

**S&P Dow Jones
Indices**

A Division of **S&P Global**

Markit iBoxx GBP Liquid Investment Grade Ultrashort Index Guide

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1 Markit iBoxx GBP Liquid Investment Grade Ultrashort Index

The Markit iBoxx GBP Liquid Investment Grade Ultrashort Index is designed to provide a balanced representation of the Sterling (GBP) denominated investment grade ultra short credit market. Currently, the index offers exposure to ultra short corporate, quasi-sovereign bonds and covered bonds, but is designed to add additional fixed income instruments over time as warranted. The index covers fixed rate bonds maturing between zero and one year and floating rate securities with a time to maturity between zero and three years. The index is rebalanced on a monthly basis and is market-value-weighted with a cap on each issuer of 4%. The indices are an integral part of the global iBoxx index families, which provide the marketplace with accurate and objective indices by which to assess the performance of bond markets and investments.

The Markit iBoxx GBP Liquid Investment Grade Ultrashort Index is rebalanced once a month at the month-end (the “rebalancing date”). The index consists of investment grade GBP denominated bonds rated by at least one of the following rating services: Fitch Ratings, Moody’s Investors Service, or S&P Global Ratings.

The bonds in the Markit iBoxx GBP Liquid Investment Grade Ultrashort Index must meet all the criteria described below as of the close of business three business days prior to the rebalancing date provided that the relevant information can be verified as of such date (“bond selection cut-off date”). The new index composition becomes effective on the first business day of the next month.

All iBoxx indices are priced based on multiple data inputs. The Markit iBoxx GBP Liquid Investment Grade Ultrashort Index uses multi-source prices as described in the document *iBoxx Pricing Methodology* publicly available on <https://www.spglobal.com/spdji/en/> under *Methodology*.

This document covers the index selection rules and calculation methodology.

2 Bond selection rules

The following selection criteria are applied to select the constituents for the index:

- Bond type
- Credit rating
- Time to maturity
- Amount outstanding
- Classification
- Lockout period
- Minimum run

2.1 Bond type

Only fixed-rate bonds whose cash flows can be determined in advance and floating rate notes with a coupon reset at least once per year are eligible for the indices. The indices are currently comprised solely of bonds. T-Bills and other money market instruments are not eligible. The Markit iBoxx GBP Liquid Investment Grade Ultrashort Index includes only GBP denominated bonds. The issuer's domicile is not relevant for the bond selection.

In particular, bonds with the following characteristics are included:

- Fixed coupon bonds
- Step-up bonds with coupon schedules known at issuance (or as functions of the issuer's rating)
- Medium term notes ("MTNs")
- Rating-driven bonds
- Callable senior bonds, including those with cleanup calls (i.e. call option within 6 months of maturity)
- Puttable senior bonds
- Non-callable Tier 2 and Tier 2 dated bonds
- Floating rate notes with London Inter-bank Offered Rate (LIBOR) or Sterling Overnight Index Average (SONIA) as a reference interest rate (including overall/base rate floors at 0% and/or regulatory caps set at the rate defined by the usury laws of the relevant jurisdiction) coupon reset at least once per year
- Covered bonds (including extendable maturity covered bonds until the expected maturity)
- Subordinated financial debt with a contingent conversion feature at the point of non-viability, in line with the capital adequacy requirements of Basel III

The following instrument bond types are specifically excluded from the index:

- Preferred shares
- Optionally and mandatory convertible bonds from non-financial issuers
- Subordinated financial debt with mandatory contingent conversion features that are based on an observable trigger or with any conversion options before the first call date
- Bonds with other equity features attached (e.g., options/warrants)
- Perpetual bonds
- Sinking funds
- Amortizing bonds
- Structured bonds
- Subordinated debt except non-callable Tier 2 and Tier 2 dated bonds

- Fix-to-floating rate bonds
- Leveraged floating rate bonds
- Floating rate with base/overall floors that are not set at 0% or with caps that are not regulated by the usury laws of the relevant jurisdiction
- Reverse floating rate bonds
- Pay-in kind bonds (during the pay-in-kind period)
- Zero coupon bonds
- Zero step-ups (GAINS) and step floaters
- Bonds with differences between accrual and coupon payment periods and monthly-paying bonds
- Retail bonds
- Private placements

For retail bonds and private placements, publicly available information is not always conclusive and the classification of a bond as a retail bond or a private placement will be made at S&P DJI's discretion based on the information available at the time of determination. Any bond classified as retail or private placement is added to the list of excluded private placements and retail bonds. The list is published on <https://www.spglobal.com/spdji/en/> under *Indices News* for future reference and to ensure decision's consistency.

