US Treasury Inflation-Linked Bond Index (Series-L)

The Bloomberg US Treasury Inflation-Linked Bond Index (Series-L) measures the performance of the US Treasury Inflation Protected Securities (TIPS) market. Federal Reserve holdings of US TIPS are not index eligible and are excluded from the face amount outstanding of each bond in the index. The US TIPS Index is a subset and the largest component of the Global Inflation-Linked Bond Index (Series-L). US TIPS are not eligible for other Bloomberg nominal Treasury or broad-based aggregate bond indices. The US TIPS (Series-L) was launched in March 1997.

Rules for Inclusion

Country Eligibility

Only includes TIPS issued by the United States.

Eligible Currencies

Principal and interest must be inflation-linked and denominated in USD.

Quality

Securities must be rated investment grade (Baa3/BBB-/BBB- or higher) using the middle rating of Moody's, S&P and Fitch; when a rating from only two agencies is available, the lower is used; when only one agency rates a bond, that rating is used. In cases where explicit bond level ratings may not be available, other sources may be used to classify securities by credit quality:

• Local currency Treasury issues are classified using the middle issuer level rating from each agency for all outstanding bonds, even if bond level ratings are available.

Amount Outstanding

- USD 500mn minimum par amount outstanding (not adjusted for inflation indexation).
- US Treasuries held in the Federal Reserve SOMA account (both purchases at issuance and net secondary market transactions) are deducted from the total amount outstanding. New issuance bought at auction by the Federal Reserve does not enter the index. Net secondary market purchases/sales are adjusted in the Projected Universe of the index weekly, typically on Fridays, and in the Returns Universe once a month, based on the amount outstanding in the Projected Universe at prior monthend.¹

Coupon

Fixed-rate nominal coupon.

Maturity

- At least 1 year until final maturity.
- Sub-indices based on maturity are inclusive of lower bounds. 1-10 year maturity bands include bonds with maturities of 1 to 9.9999 years. 10+ year maturity bands include maturities of 10 years or greater.

Security Types

Included

Eligible bonds must be capital-indexed and linked to a commonly used domestic inflation index

Excluded

- Nominal bonds and floating-rate bonds
- Non-government inflation-linked bonds
- STRIPS, Treasury bills, bellwethers

All float adjustment updates to the US Treasury amount outstanding in the Projected Universe are made on or prior to T-3 (3 business days before monthend using the U.S. calendar). Further details about indices' treatment of SOMA holdings of US Treasuries can be found in this note.

• Private placements, retail bonds

Rebalancing Rules

Frequency

For each index, Bloomberg maintains two universes of securities: the Returns (Backward) and the Projected (Forward) Universes. The composition of the Returns Universe is rebalanced at each monthend and represents the fixed set of bonds on which index returns are calculated for the next month. The Projected Universe is a forward-looking projection that changes daily to reflect issues dropping out of and entering the index but is not used for return calculations. On the last business day of the month (the rebalancing date), the composition of the latest Projected Universe becomes the Returns Universe for the following month.

Index Changes

During the month, indicative changes to securities (credit rating change, sector reclassification, amount outstanding changes, corporate actions, and ticker changes) are reflected daily in the Projected and Returns Universe of the index. These changes may cause bonds to enter or fall out of the Projected Universe of the index on a daily basis, but will affect the composition of the Returns Universe at month-end only, when the index is next rebalanced.

Reinvestment of Cash **Flows**

Intra-month cash flows from interest and principal payments contribute to monthly index returns but are not reinvested at a short-term reinvestment rate between rebalance dates. At each rebalancing, cash is effectively reinvested into the returns universe for the following month so that index results over two or more months reflect monthly compounding.

New Issues

Qualifying securities issued, but not necessarily settled on or before the month-end rebalancing date, qualify for inclusion in the following month's index if the required security reference information and pricing are readily available.

Pricing and Related Issues

Sources & Frequency

All index-eligible bonds are priced daily basis by Bloomberg's evaluated pricing service, BVAL.

Timing

- Bonds are priced at 4 p.m. (Eastern time). On early close days, bonds are priced at 1 p.m. unless otherwise noted.
- Prior to January 14, 2021, bonds were priced at 3 p.m. (Eastern time) and on early market close days, bonds were priced at 1 p.m. (Eastern time). On early close days between January 14, 2021 through November 25, 2021, 2 p.m. (Eastern time) prices were used.
- If the last business day of the month is a public holiday, prices from the previous business day are used.

Bid or Offer Side

Bonds in the index are priced on the mid side.

- **Settlement Assumptions** T+1 calendar day settlement basis.
 - At month-end, settlement is assumed to be the first calendar day of the following month, even if the last business day is not the last day of the month, to allow for one full month of accrued interest to be calculated.

Verification

Daily price moves for each security are analyzed by the index pricing team. Index users may also challenge price levels, which are then reviewed and updated as needed.

Currency Hedging

Returns hedged to various currencies are published for multi-currency indices. The indices' FX hedging methodology takes rolling one-month forward contracts that are reset at the end of each month and hedges each non-reporting currency-denominated bond in the index into the reporting currency terms. No adjustment is made to the hedge during the month to account for price movements of constituent securities in the Returns Universe of the index.

Calendar

The US TIPS Index (Series-L) follows the US bond market holiday schedule.

Accessing Index Data

Bloomberg Terminal®

Bloomberg benchmarks are the global standard for capital markets investors.

- INDE<GO> The Bloomberg Indices dashboard page, which contains daily, monthly, and year-to-date index returns for key indices from each index family as well as a link to index publications.
- IN<GO> The Bloomberg Index Browser displays the latest performance results and statistics for
 the indices as well as history. IN presents the indices that make up Bloomberg's global, multiasset class index families into a hierarchical view, facilitating navigation and comparisons. The "My
 Indices" tab allows a user to focus on a set of favorite indices.
- DES<GO> The index description page provides transparency into an individual index including membership information, aggregated characteristics and returns, and historical performance.
- INP<GO> The Bloomberg Indices Publications page, which includes methodologies, factsheets, monthly reports, announcements and technical notes. A user may also subscribe to index publications via the "Actions" button.
- PORT<GO> Bloomberg's Portfolio & Risk Analytics solution includes tools to analyze the risk, return, and current structure of indices. Analyze the performance of a portfolio versus a benchmark or use models for performance attribution, tracking error analysis, value-at-risk, scenario analysis, and optimization.

Bloomberg Indices Website (www.bloomberg.com/ indices)

The index website makes available limited index information including:

- Index methodology and factsheets
- Current performance numbers for select indices

Data Distribution

Index subscribers may choose to receive index data in files. Files may include:

- Index level and/or constituent level returns and characteristics for any indices
- Automatic delivery of files via email or SFTP following the completion of the index production process after market close
- Clients may receive standard files or may customize file contents
- Index data is also available via authorized redistributors

Index Ticker

LBUTTRUU: Total Return USD Unhedged

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- Bond Pricing Service
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