

# **S&P Sector-Neutral FCF Indices** *Methodology*

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# Introduction

## Index Objective

The S&P 500 Sector Neutral FCF Indices measure the performance of companies within the S&P 500 (the underlying index) that exhibit high free cash flow (FCF) yield relative to other companies within the same GICS Sector. Index sector weights adjust to mirror the GICS Sector weights of the underlying index. Index constituents are weighted by FCF yield within each GICS Sector. In addition, the weight for each index constituent is constrained between 0.25% and 5.00%.

*For information on the S&P 500, please refer to the S&P U.S. Indices Methodology available at [www.spglobal.com/spdji/](http://www.spglobal.com/spdji/).*

## Supporting Documents

This methodology is meant to be read in conjunction with supporting documents providing greater detail with respect to the policies, procedures and calculations described herein. References throughout the methodology direct the reader to the relevant supporting document for further information on a specific topic. The list of the main supplemental documents for this methodology and the hyperlinks to those documents is as follows:

Supporting Document	URL
S&P Dow Jones Indices' Equity Indices Policies & Practices Methodology	<a href="#">Equity Indices Policies &amp; Practices</a>
S&P Dow Jones Indices' Index Mathematics Methodology	<a href="#">Index Mathematics Methodology</a>
S&P Dow Jones Indices' Float Adjustment Methodology	<a href="#">Float Adjustment Methodology</a>
S&P Dow Jones Indices' Global Industry Classification Standard (GICS) Methodology	<a href="#">GICS Methodology</a>

The methodology is created by S&P Dow Jones Indices to achieve the aforementioned objective of measuring the underlying interest of each index governed by this methodology document. Any changes to or deviations from this methodology are made in the sole judgment and discretion of S&P Dow Jones Indices so that the index continues to achieve its objective.

# Eligibility Criteria and Index Construction

## Index Universe

At each reconstitution, the index universe is all stocks in the underlying index.

## Multiple Share Classes

Each company is represented once by the Designated Listing. For more information regarding the treatment of multiple share classes, please refer to Approach B within the Multiple Share Classes section of the S&P Dow Jones Indices' Equity Indices Policies & Practices Methodology.

## Constituent Selection

At each reconstitution reference date, select index constituents from the index universe according to the following process:

- 1) Rank all eligible companies in descending order by FCF yield within their respective GICS Sectors. Select all companies ranked in the top 20% of the respective GICS Sector, rounding up.
- 2) Exclude companies with the lowest non-positive FCF yield until such an exclusion would result in the final count of companies in a sector to be fewer than 10% of the company count within such sector in the S&P 500.

*For information on the FCF and FCF yield calculations, please refer to Appendix A.*

## Constituent Weightings

At each reconstitution, the index sector weights mirror the sector weights of the underlying index, with constituents weighted by FCF yield within each GICS Sector, subject to a 0.25% floor and a 5.00% ceiling.

- If all selected companies within a respective GICS Sector are non-positive FCF yield companies, equally distribute the weight between the companies.
- If selected companies within a respective GICS Sector include positive and non-positive FCF yield companies, all companies start with the floor weight of 0.25%, redistribute the remaining weight equally to the positive FCF yield companies.

## Index Calculations

The index calculates by means of the divisor methodology used for all S&P Dow Jones equity indices.

*For more information on the index calculation methodology, please refer to the Non-Market Capitalization Weighted Indices section of the S&P Dow Jones Indices' Index Mathematics Methodology.*

# Index Maintenance

## Rebalancing

The index reconstitutes semi-annually, effective after the close of business on the third Friday of April and October. The rebalancing reference date is after the close of the last business day in March and September.

**Additions.** Except for spin-offs, no additions are made to the indices between reconstitutions.

**Spin-Offs.** Spin-offs are added to the index on the ex-date. If the spin-off remains in the underlying index, both the parent company and spin-off remain in the index until the subsequent reconstitution and are then evaluated for continued index inclusion.

**Deletions.** Constituents removed from the underlying index between reconstitutions are removed from the index simultaneously.

## Corporate Actions

For information on the treatment of Corporate Actions, please refer to the Non-Market Capitalization Indices section within S&P Dow Jones Indices' Equity Indices Policies & Practices Methodology.

## Currency of Calculation and Additional Index Return Series

In addition to the indices detailed in this methodology, additional return series versions of the indices may be available, including, but not limited to the following: currency, currency hedged, decrement, fair value, inverse, leveraged, and risk control versions. For a list of available indices, please refer to the [S&P DJI Methodology & Regulatory Status Database](#).

*For information on various index calculations, please refer to S&P Dow Jones Indices' Index Mathematics Methodology.*

*For the inputs necessary to calculate certain types of indices, including decrement, dynamic hedged, fair value, and risk control indices, please refer to the Parameters documents available at [www.spglobal.com/spdji/](http://www.spglobal.com/spdji/).*

## Base Date and History Availability

Index	Launch Date	First Value Date	Base Date	Base Value
S&P 500 Sector-Neutral FCF Index	05/30/2023	04/16/1999	04/16/1999	1000

# Index Data

## Calculation Return Types

S&P Dow Jones Indices calculates multiple return types which vary based on the treatment of regular cash dividends. The classification of regular cash dividends is determined by S&P Dow Jones Indices.

- Price Return (PR) versions are calculated without adjustments for regular cash dividends.
- Gross Total Return (TR) versions reinvest regular cash dividends at the close on the ex-date without consideration for withholding taxes.
- Net Total Return (NTR) versions, if available, reinvest regular cash dividends at the close on the ex-date after the deduction of applicable withholding taxes.

In the event there are no regular cash dividends on the ex-date, the daily performance of all three indices will be identical.

For a complete list of indices available, please refer to the daily index levels file (“`.SDL`”).