In instances where a new bond type is not specifically excluded or included according to the published index rules, S&P DJI will analyze the features of such securities in line with the principles set out in 2.1 of this guide. S&P DJI may consult the specific Index Committees. Any decision as to the eligibility or ineligibility of a new bond type will be published and the index rules will be updated accordingly.

2.2 Credit rating

All bonds in the Markit iBoxx GBP Liquid Investment Grade Ultrashort Index must have an iBoxx Rating of investment grade. Ratings from the following three credit rating agencies are considered for the calculation of the iBoxx Rating:

- Fitch Ratings
- Moody's Investor Service
- S&P Global Ratings

Investment grade is defined as BBB- or higher from Fitch Ratings and S&P Global Ratings and Baa3 or higher from Moody's Investor Service. Bonds with an RD/SD rating are excluded from the Markit iBoxx GBP Liquid Investment Grade Ultrashort Index.

If a bond is rated by more than one of the above agencies, then the iBoxx rating is the average of the provided ratings. The rating is consolidated to the nearest rating grade. Rating notches are not used. For more information on how the average rating is determined, please refer to the *iBoxx Rating Methodology* document available at <https://www.spglobal.com/spdji/en/> under *Methodology*.

In case of an ID change or exchange of a Rule 144A/Regulation S offering into a registered bond the ratings from the Rule 144A/Regulation S offering are also used for the registered bond.

2.3 Time to maturity

Time to maturity

All fixed coupon rate bonds must have at the rebalancing day a time to maturity of less than or equal to one year. Bonds are kept in the index until maturity.

All floating rate notes must have at the rebalancing day a time to maturity of less than or equal to three years. Notes are kept in the index until maturity.

Time to maturity at issuance

All bonds must have at least one year time to maturity at issuance.

2.4 Amount outstanding

The outstanding face value of a bond must be greater than or equal to GBP 250 million as of the bond selection cut-off date. Partial buybacks or increases affect the outstanding face value of a prospective bond. S&P DJI considers changes to the outstanding face value of a candidate bond as a result of partial or full buybacks or increases, provided that S&P DJI is aware of such changes as of the bond selection cut-off date.

2.5 Bond classification

All bonds are classified based on the principal activities of the issuer and the main sources of the cash flows used to pay coupons and redemptions. In addition, a bond's specific collateral type or legal provisions are evaluated. Hence, it is possible that bonds issued from different subsidiaries of the same issuer carry different classifications.

The issuer classification is reviewed regularly based on updated information received by S&P DJI, and status changes are included in the index at the next rebalancing if necessary.

Where the sector classification of a specific entity is not very clear due to the diversified business of the entity, decision will be made at S&P DJI's discretion. S&P DJI will assign the classification according to its evaluation of the business risk presented in the security prospectus and annual reports, if available. S&P DJI will also compare the classification to peers in the potential sectors. Membership lists including classification are published on the FTP server and in the *Indices* section of the webpage for registered users.

2.5.1 Denomination

Bonds must be denominated in GBP.

2.5.2 Issuer

The bond must be either a corporate credit, i.e., debt instruments backed by corporate issuers or debt issued by quasi-sovereigns, sub-sovereigns, government-backed or guaranteed entities. Debt issued by governments or sovereigns is excluded.

For the purposes of selecting candidates for the index, an *"issuer"* is defined by the ticker (i.e., all bonds sharing a ticker are attributed to the same issuer).

2.5.3 Sub-sovereigns

Bonds issued by entities with explicit or implicit government backing due to legal provision, letters of comfort, or the public service nature of the issuer's business. The issuer requires a strong central government ownership/relationship if its bonds are not explicitly guaranteed by the central government.

