

HSBC USA Inc.

Buffered Digital Notes



Linked to the Least Performing of the SPDR® S&P® Oil & Gas Exploration & Production ETF and the Financial Select Sector SPDR® Fund (the “Reference Asset”)

- ▶ Digital Upside Return of at least 38.00% (to be determined on the Pricing Date) if the Reference Return of the Least Performing Underlying is greater than or equal to the Buffer Percentage (-20%)
- ▶ Protection from the first 20% of any losses of the Least Performing Underlying
- ▶ Approximately a 3-year maturity
- ▶ All payments on the Notes are subject to the credit risk of HSBC USA Inc.

The Buffered Digital Notes (each a “Note” and collectively the “Notes”) offered hereunder will not be listed on any U.S. securities exchange or automated quotation system. The Notes will not bear interest.

Neither the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”) nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of the Notes or passed upon the accuracy or the adequacy of this document, the accompanying prospectus, prospectus supplement or ETF Underlying Supplement. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense. We have appointed HSBC Securities (USA) Inc., an affiliate of ours, as the agent for the sale of the Notes. HSBC Securities (USA) Inc. will purchase the Notes from us for distribution to other registered broker-dealers or will offer the Notes directly to investors. In addition, HSBC Securities (USA) Inc. or another of its affiliates or agents may use the pricing supplement to which this free writing prospectus relates in market-making transactions in any Notes after their initial sale. Unless we or our agent inform you otherwise in the confirmation of sale, the pricing supplement to which this free writing prospectus relates is being used in a market-making transaction. See “Supplemental Plan of Distribution (Conflicts of Interest)” on page FWP-16 of this document.

Investment in the Notes involves certain risks. You should refer to “Risk Factors” beginning on page FWP-7 of this document, page S-1 of the accompanying prospectus supplement and page S-1 of the accompanying ETF Underlying Supplement.

The Estimated Initial Value of the Notes on the Pricing Date is expected to be between \$850 and \$950 per Note, which will be less than the price to public. The market value of the Notes at any time will reflect many factors and cannot be predicted with accuracy. See “Estimated Initial Value” on page FWP-4 and “Risk Factors” beginning on page FWP-7 of this document for further information.

	Price to Public	Underwriting Discount ⁽¹⁾	Proceeds to Issuer
Per security	\$1,000		
Total			

⁽¹⁾ HSBC USA Inc. or one of our affiliates may pay varying structuring fees of up to 0.40% per \$1,000 Principal Amount in connection with the distribution of the Notes to other registered broker-dealers. Neither HSBC Securities (USA) Inc. nor any of its affiliates will pay any underwriting discounts. See “Supplemental Plan of Distribution (Conflicts of Interest)” on page FWP-16 of this document.

The Notes:		
Are Not FDIC Insured	Are Not Bank Guaranteed	May Lose Value

Indicative Terms¹

Principal Amount	\$1,000 per Note
Term	Approximately 3 years
Reference Asset	The SPDR® S&P® Oil & Gas Exploration & Production ETF (Ticker: "XOP") and the Financial Select Sector SPDR® Fund (Ticker: XLF) (each, an "Underlying" and together the "Underlyings")
Digital Upside Return	At least 38.00%, to be determined on the Pricing Date
Buffer Percentage	-20%
Least Performing Underlying	The Underlying with the lowest Reference Return
Reference Return	With respect to each Underlying $\frac{\text{Final Price} - \text{Initial Price}}{\text{Initial Price}}$
Payment at Maturity per Note	<p>If the Reference Return of the Least Performing Underlying is greater than or equal to the Buffer Percentage, you will receive: $\\$1,000 + (\\$1,000 \times \text{Digital Upside Return})$.</p> <p>If the Reference Return of the Least Performing Underlying is less than the Buffer Percentage: $\\$1,000 + [\\$1,000 \times (\text{Reference Return of the Least Performing Underlying} + 20\%)]$. For example, if the Reference Return of the Least Performing Underlying is -40%, you will suffer a 20% loss and receive 80% of the Principal Amount, subject to the credit risk of HSBC. If the Reference Return of the Least Performing Underlying is less than the Buffer Percentage, you will lose some or a significant portion (up to 80%) of your investment.</p>
Initial Price	See page FWP-4
Final Price	See page FWP-4
Pricing Date	September 30, 2020
Trade Date	September 30, 2020
Original Issue Date	October 5, 2020
Final Valuation Date⁽²⁾	October 2, 2023
Maturity Date⁽²⁾	October 5, 2023
CUSIP/ISIN	40438CWZ0 / US40438CWZ03

⁽¹⁾ As more fully described on page FWP-4.

⁽²⁾ Subject to adjustment as described under "Additional Terms of the Notes" in the accompanying ETF Underlying Supplement.

The Notes

These Buffered Digital Notes may be suitable for investors who believe that the price of the Underlyings will increase modestly over the term of the Notes.

If the Reference Return of the Least Performing Underlying is greater than or equal to the Buffer Percentage, you will realize the Digital Upside Return at maturity (subject to the credit risk of HSBC). If the Reference Return of the Least Performing Underlying exceeds the Digital Upside Return, the Notes will not provide any additional return aside from the Digital Upside Return. If the Reference Return of the Least Performing Underlying is less than zero but equal to or greater than -20%, you will still receive the Digital Upside Return. If the Reference Return of the Least Performing Underlying is less than the Buffer Percentage, you will lose 1% of your investment for every 1% decline of the Least Performing Underlying beyond -20%.



Payoff Example

The table at right shows the hypothetical payout profile of an investment in the Notes assuming a hypothetical Digital Upside Return of 38.00%. The actual Digital Upside Return will be determined on the Pricing Date and will be at least 38.00%.

Reference Return of the Least Performing Underlying	Participation in Reference Return	Notes Return
80.00% 38.00%	Upside exposure, subject to the Digital Upside Return	38.00% 38.00%
5.00% 0.00%	Upside exposure, subject to the Digital Upside Return	38.00% 38.00%
-5.00% -20.00%	Buffer Percentage of -20%	38.00% 38.00%
-21.00% -100.00%	1x loss beyond the Buffer Percentage	-1.00% -80.00%

Information about the Underlyings

The XOP seeks to provide investment results that correspond generally to the price and yield performance, before fees and expenses, of the S&P® Oil & Gas Exploration & Production Select Industry® Index. The XOP is composed of companies that are in the oil and gas sector exploration and production. The XOP is an exchange-traded fund that trades on the NYSE Arca, Inc. under the ticker symbol "XOP".



