

The background of the entire page is a close-up photograph of curved wooden slats, likely from a modern architectural structure. Each slat is secured with small metal rivets. The slats are arranged in a rhythmic, overlapping pattern, creating a sense of depth and texture. The lighting is warm, highlighting the natural grain of the wood.

**MSCI** 

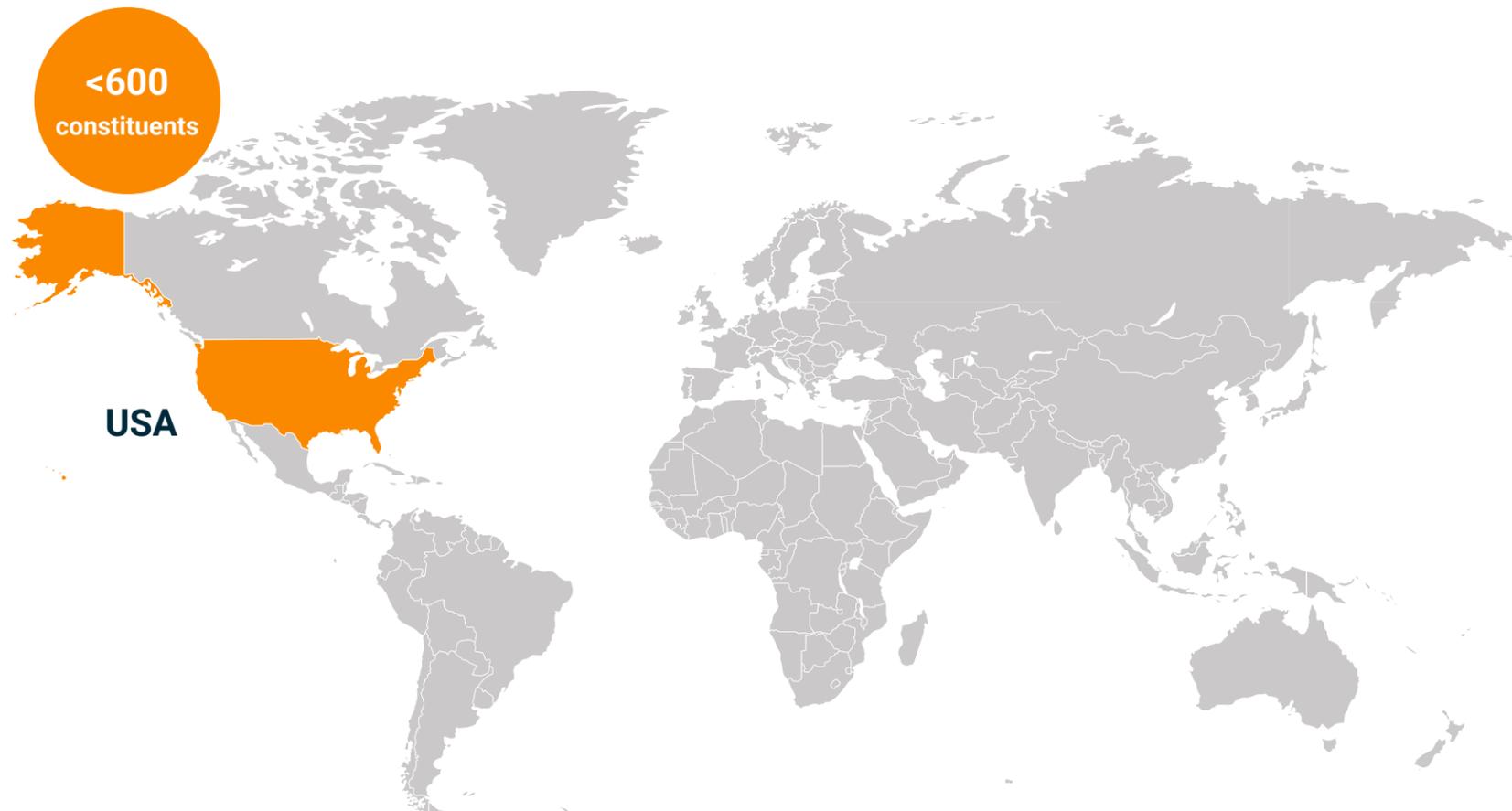
**USA**

**THE MODERN INDEX STRATEGY**



# Modern index strategy

MSCI indexing offers a modern, seamless and fully integrated approach to measuring the full equity opportunity set, with no gaps or overlaps.



