UK Market Pulse: FTSE 100 at a Glance

Historical context and investor takeaways. Compact view of FTSE 100 trends, risks, and comparative benchmarks for investors.





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Years with **>20%** FTSE 100 Price Gains

Six calendar years since 1984 with outsized price returns

1. **1984 — over 20% price gain**
   One of six years since 1984 with >20% gains
2. **1989 — +35.1% (largest)**
   Peak price return in the sample
3. **1993 — over 20% price gain**
   Significant 1990s rally year
4. **1995 — over 20% price gain**
   Mid-1990s strong performance
5. **1997 — +24.7%**
   Notable 1990s surge
6. **2009 — +22.1% post-crisis rebound**
   Recovery after the global financial crisis

FTSE vs Nasdaq: Frequency of Outperformance

1984–2024: FTSE outperformed Nasdaq in 14 of 41 years (~34%)



Clusters during severe Nasdaq downturns

Late 1980s and 2000–2002 saw steep Nasdaq declines; FTSE fell less so counted as outperformance.

List of FTSE outperformance years

1984, 1987–1990, 1993, 1997, 2000–2002, 2005–2006, 2008, 2016, 2022

FTSE vs Dow Jones: Frequency of Outperformance (1984–2024)

FTSE outperformed the Dow in 11 of 41 years (about 27%)

Years FTSE outperformed: 11 of 41 years (~27%)



Between 1984 and 2024 the FTSE beat the Dow in 11 of 41 years.

Notable outperformance: 1984



FTSE +23% versus Dow -3.7%

Notable outperformance: 2008



FTSE -31% versus Dow -34%

Other FTSE-winning years



1989, 1992–1993, 1997, 2004–2005, 2008–2009, 2016, 2022

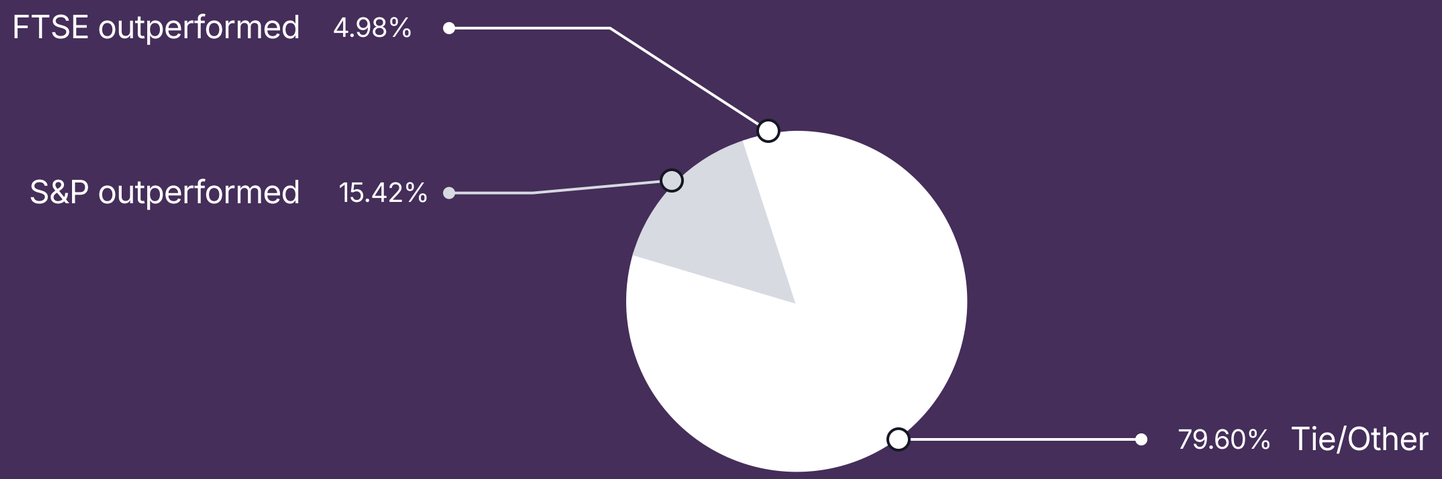
Overall pattern



In most years the Dow delivered higher price returns.

FTSE vs S&P 500: Frequency of Outperformance

1984–2024: FTSE outperformed S&P in 10 of 41 years (~24%)



FTSE outperformed in 10 of 41 years

Represents roughly one in four years since 1984.

