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Nasdaq

Short-dated Options and Why They're Misunderstood

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Impact of Non-Standard Expiries in Listed Options

June 12, 2024



Discussion Topics

U.S. Options Industry Growth & Rise in Shorter-Dated Trading

Same-Day Expiring Options History

Institutional vs. Retail Volume Trends in Same-Day Expiring Options

Open Interest Reduction as Expiry Approaches

Realized Volatility Comparison Approaching Market Close

Market Makers -

What's Driving the Growth?

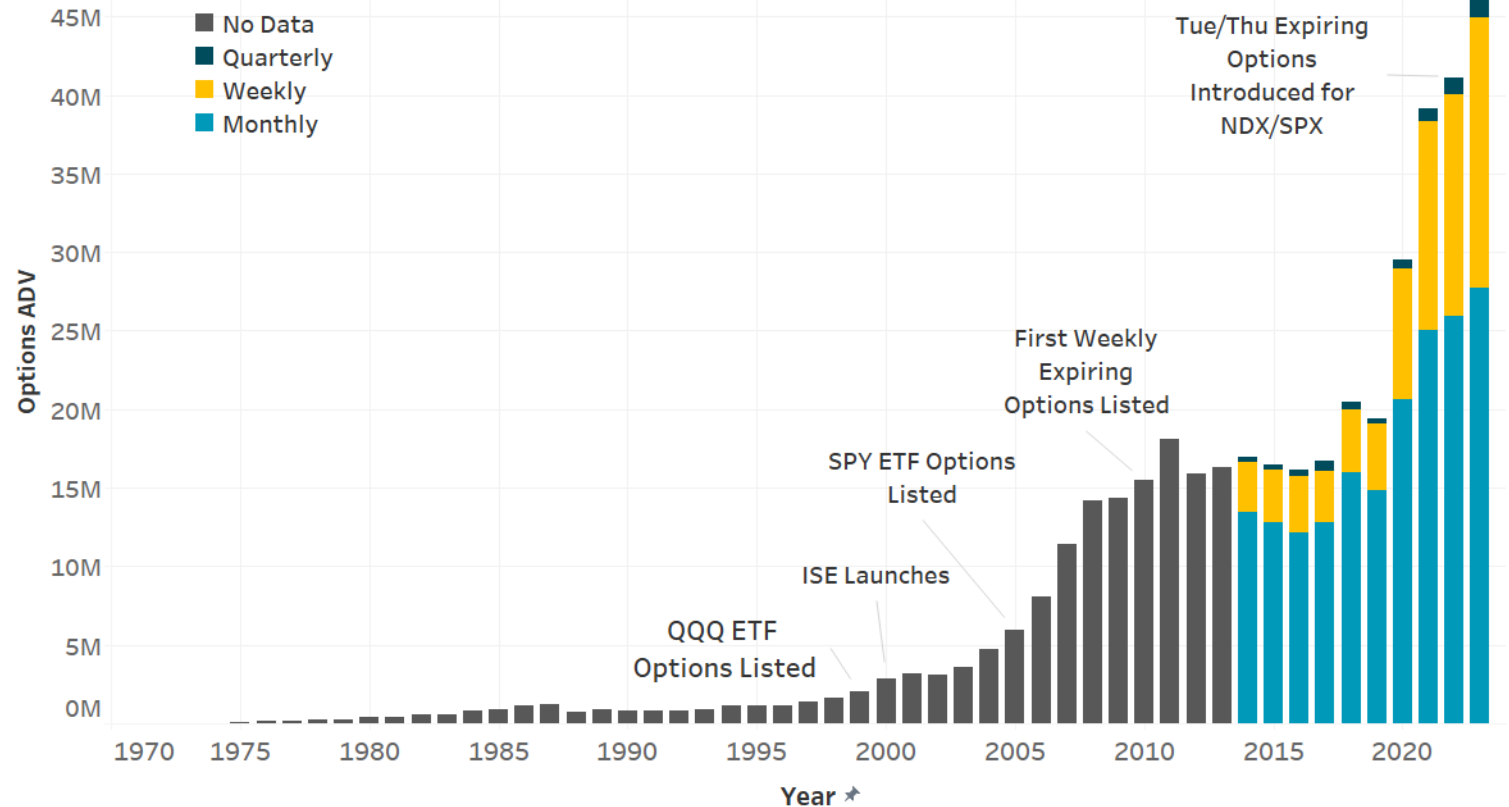
- As additional product has expanded, the industry has grown
- Over 100% volume growth since 2018
- Multiple event causation

Key Points:

- Available product & differences between asset classes
- Options share by underlying / asset class (index)
- Open interest tendencies over the lifecycle of an option

Options ADV by Expiration Type

Average Daily Volumes since 1975. Monthly expiries include Leaps.



Source: OCC, Nasdaq Economic Research

Source: OCC/Nasdaq (Annual ADV 1970 – 2024*)