## Modern

Evolves to measure and capture equity markets as they exist today

Our indexes are built using an innovative maintenance methodology that provides superior balance between the need for a stable index that is flexible enough to adjust quickly to a constantly changing opportunity set. We provide timely and consistent treatment of corporate events and synchronized rebalancings, globally.

## Seamless

Covers the full opportunity set and all its segments, including GICS® sectors

All of MSCI's indexes are created using the Global Industry Classification Standard (GICS®), an industry classification system developed by MSCI and S&P Global, which provides a common framework to classify stocks. They offer exhaustive coverage of the investable opportunity set with non-overlapping size and style segmentation.

## Integrated

Consistent methodology for every market

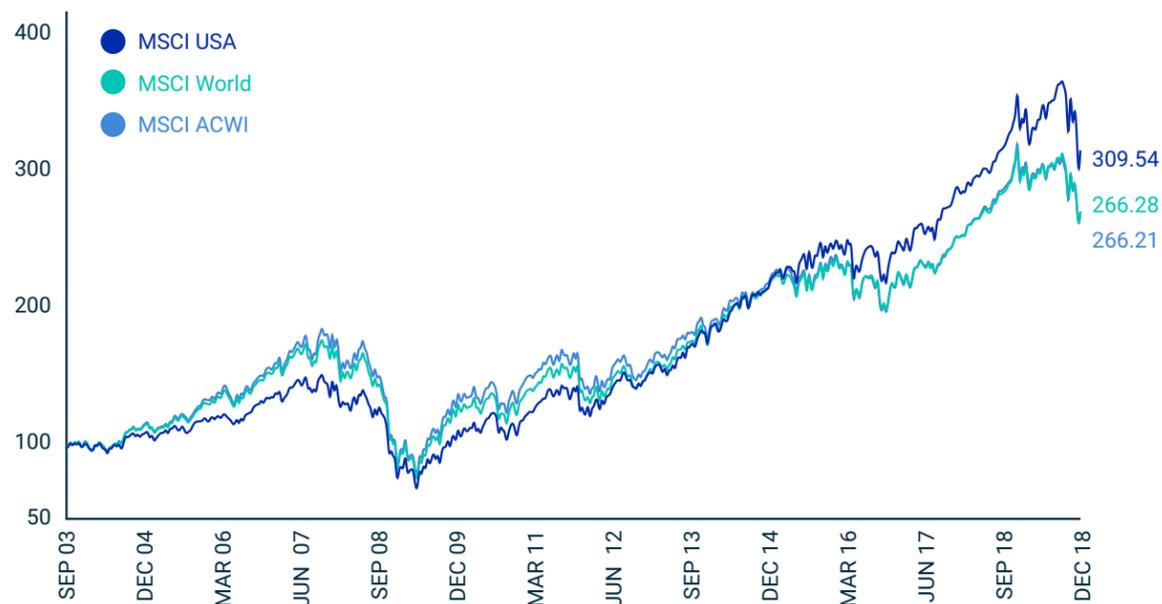
Where other providers use either a long- or short-term liquidity measure to assess the eligibility of stocks for their indexes, MSCI uses both, recognizing the differences in liquidity between developed and emerging markets and enhancing the investability and replicability of our indexes. MSCI puts strong emphasis on investability and replicability of its indexes through the use of size and liquidity screens.

# MSCI delivers the modern index strategy

The MSCI USA Index is designed to measure the performance of the large- and mid-cap segments of the U.S. market. As of December 2018, it covered more than 600 constituents and approximately 85% of the free float-adjusted market capitalization in the U.S. It represents over 52% of the MSCI ACWI Index,<sup>1</sup> MSCI's flagship gauge of global equity markets.

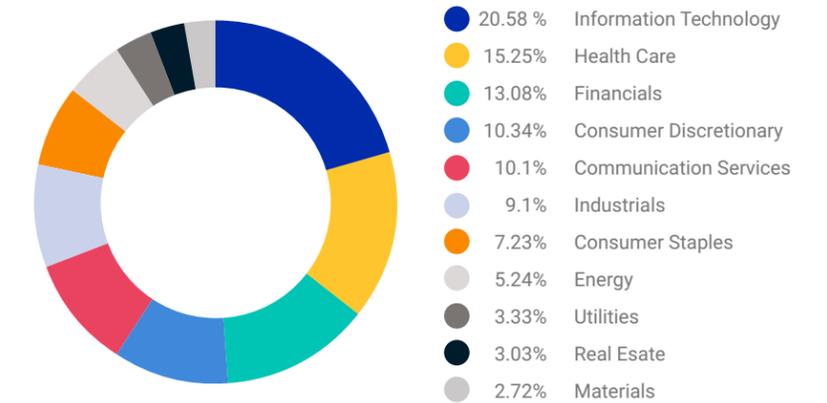
The index is built using MSCI's Global Investable Market Index (GIMI) methodology, which is designed to take into account variations reflecting conditions across regions, market-cap segments, sectors and styles.

