

iBoxx GBP FRN IG Covered Index Methodology

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Introduction

The iBoxx GBP FRN IG Covered Index is designed to reflect the performance of GBP denominated investment grade covered Floating Rate Note (FRN) market. The index is an integral part of the global iBoxx index family, which provides the marketplace with accurate and objective benchmarks by which to assess the performance of bond markets and investments.

The iBoxx GBP FRN IG Covered Index is rebalanced once a month at the month-end (the “rebalancing date”) and consist of investment grade GBP denominated covered FRN bonds rated by at least one of three rating services: Fitch Ratings, Moody’s Investors Service, or S&P Global Ratings.

The bonds in the iBoxx GBP FRN IG Covered Index must meet all the criteria described below as of the close of three business days prior to the rebalancing date provided that the relevant information can be verified, as of such date (“bond selection cutoff 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 index use multi-source prices as defined in the iBoxx Pricing Methodology, available at www.spglobal.com/spdji.

Bond Selection

The following selection criteria are applied to select the constituents for the iBoxx GBP FRN IG Covered Index:

- Bond type
- Credit rating
- Amount outstanding

Bond Type

The iBoxx GBP FRN IG Covered Index includes only GBP denominated floating rate notes (FRNs) securities with coupon reset at least once per year. In particular, bonds with the following characteristics are included:

- Floating rate notes with London Inter-bank Offered Rate (LIBOR) or Sterling Overnight Index Average

(SONIA) (starting from 30 June 2019) 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

The following bond types are excluded:

- preferred shares
- optionally and mandatory convertible bonds
- bonds with other equity features attached (e.g. options/warrants)
- sinking funds
- amortizing bonds
- structured bonds
- fix-to-floating rate bonds
- leveraged floating rate bonds
- floaters with a cap and/or floor
- reverse floating rate bonds
- pay-in-kind bonds (during the pay-in-kind period)
- bonds linked to constant maturity swap floaters
- step floater
- 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 are 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, available at www.spglobal.com/spdji.

In instances where a new bond type is not specifically excluded or included according to the published index rules, S&P DJI analyzes the features of such securities in line with the principles set out in this methodology. S&P DJI may consult the specific Index Committees.

Credit Ratings

All bonds in the indices 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 indices. If more than one of the above agencies rates a bond, then the iBoxx rating is the average of the provided ratings. The index consolidates ratings to the nearest rating grade and does not use rating notches.

Prior to January 01, 2008, the lowest rating was used as the iBoxx Rating. Prior to July 01, 2009, implied issue ratings were derived from issuer ratings in the absence of issue ratings for non-collateralized, unguaranteed bonds.

For more information on average ratings, please refer to the iBoxx Rating Methodology, available at <https://www.spglobal.com/spdji/en/>.

Amount Outstanding

The outstanding face value of a bond must be greater than or equal to GBP 250 million as of the bond selection cutoff 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 cutoff date.

Bond Classification

Only GBP denominated debt classified as covered is eligible for index inclusion.

Index Calculation

Static Data

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

Bond Pricing

For more details, please refer to the iBoxx Pricing Methodology, available at www.spglobal.com/spdji.

Rebalancings

The iBoxx GBP FRN IG Covered Index is rebalanced monthly on the last business day of the month, effective after the close of business on the last trading day of a rebalancing month. 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 publicly known to settle until the last calendar day of the month, inclusive, and if ratings are 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, the bonds are 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.

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.

3.5 Index Calculus

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

Special Intra-Month Event Treatment

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 estimates the approximate value based on the available data at the time of calculation.

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.

Cash

Cash from coupon payments and redemptions is held as cash in the Index and reinvested into the Index at the rebalancing day. During the month the cash component is not earning any interest.

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).

Index History

The Index history starts on 31 December 2015. The index has a base value of 100 on that date.

Settlement Conventions

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

Calendar

S&P DJI publishes an index calculation calendar, *iBoxx Indices Calendars*, which provides an overview of the index calculation holidays of the iBoxx bond index families each year, available at www.spglobal.com/spdji.

Index Publication

The iBoxx GBP FRN IG Covered 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. 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.

Data Publication and Access

The table below summarizes the publication of the indices for registered users and on the FTP server, available at www.spglobal.com/spdji.

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](#).

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
	XREF files	FTP Server

Index identifiers:

Name	iBoxx GBP FRN IG Covered Index	
Return Type	TRI	CPI
ISIN	GB00BL09RP77	GB00BL09RQ84
Sedol	BL09RP7	BL09RQ8
Ticker	IBXXGF1T	IBXXGF1C
RIC	.IBXXGF1T	.IBXXGF1C

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 DJI may publish a consultation inviting comments from external parties.

Index Governance

Index Committee

An 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](#).

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.

Methodology Changes

DATE	CHANGE
30 Jun 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Monthly forward start date updated from 10th calendar day to 6th calendar day
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 Jan 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Introduction of iBoxx GBP FRN IG Covered Index

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.	S&P Dow Jones Indices Limited
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

represent the results of actual trading of investable assets/securities. S&P DJI maintains the index and calculates the index levels and performance shown or discussed but does not manage any assets.

Index returns do not reflect payment of any sales charges or fees an investor may pay to purchase the securities underlying the Index or investment funds that are intended to track the performance of the Index. The imposition of these fees and charges would cause actual and back-tested performance of the securities/fund to be lower than the Index performance shown. As a simple example, if an index returned 10% on a US \$100,000 investment for a 12-month period (or US \$10,000) and an actual asset-based fee of 1.5% was imposed at the end of the period on the investment plus accrued interest (or US \$1,650), the net return would be 8.35% (or US \$8,350) for the year. Over a three-year period, an annual 1.5% fee taken at year end with an assumed 10% return per year would result in a cumulative gross return of 33.10%, a total fee of US \$5,375, and a cumulative net return of 27.2% (or US \$27,200).

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S&P DJI ESG indices use ESG metrics and scores in the selection and/or weighting of index constituents. ESG scores or ratings seek to measure or evaluate a company's, or an asset's, performance with respect to environmental, social and corporate governance issues.

The ESG scores, ratings, and other data used in S&P DJI ESG indices is supplied directly or indirectly by third parties (note these parties can be independent affiliates of S&P Global or unaffiliated entities) so an S&P DJI ESG index's ability to reflect ESG factors depends on these third parties' data accuracy and availability.

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