# J.P.Morgan

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# J.P. Morgan ESG EMU IG Target Index

Index Methodology and Profile

# **Highlights**

The J.P. Morgan ESG EMU IG Target Index aims to track the performance of eligible fixed-rate, eurodenominated domestic government debt issued by Eurozone countries with minimum €20 billion debt outstanding. Securities must be rated investment grade to be eligible. The index currently includes government bonds issued by Austria, Belgium, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Portugal and Spain. The index applies an Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) scoring and screening methodology to tilt toward issuers ranked higher on ESG criteria, and to underweight or remove issuers that rank lower. The returns and statistics are available since January 2016.

#### **Index Criteria**

Minimum Issue Size	€1 billion
Minimum Country Size	€20 billion
Instrument Type	<b>Includes:</b> Fixed-rate and zero-coupon bonds <b>Excludes:</b> Floating-rate bonds, capitalization/amortizing bonds, bonds with callable, puttable, or convertible features
Remaining Maturity	Remaining maturity at rebalance at least 6 months <sup>1</sup>
Currency Denomination	Euro denominated
Credit Quality Classification	Countries must be rated investment grade (i.e. minimum BBB- or equivalent rating) using the middle rating of the three rating agencies (S&P, Moody's and Fitch); when ratings are available from only two agencies, the lower is used; when ratings are available from only one agency, that rating is used.

### **Index Characteristics and Methodology**

Pricing	Mid prices are taken from a third party pricing source, PricingDirect
Aggregate Return	Weighted average of bond returns using mid prices
Rebalancing	Rebalances on the last weekday of the month. If FX rates from WM Reuters are unavailable on the last weekday of the month (i.e. Good Friday), indices are rebalanced on the previous business day.
Coupon Reinvestment	Immediately reinvested into the respective local market returns
FX Rates	All FX rates used for hedged/unhedged returns are as of 4pm London time provided by WM/Reuters
Weighting	Market capitalization based weighting, subject to adjustments based on JESG bands.
Price Timing	As of the local market close
Settlement Convention	Local market country convention

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Effective January 29, 2021, J.P. Morgan fixed income indices retain bonds until 6-month remaining to maturity following the <u>2020 index consultation</u>. Prior to that, bonds were retained until 12-month remaining to maturity.

Holiday Calendar	Local market calendar
Bloomberg Ticker	JPEIEEMU Index

## **JESG Overlay Criteria**

ESG providers & Green Bond certification authorities	Sustainalytics RepRisk Climate Bonds Initiative
JESG Scoring methodology	JESG issuer scores are a 0-100 percentile rank calculated based on normalized raw ESG scores from third-party research providers Sustainalytics and RepRisk. An issuer's finalized JESG score incorporates a 3-month rolling average. See <i>Appendix: ESG Methodology</i> for more details.
JESG Integration methodology	The JESG scores are divided into five bands that are used to scale each issue's baseline index market value. Issuers in Band 5 will be excluded from the index. JESG bands are rebalanced on a quarterly basis, during the month-end rebalancing in March, June, September and December. <sup>2</sup> See <i>Appendix: ESG Methodology</i> for more details.
Green bond treatment	If an instrument is categorized as a "green bond" by the Climate Bonds Initiative, the security will receive a one-band upgrade. Green bonds by issuers already in Band 1 will not receive any further upgrades. See <i>Appendix: ESG Methodology</i> for more details.

#### **Instrument type**

Only fixed-rate and zero coupon instruments are included. Floating-rate and capitalization, amortizing bonds or bonds with callable, puttable or convertible features are not part of the indices.

### Liquidity

A key feature that distinguishes our indices from other index products is the strict enforcement of liquidity criteria in the selection of instruments. Yet, while the notion of liquidity differs from market to market, J.P. Morgan indices include only securities, subject to several considerations including but not limited to:

- Pricing: Bonds must trade with enough frequency to prevent stale price quotations
- Availability: Bonds must be regularly traded in size at acceptable bid-offer spreads and readily redeemable for cash. A reasonable two-way market must exist for the instrument to be included in the index portfolio.
- *Replication costs:* Investors should be able to replicate the index without incurring excessive transaction costs.

### **ESG Methodology**

The J.P. Morgan ESG EMU IG Target Index applies J.P. Morgan ESG (JESG) issuer scores to adjust the weights of index constituents from the respective baseline indices. JESG issuer scores are a 0-100 percentile rank calculated based on normalized raw ESG scores from third-party research providers Sustainalytics and RepRisk. An issuer's finalized JESG score incorporates a 3-month rolling average. The JESG scores are divided into five bands that are used to scale each issue's baseline index market value. JESG bands are rebalanced on a quarterly basis, during the month-end rebalancing in March, June, September and December. Issuers in Band 5 will be excluded from the index.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Effective December 31, 2020, the J.P. Morgan ESG (JESG) band updates and corresponding index weight changes are reflected only on a quarterly basis following the <u>2020 index consultation</u>. Prior to that, JESG bands were rebalanced on a monthly basis with one-month lag.