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Same-Day Expiring Options

History – Multi-List

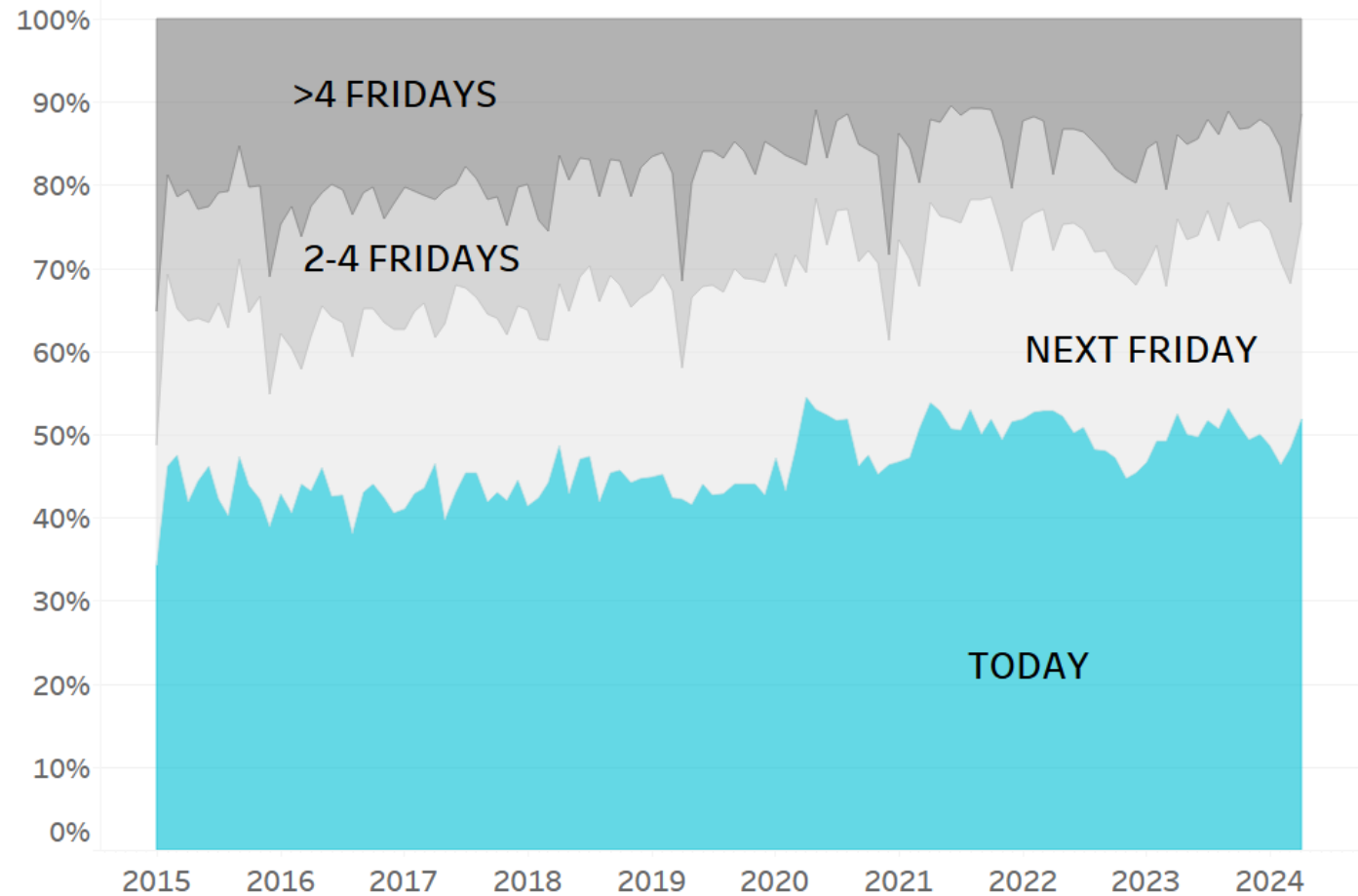
AAPL, AMZN, MSFT, TSLA, NVDA, NFLX, GOOG, GOOGL

Key Points:

- Same-day expiring options are not a **product** ... they are a point in time
- Exchange listing processes – the differences between option expiry types
- Comparison to February 2018 “Volmageddon” event
 - Retail short vs. long convexity
 - Professional hedging techniques
 - Available hedging product
- The growth in short-dated weekly options volume is a direct result of additional product added to the asset class
- Classically, ~40% of actively traded equity instrument volume on day of expiry is in the expiring series (0-DTE)
- No data to suggest additional systemic risk due to increased trading in short-term instruments

Friday ODTE options Volume Shares by Days to Expiry

Includes AAPL, AMZN, MSFT, TSLA, NVDA, NFLX, GOOG, GOOGL



Source: OCC, Nasdaq Economic Research

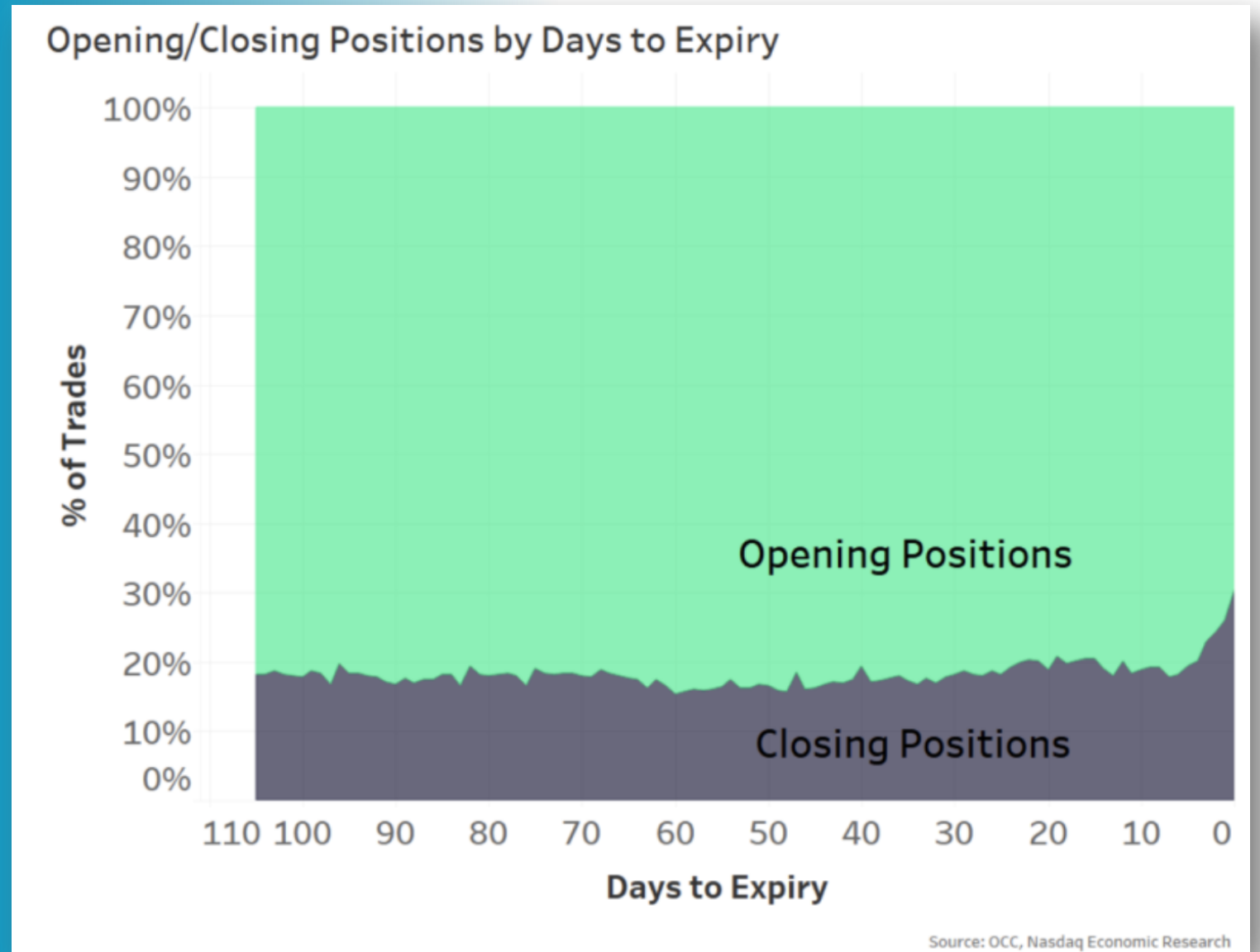
Source: Nasdaq (January 2015 – May 2024)



