

MSCI ACWI Universal 5% Issuer Capped Index Methodology

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Contents

1. In	troduction	3
2. C	onstructing the Index	4
2.1	Defining the Eligible Universe	4
2.2	Applying the MSCI Universal Indexes Methodology	4
2.3	Applying the Capping	4
2.4	Treatment of Unrated Companies	4
3. M	aintaining the Index	5
3.1	Quarterly Index Reviews	5
3.2	Ongoing Event-Related Changes	5
4. M	SCI ESG Research	7
4.1	MSCI ESG Ratings	7
4.2	MSCI ESG Controversies	7
4.3	MSCI ESG Business Involvement Screening Research	7
Appen	dix I: Hedged Index Variants	8
Appen	dix II: Methodology Set	10
Appen	dix III: Changes to this Document	11



1. Introduction

The MSCI ACWI Universal 5% Issuer Capped Index¹ (the "Index") aims to represent the performance of an investment strategy that by re-weighting free-float market cap weights based upon certain ESG metrics seeks to increase exposure to those companies demonstrating both a robust ESG profile as well as a positive trend in improving that profile, while seeking to minimize exclusions from the MSCI ACWI Index. The Index aims to avoid concentration by capping issuers within the index to a maximum weight of 5%.

¹ The Indexes are governed by a set of methodology and policy documents ("Methodology Set"), including the present index methodology document. Please refer to Appendix II for more details.



2. Constructing the Index

The Indexes use company ratings and research provided by MSCI ESG Research² to determine eligibility for index construction.

2.1 Defining the Eligible Universe

The eligible universe for the MSCI ACWI Universal 5% Issuer Capped Index is the MSCI ACWI Index (the "Parent Index").

2.2 Applying the MSCI Universal Indexes Methodology

The MSCI Universal Indexes methodology³ is applied on the Parent Index.

2.3 Applying the Capping

The maximum weight of any issuer in the Index is capped at 5% in accordance with the MSCI Capped Indexes methodology⁴. The excess weight of the capped issuers is distributed among the remaining constituents in proportion of their existing weights in the index.

2.4 Treatment of Unrated Companies

Companies not assessed by MSCI ESG Research on data for any of the following MSCI ESG Research products are not eligible for inclusion in the Indexes.

- MSCI ESG Ratings
- MSCI ESG Controversies
- MSCI Business Involvement Screening Research (BISR)

² See section 4 for further information regarding ESG and climate data used in the Indexes that MSCI Limited and MSCI Deutschland GmbH source from MSCI ESG Research LLC, a separate subsidiary of MSCI Inc. MSCI ESG Research is solely responsible for the creation, determination and management of such data as a provider to MSCI Limited and MSCI Deutschland GmbH. MSCI Limited and MSCI Deutschland GmbH are the benchmark administrators for the MSCI indexes.

³ Please refer to the MSCI Universal Indexes methodology at www.msci.com/index-methodology

⁴ Please refer to the MSCI Capped Indexes methodology at www.msci.com/index-methodology



3. Maintaining the Index

3.1 Quarterly Index Reviews

The Index is reviewed on a quarterly basis as described in section 2, coinciding with the May and November Semi-Annual Index Reviews and the February and August Quarterly Index Reviews of the Parent Index.

The pro forma Index is typically announced nine business days before the effective date.

3.2 Ongoing Event-Related Changes

The general treatment of corporate events in the MSCI ACWI Universal 5% Issuer Capped Index aims to minimize turnover outside of Index Reviews. The methodology aims to appropriately represent an investor's participation in an event based on relevant deal terms and pre-event weighting of the index constituents that are involved. Further, changes in index market capitalization that occur as a result of corporate event implementation will be offset by a corresponding change in the Variable Weighting Factor (VWF) of the constituent. There will be no additions to the Index in between Index Reviews.

Additionally, if the frequency of Index Reviews in the Parent Index is greater than the frequency of Index Reviews in the MSCI ACWI Universal 5% Issuer Capped Index, the changes made to the Parent Index during intermediate Index Reviews will be neutralized in the MSCI ACWI Universal 5% Issuer Capped Index.

The following section briefly describes the treatment of common corporate events within the MSCI ACWI Universal 5% Issuer Capped Index.

No new securities will be added (except where noted below) to the Index between Index Reviews. Parent Index deletions will be reflected simultaneously.

EVENT TYPE	EVENT DETAILS
New additions to the Parent Index	A new security added to the parent index (such as IPO and other early inclusions) will not be added to the index.
Spin-Offs	All securities created as a result of the spin-off of an existing Index constituent will be added to the Index at the time of event implementation. Reevaluation for continued inclusion in the Index will occur at the subsequent Index Review.
Merger/Acquisition	For Mergers and Acquisitions, the acquirer's post event weight will account for the proportionate amount of shares involved in deal consideration, while cash proceeds will be invested across the Index.



