

# Innovation Meets Sustainability:

Nasdaq-100 ESG Index<sup>TM</sup>

March 2022

## Index Objectives

- Reduce the degree to which the portfolio's economic value is at risk because of ESG factors, or more technically, aim to significantly improve the portfolio's ESG score;
- Exclude enterprises that create reputational risks or violate fundamental values;
- Eliminate business exposures that are off-limit for most ESG-conscious investors; and
- Aim to deliver similar performance and very low tracking error to the Nasdaq-100<sup>®</sup> (NDX<sup>™</sup>)

#### Index Mechanics

- The Nasdaq-100 ESG Index at all times consists of a selection of securities in the Nasdaq-100 Index.
- The Nasdaq-100 Index is reconstituted annually in December.
- The ESG characteristics of the underlying issuers are re-evaluated each quarter (March, June, September, December). Hence, there is a reconstitution and a rebalancing *each quarter*.
- Securities removed from the Nasdaq-100 outside of a reconstitution are removed from the Nasdaq-100 ESG Index (NDXESG<sup>™</sup>) and are not replaced.

## Weighting Scheme

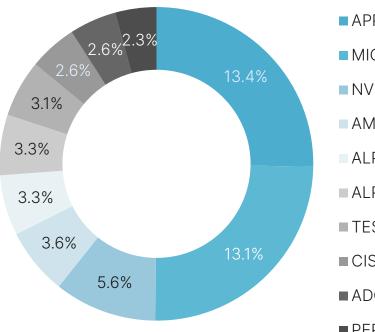
- The Nasdaq-100 ESG Index is a modified market capitalization-weighted index that consider a company's ESG Risk Rating Score as an adjustment factor.
- Two factors play into the index weight of an issuer:
  - The Nasdaq-100 Index Market Value, and
  - The ESG Risk Rating Score.
- In general, for each issuer:
  - Everything else equal, the higher the weight in the Nasdaq-100 and/or the better ESG risk rating, the higher the weight in the NDXESG Index, and vice versa.

## Exclusions March 2022: NDXESG

Symbol	Nasdaq-100 ESG Reason for Exclusion	Nasdaq-100 Weight (%)	Company Name	ICB Industry	
HON	Revenue from military contracting weapons. Provide non-nuclear materials for nuclear weapons and involved in management of labs where nuclear weapons are designed and tested.	0.97	Honeywell International	Industrials	
ADI	Revenue from military contracting weapon-related products and/or services.	0.63	Analog Devices	Technology	
AEP	Revenue from thermal coal power generation, nuclear production, and oil & gas generation.	0.37	American Electric Power Company	Utilities	
LCID	ESG Risk Rating Score has not yet been determined.	0.31	Lucid Group	Consumer Discretionary	
EXC	Revenue from nuclear production and oil & gas generation.	0.34	Exelon	Utilities	
XEL	Revenue from thermal coal power generation, nuclear production, oil & gas production, and oil & gas generation.	0.29	Xcel Energy	Utilities	
CEG	ESG Risk Rating Score has not yet been determined.	0.13	Constellation Energy Corp	Utilities	

