## LEHMAN BROTHERS

## U.S. Corporate High-Yield Index



## **Overview**

The U.S. Corporate High-Yield Index the covers the USD-denominated, non-investment grade, fixed-rate, taxable corporate bond market. Securities are classified as high-yield if the middle rating of Moody's, Fitch, and S&P is Ba1/BB+/BB+ or below. The index excludes Emerging Markets debt. The index was created in 1986, with index history backfilled to January 1, 1983. The U.S. Corporate High-Yield Index is part of the U.S. Universal and Global High-Yield Indexs.



Sources & Frequency	All bonds are priced by either Lehman Brothers traders or FT Interactive Data (IDC) on a daily basis.	
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Pricing Quotes	Bonds can be quoted in a variety of ways including nominal spreads over benchmark securities/treasuries, spreads over swap curves, or direct price quotes as a percentage of par. In some instances the quote type used is a spread measure that results in daily security price changes from the movement of the underlying curve and/or changes in the quoted spread.	
Timing	3:00 pm (New York time) each day. If the last business day of the month is a public holiday in the U.S. market, prices fror the previous business day are used.	
Bid or Offer Side	Bonds in the index are priced on the bid side. The initial price for newly issued corporate bonds entering the index is the side; after that, the bid side price is used. Fallen angels use the bid side prices.	
Settlement Assumptions	T+1 settlement basis	
Verification	Multi-contributor verification: The primary price for each security is analyzed and compared to other third-party pricing sources through both statistical routines and scrutiny by the research staff. Significant discrepancies are researched and corrected, as necessary. On occasion, index users may also challenge price levels, which are then reviewed by the pricing team. Prices are then updated as needed using input from the trading desk.	

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	Rules fo	r Inclusion		
Amount Outstanding	Minimum outstanding par value of at least USD	150 million.		
Quality	<ul> <li>Must be rated high-yield (Ba1/BB+/BB+ or below) using the middle rating of Moody's, S&amp;P, and Fitch, respectively (before July 1, 2005, the lower of Moody's and S&amp;P was used).</li> <li>When a rating from only two agencies is available, the lower ("most conservative") of the two is used.</li> <li>When a rating from only one agency is available, that rating is used to determine index eligibility.</li> <li>A small number of unrated bonds is included in the index; to be eligible they must have previously held a high-yield rating or have been associated with a high-yield issuer, and must trade accordingly.</li> </ul>			
Maturity	At least 1 year until final maturity, regardless of optionality.			
Seniority of Debt	Senior and subordinated issues are included.			
Coupon	Fixed-rate. Original issue zero coupon bonds, step-up coupons, and coupons that change according to a predetermined schedule are also included.			
Currency	Denominated in USD.			
Market of Issue	SEC-registered, fully taxable issues or SEC Rule	e 144A securities (with and without Registration Rights).		
Security Types	excess market value is redistributed either index	<ul> <li>Excluded:</li> <li>Non-corporate bonds</li> <li>Structured notes with embedded swaps or other special features</li> <li>Private placements</li> <li>Bonds with equity-type features (e.g., warrants, convertibility)</li> <li>Floating-rate issues</li> <li>Eurobonds</li> <li>Defaulted bonds</li> <li>Emerging market bonds (sovereign rating of Baa1/BBB+ and below using the middle of Moody's, S&amp;P, and Fitch)</li> <li>Pay-in-kind (PIK) bonds</li> </ul>		
		lancing		
Frequency	Rebalancing The composition of the Returns Universe is rebalanced monthly at each month end and represents the set of bonds on which index returns are calculated. The Statistics Universe changes daily to reflect issues dropping out and entering the index, but is not used for return calculation. On the last business day of the month, the composition of the latest Statistics Universe becomes the Returns Universe for the following month. Fallen angels do not enter the index until the next monthly reset.			
Index Changes	During the month, indicative changes to securities (maturity, credit rating change, sector reclassification, amount outstanding are reflected in both the Statistics and Returns Universe of the index on a daily basis. These changes may cause bonds to enter or fall out of the Statistics Universe of the index on a daily basis, but will affect the composition of the Returns Universe only at month-end when the index is rebalanced.			
Reinvestment of Cash flows	Interest and principal payments earned by the Returns Universe are held in the index without a reinvestment return until month-end when it is removed from the index.			
New Issues	Qualifying securities issued, but not necessarily s the following month's Returns Universe.	settled, on or before the month-end rebalancing date qualify for inclusion in		
	Index	History		
July 1, 2005 October 1, 2003	Fitch ratings added to Moody's and S&P to determine index eligibility. Started using the most conservative rating of Moody's and S&P to determine index eligibility instead of Moody's only for split- rated securities.			
July 1 2000	Liquidity constraint raised to LISD 150 million from LISD 100 million. Defaulted securities removed			

Liquidity constraint raised to USD 150 million from USD 100 million. Defaulted securities removed. SEC Rule 144A securities added.

- July 1, 2000 January 1, 1998
- January 1, 1986 January 1, 1983
- U.S. Corporate High-Yield Index introduced, with historical data backfilled to 1983. Inception date of U.S. Corporate High-Yield Index.

Indices are unmanaged and cannot accommodate direct investments. Past performance is not indicative of future results.

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