



NEWS RELEASE

# Passive Investing and ETF Benchmark Transitions Drive Strong Growth in ICE's Index Business

7/21/2021

ICE Expands its footprint with new fixed income, thematic and ESG-focused indices

ETFs totaling \$60 billion in AUM announce transitions to ICE Indices in 2021

ATLANTA & NEW YORK--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- Intercontinental Exchange, Inc. (NYSE: ICE), a leading global provider of data, technology and market infrastructure, today announced strong growth in its index business in the first half of 2021. This was driven by continued growth in assets under management (AUM) in ETFs using ICE fixed income, thematic and ESG-focused indices, including an increasing number of established fixed income and equity ETFs - equivalent to over \$60 billion in AUM - switching their underlying benchmarks to ICE indices.

In 2020, assets under management in U.S. fixed income ETFs jumped by \$186 billion to \$969 billion in AUM, outpacing U.S. equity ETF growth of \$165.4 billion, according to **ETF.com**. It was also the second consecutive year that fixed income inflows exceeded equity ETF inflows. Additionally, thematic ETF investing, which connects disruptive macro-level trends with underlying investments such as sustainable energy or the electric vehicle (EV) industry, has surged recently. At the end of the first quarter 2021, AUM for U.S. thematic ETFs totaled \$133 billion, compared to \$104 billion at the end of the fourth quarter of 2020, according to **Global X research**.

"The accelerating adoption and growth of passive investing has been an important driver of organic growth for our index business," said Lynn Martin, President of Fixed Income and Data Services at ICE. "But even more critical has been the efforts we've made to dramatically increase the breadth of our offering and the flexibility we've introduced into our approach to index construction and risk management. This has resulted in the launch of several new ETFs benchmarked to our indices, as well as transitions of many existing ETFs to ICE indices, and demonstrates the end-to-end value proposition we provide to our customers."

ICE Data Indices, LLC has seen double-digit annual revenue growth since the acquisition of the ICE BofA suite of indices in 2017. A key driver of that growth has come from ETF licenses as AUM benchmarked to ICE's indices has grown to over \$300 billion from less than \$100 billion at the end of 2017. Notably, the first half of 2021 saw AUM in ETFs benchmarked to ICE indices increase by \$35 billion, including \$24 billion in assets at established ETFs that transitioned their underlying benchmark to ICE. An additional \$36 billion in announced transitions are planned to take place in the second half of the year. Additionally, over the last year ICE has launched over 250 new indices across its fixed income, equity and commodity index families, many of which have been selected as benchmarks for ETFs in the U.S. and in markets around the world. The new indices include a growing offering of ESG and thematic indices.

"ESG and thematic investing is an exciting area of the index industry that allows investors to focus on some of the hottest trends and most innovative sectors," added Phil Galdi, Vice President of Corporate Development at ICE Data Services, "Like core fixed income and equity ETFs, ESG and thematic funds present interesting investment opportunities, and are an area where we've been able to apply our index construction methodologies with the greatest result."

ICE offers a suite of over 5,000 global equity, fixed income, commodity and foreign exchange indices, and supports all aspects of the benchmarking and performance measurement process. Dedicated to innovation and flexibility, ICE offers a wide range of benchmarks and customized solutions to address the changing needs of index stakeholders globally.

For more information on ICE Data Indices, LLC please visit [www.theice.com/market-data/indices](http://www.theice.com/market-data/indices).

## About Intercontinental Exchange

**Intercontinental Exchange, Inc.** (NYSE: ICE) is a Fortune 500 company that designs, builds and operates digital networks to connect people to opportunity. We provide financial technology and data services across major asset classes that offer our customers access to mission-critical workflow tools that increase transparency and operational efficiencies. We operate **exchanges**, including the **New York Stock Exchange**, and **clearing houses** that help people invest, raise capital and manage risk across multiple asset classes. Our comprehensive fixed income **data services** and execution capabilities provide information, analytics and platforms that help our customers capitalize on opportunities and operate more efficiently. At **ICE Mortgage Technology**, we are transforming and digitizing the U.S. residential mortgage process, from consumer engagement through loan registration. Together, we transform, streamline and automate industries to connect our customers to opportunity.

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Safe Harbor Statement under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 -- Statements in this press release regarding ICE's business that are not historical facts are "forward-looking statements" that involve risks and uncertainties. For a discussion of additional risks and uncertainties, which could cause actual results to differ from those contained in the forward-looking statements, see ICE's Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) filings, including, but not limited to, the risk factors in ICE's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2020, as filed with the SEC on February 4, 2021.

SOURCE: Intercontinental Exchange

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Source: Intercontinental Exchange