# Nasdaq-100 Index®:

## The Benchmark of the 21st Century

August 2026

# Nasdaq: A Leading US and Global Exchange Operator with World-Class Indexing Capabilities

**1971**
Nasdaq Stock Market® began operations as the world's first electronic stock market

**1971**
Intel went public with an IPO on Nasdaq's exchange

**1980**
Apple went public on Nasdaq

**1985**
Nasdaq-100® Index was launched

**1986**
Microsoft went public on Nasdaq

**1990**
Cisco went public on Nasdaq

**1997**
Amazon went public on Nasdaq

**1999**
NVIDIA went public on Nasdaq

**2004**
Google went public on Nasdaq

**2010**
Tesla went public on Nasdaq

**2012**
Facebook went public on Nasdaq

**2014**
Nasdaq begins 50 consecutive quarters of IPO leadership in US

**2026**
Total value of ~3,300 securities listed on the Nasdaq Stock Market®: ~$46T

Source: Nasdaq. Data as of 6/30/2026

# The Benchmark of the 21st Century

Different economic eras deserve distinct benchmarks that measure the most important market participants.

1896 THE DOW

## 30 Industrials

Starting with 12 companies capturing the rise of railroads and manufacturing.

1957 S&P 500

## 500 Large Caps

500 companies reflecting a broader, but still traditional, U.S. economy.

1985 NASDAQ-100

## A New Blueprint

A shift toward innovation-driven growth—non-financial, megacap companies building the future.

TODAY · THE NASDAQ-100

## The benchmark built for the modern economy.

| 100 | 10 | 1 |
|---|---|---|
| Innovative large caps | Sectors across the economy | Leading US exchange |

Source: Nasdaq Global Indexes; Index composition as of Q2 2026.

# Nasdaq-100: The Benchmark of the 21st Century

The Nasdaq-100 is a benchmark of 100 of the largest non-financial companies listed on the Nasdaq Stock Market®.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 100 Innovative large caps | 10 Industries Represented | 1 Leading US exchange |

### LISTING VENUE

100%

Nasdaq-listed

The only major US equity benchmark tied to a single exchange.

### SECTOR BREADTH

10 of 11

ICB industries represented

Ten industries, no financials. Tech sector tilt, with innovation exposure in 9 other industries.

### GROWTH/VALUE OVERLAP

79%/43%

Russell 1000 Growth/Value overlap

61/51 of 100 names also sit in the Russell 1000 Growth/Value. Built-in growth tilt with quality value.

### MODERN COMPANIES

81%

weight from post-1980 IPOs

A modern-economy index by construction.

### GLOBAL REACH

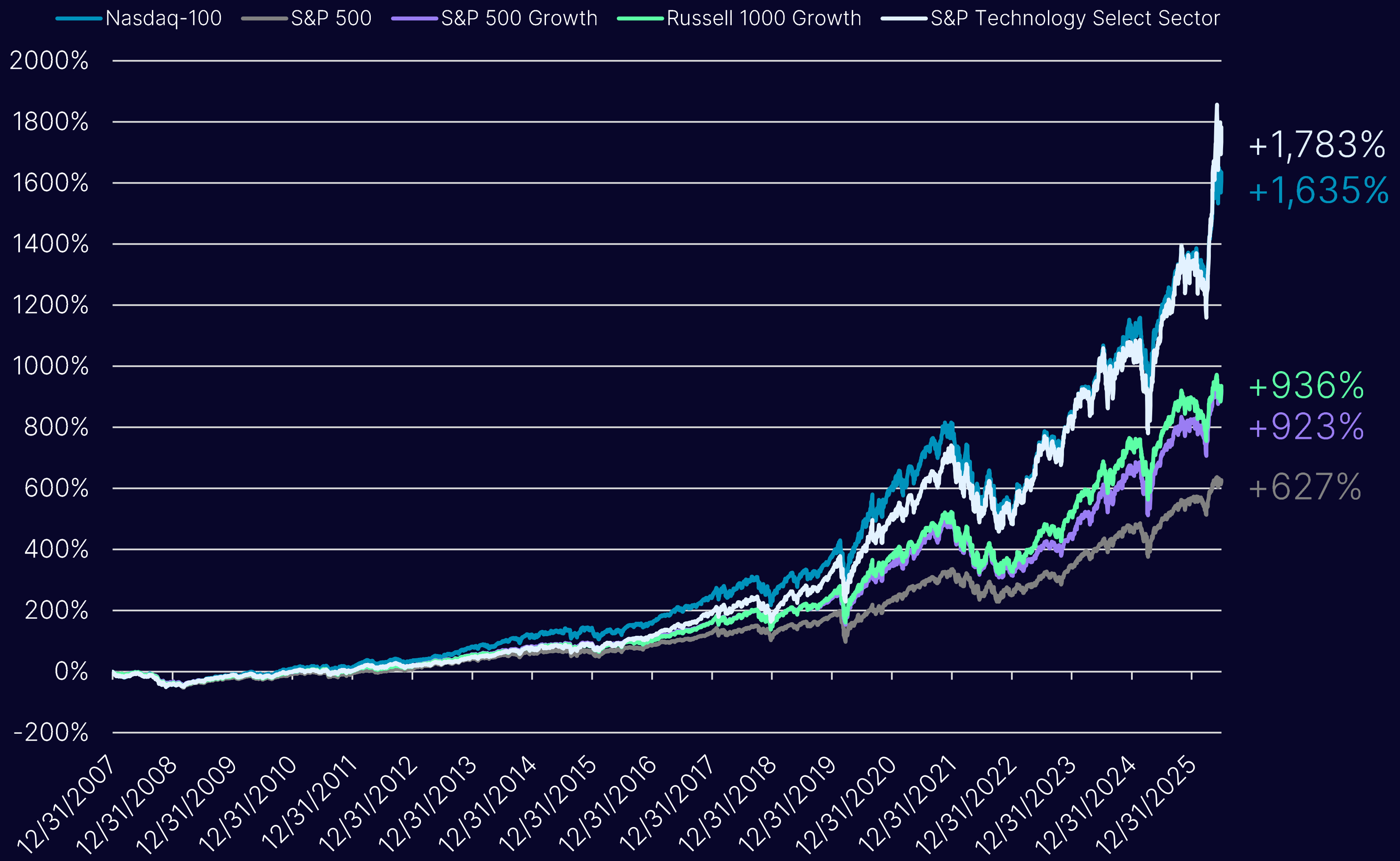
9

international names

Arm, ASML, Mercado Libre, and six other globally domiciled innovators.

Source: Nasdaq, FactSet, Bloomberg. Data as of 6/30/2026

# Nasdaq-100's Long-Run Performance vs. Benchmarks




## KEY TAKEAWAYS

### 01

In line with S&P Tech Sector despite being far more diversified

### 02

More than 2× the S&P 500's return, with similar volatility

### 03

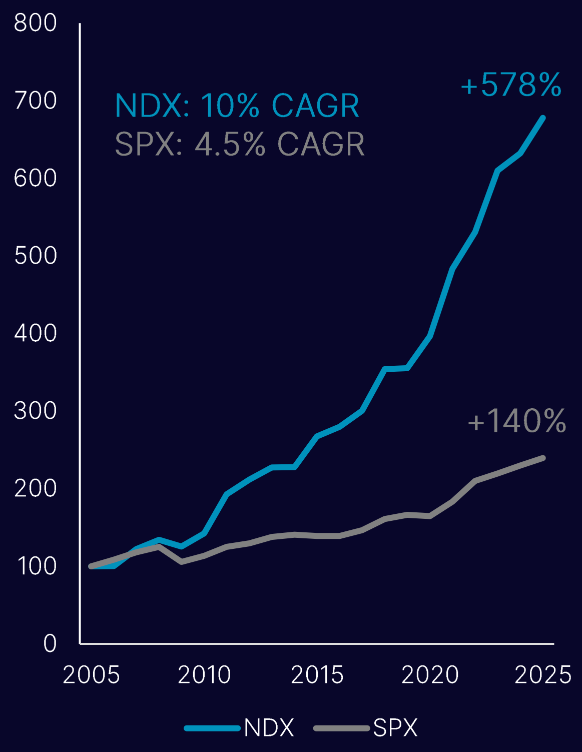
Substantially higher performance vs. leading US Large Cap Growth benchmarks

Source: Nasdaq, Bloomberg. Total return versions of each index shown. Data as of 06/30/2026.

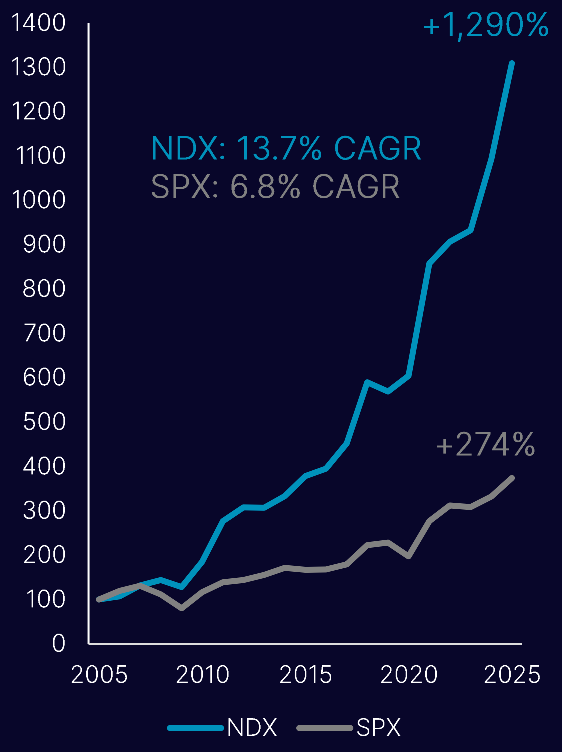
# Two Decades of Fundamental Outperformance

- Over the last 20 years, the Nasdaq-100 has produced annualized growth in Revenues / Earnings / Free Cash Flow approximately twice that of the broader S&P 500, and 2.5 times the rate of dividend growth.
- On a cumulative basis, NDX index-weighted revenue per share has grown by ~6x vs. 1.4x for the S&P 500; earnings per share (EPS) has grown by 13x vs. <3x for S&P 500; free cash flow by 11x vs. 2.5x; and dividends by 18x vs. 2.5x