The XLF seeks to provide investment results that, before fees and expenses, correspond generally to the price and yield performance of the S&P® Financial Select Sector Index underlying index. The XLF is an exchange-traded fund that trades on the NYSE Arca, Inc. under the ticker symbol "XLF".



The graph above illustrates the performance of each Underlying from September 17, 2010 through September 17, 2020, as reported on the Bloomberg Professional® Service. Past performance is not necessarily an indication of future results. For further information on the Underlyings, please see "Description of the Underlyings" on page FWP-13 of this free writing prospectus. We have derived all disclosure regarding the Underlyings from publicly available information. Neither HSBC USA Inc. nor any of its affiliates have undertaken any independent review of, or made any due diligence inquiry with respect to, the publicly available information about the Underlyings or the underlying indices.

HSBC USA Inc. Buffered Digital Notes



Linked to the Least Performing of the SPDR® S&P® Oil & Gas Exploration & Production ETF and the Financial Select Sector SPDR® Fund

This document relates to a single offering of Buffered Digital Notes. The Notes will have the terms described in this document and the accompanying prospectus supplement, prospectus and ETF Underlying Supplement. If the terms of the Notes offered hereby are inconsistent with those described in the accompanying prospectus supplement, prospectus or ETF Underlying Supplement, the terms described in this document shall control. **You should be willing to forgo interest and dividend payments during the term of the Notes and, if the Reference Return of the Least Performing Underlying is less than -20%, lose up to 80% of your principal.**

This document relates to an offering of Notes linked to the performance of the Reference Asset. The purchaser of a Note will acquire a senior unsecured debt security of HSBC USA Inc. linked to the Reference Asset as described below. The following key terms relate to the offering of Notes:

Issuer:	HSBC USA Inc.
Principal Amount:	\$1,000 per Note
Reference Asset:	The SPDR® S&P® Oil & Gas Exploration & Production ETF (Ticker: "XOP") and the Financial Select Sector SPDR® Fund (Ticker: XLF) (each, an "Underlying" and together the "Underlyings")
Trade Date:	September 30, 2020
Pricing Date:	September 30, 2020
Original Issue Date:	October 5, 2020
Final Valuation Date:	October 2, 2023, subject to adjustment as described under "Additional Terms of the Notes—Valuation Dates" in the accompanying ETF Underlying Supplement.
Maturity Date:	3 business days after the Final Valuation Date, and expected to be October 5, 2023. The Maturity Date is subject to adjustment as described under "Additional Terms of the Notes—Coupon Payment Dates, Call Payment Dates and Maturity Date" in the accompanying ETF Underlying Supplement.
Digital Upside Return:	At least 38.00% (to be determined on the Pricing Date)
Payment at Maturity:	On the Maturity Date, for each Note, we will pay you the Final Settlement Value.
Final Settlement Value:	<p>If the Reference Return of the Least Performing Underlying is greater than or equal to the Buffer Percentage, you will receive a cash payment on the Maturity Date, per \$1,000 Principal Amount of Notes, equal to:</p> $\$1,000 + (\$1,000 \times \text{Digital Upside Return}).$ <p>If the Reference Return of the Least Performing Underlying is less than the Buffer Percentage, you will receive a cash payment on the Maturity Date, per \$1,000 Principal Amount, calculated as follows:</p> $\$1,000 + [\$1,000 \times (\text{Reference Return of the Least Performing Underlying} + 20\%)].$ <p>Under these circumstances, you will lose 1% of the Principal Amount for each percentage point that the Reference Return of the Least Performing Underlying is less than the Buffer Percentage. For example, if the Reference Return of the Least Performing Underlying is -40%, you will suffer a 20% loss and receive 80% of the Principal Amount, subject to the credit risk of HSBC. If the Reference Return of the Least Performing Underlying is less than the Buffer Percentage, you will lose some or a significant portion (up to 80%) of your investment.</p>
Least Performing Underlying:	The Underlying with the lowest Reference Return.
Reference Return:	With respect to each Underlying, the quotient, expressed as a percentage, calculated as follows:
	$\frac{\text{Final Price} - \text{Initial Price}}{\text{Initial Price}}$
Buffer Percentage:	-20%
Initial Price:	With respect to each Underlying, its Official Closing Price on the Pricing Date.
Final Price:	With respect to each Underlying, its Official Closing Price on the Final Valuation Date.
Form of Notes:	Book-Entry
Listing:	The Notes will not be listed on any U.S. securities exchange or quotation system.
CUSIP/ISIN:	40438CWZ0 / US40438CWZ03
Estimated Initial Value:	The Estimated Initial Value of the Notes is expected to be less than the price you pay to purchase the Notes. The Estimated Initial Value does not represent a minimum price at which we or any of our affiliates would be willing to purchase your Notes in the secondary market, if any, at any time. The Estimated Initial Value will be calculated on the Pricing Date. See "Risk Factors — The Estimated Initial Value of the Notes, which will be determined by us on the Pricing Date, is expected to be less than the price to public and may differ from the market value of the Notes in the secondary market, if any."

The Trade Date, the Pricing Date and the other dates set forth above are subject to change, and will be set forth in the pricing supplement relating to the Notes.

GENERAL

This document relates to an offering of Notes linked to the Reference Asset. The purchaser of a Note will acquire a senior unsecured debt security of HSBC USA Inc. We reserve the right to withdraw, cancel or modify the offering and to reject orders in whole or in part. Although the offering of Notes relates to the Reference Asset, you should not construe that fact as a recommendation as to the merits of acquiring an investment linked to the Reference Asset or any component security included in the Reference Asset or as to the suitability of an investment in the Notes.

You should read this document together with the prospectus dated February 26, 2018, the prospectus supplement dated February 26, 2018, and the ETF Underlying Supplement dated February 26, 2018. If the terms of the Notes offered hereby are inconsistent with those described in the accompanying prospectus supplement, prospectus or ETF Underlying Supplement, the terms described in this document shall control. You should carefully consider, among other things, the matters set forth in "Risk Factors" beginning on page FWP-7 of this document, page S-1 of the prospectus supplement and page S-1 of the ETF Underlying Supplement, as the Notes involve risks not associated with conventional debt securities. We urge you to consult your investment, legal, tax, accounting and other advisors before you invest in the Notes. As used herein, references to the "Issuer", "HSBC", "we", "us" and "our" are to HSBC USA Inc.

