

# US Equity Futures Watch

## S&P 500 Futures Intraday Roll Cost Monitor

**Intraday on 12 Mar, the S&P 500 e-mini futures traded 56bps (VWAP) to Fed Funds using bottom-up dividends**

The volume weighted roll cost for the quarter has been 57bps

**On 12 Mar, \$176.0bn in S&P 500 e-mini contracts rolled**

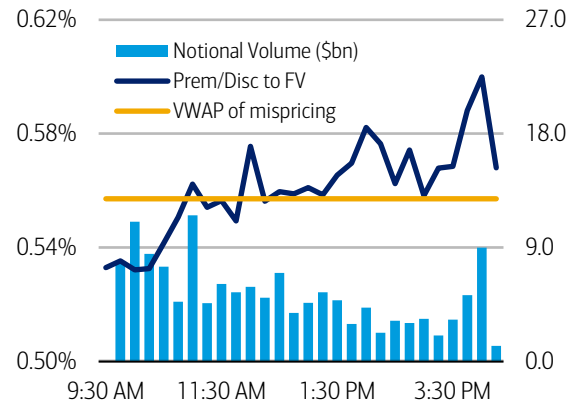
The total notional of S&P 500 ES futures rolled this quarter is \$715.6bn

**Open interest implies 72.9% of e-mini contracts have rolled to Jun-24 versus a prior one-year average of 70.7%**

This calculation uses a percentage of roll volume based on history that equates to new Jun-24 open interest and is subject to change

### Exhibit 1: SPX futures (ES) intraday roll cost on 12 Mar

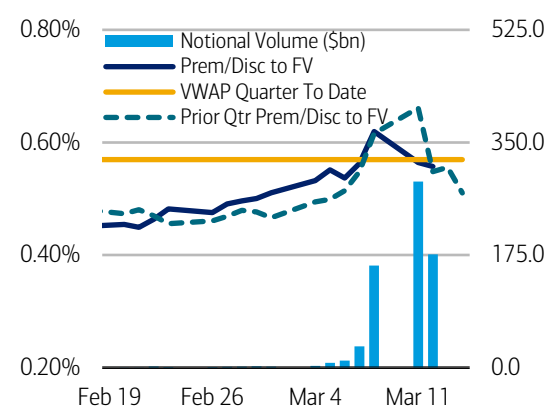
The ES roll traded cheapest (+53bps) at the open and richest (+60bps) near the close today



Source: BofA Global Research. Intraday day measured in 15-minute intervals  
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### Exhibit 2: SPX futures (ES) quarter-to-date VWAP roll cost

The roll held at 56bps vs. Fed Funds today. This is about where the roll was trading at this point last quarter



Source: BofA Global Research. Daily data based off intraday prices.  
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12 March 2024

Futures  
United States

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### Exhibit 3: Mar-24/Jun-24 Roll Progress Summary

Based off intraday data, vs. Fed Funds, bottom-up divs

Contract	Mar 12	Quarter to Date
E-mini S&P 500 (ES)	0.56%	0.57%
E-mini Russell 2000 (RTY)	0.31%	0.33%
E-mini NASDAQ-100 (NQ)	0.53%	0.56%
E-mini S&P Midcap 400 (FA)	0.33%	0.32%
E-mini DJ Indus. Avg. (DM)	0.64%	0.63%
E-mini Russell 1000 (RSY)	0.61%	0.60%
S&P/TSX 60 (PT)	-0.22%	-0.28%

Source: BofA Global Research. PT financing vs. CDOR 3M rates.  
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Refer to important disclosures on page 5 to 7.

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Timestamp: 12 March 2024 05:53PM EDT

Exhibit 4: Mar-24/Jun-24 North America Equity Index Futures Roll Progress Summary