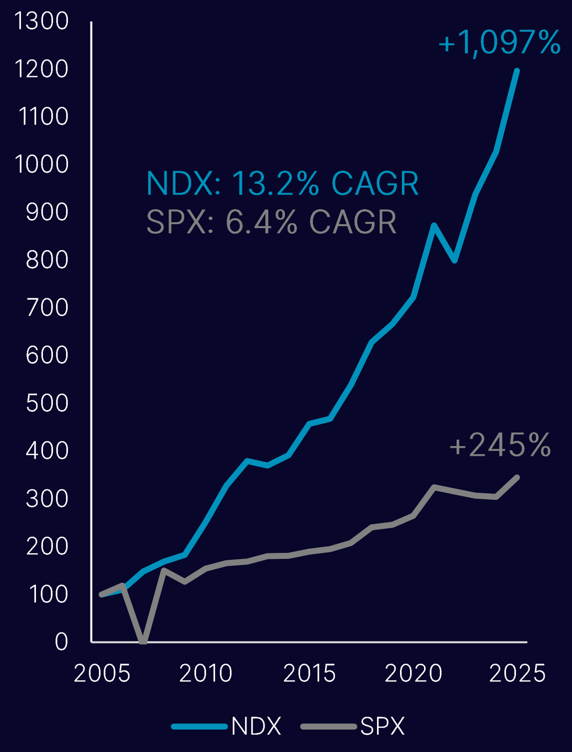
Revenues



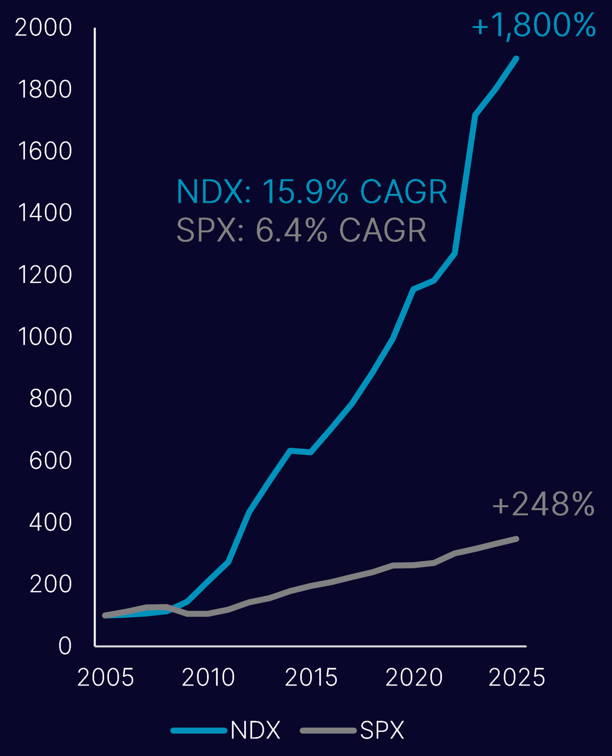

Earnings




Free Cash Flow



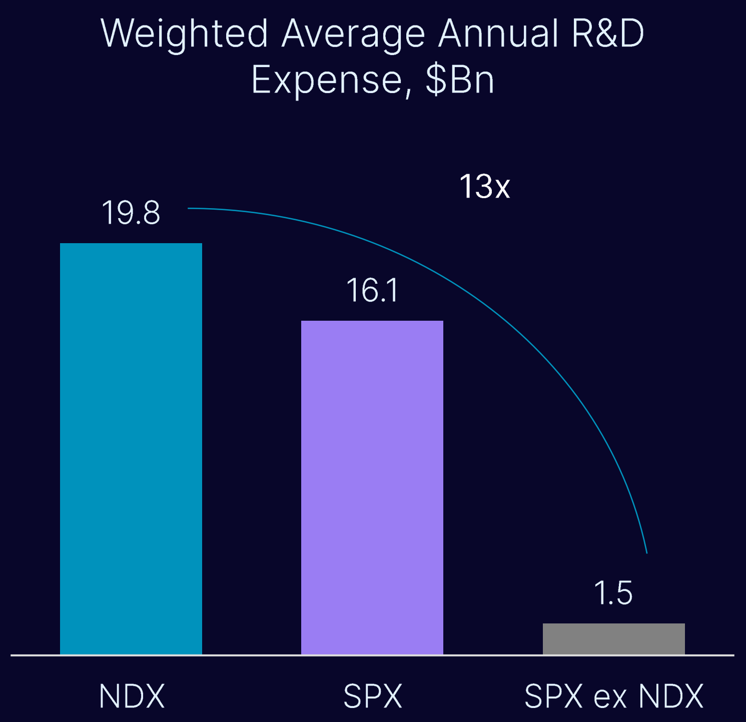

Dividends

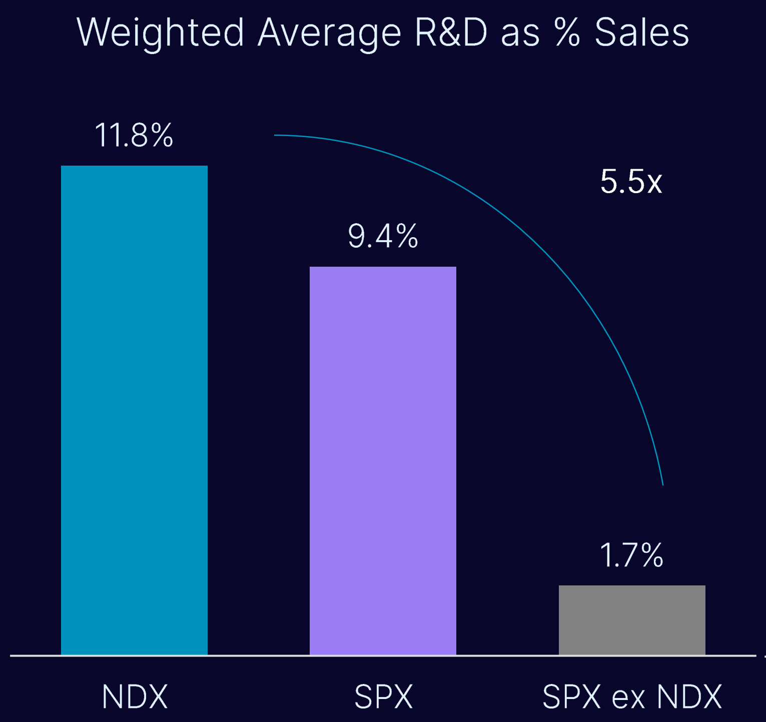


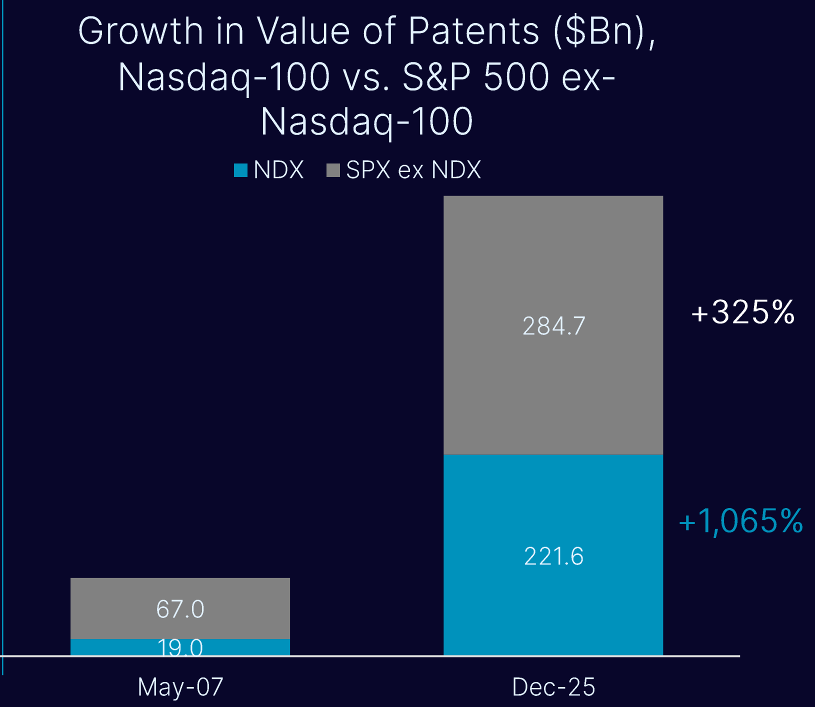

Source: Nasdaq, Bloomberg. Data as of 3/12/2026.

# Nasdaq-100 is an Innovation Powerhouse

- R&D is a key driver of innovation and economic growth, with empirical support showing that high R&D spending firms outperform over the long run
- Companies in the Nasdaq-100 spend about 1.2x in R&D, on average, compared to those in the S&P 500; 85 of the Nasdaq-100 are currently part of the S&P 500; <u>excluding overlapping names ("SPX ex NDX"), the average Nasdaq-100 company spends 13x as much in R&D vs. typical S&P 500 company</u>
- Calculating R&D as a percent of sales in the last 12 months, Nasdaq-100 companies averaged 1.1x more than S&P 500; <u>excluding overlapping names ("SPX ex NDX"), they spent ~5.5x as much on average</u>
- <u>Proprietary data on patent valuations tells a similar story: Nasdaq-100 companies have grown the value of their patent portfolios approximately twice as fast as the S&P 500 over the past two decades; excluding overlapping names ("SPX ex NDX"), they have grown more than three times as fast</u>




Source: Factset, Nasdaq, IPR Strategies via Nasdaq Data Link. Based on index constituents as of 3/31/2026. IPR Data as of 12/31/2025.

# Performance Deep Dive

# Nasdaq-100: Historical 1-Year Price Returns

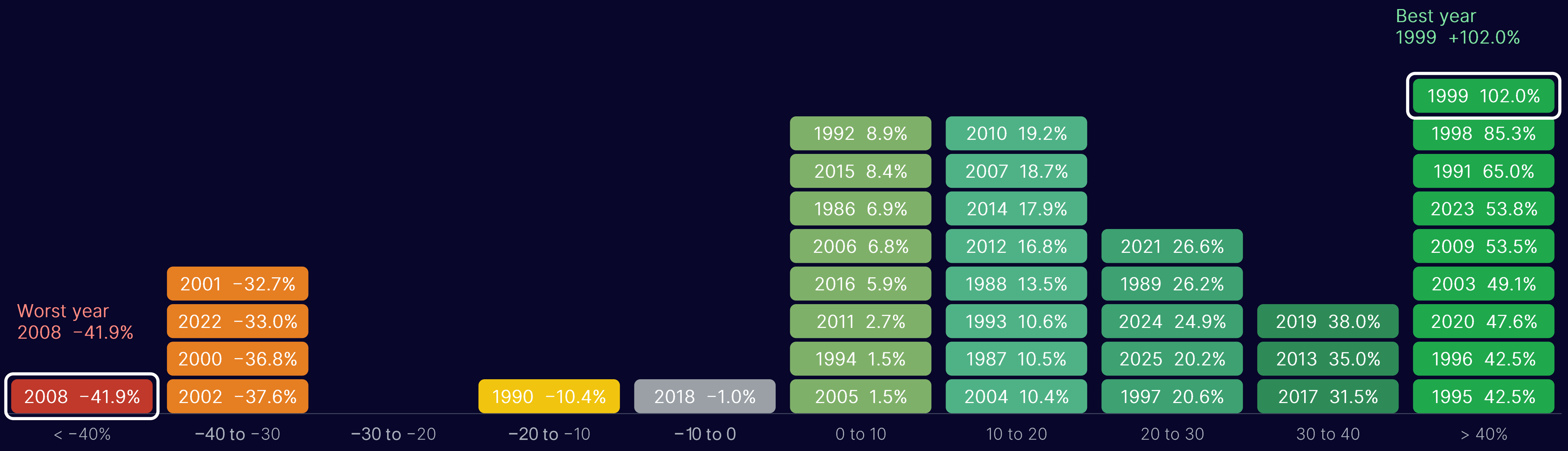
~4 decades in, the index has produced positive price returns in more than 8 years per decade on average.