## MSCI USA Index performance chart<sup>2</sup> - gross returns (USD)



<sup>1</sup> MSCI ACWI data as of December 31, 2018  
<sup>2</sup> MSCI Index data as of December 31, 2018

## MSCI USA Index sector allocation<sup>3</sup>



## the index matters

The MSCI Global Equity Indexes are used by professional investors worldwide for investment analysis, performance measurement, asset allocation, hedging and the creation of a wide range of index derivatives, funds, ETFs and structured products. From market cap-weighted regional, country and sector indexes to indexes based on strategies such as factor

and environmental, social, governance (ESG) investing, the Modern Index Strategy enables clients to construct and monitor portfolios in a cohesive and consistent manner, avoiding benchmark misfits and uncompensated risks. The MSCI USA line of indexes offers standard, large-cap, mid-cap, small-cap and investable-market (IMI) indexes.<sup>4</sup>

## Complete coverage of the investment opportunity



<sup>3</sup> Data as of December 31, 2018  
<sup>4</sup> They are: the MSCI USA Index, MSCI USA Investable Market Index (IMI), MSCI USA Large Cap Index, MSCI USA Mid Cap Index and MSCI USA Small Cap Index

# MSCI's index advantages and benefits

## Global coverage

With more than 200,000 indexes to choose from, MSCI offers extensive representation of the global equity opportunity set.

## Consistent framework

All of MSCI's Global Investable Market Indexes offer a building-block approach with a rules-based, consistent methodology designed to allow institutional investors to identify unintended bets, risks, gaps or overlaps.

## Research

For more than 45 years, MSCI's research-based indexes and analytics have helped the world's leading institutional investors build and manage better portfolios.

## Replicability

Minimum free-float requirements for eligibility and free float-adjusted capitalization weighting to reflect the size of each investment opportunity and facilitate replicability of the indexes.

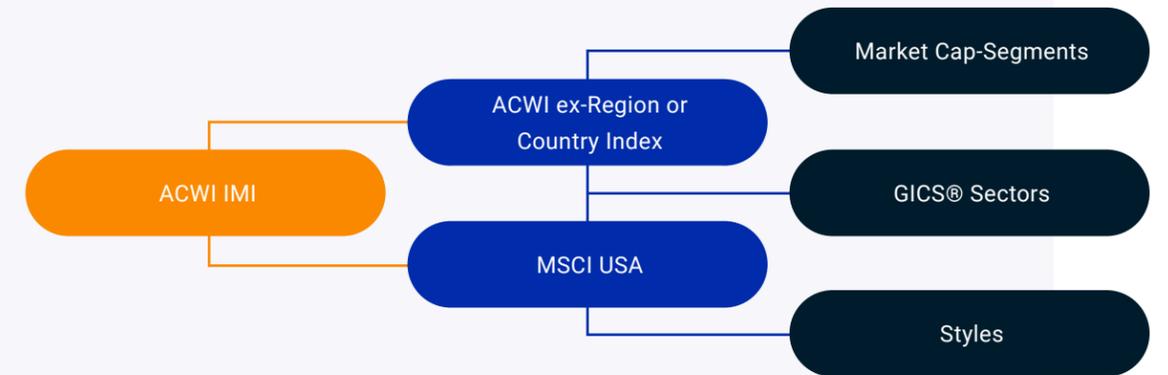
## Product development

MSCI has created innovative indexes that can be utilized by the passive investment industry.

## Performance measurement and attribution

Industry-leading indexes for global mandates - with regional, country, sector and other subsets - are available for more-targeted investment mandates.

## Our building block approach





## About MSCI Inc.

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MSCI is a leading provider of critical decision support tools and services for the global investment community. With over 45 years of expertise in research, data and technology, we power better investment decisions by enabling clients to understand and analyze key drivers of risk and return and confidently build more effective portfolios. We create industry-leading research-enhanced solutions that clients use to gain insight into and improve transparency across the investment process.

To learn more, please visit [www.msci.com](http://www.msci.com).

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