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DWS Invest CROCI US

Quarterly review

4Q 2025

DWS INVEST CROCI US

Performance in USD (Net Returns)

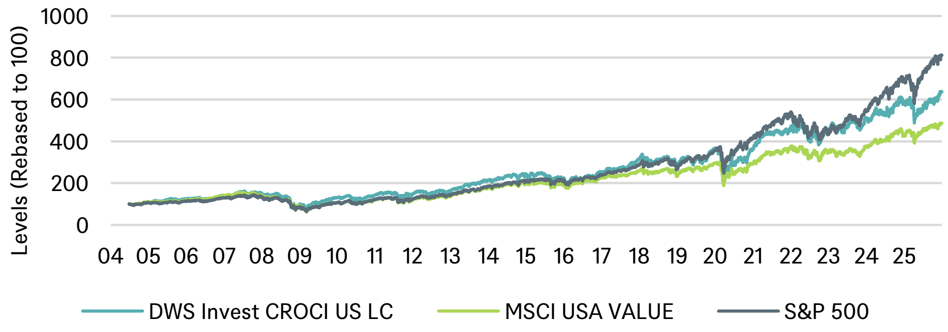
Commentary for 4Q 2025

In Q4, DWSI CROCI US delivered a strong performance, outperforming the MSCI USA Value Index by +5.6% and the broader market, S&P 500, by +4.5%.

Stock selection was the key driver of outperformance, contributing +5.0% to active returns. This was largely attributable to favorable stock selection within Communication Services and Health Care.

Relative to the value benchmark, sector allocation contributed a positive impact of +60 bps, driven primarily by an overweight position in Health Care, which added approximately +90 bps to relative returns.

Cumulative Fund Performance Net (Jun. 2004 – Dec. 2025)



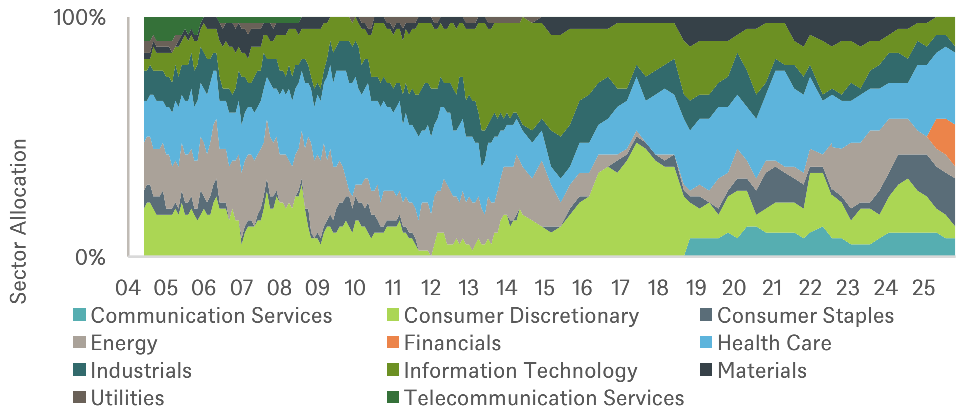
Fund Performance (Net) Summary

25 Jun. 2004 - 30 Dec. 2025	DWS Invest CROCI US LC	MSCI USA VALUE	S&P 500
Compounded Annual Growth	9.0%	7.6%	10.2%
Annualised Volatility (Daily)	21.3%	19.8%	19.7%
Sharpe Ratio (1.84%)	0.34	0.29	0.42
Worst drawdown	-53.8%	-59.7%	-55.7%
Time to recovery (months)	40	50	43

Live since 25 Jun. 2004	1M	3M	YTD	1Y	3Y	5Y	10Y	Since Live
DWS Invest CROCI US LC	3.0%	7.8%	10.2%	10.2%	13.5%	11.9%	11.1%	9.0%
Rel. to MSCI USA VALUE	1.6%	5.6%	-3.8%	-3.8%	1.6%	1.3%	1.6%	1.4%
Rel. to S&P 500	2.3%	4.5%	-7.6%	-7.6%	-9.3%	-2.3%	-3.1%	-1.2%

*Return for the period of more than 1 year is annualized

Historical Sector Allocation



Source: DWS, Bloomberg, Factset. 30 Dec. 2025. Asset allocation may change without prior written notification. Past performance does not predict future returns. This information is intended for informational purposes only and does not constitute investment advice, a recommendation, an offer or solicitation.

