

HSBC JAPAN INDEX FUND - GBP

INVESTMENT RESEARCH NOTE
FEBRUARY 2024

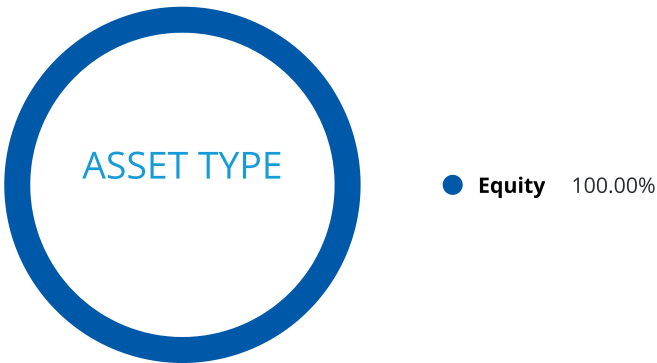
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SUMMARY

HSBC is one of the largest bank in the world, and has around 4000 branches globally. It was established in London in its present form in 1991 by the Hong Kong & Shanghai Banking Corporation Ltd to act as a new group holding company. Its total offering of passive vehicles is worth more than \$40bn, which includes eleven UK-domiciled equity OEICs, of which the European Index Fund is one.

HSBC has a large team of global specialists working on the passive fund range, and cites a low ratio of funds per manager than other houses - 12 as opposed to up to 30 in some other passive fund management firms.

The Fund has a long track record, having been launched in 1989. HSBC's preferred method of tracking is full replication, and the Japan Index Fund uses this methodology, holding all the shares contained in the benchmark FTSE Japan Index. The Fund may use derivatives, consistent with the risk profile of the Fund, in order to facilitate efficient portfolio management (e.g. to provide liquidity without daily dealing). The Fund may also hold cash and collective investments.



INVESTMENT PROCESS

HSBC follows a three-step process when implementing and managing the index funds and mandates: preliminary index analysis, portfolio construction and trading analysis and implementation.

Exposure to securities in the FTSE Japan Index will be held with weightings replicating each company's market capitalisation but will stay away from trading a stock if natural sources of liquidity to purchase the stock cannot be found in order to minimise implicit transaction costs. In such circumstances, the Fund holds a temporary proxy basket of stocks until liquidity improves or a position can be built over time. Moreover, stock weights are allowed to fluctuate within a narrow band to minimise unnecessary rebalancing and transaction costs.

The Fund fully replicates the benchmark index, which means the Fund purchases the underlying securities, in the same proportion as that of the index. When the index undergoes a change, so does the Fund. As a fund group, HSBC also has the ability to employ what they refer to as 'responsible' replication, which allows the investment team to navigate well known pricing anomalies such as index changes or corporate events, whereby prices can be squeezed higher or lower than under normal trading conditions.

Derivatives are used for efficient portfolio management only. Index futures are principally used for cashflow management and to hedge accruals (dividends, tax reclamations and takeover proceeds) in order to keep the Fund fully invested in line with the index.

