

**S&P Dow Jones
Indices**

A Division of **S&P Global**

iBoxx EUR EU-HQLA Level 2B Index Methodology

March 2025

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1 Markit iBoxx EUR EU-HQLA Level 2B Index

The Markit iBoxx EUR EU-HQLA Level 2B Index is designed to reflect the performance of EUR-denominated investment grade debt that is classified as Level 2B according to the Capital Requirement Regulation (CRR), (Regulation (EU) No 575/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 June 2013). The index rules aim to offer a broad coverage of the EUR bond universe that falls under the High-Quality Liquid Assets (HQLA) Level 2B. The index is market-value weighted with an issuer cap of 3%.

The Markit iBoxx EUR EU-HQLA Level 2B 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 governance, rules and calculation methodology.

2 Bond selection rules

The bond selection criteria for the Markit iBoxx EUR EU-HQLA Level 2B Index are as follows:

- Bond type
- Credit rating
- Time to maturity
- Amount outstanding
- HQLA classification

2.1 Bond type

The Markit iBoxx EUR EU-HQLA Level 2B Index includes only EUR-denominated fixed-rate bonds.

In particular, bonds with the following characteristics are included:

- Fixed-coupon bonds (“plain vanilla bonds”)
- Zero-coupon bonds
- Callable bonds with American options
- Bonds with predetermined coupon step-ups
- Event-driven bonds, such as rating- or tax-driven bonds
- Bonds with call options where the first and subsequent call dates are on a date when the bond is otherwise no longer eligible for the index
- Senior bank bonds with call options where the first call date is 25 months or less prior to final maturity
- Soft bullet bonds. These are bonds with an initial fixed-coupon period and a variable or step-up coupon period thereafter that are structured so that they are expected to be redeemed at the end of the initial period

The following bond types are specifically excluded from the index:

- Sinking funds and amortizing bonds
- Other callable and undated bonds
- Perpetual bonds
- Subordinated bonds
- Floating rate notes and other fixed-to-floater bonds
- Optionally and mandatory convertible bonds
- Subordinated bank or insurance debt with mandatory contingent conversion features, or with any conversion options before the first call date
- Collateralized Debt Obligations (CDOs) and bonds collateralized by CDOs
- Bonds with differences between accrual and coupon payment periods and monthly-paying bonds
- Retail bonds and 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. S&P DJI may consult with the specific Index Committees to review potential retail bonds or private placements. 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/> 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 methodology. 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

The Markit iBoxx EUR EU-HQLA Level 2B Index uses iBoxx rating for corporate bonds and composite credit quality for covered bonds.

iBoxx rating

All bonds in the Markit iBoxx EUR EU-HQLA Level 2B 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.

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. The methodology can be found on <https://www.spglobal.com/spdji/en/> under *Methodology*.

If a new tranche of a bond is not rated, the rating of its parent applies.

Composite Credit Quality

An additional composite credit quality is applied to determine the HQLA classification of bonds and thus eligibility for the index.

Ratings from the following three credit rating agencies are considered:

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

The composite credit quality is computed as follows:

- If the bond is rated by only a single credit rating agency, this rating is used.
- If the bond is rated by two agencies, the worst rating is used.
- If the bond is rated by all three agencies, the worst of the higher two ratings is used.

Mapping for the composite credit quality is displayed in the table below.

Table: Composite Credit Quality mapping

Rating	Composite Credit Quality
AAA/Aaa	1
AA+/Aa1	1
AA/Aa2	1
AA-/Aa3	1

Rating	Composite Credit Quality
A+/A1	2
A/A2	2
A-/A3	2
BBB+/Baa1	3
BBB/Baa2	3
BBB-/Baa3	3
BB+/Ba1	4
BB/Ba2	4
BB-/Ba3	4

The Markit iBoxx EUR EU-HQLA Level 2B Index index only includes bonds with a composite credit quality score of 2 or 3.

2.3 Time to maturity

All new bonds that enter into the index should have a minimum time to maturity of 1 year. For eligible corporate bonds, original years to final maturity at issuance should be not longer than 10 years. Bonds that satisfy all other selection criteria for the index will be kept until maturity.

2.4 Amount outstanding

All bonds require a specific minimum amount outstanding in order to be eligible for the indices, as shown below. The figures indicate minimum issue sizes.

- Collateralized: EUR 500 million (covered bonds with an issue size between EUR 500 million and EUR 1 billion only qualify for inclusion in the indices if they have at least three lead managers (not including the issuer itself)). Covered tranches with issue size between EUR 500 million and EUR 1 billion qualify for inclusion in the indices irrespective of the number of lead managers, provided the parent bond is eligible for the index.
- Corporates: EUR 500 million

2.5 HQLA classification

The Markit iBoxx EUR EU-HQLA Level 2B Index includes the following Level 2B assets:

- Corporate debt securities which meet all of the following requirements:
 - > Non-Financials. Regulated financial institutions with an iBoxx Non-Financials classification are excluded as Financials.
 - > Not subordinated
 - > Composite credit quality score of 2 or 3
 - > Maximum time to final maturity at issuance is 10 years
- Covered bonds which meet all of the following requirements:
 - > Secured by residential loans
 - > Composite credit quality score of 3
 - > Minimum overcollateralization of 10%
 - > Publication according to Art. 129 (7) CRR is publicly available
 - > Issued by entities from the European Economic Area (EEA)

3 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 clear due to the diversified business of the entity, a decision is made at S&P DJI's discretion. S&P DJI assigns the classification according to its evaluation of the business risk presented in the security prospectus and annual reports, if available. S&P DJI also compares 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.

