

## Background

Beginning in 2019, a number of retail brokerage platforms introduced fractional share trading, allowing customers to trade a specific dollar amount (and, hence, a fractional share amount) of a given stock. Until recently, however, FINRA’s equity trade reporting facilities (TRFs) did not support fractional trade reporting, and all such trades were reported at whole share values (rounded up for trade quantities under one share and truncated for share quantities greater than one share).

Starting **February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2026**, FINRA members executing fractional share trades are now required to report the full trade quantity in decimal format – truncated to six digits after the decimal – replacing the previous whole-number approximations with more precise reporting. Figure 1 on the right shows examples of how this change affects the reporting of trades of different quantities.

Figure 1

Actual Trade Size	TRF-reported Size Examples	
	Before 2/23/26	After 2/23/26
0.000001	1	0.000001
0.0045	1	0.004500
0.580002964	1	0.580002
1.5663	1	1.566300
10.99	10	10.990000
30.05	30	30.050000
46.54695841	46	46.546958

## The One-Share-Fits-All Framework

In 2025, just under 19% of TRF-reported trades were 1-share trades. This figure includes both (1) upstream non-rounded 1-share trades and (2) upstream decimal trades rounded up the nearest whole share. Starting February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2026, all trades under scenario (2) – as well as decimal trades larger than one share – will now need to be reported in their decimal format (truncated to six digits after the decimal).

As seen in Figure 2, the prevalence of 1-share trades in 2025 varied greatly across price groups. As expected, higher-priced stocks had more of their volume traded in 1-share transactions – the higher the price of stock, the fewer shares account for a given notional trade value.

Figure 2

TRF-reported 1-share Trades (2025)			
	Share of Trades	Share of Volume	
Price Group	< \$1	10.44%	0.01%
	\$1-5	10.27%	0.02%
	\$5-20	12.44%	0.04%
	\$20-50	15.25%	0.10%
	\$50-100	18.63%	0.17%
	\$100-250	23.96%	0.30%
	\$250-500	30.05%	0.57%
> \$500	40.39%	0.90%	
Trading Session	Pre-market	18.91%	0.05%
	Core	18.74%	0.10%
	Post-market	25.68%	0.02%
<b>Aggregate</b>	<b>18.83%</b>	<b>0.09%</b>	

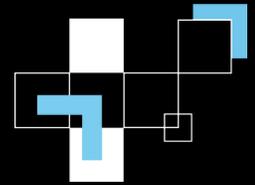
## Unmasking Whole-Share Transactions

During the first two trading weeks under the new reporting framework, 9.41% of all TRF-reported trades included a fractional component. Over 95% of these fractional trades were sub-1-share transactions, while Tape C securities saw most of those prints (more on symbol-specific findings later).

Figure 3

TRF-reported Trades (02/23/2026-03/06/2026)						
Tape	Trade Count	Fractional % of Trades	Fractional % of Trades (< 1 share)	Volume Traded	Fractional % of Volume	ADV Difference*
A	233.96 M	5.23%	4.94%	26.69 B	0.12%	-0.89 M
B	80.14 M	13.04%	12.23%	24.75 B	0.16%	-0.74 M
C	273.84 M	11.91%	11.45%	47.09 B	0.19%	-2.69 M
<b>Aggregate</b>	<b>587.94 M</b>	<b>9.41%</b>	<b>8.97%</b>	<b>98.53 B</b>	<b>0.16%</b>	<b>-4.32 M</b>

\* Difference between actual fractional reported shares traded (02/23-03/06) and what would have been reported under previous guidelines.



Looking at the last six weeks altogether, the new reporting regime allows us to compare the distribution of TRF-reported trades across trade sizes. Figure 4 below shows the shift of whole-share trade sizes to fractional trade sizes for different stock price groups. For the highest price group, 18.09% of all trades included a fractional quantity, 17.71% of them were of fractional size less than one share and 5.09% of them were of fractional size less than 1/10<sup>th</sup> of a share. On aggregate, 1-share transactions almost halved, falling from 20.48% of trades (first three weeks of February) to just 11.72% of trades (02/23-03/06).