If an instrument is categorized as a "green bond" by the Climate Bonds Initiative, the security will receive a oneband upgrade. Green bonds by issuers already in Band 1 will not receive any further upgrades.

JESG Score Bands	Scalar
Band 1: Score > 80	1.00
Band 2: 60 < Score <= 80	0.80
Band 3: 40 < Score <= 60	0.60
Band 4: 20 < Score <= 40	0.40
Band 5: Score <= 20	0.00

#### **Bond calculations**

*Calculations are according to market convention*: all calculations including accrued interest, duration, yield, etc., are done according to local market convention using parameters (ex-dividend rules, settlement conventions, etc.) relevant to each specific bond. All calculations are gross of tax and ignore transactions costs.

**Bond pricing**: Pricing for our underlying instruments is provided on a daily basis from Pricing Direct, a third party valuation vendor. In the event the primary source for pricing is unable to provide a quote, the Index Group reserves the right to consider the use of an appropriate alternative source for index inputs. Please see http://www.pricing-direct.com for further details.

*Ex-dividend rules*: ex-dividend rules, when applicable, are incorporated into accrued interest calculations, as appropriate, by country. Ex-dividend rules define the last day a bondholder must own a bond in order to receive that bond's next coupon payment, otherwise known as the ex-dividend date.

- During the period between the ex-dividend date and the coupon date, the bond trades "exdividend"
- An investor who purchases a bond for settlement between the ex-dividend date and coupon date will not receive that bond's next coupon payment
- During this period, according to market convention, accrued interest becomes negative resulting in a total price at a discount to the clean price and in effect, compensating the investor for the time the bond will be held without interest
- On coupon date, interest will start to accrue for the subsequent coupon payment

*Returns and return indices:* return indices on individual bonds are calculated on a daily basis and measure bond performance over time:

- Principal return index is based on changes in clean price
- Interest return index is based on changes in accrued interest
- Total return index is based on changes in both clean price and accrued interest

At the individual bond level focus is on total return. The segregation of interest and principal return becomes relevant at the portfolio level.

*Reinvestment of coupons:* the J.P. Morgan indices are always fully invested. All coupons received are immediately reinvested back into the local market.

*Interest accruals:* interest is accrued starting from the bond's dated date up to the first coupon value date. Accrued interest is calculated according to market convention, on a settlement day basis. Interest is accrued by value or settlement date. Weekly, seven days of interest are accrued, including the weekend.

In markets with ex-dividend rules, if a bond is purchased after the ex-dividend date the purchaser will not receive the bond's next coupon. In order to compensate the buyer of the bond, the price paid for the bond must be less than the clean market price, thus, accrued interest will be negative.

**Coupon value date:** The coupon value date is the trade date associated with settlement on coupon date (the day the coupon is paid). Thus, the coupon value date is the last trade date which an investor may purchase a bond and have that bond settle prior to payment of the subsequent coupon. On coupon value date, accrued interest resets to zero, and accruals begin towards the next coupon.

**Yield:** effective annual rate of return, expressed as a percentage. For the J.P. Morgan EMU Index body of data, yields are all calculated as yield- to-maturity, which is the discount rate that the present value of future payments equals the price of the security.

#### **Index calculations**

The base for the index level is: January 1, 2016 = 100.

The index rebalances on the last weekday of each month. Bonds comprising the indices are required to have more than 6 months remaining to maturity on rebalance day for inclusion in the index.

If FX rates from WM Reuters are unavailable on the last weekday of the month (i.e. Good Friday), indices are rebalanced on the previous business day.

The index is weighted by the component countries' aggregate normalized market capitalization (dirty price times par outstanding). The weights change monthly on each rebalance day, and those weights remain active for the remainder of that month.

Accrued interest is assigned to the bonds in the index according to the specific convention of each country's market, and this interest is settlement adjusted.

Daily indicative pricing for each security and FX rate is closely scrutinized and are reconciled using market movements and other pricing sources as guidance. As necessary, an established alternate source will be used to maintain the integrity of daily index calculations. On any given calculation day, if the primary source is unable to provide a quote, the Index Group reserves the right to consider the use of an appropriate alternate source for index inputs, such as pricing and FX. If a permanent switch for the primary third party pricing source is necessary, clients will be notified in advance prior to any official switch.