**82.5%** Positive Years (33 / 40)

**18.3%** Average Annual Return

**+28.0%** Avg. Positive Year

**−27.6%** Avg. Negative Year

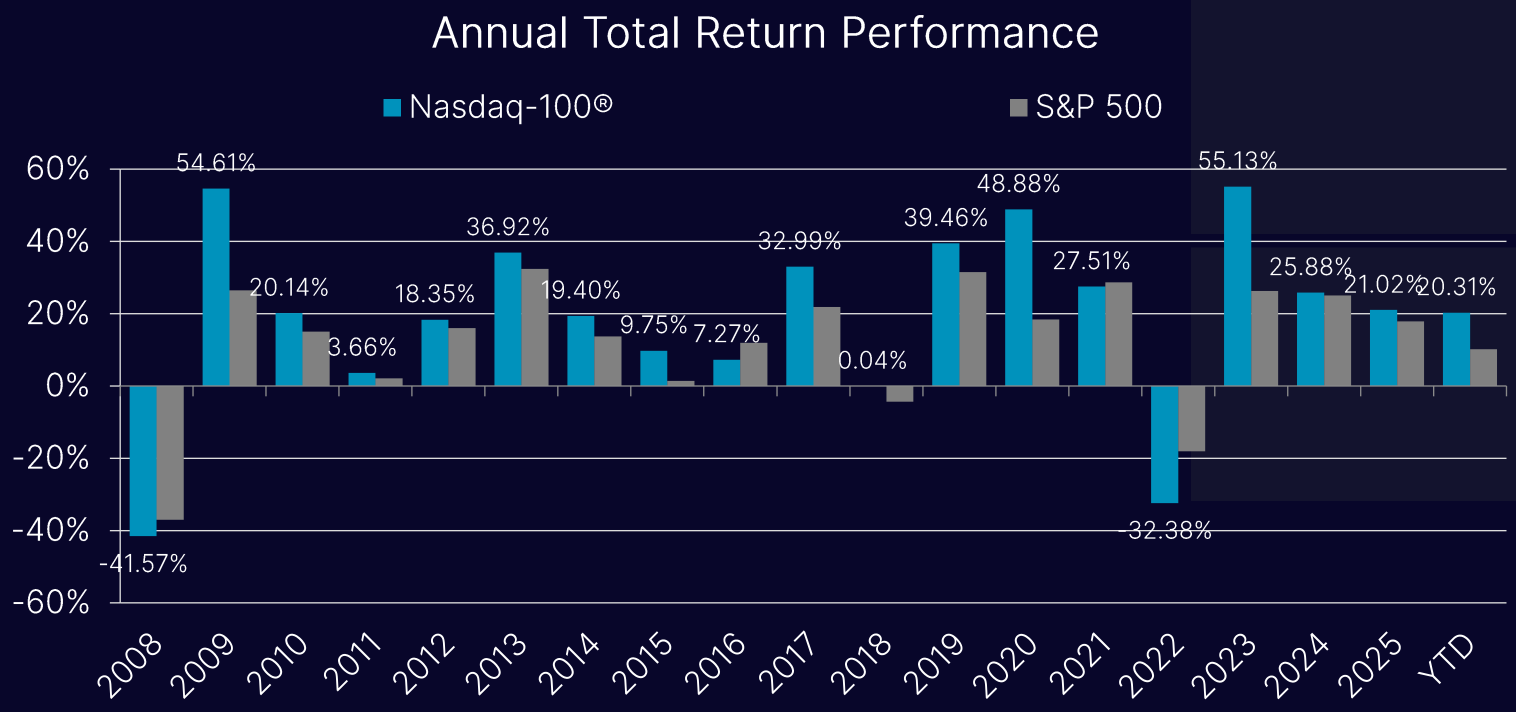



Source: Nasdaq Global Indexes. Data as of between 12/31/1985 and 12/31/2025.
Annual returns calculated based on the Nasdaq-100 Price Return Index's closing price on the final trading day of December.

# Nasdaq-100 Index: Performance vs. S&P 500

Outperformed the S&P 500 in 14 of 18 years — with only ~3% higher annualized volatility.

## INDEX ANNUAL TOTAL RETURNS




NDX has trailed in only 4 of 18 years; only one (2022) by more than 4%. YTD = through June 30, 2026.

## 18-YEAR CUMULATIVE

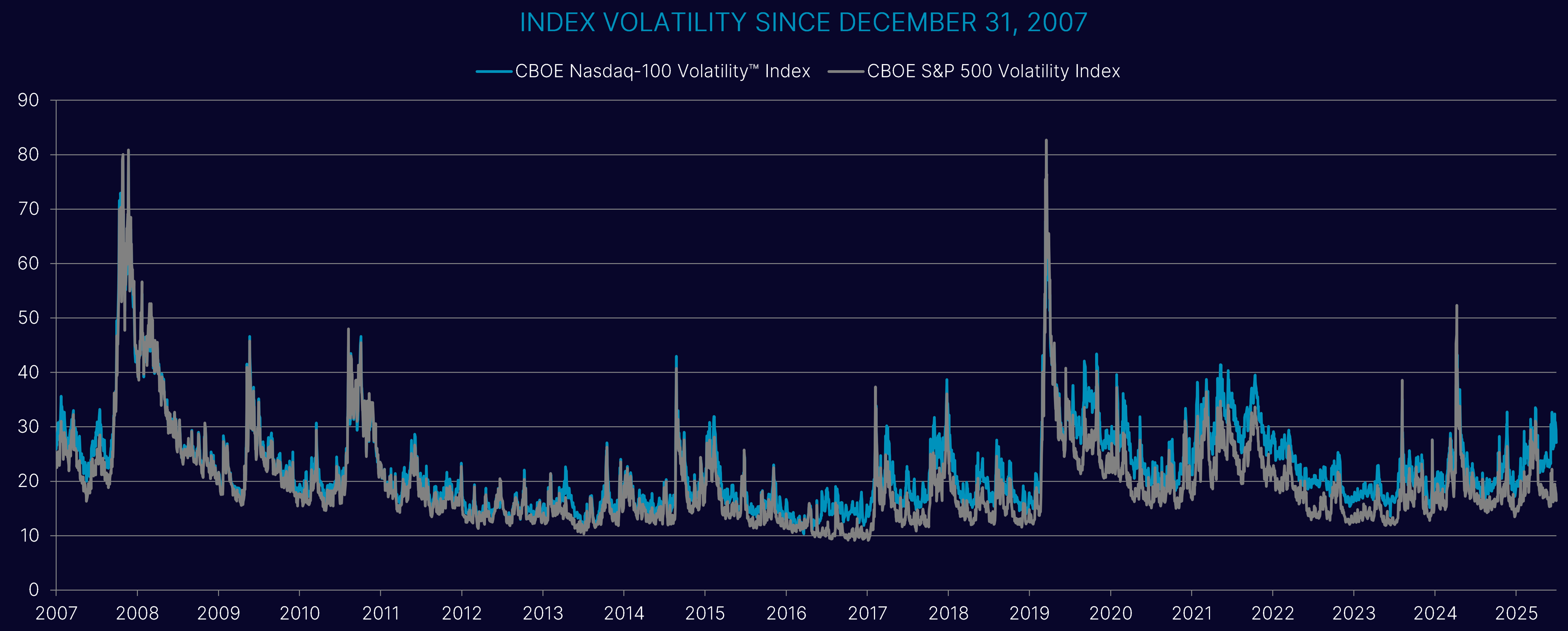
**+1,635%**
NDX cumulative total return
vs. +627% S&P 500 (~2.6x)

**16.7%**
NDX annualized return
vs. 11.3% S&P 500

**22.9%**
NDX annualized volatility
vs. 19.9% S&P 500 — only ~3% higher

Source: Nasdaq, Bloomberg. Data as of 6/30/2026.

# Nasdaq-100: Performance vs. S&P 500




Cumulative annualized volatility was 22.8% for NDX vs. 19.9% for SPX, only ~3% higher per year.

Source: Nasdaq, Bloomberg. Data as of 6/30/2026

# Nasdaq-100® Cumulative 2026 Performance vs. Top 10

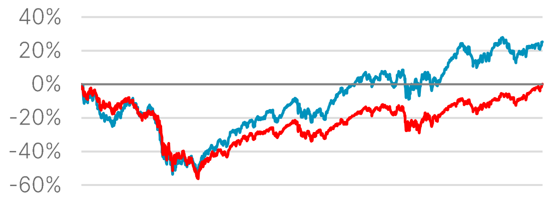
| January | February | March | April | May | June |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| YTD NDX 1.20% | YTD NDX -1.15% | YTD NDX -5.98% | YTD NDX 8.72% | YTD NDX 20.13% | YTD NDX 19.91% |
| COST 9.19% | COST 17.38% | COST 15.71% | GOOGL 23.02% | AVGO 29.35% | GOOGL 14.32% |
| META 8.55% | WMT 14.85% | WMT 11.78% | AVGO 20.85% | GOOGL 21.60% | AVGO 9.55% |
| GOOGL 7.99% | GOOGL -0.40% | NVDA -6.48% | WMT 18.66% | AMZN 17.25% | COST 8.79% |
| WMT 6.94% | META -1.80% | AAPL -6.56% | COST 17.81% | AAPL 15.00% | NVDA 7.42% |
| AMZN 3.67% | AAPL -2.73% | GOOGL -8.06% | AMZN 14.83% | NVDA 13.22% | AAPL 6.64% |
| NVDA 2.48% | NVDA -4.99% | AMZN -9.77% | NVDA 7.01% | COST 11.21% | AMZN 3.26% |
| AVGO -4.28% | AVGO -7.67% | AVGO -10.39% | AAPL -0.09% | WMT 4.31% | WMT 2.07% |
| TSLA -4.29% | AMZN -9.02% | META -13.25% | META -7.22% | TSLA -3.10% | TSLA -6.48% |
| AAPL -4.55% | TSLA -10.50% | TSLA -17.34% | TSLA -15.14% | META -4.10% | META -14.52% |
| MSFT -11.03% | MSFT -18.61% | MSFT -23.28% | MSFT -15.49% | MSFT -6.49% | MSFT -22.53% |

Source: Nasdaq, Factset. Data as of 6/30/2026.

# NDX vs SPX: Drawdown Recovery

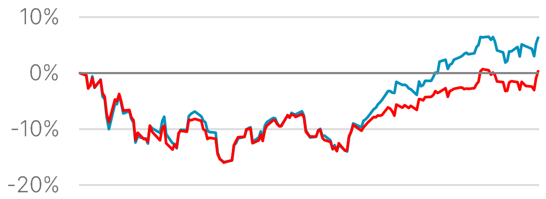
25% faster recovery on average — NDX rebounds in 361 days vs. 476 for the S&P 500, faster in 7 of the last 8 drawdowns.

## 2008 Financial Crisis



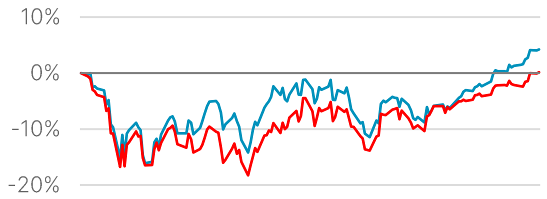

| Index | NDX | SPX |
|---|---|---|
| Recovery (Days) | 1160 | 1955 |

## 2010 European Debt Crisis



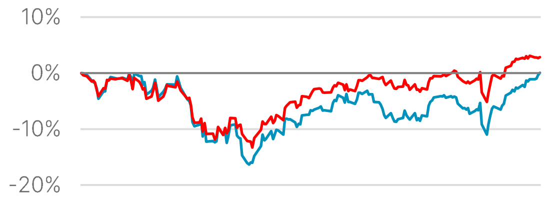

| Index | NDX | SPX |
|---|---|---|
| Recovery (Days) | 173 | 195 |

## 2011 US Credit Downgrade



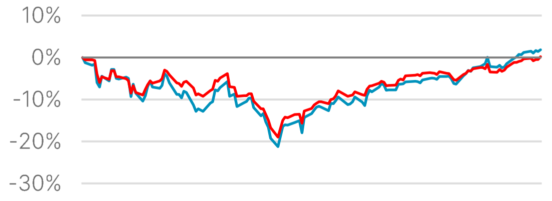

| Index | NDX | SPX |
|---|---|---|
| Recovery (Days) | 181 | 200 |

## 2015 China Yuan Devaluation



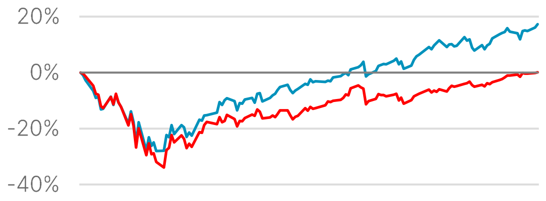

| Index | NDX | SPX |
|---|---|---|
| Recovery (Days) | 268 | 217 |

## 2018 Fed Rate Hikes



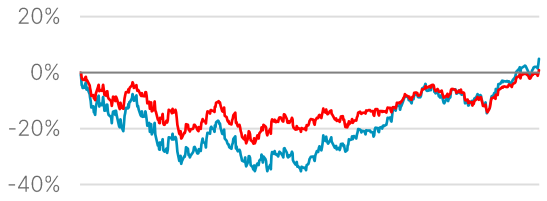

| Index | NDX | SPX |
|---|---|---|
| Recovery (Days) | 168 | 190 |

## 2020 Covid-19 Pandemic



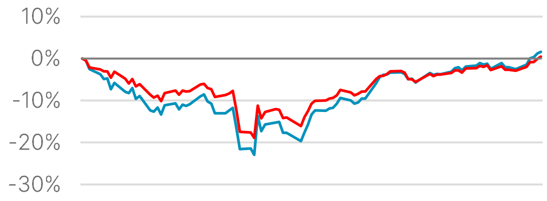

| Index | NDX | SPX |
|---|---|---|
| Recovery (Days) | 107 | 181 |

## 2022 Fed Rate Hikes




| Index | NDX | SPX |
|---|---|---|
| Recovery (Days) | 709 | 746 |

## 2025 Tariffs and Trade War




| Index | NDX | SPX |
|---|---|---|
| Recovery (Days) | 125 | 128 |

Source: Nasdaq, Bloomberg. Data between 12/30/2005 and 11/28/2025. Price Return Index return metrics shown.

