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MSCI AI Value Chain Indexes



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1 Introduction

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is an economy-wide structural trend. The AI value chain spans economically distinct layers with different return drivers and risk characteristics. Investors seeking AI exposure benefit from understanding their relative positioning across the value chain.

The MSCI AI Value Chain Indexes¹ (each an 'Index', and together the 'Indexes') aim to represent the performance of companies associated with the AI value chain. The Indexes are anchored in a taxonomy spanning three layers (each a 'Layer' and together the 'Layers'), resolved into ten investable components (each a 'Component' and together the 'Components') that capture distinct business activities across the value chain. The Components can serve as modular building blocks for index construction and portfolio attribution.

The methodology defines fourteen Indexes in total:

- ten **Component Indexes**, each tracking a single Component of the AI value chain;
- three **Layer Indexes**, namely Physical AI Infrastructure, Digital AI Infrastructure and AI Applications, each aggregating a set of Components within a Layer; and
- one **AI Value Chain Index**, aggregating all ten Components across the three Layers.

¹ The Indexes are governed by a set of methodology and policy documents (the "Methodology Set"), including the present index methodology document. Please refer to Appendix I for more details.

2 Constructing the Indexes

The Indexes are constructed by selecting securities from the MSCI ACWI IMI Index² (the 'Parent Index') based on the rules explained in the following sections.

2.1 Defining the Components

The AI Value Chain is represented by ten Components, each capturing a distinct set of business activities within the value chain. The Components are the building blocks of the Indexes and are defined as follows³:

Component	Definition	Layer
Hardware for AI	Hardware purpose-built for AI workloads, including AI accelerators and high-bandwidth memory, and the chip design tools and semiconductor equipment used to develop and manufacture AI hardware.	Physical AI Infrastructure
Energy Providers for AI	Power systems and grid infrastructure engineered specifically for AI compute, and clean energy and storage solutions with dedicated AI data center off-take agreements.	Physical AI Infrastructure
AI Data Center Infrastructure	Physical data center infrastructure for AI workloads, including servers, networking, storage, cooling and power equipment, and AI-optimized colocation facilities.	Physical AI Infrastructure
AI Cloud Compute	Hyperscale and GPU cloud platforms delivering on-demand AI compute and machine-learning services.	Digital AI Infrastructure
AI Data Infrastructure	Platforms for acquiring, generating, labelling, cleaning, structuring and storing data for AI workflows.	Digital AI Infrastructure
AI Model Development	Companies that develop and release large-scale, general-purpose AI models, including large language models and multimodal foundation models.	Digital AI Infrastructure
AI Model Training	Platforms and tools for the pre-deployment training, fine-tuning and experimentation of AI models.	Digital AI Infrastructure
AI Deployment and Operations	Tools for post-deployment AI operationalization, including inference serving, monitoring, governance and safety.	Digital AI Infrastructure

² The MSCI ACWI IMI Index is based on the MSCI Global Investable Market Indexes (GIMI) Methodology. For details about the methodology, please refer to: <https://www.msci.com/index/methodology/latest/GIMI>.

³ For details on how each Component is calculated, please refer to the MSCI Component Exposure Methodology. The methodology book is available at: <https://www.msci.com/index-methodology>

Component	Definition	Layer
AI Software Applications	Software and analytics products where AI is explicitly core to product functionality.	AI Applications
AI Physical Applications	Physical products and devices where AI is explicitly integrated and essential to core functionality, enabling autonomous perception, decision-making or action.	AI Applications

2.2 Determining the Eligible Universe

The Eligible Universe for each Index comprises the securities selected on the basis of their Component Exposure⁴ as follows:

Component Indexes: Securities from the Parent Index that have a Component Exposure of 10 or more for the relevant Component are included in the Eligible Universe of the respective Component Index.

Layer Indexes: Securities from the Parent Index that have a Component Exposure of 10 or more for any of the Components within a Layer, as set out in the Layer column of the Component table in Section 2.1, are included in the Eligible Universe of the respective Layer Index.

AI Value Chain Index: Securities from the Parent Index that have a Component Exposure of 10 or more for any of the ten Components, across the three Layers, are included in the Eligible Universe of the AI Value Chain Index.

