Investors need a standardized, broad-based benchmark to measure against and assess performance. With the newly launched **CoinDesk Market Index (CMI) Family**, CoinDesk Indices delivers a suite of indices that function as a benchmark for the performance of the digital asset market, providing institutional quality intelligence to digital asset investors.

### A rigorous framework

**Why hasn’t a trusted index arisen for crypto until now?** Because the digital asset landscape is highly dynamic and ever-changing. Identifying the different sectors and categorizing assets requires thorough analysis and rules that are consistently applied. Moreover, market data remains unreliable. There are inconsistencies across the many exchanges around the world that list the same assets but under very different regulatory and operational frameworks.

To meet this market need, CoinDesk Indices launched the groundbreaking Digital Assets Classification Standard (DACS). DACS seeks to classify the top 500 digital assets by market capitalization and assign each asset to an industry defined by its technology and use case. Each digital asset is assigned to an industry, and each industry is assigned to an industry group and finally, each industry group is placed within one of six distinct sectors: currency, smart contract platforms, decentralized finance (DeFi), culture & entertainment, computing, and digitization.

This consistently applied framework functions as the foundation for the CMI family of market benchmarks.

### Benchmarking digital assets

The CMI family of indices functions as a benchmark for the performance of the digital asset market, delivering institutional quality information to digital asset investors who can use them to develop strategies against market fluctuations.

The broad CMI is accompanied by six subindices that represent the six DACS sectors, along with an ex-stablecoin market index and an ex-stablecoin currency index, both of which limit the influence of market movements to tokens that are intended to rise or fall versus the U.S. dollar.

The CMI family can be used in a variety of ways. The broad market index can be a single proxy for the entire investable crypto asset class, helping traditional investors decide how much of their portfolio to allocate to digital assets. It can also allow observers to assess active fund managers’ performance relative to that benchmark.

The CMI sector subindices seek to help quantify contributions to returns and risk by sectors, and measure sector exposures of managers versus their benchmarks and peer groups. Moreover, the sector subindices seek to measure performance of sector-focused funds that can be used to build sector rotation strategies. For crypto native builders and investors, the CMI family provides general and sector peer groups and benchmarks of competitors for comparison and valuation.

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1 See full methodology for eligibility criteria
The CoinDesk Market Index Family

**Index Construction**

For an asset to be included in the CMI family, there are four overarching criteria. The asset must be:

- **01** Part of the CoinDesk DACS
- **02** Listed on at least two eligible exchanges
- **03** Listed on an eligible exchange for a minimum of 30 days
- **04** Available by a CoinDesk reference rate

The constituents that meet these four requirements are then weighted by market capitalization, reconstituted and rebalanced on a monthly basis.

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The DACS-powered CMI delivers benchmark indices to digital asset investors and offers a crucial lens through which to observe the larger crypto economy.

For more information on the CMI family of indices, or any other of our index products, email us at info@coindesk-indices.com.

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