Proportion of Trading

Opening & Closing Positions by Days To Expiry

- ~50% increase in closing positions in the final week of the option.
- The concentration of volume on the date of expiry is partly caused by investors preferring to close positions rather than deal with administrative costs and hedging risks associated with exercising.
- The closing of these positions contribute to the concentration of ADV on expiry day.



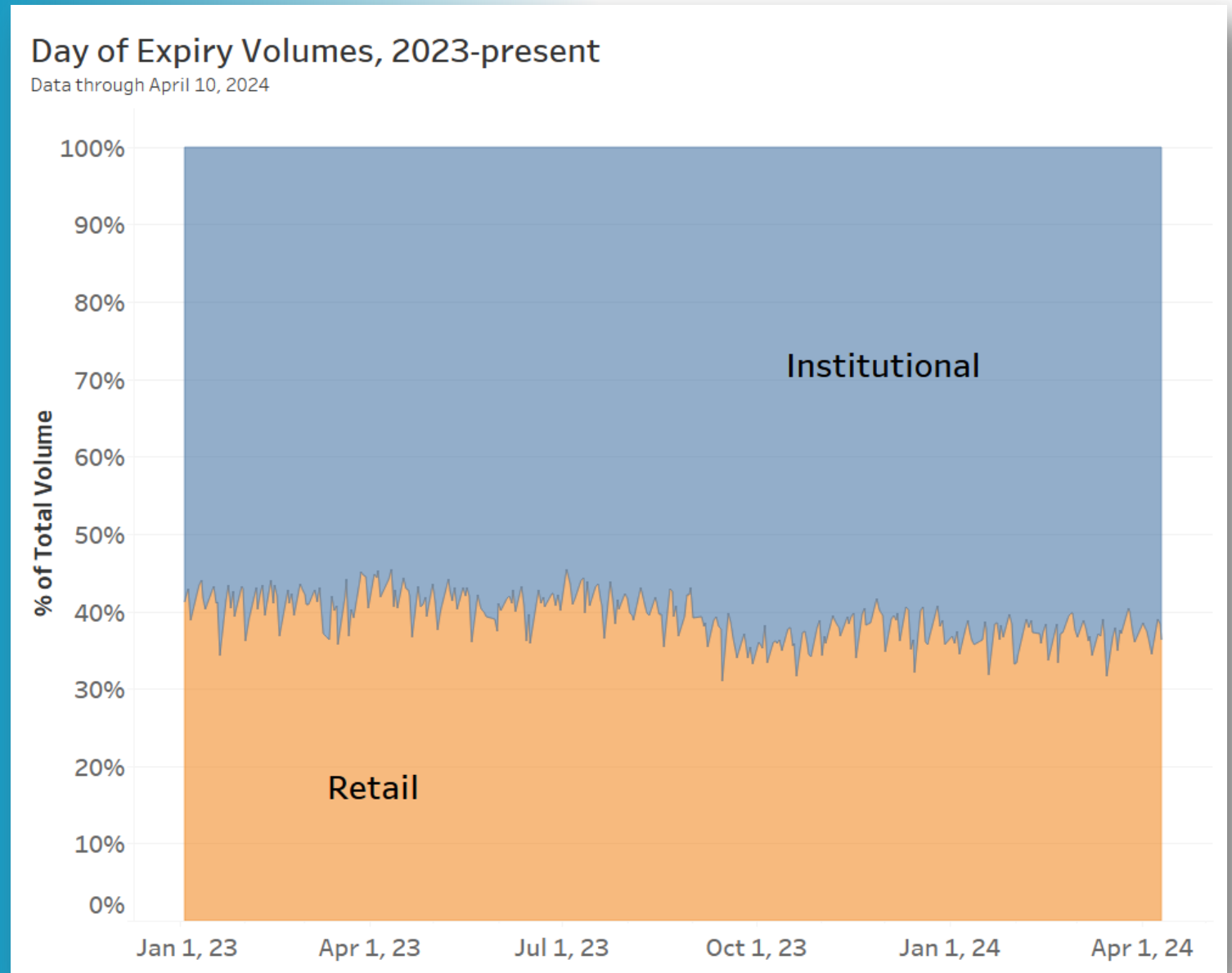
Source: Nasdaq (June 24, 2014 – March 21, 2023)



Institutional vs. Retail Volume

Day of expiry volumes from January 1, 2023 - April 10, 2024, grouped by institutional vs. retail

- Retail is not an outsized percent of the market that is trading on the day of expiry, as shown on the graph
- Traditionally, retail accounts for approximately 40% of options trading across the industry, which is consistent with the day of expiry volumes thus far in 2023
- Retail investors are typically net buyers of options, whereas Institutional investors are typically net sellers of options.



