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VALUETRUST

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Dear business partners and friends of ValueTrust,

We are pleased to release our seventeenth edition of the ValueTrust DACH¹⁾ Capital Market Study for Q2 2025 carried out in cooperation with finexpert and the Institute of Accounting and Auditing at the **W**/Vienna.

In this Study, we provide certain **cost of capital inputs required to perform an enterprise valuation** in Germany, Austria and Switzerland:

- the relevant parameters used to calculate the cost of capital under the CAPM, including risk-free rate, market risk premium and beta;
- implied and historical market/sector returns;
- capital structure-adjusted implied sector returns, which serve as an indicator for the unlevered cost of equity (the relevered cost of equity can be calculated by adapting the company specific debt situation to the unlevered cost of equity, serving as an alternative to the CAPM);
- an analysis of empirical (ex-post) cost of equity in the form of total shareholder returns consisting of capital gains and dividends (total shareholder returns can be used as a plausibility check for the implied (ex-ante) returns);
- a trading multiples overview.

We examine the relevant cost of capital parameters for the German, Austrian and Swiss capital markets in form of the CDAX²⁾, WBI³⁾ and SPI⁴⁾. The constituents of these indices were allocated to twelve finexpert sector indices (so-called "super sectors"): Banking, Insurance, Financial Services, Consumer Service, Consumer Goods, Pharma & Healthcare, Information Technology, Telecommunication, Utilities, Basic Materials, Industrials and Real Estate.

Historical data was compiled between the reference dates 30 June 2019 and 30 June 2025 and is updated semi-annually with the objective to track capital market performance over time.

Further knowledge and information for financial decision making is provided at www.finexpert.info.

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- Chris is the founder and board member of ValueTrust
- Previously he was a Partner at KPMG and Managing Director for the DACH region at Duff & Phelps
- He has more than 30 years of experience in corporate valuation and financial advisory
- He is Honorary Professor for "Practice of transaction-oriented company valuation and value-oriented management" at the LMU in Munich
- He is member of the DVFA Expert Group "Fairness Opinions" and "Best Practice Recommendations Corporate Valuation"
- He is also Co-Founder of the European Association of Certified Valuators and Analysts (EACVA e.V.)



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- Benedikt leads the Swiss operations, the Financial Advisory business as well as the VC and Digital Valuation practice
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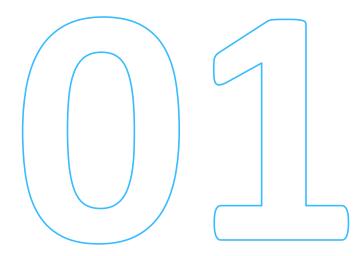
DISCLAIMER

This Study presents an empirical analysis which serves the purpose of illustrating the cost of capital of Germany's, Austria's, and Switzerland's capital markets. The available information and the corresponding exemplifications do not allow for a complete presentation of a proper derivation of cost of capital. Furthermore, the market participant must consider that the company specific cost of capital can vary widely due to individual corporate circumstances.

The listed information is not specific to anyone and consequently, it cannot be directed to an individual or juristic person. Although we are always striving for reliable, accurate and current information, we cannot guarantee that the data is applicable in current and future valuation analyses. The same applies to the underlying data from the data provider S&P Capital IQ.

We recommend a self-contained, technical, and detailed analysis of the specific situation and we dissuade from acting solely based on the information provided.

ValueTrust and its co-authors do not assume any responsibility or liability for the up-to-datedness, completeness or accuracy of this Study or its contents.

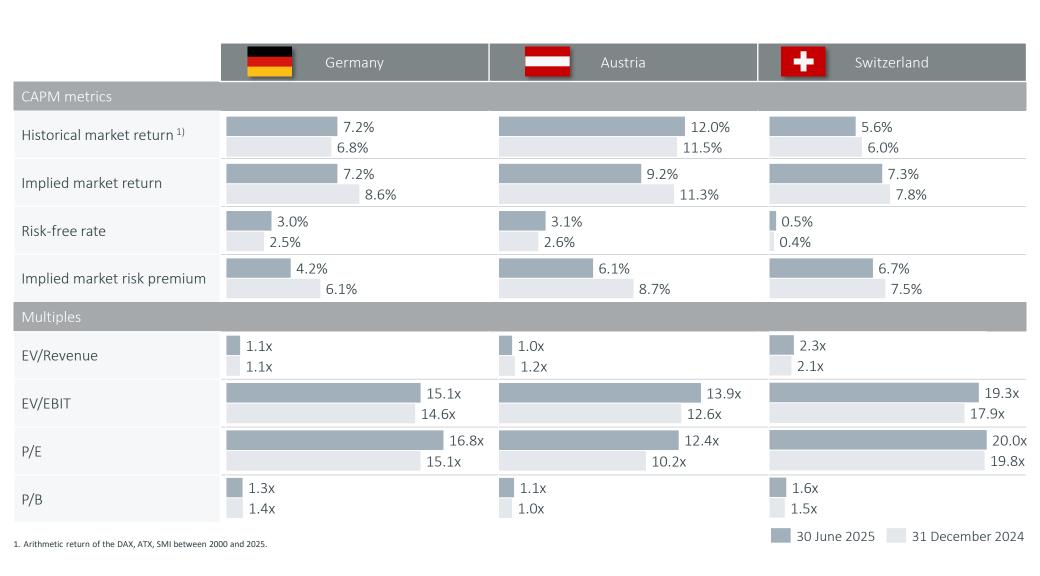


Executive summary

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The implied market risk premium decreased for Germany, Austria and Switzerland, driven mainly by a lower implied market return and reinforced by higher risk-free rates

Market risk premium and trading multiples by country, Q2 2025



7 I 30 June 2025 VALUETRUST

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Banking showed the highest implied levered cost of equity benefiting from elevated interest rates, while Consumer Service achieved the best return in line with increased earnings forecasts

Cost of equity by sector and methodology for the DACH region, Q2 2025

Sectors	Implied levered cost of equity	Levered cost of equity (CAPM) ¹⁾	1 / PE-ratio (1yf)	Total shareholder return (Ø 6y) ²⁾
manking Banking	9.3%	5.8%	8.1%	22.5%
Insurance	8.9%	6.1%	7.0%	17.8%
Financial Services	6.3%	6.7%	5.1%	20.5%
Consumer Service	6.7%	6.6%	6.7%	28.5%
Consumer Goods	8.5%	6.5%	5.5%	8.2%
Pharma & Healthcare	7.8%	7.6%	4.9%	8.9%
Information Technology	4.5%	7.4%	4.8%	19.2%
Telecommunication	7.5%	5.4%	5.8%	15.1%
Utilities	6.9%	5.0%	5.8%	11.0%
Basic Materials	7.7%	7.3%	6.8%	7.9%
Industrials	6.0%	7.2%	5.5%	26.2%
Real Estate	5.6%	4.9%	5.0%	7.7%

^{1.} Based on 2-year sector beta, risk-free rate of 2.96% and implied market risk premium of 4.2% for the German market;

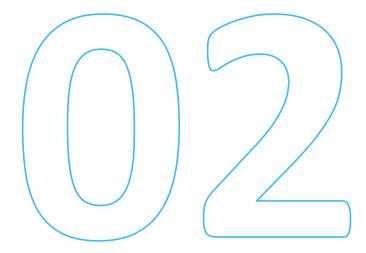
^{2.} Total shareholder returns can be viewed as historic, realized cost of equity. However, it has to be considered that total shareholder returns vary widely, depending on the relevant time period.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Basic materials sector shows one of the lowest valuations in terms of P/E multiples, while the Information Technology sector trades at the highest P/E multiples

Trading multiples by sector for the DACH region, Q2 2025

Sectors	EV/Revenue 1yf	EV/EBIT 1yf	P/E 1yf	P/B LTM
mac Banking	n.a.	n.a.	12.4x	1.0x
Insurance	n.a.	n.a.	14.2x	2.1x
Financial Services	n.a.	n.a.	19.7x	1.0x
Consumer Service	1.0x	15.8x	15.0x	2.2x
Consumer Goods	0.9x	16.7x	18.1x	1.2x
Pharma & Healthcare	3.2x	17.8x	20.4x	2.2x
Information Technology	1.4x	16.8x	20.9x	2.1x
Telecommunication	1.5x	14.0x	17.3x	2.1x
Utilities	2.0x	15.3x	17.1x	1.5x
Basic Materials	1.1x	16.6x	14.8x	1.2x
Industrials	1.3x	15.6x	18.3x	1.5x
Real Estate	11.6x	24.9x	20.0x	0.9x

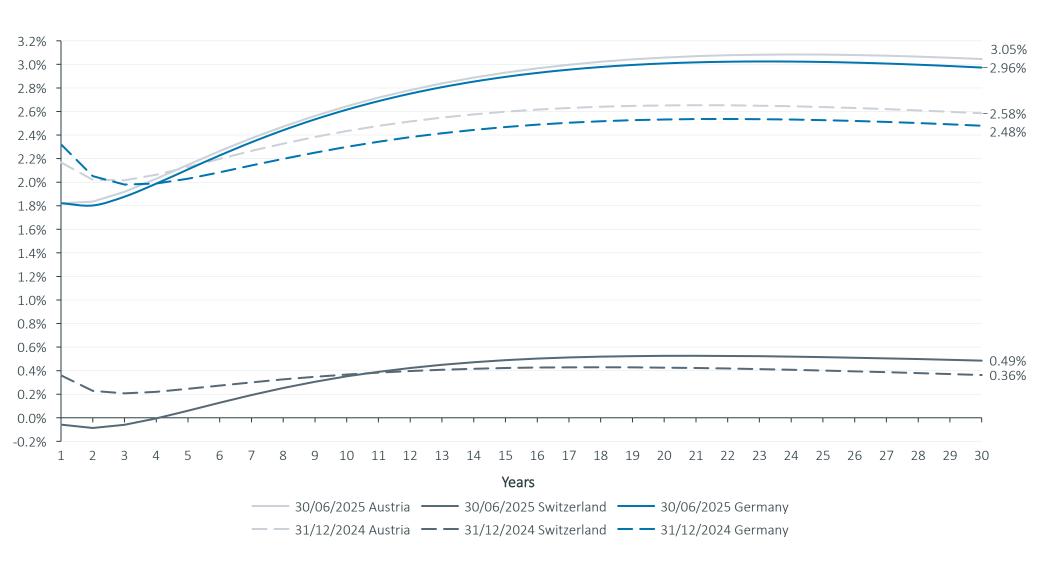


Risk-free rate

RISK-FREE RATE

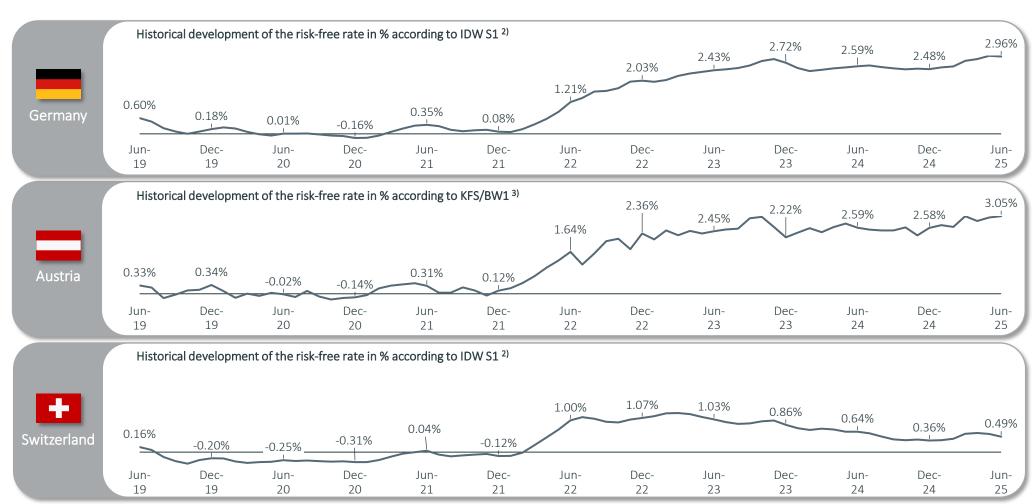
Risk-free rates in the DACH region increased over the last 6 months, Germany increased by 48 bps to 2.96%, Austria up 47 bps to 3.05% and Switzerland up 13 bps to 0.49%

Risk-free rate for Germany, Austria and Switzerland based on long-term bonds (Svensson method), 30 June 2025



German and Austrian risk-free rates have continued their upward trend since 2021, while Swiss rates have declined from their 2022 peak but recorded a slight increase in the first half of 2025

Historical risk-free rates by country from 30 June 2019 to 30 June 20251), in %



- 1. Historical development of the risk-free rate is measured based on interest yield curve from 1y to 30y for each date.
- 2. Interest rate as of reference date using 3-month average yield curves in accordance with IDW S 1;
- 3. Interest rate calculated using the daily yield curve in accordance with KFS/BW 1 (no 3-month average).



