU cards?

Tech Support: Have you tried rebooting?

Customer: Yes, but that did not help.

Tech Support: Have you tried reinstalling the OS?

Customer: Yes, but that did not help.

Tech Support: Then I think the vibration is most likely due to a bad bearing in one of your SSD drives. We happen to be selling a new line of SSDs.

- **What arrant idiocy (Score: 0)** by [Anonymous Coward](#) on Monday July 17, @02:34PM

by [Anonymous Coward](#) on Monday July 17, @02:34PM ([#540318](#))

Perhaps I should start barfcoin - keep your GPU's and get in at the ground floor now!

- **"crash" wasn't really a crash (Score: 2)** by [FatPhil](#) on Monday July 17, @02:40PM

by [FatPhil \(863\)](#) <pc-soylentNO@SPAMasdf.fi> on Monday July 17, @02:40PM ([#540322](#)) [Homepage](#)

If you look at the last 3 months' prices, about half of the graph is the typical "ooh, new and shiny" exponential curve, and the second half of the curve is just a slow and steady (almost linear) decline, with nothing particularly standing out blip-wise. Sure, it dipped a few times, but it mostly recovered each time.

Apparently people are already on the lookout for even newer, even shinier things to buy and sell...

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I was worried about my command. I was the scientist of the Holy Ghost.

- **Backwards supply/demand curve? (Score: 0)** by [Anonymous Coward](#) on Monday July 17, @02:43PM

by [Anonymous Coward](#) on Monday July 17, @02:43PM ([#540326](#))

"Earlier this week Ethereum's value dropped below \$200, as soon as the currency experienced a new difficulty spike, making the currency 20% harder to mine"

Possibly the explanation is wrong, but if not,

Money is strange stuff. The value depends on folks depending on it. In this case, perhaps not so much?

I can see the value one crypto currency, but many seems more like a pyramid game for miners and traders.

- **Want to save your pockets, AMD? (Score: 2)** by [linkdude64](#) on Monday July 17, @03:10PM



by [linkdude64 \(5482\)](#) ★ on Monday July 17, @03:10PM ([#540335](#))

Start "suggesting" articles be run at the relevant tech-news websites about the (actually very legitimate) concerns consumers should have over cards which were likely running close to maximum power draw for consecutive months, and the ratings on related components such as capacitors, etc.

- **New currencies (Score: 0) by Anonymous Coward on Monday July 17, @03:12PM**

by Anonymous Coward on Monday July 17, @03:12PM ([#540336](#))

Crosswordium - Crossword puzzles, must be completed in blue ink.

Stupidium - Sheets of paper with "I am stupid" written in long hand 100 times.

(1)

The Abrams' Principle: The shortest distance between two points is off the wall.