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# STOXX<sup>®</sup> CURRENCY RATE INDICES METHODOLOGY GUIDE



# STOXX® CURRENCY RATES INDICES METHODOLOGY GUIDE

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# 1. INTRODUCTION TO THE STOXX INDEX GUIDES

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The STOXX index guides are separated into the following sub-sets:

- » The **STOXX Calculation guide** provides a general overview of the calculation of the STOXX indices, the dissemination, the index formulas and adjustments due to corporate actions
- » The **STOXX Index Methodology guide** contains the index specific rules regarding the construction and derivation of the portfolio based indices, the individual component selection process and weighting schemes
- » The **STOXX Strategy guide** contains the formulas and description of all non-equity/strategy indices
- » products
- » The **STOXX Dividend Points Calculation guide** describes the dividend points products
- » The **STOXX Distribution Points Calculation guide** describes the distribution points products
- » The **STOXX ESG guide** contains the index specific rules regarding the construction and derivation of the ESG indices, the individual component selection process and weighting schemes
- » The **iSTOXX guide** contains the index specific rules regarding the construction and derivation of the iSTOXX indices, the individual component selection process and weighting schemes
- » The **STOXX Reference Rates guide** contains the rules and methodologies of the reference rate indices
- » The **STOXX Statistical Calculations** guide provides a detailed view of definitions and formulas of the statistical calculations as utilized in the reports, factsheets, indices and presentations produced by STOXX
- » The **STOXX Currency Rates Indices Methodology guide** contains the index specific rules regarding the construction and calculation of the derivation of the STOXX FX Rolling Spot Mid Rate and STOXX FX Rolling Spot Tomorrow Next Open Rate indices

All rule books are available for download on <http://www.stoxx.com/indices/rulebooks.html>

# 1. INTRODUCTION TO THE STOXX INDEX GUIDES

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## 1.1. HISTORY OF CHANGES TO THE STOXX CURRENCY RATES INDEX METHODOLOGY GUIDE

October 2017: introduction of the STOXX FX Rolling Spot Mid Rate and STOXX FX Rolling Spot Tomorrow Next Open Rate indices

November 2017: change to Section 3.2 Computational Accuracy: change in number of decimal places from currently 4 and 5 decimal places, to 3 decimal places across all currency pair.

March 2018: addition of Section 2. General Principles.

## 2. GENERAL PRINCIPLES

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### 2.1. INDEX RATIONALE

STOXX defines the index rationale as the basis for applying a certain methodology in order to achieve the index objective. STOXX performs intensive research and may conduct conversations with market participants and third parties for this purpose. STOXX discloses the index objective in every case.

### 2.2. METHODOLOGY REVIEW POLICIES

STOXX constantly monitors the execution of the index calculation rules in order to ensure the validity of the index methodology. STOXX also conducts general methodology reviews in a periodic and ad-hoc basis, to reflect economic and political changes and developments in the investment industry. As result of these activities, STOXX introduces changes to the methodology books. Material changes are notified to subscribers and the media through the usual communication channels. Clarifications of the methodology are updated in the rulebook. All changes are tracked in section 1.1.

### 2.3. INDEX TERMINATION POLICIES

For the termination of an index or index family for which outstanding products are present in the market to the knowledge of STOXX, a market consultation with the involved clients will be initiated by STOXX to take into account their views and concerns related to the termination or transition. A consultation period will be opened. Its duration depends on the specific issue. After the consultation period and in case of further action needed, a notification will be issued and the process defined above will be followed. In the case of a transition, STOXX will launch the alternative index and will notify of its character as a suitable replacement for an existing index whose calculation should be discontinued in the future. This notification advises clients on the alternative recommended by STOXX as replacement. The timeframe in which both indices will be calculated in parallel will be disclosed in the notification's text and will be no shorter than three months.

For the termination of an index or index family for which, to the knowledge of STOXX, no listed financial products are issued in the market, a press release notification or e-mail notification to subscribers will be communicated at least three months before coming into force. Clients or third parties with interest in the index or index family are urged to communicate as soon as possible their concerns to STOXX. Based on the feedback collected, STOXX may alter the index termination decision. For the termination of an index without financial product issued on there will be no market consultation. Changes to the original notification will be communicated in the same manner.