*For more information on the classification of regular versus special cash dividends as well as the tax rates used in the calculation of net return, please refer to S&P Dow Jones Indices' Equity Indices Policies & Practices Methodology.*

*For more information on the calculation of return types, please refer to S&P Dow Jones Indices' Index Mathematics Methodology.*

# Index Governance

## **Index Committee**

An S&P Dow Jones Indices Index Committee manages the indices. At each meeting, the Index Committee reviews pending corporate actions that may affect index constituents, statistics comparing the composition of the index to the market, companies that are being considered as candidates for addition to the index, and any significant market events. In addition, the Index Committee may revise index policy covering rules for selecting companies, treatment of dividends, share counts or other matters.

S&P Dow Jones Indices considers information about changes to its indices and related matters to be potentially market moving and material. Therefore, all Index Committee discussions are confidential.

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 information on Quality Assurance and Internal Reviews of Methodology, please refer to S&P Dow Jones Indices' Equity Indices Policies & Practices Methodology.*



# Index Policy

## Announcements

All index constituents are evaluated daily for data needed to calculate index levels and returns. All events affecting the daily index calculation are typically announced in advance via the Index Corporate Events report (.SDE), delivered daily to all clients.

*For more information, please refer to the Announcements section of S&P Dow Jones Indices' Equity Indices Policies & Practices Methodology.*

## Pro-forma Files

In addition to the corporate events file (.SDE), S&P Dow Jones Indices provides constituent pro-forma files each time the index rebalances. The pro-forma file is typically provided daily in advance of the rebalancing date and contains all constituents as well as their corresponding weights and index shares effective for the upcoming rebalancing. Since index shares are assigned based on prices seven business days prior to the rebalancing effective date, the actual weight of each stock at the rebalancing will differ from these weights due to market movements.

*For a complete schedule of rebalancing timelines and pro-forma delivery times, please refer to [www.spglobal.com/spdji/](http://www.spglobal.com/spdji/).*

## Holiday Schedule

The index is calculated on all business days of the year when the U.S. equity market is open.

*A complete holiday schedule for the year is available at [www.spglobal.com/spdji/](http://www.spglobal.com/spdji/).*

## Rebalancing

The Index Committee may change the date of a given rebalancing for reasons including market holidays occurring on or around the scheduled rebalancing date. Any such change will be announced with proper advance notice where possible.

## Unexpected Exchange Closures

For information on Unexpected Exchange Closures, please refer to S&P Dow Jones Indices' Equity Indices Policies & Practices Methodology.

## Recalculation Policy

Please refer to S&P Dow Jones Indices' Equity Indices Policies & Practices Methodology.

## Real-Time Calculation

Real-time, intra-day index calculations are executed for the index, whenever any of its primary exchanges are open. Real-time indices are not restated.

*For information on Calculations and Pricing Disruptions, Expert Judgment and Data Hierarchy, please refer to S&P Dow Jones Indices' Equity Indices Policies & Practices Methodology.*

**Contact Information**

For questions regarding an index, please contact: [index\\_services@spglobal.com](mailto:index_services@spglobal.com).

# Index Dissemination

Index levels are available through S&P Dow Jones Indices' Web site at [www.spglobal.com/spdji/](http://www.spglobal.com/spdji/), major quote vendors (see codes below), numerous investment-oriented Web sites, and various print and electronic media.

## Tickers

The table below lists headline indices covered by this document. All versions of the below indices that may exist are also covered by this document. Please refer to the [S&P DJI Methodology & Regulatory Status Database](#) for a complete list of indices covered by this document.

Index	Return Type	BBG	RIC
S&P 500 Sector-Neutral FCF Index (USD)	Price Return	SPNFCFUP	.SPNFCFUP
	Total Return	SPNFCFUT	.SPNFCFUT
	Net Total Return	SPNFCFUN	.SPNFCFUN

## Index Data

Daily constituent and index level data are available via subscription.

For product information, please contact S&P Dow Jones Indices, [www.spglobal.com/spdji/en/contact-us](http://www.spglobal.com/spdji/en/contact-us).

## Index Alert

Comprehensive index data is available through S&P Dow Jones Indices' fee-based service, SPICE, at [www.spice-indices.com](http://www.spice-indices.com).

# Appendix A

## FCF Calculation

Financials Sector:

*FCF = Net Cash Flow from Operating Activities – Changes in Net Working Capital – Capital Expenditures*

Real Estate Sector:

*FCF = Adjusted Funds from Operations (AFFO) = Funds from Operations (FFO) – Capital Expenditures*

Sector Ex Financials and Real Estate:

*FCF = Net Cash Flow from Operating Activities – Capital Expenditures*

## FCF Yield Calculation

Financials and Real Estate sectors:

*FCF Yield = FCF/Total Market Cap*

where:

*Total Market Cap* = The total value of all shares of a company's stock

Sector Ex Financials and Real Estate:

*FCF Yield = FCF/Enterprise Value*

where:

*Enterprise Value* = The value of a company's common stock, preferred stock, total debt, and minority interest, minus all cash

# 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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ESG scores, ratings, and other data, whether from an external and/or internal source, is based on a qualitative and judgmental assessment, especially in the absence of well-defined market standards, and due to the existence of multiple approaches and methodologies to assess ESG factors and considerations. An element of subjectivity and discretion is therefore inherent in any ESG score, rating, or other data and different ESG scoring, rating, and/or data sources may use different ESG assessment or estimation methodologies. Different persons (including ESG data ratings, or scoring providers, index administrators or users) may arrive at different conclusions regarding the sustainability or impact of a particular company, asset, or index.

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Prospective users of an S&P DJI ESG Index are encouraged to read the relevant index methodology and related disclosures carefully to determine whether the index is suitable for their potential use case or investment objective.