⁴ For details on the calculation of Component Exposure, please refer to the MSCI Component Exposure Methodology. The methodology book is available at: <https://www.msci.com/index-methodology>

2.3 Weighting Scheme

Component Indexes: Securities included in the respective Eligible Universe are weighted in proportion to their Component Exposure for the relevant Component. The weights are then normalized to 100%.

Layer Indexes and AI Value Chain Index: Securities included in the respective Eligible Universe are weighted in proportion to their market capitalization in the Parent Index. The weights are then normalized to 100%. Additionally, constituent weights are capped at an issuer level at 10%, with the excess weight proportionally redistributed across the Index.

3 Maintaining the Indexes

3.1 Index Review

The Indexes are reviewed on a quarterly basis, usually as of the close of the last business day of February, May, August and November, coinciding with the Quarterly Index Reviews of the Parent Index. In general, the pro forma Indexes are announced nine business days before the effective date.

In general, MSCI uses the Component Exposure data as of the end of the month preceding the Index Review, for the rebalancing of the Indexes.

3.2 Ongoing Event Related Changes

The general treatment of corporate events in the Indexes aims to minimize turnover outside of Index Reviews. The methodology aims to appropriately represent an investor's participation in an event based on relevant deal terms and pre-event weighting of the index constituents that are involved. Further, changes in index market capitalization that occur as a result of corporate event implementation will be offset by a corresponding change in the Variable Weighting Factor (VWF) of the constituent.

The following section briefly describes the treatment of common corporate events within the Indexes.

No new securities will be added (except where noted below) to the Indexes between Index Reviews. Parent Index deletions will be reflected simultaneously.

EVENT TYPE	EVENT DETAILS
New additions to the Parent Index	A new security added to the Parent Index (such as IPO and other early inclusions) will not be added to the Indexes.
Spin-Offs	All securities created as a result of the spin-off of an existing Index constituent will be added to the relevant Index at the time of event implementation if the spin-off security is also added to the Parent Index. Reevaluation for continued inclusion in such Index will occur at the subsequent Index Review.
Merger/Acquisition	For Mergers and Acquisitions, the acquirer's post event weight will account for the proportionate amount of shares involved in deal consideration, while cash proceeds will be invested across the relevant Index.

If an existing Index constituent is acquired by a non-Index constituent, the existing constituent will be deleted from the relevant Index and the acquiring non-constituent will not be added to such Index.

Changes in Security Characteristics

A security will continue to be an Index constituent if there are changes in characteristics (country, sector, size segment, etc.) Reevaluation for continued inclusion in the relevant Index will occur at the subsequent Index Review.

Further detail and illustration regarding specific treatment of corporate events relevant to the Indexes can be found in the MSCI Corporate Events Methodology.

The MSCI Corporate Events methodology book is available at:

<https://www.msci.com/index-methodology>.

Appendix I: Methodology Set

The Indexes are governed by a set of methodology and policy documents ("Methodology Set"), including the present index methodology document as mentioned below:

- Description of methodology set –
<https://www.msci.com/index/methodology/latest/ReadMe>
- MSCI Corporate Events Methodology –
<https://www.msci.com/index/methodology/latest/CE>
- MSCI Fundamental Data Methodology –
<https://www.msci.com/index/methodology/latest/FundData>
- MSCI Index Calculation Methodology –
<https://www.msci.com/index/methodology/latest/IndexCalc>
- MSCI Index Glossary of Terms –
<https://www.msci.com/index/methodology/latest/IndexGlossary>
- MSCI Index Policies –
<https://www.msci.com/index/methodology/latest/IndexPolicy>
- MSCI Global Investable Market Indexes Methodology –
<https://www.msci.com/index/methodology/latest/GIMI>
- MSCI Component Exposure Methodology -
<https://www.msci.com/index/methodology/latest/CompExposure>

The Methodology Set for the Indexes can also be accessed from MSCI's webpage <https://www.msci.com/index-methodology> in the section 'Search by Name or Code'.

Contact us

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To learn more, please visit www.msci.com/msci.com/contact-us

The process for submitting a formal index complaint can be found on the index regulation page of MSCI's website at: <https://www.msci.com/index-regulation>.

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