# Morningstar Rankings

**Invesco QQQ Trust** QQQ ★★★★★ Morningstar Medalist Rating

Medalist Rating as of Apr 28, 2025 | See Invesco Investment Hub >

## Trailing Returns

Month End as of 12/31/2025

| | 1-Month | 3-Month | YTD | 1-Year | 3-Year | 5-Year | 10-Year | 15-Year | Earliest Available |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Total Return % (Price) | -0.67 | 2.45 | 20.77 | 20.77 | 32.92 | 15.07 | 19.45 | 18.57 | 10.41 |
| Total Return % (NAV) | -0.69 | 2.42 | 20.77 | 20.77 | 32.91 | 15.06 | 19.45 | 18.57 | 10.42 |
| Category (NAV) | -0.34 | 0.55 | 16.10 | 16.10 | 27.59 | 11.28 | 15.25 | 14.18 | — |
| Index | -0.10 | -0.18 | 16.67 | 16.67 | 29.60 | 13.44 | 16.49 | 15.55 | — |
| Quartile Rank | | | | | | | | | — |
| Percentile Rank | 62 | 19 | 16 | 16 | 18 | 15 | 4 | 2 | — |
| Tax Adj. Returns %* | -0.74 | 2.37 | 20.52 | 20.52 | 32.58 | 14.78 | 19.13 | 18.19 | 10.17 |
| Percentile Rank (tax) | 35 | 12 | 13 | 13 | 15 | 8 | 1 | 1 | — |
| Tax Cost Ratio | — | — | — | 0.20 | 0.24 | 0.24 | 0.27 | 0.32 | 0.23 |
| # of Invest. in Cat. | 1,105 | 1,102 | 1,080 | 1,080 | 1,004 | 936 | 755 | 578 | — |

QQQ, largest fund tracking NDX, ranked in the top (95-99$^{th}$) percentiles across all funds in its Large Growth category (trailing 10/15-year basis)

# Coveted Placement

## The 100 that Make the Index

# Nasdaq-100: Constituent Size vs. S&P 500

As of year-end 2025, NDX companies are at least 2x larger than S&P 500 peers across the board.

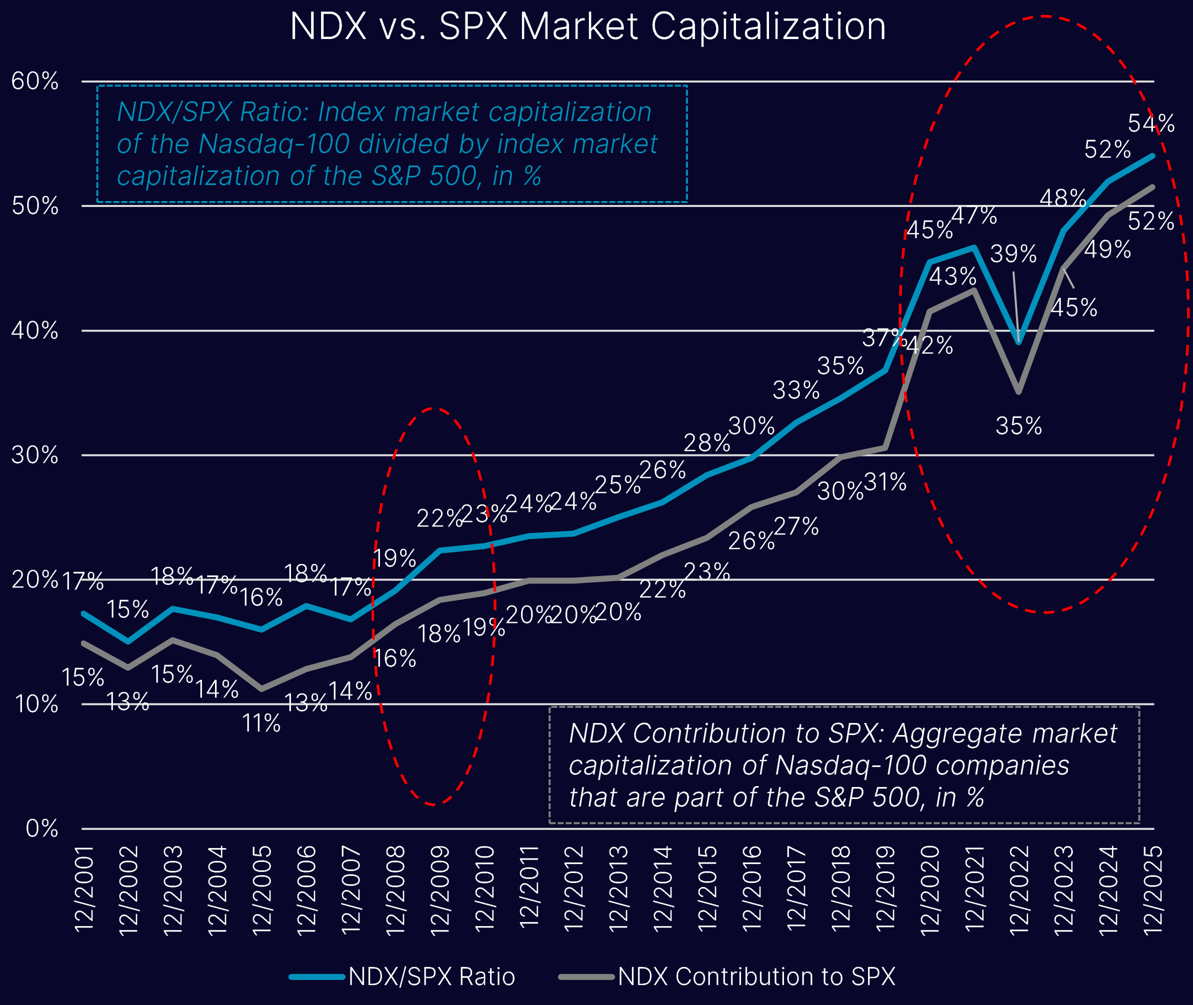
| AVERAGE MARKET CAP | MEDIAN MARKET CAP | SMALLEST COMPANY |
|---|---|---|
| $330B | $78B | $26B |
| NDX | NDX | NDX |
| vs. $122B S&P 500 | vs. $39B S&P 500 | vs. $6B S&P 500 |
| 2.7× larger | 2.0× larger | 4.5× larger |
| NDX > SPX in 16 of last 17 years | NDX > SPX in 13 of last 13 years | NDX > SPX in 17 of last 17 years |

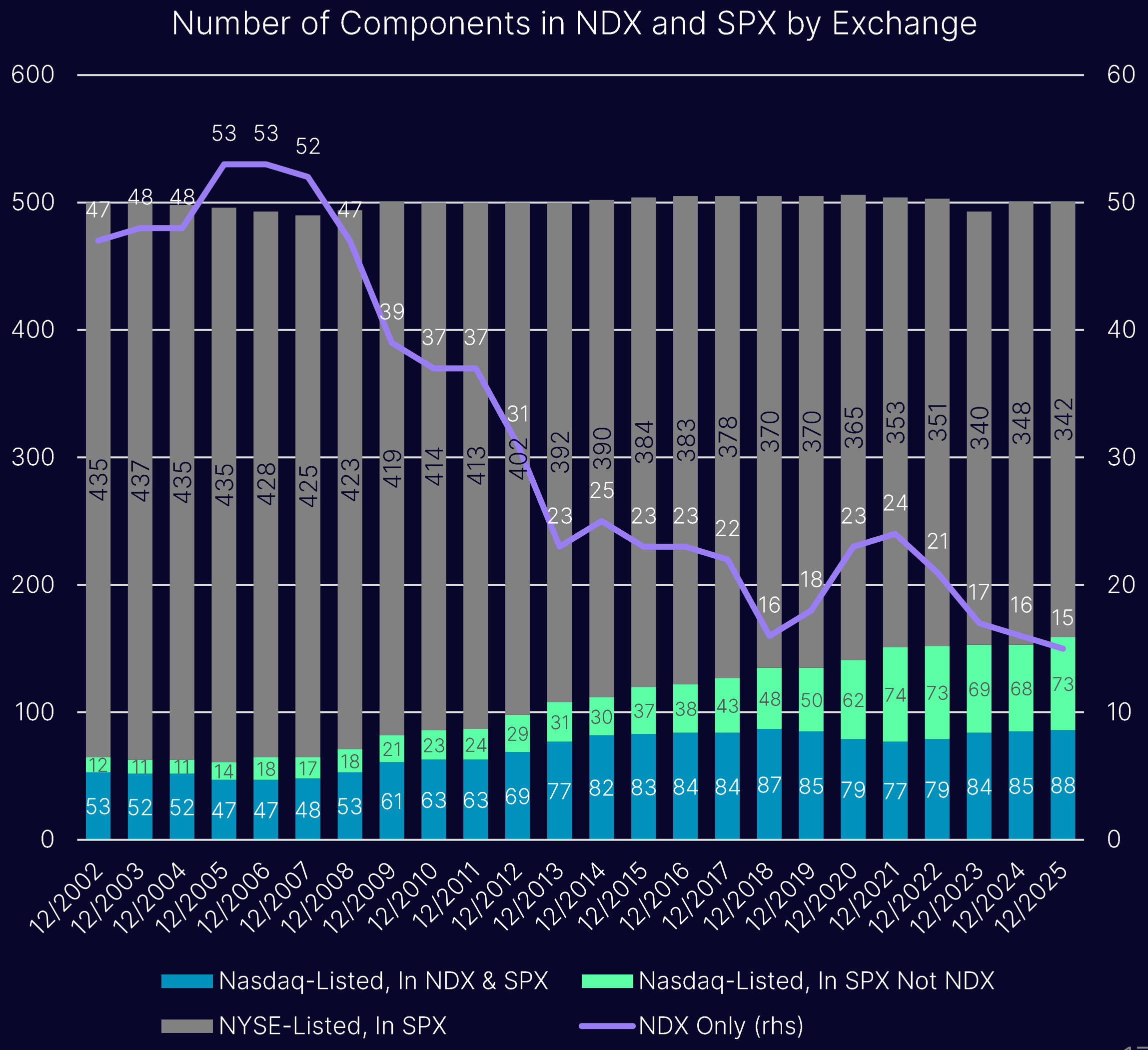
*NDX companies have been larger than S&P 500 peers at every percentile, every year, since 2008.*

*Every NDX constituent today is a verifiable large-cap company. The same cannot be said for S&P 500.*

Source: Nasdaq, Bloomberg, FactSet; Data as of 12/31/2025

# Nasdaq-100 vs. S&P 500: Composition Over Time




Source: Nasdaq Global Indexes, Bloomberg. Data as of 12/31/2025.