The five main sub-sovereign sectors are:

- **Agencies:** Bonds issued by entities with a major focus on government-sponsored, public, non-competitive services. The issuers are financial in nature and carry out government policies through special development programs, often explicitly government-backed or with a business scope defined by a specific law.
- **Supranationals:** Bonds issued by supranational entities, i.e. entities that are owned by more than one central government (e.g. World Bank, EIB).
- **Public Banks:** Bonds issued by publicly owned and backed banks that provide regular commercial banking services (e.g. NV Bank Nederlandse Gemeenten).
- **Regions:** Bonds issued by local governments (e.g. Isle of Man).
- **Other Sub-Sovereigns:** All remaining bonds considered sub-sovereign, classified into the following three main categories:
 - > **Non-Financials:** Bonds issued by entities from the non-financial sector with an explicit or strong implicit debt guarantee from the state. The issuer's credit rating is closely correlated to the sovereign rating and expresses a strong credit uplift based on a high level of government support. S&P DJI expects the issuer's credit rating to be no worse than on par or two notches below the sovereign rating. A 'strong implicit guarantee' means the issuer is 100% owned by the state or public sector with its debt consolidated into state public debt, or the issuer has preexisting access to government financing or funding derived from tax revenues. State-owned issuers that are profit-oriented, provide competitive services, and operate under a regulatory framework are considered Corporates.
 - > **Guaranteed Financials:** A specific bond issued by a private sector financial institution that is irrevocably guaranteed by a government. Most of these bonds are issued under programs set-up after the 2008 financial crisis.
 - > Bonds issued by unguaranteed institutions with an irrevocable and explicit guarantee by a central government that covers amount and timeliness of all interest and principal payments until the maturity of the bond.

2.5.4 Covered bonds

Bonds which are secured by a general pool of assets in case the issuer becomes insolvent, in particular bonds conforming to the criteria specified in UCITS 22.4 or similar directives, e.g. CAD III. In addition, bonds with a structure affording an equivalent risk and credit profile that are considered by the market as covered bonds are also included in the Markit iBoxx covered bond indices. The criteria taken into account in evaluating the status of a bond will be the structure, trading patterns, issuance process, liquidity and spread-levels.

2.5.5 Corporates

Each bond in the Markit iBoxx GBP Liquid Investment Grade Ultrashort Index is assigned to one of the following sectors:

Table 1: Overview of Markit iBoxx Corporates Sectors

	Economic Sector	Market Sector	Market Sub-Sector
Financials	Core Financials	Banks	Banks
		Insurance	Life Insurance
			Nonlife Insurance
	Financial Services	Financial Services	Equity Investment Instruments

	Economic Sector	Market Sector	Market Sub-Sector
			General Financial
			Nonequity Investment Instruments
			Insurance-wrapped
	Real Estate	Real Estate	Real Estate Investment & Services
			Real Estate Investment Trusts
	Non-Financials	Basic Materials	Basic Resources
Industrial Metals			
Mining			
Chemicals			Chemicals
Consumer Goods		Automobiles & Parts	Automobiles & Parts
		Food & Beverage	Beverages
			Food Producers
		Personal & Household Goods	Household Goods
			Leisure Goods
			Personal Goods
			Tobacco
Consumer Services		Education	Academic & Educational Services
		Media	Media
		Retail	Food & Drug Retailers
			General Retailers
Travel & Leisure		Travel & Leisure	
Energy		Oil & Gas	Oil Equipment / Services & Distribution
			Oil & Gas Producers
		Renewable Energy	Renewable Energy
Health Care		Health Care	Health Care Equipment & Services
			Pharmaceuticals & Biotechnology
Industrials		Construction & Materials	Construction & Materials
		Industrial Goods & Services	Aerospace & Defense
			Electronic & Electrical Equipment
			General Industrials
			Industrial Engineering
			Industrial Transportation
Support Services			
Technology		Technology	Software & IT Services
			Technology Hardware & Equipment

	Economic Sector	Market Sector	Market Sub-Sector
	Telecommunications	Telecommunications	Integrated Telecommunications
			Wireless Telecommunications
	Utilities	Utilities	Electricity
			Gas / Water & Multiutilities

2.5.6 Additional classification

Corporate debt is further classified into senior and subordinated debt. Bank senior debt structure additionally differentiates between Bail-in and Preferred bonds. The Bail-in classification captures all senior notes which are subject to write-down or conversion into a subordinated instrument on the occurrence of a resolution event, as well as senior bank debt issued by bank holding companies.

Hybrid capital issued by banking and insurance institutions is further detailed into the respective tiers of subordination.

Only non-callable Tier 2 financial debt qualifies for the Markit iBoxx GBP Liquid Investment Grade Ultrashort Index.

The market information on the tier of subordination for insurance capital is often less standardized and clear than the equivalent issues by banks. In these cases, the classification is based on the maturity, coupon payment and deferral provisions of the bond from the offering circulars of the bonds. The table below displays the seniority classification of debt issued by both financial and non-financial sectors.

