A Snapshot of Moving Averages

View from the Observation Deck

1. In today’s post, we are showing the percentage of stocks in some major U.S. stock indices that are trading above their respective 50-Day and 200-Day moving averages.
2. Moving averages tend to smooth out day-to-day price fluctuations and can be a useful tool for traders to identify both positive trends and reversals, in our opinion.
3. On 9/11/18, the S&P 500 and S&P MidCap 400 Indices closed 0.90% and 0.75% below their respective all-time highs set on 8/29/18, according to Bloomberg. The S&P SmallCap 600 Index closed 1.46% below its all-time high set on 8/31/18.
4. The percentage of stocks in the S&P 500, S&P MidCap 400 and S&P SmallCap 600 Indices trading above their 50-Day moving averages on 9/12/18 were 62%, 53% and 50%, respectively.
5. The percentage of stocks in the S&P 500, S&P MidCap 400 and S&P SmallCap 600 Indices trading above their 200-Day moving averages on 9/12/18 were 63%, 59% and 63%, respectively.
6. The percentage of stocks trading above their 50-Day moving average by sector ranged from 23% (Energy) to 100% (Telecommunication Services).
7. The percentage of stocks trading above their 200-Day moving average by sector ranged from 38% (Financials & Materials) to 86% (Utilities).