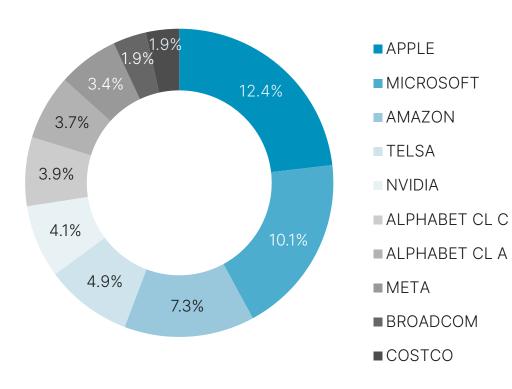
#### Top 10 Constituents: NDXESG vs NDX

NDXESG: Top 10 Weight = 52.9%

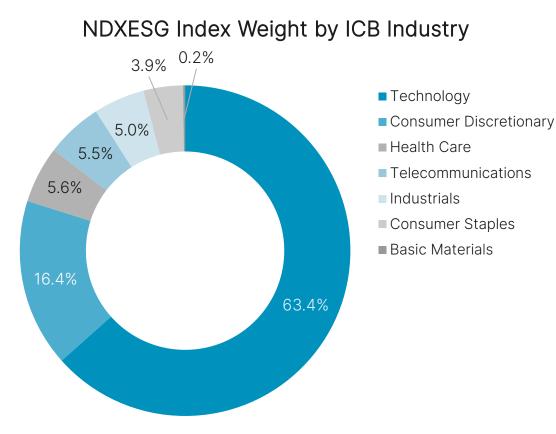


APPLE
MICROSOFT
NVIDIA
AMAZON
ALPHABET CL C
ALPHABET CL A
TESLA
CISCO
ADOBE
PEPSICO

NDX: Top 10 Weight = 53.6%



### Sector Exposures: NDXESG vs NDX



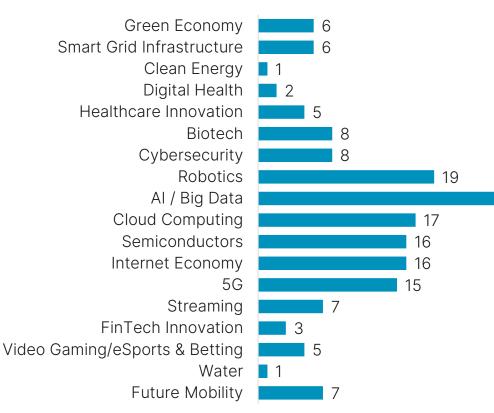
#### 1.1% \_ 0.3% 3.7% Technology Consumer Discretionary 5.1% Health Care 5.1% Industrials Telecommunications 5.9% Consumer Staples Utilities Basic Materials 57.2% 21.5%

#### NDX Index Weight by ICB Industry

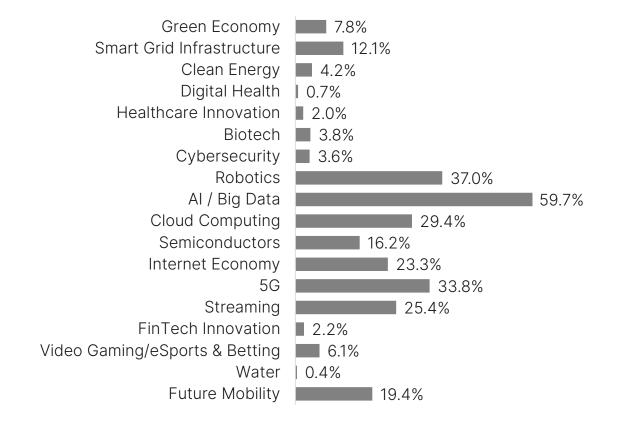


### Nasdaq-100 by Thematic Exposures

#### # of Constituents per Theme



#### Index Weight per Theme



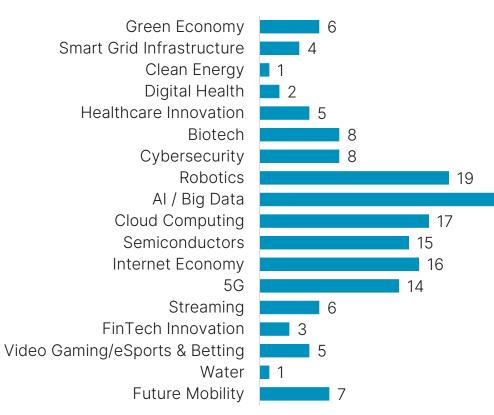
Source: Nasdaq, Bloomberg, FactSet. Data as of 12/31/2021.

Based on overlap with existing Nasdaq Thematic Indexes, except for Digital Health, Healthcare Innovation, 5G, Streaming, and Video Gaming/eSports & Betting where competitor products were analyzed.

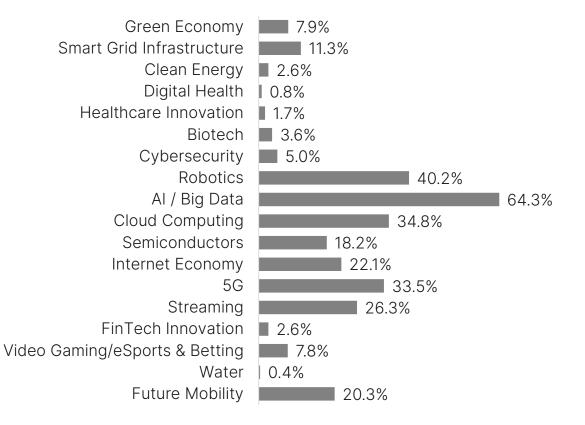
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## Nasdaq-100 ESG by Thematic Exposures

#### # of Constituents per Theme



#### Index Weight per Theme



Source: Nasdaq, Bloomberg, FactSet. Data as of 12/31/2021.

Based on overlap with existing Nasdaq Thematic Indexes, except for Digital Health, Healthcare Innovation, 5G, Streaming, and Video Gaming/eSports & Betting where competitor products were analyzed.