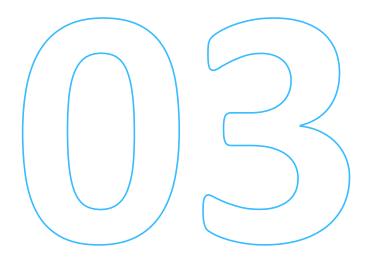
Market returns and risk premium

a. Implied returns (ex-ante analysis)

Due to lower implied returns and higher risk-free rates, the implied market risk premium decreased by 260 bps in Austria, by 190 bps in Germany to lowest levels in last six years by far

Implied market risk premium by country since 2019, in %



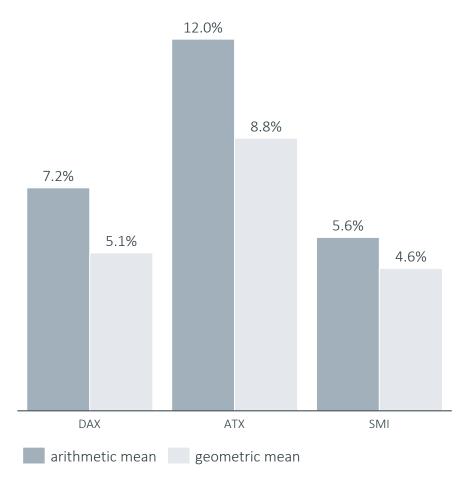


Market returns and risk premium

b. Historical returns (ex-post analysis)

Over an investment period of 25 years, the Austrian capital market had the highest historical (arithmetic) returns (12.0%), followed by Germany (7.2%) and Switzerland (5.6%)

Arithmetic and geometric mean of historical market returns as of 30 June 2025, 2000-2025

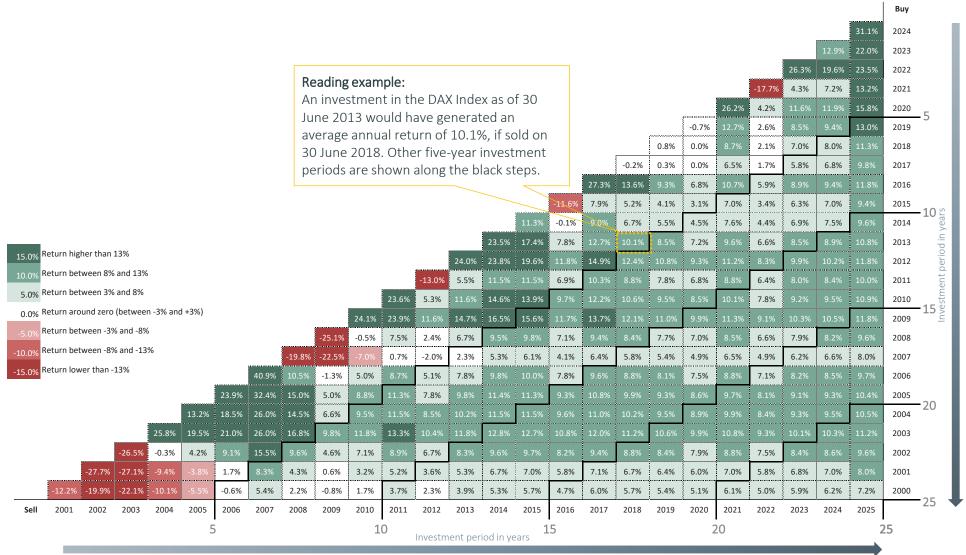


1. The German Stock Institute e.V. (DAI) developed the return triangle for DAX and EURO STOXX.

- In addition to the ex-ante analysis, we also analyze **historical (ex-post) returns over a long-term observation period of 25 years**, indicating a return potential for the German, Austrian and Swiss capital markets.
- The analysis of historical returns can be used for plausibility checks of the cost of capital, more specifically of the return requirements, which were evaluated through the CAPM.
- For a detailed analysis of historical returns, we use a **return triangle**¹⁾, providing **realized** annual returns from different investment periods.
- Specifically, the return triangle provides average annual returns for different buying and selling points in time, using the geometric and arithmetic mean.
- Average annual returns are calculated as total shareholder returns, which include the return on investment and dividend yield.
- Return on investment and dividend yield is captured by **total return indices** and therefore, our analysis is based on the **DAX** for Germany, **ATX Total Return** for Austria and the **SMI Total Return** for Switzerland.
- The following slides show the historical shareholder returns for different holding periods between 2000 and 2025, based on the arithmetic and geometric mean.

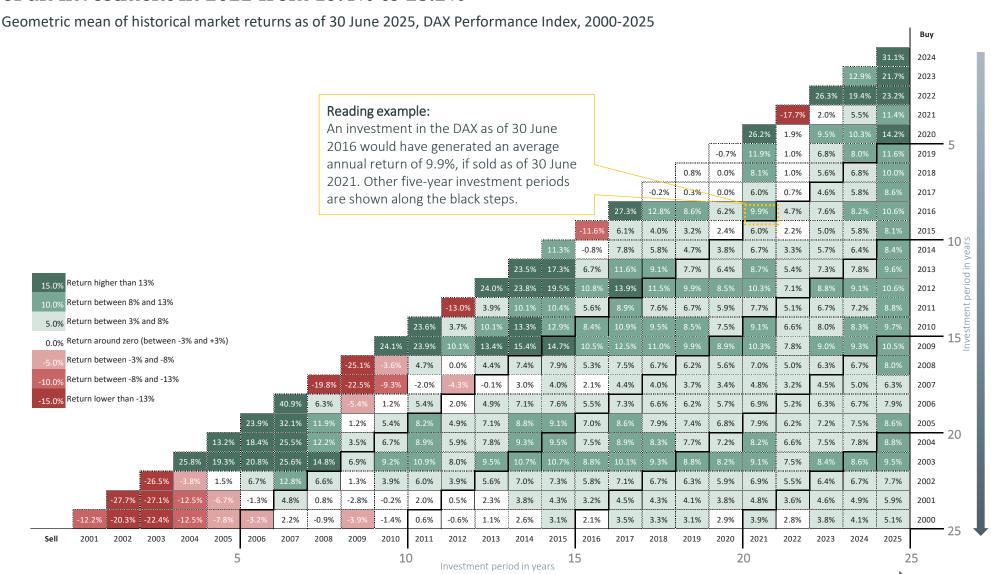
With a return of 31.1% over the past 12 months, the DAX outperformed the ATX (28.6%) and significantly exceeded the SMI (2.6%)

Arithmetic mean of historical market returns as of 30 June 2025, DAX Performance Index, 2000-2025



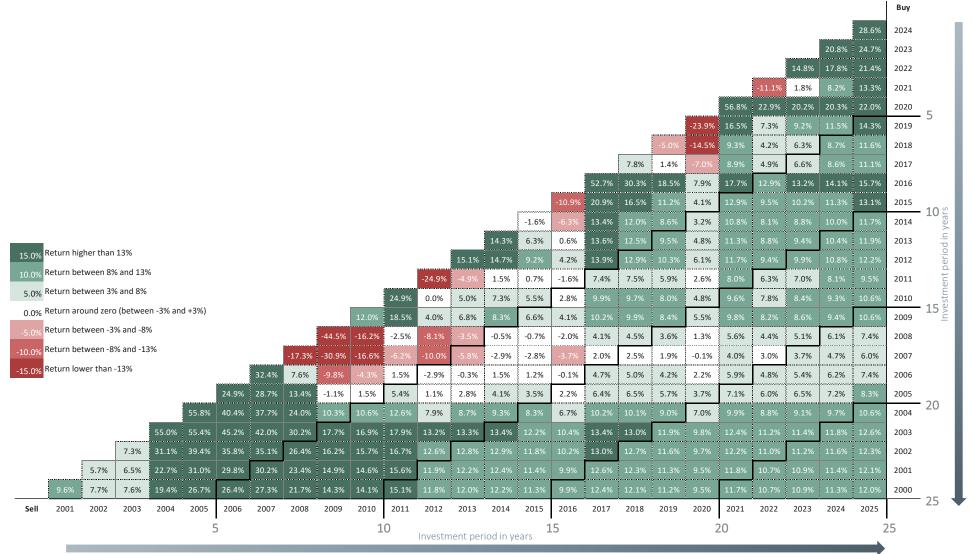
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The strong performance of the DAX in the last 12 months results in an improvement of the return of an investment in 2022 from 19.4% to 23.2%



With a return of 28.6% over the past 12 months, ATX performance is below the DAX (31.1%) but higher than the historical long-term average of 12.0% p.a. over 25 years

Arithmetic mean of historical market returns as of 30 June 2025, ATX Performance Index, 2000-2025

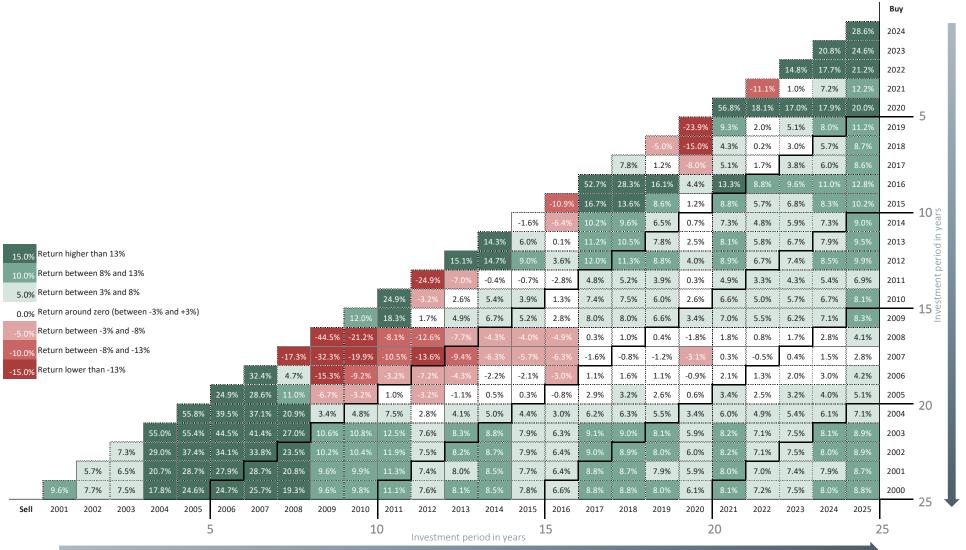


Source: https://www.dai.de/files/dai usercontent/dokumente/renditedreieck/2015-12-31%20DAX-Rendite-Dreieck%2050%20Jahre%20Web.pdf



The ATX has continued its positive performance over the past 12 months, with the geometric mean return of an investment made in 2022 increasing from 17.7% to 21.2%

Geometric mean of historical market returns as of 30 June 2025, ATX Performance Index, 2000-2025

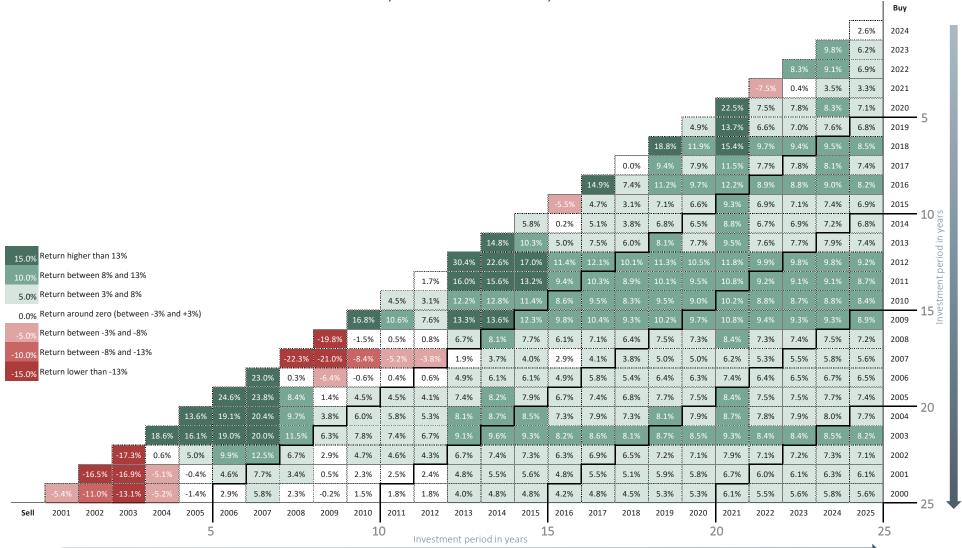


Source: https://www.dai.de/files/dai usercontent/dokumente/renditedreieck/2015-12-31%20DAX-Rendite-Dreieck%2050%20Jahre%20Web.pdf