# 3. OVERVIEW

## 3.1. DESCRIPTION

The STOXX FX Rolling Spot Mid Rate index and STOXX FX Rolling Spot Tomorrow Next Open Rate index respectively indicate the spot mid rate and tom-next swap rate spread of major currency pairs and serve as reference for the settlement of the EUREX Rolling Spot futures. The rates represented by the indices are provided by 360T, the multi-bank, multi-asset trading platform for OTC financial instruments part of the Deutsche Börse Group.

The data used in the index calculation is from a transparent, bilateral, disclosed FX execution model where the client (price taker) indicates their interest to their liquidity providers, who then competitively price the requested transaction accordingly for the client, while exercising their best execution policy to award the trade to the winning provider.

The index uses a cascading process flow to identify highly accurate and timely price information and implements appropriate steps to ensure the index is resilient to abuse or manipulation.

Reliable, executable price data is blended in using a weighted algorithm favoring the executed data. Minimum diversity requirements are applied to eliminate dependency on single information sources and logically progressive discovery steps and a cleansing mechanism ensure the exact sources are not predictable from day to day, thereby minimizing the possibility for any one source or participant to reliably manipulate the output.

A rolling spot product, like the Eurex Rolling Spot Futures, using this index will be able to use the daily spot rate component to mark to market the spot position, then to use the daily tomorrow-next component to effect a pass through of interest rate differential between long and short holders of each rolling spot position each day.

## 3.2. HISTORICAL DATA

Historical index data is available on a daily basis back to the base date (04.09.2017).

## 3.3. IDENTIFIERS

Name	ISIN	Symbol
Spot mid rate AUDJPY	DE000A0QZCY7	RSAYSM
Spot mid rate AUDUSD	DE000A0QZCZ4	RSAUSM
Spot mid rate EURAUD	DE000A0QZC11	RSEASM
Spot mid rate EURCHF	DE000A0QZCS9	RSEFSM
Spot mid rate EURGBP	DE000A0QZCV3	RSEPSM
Spot mid rate EURJPY	DE000A0QZC03	RSEYSM
Spot mid rate EURUSD	DE000A0QZCT7	RSEUSM
Spot mid rate GBPCHF	DE000A0QZCX9	RSPFSM
Spot mid rate GBPUSD	DE000A0QZCU5	RSPUSM
Spot mid rate NZDUSD	DE000A0SNGQ6	RSNUMS
Spot mid rate USDCHF	DE000A0QZCW1	RSUFMS
Spot mid rate USDJPY	DE000A0QZC37	RSUYSM
Tomorrow-next open rate AUDJPY	DE000A0QZDB3	RSAYTO
Tomorrow-next open rate AUDUSD	DE000A0QZC86	RSAUTO
Tomorrow-next open rate EURAUD	DE000A0QZDA5	RSEATO
Tomorrow-next open rate EURCHF	DE000A0QZC52	RSEFTO
Tomorrow-next open rate EURGBP	DE000A0QZC45	RSEPTO

# 3. OVERVIEW

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Tomorrow-next open rate EURJPY	DE000A0QZDD9	RSEYTO
Tomorrow-next open rate EURUSD	DE000A0QZC29	RSEUTO
Tomorrow-next open rate GBPCHF	DE000A0QZC60	RSPFTO
Tomorrow-next open rate GBPUSD	DE000A0QZC78	RSPUTO
Tomorrow-next open rate NZDUSD	DE000A0SNGP8	RSNUJO
Tomorrow-next open rate USDCHF	DE000A0QZC94	RSUFTO
Tomorrow-next open rate USDJPY	DE000A0QZDC1	RSUYTO

# 4. CALCULATION

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## 4.1. CALCULATION FORMULA

The STOXX FX Rolling Spot Mid Rate index and STOXX FX Rolling Spot Tomorrow Next Open Rate index are designed to be calculated on transaction data; however, quotes can be included in the aggregation when insufficient transaction data is available to form an adequate data point for a currency pair.

### Data observation period

Data are observed over a time window ending at 17:00 CET. The start time of the window can be progressively extended in case data coverage is not sufficient.

### Filtering of outliers

To minimize any bias in the index calculation which may derive from the inclusion of outlier data, a procedure to exclude outliers is in place.

