

New FTSE AIM All-Share Supersector Index Series

Investability, liquidity and profile

Since the launch of the market in 1995, AIM® has developed rapidly both in terms of the number and diversity of companies admitted to the market.

On 3 May 2006, we launched the FTSE AIM All-Share Supersector Indices as additions to the FTSE AIM Index Series. The new Supersector indices are derived from the FTSE AIM All-Share Index and are based on the Industry Classification Benchmark (ICB). They will provide investors with 18 new sector indices for the AIM market which can be used for identifying macroeconomic opportunities for investment and trading decisions.

This is the first time that AIM will benefit from sector-based provision, and will now make it easy to differentiate between the performance of Main Market and AIM companies in a given Supersector. They are an ideal tool for over-the-counter and listed sector products.

AIM is the most successful growth market in the world and the involvement of a range of both institutional and retail investors has provided an opportunity to enhance the benchmark index and launch 18 new tradable indices, in addition to the existing FTSE AIM Index Series. The new indices will provide a more accurate measure of market performance and better reflect the characteristics of AIM today.

Following consultation with market participants, the London Stock Exchange has commissioned FTSE Group to develop new additions to the family of indices for AIM.

These new indices will improve the liquidity of the market by creating increased transparency and profile and by extending the range of investment opportunities available to AIM investors.

New indices

The new FTSE AIM All-Share Supersector Index series comprises the following:

- Automobiles & Parts
- Banks
- Basic Resources
- Chemicals
- Construction & Materials
- Financial Services
- Food & Beverage
- Health Care
- Industrial Goods & Services
- Insurance
- Media
- Oil & Gas
- Personal & Household Goods
- Retail
- Technology
- Telecommunications
- Travel & Leisure
- Utilities

Improved investability

The 18 new tradable indices will provide specific tools for measuring performance of companies on AIM from different sectors and provide a basis for the creation of tradable products.

The FTSE AIM All-Share Index, with its eligibility criteria, will continue to provide a highly accurate measure of the performance of the whole investable market, and be the basis for the new Supersector indices.

With eligibility criteria for inclusion in the indices, investors will have an accurate benchmark for AIM based on the securities that can be effectively traded.

Greater liquidity

As the indices become established we expect new investable products providing investors with a new way of gaining exposure to the market. This will attract new investors and improve liquidity in the underlying AIM companies.

The structure of the new AIM Supersector indices

The FTSE AIM All-Share Supersector Indices will be based on the FTSE AIM All-Share constituents, and inclusion in each index will be on the basis of FTSE Industry classification.

Main criteria can be summarised as follows

| | FTSE AIM All-Share Index | FTSE AIM All-Share Supersector Indices |
|-------------------------|---|---|
| Definition | All AIM quoted companies that meet the eligibility criteria | All constituents of the FTSE AIM All-Share, classified by business sector |
| Class of share | All classes of ordinary shares quoted on AIM irrespective of their market cap | |
| Nationality | UK and international | |
| Free float | Minimum of 15% | |
| Liquidity requirements | See key ground rules below | |
| Review | 1. Quarterly constituent review 2. Annual review of free float and liquidity | |
| Review period | March, June, September and December | |
| Update frequency | End of day | |
| Currency of calculation | Sterling | |

Key ground rules for inclusion in the new AIM indices

Eligibility criteria

To be eligible for the new AIM indices, all stocks must pass FTSE's eligibility criteria relating to liquidity and free float.

Liquidity

The liquidity screen ensures that every index stock is liquid and readily tradable, and therefore keeps trading impact lower.

Securities which, after the application of any free float restrictions, do not turnover at least 0.25% of their shares in issue per month in at least ten of the twelve months prior to the annual review, will not be eligible for inclusion in the indices. An existing constituent, after the application of any free float restrictions, failing to trade at least 0.25% of its shares in issue per month for more than four of the

twelve months prior to review will be removed on the next trading day following the third Friday in December. Any period when a share is suspended will be excluded from the above calculation.

At the annual review, newly floated companies will have their liquidity assessed on a pro-rata basis. New issues, including demutualisations, will become eligible for inclusion at the next quarterly review of constituents providing they have, since the commencement of Official non-conditional trading, a minimum trading record of at least 20 trading days prior to the date of the review and turnover of a minimum of 0.25% of their shares in issue, after the application of any free float restrictions, per month in each month.