Source: Nasdaq (January 1, 2023 – April 10, 2024)



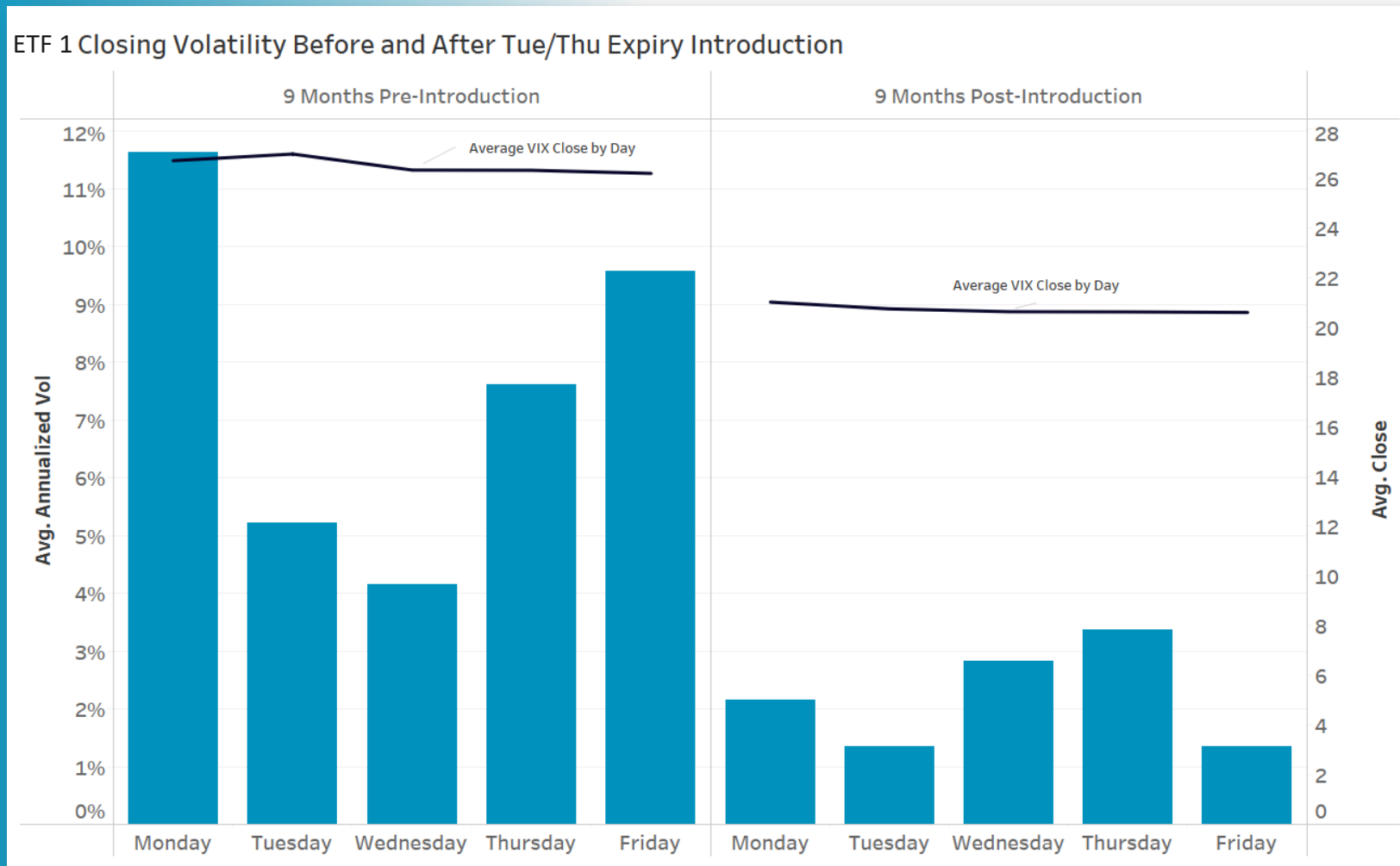
ETF 1 Closing Volatility

ETF 1 before & after the introduction of Tuesday and Thursday expiries; alternative tenor introduction

- ETF 1 closing volatility is lower since the addition of Tuesday/Thursday expirations
 - VIX is also lower during equivalent comparison period
 - VIX-adjusted volatility of ETF 1 instrument not materially affected by Tue/Thurs additional product, even when considering VIX offset

Tuesday/Thursday ETF 1 (& ETF 2) Expiries

(Added on 11/14/2022)



Source: Nasdaq (February 14, 2022 – November 14, 2022)

Data(November 14, 2022 – August 15, 2023)

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Recap

Key Points

- Same-day expiring options (commonly referred to as ODTE) represent a point in time in which an option is traded on the last day of its expiry cycle
- Trading on the day of expiry has been a common practice for decades
- The data does not suggest that the addition of expiries in a limited number of ETPs:
 - contributes to additional systemic risk, or
 - increases realized volatility

What About?

- Operational concerns?
- Strike & Data proliferation?