With a low positive return of 2.6% over the past 12 months, performance of the SMI has further underperformed relative to the ATX (28.6%) and DAX (31.1%)

Arithmetic mean of historical market returns as of 30 June 2025, SMI Performance Index, 2000-2025

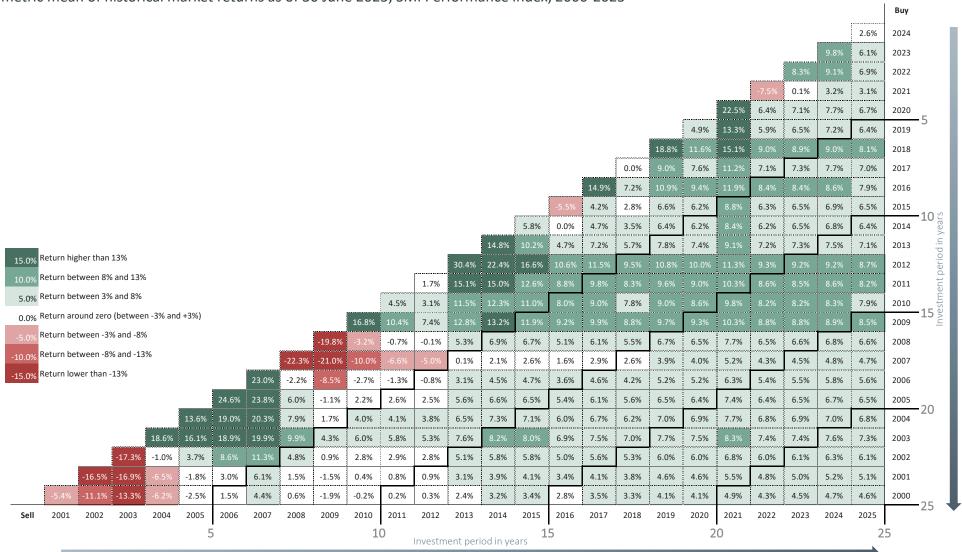


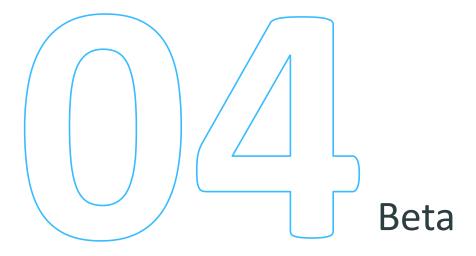
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Over the past 12 months, SMI's performance weakened, reducing the geometric mean return of an investment made in 2022 from 9.1% to 6.9%

Geometric mean of historical market returns as of 30 June 2025, SMI Performance Index, 2000-2025

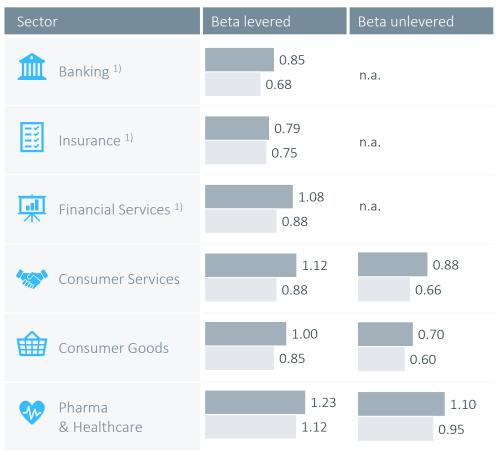


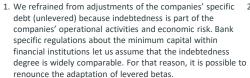


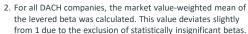
The highest (levered) betas are in the Industrials sector, which is the most cyclical, and the lowest in the Telecommunications sector, which has stable earnings streams

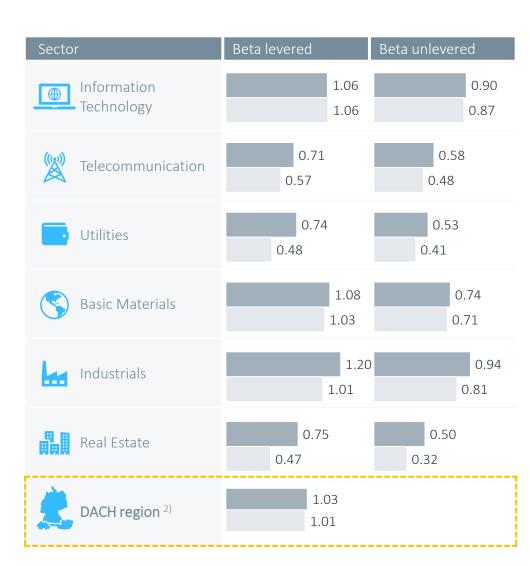
Levered and unlevered beta (mean) by sector as of 30 June 2025

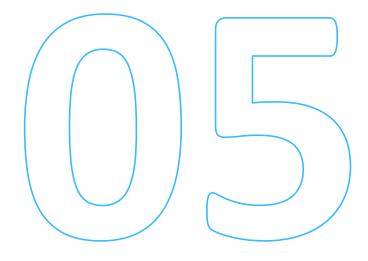












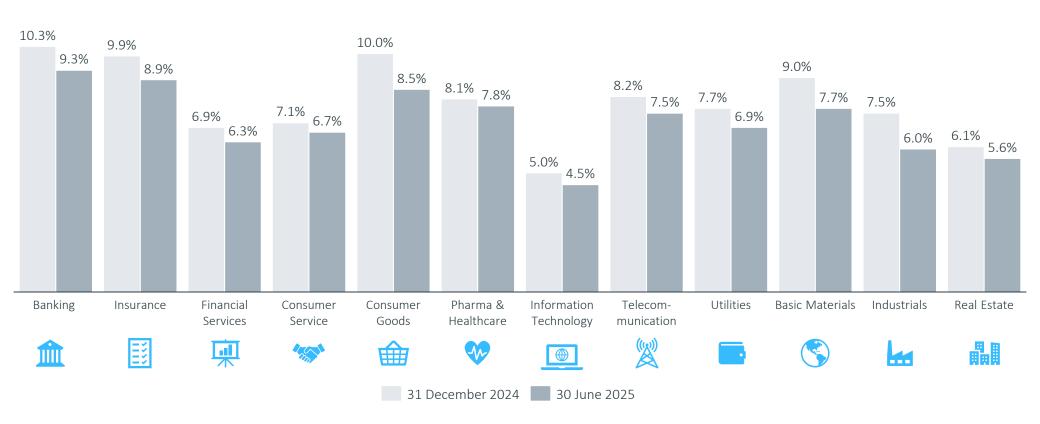
Sector returns

a. Implied returns (ex-ante analysis)

SECTOR RETURNS: IMPLIED RETURNS

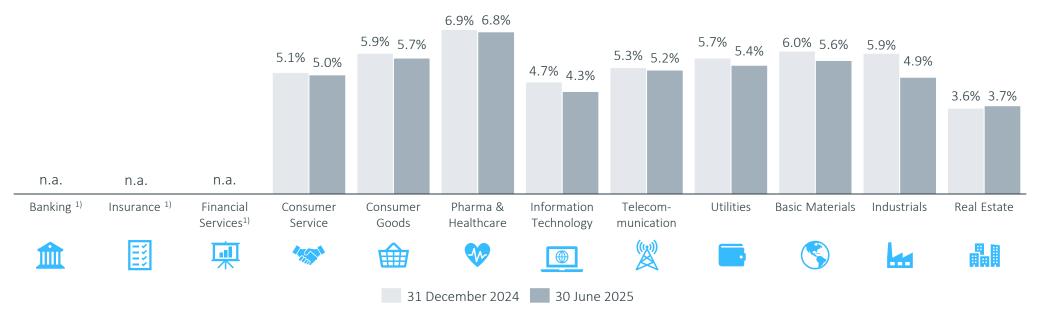
Implied returns declined across all sectors, with the largest decreases in Consumer Goods and Industrials, as trade-policy concerns eased and economic sentiment in the Euro Area improved

Implied levered returns by sector, 31 December 2024 vs. 30 June 2025



Implied unlevered returns declined slightly across most sectors, with the sharpest drop in Industrials, reflecting rising valuations as prices outpaced earnings

Implied unlevered returns by sector, 31 December 2024 vs. 30 June 2025

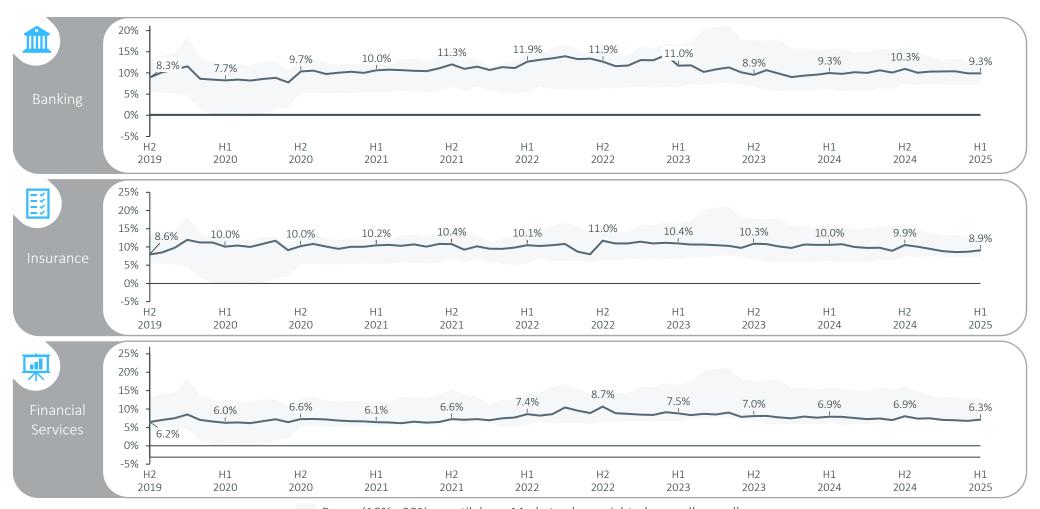


^{1.} No unlevered returns are reported for the Banking, Insurance and Financial Services sector, as debt is part of operating activities.

SECTOR RETURNS: IMPLIED RETURNS

Implied sector returns for Banking slightly decreased as stock prices aligned with positive earnings momentum, amid stabilizing interest rates, and remains the highest among all sectors

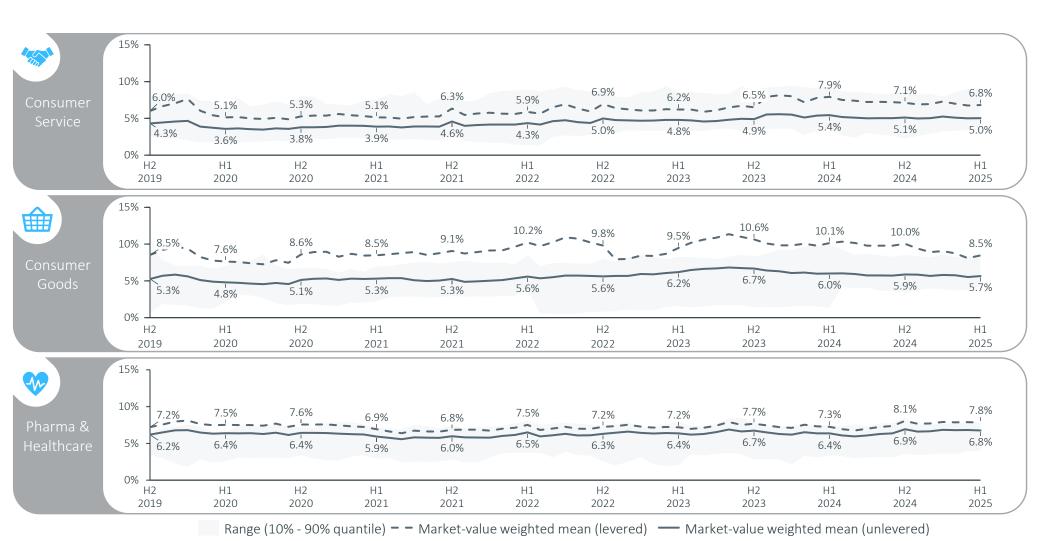
Implied levered sector returns since 2019



SECTOR RETURNS: IMPLIED RETURNS

Implied returns in the Consumer Goods sector declined amid easing pricing power and subdued consumer sentiment, while Pharma & Healthcare moderated from the previous year's high level