Figure 4

TRF-reported Trade Breakdown (02/01/2026-03/06/2026)

		< \$1		\$1-20		\$20-100		> \$100		Total	
		02/01-02/20	02/23-03/06	02/01-02/20	02/23-03/06	02/01-02/20	02/23-03/06	02/01-02/20	02/23-03/06	02/01-02/20	02/23-03/06
<b>Fractional Trades</b>	< 0.10 share		0.12%		0.43%		1.95%		5.09%		2.62%
	0.10-1.00 share		0.97%		2.02%		3.78%		12.62%		6.34%
	> 1 share		0.13%		0.51%		0.46%		0.38%		0.44%
	<b>Total</b>		<b>1.22%</b>		<b>2.96%</b>		<b>6.19%</b>		<b>18.09%</b>		<b>9.40%</b>
<b>Whole Trades</b>	1 share	9.47%	6.95%	12.16%	9.54%	17.00%	11.76%	30.13%	13.52%	20.48%	11.72%
	2-99 shares	27.85%	26.90%	48.98%	49.27%	52.78%	52.85%	53.47%	52.38%	51.69%	51.28%
	100 shares	13.25%	13.58%	16.03%	15.87%	15.96%	15.36%	9.02%	8.66%	13.41%	13.13%
	> 100 shares	49.43%	51.35%	22.84%	22.36%	14.26%	13.83%	7.38%	7.34%	14.42%	14.46%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>98.78%</b>	<b>100.01%</b>	<b>97.04%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>93.80%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>81.90%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>90.59%</b>

In terms of symbol-specific trends, NVDA tops the list of symbols with the most fractional-quantity TRF transactions with more than seven million such trades in just two weeks, representing half of NVDA's TRF-reported trades. Notably, three out of every ten such trades were for less than 1/100<sup>th</sup> of a share.

Symbols With Highest Fractional TRF Trade Count (02/23/2026-03/06/2026)

Symbol	VWAP	TRF Trade Count	TRF Trade Count (Fractional) ↓	% Fractional	% Fractional	% Fractional	% Fractional
					< 1 share	< 1/10th share	< 1/100th share
NVDA	\$185.21	14.517 M	7.215 M	49.70%	49.10%	44.00%	30.00%
TSLA	\$402.57	7.655 M	3.629 M	47.40%	47.10%	43.50%	34.30%
QQQ	\$605.97	4.209 M	2.068 M	49.10%	48.90%	44.10%	34.70%
AAPL	\$265.58	3.520 M	1.705 M	48.40%	48.10%	43.00%	29.90%
GOOGL	\$306.16	3.532 M	1.703 M	48.20%	47.70%	41.30%	24.40%
MSFT	\$398.71	4.178 M	1.435 M	34.30%	33.80%	26.80%	18.30%
VOO	\$628.36	2.456 M	1.261 M	51.30%	50.30%	32.40%	12.40%
SPY	\$682.76	3.756 M	1.112 M	29.60%	29.30%	25.20%	20.20%
KO	\$79.54	1.649 M	1.031 M	62.50%	62.10%	56.00%	0.70%
PLTR	\$142.47	3.312 M	0.754 M	22.80%	22.10%	16.20%	1.70%
AMZN	\$210.51	3.073 M	0.700 M	22.80%	22.00%	14.50%	6.10%
GLD	\$476.11	1.446 M	0.647 M	44.80%	43.80%	36.00%	24.40%
SCHD	\$31.46	1.486 M	0.617 M	41.50%	39.00%	16.50%	0.20%
META	\$650.83	1.680 M	0.569 M	33.90%	33.50%	28.00%	19.50%
IONQ	\$36.90	1.513 M	0.539 M	35.60%	34.90%	24.10%	0.10%

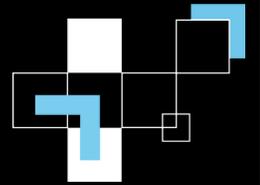
Figure 5

The median fractional trade during the period 02/23-03/06 was for less than 4/100<sup>ths</sup> of a share and just \$4.86 in notional terms. On aggregate, the median TRF-reported trade size remained unchanged compared to the preceding three weeks (20 shares), while the median notional dropped by \$92 (-11%) to \$756.75.

