

March 2026

PA100 Index



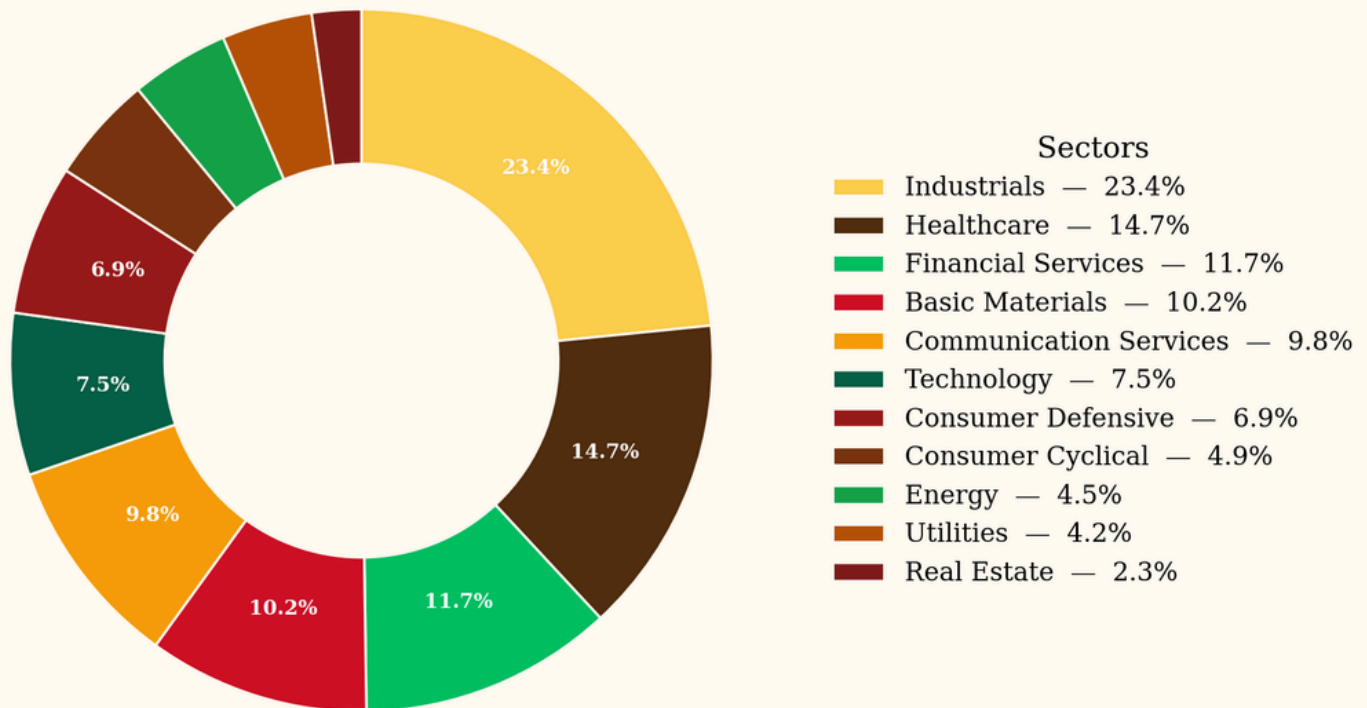
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Overview



Sector Allocation (Cap-Weighted)



The PA100's sector allocation continues to provide meaningful insight into its behavior, particularly amid the Iran conflict's impact on energy markets. Industrials remain the leading sector at 23.4%. The index's Technology weighting of just 7.5% proved advantageous in March as tech-heavy indices fell hardest during the selloff driven by the Middle East conflict and rising oil prices. Meanwhile, big life sciences investments continue flowing into the state, as Johnson & Johnson announced a roughly \$1 billion investment in Montgomery County to build a next-generation cell therapy manufacturing facility, supporting over 4,000 local jobs.