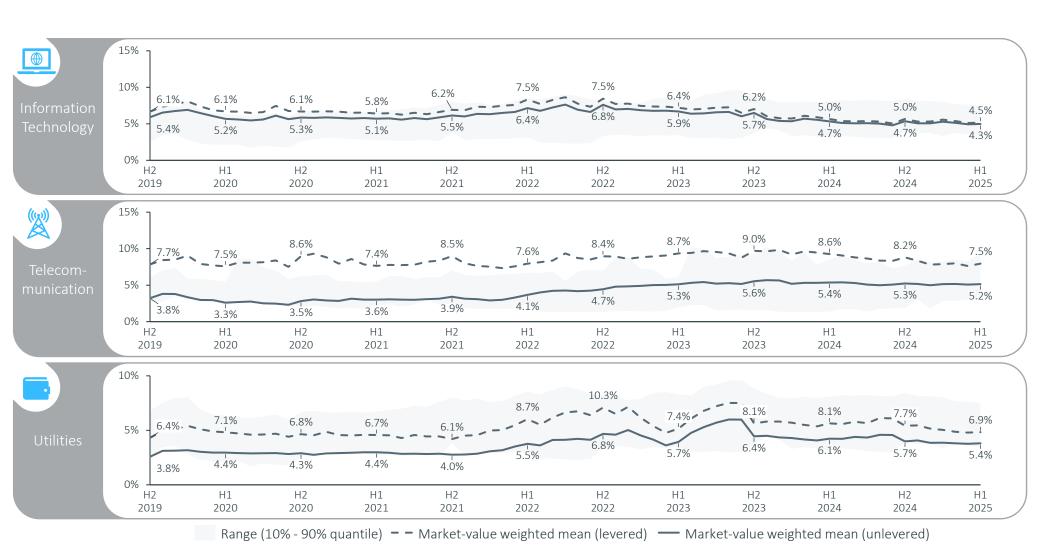
Levered and unlevered implied sector returns since 2019



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Implied returns declined in Telecommunications as prices rose and earnings fell, while the Utilities sector decreased amid one of the steepest earnings drops across sectors

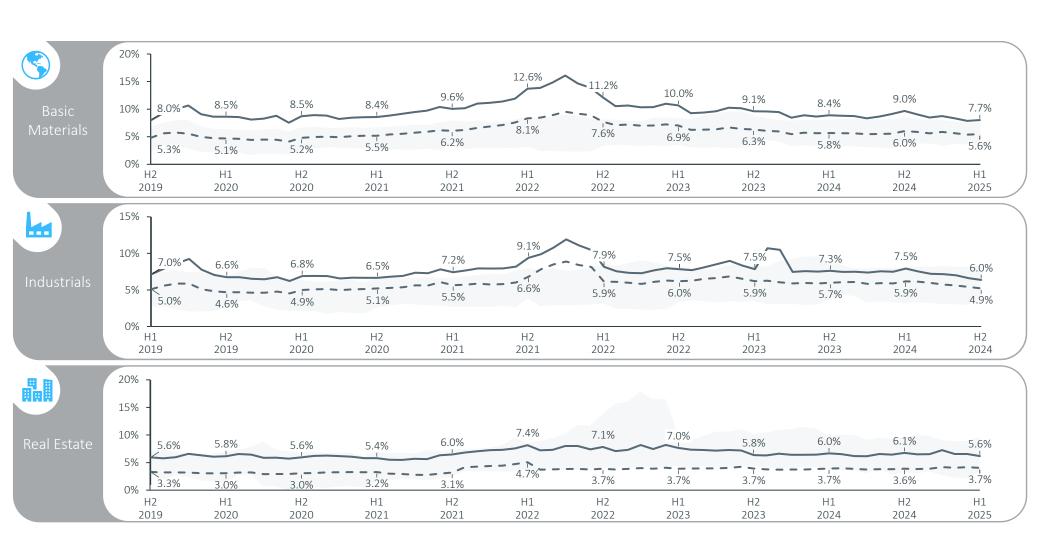
Levered and unlevered implied sector returns since 2019

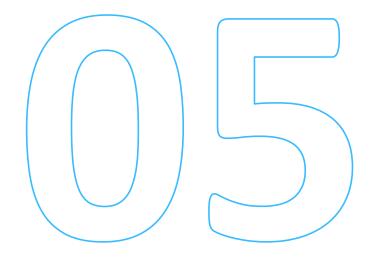


SECTOR RETURNS: IMPLIED RETURNS

Implied returns for Industrials declined as prices rose more than earnings, while Real Estate decreased despite stronger earnings, reflecting compressed valuation multiples

Levered and unlevered implied sector returns since 2019



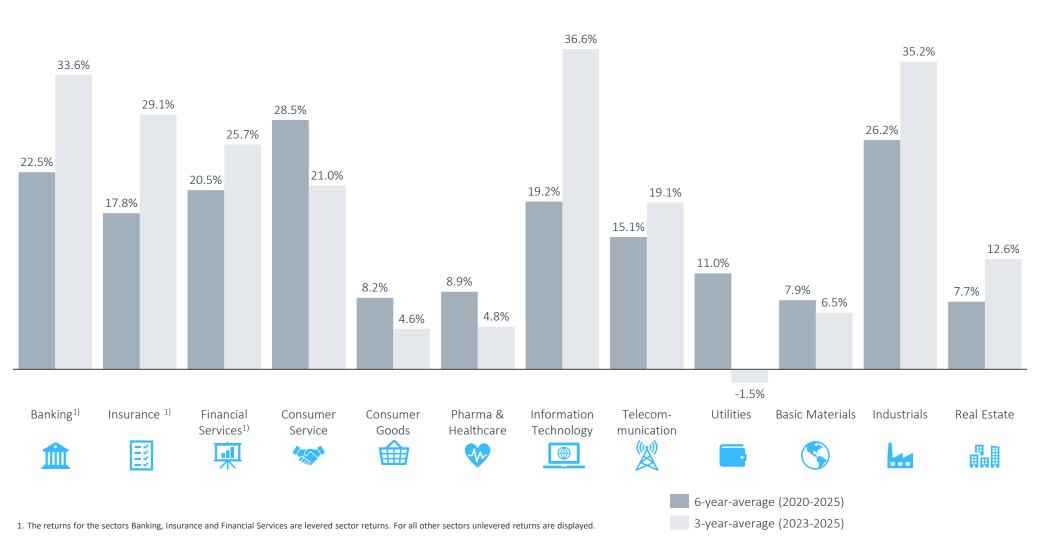


Sector returns

b. Historical returns (ex-post analysis)

Global tensions contributed to diverging sector returns. Banking and Insurance benefited from elevated interest rates, while IT continued to gain from digitalization and AI trends

Three- and six-year-average historical sector returns as of 30 June 2025



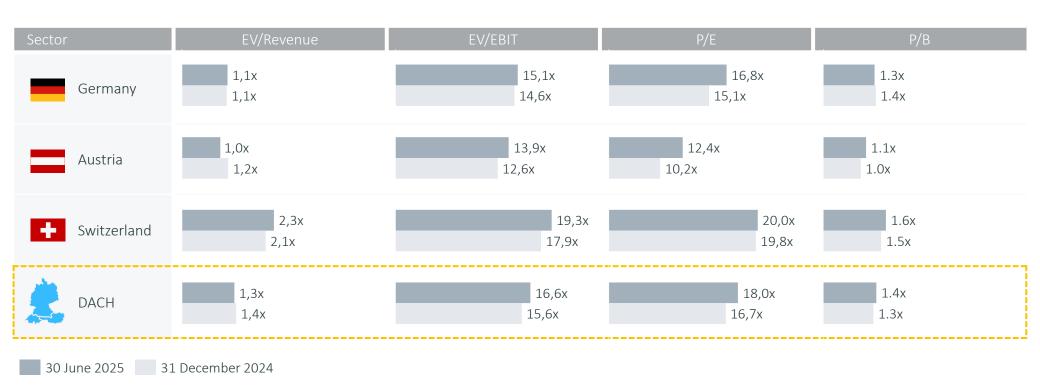


Trading multiples

TRADING MULTIPLES

The DACH stock market demonstrated stability in its EV and P/B ratios, with both EV/EBIT and P/E Multiples showing a moderate increase compared to year-end 2024

Median forward multiples by country, 31 December 2024 and 30 June 2025



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TRADING MULTIPLES

EV/Revenue and P/B multiples remained stable across most sectors. However, the P/E multiple declined in the Consumer Service sector as earnings growth exceeded stock price increase

Median forward multiples by country, 31 December 2024 and 30 June 2025

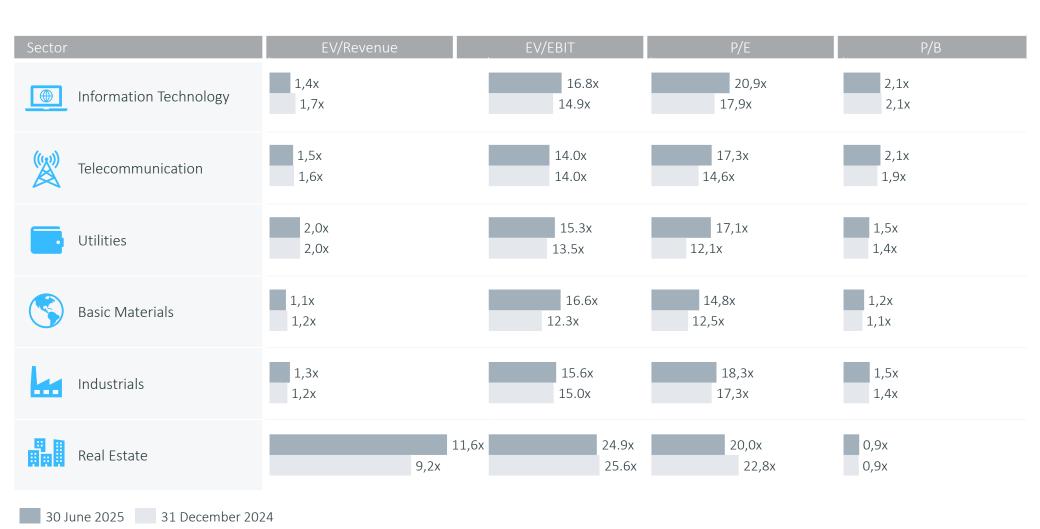


Note: For companies in the Banking, Insurance and Financial Services sectors, Revenue- and EBIT-Multiples are not meaningful and thus are not reported.

TRADING MULTIPLES

Utilities sector's P/E multiples increased as stock prices increased driven by rising energy demands while earnings forecasts decreased due to elevated political uncertainty

Median forward multiples by country, 31 December 2024 and 30 June 2025



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TRADING MULTIPLES

Pharma & Healthcare sector ranks highest due to its growth potential and defensive nature, while Banking ranks lowest due to regulatory constraints and risk exposures

Sector multiples ranking based on median, 1yf as of 30 June 2025

	EV / Revenue 1yf	EV / EBIT 1yf	P / E 1yf	P / BV LTM	Ø Ranking	
manual Banking			12	11	11,5	The Banking sector recorded the lowest valuation multiples among all sectors. The Pharma & Healthcare sector recorded the highest multiples among all sectors.
Insurance			11	3	7,0	
Financial Services			4	10	7,0	
Consumer Service	8	6	9	1	6,0	
Consumer Goods	9	4	6	8	6,8	
Pharma & Healthcare	2	2	2	2	2,0	
Information Technology	5	3	1	5	3,5	
Telecommunication	4	9	7	4	6,0	
Utilities	3	8	8	7	6,5	
S Basic Materials	7	5	10	9	7,8	
Industrials	6	7	5	6	6,0	
Real Estate	1	1	3	12	4,3	

Note: Multiples are ranked from highest to lowest values: 1 - highest (dark green), 9/12 - lowest (red).

Appendix Background and approaches

German government bonds are used to derive risk-free rates for Germany and Austria, while the risk-free rate for Switzerland is based on Swiss government bonds

Risk-free rate

The **risk-free rate** is a return available on a security that the market generally regards as free of default risk. It serves as an input parameter for the **CAPM** and is used to determine the risk-adequate cost of capital.

The risk-free rate is a yield, which is obtained from **long-term government bonds** of countries with top notch ratings. By using interest rate data of different maturities, a **yield curve** can be estimated for fictitious zero-coupon bonds (spot rates) for a period of up to 30 years. The German Central Bank (Deutsche Bundesbank) and the Swiss National Bank (Schweizer Nationalbank) publish — on a daily basis — the parameters needed to determine the yield curve using the **Svensson method**. Based on the respective yield curve, a **uniform risk-free rate** is derived under the assumption of present value equivalence to an infinite time horizon.