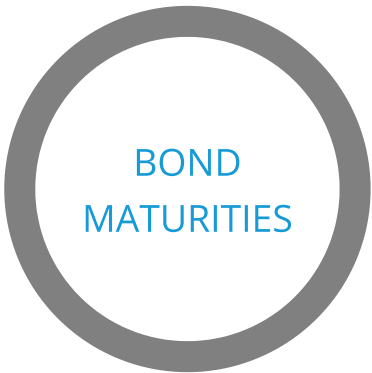
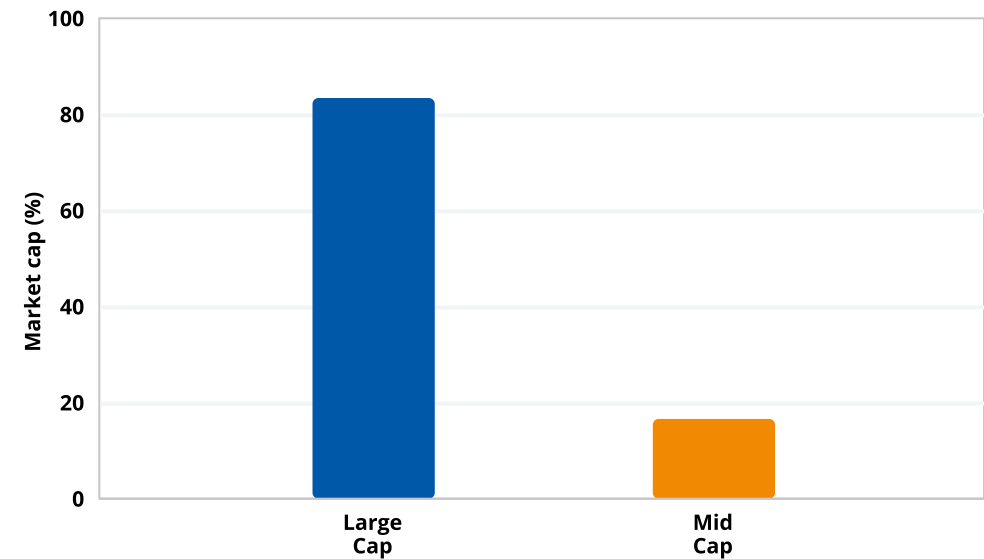
HSBC does not participate in stock lending

AGGREGATED NET EXPOSURE

REGIONAL EXPOSURE



EQUITY MARKET CAP (%)