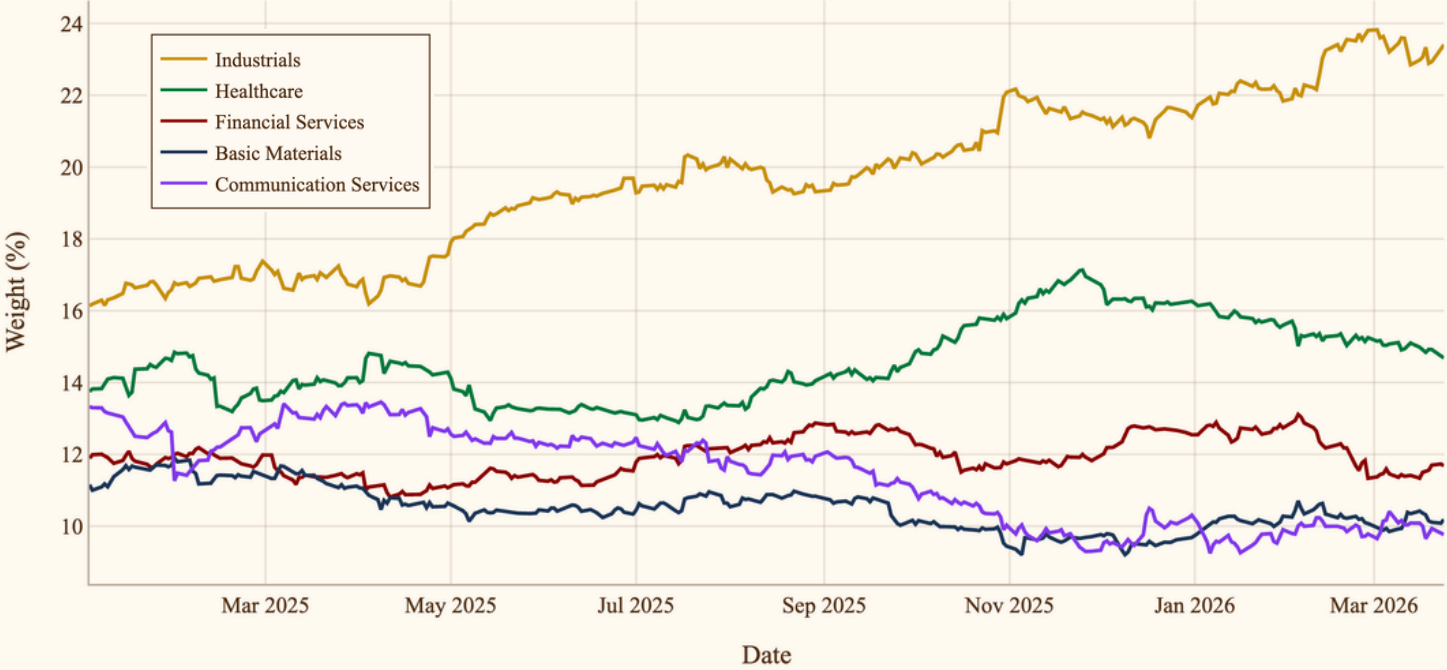
Energy demand is growing alongside Pennsylvania's natural gas base, a sector now drawing added attention as the Iran conflict puts pressure on global supply.