Table 2: Overview of seniority levels

Market Sector	Seniority Level 1	Seniority Level 2	Seniority Level 3	
Bank	SEN	Preferred	*	
		Bail-in	*	
	SUB	T2 (post-Jan '13 issuances)		T2 callable
				T2 non-callable
		T2 (pre-Jan '13 issuances)		LT2 callable
				LT2 non-callable
				UT2
		T1		T1 step
	T1 non-step			
Insurance	SEN	*	*	
	SUB	T3	*	
		T2 dated		T2 dated callable
				T2 dated non-callable
		T2 perpetual	*	
		T1	*	
Other sectors	SEN	*	*	
	SUB	Other	Hybrid ^{††}	

Market Sector	Seniority Level 1	Seniority Level 2	Seniority Level 3
			Non-hybrid

** Bonds will be required to fulfil the following criteria to be considered hybrids:

- Subordinated
- Deferrable coupons
- First non-call period \geq 5 years
- Either perpetual or 'long-dated', where 'long-dated' is defined as $>$ 25 years of the time to maturity at issuance

Securitized bonds are classified into insurance-wrapped (IW) and non-insurance wrapped (NW). Bonds are considered insurance-wrapped if the timeliness of coupon and/or principal payments is guaranteed by a special mono-line insurer.

2.6 Lockout period and minimum run

Lockout period

A bond that drops out of the Markit iBoxx GBP Liquid Investment Grade Ultrashort Index at the rebalancing day is excluded from re-entering the index for a three-month period.

The rule for the lockout period takes precedence over the other rules for the Markit iBoxx GBP Liquid Investment Grade Ultrashort Index selection. A locked out bond will not be selected, even if it qualifies for the index.

Minimum run

Any bond that enters the Markit iBoxx GBP Liquid Investment Grade Ultrashort Index must remain in the index for a minimum of six months provided it is not downgraded to sub-investment grade, defaulted or fully redeemed in that period.

3 Index Calculation

3.1 Static data

Information used in the index calculation is sourced from offering circulars and checked against standard data providers.

3.2 Bond prices

For more details, please refer to the *iBoxx Pricing Methodology* document, available in the *Methodology* section of the webpage at <https://www.spglobal.com/spdji/en/>.

3.3 Rebalancing process

The Markit iBoxx GBP Liquid Investment Grade Ultrashort Index is rebalanced monthly on the last business day of the month after the close of business. Changes to outstanding amounts are only taken into account if they are publicly known three business days before the end of the month. Changes in ratings are only taken into account if they are publicly known two business days before the end of the month. New bonds issued are taken into account if they are publicly known to settle until the last calendar day of the month, inclusive, and if their rating has become known at least three trading days before the end of the month.

A preliminary membership list is published on the 6th calendar day of the month (moved to the next business day in case of holiday/weekend).

Three business days before the end of each month, a membership list with final amount outstanding for each bond is published.

Two business days before the end of each month, the rating information for the constituents is updated and the list is adjusted for all rating changes which are known to have taken place two trading days before the end of the month. Bonds which are known to have been upgraded to investment grade two trading days before the end of the month are not included in the membership, but bonds which are known to have been downgraded to sub-investment grade two trading days before the end of the month do get excluded from the membership. However, if any bonds which are part of the broader GBP universe become eligible two business days prior to rebalancing because of rating or amount changes, they will be included in the Index.

On the last business day of each month, S&P DJI publishes the final membership with closing prices for the bonds, and various bonds analytics based on the index prices of the bonds.

3.4 Rebalancing procedure

In a first step the selection criteria set out in chapter 2 are applied to the universe of the broader Markit iBoxx GBP Liquid Investment Grade Ultrashort Index.

- Bond ratings and amount outstanding are used as of the bond selection cut-off date
- Maturity dates remain fixed for the life of the bond
- Only bonds with a first settlement date on or before the rebalancing date are included in the selection process

3.5 Index weights

Once the eligible bond universe has been defined, the weight for each bond is determined and an issuer cap of 4% is applied. The weights and capping factors are determined on the last business day of each month using the end-of-month market values.