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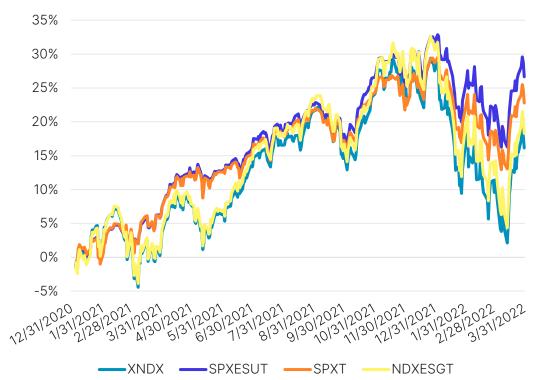
## Top 10 Largest Overweights: NDXESG vs NDX

Symbol	Nasdaq-100 ESG Weight (%)	Nasdaq-100 Weight (%)	Difference Weight (%)	Company Name	ICB Industry	
MSFT	13.11	10.13	2.98	Microsoft	Technology	
NVDA	5.72	4.21	1.51	Nvidia	Technology	
ADBE	2.53	1.56	0.97	Adobe	Technology	
AAPL	13.44	12.49	0.95	Apple	Technology	
CSCO	2.63	1.68	0.94	Cisco	Telecommunications	
PEP	2.24	1.68	0.55	PepsiCo	Consumer Staples	
AMAT	1.33	0.85	0.49	Applied Materials	Technology	
INTC	1.88	1.47	0.41	Intel	Technology	
NFLX	1.55	1.21	0.35	Netflix	Consumer Discretionary	
PYPL	1.28	0.98	0.30	PayPal	Industrials	

# Top 10 Largest Underweights: NDXESG vs NDX

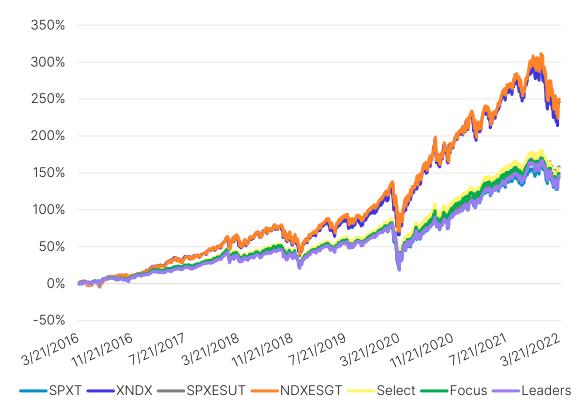
Symbol	Nasdaq-100 ESG Weight (%)	Nasdaq-100 Weight (%)	Difference Weight (%)	Company Name	ICB Industry
AMZN	3.61	7.27	-3.66	Amazon	Consumer Discretionary
FB	1.41	3.37	-1.96	Meta	Technology
TSLA	3.10	4.88	-1.78	Tesla	Consumer Discretionary
GOOG	3.30	3.86	-0.57	Alphabet CI C	Technology
GOOGL	3.28	3.67	-0.38	Alphabet CI A	Technology
AVGO	1.52	1.87	-0.36	Broadcom	Technology
ISRG	0.44	0.78	-0.34	Intuitive Surgical	Health Care
CMCSA	1.30	1.54	-0.24	Comcast	Telecommunications
КНС	0.11	0.35	-0.24	Kraft Heinz	Consumer Staples
MRNA	0.27	0.50	-0.23	Moderna	Health Care

#### Performance – NDX vs. NDXESG



#### 12/31/2020 - 3/31/2022

#### Since Beginning of Backtest 3/21/2016 – 3/31/2022



### ESG Comparisons – NDX/NDXESG

Index	Benchmark	Number of Securities	% Exclusion from the Benchmark	Weighted Average Sustainalytics ESG Risk Score	Simple Average Sustainalytics ESG Risk Score
MSCI USA Index		627	n/a	21.60	21.80
MSCI USA Extended ESG Focus Index	MSCI USA Index	320	49%	20.80	21.20
MSCI USA Extended ESG Leaders Index	MSCI USA Index	271	57%	19.30	20.30
MSCI USA ESG Universal Select Business Screens Index	MSCI USA Index	565	10%	20.10	21.20
Nasdaq-100 Index		102	n/a	20.50	20.40
Nasdaq-100 ESG Index	Nasdaq-100 Index	95	7%	18.50	20.00
S&P 500 Index		506	n/a	21.50	21.70
S&P 500 ESG Index	S&P 500 Index	308	39%	20.80	20.70

Data as of 3/31/2022 Sources: Sustainalytics, FactSet, Bloomberg, Nasdaq Global Indexes.