### Aggregation of data

A combined weighting scheme that takes time, type of price and notional size in account aims to increase the representativeness of the index value and to remove the potential for any party to manipulate the fixing.

### 4.1.1. INDEX FORMULA AND INTERMEDIATE CALCULATION STEPS

#### **Overview:**

The process attempts to build an index point at the proposed time by cascading through levels with differing criteria to select data. Each subsequent layer is less restrictive, increasing the available data. The first level to meet the acceptance criteria is used.

Once the relevant data has been selected, filtering and cleansing steps are applied.

To ensure a proportionate treatment of the information available, bid and ask rates are treated separately.

Once all processing is complete, a single spot value and T/N swap value will be produced for each currency pair.

#### **Spot rates:**

1. Define time window:  
5 (or 10 or 15 in subsequent iterations) minutes window ending approx. at 17:00 CET
2. Separate data in bid and ask block (irrespective of whether traded or non-traded values are considered)
3. Prepare traded values for each side (bid and ask):
  - a. ensure that no provider contributes more than 50% of values by filtering out the oldest values from the affected provider
4. Prepare non-traded values for each side (bid and ask):
  - a. remove values with notional below € 750,000
  - b. in case of multiple values with same time-stamp and provider, consider the best ones (highest bid or lowest ask)
5. For the traded values check that:



# 4. CALCULATION

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- a. at least 10 different data points exist, and
- b. at least 3 different providers exist
6. If conditions in step 5 are not met, include non-traded values and check that:
  - a. at least 10 different values exist, and
  - b. at least 3 different providers exist
7. If conditions in step 6 are not met, extend the observation window and restart from step 1. The same time window has to be used for both bid and ask blocks.
8. Filter out outliers:
  - a. sort and group data points in deciles
  - b. exclude the 1<sup>st</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> decile
9. Calculate weighted rates:  $wp_i = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n p_i \cdot tw_i \cdot aw_i \cdot vw_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n tw_i \cdot aw_i \cdot vw_i}$

with:

$tw_i = \frac{1}{2t_i}$ , where  $t_i$  is the time between the time as of which the value was received and the final calculation time

$$aw_i = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if trade} \\ 0.75 & \text{if quote} \end{cases}$$

$$vw_i = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } €0.5m \leq \text{notional} \leq €5m \\ 0.5 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

10. Calculate spot mid rates as arithmetic average of bid and ask.

## Swap rates:

1. Define time window:
    - 1 (or 2 or 4 or 8 or 12 in subsequent iterations) hour window ending approx. at 17:00 CET
  2. Separate data in bid and ask block (irrespective of whether traded or non-traded values are considered)
  3. Prepare traded values for each side (bid and ask):
    - a. ensure that no provider contributes more than 50% of values by filtering out the oldest values from the affected provider
  4. Prepare non-traded values for each side (bid and ask):
    - b. remove values with notional below € 750,000
    - c. in case of multiple values with same time-stamp and provider, consider the best ones (highest bid or lowest ask)
  5. For the combined set of traded and non-traded values check that:
    - d. at least 5 different records exist
    - e. at least 2 different providers exist
  6. If conditions in step 5 are not met, extend the observation window and restart from step 1. The same time window has to be used for both bid and ask blocks.
  7. Filter out outliers:
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- f. Sort and group records in deciles
- g. Filter out the 1<sup>st</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> decile

8. Calculate weighted rates  $wp_i = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n p_i \cdot vw_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n vw_i}$

with:

$$vw_i = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \text{€}0.5m \leq \text{notional} \leq \text{€}5m \\ 0.5 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- 9. Calculate mid rates as arithmetic average of bid and ask.

The Tomorrow Next Open Rate of each currency pair is obtained by summing the calculated spot mid and swap mid rates.

## 4.2. COMPUTATIONAL ACCURACY

Figures of the published STOXX FX Rolling Spot Mid Rate index and STOXX FX Rolling Spot Tomorrow Next Open Rate index are rounded to three decimal places.

## 4.3. DISSEMINATION DAYS AND TIME

The STOXX FX Rolling Spot Mid Rate index and STOXX FX Rolling Spot Tomorrow Next Open Rate are calculated on a daily basis according to STOXX dissemination calendar. The index values are disseminated at 18:30 CET.