

Frequently Asked Questions

Custom Indices

- 1. What is a custom index?** A custom index is a tailor-made solution designed to suit clients' unique mandates or investment strategies. Clients have the opportunity to either modify an existing S&P Dow Jones index or create an entirely new index based on their specific requirements.
- 2. Who uses custom indices?** ETF sponsors, derivative desks, self-indexers, structured product teams, exchanges and plan sponsors all use custom indices as the basis for new financial products and benchmarks.
- 3. Why choose S&P Dow Jones Custom Indices?** Clients who choose S&P Dow Jones Custom Indices benefit from:
 - **An experienced S&P Dow Jones index development team and a globally recognized brand.** S&P Dow Jones Custom Indices employs a dedicated team of professionals focused solely on the development and maintenance of custom indices for our clients. Additionally, clients can secure market recognition by leveraging the S&P Dow Jones Indices brand.
 - **Quick-to-market responsiveness.** We have the experience and resources to fast-track custom indices when bringing new ETFs and structured products to market.
 - **Unmatched coverage and float-adjusted equities data history.** No other firm provides a more extensive and rigorously maintained database of float-adjusted equities, with data history since 1989 for more than 17,000 securities listed in more than 80 countries.
 - **Use of the same index calculation platform used by S&P Dow Jones Indices.** Because index calculation is one of S&P Dow Jones Indices' core businesses, we provide clients with global economies of scale and ensure the cost-effective creation and maintenance of our custom indices.
 - **Independence and objectivity.** Clients seek out the services of S&P Dow Jones Custom Indices to address regulatory and reputational requirements that may constrain their in-house index calculation operations.
 - **Breadth and depth of coverage across multiple asset classes.** S&P Dow Jones Indices' expansive coverage of multiple asset classes – from equities to commodities – provides clients with a broad range of security choices within a specified universe of assets.
- 4. Which asset classes are best suited to creating custom indices?** Custom indices are available across a variety of asset classes, including but not limited to equities, commodities and fixed income.

- 5. How is a custom index created?** The following steps are used when creating a new custom index:
- 1. Assess client's index methodology and requirements.** We work with each client to ensure that the methodology chosen for a custom index closely matches the underlying strategy and stated objectives.
 - 2. Index launch.** Once the methodology is approved, the index moves onto the "fast track" and is prepared to launch on the date designated by the client.
 - 3. Index dissemination.** We work with a wide selection of third-party data vendors and financial information publishers to deliver data for a client's custom index to global or regional markets via FTP in a flat file format.
- 6. Is it possible to calculate history for a custom index?** Yes, we can calculate history for a custom index if the necessary data is available for the desired historical timeframe.
- 7. How often are custom indices calculated?** We can distribute an index every 15 seconds—24 hours a day, seven days a week—or using a pre-determined frequency.
- 8. Where are S&P Dow Jones Custom Indices calculated and maintained?** Dedicated S&P Dow Jones Custom Indices teams provide support and service from five regional centers in New York, London, Beijing, Tokyo, and Sydney.
- 9. How much does it cost to create a custom index?** Every custom index is priced according to its unique requirements and methodology. S&P Dow Jones Custom Indices undertakes a thorough feasibility and price assessment review process to ensure that clients receive the most comprehensive calculation services at a competitive price.
- 10. What types of reports will I receive on a daily basis for custom indices?** For equity indices, we provide daily index level reports, constituent and t+5 corporate actions reports. For commodity and fixed income indices, we provide data reports that are specific to these asset classes. We also offer fundamental data reports on custom indices. To view examples of our fundamental data and equity index daily reports, [click here](#).
- 11. In what format is the report delivered?** Data reports are sent via FTP in a flat file to a password-protected account. If desired, we can also send reports directly to data vendors.
- 12. How are corporate actions handled for custom indices?** Clients can leverage our corporate action policies and practices or specify their own customized corporate actions rules. To find out more about our corporate action policies and practices, [click here](#).

13. How can I find out more information? To learn more about working with S&P Dow Jones Custom Indices to create a custom index, please contact customindices@spglobal.com or one of the following contacts:

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