HSBC has filed a registration statement (including a prospectus, a prospectus supplement and ETF Underlying Supplement) with the SEC for the offering to which this document relates. Before you invest, you should read the prospectus, prospectus supplement and ETF Underlying Supplement in that registration statement and other documents HSBC has filed with the SEC for more complete information about HSBC and this offering. You may get these documents for free by visiting EDGAR on the SEC's web site at www.sec.gov. Alternatively, HSBC Securities (USA) Inc. or any dealer participating in this offering will arrange to send you the prospectus, prospectus supplement and ETF Underlying Supplement if you request them by calling toll-free 1-866-811-8049.

You may also obtain:

- ▶ The ETF Underlying Supplement at: https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/83246/000114420418010788/tv486720_424b2.htm
- ▶ The prospectus supplement at: https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/83246/000114420418010762/tv486944_424b2.htm
- ▶ The prospectus at: https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/83246/000114420418010720/tv487083_424b3.htm

We are using this document to solicit from you an offer to purchase the Notes. You may revoke your offer to purchase the Notes at any time prior to the time at which we accept your offer by notifying HSBC Securities (USA) Inc. We reserve the right to change the terms of, or reject any offer to purchase, the Notes prior to their issuance. In the event of any material changes to the terms of the Notes, we will notify you.

PAYMENT AT MATURITY

On the Maturity Date, for each Note you hold, we will pay you the Final Settlement Value, which is an amount in cash, as described below:

If the Reference Return of the Least Performing Underlying is greater than or equal to the Buffer Percentage, you will receive a cash payment on the Maturity Date, per \$1,000 Principal Amount of Notes, equal to:

$$\$1,000 + (\$1,000 \times \text{Digital Upside Return}).$$

If the Reference Return of the Least Performing Underlying is less than the Buffer Percentage, you will receive a cash payment on the Maturity Date, per \$1,000 Principal Amount, calculated as follows:

$$\$1,000 + [\$1,000 \times (\text{Reference Return of the Least Performing Underlying} + 20\%)].$$

Under these circumstances, you will lose 1% of the Principal Amount for each percentage point that the Reference Return of the Least Performing Underlying is less than the Buffer Percentage. For example, if the Reference Return of the Least Performing Underlying is -40%, you will suffer a 20% loss and receive 80% of the Principal Amount, subject to the credit risk of HSBC. **You should be aware that if the Reference Return of the Least Performing Underlying is less than the Buffer Percentage, you will lose some or a significant portion (up to 80%) of your investment.**

Interest

The Notes will not pay interest.

Calculation Agent

We or one of our affiliates will act as calculation agent with respect to the Notes.

Reference Issuer

The reference issuer for the XOP and XLF is Select Sector SPDR® Trust

INVESTOR SUITABILITY

The Notes may be suitable for you if:

- ▶ You seek an investment with a return linked to the Least Performing Underlying and you believe the Reference Return of the Least Performing Underlying will not be less than the Buffer Percentage.
- ▶ You are willing to make an investment that is exposed to the negative Reference Return of the Least Performing Underlying on a 1-to-1 basis for each percentage point that the Reference Return of the Least Performing Underlying is less than the Buffer Percentage.
- ▶ You are willing to invest in the Notes based on the fact that your maximum potential return is the Digital Upside Return.
- ▶ You are willing to accept the risk and return profile of the Notes versus a conventional debt security with a comparable maturity issued by HSBC or another issuer with a similar credit rating.
- ▶ You are willing to forgo dividends or other distributions paid to holders of the stocks held by the Underlyings.
- ▶ You do not seek current income from your investment.
- ▶ You do not seek an investment for which there is an active secondary market.
- ▶ You are willing to hold the Notes to maturity.
- ▶ You are comfortable with the creditworthiness of HSBC, as Issuer of the Notes.

The Notes may not be suitable for you if:

- ▶ You believe the Reference Return of the Least Performing Underlying will be less than the Buffer Percentage.
- ▶ You are unwilling to make an investment that is exposed to the negative Reference Return of the Least Performing Underlying on a 1-to-1 basis for each percentage point that the Reference Return of the Least Performing Underlying is less than the Buffer Percentage.
- ▶ You are unwilling to invest in the Notes based on the fact that your maximum potential return is the Digital Upside Return.
- ▶ You seek an investment that provides full return of principal.
- ▶ You prefer the lower risk, and therefore accept the potentially lower returns, of conventional debt securities with comparable maturities issued by HSBC or another issuer with a similar credit rating.
- ▶ You prefer to receive the dividends or other distributions paid on the stocks held by the Underlyings.
- ▶ You seek current income from your investment.
- ▶ You seek an investment for which there will be an active secondary market.
- ▶ You are unable or unwilling to hold the Notes to maturity.
- ▶ You are not willing or are unable to assume the credit risk associated with HSBC, as Issuer of the Notes.

RISK FACTORS

We urge you to read the section “Risk Factors” beginning on page S-1 in the accompanying prospectus supplement and on page S-1 of the accompanying ETF Underlying Supplement. Investing in the Notes is not equivalent to investing directly in the Reference Asset or any of the stocks included in the underlying index. You should understand the risks of investing in the Notes and should reach an investment decision only after careful consideration, with your advisors, of the suitability of the Notes in light of your particular financial circumstances and the information set forth in this document and the accompanying ETF Underlying Supplement, prospectus supplement and prospectus.

In addition to the risks discussed below, you should review “Risk Factors” in the accompanying prospectus supplement and ETF Underlying Supplement including the explanation of risks relating to the Notes described in the following sections:

- ▶ “— Risks Relating to All Note Issuances” in the prospectus supplement; and
- ▶ “— General Risks Related to Index Funds” in the ETF Underlying Supplement;

You will be subject to significant risks not associated with conventional fixed-rate or floating-rate debt securities.

Your investment in the Notes may result in a loss.

You will be exposed on a 1-to-1 basis to any decrease in the price of the Least Performing Underlying beyond the Buffer Percentage of -20%. Accordingly, if the Reference Return of the Least Performing Underlying is less than -20%, you will lose up to 80% of your investment at maturity.

You will not participate in any appreciation in the price of the Underlyings and your return on the Notes is limited to the Digital Upside Return.

The Notes will not pay a return more than the Digital Upside Return. Even if the price of the Least Performing Underlying appreciates over the term of the Notes, you will not participate in that appreciation. Assuming the Notes are held to maturity, the maximum return on the Notes will not exceed the Digital Upside Return. Under no circumstances, regardless of the extent to which the price of the Least Performing Underlying increases, will your return exceed the Digital Upside Return. In some cases, you may earn significantly less by investing in the Notes than you would have earned by investing in an instrument directly linked to the performance of the Least Performing Underlying, or by investing directly in the stocks included in the Least Performing Underlying.

