

# Nasdaq 100 Index® - Commentary

March 2025

## Key Highlights

- Equities finished March in negative territory amid elevated volatility.
- For the month of March, the Nasdaq-100 Index (NDX) returned -7.6%, underperforming the S&P 500 Index, which returned -5.7%.



## About the index

- The Nasdaq 100 is one of the world's preeminent large cap growth indexes.
- The companies in the Nasdaq-100 include the largest non-financial companies listed on the Nasdaq Stock Market based on market capitalization.

## US Market Recap

The all-time high of the S&P 500, set on February 19<sup>th</sup> at a price of 6144, proved to be the peak as many investors sold equities and purchased bonds during March. High uncertainty around tariffs and the future US Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) meeting caused some investors to position more cautiously.

News around tariffs dominated headlines in March and was one of the primary sources of market movement for the month. Despite the extensive news coverage on tariffs, many investors remained focused on April 2<sup>nd</sup>, dubbed "Liberation Day" by Trump, when broader tariffs were expected to be announced.

The FOMC met for the second time of the year, and the meeting brought a wave of changes in economic projections from the US Federal Reserve (Fed). The central bank cut its 2025 GDP forecast by 0.4%, to 1.7% growth versus the previous forecast of 2.1% in December. Additionally, the forecast for inflation (measured by CPI) was raised by 0.3%, from a previous forecast of 2.5% up to 2.8% for 2025. In the statement, the FOMC noted that "uncertainty around the economic outlook has increased." In his press conference, Fed Chairman Jerome Powell expanded on this notion by stating that inflation has started to move higher, with at least partial responsibility being caused by tariffs. They have the potential to delay further progress against price increases as the year goes on. Despite the concerns about the upward pressure that tariffs can cause on prices, the Fed's dot plot shows that FOMC participants still expect two rate cuts this year.

Two rate cuts would bring the target rate down to 3.75% - 4.00%. The Fed also mentioned that it will slow its quantitative tightening program aimed at decreasing the amount of bonds that the central bank holds on its balance sheet. It will allow US\$5 billion of Treasuries to roll off each month, down from US\$25 billion. In mid-March, the market received positive reports on the inflation front. The US Consumer Price Index (CPI) reading dipped back below the 3.0% threshold, coming in at 2.8% in February.

## Innovator Spotlight

Nvidia's DGX Spark and DGX Station are significant advancements in AI computing. DGX Spark, the world's smallest AI supercomputer, and DGX Station, a high-performance desktop supercomputer, utilize the Grace Blackwell architecture to bring powerful AI capabilities to desktops. These systems allow AI developers, researchers, data scientists, and students to prototype, fine-tune, and inference large models locally or deploy them on cloud infrastructure. The GB10 Grace Blackwell Superchip in DGX Spark delivers up to 1,000 trillion operations per second, while the GB300 Superchip in DGX Station offers 784GB of coherent memory space for large-scale AI workloads. Developed by global system builders like ASUS, Dell, HP Inc., and Lenovo, these new DGX personal AI computers highlight the impact of AI on the computing stack and the development of AI-native applications from cloud services to desktop environments. DGX Spark's compact form factor, high performance, versatile deployment options, advanced technologies, seamless integration, and broad industry support make it a valuable tool for AI research and development on a desktop scale.

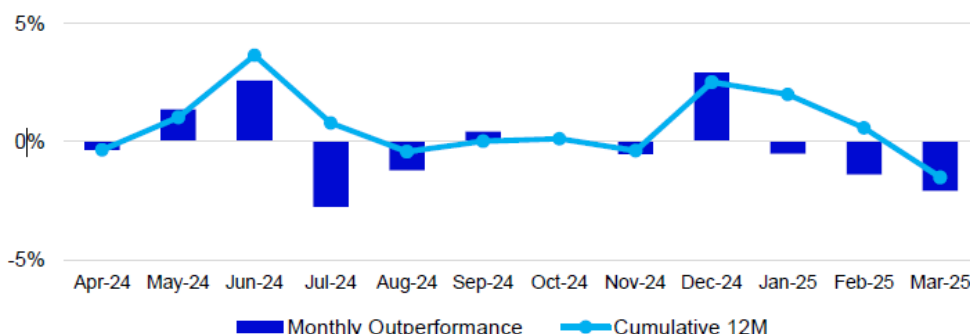
Index Performance	1 Month	YTD	1 Year	10 Years (CAGR)
NASDAQ- 100	-7.6%	-8.1%	6.2%	16.9%
S&P 500	-5.7%	-4.4%	7.8%	11.9%
Relative	-2.1%	-3.9%	-1.5%	4.5%