PA Department of Community and Economic Development,
CBOE

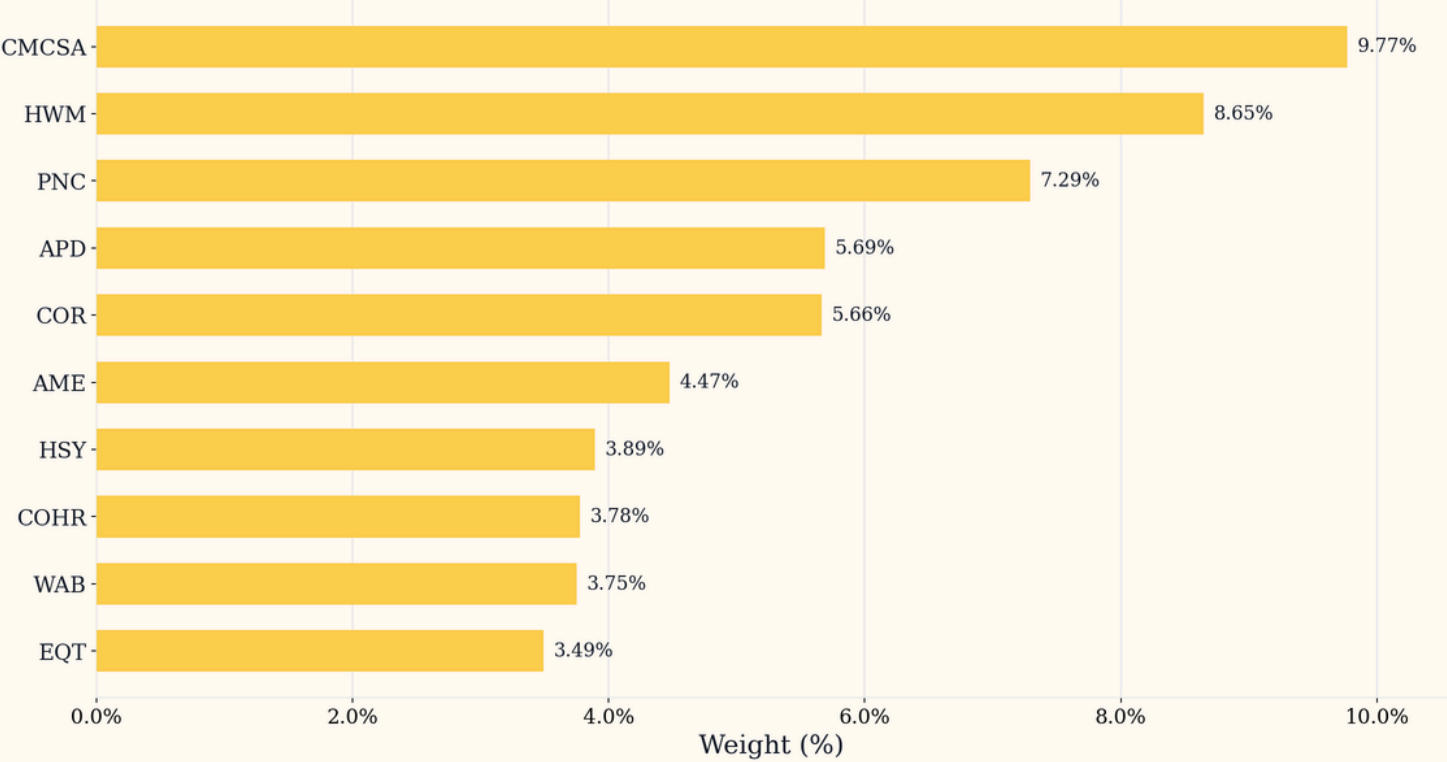
Sector Analysis



Sector Weight Over Time (% of Total Holdings)



Ten Largest Holdings Mar 2026



March Overview



Monthly Returns

Average: 0.83% | Total Months: 26



The PA100 fell 6.21% in March, declining from 133.26 to 124.98 index points. The drawdown followed a broader market selloff driven by the Iran conflict. The Russell 3000 posted a -5.22% return for the month, its second consecutive losing month of 2026. The PA100's steeper loss reflects its outsized exposure to industrials, which at 23.4% of the index is roughly two and a half times the Russell 3000's 9.6% weighting. The industrial downturn carries real implications for Pennsylvania workers.

Manufacturing supports over 562,000 high-wage jobs in the Commonwealth, and those jobs pay wages approximately 9% above the state average. Because every manufacturing job supports an estimated 1.7 additional positions in sectors like transportation, healthcare, and retail, a sustained pullback in industrials could lead to slower hiring and wage growth across the state's broader economy, particularly at a time when labor researchers have already flagged diminishing worker leverage in Pennsylvania.

Performance



PA100 Index vs. Russell 3000 Performance



-6.25%

PA100 March 2026 Performance

March was a difficult month for markets as the escalating U.S.-Iran conflict, surging oil prices, and fears of a prolonged disruption pushed investors into safety mode. The PA100 declined 6.25%, falling from 133.26 to 124.98 index points and underperforming the Russell 3000's 5.22% return by roughly 1.03 percentage points. The culprit was sector exposure. The PA100's heavy Industrials weighting (23.41%), roughly two and a half times the Russell 3000's ~9.6%, was the primary drag, as Industrials was the worst-performing S&P 500 sector in March, with rising energy costs and supply chain uncertainty hitting manufacturing names hardest.