3.6 Index data

The calculation of the index is based on bid prices. New securities are included in the index at their respective ask prices when they enter the index family. If no price can be established for a particular security, the index continues to be calculated based on the last available price. This might be the case in periods of market stress, or disruption as well as in illiquid or fragmented markets. If the required inputs become impossible to obtain, S&P DJI may consult market participants prior to the next rebalancing date. Decisions are made publicly available on a timely basis and S&P DJI may refer back to previous cases.

The rebalancing takes place after close of market on the last trading day of a rebalancing month.

3.7 Index calculus

The components of the total return are price changes, accrued interest, coupon payments, and reinvestment income on cash flows received during the composition month.

$$TR_t = TR_{t-s} \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (P_{i,t} + A_{i,t} + XD_{i,t-s} \cdot (CP_{i,t} + G_{i,t})) \cdot N_{i,t-s} + CASH_{t-1} \cdot (1 + RFR_{t-xBD} \cdot days_{MM}(t-1, t))}{\sum_{i=1}^n (P_{i,t-s} + A_{i,t-s} + XD_{i,t-s} + CP_{i,t-s}) \cdot N_{i,t-s}}$$

where,

$A_{i,t}$	is the accrued interest of bond i on calculation day t
$A_{i,t-s}$	is the accrued interest of bond i on rebalancing day t-s
$CASH_{t-1}$	is the cash on the previous business day
$CP_{i,t}$	is the value of the next coupon payment of bond i during an ex-dividend period. Outside the ex-dividend period, this value is 0
$G_{i,t}$	is the value of any coupon payment received from bond i at time t. If there is no payment the value is 0
$N_{i,t-s}$	is the amount outstanding of bond i on the previous rebalancing day t-s
$days_{MM}(t-1, t)$	is the number of days between the previous calculation date (t-1) and the current calculation date t using relevant day-count-convention
$P_{i,t}$	is the closing price of bond i on the last business day on or before the previous rebalancing day
$P_{i,t-s}$	is the closing price of bond i on the last business day on or before the previous rebalancing day
RFR_{t-xBD}	is the applicable overnight rate used as reference for investment using a lag of x business days prior to the calculation day i
TR_t	is the total return index level on day t

TR_{t-s}	is the closing total return index level on the previous rebalancing day
$XD_{i,t-s}$	is ex dividend indicator flag. The value is 0, if the bond enters the index at the ex-dividend period. The value is 1, if (a) coupon payments are not ex-dividend, (b) has not entered the index during an ex-dividend period, or (c) entered the index during a previous ex-dividend period

For specific index formulas, please refer to the *iBoxx Bond Index Calculus* document available on <https://www.spglobal.com/spdji/en/> under *Methodology*.

3.8 Treatment of the special intra-month events

Data for the application of corporate actions in the index may not be fully or timely available at all times, e.g. the final call prices for make-whole calls or the actual pay-in-kind percentage for PIK-payment options. In such cases, S&P DJI will estimate the approximate value based on the available data at the time of calculation.

3.8.1 Full redemptions: exercised calls, puts and buybacks

If a bond is fully redeemed intra-month, the bond effectively ceases to exist. In all calculations, the redeemed bond is treated as cash based on the last price, the call price or repurchase price, as applicable. The redemption factor, redemption and the redemption price are used to treat these events in the index and analytics calculation. In addition, the clean price of the bond is set to the redemption price, and the interest accrued until the redemption date is treated as an irregular coupon payment.

3.8.2 Bonds trading flat of accrued

If a bond is identified as trading flat of accrued, the accrued interest of the bond is set to 0 in the total return index calculation and is excluded from the calculation of all bond and index analytical values.

Bonds will be considered trading flat of accrued in any of the following situations:

- a bond has been assigned a default rating and/or
- issuer has announced a failure to pay a coupon and/or
- issuer has announced an intention not to make a payment on an upcoming coupon (grace period).

3.8.3 Multi-coupon bonds

Some bonds have pre-defined coupon changes that lead to a change in the annual coupon over the life of the bond. In all instances, the coupon change must be a fixed amount on top of a fixed coupon, i.e. floating coupon bonds are not eligible for the indices. The two main categories of bonds are step-up bonds and event-driven bonds.