The **German bonds** are internationally classified as **almost risk-free securities** due to their AAA rating according to S&P. As a result, the **Austrian** Chamber of Public Accountants and Tax Consultants also recommends deriving the risk-free rate from the yield curve using the parameters published by the German Central Bank.¹⁾ Likewise, bonds issued by **Switzerland** enjoy a AAA rating and are also considered risk-free according to the Swiss National Bank.²⁾ Hence, a similar approach as for Germany and Austria is in our view appropriate for Switzerland with Swiss parameters.³⁾

To compute the risk-free rate for a specific reference date, the **Institute of Public Auditors** (Institut der Wirtschaftsprüfer, **IDW**) in Germany recommends using an **average value** deduced from the daily yield curves over the **past three months** (IDW S 1).

In contrast, the Austrian Expert Opinion (KFS/BW 1) on company valuation recommends deriving the risk-free rate in line with the evaluated company's cash flow profile from the yield curve that is valid for the reference date (reference date principle). Consequently, in the following analyses, we depict the yield curve for Germany following IDW S 1, while for Austria we adhere to the recommendations of KFS/BW 1.

For **Switzerland**, there is no generally accepted recommendation as to the determination of the risk-free rate. The most widely used risk-free rates in valuation practice are the yield of a **10-year Swiss government bond** as of the reference date as well as the **yield derived from the 3-month average of the daily yield curves** (in accordance with IDW S 1).

1. www.bundesbank.de

2. Swiss National Bank – Zinssätze und Renditen, p.11

3. ibid., p.12

The concept of implied cost of capital recently gained momentum

Market returns and market risk premium: Implied returns

The **future-oriented** computation of **implied market returns** and **market risk premiums** is based on profit estimates for public companies and return calculations. This approach is called ex-ante analysis and allows us to calculate the "**implied cost of capital**".

The **ex-ante method** offers an **alternative** to the **ex-post approach** of calculating the cost of capital by means of a regression analysis through the **CAPM**. The exante analysis method seeks cost of capital which represent the **return expectations of market participants**. The approach assumes that the estimates of financial analysts reflect the expectations of the capital market.

The concept of **implied cost of capital** recently gained momentum. For example, when it was recognized by the German *Fachausschuss für Unternehmensbewertung* "FAUB".¹⁾ It is acknowledged that implied cost of capital capture the **current capital market situation** and are thus able to reflect the effects of the **current interest rate environment**.

Furthermore, recent **court rulings** with regards to appraisal proceedings appreciate the forward-looking nature of **implied cost of capital**. As of the **reference date**, it offers a more insightful perspective compared to the exclusive use of ex-post data.

In the analysis, we use – a simplified annual formula – the formula of the Residual Income Valuation Model by *Babbel*:²⁾

$$r_{t} = \frac{NI_{t+1}}{MC_{t}} + \left(1 - \frac{BV_{t}}{MC_{t}}\right) * g$$

With the following parameter definitions:

 r_t = Cost of equity at time t

 NI_{t+1} = Expected net income in the following time period t+1

 MC_t = Market capitalization at time t

 BV_t = Book value of equity at time t

g = Projected growth rate

By solving the model for the cost of capital, we obtain the implied return on equity.³⁾ Since *Babbel's* model does not need any explicit assumptions except for the growth rate it turns out to be **robust**. We source all data (i.e. expected annual net income, market capitalization, and book value of equity, etc.) of the analyzed companies from the data supplier S&P Capital IQ. As a typified growth rate, we apply the European Central Bank target inflation rate of **2.0% as a typified growth rate**.

We determine the **implied market returns** for the DAX, ATX and SMI. We consider these indices to be a valid approximation for the total markets.⁴⁾ Subtracting the risk-free rate from the implied market returns results in the implied market risk premium.

To determine the appropriate market risk premium for valuation purposes, it is also important to take into account historical returns and volatility. Especially in times of crisis it may make sense to apply an average market risk premium over several periods instead of a reference date value.

cf. Castedello/Jonas/Schieszl/Lenckner, Die Marktrisikoprämie im Niedrigzinsumfeld – Hintergrund und Erläuterung der Empfehlung des FAUB (WPg, 13/2018, p. 806-825);

^{2.} cf. Babbel, Challenging Stock Prices: Stock prices und implied growth expectations, in: Corporate Finance, N. 9, 2015, p. 316-323, in particular p. 319. In the observation period from H2 2020 until H2 2021, we applied t+2 earnings forecasts in our model due to distortions by the COVID-19 crisis;

cf. Reese, 2007, Estimation of the cost of capital for evaluation purposes; Aders/Aschauer/Dollinger, Die implizite Marktrisikoprämie am österreichischen Kapitalmarkt (RWZ, 6/2016, p. 195-202);

^{4.} Approx. 75% of the total market capitalization (CDAX, WBI, SPI) is covered.

Betas are calculated based on regressions and adjusted to take the capital structure into account

Betas

Beta is used in the CAPM and also referred to as beta coefficient or beta factor. Beta is a measure of systematic risk of a security of a specific company (company beta) or a specific sector (sector beta) in comparison to the market. A beta of less than 1 means that the security is theoretically less volatile than the market. A beta of greater than 1 indicates that the security's price is more volatile than the market.

Beta factors are estimated based on historical returns of securities in comparison to an approximate market portfolio. Since a company valuation is forward-looking, it has to be examined which risk factors from the past also apply to the future, and to which extent. In valuing non-listed companies or companies without meaningful share price performance, it is common practice to use a beta factor from a group of comparable companies ("peer group beta"), a suitable sector ("sector beta") or one single listed company in the capital market with a similar business model and similar risk profile ("pure play beta"). Within this Capital Market Study, we have used sector betas which are computed as arithmetic means of the statistically significant beta factors of all companies of a particular sector.

The calculation of beta factors is usually accomplished through a **linear** regression analysis. We use the CDAX, WBI, and SPI as country specific reference indices.

It is important to set a time period over which the data is collected (benchmark period), and whether daily, weekly or monthly returns (return interval) are analyzed. In practice, it is common to use observation periods of two years with the regression of weekly returns or five years with the regression of monthly returns. Both alternatives are displayed in our Study.

In the CAPM, company specific **risk premiums** include **business** risk, and financial **risk**. The beta factor of levered companies ("**levered beta**") is usually higher compared to a company with an identical business model but without debt (due to financial risk). Hence, **changes in the capital structure** require an **adjustment of the betas** and therefore of the company specific risk premiums.

Various adjustment formulas are available to calculate the **unlevered beta**. We prefer to use the **adjustment formula by Harris/Pringle** which assumes a value-based financing policy, stock-flow adjustments without time delay, uncertain tax shields and a so-called **debt beta**. We calculate the debt beta based on the respective company's rating or the average sector rating (if a company's rating is not available) through the application of the **credit spread** derived from the expected cost of debt. We do not adjust the credit spread for unsystematic risks. Capital market data, in particular historical market prices, is provided by the data supplier S&P Capital IQ.

Implied sector returns simplify the calculation of the levered cost of equity

Sector returns: Implied returns

Besides the future-oriented calculation of implied market returns, we also calculate implied returns for sectors. That offers an alternative to and simplification of the ex-post analysis of the company's cost of capital via the **CAPM**. Using this approach, the calculation of sector betas via regression analyses is not necessary.

The **implied sector returns** can be used as an **indicator** for the **sector specific** levered cost of equity, which already consider sector specific leverage.

The following return calculations are again based on the Residual Income Valuation Model by Babbel. 1) The required data (i.e. net income, market capitalization, and book value of equity) are sourced from the data provider S&P Capital IQ. With regards to profit growth, we assume a growth rate of 2.0%. We unlever the implied returns with the following equation for the cost of equity²⁾ to take into account the specific leverage:³⁾

$$r_{E}^{L} = r_{E}^{U} + \left(r_{E}^{U} - R_{f}\right) * \frac{D}{E}$$

with:

 $r_{\rm E}^{\rm L}$ = Levered cost of equity $r_{\rm E}^{\rm U}$ = Unlevered cost of equity

 R_f = Risk-free rate

 $\frac{D}{E}$ = Debt⁴⁾-to-equity ratio

The implied unlevered sector returns serve as an indicator for the aggregated and unlevered cost of equity for specific sectors. The process of relevering a company's cost of capital to reflect a company specific debt situation (cf. calculation example on the next slide) can be accomplished without using the CAPM.

^{1.} cf. Babbel, Challenging Stock Prices: Share prices and implied growth expectations (Corporate Finance, n. 9, 2015, p. 316-323, especially p. 319); cf. Aders/Aschauer/Dollinger, Die implizite Marktrisikoprämie am österreichischen Kapitalmarkt (RWZ, 6/2016, p. 195-202);

^{2.} In situations in which the debt betas in the market are distorted, we would have to adjust these betas to avoid unsystematic risks. For simplification reasons, we deviate from our typical analysis strategy to achieve the enterprise value (Debt beta > 0) and assume that the cost of debt are at the level of the risk-free rate. This process is designed by the so-called Practitioners formula (uncertain tax shields, debt beta = 0), cf. Pratt/Grabowski, Cost of Capital, 5th ed., 2014, p. 253;

^{3.} We assume that the cash and cash equivalents are used entirely for operational purposes. Consequently, we do not deduct excess cash from the debt:

^{4. &}quot;Debt" is defined as all interest-bearing liabilities. The debt illustration of the companies in the Banking, Insurance and Financial Services sector only serves an informational purpose. We will not implement an adjustment to these companies' specific debt (unlevered) because their indebtedness is part of their operational activities and economic risk.

An exemplary calculation of relevered cost of equity to adjust for the company specific capital structure

Sector returns: Implied returns

Calculation example:

As of the reference date 31 December 2024, we observe a sector specific, unlevered cost of equity of **6.0%** (market-value weighted mean) in the German Basic Materials sector. For the exemplary company X, which operates in the German Basic Materials sector, the following assumptions were made:

- Debt-to-equity ratio of X: 40%

- Risk-free rate: 2.48% (cf. slide 11)

Based on these inputs, we calculate the relevered cost of equity for company X with the adjustment formula:

$$r_{\rm E}^{\rm L} = 6.0\% + (6.0\% - 2.48\%) * 40\% = 7.4\%$$

7.4% is the company's relevered cost of equity. In comparison, the levered cost of equity of the Basic Materials sector is **9.0%**, reflecting the sectors' lower average leverage.

Historical sector returns are calculated using market-weighted aggregated sector indices

Sector returns: Historical returns

In addition to historical market returns, we calculate historical sector returns. Our analysis contains total shareholder returns including share price development and dividend yield.

We calculate **total annual shareholder returns as of 31 December** for every listed company of CDAX, WBI, and SPI. We aggregate these returns market-value weighted **to sector returns**. Our calculations comprise the time period between 2019 and 2024.

Since total annual shareholder returns tend to fluctuate to a great extent, their explanatory power is limited. Therefore, we do not only calculate the 1-year market-value weighted means, but 3-year (2022-24) as well as the 6-year (2019-24) averages.

The multiples approach can be used for company valuation

Trading multiples

Besides income-based valuation models (earnings value, DCF), the **multiples approach** offers a practical approach for an enterprise value estimation. The multiples method estimates a subject company's value **relative** to another company's value. The enterprise value is derived by multiplying a reference value (revenue or earnings values are frequently used) of the subject company by the respective multiples of **comparable companies**.

Within this Study, we calculate the following multiples for the "super-sectors" as well as for the DACH market consisting of the German, Austrian and Swiss capital markets (CDAX, WBI and SPI):

- Revenue-Multiples ("EV1)/Revenue")
- EBIT-Multiples ("EV¹⁾/EBIT")
- Price-to-Earnings-Multiples ("P/E")
- Price-to-Book Value-Multiples ("P/B")

Multiples are presented for the reference dates 31 December 2024 and 30 June 2024. The reference values are based on one-year forecasts of analysts (so called forward multiples, in the following "1yf"). Solely the Price-to-Book-Value-Multiples are calculated with book values as of the reference dates. We present median values.

We present historical multiples starting as of 31 December 2018 in the appendix and update the applied multiples semi-annually at the predefined reference date (as of 31 December and as of 30 June).

For the purpose of **simplification**, we exclude negative multiples and multiples in the highest quantile (95%). The multiples in the lowest quantile (5%) build the lower limit.

We source the data (i.e. market capitalization, revenue, EBIT, etc.) from the data provider S&P Capital IQ. Based on the availability of data, especially in terms of forecasts, the number of companies underlying each specific multiple varies.

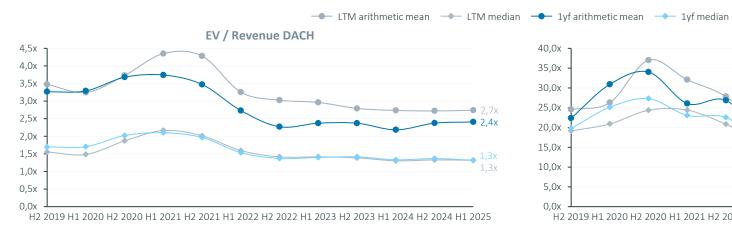
Additionally, we present a **ranking table** of the sector multiples. Sector multiples are sorted from highest to lowest for each analyzed multiple. The resulting score in the ranking is displayed in the table and visualized by a color code that assigns a dark **green color** to the **highest rank** and a **red color** to the **lowest rank**. Thus, a green colored high rank indicates a high valuation level, whereas a red colored low rank suggests a low valuation level. We then aggregate the rankings and calculate an average of all single rankings for each sector multiple. This is shown in the right column of the ranking table. This **average ranking** indicates the overall **relative valuation levels** of the sectors when using multiples.