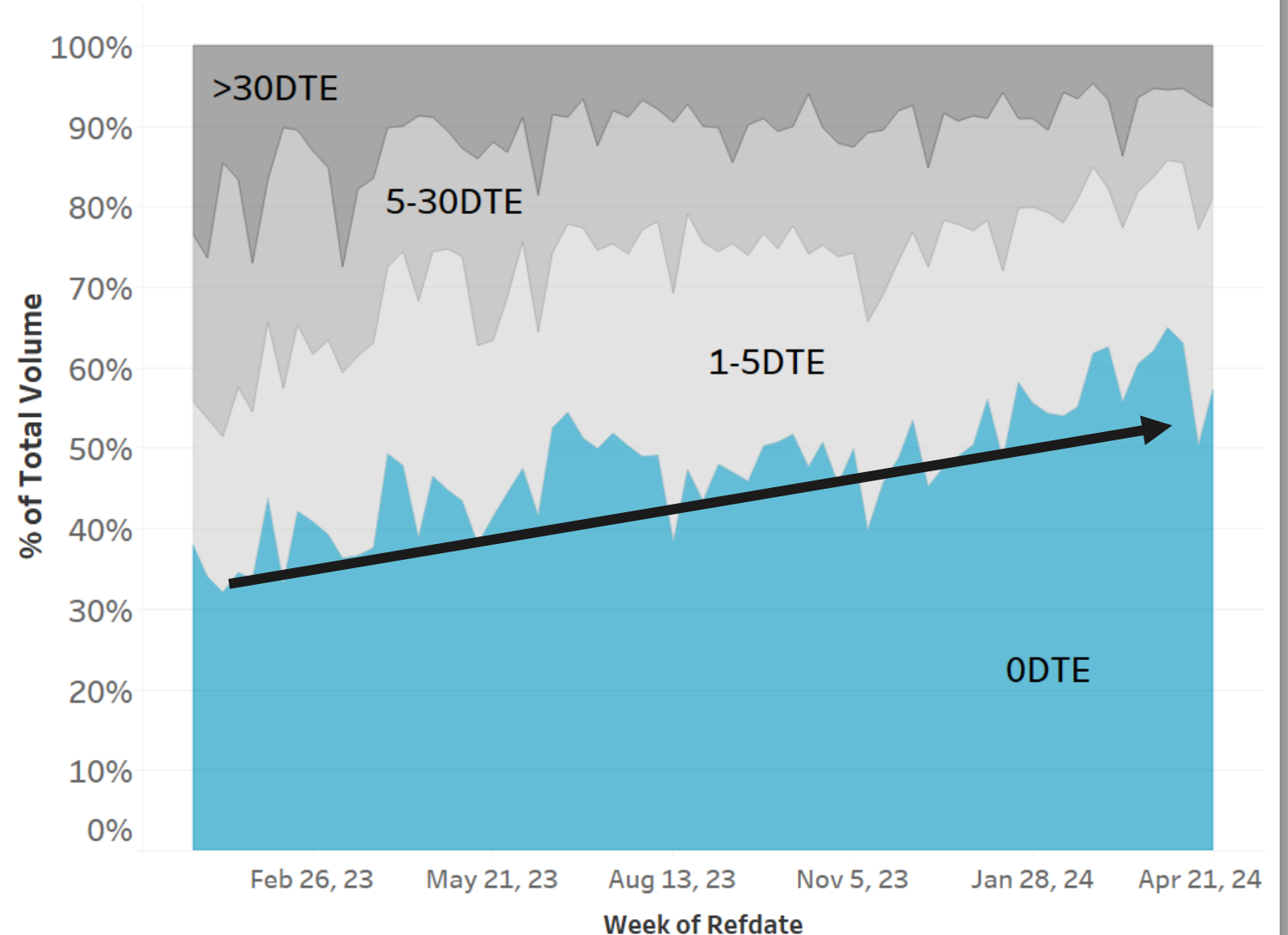


Index Example

Use of shorter-dated index options has been growing across the complex, including ETFs designed to track indexes

- Considerations:
 - Ability to gain exposure or manage macro risk at a more granular level
 - Pinpoint potential event risk exposure
 - **Positive expectancy positions benefit from + occurrences**
 - **More occurrences increases probabilities (“delta”) working out as expected**
 - **Is there some point where concentration becomes "too much"?**

Total NDX Volume by Days to Expiry Over Time



Source: Nasdaq (Jan 2, 2023 – April 21, 2024)



Index Example

End users are choosing more dynamic strikes relative to history – much of it in shorter dated expiries