Data as of 12 Mar

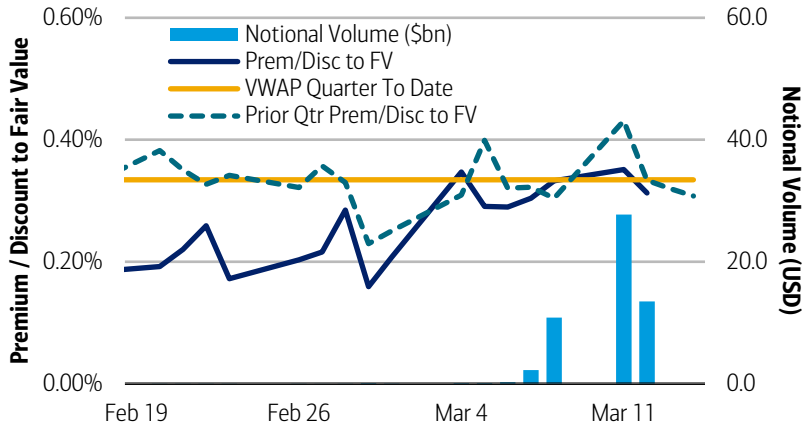
Contract	Roll Pace	Annualized Roll Cost					Notional Roll Volume Traded (\$mn)				Number of Contracts Traded			
		Mar 12	Quarter to Date	Last Quarter	Last Year		Mar 12	Quarter to Date	Last Quarter	Last Year	Mar 12	Quarter to Date	Last Quarter	Last Year
E-mini S&P 500 (ES)	72.9%	0.56%	0.57%	0.59%	0.41%		175,953	715,643	817,210	742,384	682,759	2,793,870	3,534,150	3,426,674
E-mini Russell 2000 (RTY)	82.8%	0.31%	0.33%	0.36%	0.11%		13,486	55,368	125,439	114,430	130,697	534,129	662,237	619,146
E-mini NASDAQ-100 (NQ)	71.6%	0.53%	0.56%	0.58%	0.40%		30,105	118,219	143,261	131,288	83,113	327,861	441,049	448,579
E-mini S&P Midcap 400 (FA)	92.3%	0.33%	0.32%	0.38%	0.15%		1,314	12,189	13,334	12,693	4,527	41,444	50,363	49,768
E-mini DJ Indus. Avg. (DM)	93.6%	0.64%	0.63%	0.63%	0.42%		7,325	24,705	26,703	24,946	37,619	127,438	146,084	145,331
E-mini Russell 1000 (RSY)	72.2%	0.61%	0.60%	0.64%	0.44%		44	70	175	379	311	499	688	1,610
S&P/TSX 60 (PT)	62.2%	-0.22%	-0.28%	-0.50%	-0.66%		10,760	64,017	73,560	78,127	40,875	243,952	299,742	324,400

Source: BofA Global Research. All roll costs are calculated as their volume weighted averages over the respective period. All notional volumes are measured in USD Millions with the exception of the S&P/TSX60 which is measured in CAD Millions. The roll cost for the last year is over all contracts traded in the prior four completed quarters. Last year's volume and contracts traded are the averages of the prior four quarters' values when available. Roll pace is defined as the open interest of the second contract plus a percentage of the number of spreads traded divided by the combined open interest of the front and second contracts.

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Exhibit 5: Russell 2000 E-mini (RTY) quarter-to-date VWAP roll cost

The Russell 2000 roll cheapened today

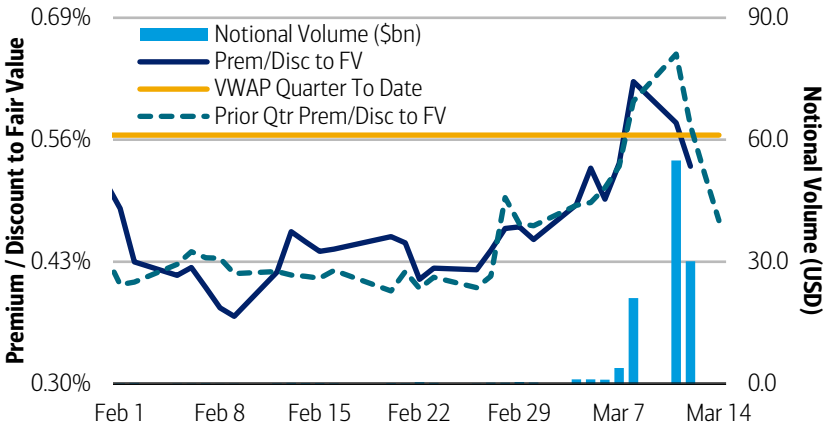


Source: BofA Global Research. Daily data based off intraday prices.