Source: Bloomberg as of 31 March 2025. An investment cannot be made directly into an index.

**Past performance may or may not be sustained in future.**

**Disclaimer:** Returns less than 1 year are absolute returns and more than 1 year are Compounded Annualized Growth rate (CAGR) for Benchmark Indices. The same are for the illustration purpose only and should not be construed as investment advice. It does not in any manner imply or suggest the performance of any schemes of Invesco Mutual Fund.

## Monthly Relative Performance of Nasdaq 100 over S&P 500

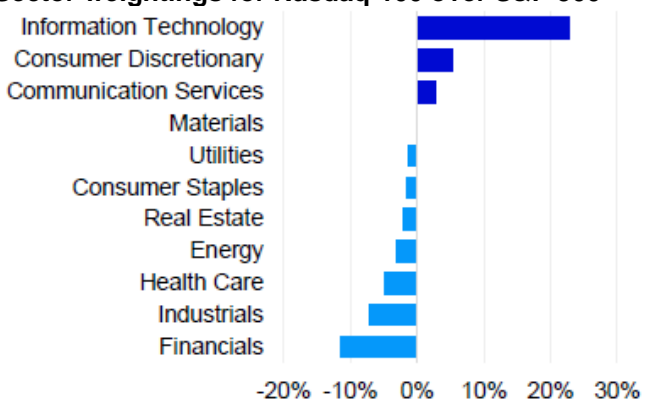


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## Sector weightings for Nasdaq-100 over S&P 500



Source: Invesco, FactSet, as of 31 March 2025. Data in USD.

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## Nasdaq 100 Performance Drivers

March's performance attribution of the Nasdaq 100 (NDX) vs the S&P 500 Index

From a sector perspective, seven of the ten sectors that NDX has exposure to finished in negative territory for March. Consumer Discretionary was the worst performing, declining by 9.19% for the month. Relative NDX underperformance versus the S&P 500 was driven by its overweight exposure to the Technology sector and underperformance within the Health Care sector. The Technology sector averaged a 58.09% weighting for the month and declined by 9.06%, compared to the sector's average weight of 35.26% in the S&P 500 and a total return of -9.33%. Within NDX, the Health Care sector averaged a 5.77% weighting for the month and saw a total return of -5.39%, compared to the sector's average weight of 10.56% in the S&P 500 and a total return of -1.92%.

Real Estate and Consumer Staples were the best performing sectors in NDX, up 3.91% and 1.68%, respectively. Basic Materials was the only other sector to finish in positive territory, up 0.42% for the month. Real Estate averaged a 0.22% weight in NDX for March, while Consumer Staples averaged a 3.15% weighting.

**NDX Contributor/Detractor Spotlight- Broadcom:** For March, Broadcom was the largest detractor from relative performance versus the S&P 500 index as it represents the second-largest overweight of any company. Shares declined by 15.97%, and the company had an average weight of 3.97% in NDX versus 1.82% in the S&P 500 for March. Earlier in the month, Broadcom had its best trading day after the company released earnings and revenue that exceeded analysts' estimates. On March 7, shares surged by 8.64% after the company reported comparable earnings per share of \$1.60 versus analyst forecasts of US\$1.50 and revenue of ~US\$14.92 billion versus estimates of US\$14.62 billion. Beyond beating expectations, the numbers showed solid growth with earnings growing ~46% year-over-year and revenue growing ~25% on a year-over-year basis. For the current quarter, the company provided revenue guidance of US\$14.9 billion, better than analyst estimates of US\$14.6 billion, and CEO Hock Tan noted that US\$4.4 billion of that will come from AI sales. The company referenced potential growth among hyperscaler customers as it has a relationship with three and is "deeply engaged" with an additional four.