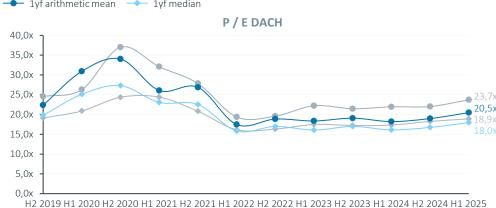
Appendix

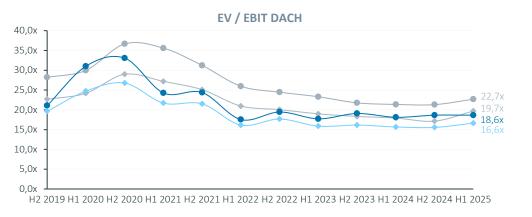
Historical development of trading multiples since 2019

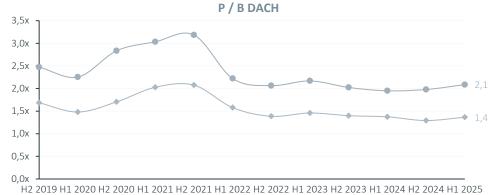
DACH region

Revenue-, EBIT-, P/E- and P/B-Multiples





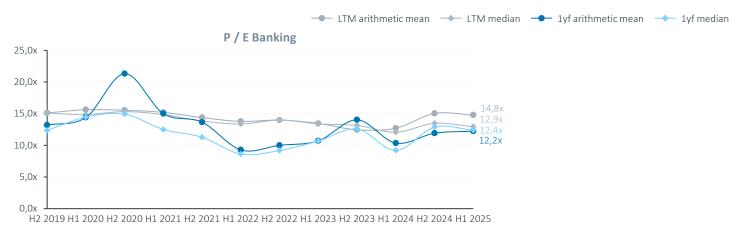


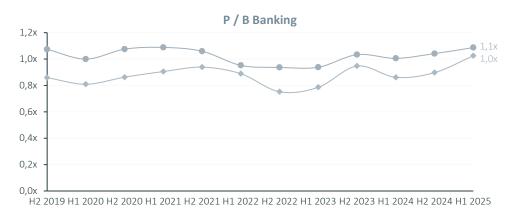


VALUETRUST

Banking

P/E- and P/B-Multiples

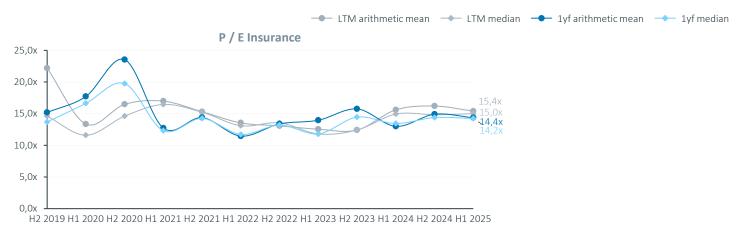


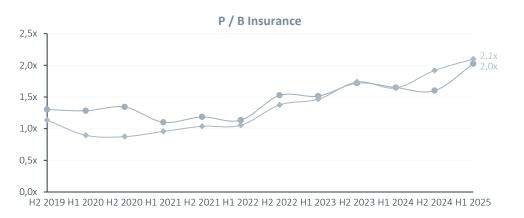


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Insurance

P/E- and P/B-Multiples

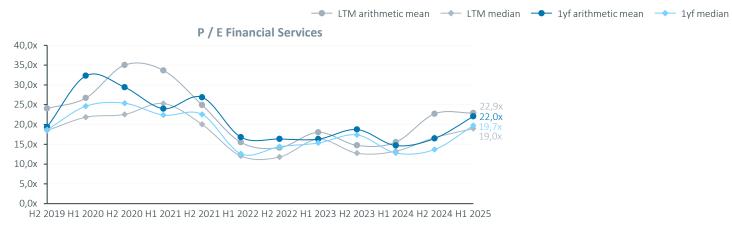


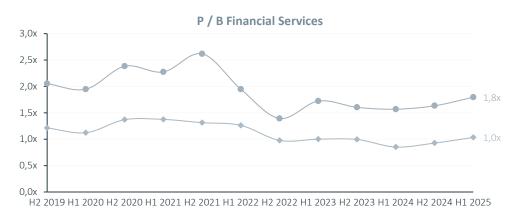


ValueTrust

Financial Services

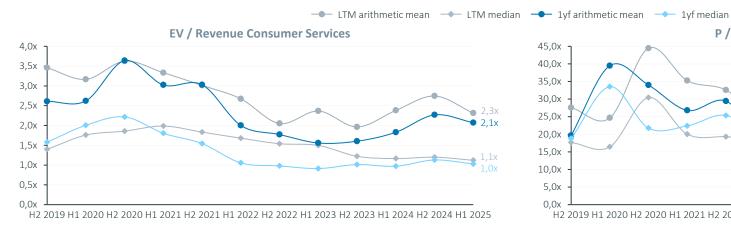
P/E- and P/B-Multiples

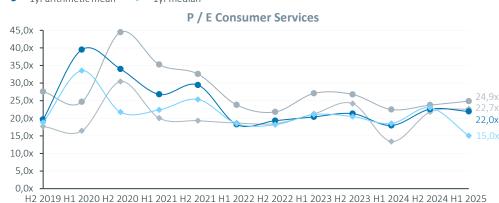


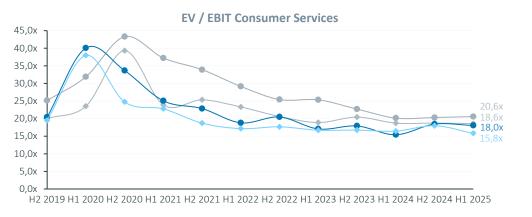


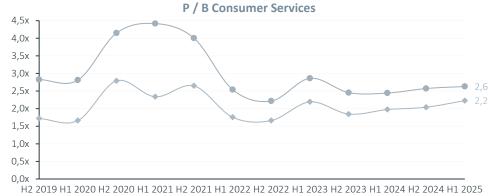
ValueTrust

Consumer Services

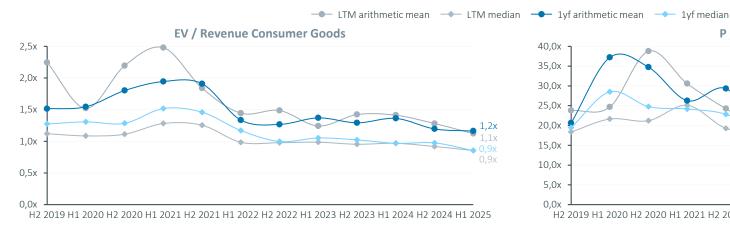


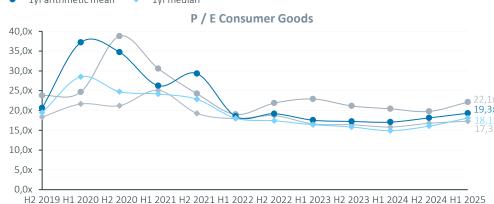


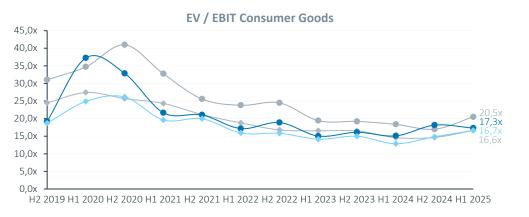




Consumer Goods

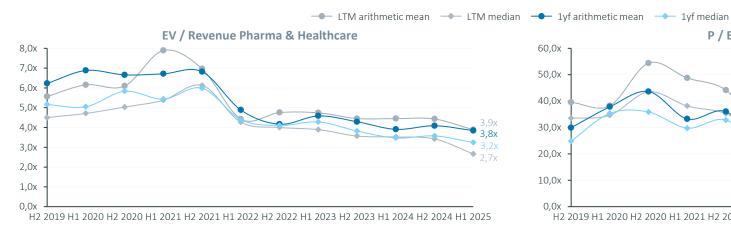


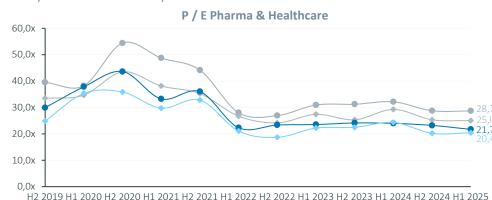


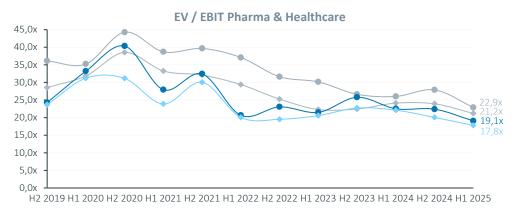


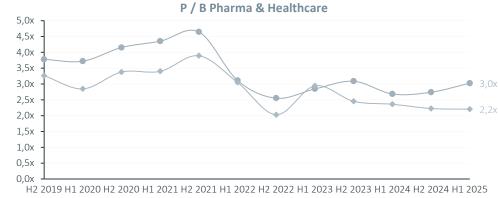


Pharma & Healthcare

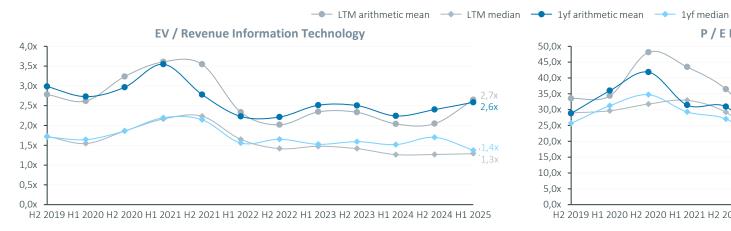


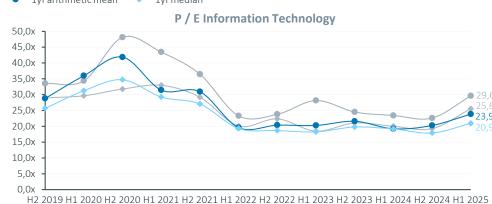


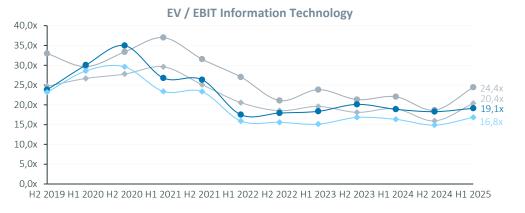


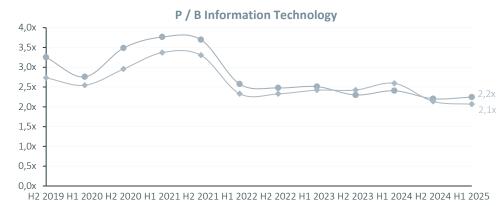


Information Technology

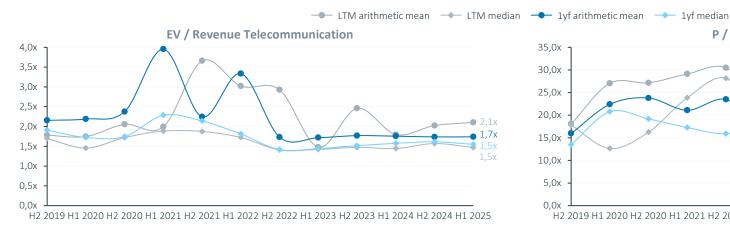


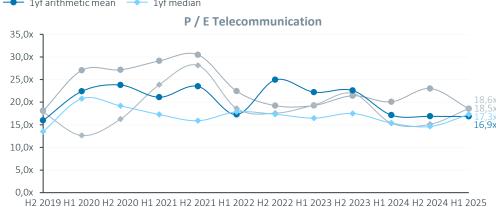


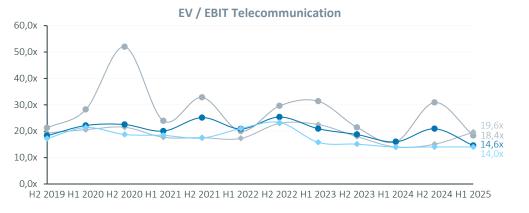


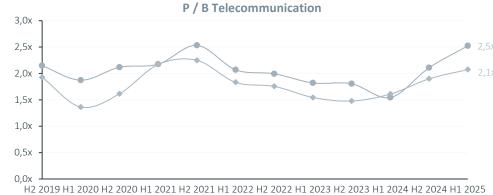


Telecommunication

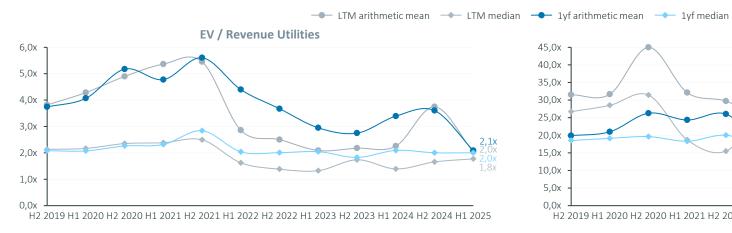


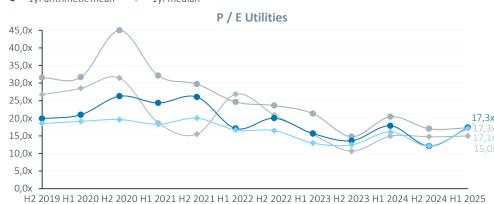


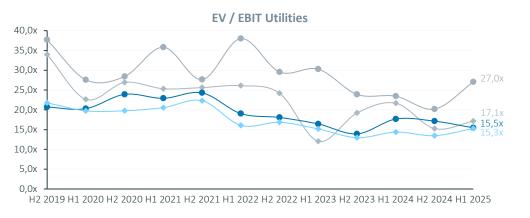


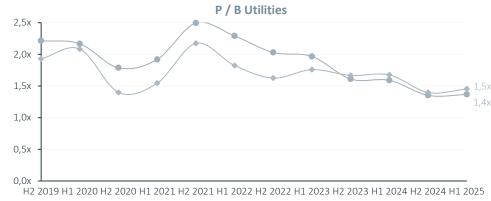


Utilities

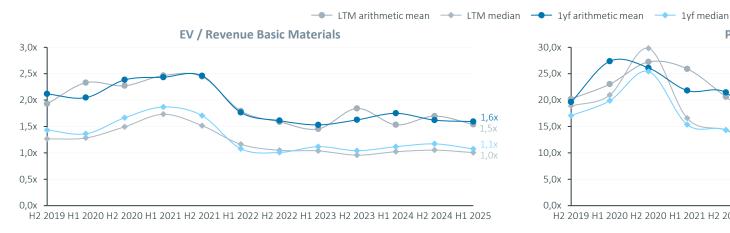




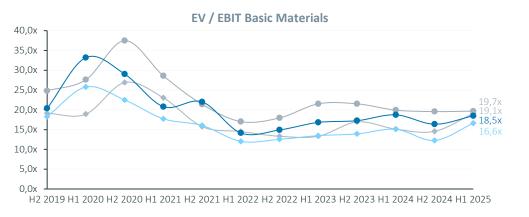


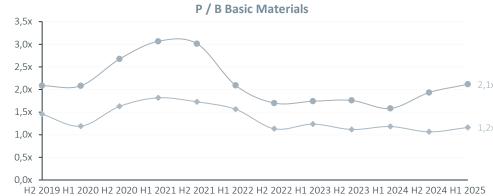


Basic Materials





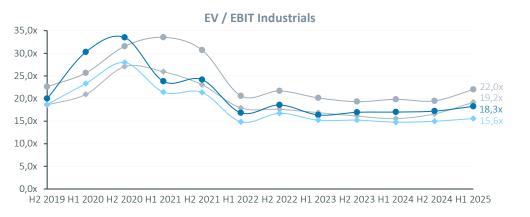




Industrials

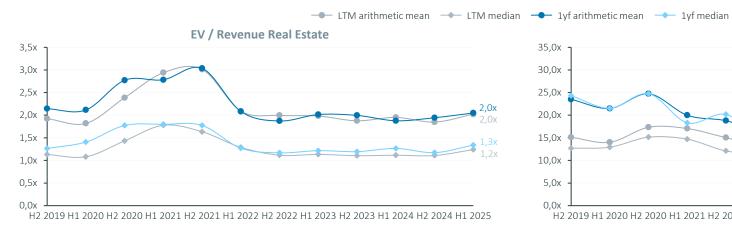




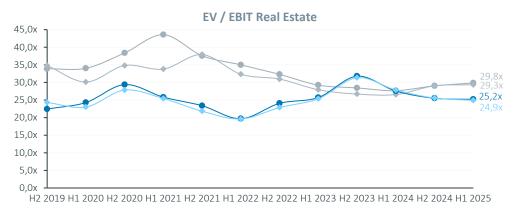




Real Estate







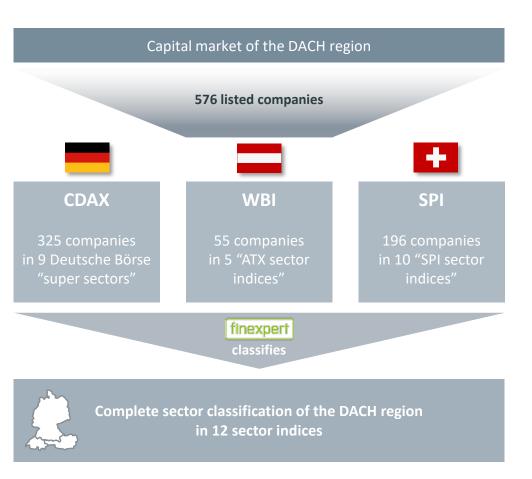


Appendix

Composition of the sectors of CDAX, WBI and SPI as of 30 June 2025

The capital market of the DACH region comprises 576 listed companies that are allocated to twelve sector indices

finexpert sector indices of the DACH region



The finexpert sector indices aim to cover the entire capital market of the DACH region. This Study contains all equities of the German Composite DAX Index (CDAX), Vienna Stock Exchange Index (WBI) and Swiss Performance Index (SPI). These three indices contain all shares listed on the Official and Semi-Official Market.

The **576 public companies**, which are listed in the mentioned indices as of 30 June 2025, build the base for the **sector classification** and the **subsequent analyses**:

- The German DAX Sector All Index¹⁾ includes 325 companies listed in the Prime Standard and General Standard and is grouped to nine "Deutsche Börse super sectors".
- The Austrian ATX has five sector indices, and ValueTrust allocates the remaining companies of the WBI to the twelve sector indices listed below.
- The Swiss SPI contains ten sector indices that comprise 196 companies.

finexpert allocated all constituents of three market indices and the respective sector index classifications to twelve **finexpert** sector indices, called "super sectors":