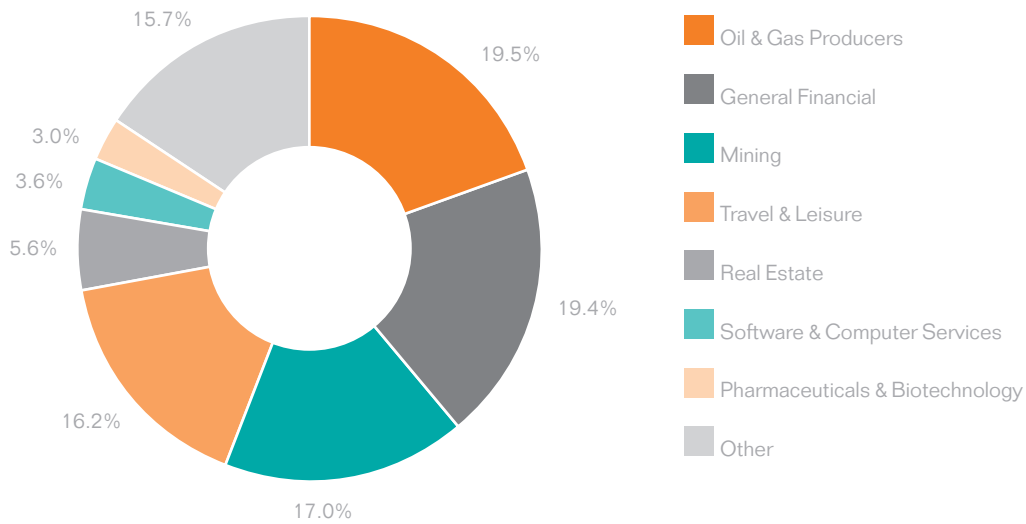
Free float

FTSE's free float methodology ensures that constituent weights within the indices reflect the proportion of their capitalisation that is actually available to investors, by excluding the holdings of directors and other strategic shareholders. Each company is assigned to a band according to its free float. Bands are narrower at the lower end of the scale for greater sensitivity, and broader at the top.

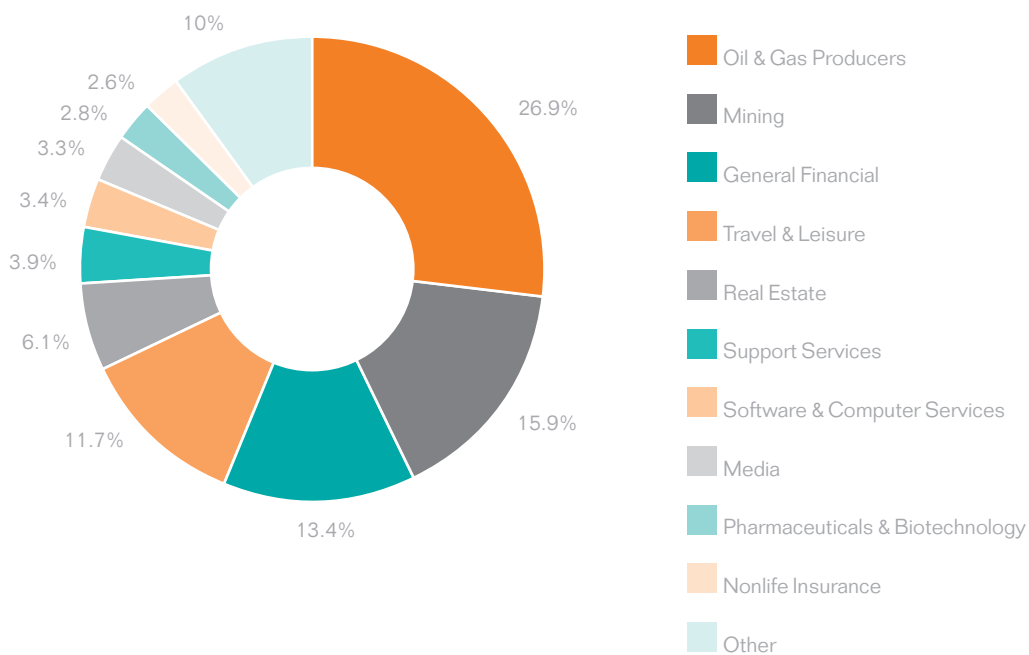
- Free float \leq 15% = Ineligible
- Free float $>$ 15% but \leq 20% = 20%
- Free float $>$ 20% but \leq 30% = 30%
- Free float $>$ 30% but \leq 40% = 40%
- Free float $>$ 40% but \leq 50% = 50%
- Free float $>$ 50% but \leq 75% = 75%
- Free float $>$ 75% = 100%