Since the Notes are linked to the performance of more than one Underlying, you will be fully exposed to the risk of fluctuations in the value of each Underlying.

Since the Notes are linked to the performance of more than one Underlying, the Notes will be linked to the individual performance of each Underlying. Because the Notes are not linked to a weighted basket, in which the risk is mitigated and diversified among all of the components of a basket, you will be exposed to the risk of fluctuations in the values of the Underlyings to the same degree for each Underlying. For example, in the case of securities linked to a weighted basket, the return would depend on the weighted aggregate performance of the basket components reflected as the basket return. Thus, the depreciation of any basket component could be mitigated by the appreciation of another basket component, as scaled by the weightings of such basket components. However, in the case of these Notes, the individual performance of each of the Underlyings would not be combined to calculate your return and the depreciation of either of the Underlyings would not be mitigated by the appreciation of the other Underlying. Instead, your return would depend on the Least Performing Underlying.

The amount payable on the Notes is not linked to the price of the Underlyings at any time other than the Final Valuation Date.

The Final Prices of the Underlyings will be based on the Official Closing Prices of the Underlyings on the Final Valuation Date, subject to postponement for non-trading days and certain Market Disruption Events. Even if the price of the Least Performing Underlying appreciates during the term of the Notes other than on the Final Valuation Date but then decreases on the Final Valuation Date to a price that is less than 80% of its Initial Price, the Payment at Maturity may be less, and may be significantly less, than it would have been had the Payment at Maturity been linked to the price of the Least Performing Underlying prior to such decrease. Although the actual prices of the Underlyings on the Maturity Date or at other times during the term of the Notes may be higher than their respective Final Prices, the Payment at Maturity will be based solely on the Official Closing Prices of the Underlyings on the Final Valuation Date.

Credit risk of HSBC USA Inc.

The Notes are senior unsecured debt obligations of the Issuer, HSBC, and are not, either directly or indirectly, an obligation of any third party. As further described in the accompanying prospectus supplement and prospectus, the Notes will rank on par with all of the other unsecured and unsubordinated debt obligations of HSBC, except such obligations as may be preferred by operation of law. Any payment to be made on the Notes, including any return of principal at maturity, depends on the ability of HSBC to satisfy its obligations as they come due. As a result, the actual and perceived creditworthiness of HSBC may affect the market value of the Notes and, in the event HSBC were to default on its obligations, you may not receive the amounts owed to you under the terms of the Notes.

The Notes will not bear interest.

As a holder of the Notes, you will not receive interest payments.

Owning the Notes is not the same as owning the Underlyings or the stocks included in the underlying indices.

The return on your Notes may not reflect the return you would realize if you actually owned the Underlyings or stocks included in the underlying indices. As a holder of the Notes, you will not have voting rights or rights to receive dividends or other distributions or other rights as would holders of the Underlyings or the stocks included in the underlying indices.

Changes that affect the Underlyings or the underlying index may affect the prices of the Underlyings and the market value of the Notes and the amount you will receive at maturity.

The policies of the reference issuer or the index sponsor of the underlying indices, concerning additions, deletions and substitutions of the constituents comprising the Underlyings or the underlying indices, as applicable, and the manner in which the reference issuers or the index sponsors takes account of certain changes affecting those constituents included in the Underlyings or the underlying indices may affect the prices of the Underlyings. The policies of the reference issuers or the index sponsors with respect to the calculation of the Underlyings or the underlying indices, as applicable, could also affect the prices of the Underlyings. The reference issuers or the index sponsors may discontinue or suspend calculation or dissemination of the Underlyings or the underlying indices, as applicable. Any such actions could affect the price of that Underlying and the value of the Notes.

The Notes are not insured or guaranteed by any governmental agency of the United States or any other jurisdiction.

The Notes are not deposit liabilities or other obligations of a bank and are not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other governmental agency or program of the United States or any other jurisdiction. An investment in the Notes is subject to the credit risk of HSBC, and in the event that HSBC is unable to pay its obligations as they become due, you may not receive the full Payment at Maturity of the Notes.

The Estimated Initial Value of the Notes, which will be determined by us on the Pricing Date, is expected to be less than the price to public and may differ from the market value of the Notes in the secondary market, if any.

The Estimated Initial Value of the Notes will be calculated by us on the Pricing Date and is expected to be less than the price to public. The Estimated Initial Value will reflect our internal funding rate, which is the borrowing rate we pay to issue market-linked securities, as well as the mid-market value of the embedded derivatives in the Notes. This internal funding rate is typically lower than the rate we would use when we issue conventional fixed or floating rate debt securities. As a result of the difference between our internal funding rate and the rate we would use when we issue conventional fixed or floating rate debt securities, the Estimated Initial Value of the Notes may be lower if it were based on the prices at which our fixed or floating rate debt securities trade in the secondary market. In addition, if we were to use the rate we use for our conventional fixed or floating rate debt issuances, we would expect the economic terms of the Notes to be more favorable to you. We will determine the value of the embedded derivatives in the Notes by reference to our or our affiliates' internal pricing models. These pricing models consider certain assumptions and variables, which can include volatility and interest rates. Different pricing models and assumptions could provide valuations for the Notes that are different from our Estimated Initial Value. These pricing models rely in part on certain forecasts about future events, which may prove to be incorrect. The Estimated Initial Value does not represent a minimum price at which we or any of our affiliates would be willing to purchase your Notes in the secondary market (if any exists) at any time.

The price of your Notes in the secondary market, if any, immediately after the Pricing Date is expected to be less than the price to public.

The price to public takes into account certain costs. These costs, which will be used or retained by us or one of our affiliates, include our affiliates' projected hedging profits (which may or may not be realized) for assuming risks inherent in hedging our obligations under the Notes and the costs associated with structuring and hedging our obligations under the Notes. If you were to sell your Notes in the secondary market, if any, the price you would receive for your Notes may be less than the price you paid for them because secondary market prices will not take into account these costs. The price of your Notes in the secondary market, if any, at any time after issuance will vary based on many factors, including the price of the Reference Asset and changes in market conditions, and cannot be predicted with accuracy. The Notes are not designed to be short-term trading instruments, and you should, therefore, be able and willing to hold the Notes to maturity. Any sale of the Notes prior to maturity could result in a loss to you.