If an existing Index constituent is acquired by a non-Index constituent, the existing constituent will be deleted from the Index and the acquiring nonconstituent will not be added to the Index.

Changes in Security Characteristics

A security will continue to be an Index constituent if there are changes in characteristics (country, sector, size segment, etc.) Reevaluation for continued inclusion in the Index will occur at the subsequent Index Review.

Further detail and illustration regarding specific treatment of corporate events relevant to this Index can be found in the MSCI Corporate Events Methodology book under the sections detailing the treatment of events in Capped Weighted and Non-Market Capitalization Weighted indexes.

The MSCI Corporate Events methodology book is available at: https://www.msci.com/index/methodology/latest/CE



4. MSCI ESG Research

The Index is products of MSCI Inc. that utilizes information such as company ratings and research produced and provided by MSCI ESG Research LLC (MSCI ESG Research), a subsidiary of MSCI Inc. In particular, the Index uses the following MSCI ESG Research products: MSCI ESG Ratings, MSCI ESG Controversies and MSCI ESG Business Involvement Screening Research. MSCI Indexes are administered by MSCI Limited and MSCI Deutschland GmbH.

4.1 MSCI ESG Ratings

MSCI ESG Ratings aim to measure entities' management of environmental, social and governance risks and opportunities. MSCI ESG Ratings use a weighted average key issue calculation that is normalized by industry to arrive at an industry-adjusted ESG score (0-10), which is then translated to a seven-point scale from 'AAA' to 'CCC', indicating how an entity manages relevant key issues relative to industry peers.

The MSCI ESG Ratings methodology can be found at: https://www.msci.com/legal/disclosures/esg-disclosures.

4.2 MSCI ESG Controversies

MSCI ESG Controversies provide assessments of controversies concerning the potential negative environmental, social, and/or governance impact of company operations, products and services. The evaluation framework used in MSCI ESG Controversies is designed to be consistent with international norms represented by the UN Declaration of Human Rights, the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work, and the UN Global Compact. MSCI ESG Controversies Score falls on a 0-10 scale, with "0" being the most severe controversy.

The MSCI ESG Controversies methodology can be found at:

https://www.msci.com/legal/disclosures/esg-disclosures.

4.3 MSCI ESG Business Involvement Screening Research

MSCI ESG Business Involvement Screening Research (BISR) aims to enable institutional investors to manage environmental, social and governance (ESG) standards and restrictions reliably and efficiently.

For more details on MSCI ESG Business Involvement Screening Research, please refer to https://www.msci.com/legal/disclosures/esg-disclosures.



Appendix I: Hedged Index Variants

The following hedged versions of the MSCI ACWI Universal 5% Issuer Capped Index, are also calculated:

MSCI ACWI Universal 5% Issuer Capped with Developed Markets 100% Hedged to USD Index

Based on the MSCI ACWI Universal 5% Issuer Capped Index, all foreign currencies used to denote securities classified in Developed Market countries as per MSCI's Country of Classification⁵ are 100% hedged to USD. The weight of each foreign currency corresponds to the weight of the securities quoted in that currency and classified in Developed Market countries in the underlying Index. The net variant for the MSCI ACWI Universal 5% Issuer Capped Index, calculated as per the MSCI Net Daily Total Return (DTR) Index methodology described in the MSCI Index Calculation Methodology⁶ is used. Currencies and their weights corresponding to securities classified in Emerging Market countries, per MSCI's Country of Classification are not hedged.

MSCI ACWI Universal 5% Issuer Capped with Developed Markets 100% Hedged to CHF Index

Based on the MSCI ACWI Universal 5% Issuer Capped Index, all foreign currencies used to denote securities classified in Developed Market countries as per MSCI's Country of Classification are 100% hedged to CHF. The weight of each foreign currency corresponds to the weight of the securities quoted in that currency and classified in Developed Market countries in the underlying Index. The net variant for the MSCI ACWI Universal 5% Issuer Capped Index, calculated as per the MSCI Net Daily Total Return (DTR) Index methodology described in the MSCI Index Calculation Methodology is used. Currencies and their weights corresponding to securities classified in Emerging Market countries, per MSCI's Country of Classification are not hedged.