Sector breakdown¹

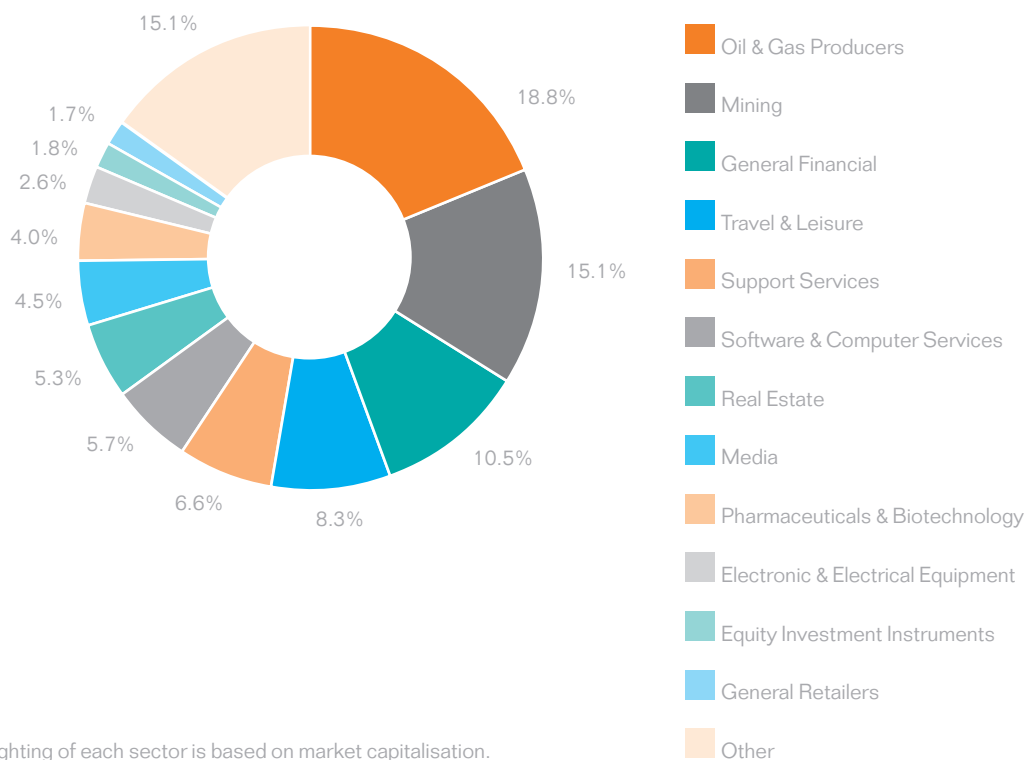
FTSE AIM UK 50 Index



FTSE AIM 100 Index



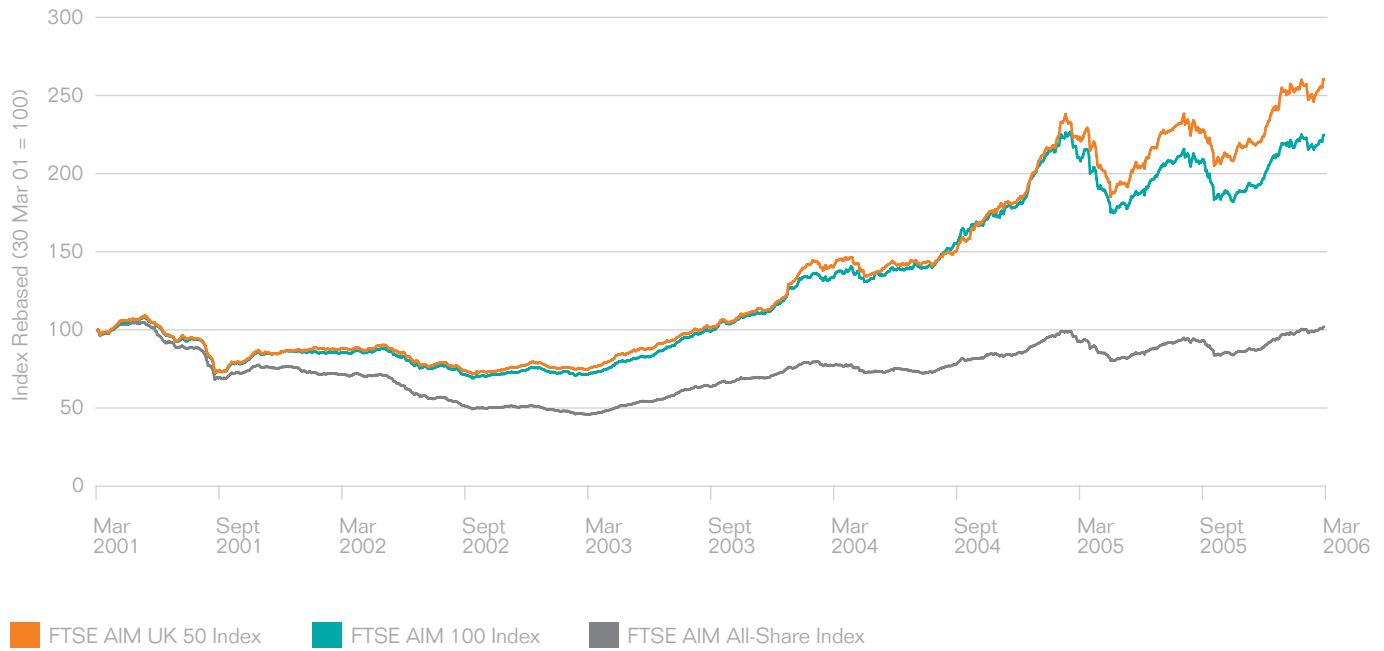