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## March's Attribution: Nasdaq 100 vs the S&P 500

	Nasdaq 100				Nasdaq 100 vs S&P 500 Attribution		
	Average Weight	Avg Wt Difference vs S&P 500	Sector Return	Sector Contribution	Allocation Effect	Selection Effect	Total Effect
(%)							
Technology	58.09	22.75	-9.06	-5.24	-0.83	0.16	-0.67
Health Care	5.77	-4.81	-5.39	-0.32	-0.17	-0.20	-0.37
Energy	0.58	-2.89	-0.05	0.00	-0.26	-0.02	-0.28
Consumer Discretionary	19.43	5.15	-9.19	-1.83	-0.15	-0.11	-0.27
Financials	N/A	-11.17	N/A	N/A	-0.20	N/A	-0.20
Utilities	1.40	-1.34	-5.44	-0.07	-0.08	-0.08	-0.15
Consumer Staples	3.15	-1.42	1.68	0.04	-0.10	--	-0.10
Real Estate	0.22	-2.02	3.91	0.01	-0.06	0.01	-0.05
Industrials	4.65	-7.30	-3.10	-0.15	-0.09	0.06	-0.03
Basic Materials	1.76	0.35	0.42	0.01	0.01	0.03	0.04
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>-7.61</b>	<b>-7.61</b>	<b>-1.81</b>	<b>-0.17</b>	<b>-1.98</b>

Source: Invesco as of 31 March 2025. Data in USD. Sectors: ICB Classification. All figures in percentage terms. Market allocation effect shows the excess contribution due to sector/market allocation. A positive allocation effect implies that the choice of sector weights in the portfolio added value to the portfolio contribution with respect to the benchmark and vice versa. Selection effect shows the excess contribution due to security selection. A positive selection effect implies that the choice of stocks in the portfolio added value to the portfolio contribution with respect to the benchmark and vice versa. Total effect is the difference in contribution between the benchmark and portfolio.

**Past performance may or may not be sustained in future.**

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## March's Top Contributors/Detractors relative to the S&P 500

Top Contributors (% of total net assets)			Top Detractors (% of total net assets)		
Company	Weight	1-month Return	Company	Weight	1-month Return
MicroStrategy Inc.	0.45%	12.86%	Broadcom Inc.	3.98%	-15.79%
Advanced Micro Devices Inc.	1.13%	2.88%	Apple Inc.	9.20%	-8.15%
Mondelez International Inc.	0.58%	6.37%	NVIDIA Corp.	7.72%	-13.23%

Source: Bloomberg, as of 31 March 2025. Top and bottom performers for the month by relative performance. Holdings are subject to change and are not buy/sell recommendations.

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## Historical Performance

	Mar-15 to Mar-16	Mar-16 to Mar-17	Mar-17 to Mar-18	Mar-18 to Mar-19	Mar-19 to Mar-20	Mar-20 to Mar-21	Mar-21 to Mar-22	Mar-22 to Mar-23	Mar-23 to Mar-24	Mar-24 to Mar-25	2023 to 2024	2022 to 2024
<b>NASDAQ-100</b>												
<b>Net TR Index</b>	4.3%	22.3%	22.0%	13.0%	6.7%	68.5%	13.9%	-10.6%	39.3%	6.2%	25.6%	9.4%
<b>S&amp;P 500 Net TR Index</b>	1.1%	16.4%	13.3%	8.8%	-7.5%	55.6%	15.2%	-8.2%	29.3%	7.8%	24.5%	8.4%

Source: Invesco, Bloomberg, as of 31 March 2025. Data in USD. For 2023 to 2024, performance shown is from 01 January 2023 to 31 December 2024 and for 2022 to 2024, compounded annual growth rate (CAGR) performance shown is from 01 January 2022 to 31 December 2024. An investment cannot be made into an index.

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