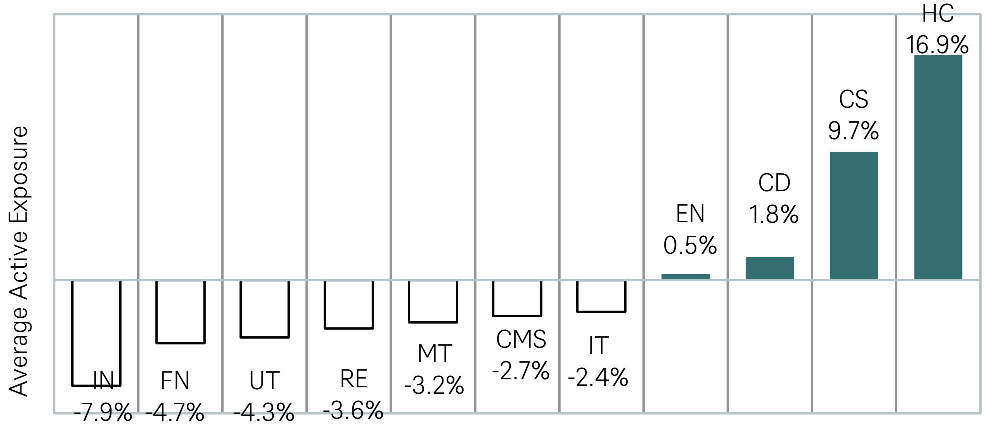
DWS INVEST CROCI US

Performance Attribution Relative to MSCI USA Value, in USD

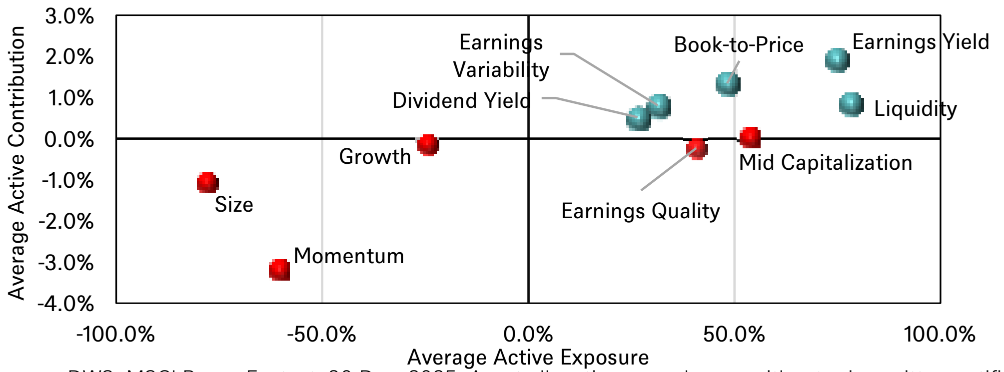
Performance Attribution – 4Q 2025

Source of Active Return	Sector Allocation	Stock Selection	Total
Communication Services	0.0%	3.0%	3.0%
Consumer Discretionary	-0.2%	-0.4%	-0.6%
Consumer Staples	0.0%	-0.2%	-0.3%
Energy	0.0%	0.5%	0.5%
Financials	-0.1%	0.1%	0.0%
Health Care	0.9%	2.1%	3.0%
Industrials	0.0%	0.5%	0.5%
Information Technology	-0.2%	-0.4%	-0.6%
Materials	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Real Estate	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%
Utilities	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%
Total Active (Local Currency)	**0.6%**	**5.0%**	**5.5%**

Average Sector Exposure – 4Q 2025



Style Factors Exposure & Contribution – Trailing 12 Months



Top & Bottom Stocks by Total Return Contrib. – 4Q 2025

Leading Contributors		Lagging Contributors	
Stocks	Contribution	Stocks	Contribution
Warner Bros. Discovery	0.93%	HP	-0.46%
Regeneron Pharmaceuticals	0.85%	D.R. Horton	-0.39%
Viatris	0.66%	Aptiv Holdings Ltd	-0.33%
Merck & Co.	0.64%	PayPal	-0.32%
Biogen	0.62%	Teleflex Inc	-0.29%

Source: DWS, MSCI Barra, Factset. 30 Dec. 2025. Asset allocation may change without prior written notification. Past performance does not predict future returns. This information is intended for informational purposes only and does not constitute investment advice, a recommendation, an offer or solicitation.