FTSE AIM All-Share Index



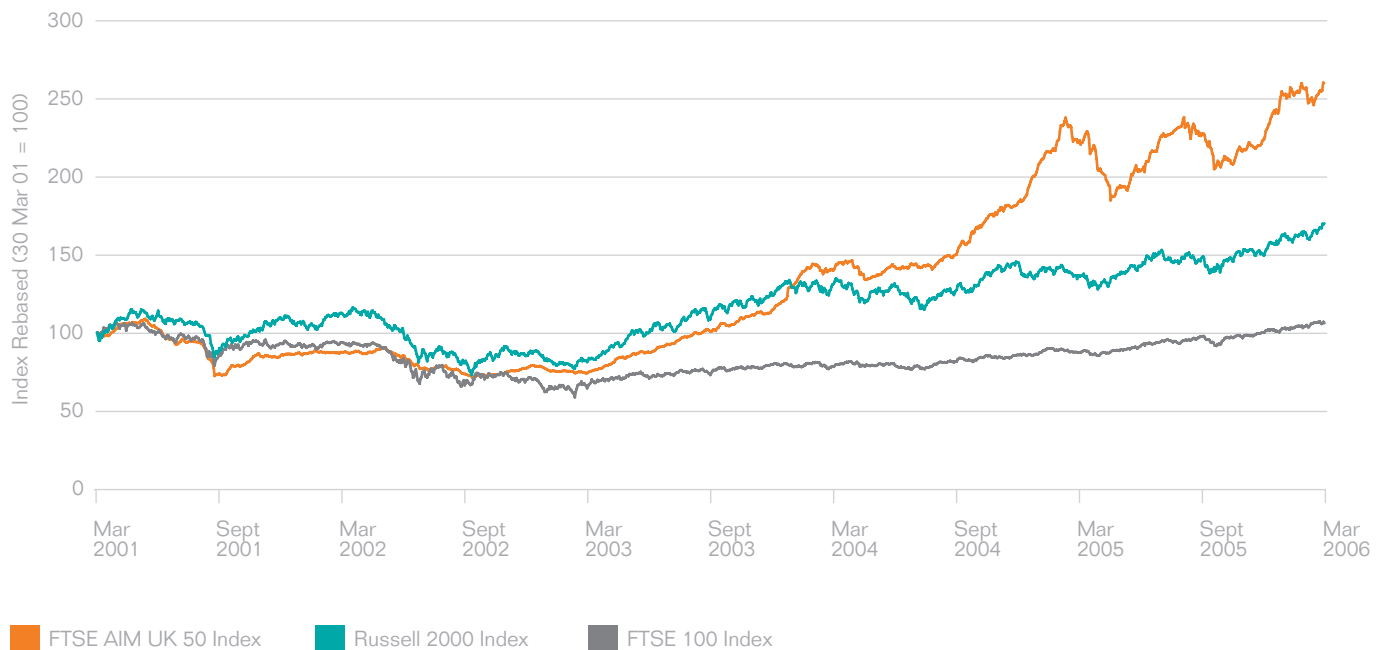
¹Weighting of each sector is based on market capitalisation.