# Nasdaq-100: Index Methodology

| 100 | Modified | Quarterly | Annual |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Largest Nasdaq-listed companies, ex-Financials | Market-cap weighting<br>Not float-adjusted | Rebalances (w/ capping) and additions/deletions | Reconstitution (w/ unique capping process) |

## What gets into the index & when

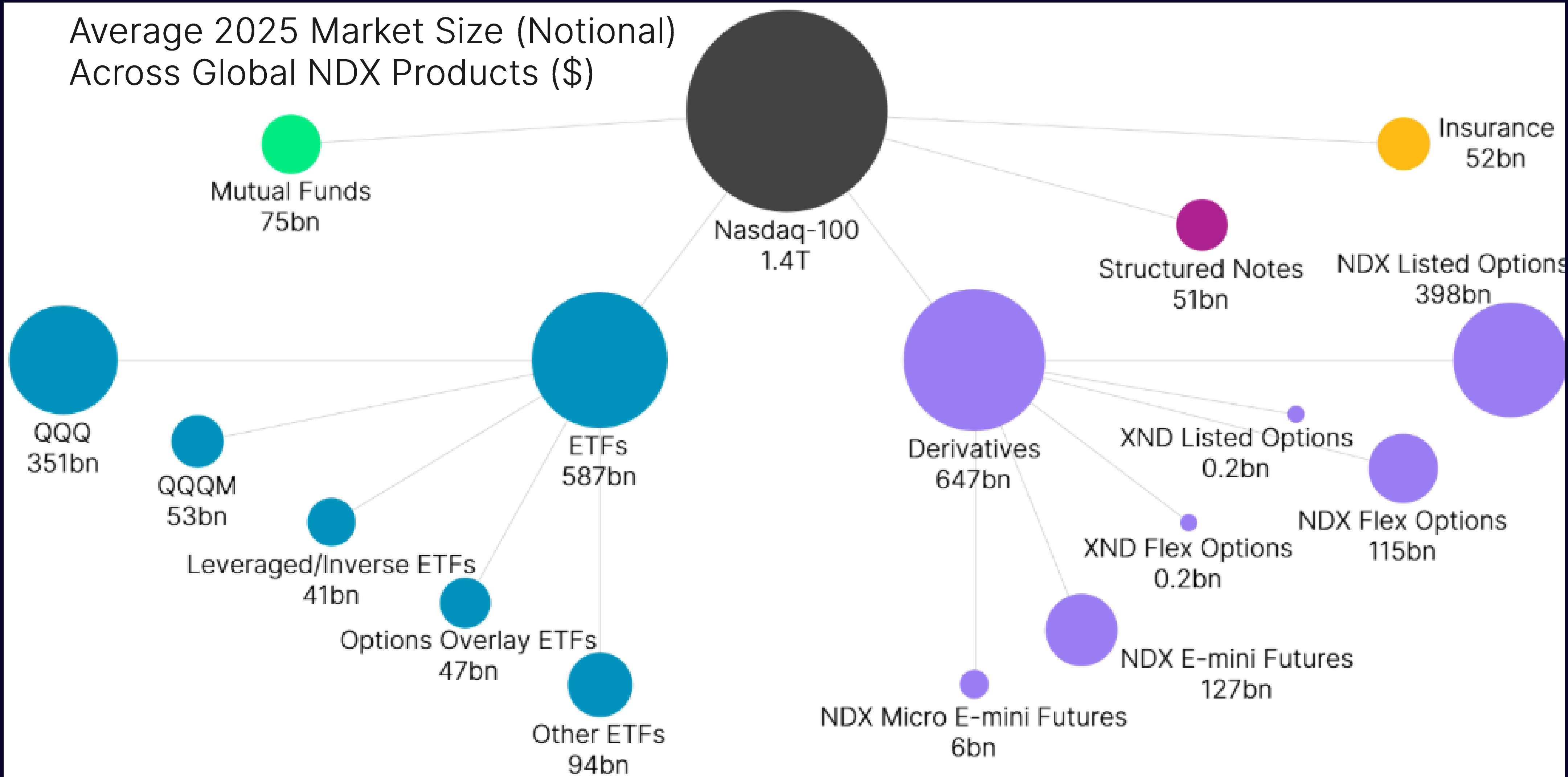
- 100 of the largest non-financial companies listed on Nasdaq
- Global companies including ADRs; excludes Financials & REITs (ICB)
- Rebalanced quarterly (March / June / September / December) including deletions for names ranked outside Top 125
- Reconstituted annually in December
- Fast Entry (new for 2026) allows expedited additions for IPOs/exchange switches ranked in the Top 40
- Standard three-month seasoning criteria otherwise applies

## Concentration safeguards

- Quarterly: any issuer >24% weight capped at 20%; group of issuers >4.5% capped at 40% if aggregate exceeds 48%
- Annual: any issuer >15% capped at 14%; Top 5 capped at 38.5% if aggregate exceeds 40%
- Annual: all other securities capped at 4.4% (or the #5 weight, if lower)

Source: Nasdaq Global Indexes

# Nasdaq-100 Ecosystem Continues Expanding

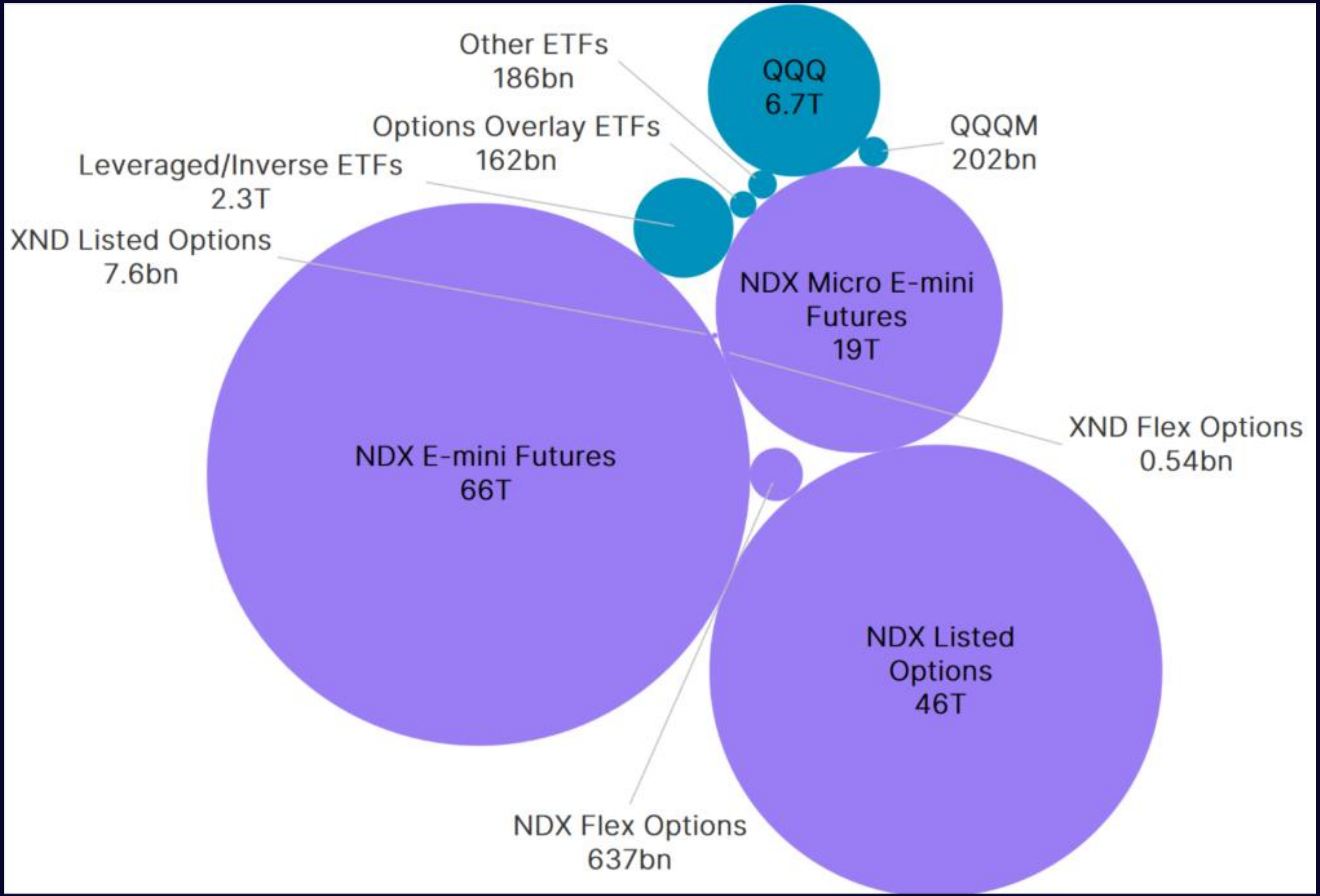



$350bn in total notional value added in 2025

Source: Nasdaq, CME, OCC, Factset, Bloomberg, Morningstar. ETF and Mutual Fund sizes are reflective of the Assets Under Management linked or benchmarked to NDX. ETF and Mutual Fund sizes reflective of average AUM across 2025. Structured Note and Insurance sizes reflective of total capital invested in live transactions as of 12/31/2025. Derivatives sizes reflective of average total notional open interest across 2025. Total NDX size data stated in trillions rounded to one decimal point, XND Flex Option Size stated in billions rounded to two decimal points, XND Listed Option Size stated in billions rounded to one decimal point, and all others stated in billions rounded to the nearest whole number.

# Nasdaq-100 Volumes Well Over $100 Trillion

2025 Dollar Volume Across Exchange-Traded NDX Products ($)




- In 2025, total notional traded across Nasdaq-100 futures (~$85 trillion), Nasdaq-100 listed options (~$46 trillion), and ETFs (~$7 trillion) exceeded $140 trillion.
- Per CME: "Once the E-mini Nasdaq-100 debuted, it was quickly evident that having another mini-sized stock index futures contract to complement the E-mini S&P 500 mattered to investors."
- CME's Micro E-mini Equity Index suite covers only six major indices: S&P 500, Nasdaq-100, Russell 2000, Dow Jones Industrial Average, S&P MidCap 400, S&P SmallCap 600.
- NDX Micro E-mini volumes often exceed SPX and can represent >50% of all Micro E-mini volume

Source: Nasdaq, CME, OCC, Factset, Bloomberg, Morningstar. All volume data dollar denominated and cumulative between 1/1/2025 and 12/31/2025. All values rounded to a minimum of 2 significant figures, with 3 digit values being rounded to the nearest whole number. "bn" refers to billions, while "T" denotes trillions.

# Fundamentals Drive Performance

# What's inside the NDX today

10 sectors, 100 names — diversification across the modern economy.

SECTOR BREAKDOWN · Q2 2026

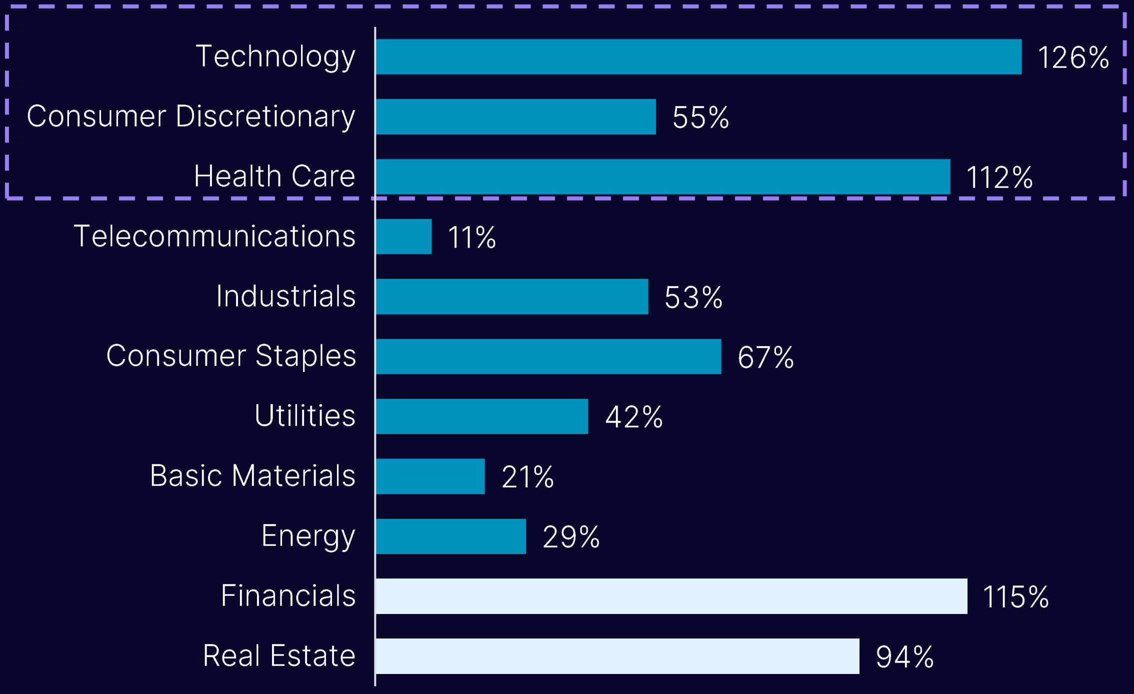
| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Technology | 68.5% | Consumer Staples | 2.0% |
| Consumer Disc. | 16.4% | Basic Materials | 1.3% |
| Health Care | 3.6% | Utilities | 1.1% |
| Telecom | 3.5% | Energy | 0.5% |
| Industrials | 3.1% | Real Estate | 0.0% |

Source: Nasdaq Global Indexes; sector weights as of Q2 2026.