If we were to repurchase your Notes immediately after the Original Issue Date, the price you receive may be higher than the Estimated Initial Value of the Notes.

Assuming that all relevant factors remain constant after the Original Issue Date, the price at which HSBC Securities (USA) Inc. may initially buy or sell the Notes in the secondary market, if any, and the value that may be initially used for customer account statements, if any, may exceed the Estimated Initial Value on the Pricing Date for a temporary period expected to be approximately 6 months after the Original Issue Date. This temporary price difference may exist because, in our discretion, we may elect to effectively reimburse to investors a portion of the estimated cost of hedging our obligations under the Notes and other costs in connection with the Notes that we will no longer expect to incur over the term of the Notes. We will make such discretionary election and determine this temporary reimbursement period on the basis of a number of factors, including the tenor of the Notes and any agreement we may have with the distributors of the Notes. The amount of our estimated costs which we effectively reimburse to investors in this way may not be allocated ratably throughout the reimbursement period, and we may discontinue such reimbursement at any time or revise the duration of the reimbursement period after the Original Issue Date of the Notes based on changes in market conditions and other factors that cannot be predicted.

The Notes lack liquidity.

The Notes will not be listed on any securities exchange or automated quotation system. HSBC Securities (USA) Inc. is not required to offer to purchase the Notes in the secondary market, if any exists. Even if there is a secondary market, it may not provide enough liquidity to allow you to trade or sell the Notes easily. Because other dealers are not likely to make a secondary market for the Notes, the price at which you may be able to trade your Notes is likely to depend on the price, if any, at which HSBC Securities (USA) Inc. is willing to buy the Notes.

Potential conflicts of interest may exist.

An affiliate of HSBC has a minority equity interest in the owner of an electronic platform, through which we may make available certain structured investments offering materials. HSBC and its affiliates play a variety of roles in connection with the issuance of the Notes, including acting as calculation agent and hedging our obligations under the Notes. In performing these duties, the economic interests of the calculation agent and other affiliates of ours are potentially adverse to your interests as an investor in the Notes. We will not have any obligation to consider your interests as a holder of the Notes in taking any action that might affect the value of your Notes.

Uncertain tax treatment.

For a discussion of the U.S. federal income tax consequences of your investment in the Notes, please see the discussion under “U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations” herein and the discussion under “U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations” in the accompanying prospectus supplement.

ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES

The following table and examples are provided for illustrative purposes only and are hypothetical. They do not purport to be representative of every possible scenario concerning increases or decreases in the price of any Underlying relative to its Initial Price. We cannot predict the actual Final Price of an Underlying. The assumptions we have made in connection with the illustrations set forth below may not reflect actual events, and the hypothetical Initial Price used in the table and examples below is not expected to be its actual Initial Price of any Underlying. You should not take this illustration or these examples as an indication or assurance of the expected performance of the Underlyings or the return on your Notes. The Final Settlement Value may be less than the amount that you would have received from a conventional debt security with the same stated maturity, including such a security issued by HSBC. The numbers appearing in the table below and following examples have been rounded for ease of analysis.

The table below illustrates the Final Settlement Value on a \$1,000 investment in the Notes for a hypothetical range of Reference Returns of the Least Performing Underlying from -100% to +100%. The following results are based solely on the assumptions outlined below. The "Hypothetical Return on the Notes" as used below is the number, expressed as a percentage, that results from comparing the Final Settlement Value per \$1,000 Principal Amount to \$1,000. The potential returns described here assume that your Notes are held to maturity. You should consider carefully whether the Notes are suitable to your investment goals. The following table and examples assume the following:

Principal Amount:	\$1,000
Hypothetical Initial Price for each Underlying *:	\$100.00
Hypothetical Digital Upside Return:	38.00% (The actual Digital Upside Return will be determined on the Pricing Date and will be at least 38.00%.)
Buffer Percentage:	-20%

*The actual Initial Price of each Underlying will be determined on the Pricing Date.

Hypothetical Final Price of the Least Performing Underlying	Hypothetical Reference Return of the Least Performing Underlying	Hypothetical Final Settlement Value	Hypothetical Return on the Notes
\$200.00	100.00%	\$1,380.00	38.00%
\$180.00	80.00%	\$1,380.00	38.00%
\$160.00	60.00%	\$1,380.00	38.00%
\$138.00	38.00%	\$1,380.00	38.00%
\$130.00	30.00%	\$1,380.00	38.00%
\$125.00	25.00%	\$1,380.00	38.00%
\$110.00	10.00%	\$1,380.00	38.00%
\$105.00	5.00%	\$1,380.00	38.00%
\$120.00	2.00%	\$1,380.00	38.00%
\$101.00	1.00%	\$1,380.00	38.00%
\$100.00	0.00%	\$1,380.00	38.00%
\$99.00	-1.00%	\$1,380.00	38.00%
\$98.00	-2.00%	\$1,380.00	38.00%
\$95.00	-5.00%	\$1,380.00	38.00%
\$90.00	-10.00%	\$1,380.00	38.00%
\$80.00	-20.00%	\$1,380.00	38.00%
\$79.00	-21.00%	\$990.00	-1.00%
\$70.00	-30.00%	\$900.00	-10.00%
\$60.00	-40.00%	\$800.00	-20.00%
\$50.00	-50.00%	\$700.00	-30.00%
\$25.00	-75.00%	\$450.00	-55.00%
\$10.00	-90.00%	\$300.00	-70.00%
\$0.00	-100.00%	\$200.00	-80.00%

The following examples indicate how the Final Settlement Value would be calculated with respect to a hypothetical \$1,000 investment in the Notes.

Example 1: The price of the Least Performing Underlying increases from the Initial Price of \$100.00 to a Final Price of \$105.00.

Underlying	Initial Price	Final Price	Reference Return
XOP	\$100.00	\$130.00	30.00%
XLF	\$100.00	\$105.00	5.00%

XLF is the Least Performing Underlying, with a Reference Return of 5.00%. Because the Reference Return of the Least Performing Underlying is positive, the investor receives the Digital Upside Return, and the Final Settlement Value would be \$1,380.00 per \$1,000 Principal Amount, calculated as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \$1,000 + (\$1,000 \times \text{Digital Upside Return}) \\
 & = \$1,000 + (\$1,000 \times 38.00\%) \\
 & = \$1,380.00
 \end{aligned}$$

Example 1 shows that you will benefit from the Digital Upside Return at maturity when the Reference Return of the Least Performing Underlying is positive.