MSCI ACWI Universal 5% Issuer Capped with Developed Markets 100% Hedged to EUR Index

Based on the MSCI ACWI Universal 5% Issuer Capped Index, all foreign currencies used to denote securities classified in Developed Market countries as per MSCI's Country of Classification are 100% hedged to EUR. The weight of each foreign currency corresponds to the weight of the securities quoted in that currency and classified in Developed Market countries in the underlying Index. The net variant for the MSCI ACWI Universal 5% Issuer Capped Index, calculated as per the MSCI Net Daily Total Return (DTR) Index methodology described in the MSCI Index Calculation Methodology is used. Currencies and their weights corresponding to securities classified in Emerging Market countries, per MSCI's Country of Classification are not hedged.

MSCI ACWI Universal 5% Issuer Capped with Developed Markets 100% Hedged to JPY Index

Based on the MSCI ACWI Universal 5% Issuer Capped Index, all foreign currencies used to denote securities classified in Developed Market countries as per MSCI's Country of Classification are 100%

⁵ Please refer to the MSCI Global Investable Market Indexes methodology for further information on MSCI's country of classification at www.msci.com/index-methodology

⁶ Please refer to the MSCI Index Calculation Methodology at https://www.msci.com/index-methodology



hedged to JPY. The weight of each foreign currency corresponds to the weight of the securities quoted in that currency and classified in Developed Market countries in the underlying Index. The net variant for the MSCI ACWI Universal 5% Issuer Capped Index, calculated as per the MSCI Net Daily Total Return (DTR) Index methodology described in the MSCI Index Calculation Methodology is used. Currencies and their weights corresponding to securities classified in Emerging Market countries, per MSCI's Country of Classification are not hedged.

MSCI ACWI Universal 5% Issuer Capped with Developed Markets 100% Hedged to GBP Index

Based on the MSCI ACWI Universal 5% Issuer Capped Index, all foreign currencies used to denote securities classified in Developed Market countries as per MSCI's Country of Classification are 100% hedged to GBP. The weight of each foreign currency corresponds to the weight of the securities quoted in that currency and classified in Developed Market countries in the underlying Index. The net variant for the MSCI ACWI Universal 5% Issuer Capped Index, calculated as per the MSCI Net Daily Total Return (DTR) Index methodology described in the MSCI Index Calculation Methodology is used. Currencies and their weights corresponding to securities classified in Emerging Market countries, per MSCI's Country of Classification are not hedged



Appendix II: Methodology Set

The Index is governed by a set of methodology and policy documents ("Methodology Set"), including the present index methodology document as mentioned below:

- Description of methodology set https://www.msci.com/index/methodology/latest/ReadMe
- MSCI Corporate Events Methodology https://www.msci.com/index/methodology/latest/CE
- MSCI Fundamental Data Methodology https://www.msci.com/index/methodology/latest/FundData
- MSCI Index Calculation Methodology https://www.msci.com/index/methodology/latest/IndexCalc
- MSCI Index Glossary of Terms https://www.msci.com/index/methodology/latest/IndexGlossary
- MSCI Index Policies https://www.msci.com/index/methodology/latest/IndexPolicy
- MSCI Global Industry Classification Standard (GICS) Methodology https://www.msci.com/index/methodology/latest/GICS
- MSCI Global Investable Market Indexes Methodology https://www.msci.com/index/methodology/latest/GIMI
- MSCI Global ex Controversial Weapons Indexes Methodology https://www.msci.com/index/methodology/latest/XCW
- MSCI Universal Indexes Methodology https://www.msci.com/index/methodology/latest/Universal
- ESG Factors In Methodology*

The Methodology Set for the Index can also be accessed from MSCl's webpage https://www.msci.com/index-methodology in the section 'Search Methodology by Index Name or Index Code'.

* 'ESG Factors in Methodology' contains the list of environmental, social, and governance factors considered, and how they are applied in the methodology (e.g., selection, weighting or exclusion). It can be accessed in the Methodology Set as described above



Appendix III: Changes to this Document

The following sections have been modified since November 2017:

 Update to include the index construction parameters for MSCI ACWI ESG Universal 5% Issuer Capped with Developed Markets 100% Hedged to JPY Index.

The following sections have been modified since December 2017:

• Update to include the index construction parameters for MSCI ACWI ESG Universal 5% Issuer Capped with Developed Markets 100% Hedged to GBP Index.

The following section has been modified as of February 2025

 The methodology Name and index name was updated. Effective February 3, 2025, the MSCI ACWI ESG Universal 5% Issuer Capped Index was renamed to MSCI ACWI Universal 5% Issuer Capped Index.

Section 2.4 Treatment of Unrated Companies

 Added new section for the treatment of companies when ratings and research is not available from MSCI ESG Research

Section 4: MSCI ESG Research

 Added new Section to provide additional details on ESG Research Products used in the Index Construction

Appendix II: Methodology Set

Added new appendix to detail the Methodology Set for the Index



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