- Banking
- Insurance
- Financial Services
- Consumer Service
- Consumer Goods
- Pharma & Healthcare

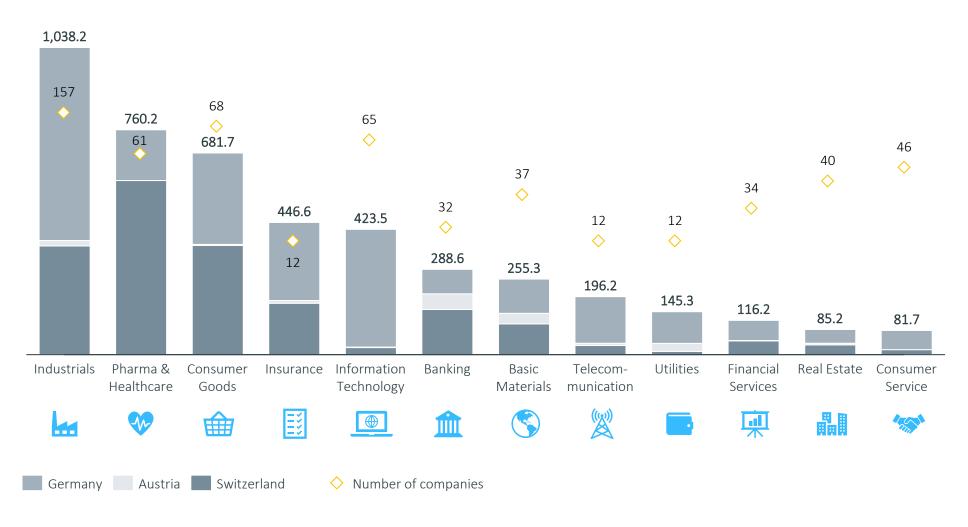
- Information Technology
- Telecommunication
- Utilities
- Basic Materials
- Industrials
- Real Estate

ValueTrust

The DAX Sector All Index contains all equities listed in the Prime and General Standard as well as in the Scale segment of the Frankfurt stock exchange.

Industrials, Consumer Goods and Pharma & Healthcare sectors represent over 55% of the market capitalization in the DACH region

finexpert sector market capitalization in the DACH region as of 30 June 2025 (in EUR bn)



Banking, Financial Services, Insurance, and Real Estate (1/2)

DACH Capital Market Study

Banking

Germany

Commerzbank AG Deutsche Bank AG

Deutsche Pfandbriefbank AG

ProCredit Holding AG

Wüstenrot & Württembergische AG

Austria

Bank für Tirol und Vorarlberg AG

BAWAG Group AG BKS Bank AG

Erste Group Bank AG

Oberbank AG

Raiffeisen Bank International AG

Switzerland

Banque Cantonale de Genève SA Banque Cantonale du Jura SA Banque Cantonale Vaudoise

Basellandschaftliche Kantonalbank

Basler Kantonalbank Berner Kantonalbank AG Cembra Money Bank AG EFG International AG Glarner Kantonalbank

Graubündner Kantonalbank

Hypothekarbank Lenzburg AG Julius Bär Gruppe AG Luzerner Kantonalbank AG

Schweizerische Nationalbank St. Galler Kantonalbank AG

Thurgauer Kantonalbank

UBS Group AG Valiant Holding AG Vontobel Holding AG Walliser Kantonalbank

Zuger Kantonalbank

Financial Services

Germany

ALBIS Leasing AG

Allane SE

Brockhaus Technologies AG

CAMERIT AG capsensixx AG

creditshelf Aktiengesellschaft Deutsche Beteiligungs AG Deutsche Börse AG DF Deutsche Forfait AG DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA

flatexDEGIRO AG FORIS AG Grenke AG

Heidelberger Beteiligungsholding AG

Hypoport SE KAP AG

Leo International Precision Health AG

MLP SE

Mutares SE & Co. KGaA OVB Holding AG Pearl Gold AG Webac Holding AG

Austria

Addiko Bank AG

Burgenland Holding Aktiengesellschaft

Wiener Privatbank SE

Switzerland

Bellevue Group AG

Compagnie Financière Tradition SA

GAM Holding AG Leonteg AG

Partners Group Holding AG Private Equity Holding AG R&S Group Holding AG Swissquote Group Holding Ltd

VZ Holding AG

Insurance

Germany

Allianz SE

Hannover Rück SE

Münchener Rückversicherungs-Gesellschaft AG

Talanx AG

Austria

UNIQA Insurance Group AG Vienna Insurance Group AG

Switzerland

Baloise Holding AG Helvetia Holding AG Swiss Life Holding AG

Swiss Re AG

Vaudoise Assurances Holding SA Zurich Insurance Group AG Real Estate

Germany

ACCENTRO Real Estate AG

Branicks Group AG

DEMIRE Deutsche Mittelstand Real Estate AG

Deutsche EuroShop AG Deutsche Konsum REIT-AG Deutsche Real Estate AG Deutsche Wohnen SE Fair Value REIT-AG FCR Immobilien AG

Gateway Real Estate AG Hamborner RFIT AG

Instone Real Estate Group SE

LEG Immobilien SE PATRIZIA SE

TAG Immobilien AG

TTL Beteiligungs- und Grundbesitz-AG

Vonovia SE

Austria

CA Immobilien Anlagen AG

CPI Europe AG

UBM Development AG

Warimpex Finanz- und Beteiligungs AG

Switzerland

Allreal Holding AG

Cham Swiss Properties AG

Compagnie Internationale pour la Communication

EPIC Suisse AG

Fundamenta Real Estate AG

HIAG Immobilien Holding AG Intershop Holding AG

Investis Holding SA
Mobimo Holding AG
Novavest Real Estate AG
Peach Property Group AG