Example 2: The price of the Least Performing Underlying increases from the Initial Price of \$100.00 to a Final Price of \$160.00.

Underlying	Initial Price	Final Price	Reference Return
XOP	\$100.00	\$180.00	80.00%
XLF	\$100.00	\$160.00	60.00%

XLF is the Least Performing Underlying, with a Reference Return of 60.00%. Even if the Reference Return of the Least Performing Underlying is positive, and greater than the Digital Upside Return, the Final Settlement Value would still be \$1,380.00 per \$1,000 Principal Amount of Notes, calculated as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \$1,000 + (\$1,000 \times \text{Digital Upside Return}) \\
 & = \$1,000 + (\$1,000 \times 38.00\%) \\
 & = \$1,380.00
 \end{aligned}$$

Example 2 shows that you will not receive any return of your principal investment in addition to the Digital Upside Return at maturity when the Reference Return of the Least Performing Underlying is greater than the Digital Upside Return.

Example 3: The price of the Least Performing Underlying decreases from the Initial Price of \$100.00 to a Final Price of \$95.00.

Underlying	Initial Price	Final Price	Reference Return
XOP	\$100.00	\$120.00	20.00%
XLF	\$100.00	\$95.00	-5.00%

XLF is the Least Performing Underlying, with a Reference Return of -5.00%. Because the Reference Return of the Least Performing Underlying is greater than the Buffer Percentage of -20%, the Final Settlement Value would be \$1,380.00 per \$1,000 Principal Amount of Notes, calculated as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \$1,000 + (\$1,000 \times \text{Digital Upside Return}) \\
 & = \$1,000 + (\$1,000 \times 38.00\%) \\
 & = \$1,380.00
 \end{aligned}$$

Example 3 shows that you will receive the Digital Upside Return at maturity when the Reference Return of the Least Performing Underlying is equal to or greater than the Buffer Percentage.

Example 4: The price of the Least Performing Underlying decreases from the Initial Price of \$100.00 to a Final Price of \$25.00.

Underlying	Initial Price	Final Price	Reference Return
XOP	\$100.00	\$120.00	20.00%
XLF	\$100.00	\$25.00	-75.00%

XLF is the Least Performing Underlying, with a Reference Return of -75.00%. Because the Reference Return of the Least Performing Underlying is less than the Buffer Percentage of -20%, the Final Settlement Value would be \$450.00 per \$1,000 Principal Amount, calculated as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} & \$1,000 + [\$1,000 \times (\text{Reference Return of the Least Performing Underlying} + 20\%)] \\ &= \$1,000 + [\$1,000 \times (-75.00\% + 20\%)] \\ &= \$450.00 \end{aligned}$$

Example 4 shows that you are exposed on a 1-to-1 basis to declines in the price of the Least Performing Underlying beyond the Buffer Percentage of -20%. YOU MAY LOSE UP TO 80% OF THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF YOUR NOTES.

DESCRIPTION OF THE UNDERLYINGS

Description of the XOP

The SPDR® S&P® Oil & Gas Exploration & Production ETF (the “XOP”) is an investment portfolio maintained and managed by SSgA Funds Management, Inc. (“SSFM”). The XOP trades on the NYSE Arca under the ticker symbol “XOP.” The inception date of the SPDR® S&P Oil & Gas Exploration and Production ETF is June 19, 2006. Prior to January 8, 2007, the XOP was known as the SPDR® Oil & Gas Exploration & Production ETF.

Information provided to or filed with the SEC by the SPDR® Series Trust under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 can be located by reference to its Central Index Key, or CIK, 1064642 through the SEC’s website at <http://www.sec.gov>. We have not made any independent investigation as to the accuracy or completeness of such information.

The XOP seeks to provide investment results that correspond generally to the price and yield performance, before fees and expenses, of the S&P® Oil & Gas Exploration & Production Select Industry® Index (the “SPSIOP”). The SPSIOP represents the oil and gas exploration and production sub-industry portion of the S&P TMI Index. The XOP is composed of companies that are in the oil and gas sector exploration and production.

The XOP utilizes a “replication” investment approach in attempting to track the performance of the SPSIOP. The XOP typically invests in substantially all of the securities which comprise the SPSIOP in approximately the same proportions as the SPSIOP. XOP will normally invest at least 80% of its total assets in common stocks that comprise the SPSIOP. The returns of the XOP may be affected by certain management fees and other expenses, which are detailed in its prospectus.

The information above was compiled from the SPDR® website. We have not independently investigated the accuracy of that information. Information contained in the SPDR® website is not incorporated by reference in, and should not be considered a part of, this document.

The S&P® Oil & Gas Exploration & Production Select Industry® Index

The SPSIOP is a modified equal-weighted index that is designed to measure the performance of the following GICS® sub-industries of the S&P TMI: integrated oil & gas, oil & gas exploration & production and oil & gas refining & marketing. The SPSIOP is reported by Bloomberg L.P. under the ticker symbol “SPSIOP.” The SPSIOP is part of the S&P Select Industry Indices family. For more information about the S&P Select Industry Indices, please see “The S&P Select Industry Indices” below.

The S&P Select Industry Indices

To be eligible for inclusion in a S&P Select Industry Index, companies must be in the S&P TMI Index and must be included in the relevant GICS sub-industry. The S&P TMI offers broad market exposure to companies of all market capitalization, including all U.S. common equities listed on the New York Stock Exchange (including NYSE Arca), the NYSE American, the Nasdaq Global Select Market, the Nasdaq Select Market, the Nasdaq Capital Market, Cboe BZX, Cboe BYX, Cboe EDGA, Cboe EDGX or Investors Exchange (IEX). Only U.S. companies are eligible for inclusion in the S&P TMI. All members of the Select Industry Indices are selected from the S&P TMI. The GICS was developed to establish a global standard for categorizing companies into sectors and industries. In addition to the above, companies must satisfy one of the two following combined size and liquidity criteria:

float-adjusted market capitalization above US\$500 million and float-adjusted liquidity ratio above 90%; or

float-adjusted market capitalization above US\$400 million and float-adjusted liquidity ratio above 150%.

All U.S. companies satisfying these requirements are included in a S&P Select Industry Index. The total number of companies in a S&P Select Industry Index should be at least 35. If there are fewer than 35 stocks, stocks from a supplementary list of highly correlated sub-industries that meet the market capitalization and liquidity thresholds above are included in order of their float-adjusted market capitalization to reach 35 constituents. Minimum market capitalization requirements may be relaxed to ensure there are at least 22 companies in a S&P Select Industry Index as of each rebalancing effective date.