# RESOURCES

#### RESOURCES Nasdaq-100 ESG Index

- Overview
  - <u>https://indexes.nasdaqomx.com/Index/Overview/NDXESG</u>
- Methodology
  - <a href="https://indexes.nasdaqomx.com/docs/methodology\_NDXESG.pdf">https://indexes.nasdaqomx.com/docs/methodology\_NDXESG.pdf</a>
- Research
  - <a href="https://indexes.nasdaqomx.com/docs/NDXESG\_Research.pdf">https://indexes.nasdaqomx.com/docs/NDXESG\_Research.pdf</a>
- Fact Sheet
  - <u>https://indexes.nasdaqomx.com/docs/FS\_NDXESGT.pdf</u>
- Carbon Credit Report
  - NDXESG: <u>https://indexes.nasdaqomx.com/docs/Carbon%20Footprint%20Report%20-%20NDXESG.pdf</u>
  - NDX: <u>https://indexes.nasdaqomx.com/docs/Carbon%20Footprint%20Report%20-%20NDX.pdf</u>

#### Exclusions based on ESG risk

- Companies with a "Severe" ESG Risk Rating are automatically disqualified from inclusion.
  - A rating of greater than 40 is considered "Severe"; 30-40 is considered "High"; 20-30 is "Medium"; 10-20 is "Low"; and 0-10 is "Negligible".
- Exclude any company that has not been researched yet.

### Exclusions based on ESG risk – continued

- Exclude any company that has a controversy score equal to 5:
  - The controversy rating reflects:
    - Incidents with negative Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) implications.
    - A company's level of involvement in and how it manages these issues.
  - Categorical scores are on a scale of 1 to 5.

### Exclusions based on international norms

- A company must not violate the *United Nations Global Compact*:
  - 10 principles around human rights, labor, environment, and anticorruption.
  - https://www.unglobalcompact.org/what-is-gc/mission/principles
- Securities are excluded from NDXESG that are classified as non-compliant.
  - Each company in the index is therefore classified as either compliant or on the watch-list with the UN Global Compact framework for following international norms.

### Exclusions based on business involvements

**Business Involvement Considered\*:** 

- 1. Energy (Arctic oil & gas, nuclear power, oil & gas, oil sands, shale energy, thermal coal)
- 2. Health & Life (Alcohol, recreational cannabis, tobacco)
- 3. Defense & Military (controversial weapons, military contracting, riot control, small arms)
- 4. Values-Based (adult entertainment, gambling)

#### APPENDIX Weighting scheme – continued

 $ESG Risk - Adjusted NDX Market Value = \frac{40 - ESG Risk Rating Score}{40} \times NDX Market Value$ 

- Initial security weights are calculated by dividing a security's ESG Risk-Adjusted NDX Market Value by the sum of the ESG Risk-Adjusted NDX Market Values of all Index Securities.
- Afterwards, the same four-stage weight adjustment process as exists for NDX at its annual reconstitution is applied to produce final weights on a quarterly basis for NDXESG.

#### APPENDIX Weighting scheme – continued

For Illustrative Purposes Only.

The information included on this slide is not based on actual data.

Security	Parent Index	ESG Risk	(40-ESG	ESG Adjusted	Weight in	Weight in	ESG
	Market Value	Rating	Risk	Market Value	ESG	Parent	Excess
		Score	Rating		Index	Index	Weight
			Score)/40		(before		
					capping)		
Company A	157,440,900.96	9.669091	0.76	119,383,139.64	5%	2%	3%
Company B	408,425,550.79	10.14988	0.75	304,788,747.93	12%	5%	7%
Company C	466,765,510.49	10.33926	0.74	346,115,277.80	14%	6%	8%
Company D	337,399,212.20	10.56613	0.74	248,274,134.49	10%	4%	6%
Company E	36,052,270.56	12.02819	0.70	25,211,182.25	1%	0%	1%
Company F	590,398,129.57	16.18527	0.60	351,504,303.67	14%	7%	7%
Company G	268,545,835.16	19.19268	0.52	139,692,956.82	6%	3%	2%
Company H	311,917,708.29	20.84302	0.48	149,385,045.36	6%	4%	2%
Company I	547,470,308.53	22.79236	0.43	235,516,830.87	10%	7%	3%
Company J	24,733,442.74	24.69826	0.38	9,461,619.64	0%	0%	0%
Company K	435,838,825.61	27.38121	0.32	137,493,977.85	6%	5%	0%
Company L	118,577,295.32	27.73561	0.31	36,356,957.07	1%	1%	0%
Company M	307,719,744.86	28.36004	0.29	89,546,103.32	4%	4%	0%
Company N	441,090,355.41	33.1488	0.17	75,549,938.88	3%	6%	-2%
Company O	834,726,757.15	35.35263	0.12	96,982,201.14	4%	10%	-7%
Company P	550,834,597.82	37.24048	0.07	38,001,025.35	2%	7%	-5%
Company Q	269,359,777.85	37.4192	0.06	17,379,073.33	1%	3%	-3%
Company R	844,981,656.98	38.72938	0.03	26,841,302.95	1%	11%	-10%
Company S	359,845,558.64	39.02818	0.02	8,742,612.50	0%	5%	-4%
Company T	646,652,051.08	39.70698	0.01	4,736,994.67	0%	8%	-8%

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