

Overview

Investors are increasingly seeking to invest in companies that align with their values. One approach to accomplishing this objective is to remove certain companies from a portfolio based on the impact of their products and conduct on society and the environment.

The FTSE Developed ex Australia Choice Index and FTSE Australia 300 Choice Index which are part of the FTSE Global Choice Index Series, are market capitalization weighted indexes that remove companies based on the following three product screens and one conduct screen:

- Non-Renewable Energy
- Vice Products
- Weapons
- Controversies

Features

- Consists of eligible securities in the underlying FTSE Developed ex Australia Index or FTSE Australia 300 Index
- Company screening based on fundamental research about a company's business lines and product involvement
- Transparent, rules-based method for applying values-based exclusions to a broad index

Benefits

The two indexes help align investment objectives with values by screening out companies with exposure to products and conduct that may have a negative impact on the environment or society.

Definitions

The indexes apply negative screens across four categories:

Product categories

Non-Renewable Energy

- Fossil Fuels
- Nuclear Power



Vice Products

- Adult Entertainment
- Alcohol
- Gambling
- Tobacco



Weapons

- Chemical & Biological Weapons
- Cluster Munitions
- Anti-Personnel Landmines
- Nuclear Weapons
- Conventional Military Weapons
- Firearms



Conduct category

Controversies

- Anti-Corruption
- Environment
- Human Rights
- Labor



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Index construction process

Starting universe

Start with the market capitalization weighted index. Companies in the underlying index universe are researched annually for eligibility against the screens based on publicly reported information.



Screening

Exclude companies based on the prohibited product and conduct screens.



Capping of Industry

The FTSE Australia 300 Choice Index applies an additional step of a 5% capping limit per industry. The FTSE Developed ex Australia Choice Index does not apply a capping limit per industry.



Publish and Review Index

The index is reviewed quarterly in March, June, September, and December.

Supporting the sustainable investment market

FTSE Russell brings two decades of experience in ESG data and benchmarks, and provides data analytics, ratings and indexes covering thousands of companies worldwide.

As an index provider, FTSE Russell plays an active role in the major regional sustainable investment industry associations. Ahead of its launch, along with other pioneers in the industry, FTSE Russell also helped develop the United Nations-backed Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI) and became a founding signatory and the first index provider member.

FTSE Russell is part of London Stock Exchange Group (LSEG), which is a member of the Sustainable Stock Exchanges Initiative and chaired its working group to develop Model Guidance on ESG Reporting for exchanges globally. This resulted in LSEG publishing its own Guidance in February 2017.

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About FTSE Russell

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FTSE Russell index expertise and products are used extensively by institutional and retail investors globally. For over 30 years, leading asset owners, asset managers, ETF providers and investment banks have chosen FTSE Russell indexes to benchmark their investment performance and create investment funds, ETFs, structured products and index-based derivatives.

FTSE Russell indexes also provide clients with tools for asset allocation, investment strategy analysis and risk management.

A core set of universal principles guides FTSE Russell index design and management: a transparent rules-based methodology is informed by independent committees of leading market participants. FTSE Russell is focused on index innovation and customer partnership applying the highest industry standards and embracing the IOSCO Principles. FTSE Russell is wholly owned by London Stock Exchange Group.

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