-5.22%

Russell 3000 March 2026 Performance

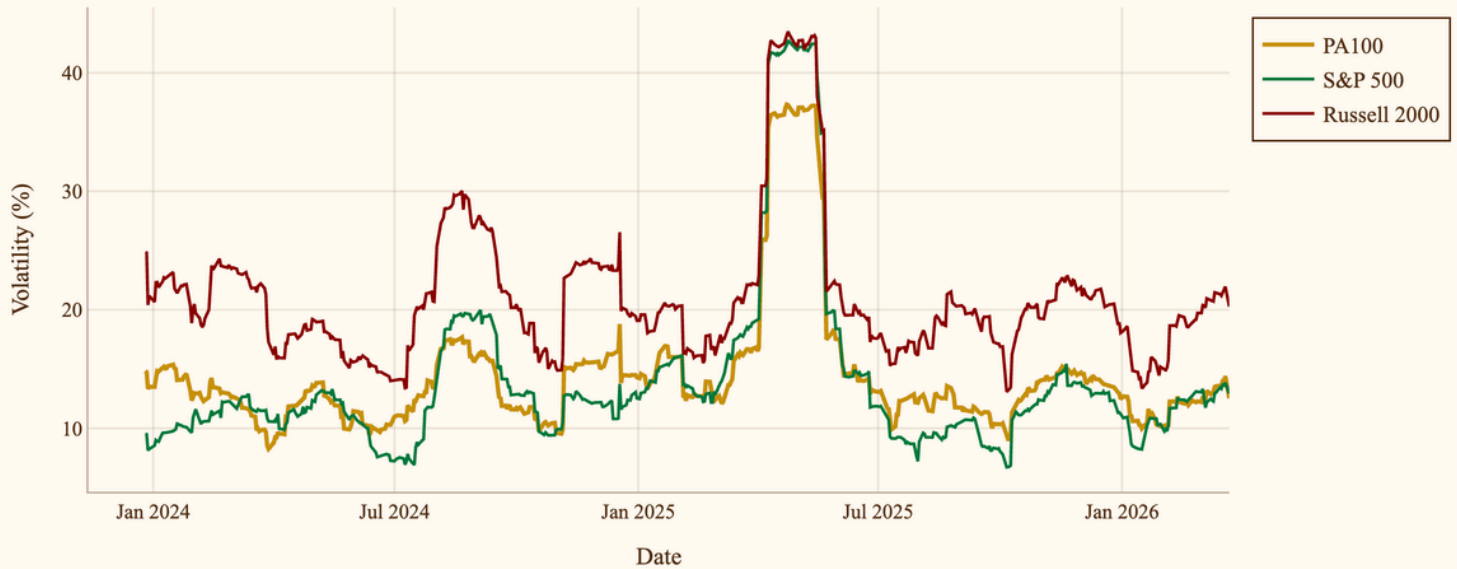
Energy-sensitive Basic Materials (10.19%) added further pressure. After February's +5.29% gain, March is a reminder that the same Industrials tilt that shields the PA100 during technology-driven selloffs can leave it more exposed when geopolitical events hit the physical economy directly.