CROCI US STRATEGY

Changes to portfolio, sector weight changes and attribution

Changes to the portfolio, 4Q 2025

- There were 6 new stock entrants in total:
  - 2 each from Health Care and IT
  - 1 each from Financials and Consumer Staples
- They replaced the following 6 stocks that left the portfolio:
  - 2 each from Health Care and Consumer Discretionary
  - 1 each from Energy and Industrials

Attribution explanation 4Q 2025

- Strong relative outperformance versus the MSCI USA Value index, driven primarily by stock selection, which contributed +5.0%. Sector allocation added a further +60 bps to active returns.

- The key performance driver was stock selection. The largest positive contributor was Warner Bros. Discovery (Comm. Services), adding approximately +140 bps. There were also strong selections within Health Care, particularly overweights in Viatris and Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, which together contributed around +130 bps. Additionally, not owning Meta Platforms (Communication Services) added a further +90 bps. These gains were partially offset by the overweight position in HP (IT), which detracted -50 bps.

- Sector allocation also supported relative performance, with the overweight in Health Care contributing +90 bps. Small overweight exposure in Consumer Discretionary and an underweight in Information Technology each detracted -20 bps.

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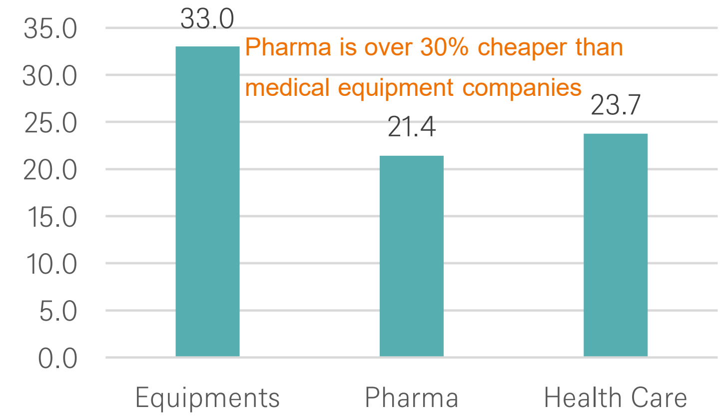
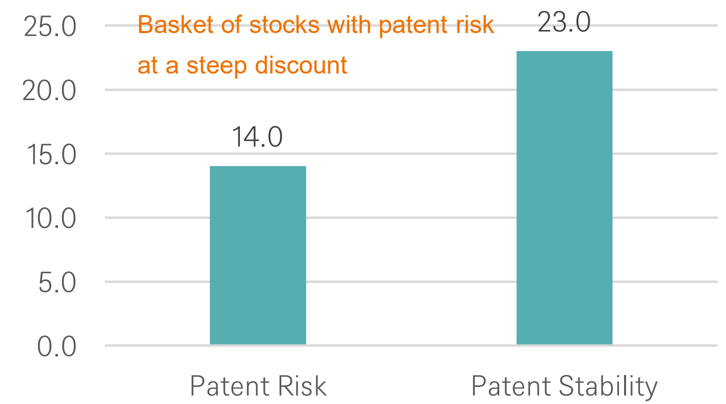
Health Care – now one of the two cheapest sectors globally

Global Health Care: Aggregate Economic PE within sector



Aggregate Economic PE with the Pharma Sector



The health care sector has not performed strongly recently despite generally buoyant global equity markets in recent years. Over the past three years, the sector has delivered an annualized total return of just 6.4%, a stark contrast to the 21.1% achieved by the MSCI World Index over the same period (net returns, in USD). In fact, performance would have been even weaker if not for a recent shift in sentiment, allowing a substantial recovery in the fourth quarter of 2025.

This raises two critical questions:

- Is the market's lack of enthusiasm toward healthcare justified?
- Does the sector offer genuine value to which investors should pay attention?