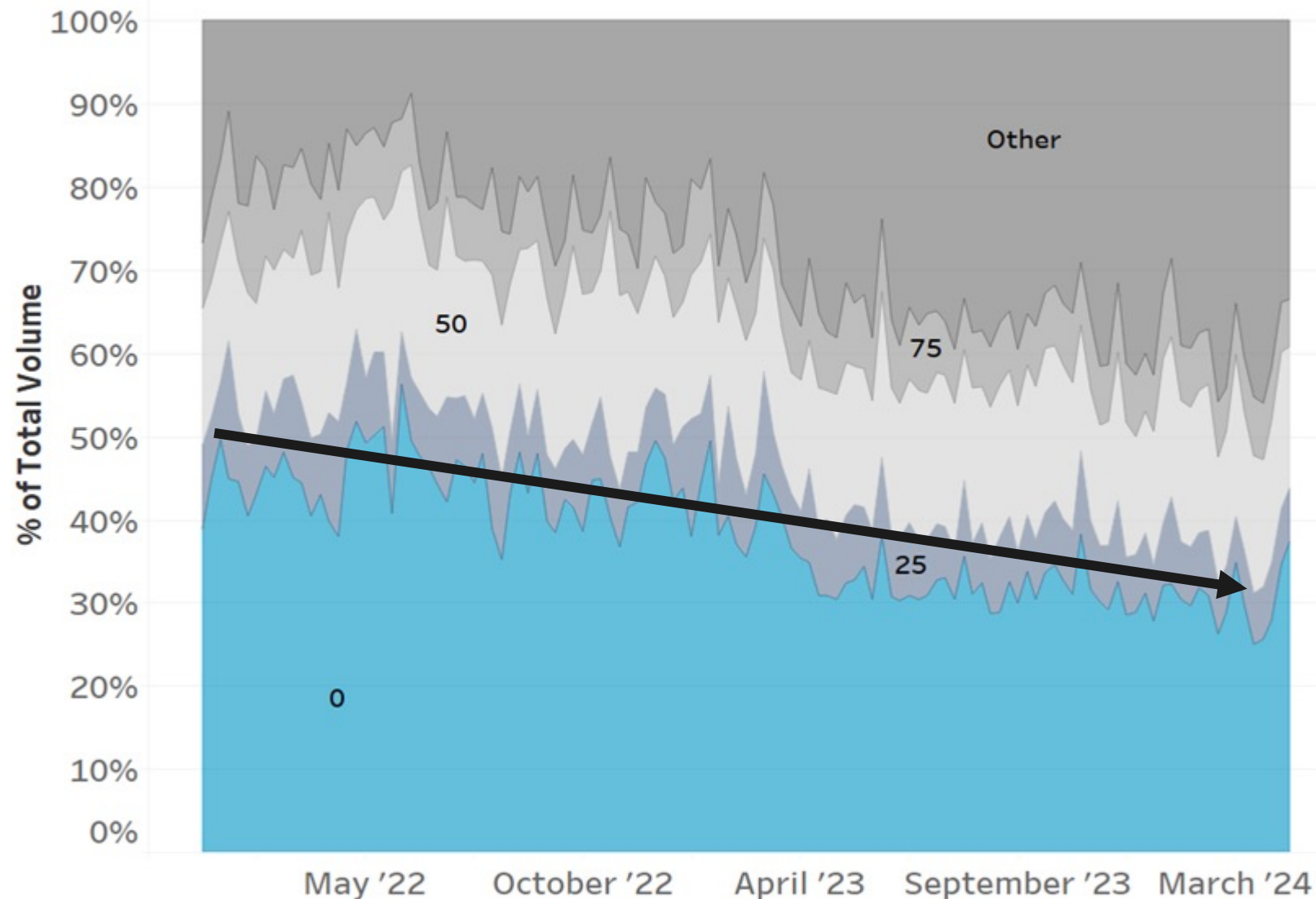
Greater flexibility!

- Considerations:
 - Historically, 50% or more of NDX trades executed on a 100 (round number) strike. I.E. 18,500 or 18,600
 - **Introduction of shorter maturities increased use of “other” NDX strikes**
 - **Tailored event risk hedging/exposure**
 - **Nasdaq employs AI assistance in strike listing process.**

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NDX Volume by Strike Interval Over Time



Source: Nasdaq (January 2, 2022 – March 30, 2024)

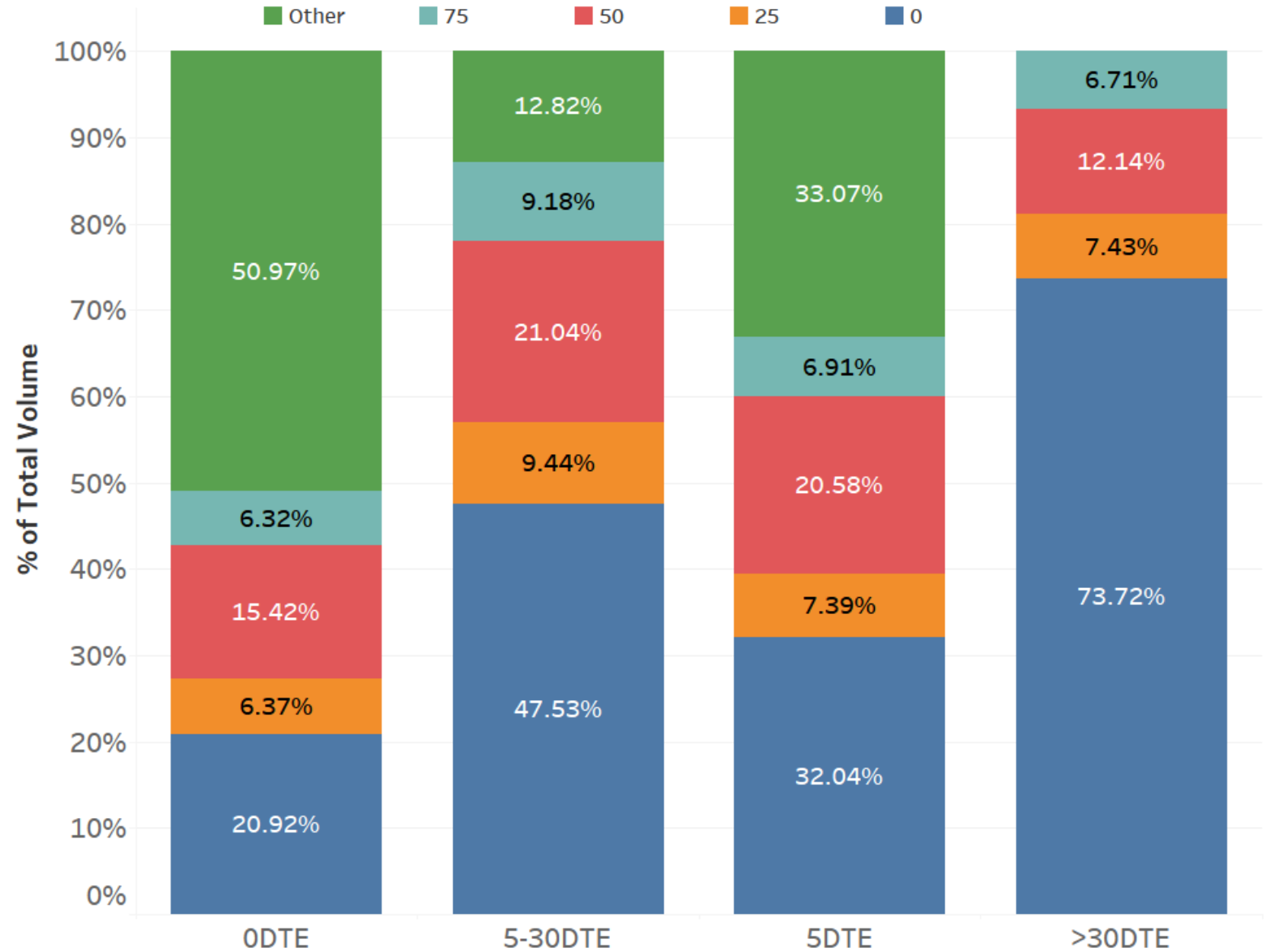
Index Example

Expansion of previous visual:
longer-dated options cluster
around 100 strike intervals (still);
shorter-dated options volume is
more nuanced