Notable FTSE wins: 1986 and 2005

1986: FTSE +18.9% vs S&P +14.6%; 2005: FTSE +16.7% vs S&P +3.0%.

S&P dominance in US bull years

Examples: 1995, 2013, 2019 where S&P led clearly.



Rare multi-year FTSE outperformance vs S&P

Two distinct multi-year streaks highlight low persistence

- 1986–1988

Three-year streak

FTSE outperformed S&P across 1986, 1987, 1988 including the 1987 crash

- 2007–2008

Two-year streak

FTSE outperformed S&P in 2007 and 2008 during the early Global Financial

- Other years

No sustained runs

Outside these episodes, FTSE wins rarely repeated the

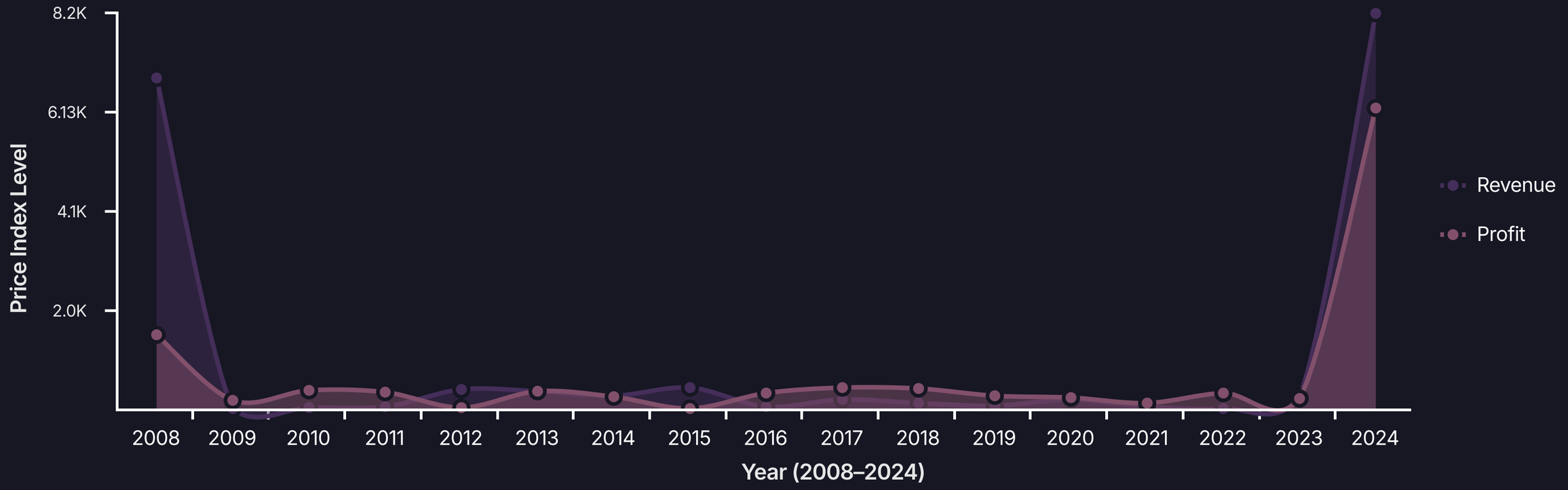
- Implication

Limited persistence

Outperformance tends to be short-lived; multi-year runs are rare

CAGR Comparison: **FTSE 100** vs **S&P 500** (2008–2024)

Price-index levels, no dividends — stark US outperformance



Investor Takeaways: FTSE vs S&P

Price returns favor the U.S.; consider dividends, currency, sectors

1

FTSE 100 shows rare big up years and often lags U.S. indices in price

Short-lived lead; avoid assuming persistence

2

Outperformance versus U.S. peers is episodic and rarely persists beyond one year

FTSE typically trails major U.S. peers on price performance

3

Since 2008 S&P price appreciation ≈300% vs FTSE ≈26% — long-term U.S. dominance

Clear numeric gap: S&P about 300%, FTSE about 26% since 2008

4

Consider dividends, currency effects, and sector composition when comparing markets

Total return, FX, and sector biases materially alter conclusions

5

Portfolio action: evaluate total return, hedge FX if needed, and align sector exposure

Practical steps for allocation and risk management