- **Step-up bonds:** These are bonds with a pre-defined coupon schedule that cannot change during the life of the bond. The coupon schedule is used in all bond calculations.
- **Event-driven bonds:** These are bonds whose coupon may change upon occurrence (or non-occurrence) of pre-specified events, such as rating changes, e.g. rating-driven bonds, failure to register (register-driven bonds), or failure to complete a merger (merger-driven bonds). In the calculation of the indices and the analytics, the coupon schedule as of the calculation date is used. That is to say, any events occurring after the calculation date are ignored in the determination of the applicable coupon schedule. *Example of an event-driven bond:* A bond's rating changes on 31

December 2003 from A- to BBB+ and the coupon steps up from 6% to 6.25% from 1 March 2004 onward. The coupon dates are 1 October and 1 April each year. The correct coupon schedule for the bond and index calculations is date dependent. The index calculation on 20 December 2003 uses the 6% coupon for the whole life of the bond, while the calculation on 31 January 2004 uses a 6% coupon for the current coupon period to 29 February 2004, and a 6.25% coupon for all later interest payments. The index calculation on 20 March uses a 6% coupon until 29 February, a 6.25% coupon for the remainder of the current coupon period and a 6.25% coupon for all future coupon payments. The index calculation after 1 April uses a 6.25% coupon.

3.9 Index history

The Index history starts on 31 July 2013. The index has a base value of 100 on that date.

3.10 Settlement conventions

All iBoxx indices are calculated using the assumption of T+0 settlement days.

3.11 Calendar

S&P DJI publishes an index calculation calendar available on <https://www.spglobal.com/spdji/en/> under *iBoxx Indices Calendars*. This calendar provides an overview of the index calculation holidays of the iBoxx bond index families each year.

3.12 Publication of the index

The Markit iBoxx GBP Liquid Investment Grade Ultrashort Index is calculated as end-of-day index and distributed once daily after close of UK markets.

Bond and index analytical values are calculated end of day Monday to Friday using that day's closing prices. In addition, bond and index analytical values are calculated using the previous trading day's closing prices on the last calendar day of each month if that day is not a regular trading day as well as on common bank holidays as published in the iBoxx index calculation calendar. This index calculation calendar is available at <https://www.spglobal.com/spdji/en/> under *iBoxx Calendars*. Index data is also available from the main information vendors.

Closing index values and key statistics are published at the end of each calculation day in the *Indices* section of the website for registered users.

3.13 Data publication and access

The table below summarizes the publication of Markit iBoxx GBP Liquid Investment Grade Ultrashort Index at <https://www.spglobal.com/spdji/en/> for registered users and on the FTP server.

Table 3: Frequency, File type and Access

Frequency	File Type	Access
Daily	Underlying file – Bond level	FTP Server
	Indices file – Index level	FTP Server / website / Bloomberg for index levels only
Daily from the 6th calendar day of the month (or the next index publication day if the 6th calendar day falls on a non-business day)	Forwards	FTP Server
Monthly	End of Month Components	FTP Server / website

The index identifiers for the publication channels are:

Table 4: Index identifiers

Index Name	Markit iBoxx GBP Liquid Investment Grade Ultrashort Index	
Return Type	TRi	CPi
SEDOL	BC5ZF42	BC4FF54
ISIN	GB00BC5ZF427	GB00BC4FF547
Ticker	IBXXUSG1	IBXXUSG2
RIC	.IBXXUSG1	.IBXXUSG2

3.14 Annual index review

In addition to the daily governance of indices and maintenance of index methodologies, at least once within any 12-month period, the Index Committee reviews the methodology to ensure the indices continue to achieve the stated objectives, and that the data and methodology remain effective. In certain instances, S&P Dow Jones Indices may publish a consultation inviting comments from external parties.

4 Governance and regulatory compliance

IHS Markit Benchmark Administration Limited (IMBA UK) is the Index Administrator of iBoxx indices. Information on IMBA UK's governance and compliance approach can be found [here](#). This document covers:

- Governance arrangements
- Input data integrity
- Conflicts of interest management
- Market disruption and Force Majeure
- Methodology changes and cessations
- Complaints
- Errors and restatements
- Reporting of infringements and misconduct
- Methodology reviews
- Business continuity

More details about IMBA UK can be found on the [Administrator's website](#).

