

RobustQuant Weekly Compass

Weekend Edition | September 15, 2025

 **COMPASS FOR EMOTIONAL DISCIPLINE—NOT TRADING ADVICE**

Weekly boundaries to help reduce fear and greed in market decisions

1 | At a Glance

Asset	Weekly Range (Sep 19 close)	Width	Track Record
S&P 500	6,475 – 6,877	±3.0%	37/39 (94.9%)
Gold (GLD)	323.33 – 351.74*	±4.2%	10/10 (100%)
REITs (XLRE)	40.9 – 44.7**	±4.4%	Launch week

*Newsletter-exclusive coverage

**New asset launch



Target: ~95% of weekly closes fall within these ranges

Track record details → robustquant.com/predictions

2 | This Week's Summary

Both established assets closed within systematic boundaries again. Fed meeting arrives Monday with classic "bad news is good news" setup—weak employment supports rate cut hopes.

Key Results:

- S&P 500: 6,584 (mid-range) 
- Gold: 336 (upper range) 
- REITs: New coverage begins

Markets navigate between employment weakness and Fed pivot expectations.

3 | What Moved Markets (Sep 8–14)

Employment Shock: Jobless claims jumped to 263,000 (+27,000 increase)—highest since October 2021. Fed Governor Waller warned job creation is "nearing stall speed."


Mixed Inflation Signals: CPI rose 0.4% monthly (biggest gain since January) while Producer Prices fell 0.1% (first decline since April). This gives Fed flexibility to cut rates despite some price pressures.


Consumer Mood Sours: Michigan sentiment index dropped to 55.4 from 58.2. Notably, 60% of respondents mentioned tariffs unprompted—showing trade policy weighs on household expectations.

Global Trade Impact: China's exports to US collapsed 33% year-over-year—steepest decline of the current trade conflict.

Bottom Line: Classic late-cycle dynamic where bad economic news becomes good news for markets (supports rate cuts), but underlying fundamentals show stress.

4 | S&P 500 Boundaries (Sep 19)

 **Range:** 6,475–6,877

 **Hit Rate:** 37/39 weeks (94.9%)

Last Week's Performance: Closed at 6,584—right in the middle of our 6,334-6,746 range despite employment shock and Fed uncertainty.

Current Range: [6,475 ===== 6,877]

^6,584 last close


What This Means: Normal weekly movement zone based on current volatility patterns. The range shifts slightly higher, reflecting market resilience despite economic headwinds.


For Your Planning:

- Lower zone (6,475-6,600): Where fear often peaks
- Middle zone (6,600-6,750): Normal trading area
- Upper zone (6,750-6,877): Where excitement builds

Remember: These are weekly movement boundaries, not buy/sell signals.

5 | Gold Coverage (Sep 19)

 **Range:** 323.33–351.74

 **Hit Rate:** 10/10 weeks (100%)

Gold closed at 336 within our 319-349 range—demonstrating safe-haven strength as employment data weakened and Fed cut expectations built.

Fed Meeting Impact: Rate cuts typically weaken dollar and support gold. Current positioning reflects this dynamic while maintaining systematic approach to boundary setting.

6 | REITs Launch (Sep 19)

 **Range:** 40.9–44.7

 **Status:** New Coverage

Real estate investment trusts added as third systematic asset. REITs are particularly rate-sensitive, making them useful for Fed cycle analysis.

Why REITs Matter: Fed rate cuts typically support real estate valuations through lower borrowing costs. Adding REITs provides different sector perspective alongside broad market (S&P) and safe-haven (Gold) coverage.

7 | How to Read These Ranges

What They Show: Weekly boundaries where markets typically move—designed to help you stay calm when emotions run high.

What They Don't Show: Buy/sell signals, price targets, or guaranteed outcomes.

The Retail Trap: Most individual investors buy when markets break above ranges (excitement peaks) and sell when they fall below (fear dominates). **This emotional pattern often leads to buying high, selling low.**

Professional Approach:

- Stay systematic within boundaries
- Lower ranges: Fear creates opportunities for planned strategies
- Upper ranges: Excitement may warrant risk review
- Outside ranges: Wait for new patterns before major changes

Key Point: Emotional reactions to range breaks often hurt returns. Use boundaries as context for staying disciplined when markets test your patience.

8 | Track Record

Performance Since Launch:

- S&P 500: 37 hits in 39 weeks (94.9%)
- Gold: 10 hits in 10 weeks (100%)
- REITs: Starting fresh tracking

What This Means: About 95% accuracy hitting weekly movement zones. The 5% misses often signal important market changes requiring range adjustments.

Transparency: All ranges published before each week starts. No retroactive changes. Complete history available on our website.

9 | The Psychology Behind This

Markets move between fear and greed cycles.

Most retail investors:

- Buy during excitement (often near range tops)
- Sell during panic (often near range bottoms)

This compass helps identify when emotions might be driving decisions rather than logical planning.

Professional traders typically:

- Maintain systematic approaches
- View range extremes as potential opportunity zones
- Avoid emotional reactions to daily noise
- Focus on risk management over market timing

Your Approach: Whatever your strategy, these boundaries provide context for keeping emotions in check during volatile periods.

10 | Method and Limitations

How Ranges Work: Combines current volatility patterns, trend direction, and momentum indicators. Targets ~95% weekly containment rate.

What Can Go Wrong:

- Markets change faster than ranges can adapt
- Unusual events create temporary breakouts
- Past accuracy doesn't guarantee future performance

Fed Meeting This Week: Rate decisions provide background context but don't drive range calculations. Systematic approach remains independent of policy speculation.

Questions About Your Situation:

Q: Should I buy at 6,600?

A: This compass shows 6,600 sits in normal weekly range. Your specific actions depend entirely on your financial plan, timeline, and risk tolerance.

Q: What if Fed cuts rates Monday?

A: Rate cuts are background context. Watch for range breaks as signals of unusual market behavior requiring patience before major changes.

Next Week: Ranges for September 26 close

Updates: Quick social media notes if exceptional volatility occurs

This is a hobby project providing market context. Not investment advice. Past performance doesn't guarantee future results. Consult qualified professionals for personal financial decisions.

Systematic over emotional. Structure over speculation.