There are some meaningful divergences in valuation in the sector. Firstly, between the valuation of Pharmaceuticals, Biotechnology & Life Sciences (Pharma Group) vs. Healthcare Equipment & Services (Equipment Group). Pharma companies, which account for roughly three-quarters of the aggregate market value of the Health Care sector, are over 30% cheaper than the Medical Equipment companies. Given their large weight in the sector, the Health Care sector's valuation is naturally sensitive to that of the Pharmaceutical companies.
The Pharma subsector can be split further into two distinct baskets, defined by exposure to patent expiry.
We define the baskets as follows:

- companies which have more than half of their revenues in FY24 subject to patent expiry by 2030 (we name this basket as 'Patent Risk')
- companies which have less than half of their revenues in FY24 subject to patent expiry ('Patent Stability').

The economic PE of the two baskets is presented on the left.

Source: DWS, CROCI. No assurance can be given that any forecast, target or opinion will materialise. Data as of 31st December 2025

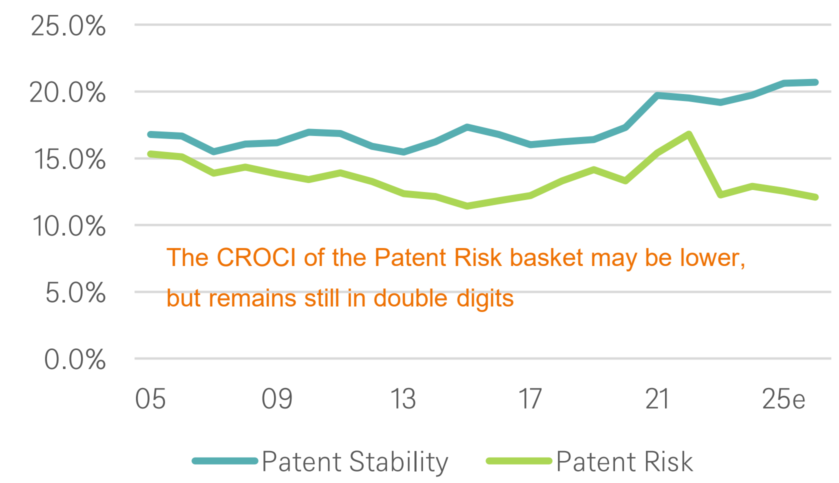
DWS INVEST CROCI US

Health Care – Patent Risk basket remains interesting from valuation perspective

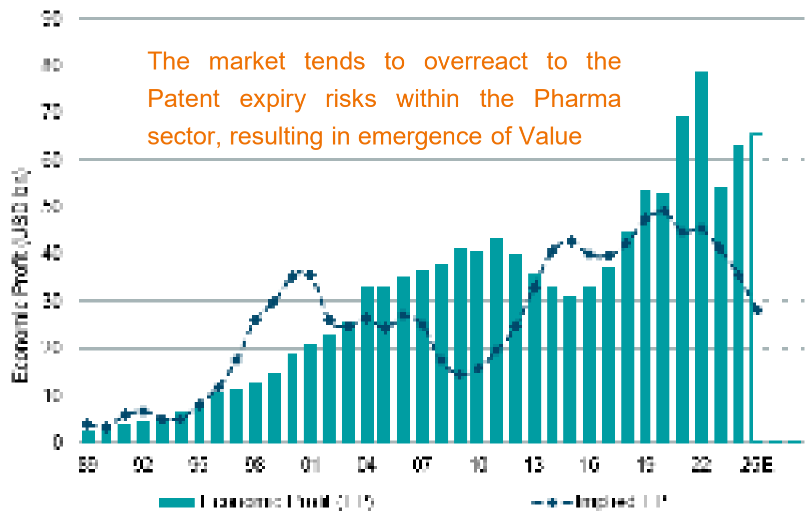
The Patent Risk basket has a lower CROCI cash return than the Patent Stability basket. There is not much difference between the CROCI cash flow margins for the two baskets (both at around 50%). Asset productivity, however, has been diverging since the pandemic, resulting in the differing cash returns.