TRF-reported Trade Statistics (02/01/2026-03/06/2026)

	Median Trade Size		Median Trade Notional		Median Fractional Size	Median Fractional Notional
	02/01-02/20	02/23-03/06	02/01-02/20	02/23-03/06	02/23-03/06	02/23-03/06
NVDA	1.00	1.00	\$189.89	\$178.87	0.003000	\$0.59
TSLA	1.00	1.00	\$425.16	\$399.23	0.003300	\$1.33
QQQ	1.00	1.00	\$615.76	\$599.93	0.002000	\$1.22
SPY	6.00	7.00	\$4,115.48	\$4,799.59	0.002492	\$1.69
<b>All Symbols</b>	<b>20.00</b>	<b>20.00</b>	<b>\$848.43</b>	<b>\$756.75</b>	<b>0.036000</b>	<b>\$4.86</b>

Figure 6



## A Morning (and Evening) Trend

Fractional reporting is particularly prevalent early in the trading day, starting at over 20% of TRF trades shortly after US equities markets open before drifting lower during the rest of the trading day and ending the day at 2% as markets close (Figure 8). The post-market session (4-8pm EST) has the highest share of fractional trades with 15.5% of these post-close trades including a fractional component (Figure 7).

Figure 7

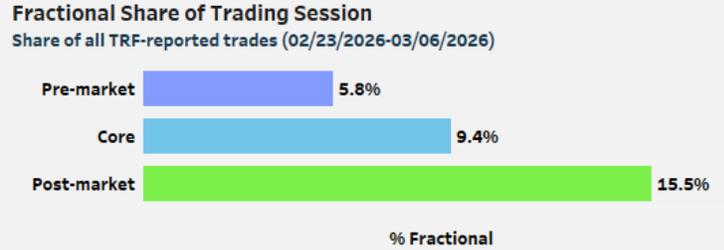
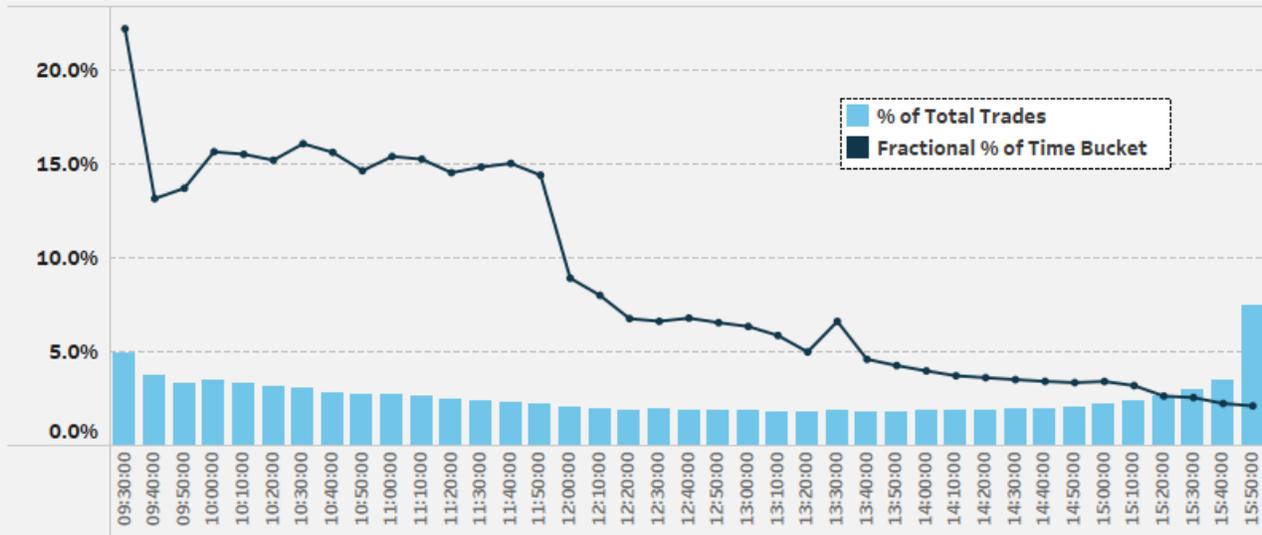