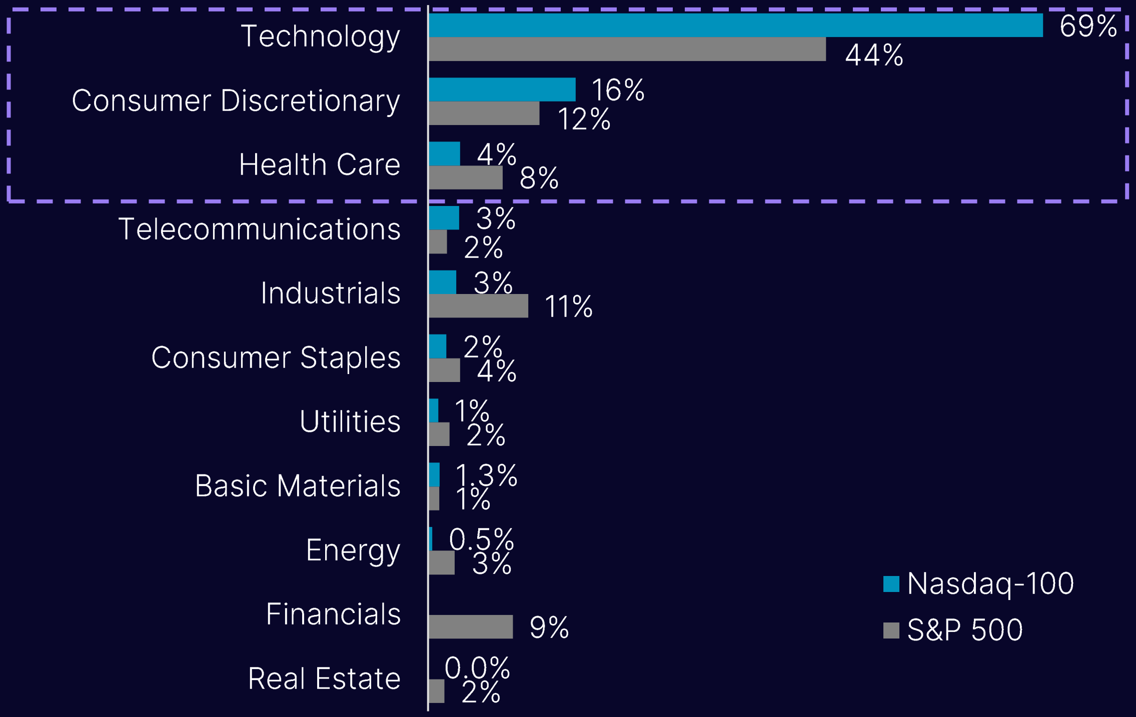
# Nasdaq-100 Tracks Growth of New Economy

The underlying story for the rise in the Nasdaq-100 is that the U.S.'s economic growth is shifting from capital-intensive, traditional industries (Industrials, Materials & Energy) to the “new-economy” sectors such as Health Care, Technology & Consumer. (Note: Real Estate was by far the smallest sector, representing ~1% of aggregate revenue.)

## 10-Year Sales Growth Across Industries in US Large & Midcaps




## Industry Breakdown: Nasdaq-100 vs. S&P 500 (June 2026)



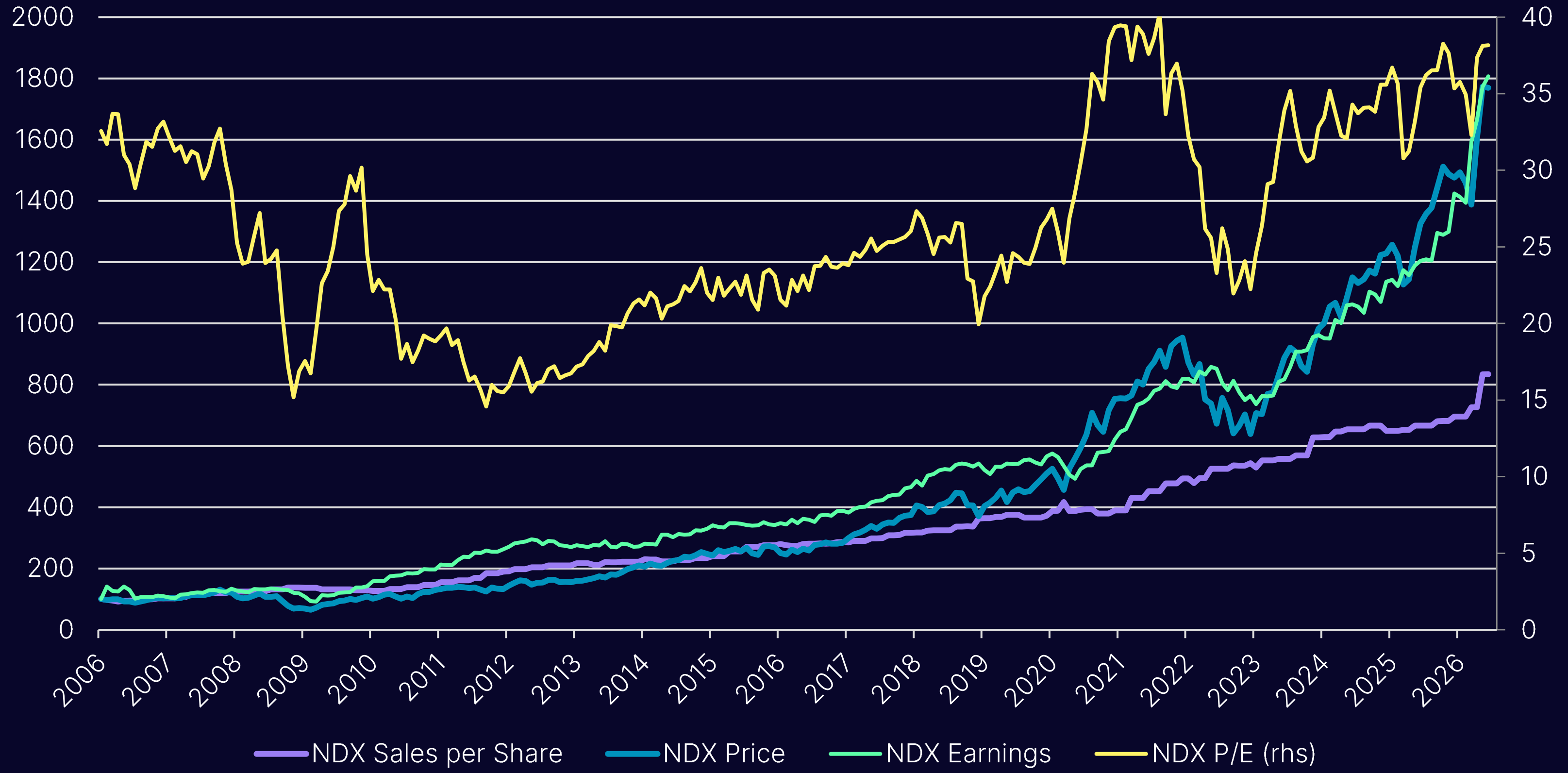

Source: : Nasdaq, Factset. Bloomberg. Industry index weights as of June 30, 2026.
Sales Growth data as of December 31, 2025. Nasdaq US Large Mid Cap Index (NQUSBLM) used as the benchmark for industry sales growth.

# What Powers NDX Returns? Earnings.

Since 2006, NDX earnings have grown nearly 17x — and price simply followed.

| EARNINGS GROWTH | PRICE RETURN | SALES GROWTH | VALUATION CHANGE |
|---|---|---|---|
| +1,707% | +1,670% | +734% | +17% |

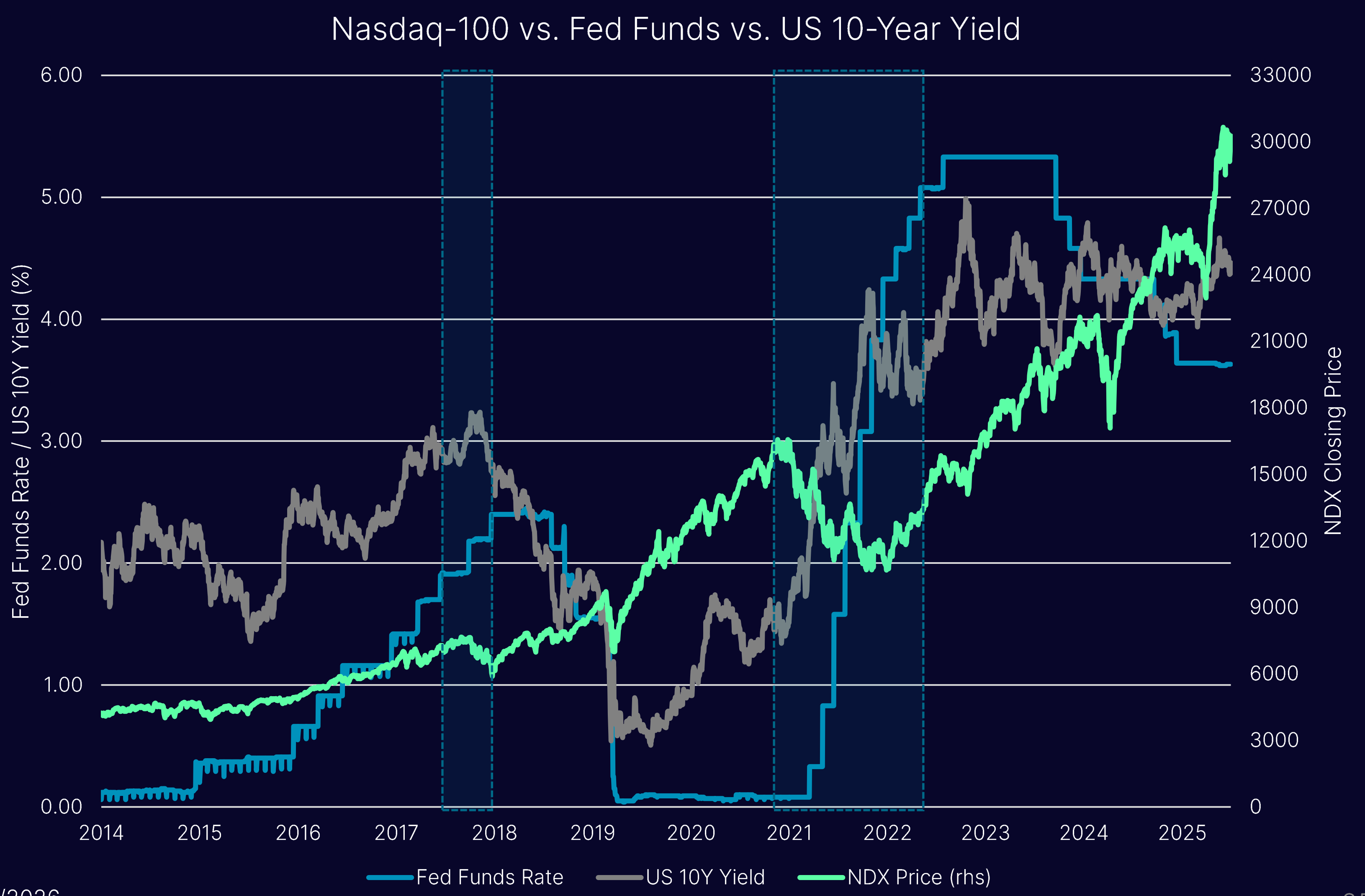
- From 2014-2019, NDX P/E ratio (TTM basis) in low-to-mid 20s, below where it was in the mid-2000s
- The trend briefly diverged during 2020-2021, with P/E climbing to a range in the mid-to-upper 30s
- The trend has now diverged again, with P/Es reaching above 30 to reflect the upwardly revised expectations for earnings growth
- Fundamental story has been the main driver of long-run recovery, rewarding the growth of NDX companies




Source: Nasdaq, Bloomberg. Based on headline (trailing) P/E and 1-year forward EPS estimates. Data as of 6/30/2026.