Performance Charts

Historical Performance FTSE AIM Index Series



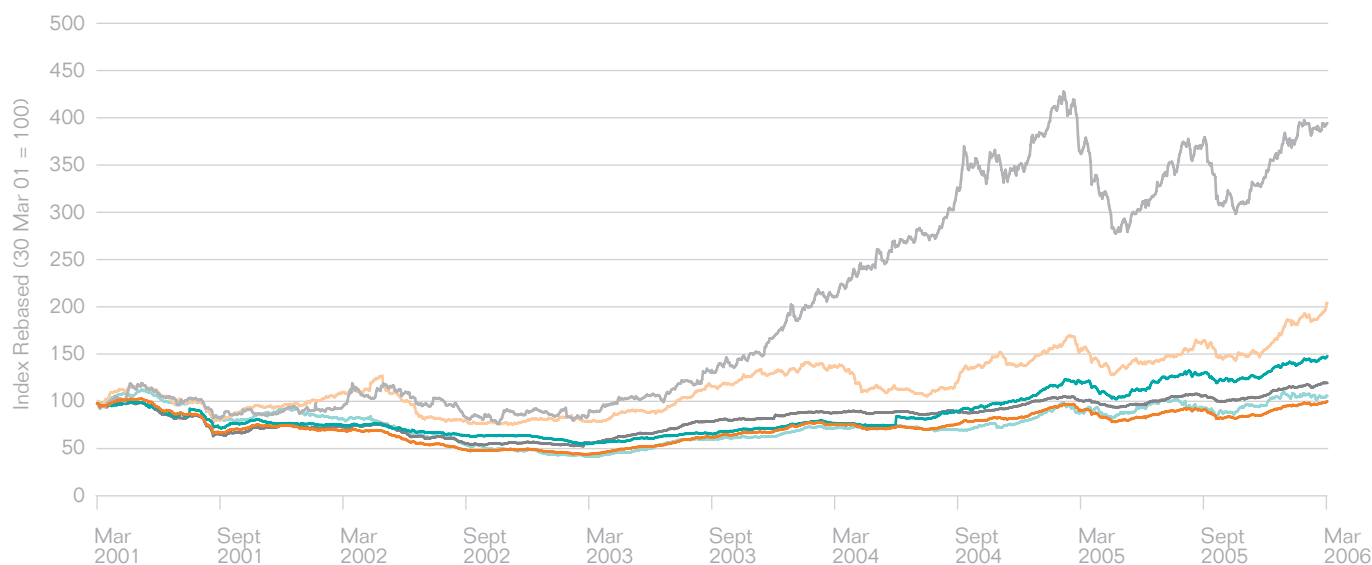
Historical Performance Index Comparison



London
STOCK EXCHANGE



5 largest Supersectors vs FTSE AIM All-Share Index²



²Weighting of each Supersector is based on market capitalisation.

For further information regarding indices eligibility please contact:
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