3.1 Corporates

Bonds issued by public or private corporations. Corporate bonds are further classified into Financials and Non-Financials bonds and then into their multiple-level economic sectors, according to the issuer's business scope. The category insurance-wrapped is added under Financials for corporate bonds whose timely coupon and/or principal payments are guaranteed by a special mono-line insurer such as AMBAC or MBIA. The sector overview is shown in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Overview of 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
			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	Forestry & Paper
			Industrial Metals
			Mining
		Chemicals	Chemicals
	Consumer Goods	Automobiles & Parts	Automobiles & Parts
		Food & Beverage	Beverages
			Food Producers

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

3.2 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 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.

Currently, the list of eligible covered bond types includes, but is not limited to:

- Austrian Pfandbriefe and Fundierte Bankschuldverschreibungen
- Australian, Belgian, Canadian, Danish, Dutch, Estonian, Finnish, Hungarian, Italian, Japanese, New Zealand, Norwegian, Polish, Portuguese, Singaporean, Slovakian, South Korean, Swedish, Swiss, Turkish, UK, and US covered bonds
- French Obligations Foncières, Obligations à l'Habitat, CRH and General Law Based Covered Bonds
- German Pfandbriefe, German contractual covered bonds
- Irish Asset Covered Securities
- Luxembourg Lettres de Gage
- Spanish Cédulas Hipotecarias and Cédulas Territoriales

3.3 Additional classification

For corporate debt securities, only senior bonds are eligible for the index.

4 Index calculation

4.1 Static data

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

4.2 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/>.

4.3 Rebalancing process

The Markit iBoxx EUR EU-HQLA Level 2B 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) on the FTP server and in the indices section on <https://www.spglobal.com/spdji/en/> under *Data/Bond List Preview* for registered users.

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 EUR 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.

4.4 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.

For the var_indexname, end-of-day closing values are calculated and distributed once daily after 5:15 p.m. CET. The indices are also calculated on the last calendar day of each month irrespective of holidays

and weekends. If the indices are calculated on a day that is a non-business day, then the prices from the previous trading day will be carried forward and the index will be calculated using those prices and the current accrued interest and coupon payment data.

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

4.5 Index weights

The Markit iBoxx EUR EU-HQLA Level 2B Index is market-value-weighted with an issuer cap of 3%. The amount outstanding of a bond is only adjusted during the monthly rebalancing process at the end of each month.

4.6 Index Calculus

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

4.7 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.

4.7.1 Funged bonds

Bonds may be issued in several tranches. The different tranches are initially legally separate and therefore trade independently for a certain period. On and after the funge date, the tranches will be combined into one bond, i.e. the parent tranche will contain the original security, as well as the additional notional(s) from the new tranche(s). After the funge date, the prices for both the securities are the same, because they constitute one uniform bond. This is reflected in the indices as follows:

4.7.1.1 Parent and new tranche are both index constituents

- After the funge date, the price from the parent tranche is used for the funged tranche; no price for the funged bond
- Funged tranche leaves the index at the next rebalancing and parent amount outstanding increases accordingly

4.7.1.2 Parent is an index constituent, but the new tranche is not

- No special intra-month treatment necessary
- Parent amount outstanding increases at the next rebalancing

4.7.1.3 Parent is not an index constituent but the new tranche is

- No special intra-month treatment necessary
- Funged tranche leaves the index; parent tranche enters the index at the next rebalancing

4.7.2 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.

4.7.3 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).

4.7.4 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.

4.7.5 Ex-dividend conventions

Some markets have ex-dividend conventions. Ex-dividend means that the next coupon is detached from the bond several days in advance of the coupon payment date. The date on which the next coupon is detached is the ex-dividend date and the period between the ex-dividend date and the coupon payment date is the ex-dividend period. If a bond is in the ex-dividend period, the next coupon payment will not be paid to a buyer of this bond, but will be paid to the original bond holder.

The indices and analytics calculations take ex-dividend conventions into account. During the ex-dividend period, the accrued interest of the bond is negative, while the next coupon payment is held separate in the variable coupon adjustment. If the bond enters the index during the ex-dividend period, then the

next coupon payment and the coupon adjustment will not accrue to the index. However, if the bond was already in the index, the next coupon payment needs to be included in the total return calculations. This is controlled via the ex-dividend indicator which is 0 if the bond enters the index during the current ex-dividend period and 1 if not. The same treatment is also applied to all analytics calculation, i.e. the first cash flow is excluded from the calculations if the bond enters during the current ex-dividend period.

4.8 Index history

The Index history starts on 31 December 2011. The index has a base value of 100 on that date.

4.9 Settlement conventions

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

4.10 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.