Strikes
around the
ATM may
be added
as expiry
nears.

STRIKE
NDXP(W) Jun05 18,500.00
NDXP(W) Jun05 18,510.00
NDXP(W) Jun05 18,520.00
NDXP(W) Jun05 18,525.00
NDXP(W) Jun05 18,530.00
NDXP(W) Jun05 18,540.00
NDXP(W) Jun05 18,550.00
NDXP(W) Jun05 18,560.00
NDXP(W) Jun05 18,570.00
NDXP(W) Jun05 18,575.00
NDXP(W) Jun05 18,580.00
NDXP(W) Jun05 18,590.00
NDXP(W) Jun05 18,600.00
NDXP(W) Jun05 18,610.00
NDXP(W) Jun05 18,620.00
NDXP(W) Jun05 18,625.00
NDXP(W) Jun05 18,630.00
NDXP(W) Jun05 18,640.00
NDXP(W) Jun05 18,650.00
NDXP(W) Jun05 18,660.00
NDXP(W) Jun05 18,670.00
NDXP(W) Jun05 18,675.00
NDXP(W) Jun05 18,680.00
NDXP(W) Jun05 18,690.00
NDXP(W) Jun05 18,700.00

NDX Volumes by Days to Expiry and Strike Interval (2024 YTD thru 6/3)



Source: Nasdaq

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ETF Example

Cheap dollar directional exposure with meaningful leverage; controlling \$45k+ of ETF exposure with ~\$215; potential to lose \$215 quickly

- Considerations:
 - Percent of account at risk in ~24 hours
 - Gamma (ATM options move from ~50 delta to 100 or 0 delta)
 - Would spreading be more efficient?
 - **Need to exit/monetize/realize loss if you can't be short underlying ETF**

Buy 1 Jun05'24 452 Put DEBIT
 Break Even: \$449.97 Order \$2.15

See Quote Clear 2.15 Ask
 2.14 Mid
 2.13 Bid

+ Watchlist

Buy 1 Jun05'24 452 Put 2.15
 2.13

+ Add Stock Leg

Performance Profile i

Max Loss	Break Even	Max Return
\$203.00	\$449.97	44,990

Market Implied
 Probability of Profit: 34% i

Source: IBKR platform

Delta on expiring options will move toward 100 or 0 quickly!

Buy 1 Jun05'24 452 Put DEBIT
 Break Even: \$449.97 Order \$2.14

Market Data

Return/Risk	Max Return	Max Loss
221.63	44,990	203
SPX Delta	Aggressiveness	Break Even
-5.305	—	449.97
Commission	Commission%	Margin Impact
1.55	0.76	0.00
MinInvest		
204.55		

The Greeks

Delta	Gamma	Theta
-49.535	7.671	-121.350

Source: IBKR platform

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Index Example

Cheap dollar directional exposure with meaningful leverage; controlling \$18.5k+ of ETF exposure with ~\$50; potential to lose \$50 quickly

- Considerations:
 - Similar exposure profile tracking same index
 - Gamma (ATM options move from ~50 delta to 100 or 0 delta)
 - **Flexibility with exit/monetization because index options cash settle**
 - **Potential tax benefits**

Buy 1 Jun05'24 185 Put DEBIT
 Break Even: \$184.26 Order \$0.56

See Quote Clear 0.56 Ask
0.50 Mid
0.44 Bid

+ Watchlist

Buy 1 Jun05'24 185 Put 0.56
0.44

+ Add Stock Leg

Performance Profile

Max Loss	Break Even	Max Return
\$74.00	\$184.26	18,423

Market Implied
Probability of Profit: 30%

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Market Data

Return/Risk	Max Return	Max Loss
255.91	18,425	72
SPX Delta	Aggressiveness	Break Even
-1.860	—	184.28
Commission	Commission%	Margin Impact
1.05	1.43	0.00
MinInvest		
73.05		

The Greeks

Delta	Gamma	Theta
-41.817	17.828	-50.475

Max Move Last Trade Date As of 10:36 AM

30% Jun05'24 Refresh

Source: IBKR platform

Delta on expiring options will move toward 100 or 0 quickly!



Source: IBKR platform

Index Example

Reduced dollar risk via spreading; NDX average intraday range ~1.1% of spot (18-month lookback); delta/gamma exposure much less volatile

- Considerations:
 - Index options cash settled, so even expiry between strikes need not be rolled
 - Ability to define risk over discrete time frames
 - **More difficult to defend against losing trades as expiration approaches**
 - **Potential tax benefits**

**Tax treatment depends on individual circumstances and is subject to change*

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2 Legs
Break Even: 18,645.10

Order \$10.30 DEBIT

See Quote Clear

+ Watchlist

Buy	1	Jun05'24 18660 Put	66.70 65.00	×
Sell	1	Jun05'24 18640 Put	57.80 56.40	×

+ Add Stock Leg

Performance Profile

Source: IBKR platform

Many index spreads trade near mid point!

Greek exposure minimized!