Plazza AG

PSP Swiss Property AG SF Urban Properties AG

Real Estate (2/2), Basic Materials, and Consumer Goods

DACH Capital Market Study

Real Estate

Switzerland

Varia US Properties AG Warteck Invest AG Züblin Immobilien Holding AG

Zug Estates Holding AG

Basic Materials

Germany

Altech Advanced Materials AG AlzChem Group AG Aurubis AG

BASF SE

Bayer Aktiengesellschaft BRAIN Biotech AG Covestro AG

Eisen- und Hüttenwerke AG Evonik Industries AG

Fuchs SE

H&R GmbH & Co. KGaA K+S Aktiengesellschaft LANXESS Aktiengesellschaft

Rostra AG Salzgitter AG SGL Carbon SE

SIMONA Aktiengesellschaft

Surteco Group SE Symrise AG Wacker Chemie AG

Austria

AMAG Austria Metall AG Lenzing Aktiengesellschaft OMV Aktiengesellschaft

PORR AG

Schoeller-Bleckmann Oilfield Equipment AG

Strabag SE Voestalpine AG Wienerberger AG **Switzerland**

Amrize AG Clariant AG CPH Group AG

EMS-CHEMIE HOLDING AG

Givaudan SA Gurit Holding AG SunMirror AG Zwahlen & Mayr SA

Consumer Goods

Germany

A.S. Création Tapeten AG

adidas AG Ahlers AG

Bayerische Motoren Werke AG

Beiersdorf AG Berentzen-Gruppe AG Bertrandt AG Bike24 Holding AG

Borussia Dortmund GmbH & Co. KGaA

CEWE Stiftung & Co. KGaA

Continental AG

Daimler Truck Holding AG

Dierig Holding AG Douglas AG Einhell Germany AG ElringKlinger AG Grammer AG

HELLA GmbH & Co. KGaA Henkel AG & Co. KGaA Hugo Boss AG Knaus Tabbert AG

Mercedes-Benz Group AG

Meta Wolf AG Ming Le Sports AG Mister Spex SE pferdewetten.de AG Porsche Automobil Holding SE

PUMA SE PWO AG

Leifheit AG

ROY Asset Holding SE SAF-Holland SE Schaeffler AG

Schloss Wachenheim AG Sto SE & Co. KGaA STS Group AG Südzucker AG

TC Unterhaltungselektronik AG

Villeroy & Boch AG Volkswagen AG

WASGAU Produktions & Handels AG

Westag AG

DO & CO AG

Austria

AGRANA Beteiligungs-AG

Gurktaler AG
Josef Manner & Comp. AG
Linz Textil Holding AG
PIERER Mobility AG
Polytec Holding AG

Stadlauer Malzfabrik AG Wolford AG

Switzerland

Airesis SA ARYZTA AG

Autoneum Holding AG Barry Callebaut AG Bell Food Group AG CALIDA Holding AG

Chocoladefabriken Lindt & Sprüngli AG Compagnie Financière Richemont SA

Emmi AG

Groupe Minoteries SA

Hocn AG
Metall Zug AG
Nestlé SA
ORIOR AG
Stadler Rail AG
The Swatch Group AG
V-ZUG Holding AG

Consumer Service and Pharma & Healthcare

DACH Capital Market Study

Consumer Service

Germany

About You Holding SE

Artnet AG

AUTO1 Group SE

Bastei Lübbe AG

bet-at-home.com AG

Bijou Brigitte modische Accessoires Aktiengesellschaft

Ceconomy AG

CTS Eventim AG & Co. KGaA

Delivery Hero SE

Delticom AG

elumeo SE

Fielmann Group AG

Hawesko Holding SE

HelloFresh SF

HORNBACH Holding AG & Co. KGaA

Intertainmement AG

LUDWIG BECK am Rathauseck - Textilhaus Feldmeier AG

Nakiki SE

NeXR Technologies SE

Philomaxcap AG

ProSiebenSat.1 Media SE

Readcrest Capital AG

Scout24 SE

Sporttotal AG

Springer Nature AG & Co. KGaA

Ströer SF & Co. KGaA

TAKKT AG

TUI AG

UNITEDLABELS Aktiengesellschaft

Westwing Group SE

Wild Bunch AG

Your Family Entertainment AG

7alando SF

7FAL Network SF

Switzerland

APG | SGA SA

Asmallworld AG

Avolta AG

Bergbahnen Engelberg-Trübsee-Titlis AG

DocMorris AG Galenica AG

Highlight Event and Entertainment AG

Jungfraubahn Holding AG mobilezone holding ag

Orell Füssli AG

TX Group AG

Villars Holding S.A.

Pharma & Healthcare

Germany

2invest AG 4SC AG

aap Implantate AG

Biofrontera AG

Carl Zeiss Meditec AG

co.don AG

Dermapharm Holding SE

Drägerwerk AG & Co. KGaA

Eckert & Ziegler SE

Evotec SE

FamiCord AG

Formycon AG

Fresenius Medical Care AG

Fresenius SF & Co. KGaA

Gerresheimer AG

Heidelberg Pharma AG

Maternus-Kliniken Aktiengesellschaft

MEDICLIN Aktiengesellschaft

Medigene AG

Medios AG

Merck KGaA

Paion AG

Pentixapharm Holding AG

PharmaSGP Holding SE

RHÖN-KLINIKUM Aktiengesellschaft

Sartorius Aktiengesellschaft

SCHOTT Pharma AG & Co. KGaA

Siemens Healthineers AG

Stratec SE

Austria

Marinomed Biotech AG

Switzerland

Addex Therapeutics Ltd

Aevis Victoria SA

Alcon Inc.

Bachem Holding AG

Basilea Pharmaceutica AG

BB Biotech AG

BioVersys AG

COLTENE Holding AG

Curatis Holding AG

Dottikon ES Holding AG

Evolva Holding SA

Idorsia Ltd

IVF Hartmann Holding AG

Kuros Biosciences AG

Lonza Group AG

Medartis Holding AG

Molecular Partners AG

Novartis AG

PolyPeptide Group AG

Relief Therapeutics Holding SA

Roche Holding AG

Sandoz Group AG

Santhera Pharmaceuticals Holding AG

SHL Telemedicine Ltd.

Siegfried Holding AG

SKAN Group AG

Sonova Holding AG

Straumann Holding AG

Tecan Group AG

Xlife Sciences AG

Ypsomed Holding AG

VALUETRUST

Information Technology, Telecommunications, and Utilities

DACH Capital Market Study

Information Technology

Germany

adesso SE Adtran Networks SE

AIXTRON SF

All for One Group SE

Allgeier SE

Arzneiwerk AG VIDA

ATOSS Software SE

B+S Banksysteme Aktiengesellschaft

Bechtle AG Cancom SE

CENIT Aktiengesellschaft

Cherry SE

DATA MODUL AG

Elmos Semiconductor SE

First Sensor AG

FORTEC Elektronik AG

GFT Technologies SE

Gigaset AG

Infineon Technologies AG

init innovation in traffic systems SE

INTERSHOP Communications Aktiengesellschaft

InTiCa Systems SE **IONOS Group SE**

IVU Traffic Technologies AG

MeVis Medical Solutions AG

Nagarro SE

KPS AG

Nemetschek SE Nexus AG

NorCom Information Technology GmbH & Co. KGaA

OHB SE

Panamax New Energy AG

paragon GmbH & Co. KGaA

PSI Software SE

q.beyond AG

RealTech AG

SAP SE

Schweizer Electronic AG

secunet Security Networks Aktiengesellschaft

Serviceware SE Siltronic AG

SNP Schneider-Neureither & Partner SE

SUSS MicroTec SE SYZYGY AG TeamViewer SE The Social Chain AG

tiscon AG

United Internet AG

secunet Security Networks Aktiengesellschaft

Vivanco Gruppe AG

Austria

AT & S Austria Technologie & Systemtechnik AG

Austriacard Holdings AG

Frequentis AG

Kapsch TrafficCom AG Maschinenfabrik Heid AG

RATH Aktiengesellschaft

Switzerland

ALSO Holding AG ams-OSRAM AG

Ascom Holding AG

Huber+Suhner AG

Kudelski SA

Logitech International S.A.

SoftwareOne Holding AG

Temenos AG u-blox Holding AG

WISeKey International Holding AG

Telecommunication

Germany

1&1 AG

11880 Solutions AG

3U Holding AG

Deutsche Telekom AG

ecotel communication ag

freenet AG LS telcom AG

NFON AG

YOC AG

Austria

EuroTeleSites AG

Telekom Austria AG

Switzerland

Swisscom AG

Utilities

Germany

E.ON SE

EnBW Energie Baden-Württemberg AG

Gelsenwasser AG

Mainova AG

MVV Energie AG

RWE Aktiengesellschaft

Uniper SE

Austria

FVN AG VERBUND AG

Switzerland

BKW AG

Edisun Power Europe AG

Romande Energie Holding SA

Industrials (1/2)

DACH Capital Market Study

Industrials (1/2)

Germany7C Solarparken AG
Amadeus FiRe AG
Aumann AG

Basler Aktiengesellschaft BayWa Aktiengesellschaft

Bilfinger SE Brenntag SE CCS Abwicklungs AG

Deutsche Lufthansa AG
Deutsche Post AG
DEUTZ Aktiengesellschaft
DMG MORI AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT

Dr. Hänla AC

Dr. Hönle AG

Dr. Ing. h.c. F. Porsche AG Dürr Aktiengesellschaft

Enapter AG Energiekontor AG

Francotyp-Postalia Holding AG

Fraport AG

Friedrich Vorwerk Group SE

FRIWO AG

GEA Group Aktiengesellschaft

Gesco SE

Hamburger Hafen und Logistik Aktiengesellschaft

Hapag-Lloyd Aktiengesellschaft Heidelberg Materials AG

Heidelberger Druckmaschinen Aktiengesellschaft

Hensoldt AG hGears AG

HOCHTIEF Aktiengesellschaft

INDUS Holding AG Infas Holding AG Jenoptik AG JOST Werke SE

Jungheinrich Aktiengesellschaft

KHD Humboldt Wedag International AG

KION GROUP AG Klöckner & Co SE Knorr-Bremse AG Koenig & Bauer AG

Krones AG
KSB SE & Co. KGaA
KWS SAAT SE & Co. KGaA
LIBERO Football Finance AG
LPKF Laser & Electronics SE

Manz AG

Maschinenfabrik Berthold Hermle AG

Masterflex SE MAX Automation SE

MBB SE

MTU Aero Engines AG Müller - Die lila Logistik SE

Nordex SE

Nordwest Handel AG NORMA Group SE

ORBIS AG

Pfeiffer Vacuum Technology AG Pittler Maschinenfabrik AG

PNE AG PVA TePla AG R. STAHL AG

RATIONAL Aktiengesellschaft

RENK Group AG Rheinmetall AG Ringmetall SE SFC Energy AG

Siemens Aktiengesellschaft Siemens Energy AG Singulus Technologies AG Sino-German United AG

Sixt SE

SMA Solar Technology AG

SMT Scharf AG
Softing AG
Stabilus SE
technotrans SE
thyssenkrupp AG

thyssenkrupp nucera AG & Co. KGaA [Traton SE [

Verbio SE Viscom SE Voltabox AG Vossloh AG Wacker Neuson SE

WashTec AG ZhongDe Waste Technology AG

Andritz AG FACC AG

Austria

Uzin Utz SE

Flughafen Wien Aktiengesellschaft Frauenthal Holding AG Mayr-Melnhof Karton AG Österreichische Post AG

Palfinger AG
RHI Magnesita N.V.
Rosenbauer International AG
Semperit Aktiengesellschaft Holding
SW Umwelttechnik Stoiser & Wolschner AG

Zumtobel Group AG Switzerland

ABB Ltd Accelleron Industries AG Adecco Group AG Adval Tech Holding AG Arbonia AG

Arbonia AG
BELIMO Holding AG
Bossard Holding AG
Bucher Industries AG

Burckhardt Compression Holding AG Burkhalter Holding AG BVZ Holding AG Bystronic AG

Carlo Gavazzi Holding AG
Cicor Technologies Ltd.
Comet Holding AG

Dätwyler Holding AG DKSH Holding AG dormakaba Holding AG

Elma Electronic AG Feintool International Holding AG

Flughafen Zürich AG

Forbo Holding AG
Geberit AG
Georg Fischer AG
Holcim AG

Implenia AG
INFICON Holding AG
Interroll Holding AG
Kardex Holding AG
Klingelnberg AG
Komax Holding AG

Kuehne + Nagel International AG

Landis+Gyr Group AG LEM Holding SA MCH Group AG Medacta Group SA medmix AG

Meier Tobler Group AG Meyer Burger Technology AG Mikron Holding AG

Montana Aerospace AG
OC Oerlikon Corporation AG
Perrot Duval Holding S.A.
Phoenix Mecano AG
Rieter Holding AG
Schindler Holding AG
Schlatter Industries AG
Schweiter Technologies AG
Sensirion Holding AG
SFS Group AG

SIG Group AG Sika AG

SGS SA

StarragTornos Group AG

Industrials (2/2)

DACH Capital Market Study

Industrials (2/2)

Switzerland

Sulzer Ltd VAT Group AG Vetropack Holding AG Zehnder Group AG