Not Applicable



Not Applicable

OVERALL PERFORMANCE

● HSBC Japan Index C Acc ● Japan Equities Total Return GBP

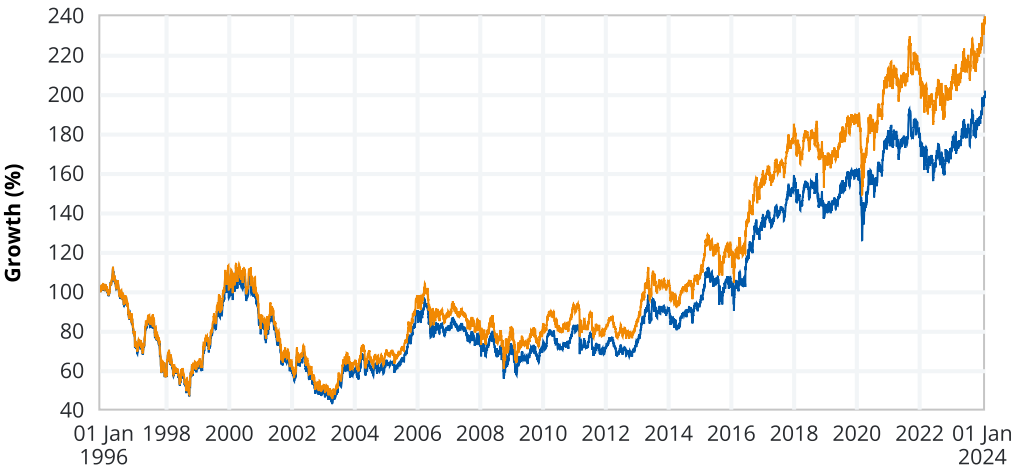
GROWTH (%) - OVER 1 YEAR

14 Feb 2023 - 13 Feb 2024



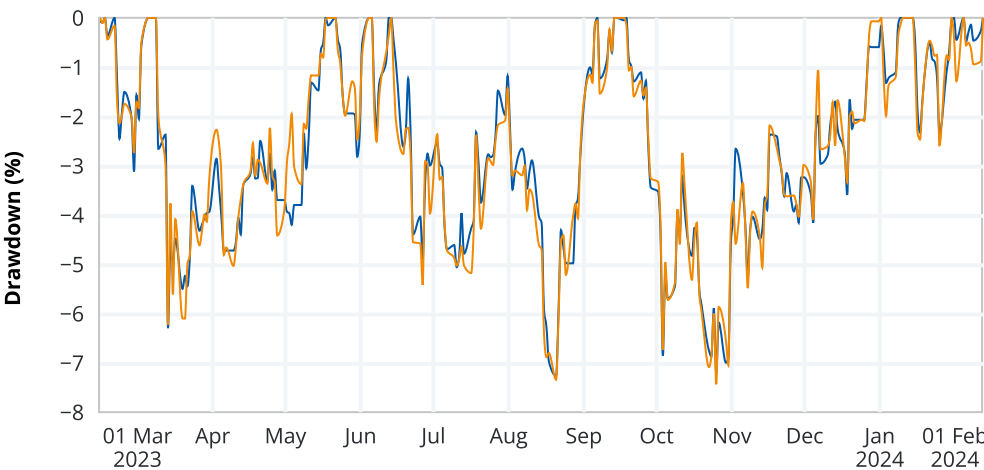
GROWTH (%) - FROM INCEPTION

4 Dec 1995 - 13 Feb 2024



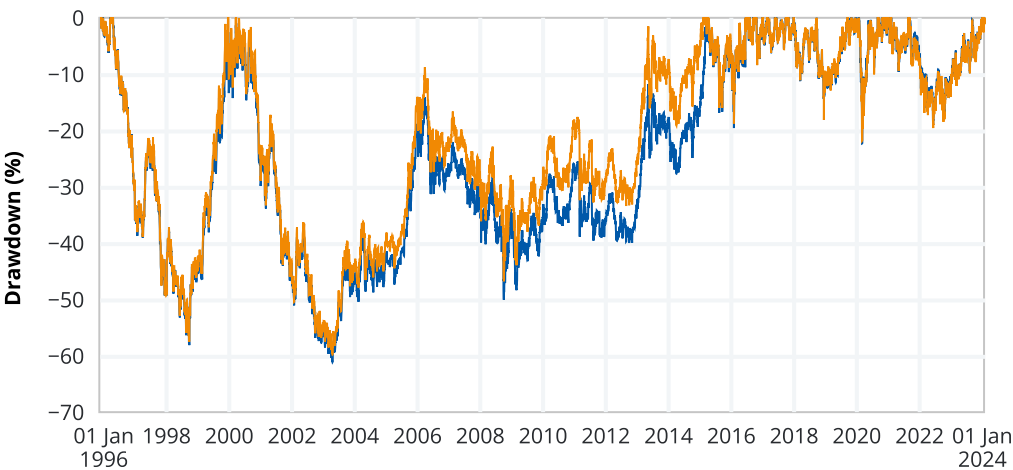
DRAWDOWN (%) - OVER 1 YEAR

14 Feb 2023 - 13 Feb 2024



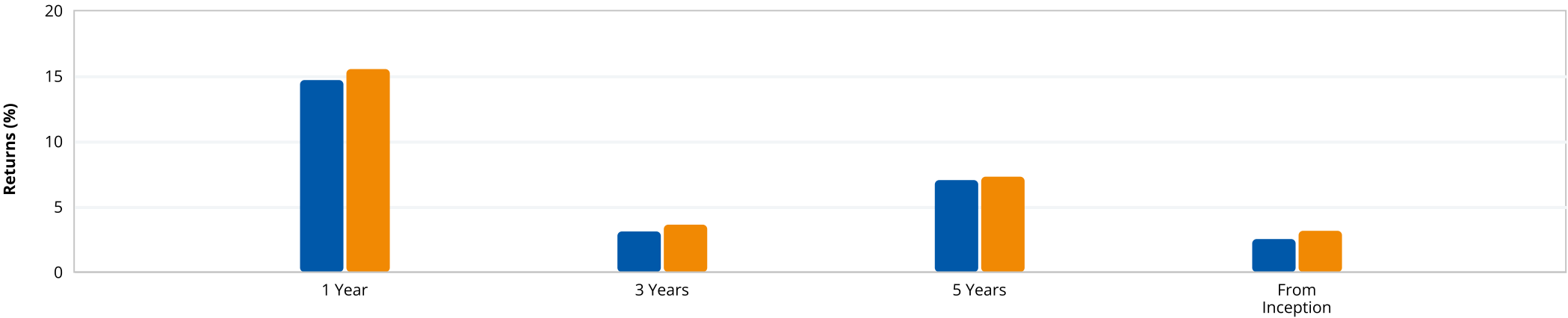
DRAWDOWN (%) - FROM INCEPTION

4 Dec 1995 - 13 Feb 2024



RETURNS

● HSBC Japan Index C Acc ● Japan Equities Total Return GBP



MONTHLY BREAKDOWN AND YEARLY TOTALS (%)

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	YEAR
2024	3.98	1.73											5.79
2023	3.07	-2.12	1.61	0.25	1.73	2.26	1.06	-0.82	1.81	-3.59	3.94	2.73	12.31
2022	-4.79	-0.66	1.52	-3.41	0.73	-4.58	5.83	1.34	-4.73	-1.98	5.95	-0.27	-5.66
2021	-1.38	0.21	1.81	-1.92	-0.07	1.89	-2.33	4.01	5.00	-5.47	0.48	0.47	2.28
2020	-1.69	-8.24	-2.37	5.48	7.64	-0.08	-7.13	4.93	4.94	-2.61	8.90	2.11	10.66
2019	3.54	-0.96	1.55	2.15	-1.41	3.12	4.43	-1.47	3.35	-0.61	1.10	-0.10	15.43

Capped to 6 years.

ANNUALISED ROLLING RETURNS (%)

	1 YEAR	3 YEAR	5 YEAR	INCEPTION
HSBC Japan Index C Acc	14.69	3.11	7.04	2.53
Japan Equities Total Return GBP	15.53	3.63	7.30	3.16

CUMULATIVE RETURNS (%)

	1 YEAR	3 YEAR	5 YEAR	INCEPTION