Market Implied
Probability of Profit: 58%

Market Data

Return/Risk	Max Return	Max Loss
0.28	440	1,560
SPX Delta	Aggressiveness	Break Even
-20.268	—	18,644.40
Commission	Commission%	Margin Impact
3.09	0.20	0.00
MinInvest		
1563.09		

The Greeks

Delta	Gamma	Theta
-4.556	-0.005	645.448

Source: IBKR platform



Index Example

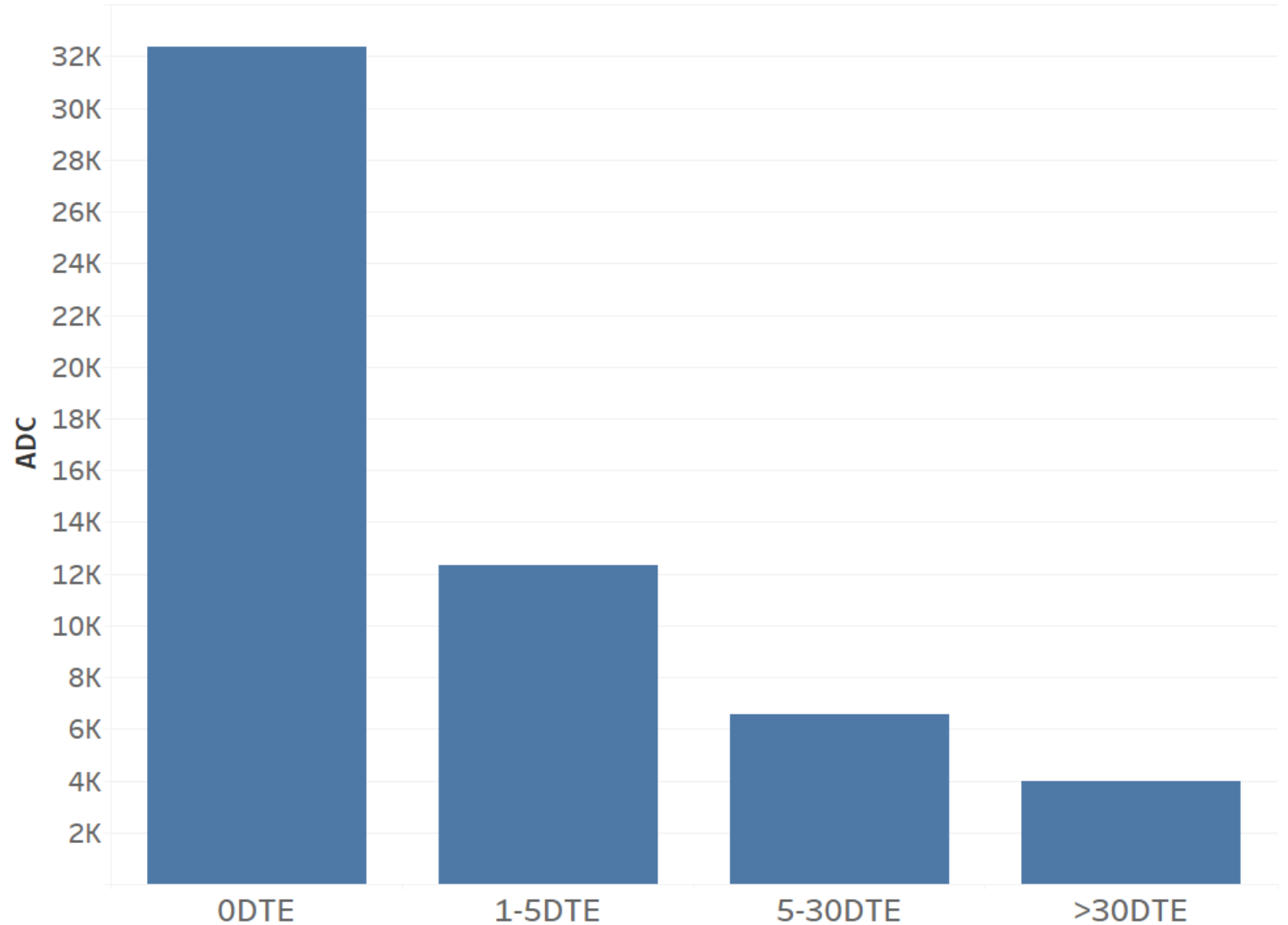
NDX volume has been concentrated in the expiring options; as mentioned, that's been the case throughout time; "0 DTE" is not a product, it's a point in time

- Considerations:
 - Desire to "control" the range of outcomes is natural
 - Choice is valuable in any consumer product
 - **Benefit to overall profile of index liquidity**
 - **Potential tax benefits**

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2024 NDX Average Daily Contracts Traded by Days to Expiry



Source: Nasdaq (January 2, 2024 – May 15, 2024)



Recap

Key Points Expanded

- **WHAT IS 0-DTE? 0-DTE refers to trading an option on the day it expires**
 - 0-DTE options are NOT DAILY OPTIONS. These products are listed and trading for at least 10 trading days prior to expiry, usually 3 weeks before expiry.
 - All securities with options listed on them have had same-day expiry events since July 31, 1973.
- **The data does not suggest that any apparent outsized risk is introduced to the market by the addition of available product.**
 - Retail investors tend to be net BUYERS of options while institutions are net SELLERS = Balanced market dynamic.
 - The increased liquidity in shorter dated options is expected to enhance investors' experience.
 - Market Makers employ prudent risk management practices, as shown by increased liquidity in shorter dated instruments.
 - Comparisons to the “Volmageddon” event of 2018 are entirely without merit.
 - Volatility is a natural phenomenon of markets and should NOT be attributed to same-day expiring options.
- **Retail use of short-term options product is not outsized. Retail is traditionally >40% of market volume**
 - Traders use options in a variety of strategies involving hedging, yield generation, speculation, and to position portfolios to their liking.
 - Traders should understand the benefits and risks of using options under ALL circumstances & a myriad of educational tools are available for free online.