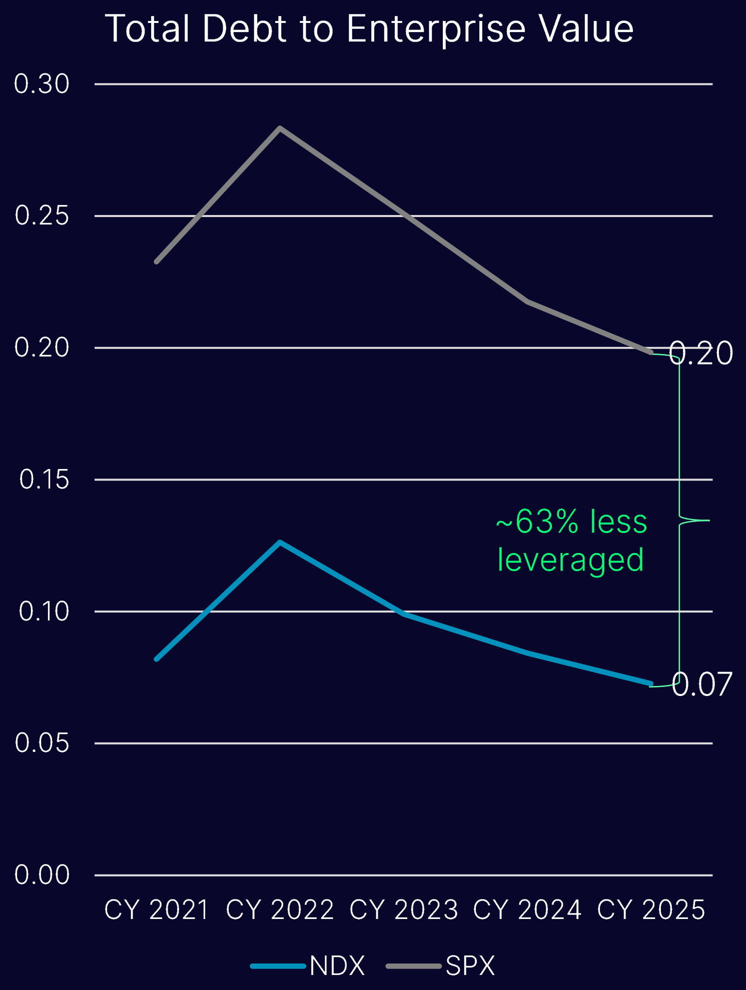
# Nasdaq-100: Performance vs. Interest Rates

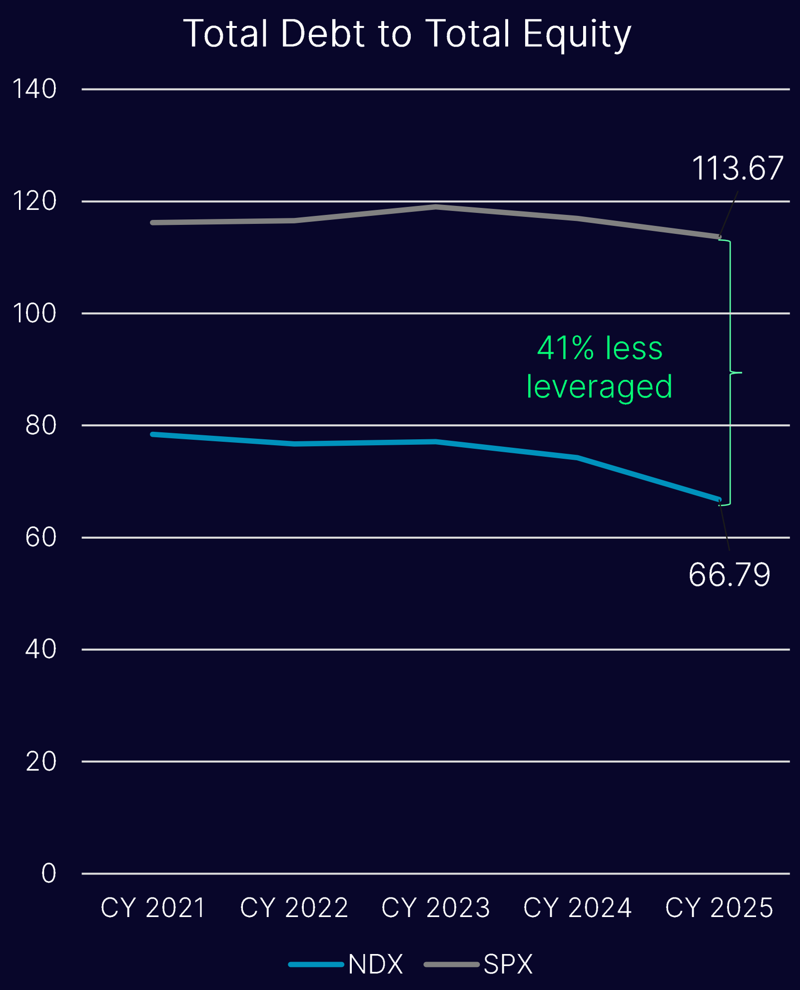
- The last Fed rate hiking cycle began in December 2015, and consisted of 9 hikes of 25 bps each (total = 225 bps)
- The Nasdaq-100 dropped 23% during Q4 of 2018, until the Fed began telegraphing a pause in hikes
- In 2022/3, the Fed raised rates by 525 bps, followed by a long pause as inflation cooled from a peak of ~9% to ~3% annualized
- The Fed's first rate cuts in this cycle began in September 2024, with further cuts paused to allow for equilibrium in foreign trade policy.




Source: Nasdaq, FactSet, Bloomberg. Data as of 6/30/2026.

# Nasdaq-100 vs. S&P 500: Significantly Less Leveraged


Source: Nasdaq, Bloomberg. Data as of 7/31/2026.

# Quantifying Innovation

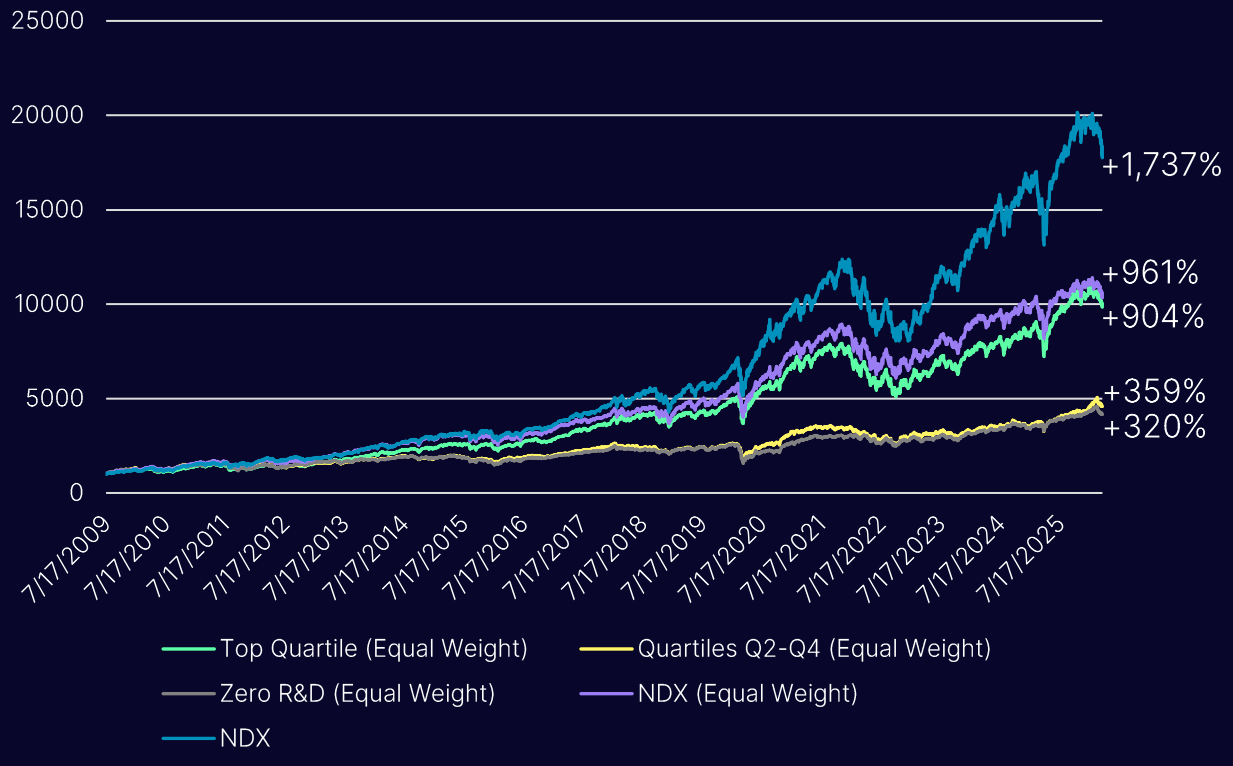
# The Growing Importance of R&D

The underlying story for the rise in the Nasdaq-100 is that economic growth is shifting from capital-intensive, traditional industries to the “new-economy” sectors that are increasingly driven by innovation, which can be measured by patents and R&D spending.
Top Quartile of R&D spenders reinvest ~5-6x more as % of Sales vs. Quartiles 2/3/4, & have superior sales growth / price performance

Qualcomm’s “Patent Wall” at Global Headquarters


- 2nd Most Valuable Patent Portfolio (>18,000 public companies)
- Patent filings in 20 of 35 Disruptive Tech sub-themes
- Patent contribution ratios of ~16% each in Spacecraft/Satellites + IoT

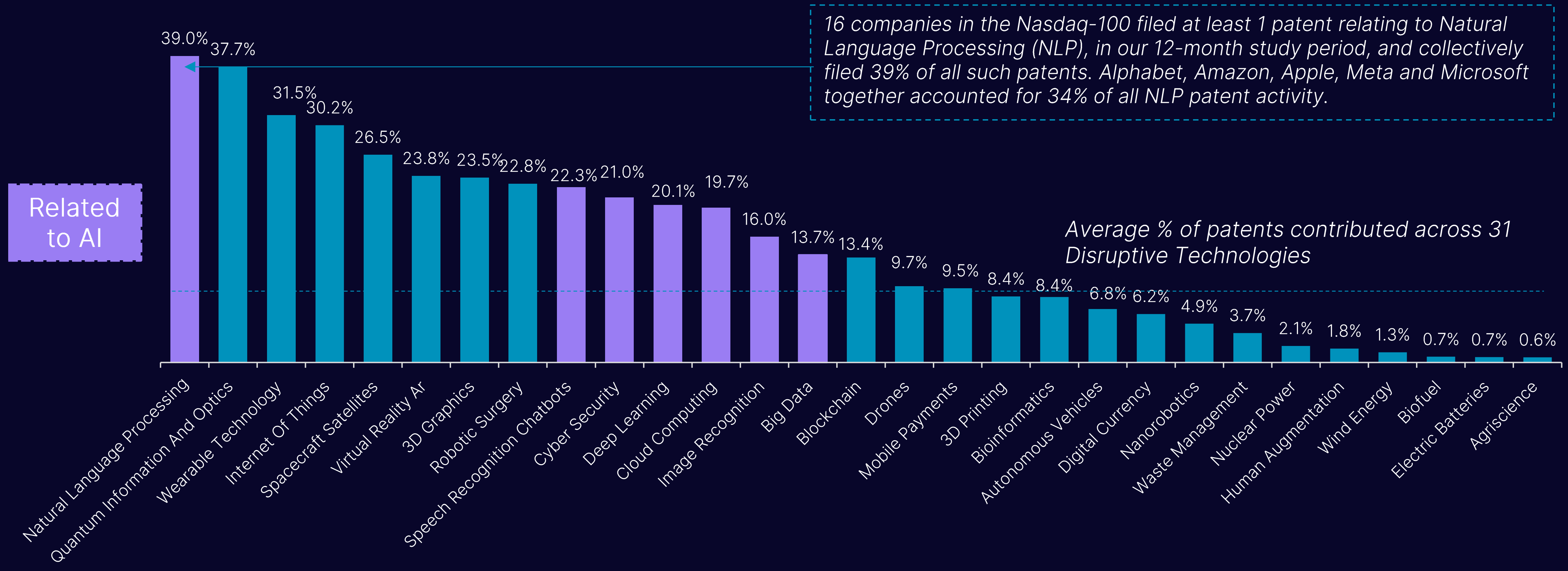
Nasdaq Global Large Caps: Top Quartile R&D % Sales vs. Q2-Q4 vs. Zeros, Equal-Weighted (TR)




Source: Nasdaq, Factset, Nasdaq AI Team, IPR Strategies, FierceWireless.com as of 3/31/2026. Index data as of each year-end from 12/31/2008 to 12/31/2024.
Companies are ranked on prior full-year R&D expense as % of Sales on a 6-month lag (June 30) to allow for disclosure of reported financials. Baskets rebalanced annually 3rd Friday of July.