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Exhibit 6: NASDAQ-100 E-mini (NQ) quarter-to-date VWAP roll cost

The NQ roll cheapened again on Tuesday



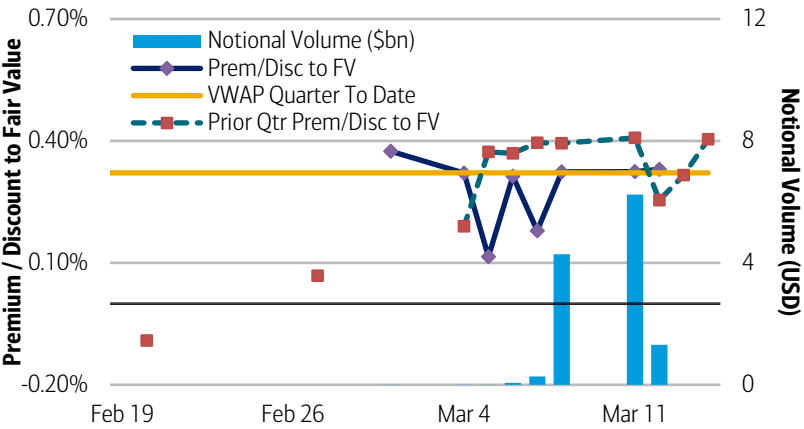
Source: BofA Global Research. Daily data based off intraday prices.

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**Exhibit 7: S&P Midcap 400 E-mini (FA) quarter-to-date VWAP roll cost**

The S&P Midcap 400 held firm today

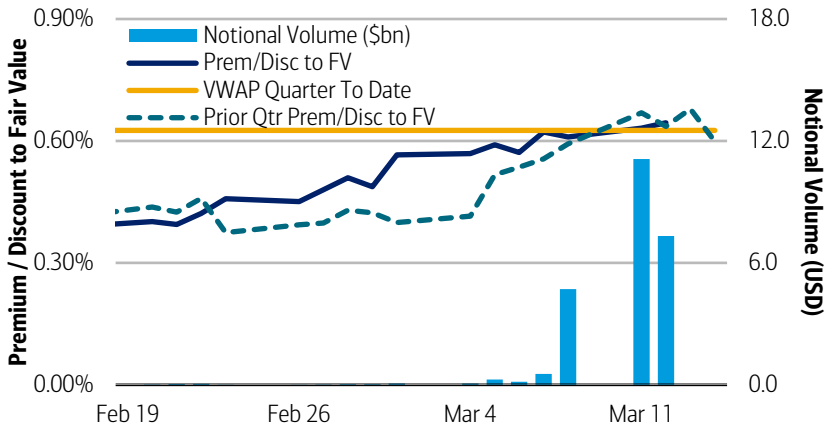


Source: BofA Global Research. Daily data based off intraday prices.

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**Exhibit 8: Dow Jones Industrials Average E-mini (DM) quarter-to-date VWAP roll cost**

The Dow roll slightly richened to 63bps vs Fed Funds on Tuesday



Source: BofA Global Research. Daily data based off intraday prices.

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**Roll Cost Methodology**

Our roll cost for all futures with the exception of the S&P/TSX60 is based on Fed Funds implied of forward rates and our index dividend forecasting model. The S&P/TSX 60 uses the three month Canada Bankers Acceptance futures instead of Fed Funds.

Our methodology assumes that Fed Funds is the funding rate for the futures arbitrage. An assumption of the 3m LIBOR would generally cheapen the roll cost statistics. Our index dividend forecasts are obtained via a proprietary algorithm that forecasts the dividends of each index constituent and aggregates these forecasts to the index level. We use gross forecasted dividends which may differ from the amount actually realized for investors that are subject to withholding taxes. An unavoidable roll risk arises as the forecasted dividends may differ from those that are actually realized.

Our reported roll cost is the spread between the interest rate that would force the spread transaction price to fair value and the actual interest rate implied by Fed Funds. The futures fair value depends on the price of the underlying cash index and its dividend forecasts. A positive (negative) roll cost implies that the futures are trading at a premium (discount) to fair value.

The roll cost is reported as an annualized cost.

**Intraday Roll Cost Calculation**

In our calculations we match the roll spread price with (1) the immediately preceding Fed Funds forward rate, (2) the immediately preceding underlying cash index price, and (3) our dividend forecasts over the duration of the two nearest month futures contracts computed before the beginning of trading each day.

**Volume Weighted Average (VWAP) Roll Cost Calculation**

Intraday VWAPs are volume weighted for all trades that day. This methodology gives the largest weight to the trades of the largest size. Quarter-to-date VWAPs are computed as a VWAP of the individual intraday VWAPs using each day's total volume as weights.

**Notional Volume Calculation**

The "notional volume traded" is an estimate of the dollar volume of futures that were rolled. Intraday, this is calculated as the number of spreads traded in each 15 minute interval from 9:30AM EST to 4:00PM EST multiplied by both the contract multiplier and the last cash index price in that interval. For daily aggregated values, the total volume of spread each day is multiplied by the last cash index price and the contract multiplier.



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