Blockbuster drugs were big drivers of pharma cash returns in the mid-1990s and the early 2000s. Market fears of patent cliffs began to impact the valuation multiple from around 2003 and continued until 2010. After then, the multiple expanded, converging with the sector's economic profitability. The chart below shows that the market priced the earnings of the Patent Risk basket to decline by 36% between 2003 to 2010; in reality, the actual earnings improved significantly from the start of our history in 1989 until 2010. Over the whole period in question, the patent basket was repeatedly materially mispriced by the market.

Aggregate Cash Returns for Pharma Baskets



Economic Profit and Implied EP of the "Patent Risk" basket



Source: DWS, CROCI. No assurance can be given that any forecast, target or opinion will materialise. Data as of 31st December 2025

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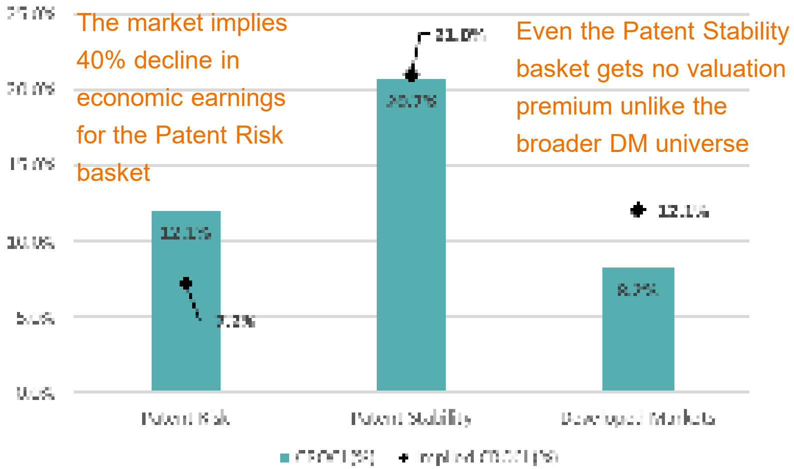
Market fears about patents have historically been overpriced

The current market price for the Patent Risk basket implies a 40% decline in earnings. Over the previous patent cliff period, peak to trough economic earnings declined by 24% between 2011 to 2015, but then soon reached a new peak in 2019 (before the pandemic) suggesting that very rapid recovery from patent expiries is possible. Consensus estimates imply that economic earnings will recover next year after being flat this year. The market has form for underestimating the resilience of the pharma companies towards patent expiries within their product suite. Within the broader pharma space, the Patent Stability basket also compares favourably to the broader developed market universe. History suggests that the current valuation of the pharmaceuticals segment is potentially rather attractive.

Regionally, United States stands out as being the most profitable. However, European pharma's economic valuation is nearly a fifth cheaper than that of United States, along with a dividend yield pick-up.   Japan is at the same valuation as Europe but shows a significantly worse profitability profile compared to Europe.

CROCI cash returns and implied CROCI within Pharma



Valuation of Pharma by region

2026E	CROCI	Economic PE	FCF yield	Dividend Yield
United States Pharma	16.5%	23.4x	5.0%	2.1%
European Pharma	13.7%	18.7x	5.7%	2.8%
Japan Pharma	9.6%	18.7x	5.5%	2.5%

Source: DWS, CROCI. No assurance can be given that any forecast, target or opinion will materialise. Data as of 31st December 2025

Glossary: MSCI Risk Factors

Beta	Measures stocks' sensitivities to market or systematic risk that cannot be explained by the market factor.
Book-to-Price	Measures book-to-price as the last reported book value of common equity divided by current market capitalization.
Dividend Yield	Measures dividend yield as stocks' trailing and predicted 12-month dividend to price ratios.
Earnings Quality	Measures earnings quality based upon the uncertainties of company operating fundamentals (sales, earnings, cash flows) and the accrual components of their earnings.
Earnings Variability	Measures earnings variability as variability in sales, earnings and cash flows using both historical measures and analysts' forecasts.
Earnings Yield	Measures earnings yield as various ratios of the companies' earnings relative to their prices.
Growth	Measures company growth as earnings growth and sales growth using both historical measures and analysts' forecasts.
Investment Quality	Measures investment quality as assets, net issuance, and capital expenditure growth.
Leverage	Measures leverage as various leverage ratios based upon debt, liabilities, equity and assets.
Liquidity	Measures stocks' liquidity based upon stock trading activities and the impact of trading on stock returns.
Long-Term Reversal	Explains common variation in returns related to a long-term (five years ex. recent thirteen months) stock price behavior
Mid Capitalization	Captures non-linearities in the payoff to the Size factor across the market-cap spectrum.
Momentum	Measures momentum as stock performance over the trailing 12 months. Also considers Industry and Region Momentum
Profitability	Measures profitability as firms' operations efficiencies and the abilities to generate revenues and earnings.
Residual Volatility	Measures residual volatility as realized volatilities from stock returns and implied volatilities from equity options.
Size	Measures size as logarithm of market capitalization. Differentiates between largecap and smallcap stocks.