To be eligible for inclusion in a Select Industry Index, a company must also meet the following requirements:

Market Capitalization. Float-adjusted market capitalization should be at least US\$400 million for inclusion in a S&P Select Industry Index. Existing index components must have a float-adjusted market capitalization of US\$300 million to remain in a S&P Select Industry Index at each rebalancing.

Liquidity. The liquidity measurement used is a liquidity ratio, defined as dollar value traded over the previous 12-months divided by the float-adjusted market capitalization as of the S&P Select Industry Indices rebalancing reference date. Stocks having a float-adjusted market capitalization above US\$500 million must have a liquidity ratio greater than 90% to be eligible for addition to a S&P Select Industry Index. Stocks having a float-adjusted market capitalization between US\$400 and US\$500 million must have a liquidity ratio greater than 150% to be eligible for addition to a S&P Select Industry Index. Existing index constituents must have a liquidity ratio greater than 50% to remain in a S&P Select Industry Index at the quarterly rebalancing. The length of time to evaluate liquidity is reduced to the available trading period for IPOs or spin-offs that do not have 12 months of trading history.

Takeover Restrictions. At the discretion of S&P, constituents with shareholder ownership restrictions defined in company bylaws may be deemed ineligible for inclusion in a S&P Select Industry Index. Ownership restrictions preventing entities from replicating the index weight of a company may be excluded from the eligible universe or removed from a S&P Select Industry Index.

Turnover. S&P believes turnover in index membership should be avoided when possible. At times, a company may appear to temporarily violate one or more of the addition criteria. However, the addition criteria are for addition to a S&P Select Industry Index,

not for continued membership. As a result, an index constituent that appears to violate the criteria for addition to a S&P Select Industry Index will not be deleted unless ongoing conditions warrant a change in the composition of a S&P Select Industry Index.

Sector Classification. A Select Industry Index includes companies in the applicable GICS sub-industries.

The Select Industry Indices are equal-weighted, with adjustments to individual constituent weights to ensure concentration and liquidity requirements, and calculated by the divisor methodology.

The membership to the Select Industry Indices is reviewed quarterly. Rebalancing occurs after the closing on the third Friday of the quarter ending month. The reference date for additions and deletions is after the closing of the last trading date of the previous month. Closing prices as of the second Friday of the last month of the quarter are used for setting index weights.

Existing index constituents are removed at the quarterly rebalancing effective date if either their float-adjusted market capitalization falls below US\$300 million or their FALR falls below 50.00%. In addition, a company is deleted from the applicable Select Industry Index if the S&P TMI drops the company. Companies are added between rebalancing only if a deletion in the applicable Select Industry Index causes the stock count to fall below 22. In those cases, each company deletion is accompanied with a company addition. The new company will be added to the applicable Select Industry Index at the weight of the deleted company. In the case of mergers involving at least one index constituent, the merged company will remain in the applicable Select Industry Index if it meets all of the eligibility requirements. The merged company will be added to the applicable Select Industry Index at the weight of the pre-merger index company. If both companies involved in a merger are index constituents, the merged company will be added at the weight of the company deemed the acquirer in the transaction. In the case of spin-offs, the applicable Select Industry Index will follow the S&P TMI's treatment of the action. If the S&P TMI treats the pre- and post-spun company as a deletion/addition action, using the stock's when-issued price, the applicable Select Industry Index will treat the spin-off this way as well. In case of GICS changes, where a company does not belong to a qualifying sub-industry after the classification change, it is removed from the applicable Select Industry Index at the next rebalancing.

Historical Performance of the XOP

The following graph sets forth the historical performance of the XOP based on the daily historical closing levels from September 17, 2010 through September 17, 2020. We obtained the closing levels below from the Bloomberg Professional® service. We have not undertaken any independent review of, or made any due diligence inquiry with respect to, the information obtained from the Bloomberg Professional® service.



The historical prices of the XOP should not be taken as an indication of future performance, and no assurance can be given as to the Official Closing Price of the XOP on the Final Valuation Date.

Description of the XLF

The XLF seeks to provide investment results that correspond generally to the price and yield performance, before fees and expenses, of the Financial Select Sector Index. The Financial Select Sector Index measures the performance of the financial sector of the U.S. equity market. The Financial Select Sector Index is composed of companies whose primary line of business is directly associated with the financial sector. ***For more information about the XLF, see “Financial Select Sector SPDR® Fund” beginning on page S-12 of the accompanying ETF Underlying Supplement.***

Historical Performance of the XLF

The following graph sets forth the historical performance of the XLF based on the daily historical closing levels from September 17, 2010 through September 17, 2020. We obtained the closing levels below from the Bloomberg Professional® service. We have not undertaken any independent review of, or made any due diligence inquiry with respect to, the information obtained from the Bloomberg Professional® service.



The historical prices of the XLF should not be taken as an indication of future performance, and no assurance can be given as to the Official Closing Price of the XLF on the Final Valuation Date.

EVENTS OF DEFAULT AND ACCELERATION

If the Notes have become immediately due and payable following an Event of Default (as defined in the accompanying prospectus) with respect to the Notes, the calculation agent will determine the accelerated payment due and payable at maturity in the same general manner as described in “Payment at Maturity” in this document. In that case, the scheduled trading day immediately preceding the date of acceleration will be used as the Final Valuation Date for purposes of determining the Reference Return of any Underlying, and the accelerated Maturity Date will be three business days after the accelerated Final Valuation Date. If a Market Disruption Event exists with respect to any Underlying on that scheduled trading day, then the accelerated Final Valuation Date for that Underlying will be postponed for up to five scheduled trading days (in the same manner used for postponing the originally scheduled Final Valuation Date). The accelerated Maturity Date will also be postponed by an equal number of business days. For the avoidance of doubt, if no market disruption event exists with respect to an Underlying on the scheduled trading day preceding the date of acceleration, the determination of such Underlying’s Reference Return will be made on such date, irrespective of the existence of a market disruption event with respect to the other Underlying occurring on such date.

If the Notes have become immediately due and payable following an Event of Default, you will not be entitled to any additional payments with respect to the Notes. For more information, see “Description of Debt Securities — Senior Debt Securities — Events of Default” in the accompanying prospectus.