5 Changes to the Markit iBoxx GBP Liquid Investment Grade Ultrashort Index

01 May 2024	<p>Annual Index Review 2023</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update to Agencies' Classification Definition <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Updated definition of 'Agencies' > Updated definition for 'Other Sub-Sovereigns'
31 Aug 2023	<p>Annual Index Review 2022</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treatment of distressed debt exchanges • Introduction of new economic sector classification "Energy" with new market sector classification "Renewable Energy"
30 Jun 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly forward start date updated from 10th calendar day to 6th calendar day
31 Mar 2022	<p>Annual Index Review 2021</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction of new market sector classification "Education" with market sub-sector classification "Academic & Educational Services"
01 Sep 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly forward start date updated from 12th calendar day to 10th calendar day
31 Mar 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governance and Regulatory Compliance section added
31 Jul 2020	<p>Annual Index Review 2019</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction of updated corporate classification schema • Implementation of updated Bank Tier Classification • Updates as part of the changes in definition and treatment of hybrid bonds
31 Jan 2020	<p>Annual Index Review 2019</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Definition update of 'Other Sub-Sovereigns' classification
30 Jun 2019	Inclusion of Floating Rate securities linked to SONIA
30 Sep 2018	<p>Annual Index Review 2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treatment of bond rating upgrades on t-2 • Clarification on bond eligibility during tender • Clarification of treatment of called bonds
31 Jul 2017	<p>Annual Index Review 2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classification of Insurance Tier 3 notes
30 Nov 2016	<p>Annual Index Review 2016</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update of seniority levels for Markit iBoxx indices • Clarification of the rule regarding bonds trading flat of accrued • Eligibility of Floating Rate Notes with base floors

30 Nov 2016	Annual Index Review 2015 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Eligibility of subordinated financial debt with a contingent conversion feature at the point of non-viability ● Eligibility of Floating Rate Notes with overall floors
01 Oct 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Index restatement, complaints sections added ● Additional clarifications on bond eligibility, classification and corporate actions
31 Aug 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Launch of Markit iBoxx GBP Liquid Investment Grade Ultrashort Index

6 Further information

Client support

For client support please contact index_services@spglobal.com.

Formal complaints

Formal complaints should be emailed to spdji_compliance@spglobal.com.

Please note: spdji_compliance@spglobal.com should only be used to log formal complaints.

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A ESG Disclosures

EXPLANATION OF HOW ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL & GOVERNANCE (ESG) FACTORS ARE REFLECTED IN THE KEY ELEMENTS OF THE BENCHMARK METHODOLOGY [1]		
1	Name of the benchmark administrator.	IHS Markit Benchmark Administration Limited (IMBA)
2	Underlying asset class of the ESG benchmark. [2]	N/A
3	Name of the S&P Dow Jones Indices benchmark or family of benchmarks.	iBoxx Benchmark Statement
4	Do any of the indices maintained by this methodology take into account ESG factors?	No
Appendix latest update:		May 2023
Appendix first publication:		May 2023

[1] The information contained in this Appendix is intended to meet the requirements of the European Union Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/1817 supplementing Regulation (EU) 2016/1011 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the minimum content of the explanation of how environmental, social and governance factors are reflected in the benchmark methodology and the retained EU law in the UK (The Benchmarks (amendment and Transitional Provision) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019).

[2] The 'underlying assets' are defined in European Union Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/1816 supplementing Regulation (EU) 2016/1011 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the explanation in the benchmark statement of how environmental, social and governance factors are reflected in each benchmark provided and published.

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Please refer to the methodology for the Index for more details about the index, including the manner in which it is rebalanced, the timing of such rebalancing, criteria for additions and deletions, as well as all index calculations.

Information presented prior to an index’s launch date is hypothetical back-tested performance, not actual performance, and is based on the index methodology in effect on the launch date. However, when creating back-tested history for periods of market anomalies or other periods that do not reflect the general current market environment, index methodology rules may be relaxed to capture a large enough universe of securities to simulate the target market the index is designed to measure or strategy the index is designed to capture. For example, market capitalization and liquidity thresholds may be reduced. In addition, forks have not been factored into the back-test data with respect to the S&P Cryptocurrency Indices. For the S&P Cryptocurrency Top 5 & 10 Equal Weight Indices, the custody element of the methodology was not considered; the back-test history is based on the index constituents that meet the custody element as of the Launch Date. Also, the treatment of corporate actions in back-tested performance may differ from treatment for live indices due to limitations in replicating index management decisions. Back-tested performance reflects application of an index methodology and selection of index constituents with the benefit of hindsight and knowledge of factors that may have positively affected its performance, cannot account for all financial risk that may affect results and may be considered to reflect survivor/look ahead bias. Actual returns may differ significantly from, and be lower than, back-tested returns. Past performance is not an indication or guarantee of future results.

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