HSBC Japan Index C Acc	14.63	9.57	40.29	101.80
Japan Equities Total Return GBP	15.46	11.22	42.00	139.56

● HSBC Japan Index C Acc ● Japan Equities Total Return GBP

PERFORMANCE - OVER 1 YEAR

14 Feb 2023 - 13 Feb 2024

	HSBC Japan Index C Acc	Japan Equities Total Return GBP
RETURNS (%)	14.69	15.53
VOLATILITY (%)	14.25	15.63
ALPHA	-0.04 *	
BETA	0.95 *	1.00
CORRELATION	0.98 *	1.00
SHARPE RATIO	0.55	0.55
SORTINO RATIO	0.78	0.81
MAX DRAWDOWN (%)	-7.26	-7.43

*Calculated over a 3 year period where history permits.

PERFORMANCE - FROM INCEPTION

4 Dec 1995 - 13 Feb 2024

	HSBC Japan Index C Acc	Japan Equities Total Return GBP
RETURNS (%)	2.53	3.16
VOLATILITY (%)	20.90	22.00
ALPHA	-0.05	
BETA	0.99	1.00
CORRELATION	0.99	1.00
SHARPE RATIO	-0.02	0.01
SORTINO RATIO	-0.03	0.01
MAX DRAWDOWN (%)	-61.13	-59.78

SIMPLE STRESS TEST DRAWDOWN (%)

14 Feb 2023 - 13 Feb 2024



Stress test notes

The chart shows the calculated drawdown over a trailing 12-month period. The Review Point is a potential intervention point. Any drawdown above this line indicates a typical drawdown in a normal market cycle. Should the drawdown exceed the Review Point, then this indicates that market conditions may be abnormal. This is the point at which immediate action should be considered.

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