SUPPLEMENTAL PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION (CONFLICTS OF INTEREST)

We have appointed HSBC Securities (USA) Inc., an affiliate of HSBC, as the agent for the sale of the Notes. Pursuant to the terms of a distribution agreement, HSBC Securities (USA) Inc. will purchase the Notes from HSBC at the price to public less the underwriting discount set forth on the cover page of the pricing supplement to which this free writing prospectus relates, for distribution to other registered broker-dealers, or will offer the Notes directly to investors. HSBC Securities (USA) Inc. proposes to offer the Notes at the price to public set forth on the cover page of this free writing prospectus. HSBC USA Inc. or one of our affiliates may pay varying structuring fees of up to 0.40% per \$1,000 Principal Amount in connection with the distribution of the Notes to other registered broker-dealers. Neither HSBC USA Inc. nor any of its affiliates will pay any underwriting discounts.

An affiliate of HSBC has paid or may pay in the future an amount to broker-dealers in connection with the costs of the continuing implementation of systems to support the Notes.

In addition, HSBC Securities (USA) Inc. or another of its affiliates or agents may use the pricing supplement to which this free writing prospectus relates in market-making transactions after the initial sale of the Notes, but is under no obligation to make a market in the Notes and may discontinue any market-making activities at any time without notice.

We expect that delivery of the Notes will be made against payment for the Notes on or about the Original Issue Date set forth on the inside cover page of this document, which is more than two business days following the Trade Date. Under Rule 15c6-1 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, trades in the secondary market generally are required to settle in two business days, unless the parties to that trade expressly agree otherwise. Accordingly, purchasers who wish to trade the Notes more than two business days prior to the Original Issue Date will be required to specify an alternate settlement cycle at the time of any such trade to prevent a failed settlement, and should consult their own advisors.

See “Supplemental Plan of Distribution (Conflicts of Interest)” on page S-61 in the prospectus supplement.

U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSIDERATIONS

There is no direct legal authority as to the proper tax treatment of the Notes, and therefore significant aspects of the tax treatment of the Notes are uncertain as to both the timing and character of any inclusion in income in respect of the Notes. Under one approach, a Note should be treated as a pre-paid executory contract with respect to the Reference Asset. We intend to treat the Notes consistent with this approach. Pursuant to the terms of the Notes, you agree to treat the Notes under this approach for all U.S. federal income tax purposes. Subject to the limitations described therein, and based on certain factual representations received from us, in the opinion of our special U.S. tax counsel, Mayer Brown LLP, it is reasonable to treat a Note as a pre-paid executory contract with respect to the Reference Asset. Pursuant to this approach, we do not intend to report any income or gain with respect to the Notes prior to their maturity or an earlier sale or exchange and we intend to treat any gain or loss upon maturity or an earlier sale or exchange as long-term capital gain or loss, provided that you have held the Note for more than one year at such time for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

We will not attempt to ascertain whether any of the entities whose stock is held by any Underlying would be treated as a passive foreign investment company (“PFIC”) or United States real property holding corporation (“USRPHC”), both as defined for U.S. federal income tax purposes. If one or more of the entities whose stock is held by any Underlying were so treated, certain adverse U.S. federal income tax consequences might apply. You should refer to information filed with the SEC and other authorities by the entities whose stock is held by the Underlyings and consult your tax advisor regarding the possible consequences to you if one or more of the entities whose stock is included in the Reference Asset is or becomes a PFIC or a USRPHC.

Under current law, while the matter is not entirely clear, individual non-U.S. holders, and entities whose property is potentially includible in those individuals’ gross estates for U.S. federal estate tax purposes (for example, a trust funded by such an individual and with respect to

which the individual has retained certain interests or powers), should note that, absent an applicable treaty benefit, the Notes are likely to be treated as U.S. situs property, subject to U.S. federal estate tax. These individuals and entities should consult their own tax advisors regarding the U.S. federal estate tax consequences of investing in the Notes.

A “dividend equivalent” payment is treated as a dividend from sources within the United States and such payments generally would be subject to a 30% U.S. withholding tax if paid to a non-U.S. holder. Under U.S. Treasury Department regulations, payments (including deemed payments) with respect to equity-linked instruments (“ELIs”) that are “specified ELIs” may be treated as dividend equivalents if such specified ELIs reference an interest in an “underlying security,” which is generally any interest in an entity taxable as a corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes if a payment with respect to such interest could give rise to a U.S. source dividend. However, Internal Revenue Service guidance provides that withholding on dividend equivalent payments will not apply to specified ELIs that are not delta-one instruments and that are issued before January 1, 2023. Based on the Issuer’s determination that the Notes are not “delta-one” instruments, non-U.S. holders should not be subject to withholding on dividend equivalent payments, if any, under the Notes. However, it is possible that the Notes could be treated as deemed reissued for U.S. federal income tax purposes upon the occurrence of certain events affecting an Underlying or the Notes, and following such occurrence the Notes could be treated as subject to withholding on dividend equivalent payments. Non-U.S. holders that enter, or have entered, into other transactions in respect of an Underlying or the Notes should consult their tax advisors as to the application of the dividend equivalent withholding tax in the context of the Notes and their other transactions. If any payments are treated as dividend equivalents subject to withholding, we (or the applicable paying agent) would be entitled to withhold taxes without being required to pay any additional amounts with respect to amounts so withheld.

For a discussion of the U.S. federal income tax consequences of your investment in a Note, please see the discussion under “U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations” in the accompanying prospectus supplement.

PROSPECTIVE PURCHASERS OF NOTES SHOULD CONSULT THEIR TAX ADVISORS AS TO THE FEDERAL, STATE, LOCAL, AND OTHER TAX CONSEQUENCES TO THEM OF THE PURCHASE, OWNERSHIP AND DISPOSITION OF NOTES.

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You should only rely on the information contained in this document, the accompanying ETF Underlying Supplement, prospectus supplement and prospectus. We have not authorized anyone to provide you with information or to make any representation to you that is not contained in this document, the accompanying ETF Underlying Supplement, prospectus supplement and prospectus. If anyone provides you with different or inconsistent information, you should not rely on it. This document, the accompanying ETF Underlying Supplement, prospectus supplement and prospectus are not an offer to sell these Notes, and these documents are not soliciting an offer to buy these Notes, in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted. You should not, under any circumstances, assume that the information in this document, the accompanying ETF Underlying Supplement, prospectus supplement and prospectus is correct on any date after their respective dates.

HSBC USA Inc.

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**Buffered Digital Notes Linked to
the Least Performing of the
SPDR® S&P® Oil & Gas
Exploration & Production ETF
and the Financial Select Sector
SPDR® Fund**

September 21, 2020

FREE WRITING PROSPECTUS