# Disruptive Technology and R&D: Nasdaq-100

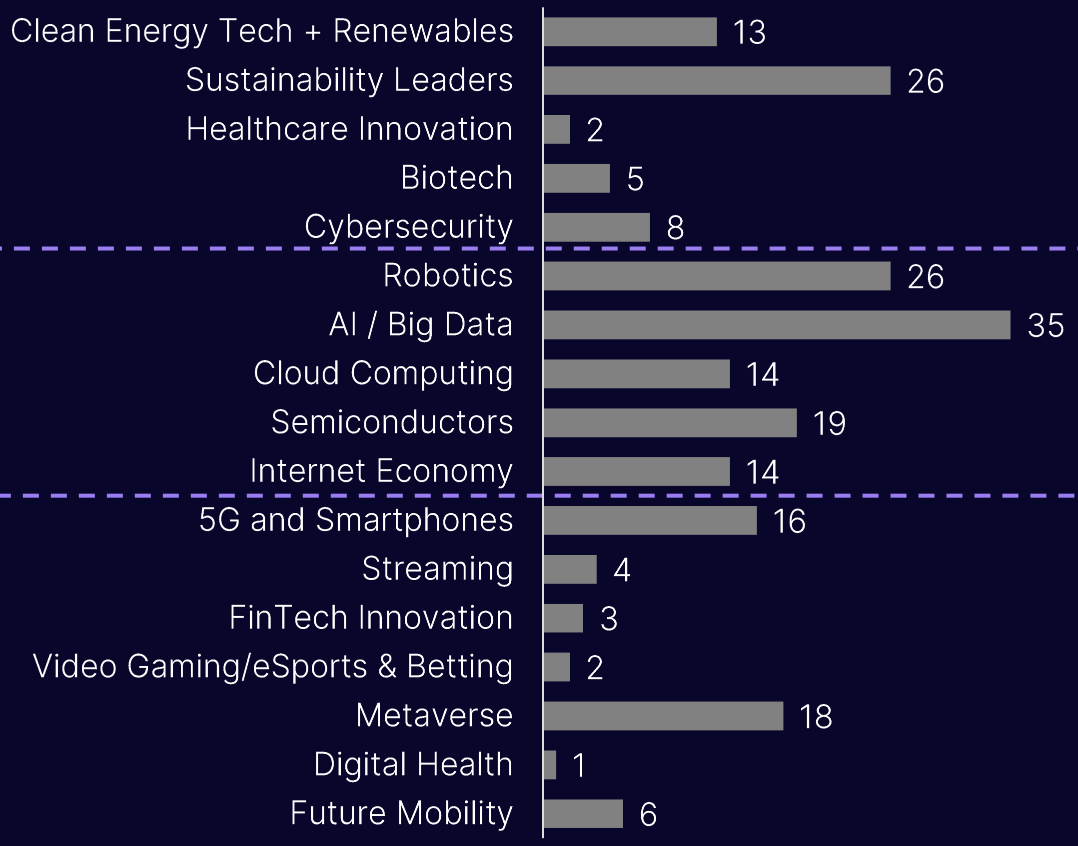
60 companies in the Nasdaq-100 (representing 84% of index weight) recently filed patents across one or more of 35 key areas of Disruptive Technology relating to Artificial Intelligence, Energy Transition, Healthcare, etc.



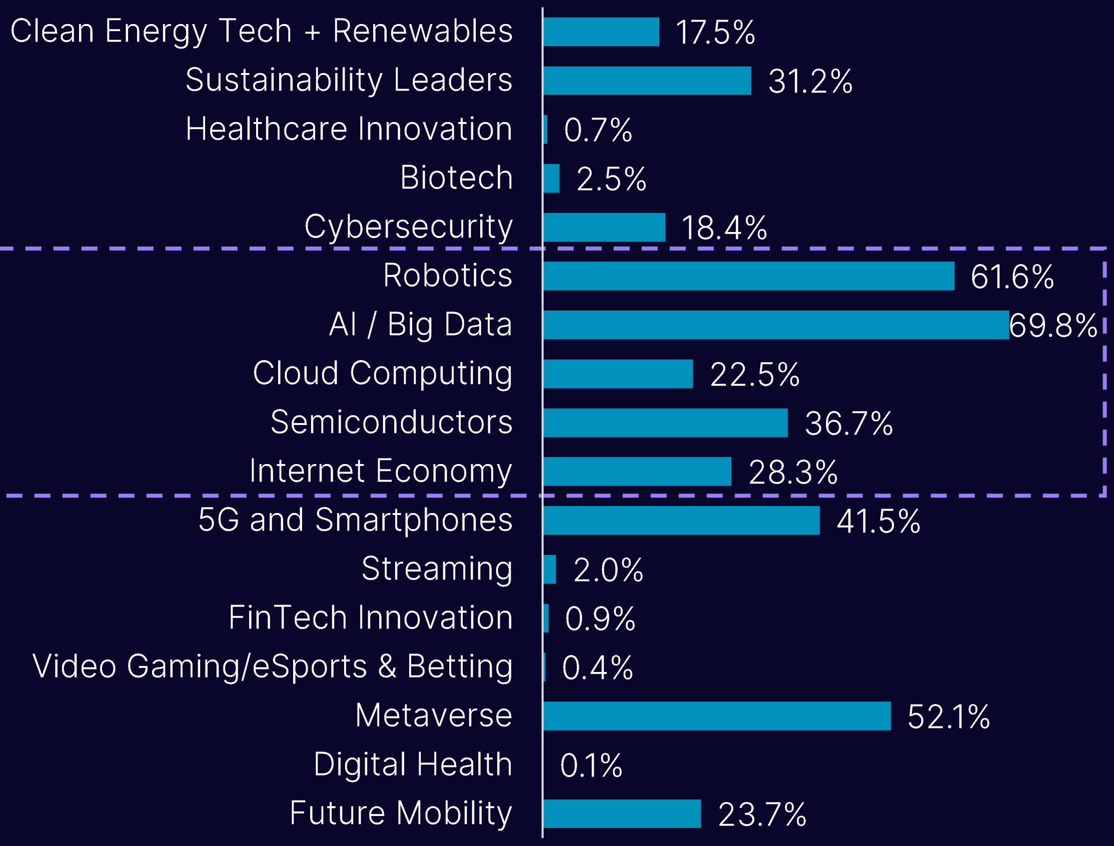

Source: Nasdaq, Patent data as of 5/29/2026. Index data as of 6/30/2026.

# Nasdaq-100 by Thematic Exposures

## # of Constituents per Theme




## Index Weight per Theme




Source: Nasdaq, FactSet. Data as of 6/30/2026.
Based on overlap with existing Nasdaq Thematic Indexes, except for 5G and Smartphones, Streaming, and Video Gaming/eSports & Betting where competitor products were analyzed.

# Key Takeaways

➢ Nasdaq-100 is a differentiated US Large Cap equity benchmark that overweights companies with strong innovation focus, driving better fundamental metrics which ultimately drive performance

1 **"New Economy Index"**

- Powered by the reputation and IPO leadership of the Nasdaq Stock Market
- Focus on not just Tech, but "new economy" sectors including Healthcare + Consumer Discretionary

2 **Quantified Innovation**

- Nasdaq-100 companies spend an outsized amount on innovative R&D
- Leads to dominance in patent filings across multiple areas of disruptive technology such as AI

3 **Advantageous Risk Profile**

- Superior return/risk return tradeoff vs. both broad US market and US large cap growth benchmarks
- Nasdaq-100 tends to recover much quicker from drawdowns
- Nasdaq-100 has lower debt levels with stronger cash levels and margins

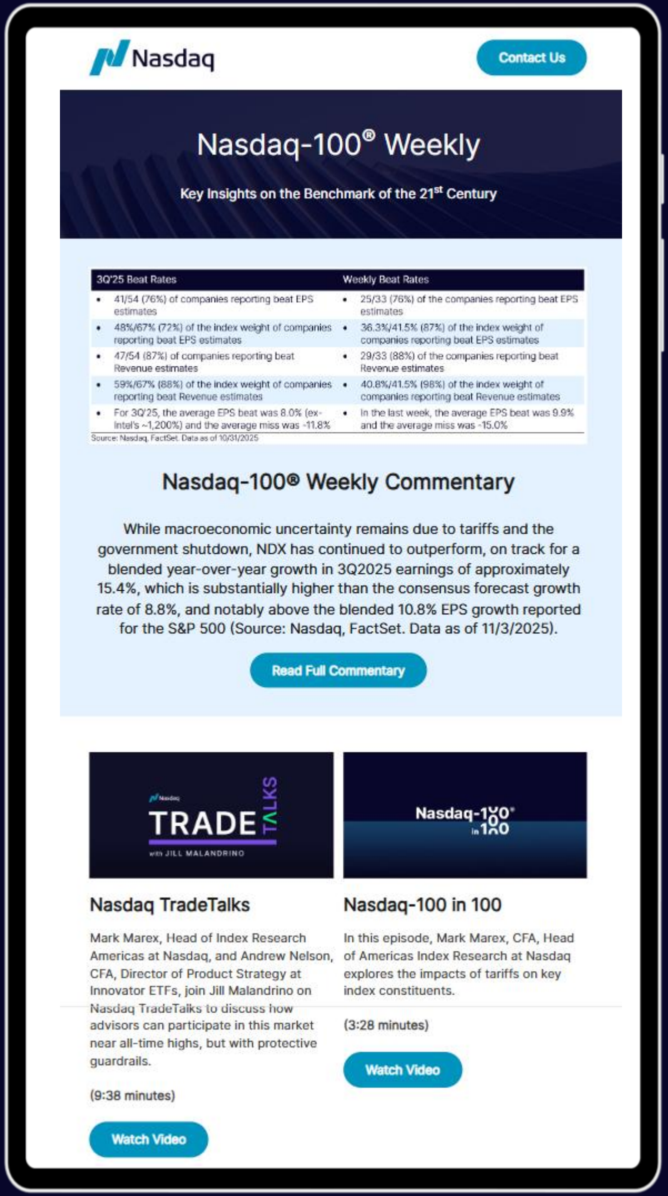
# Weekly Insights into the Nasdaq-100®

Multimedia Coverage of the Nasdaq-100 delivered to your inbox every Wednesday

## Research Content

- A mix of short- and long-form content spanning weekly commentary, index deep dives, educational videos, and interviews.
- Fundamental, technical, and risk analysis of the Nasdaq-100, examining macro and thematic drivers in the market.
- Built to be a trusted source for retail and institutional financial participants alike participating in the NDX® ecosystem.

## Sign up using the QR Code



# Disclaimer

Nasdaq® is a registered trademark of Nasdaq, Inc. The information contained above is provided for informational and educational purposes only, and nothing contained herein should be construed as investment advice, either on behalf of a particular security or an overall investment strategy. Neither Nasdaq, Inc.  nor any of its affiliates makes any recommendation to buy or sell any security or any representation about the financial condition of any company. Statements regarding Nasdaq-listed companies or Nasdaq proprietary indexes are not guarantees of future performance. Actual results may differ materially from those expressed or implied. Past performance is not indicative of future results. Investors should undertake their own due diligence and carefully evaluate companies before investing. ADVICE FROM A SECURITIES PROFESSIONAL IS STRONGLY ADVISED.