4.11 Publication of the Index

The Markit iBoxx EUR EU-HQLA Level 2B Index is calculated as end-of-day index and distributed once daily after market close.

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 Indices 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.

4.12 Data publication and access

The table below summarizes the publication of Markit iBoxx EUR EU-HQLA Level 2B Index at <https://www.spglobal.com/spdji/en/> for registered users and on the FTP server.

In addition to the indices detailed in this methodology, other indices covered by this document may be available. For a list of available indices, please refer [here](#).

Table 2: 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:

Index Name	Markit iBoxx EUR EU-HQLA Level 2B Index	
Return Type	TRi	CPi
SEDOL	BZ1BMK0	BZ1BML1
ISIN	GB00BZ1BMK02	GB00BZ1BML19
Ticker	IBXXHQL1	IBXXHQL2
RIC	.IBXXHQL1	.IBXXHQL2

4.13 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.

5 Index Governance

Index Committee

An S&P Dow Jones Indices Index Committee maintains the indices. All committee members are full-time professionals at S&P Dow Jones Indices. Meetings are held regularly. The Index Committee oversees the management of the indices, including determinations of intra-rebalancing changes, maintenance and inclusion policies, and other matters affecting the maintenance and calculation of the indices.

In fulfilling its responsibilities, the Index Committee has full and complete discretion to (i) amend, apply, or exempt the application of index rules and policies as circumstances may require and (ii) add, remove, or by-pass any bond in determining the composition of an index.

The Index Committee may rely on any information or documentation submitted to it or gathered by it that the Index Committee believes to be accurate. The Index Committee reserves the right to reinterpret publicly available information and to make changes to the indices based on a new interpretation of that information at its sole discretion. All Index Committee discussions are confidential.

The Index Committee is separate from and independent of other analytical groups at S&P Global. In particular, the Index Committee has no access to or influence on decisions by S&P Global Ratings analysts.

S&P Dow Jones Indices' Index Committees reserve the right to make exceptions when applying the methodology if the need arises. In any scenario where the treatment differs from the general rules stated in this document or supplemental documents, clients will receive sufficient notice, whenever possible.

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.

For more information on index governance policies, please refer [here](#).

6 Changes to the Markit iBoxx EUR EU-HQLA Level 2B Index

31 Mar 2025	Annual Index Review 2024 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update to eligibility of bonds with American call options
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	Annual Index Review 2021 <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	Annual Index Review 2019 <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	Annual Index Review 2019 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Definition update of 'Other Sub-Sovereigns' classification Addition of German structural covered bonds as eligible bond type under 'Covered bonds' Inclusion of zero coupon bonds into EUR Liquid indices
30 Sep 2018	Annual Index Review 2018 <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	Annual Index Review 2017 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classification of Insurance Tier 3 notes
30 Nov 2016	Annual Index Review 2016 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clarification of the rule regarding bonds trading flat of accrued
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Launch of the Markit iBoxx EUR EU-HQLA Level 2B index

7 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.

General index inquiries

For general index inquiries, please contact index_services@spglobal.com.

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.

Disclaimer

Performance Disclosure/Back-Tested Data

Where applicable, S&P Dow Jones Indices and its index-related affiliates (“S&P DJI”) defines various dates to assist our clients by providing transparency. The First Value Date is the first day for which there is a calculated value (either live or back-tested) for a given index. The Base Date is the date at which the index is set to a fixed value for calculation purposes. The Launch Date designates the date when the values of an index are first considered live: index values provided for any date or time period prior to the index’s Launch Date are considered back-tested. S&P DJI defines the Launch Date as the date by which the values of an index are known to have been released to the public, for example via the company’s public website or its data feed to external parties. For Dow Jones-branded indices introduced prior to May 31, 2013, the Launch Date (which prior to May 31, 2013, was termed “Date of introduction”) is set at a date upon which no further changes were permitted to be made to the index methodology, but that may have been prior to the Index’s public release date.

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.

Typically, when S&P DJI creates back-tested index data, S&P DJI uses actual historical constituent-level data (e.g., historical price, market capitalization, and corporate action data) in its calculations. As ESG investing is still in early stages of development, certain datapoints used to calculate certain ESG indices may not be available for the entire desired period of back-tested history. The same data availability issue could be true for other indices as well. In cases when actual data is not available for all relevant historical periods, S&P DJI may employ a process of using “Backward Data Assumption” (or pulling back) of ESG data for the calculation of back-tested historical performance. “Backward Data Assumption” is a process that applies the earliest actual live data point available for an index constituent company to all prior historical instances in the index performance. For example, Backward Data Assumption inherently assumes that companies currently not involved in a specific business activity (also known as “product involvement”) were never involved historically and similarly also assumes that companies currently involved in a specific business activity were involved historically too. The Backward Data Assumption allows the hypothetical back-test to be extended over more historical years than would be feasible using only actual data. For more information on “Backward Data Assumption” please refer to the FAQ. The methodology and factsheets of any index that employs backward assumption in the back-tested history will explicitly state so. The methodology will include an Appendix with a table setting forth the specific data points and relevant time period for which backward projected data was used. Index returns shown do not

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