Source: MSCI Barra; Data as of 30 Dec. 2025

ROLLING 12 MONTHS FUND PERFORMANCE, NET OF FEES

As of 30 Dec. 2025

Name	Currency	12/24 - 12/25	12/23 - 12/24	12/22 - 12/23	12/21 - 12/22	12/20 - 12/21	12/19 - 12/20	12/18 - 12/19	12/17 - 12/18	12/16 - 12/17	12/15 - 12/16
CROCI US LC	USD	10.24%	13.43%	16.96%	-6.96%	29.22%	-0.51%	30.51%	-10.87%	26.42%	11.09%

Source: DWS, Bloomberg. Past performance, whether live or simulated, is not a reliable indicator of future results. All returns include reinvested dividends and do not include fees that might be charged on an investment product. All pro-forma performance data before respective live dates is simulated and was calculated by means of retroactive application of the Strategy models. It is not possible to invest directly in a strategy or index. The performance shown here is for model portfolios. The performance of any actual investment products may differ significantly. DWS Invest CROCI US was launched on 28th August 2018.

DWS Invest CROCI US follows the same investment objectives, investment process and asset allocation strategy as DB PLATINUM IV CROCI US - R1C, which was first launched on 2 Nov. 2012. On 28 Aug. 2018, DB PLATINUM IV CROCI US - R1C was merged into the new DWS Invest CROCI US LC. The historical live track record of DB PLATINUM IV CROCI US - R1C has been spliced onto the DWS Invest CROCI US LC for the measurement and provision of historical performance

FUND DATA & RISKS

As of 30 Dec. 2025

Portfolio Manager	Adam Freeman	Assets	163 mn USD
Portfolio Manager since	01/07/2023	Fund Currency	USD
Portfolio Management Company	DWS Investment GmbH & DWS Investments UK Ltd	Launch Date	28/08/2018
Portfolio Management Location	Multi-manager	Fiscal Year End	31/12/2026
Management Company	DWS Investment S.A.	Investor Profile	Risk-tolerant
Legal Structure	SICAV	Fund Domicile	Luxembourg

Fund Risks

The fund reallocates investments between various asset classes depending on the market. Depending on the market phase and the reallocation of the fund's assets, it is therefore possible that the risk of the fund may vary. The risk/return profile can therefore fluctuate considerably within a short period of time. The fund invests in equities. Equities are subject to strong price fluctuations and thus also to the risk of price decreases. Due to its composition/the techniques used by the Fund management, the investment fund has significantly elevated volatility, i.e. the share price may be subject to significant fluctuations up or down within short periods of time. The share value may fall below the purchase price at which the customer acquired the share at any time. In accordance with the investment policy.

Investor profile: Risk-tolerant The Fund is intended for the risk-tolerant investor who, in seeking investments that offer targeted opportunities to maximize returns, can tolerate the unavoidable, and occasionally substantial, fluctuations in the values of speculative investments. The high risks from volatility, as well as high credit risks, make it probable that the fund will lose value from time to time, and expectations of high returns and tolerance of risk are offset by the possibility of incurring significant losses of capital invested

Source: DWS, Bloomberg

CROCI STRATEGIES & INDICES

Key Risks

- Any products linked to a CROCI Strategy or Index may not be capital protected and investor capital may be at risk up to a total loss. Prospective investors should be aware investments linked to the Strategies or Indices may go up or down in value.
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- The CROCI REW Indices have been built on the premise that portfolio weightings should be determined by the CROCI Equity Earnings of each company and that this will provide a value-added to the portfolio construction process. This premise may not be correct and prospective investors should evaluate this assumption prior to investing in any of the Indices.
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