CBOE

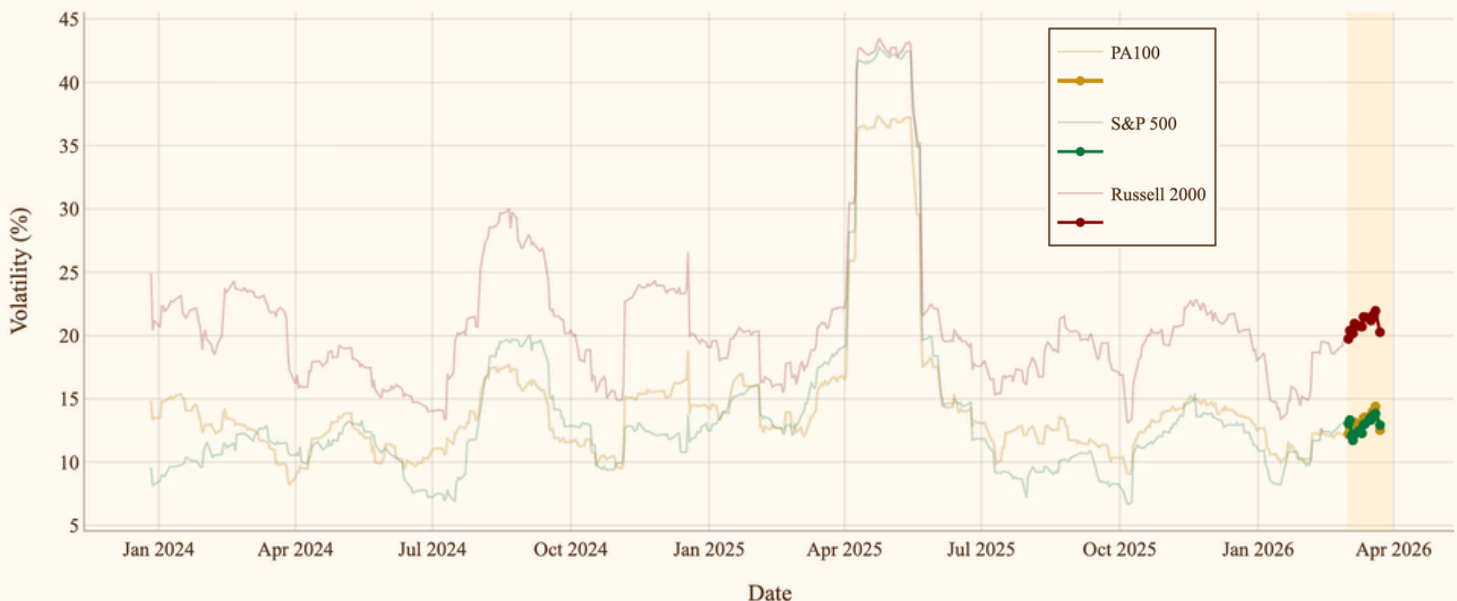
Volatility Analysis



Rolling 30-Day Annualized Volatility — PA100 vs. Benchmarks Mar. 2026



Rolling 30-Day Annualized Volatility — March 2026 Highlighted

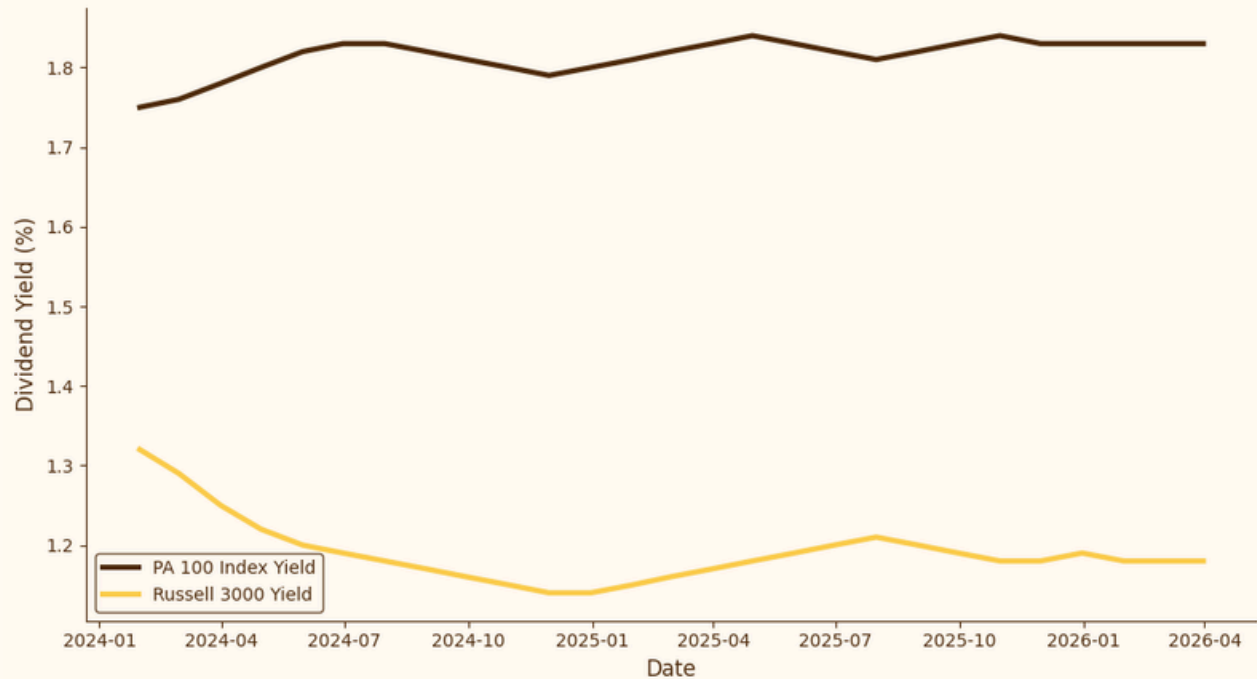


As stocks continue to be rattled by inflation, tariffs, and the Iranian war, volatility increased throughout March, climbing as high as 22.5% for the Russell 2000 and 14% for the PA100 Index. Notably unlike last year during the liberation day tariffs, both the S&P500 and the PA100 both maintained lower volatility levels than the Russell 2000; indicating that volatility is felt less structurally in wartime scenarios. Instead this data highlights that outside of exceptional circumstances the PA100 and S&P500 have lower volatility risk than the Russell 2000.

Dividend Analysis



Dividend Yield Comparison: PA 100 vs. Russell 3000 (2024-2026)



1.83%

PA100 March 2026 Annualized Dividend Yield

1.18%

Russell 3000 March 2026 Annualized Dividend Yield

The PA 100 Index, anchored by well-established industrial and financial firms, carries a weighted average annualized dividend yield of 1.83%, which is meaningfully higher than the 1.18% yield of the Russell 3000 Index as of March 2026. Pennsylvania's corporate base is built on companies with long operating histories, tangible assets, and the kind of steady cash flow that supports consistent dividend payments, contributing to the 65 basis point spread. Contrast that with the growth-oriented stocks that dominate national indices - many of which reinvest all earnings and pay no dividends at all.