### Appendix A: Bond Total Return Methodology

#### A. Standard Case

The total return for an individual bond between days (t-1) and (t) is calculated as shown below:

$$Total turn_{t} = \left(\frac{P_{t} + A_{v(t)}}{P_{t-1} + A_{v(t-1)}}\right) - 1$$

Total turn <sub>t</sub>	Total return value on day t, incorporating both principal and interest
$P_t$	Local market closing clean pricing of a bond on day t.
$A_{v(t)}$	Accrued interest for a bond on day t; it is calculated up to, but excluding the value date v(t)
t	Current market day
t-1	Previous market day determined by the market's holiday calendar

Accrued interest for a bond is based on the following formula:

$$A_{v(t)} = \left(\frac{C_{v(t)} \times d_{v(t)}}{d_y}\right)$$

$C_{v(t)}$	Next coupon to be paid on a bond after the value date v(t)
$d_{v(t)}$	Number of days of accrued interest used to calculate : it can be zero or negative
$d_y$	Number of days in a year according to a bond's day count convention

Total return indices for individual bonds are calculated as shown below:

$$ndex_t = ndex_{t-1} \times Total turn_t$$

*dex* t Index value on day t

The base for the index level is December 31st, 2014 = 100.

#### B. On Coupon Value Date

On coupon value date, the accrued interest for specific bond is reset to zero. On that date, the coupon value will be added into calculation of the total return and the associated index.

$$Total \ turn \ _{t} = \left(\frac{P_{t} + C_{v(t)}}{P_{t-1} + A_{v(t-1)}}\right) - 1 \qquad \qquad ndex_{t} = \ ndex_{t-1} \times \left(\frac{P_{t} + C_{v(t)}}{P_{t-1} + A_{v(t-1)}}\right)$$

#### **Appendix B: Bond Yield Methodology**

Calculation of yield to maturity in the EMU indices is a two-step process. First, the following equation is solved iteratively for the discount rate (r):

$$P + A = \sum_{n}^{i=1} \binom{c_i}{b} \times [1 - \sum f_k] \times {}^{t_i} + \sum f_i {}_i \times {}^{t_i} + f_F \times ({}_F + A_F) \times {}^{t_F}$$

- A Accrued interest through the value date
- Discount rate
- $d_t$  Number of days from settlement to coupon payment i (final payment if i = F)
- $d_y$  Number of days in the year

- t<sub>i</sub> N Time to the ith cash flow expressed in coupon periods
- Number of coupon payments left
- F Indicator for final redemption if F>N (else, ignore this term)
- $C_i$ Annual coupon rate in the ith period (percentage of face value)
- fi Fraction of current amount outstanding redeemed on the ith coupon payment date (or on the final redemption date if i = F)
- Redemption price on the ith coupon payment date (or on the final payment date if i = F) i
- Additional accrued interest from the final coupon date N to the final redemption date F  $A_F$

Once the discount factor is obtained, the true yield is calculated as follows:

$$Yield = 100 + \left[\frac{1^{\left(\frac{1}{b}\right)}}{1} - 1\right] \times b$$

b

Basis of yield quote (b=1= annual, b=2= semi-annual, etc.)

#### Appendix C: Total Return Calculation Methodology

Total return for a portfolio of bonds between days (t-1) and (t) is calculated as shown below.

$$Total \ turn \ _{t} = \sum_{n=1}^{bonds} \left[ \left( \left( \frac{P_{n_{t}} + A_{n_{v(t)}} \langle if A_{v(t)} < A_{v(t-1)} \rangle + C_{v(t)}}{P_{n(t-1)} + A_{n_{v(t-1)}}} \right) - 1 \right) * \frac{ParOuts_{n_{t}}}{ParOuts_{n_{t-1}}} \right]$$

The total return index is calculated as shown below:

T. .  $ndex_{t} = T$ . .  $ndex_{t-1} * Total turn_{t}$ 

n	Indicates a given bond within the market portfolio. "n" moves from 1 to "bonds," with "bonds" being the last bond in the portfolio.
t	Current market day
t-1	Previous market day determined by the market's holiday calendar
$P_{n_t}$	Local market closing clean price of a bond n on day t
$A_{n_{v(t)}}$	Accrued interest for a bond n on day t; it is calculated up to, but excluding the value date $\nu(t)$
$C_{v(t)}$	Next coupon to be paid on a bond after the value date v(t)
ParOutst	Par value outstanding in local currency. This value remains constant through a given month. This value is rebalanced for new issues, retiring issues and auctions as part of the month end process.
$\langle if A_{v(t)} < A_{v(t-1)} \rangle$	Equals 1 if the boolean expression is true; otherwise, it equals zero. This boolean will be true when t is equal to coupon value date and accrued interest is reset to zero.
Total Return <sub>t</sub>	Total return value on day t, incorporating both principal and interest
Indext	Index value on day t

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