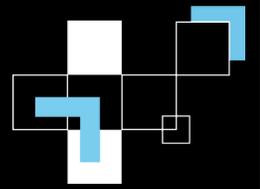
Figure 8

**Fractional Share of TRF-reported Trades by Trade Time**  
Core session, 10-min buckets, 02/23/2026-03/06/2026



## Reporting Considerations

The fractional reporting stats outlined above only help provide an estimate - or floor - for the actual true share of fractional trading within US equity markets. Despite FINRA's TRFs now supporting fractional trade reporting, consideration should be given to whether trades greater than one share may be split and reported as two separate transactions. For example, the same fractional-quantity trade of, say, 100.501 shares can be reported as either (1) a single transaction for 100.501 shares or (2) two separate transactions, one for 100 shares and a second one for 0.501 shares. Our tape-derived fractional reporting statistics would capture scenario (1), but not scenario (2). The more market participants report trades under scenario (2), the higher the actual true share of fractional trading would be than described above, especially from a percent-of-volume perspective.



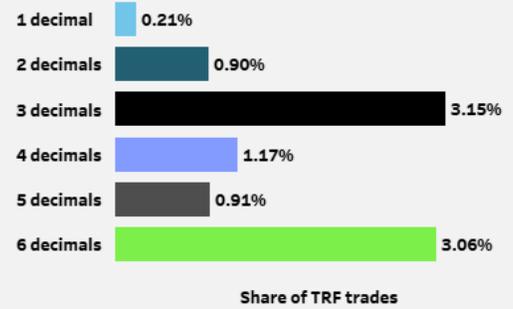
## How Many Decimals Are Enough?

As mentioned earlier, the new reporting requirement supports trade reporting up to six decimal digits. Figure 9 shows a breakdown of all TRF-reported fractional trades broken down by the number of decimal digits used. Most fractional transactions reported to the SIP have either 3-decimal or 6-decimal precision, with the latter also including longer decimal trades which are truncated for reporting purposes.

Figure 9

### Fractional Trades by Number of Decimals

Share of all TRF-reported trades (02/23/2026-03/06/2026)

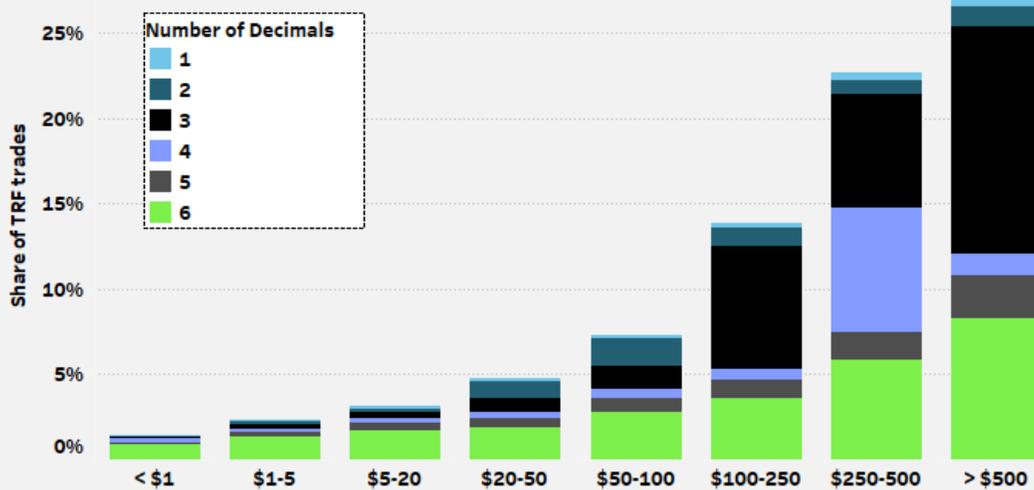


As shown in Figure 10, the 3-decimal precision prints only start to emerge and become more prominent across symbols priced over \$100. In contrast, transactions of 6-decimal precision occur commonly across price groups albeit also increasing with stock price.

Figure 10

### Fractional Trades by Number of Decimals and Price Group

Share of all TRF-reported trades (02/23/2026-03/06/2026)



## What the Future Holds

Even though we are only two weeks into this new fractional trade reporting regime, the importance of these trades – and the distortions of previously reported truncated trades – has already emerged as a key finding. As retail participation keeps growing and market participants continue to report trades at their precise fractional share quantities, these prints will become ever more important in promoting the transparency of US equity markets.