

# Evolve Global Materials & Mining Enhanced Yield Index ETF

December 31, 2025

Annual Management Report of Fund Performance

This annual management report of fund performance contains financial highlights but does not contain the complete annual financial statements of the investment fund. You can get a copy of the annual financial statements at your request, and at no cost, by calling 1-844-370-4884, by writing to us at Evolve Funds, 161 Bay Street, Suite 1210, Toronto, ON, M5J 2S1 or by visiting our website at [www.evolveeefs.com](http://www.evolveeefs.com) or SEDAR+ at [www.sedarplus.com](http://www.sedarplus.com). You may also contact us using one of these methods to request a copy of the investment fund's proxy voting policies and procedures, proxy voting disclosure record, or quarterly portfolio disclosure.

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## Investment Objective and Strategies

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The Evolve Global Materials & Mining Enhanced Yield Index ETF (the "Fund") seeks to replicate, to the extent reasonably possible and before fees and expenses, the performance of the Solactive Global Materials & Mining Index, or any successor thereto, while mitigating downside risk. The Fund invests directly or indirectly in equity securities of global issuers engaged in the manufacturing, mining and/or integration of metals and materials, while writing covered call options on up to 33% of the portfolio securities, at the direction of the Manager. The level of covered call option writing may vary based on market volatility and other factors.

## Risk

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There were no changes to the Fund over the period of this report that materially affected the level of risk associated with an investment in the Fund. Prospective investors should read the Fund's most recent prospectus and consider the description of risks contained therein.

## Results of Operations

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For the year ended December 31, 2025, the Hedged ETF Units returned 30.5% versus the Solactive Materials & Mining Index NTR (the "Index") return of 35.0%. The Unhedged ETF Units returned 31.7% versus the Index return of 35.0%. For a discussion of the relative performance of the Fund as compared to the Index, please refer to the "Annual Compound Return" section in the "Management Discussion of Fund Performance". The Fund's net assets were \$59.8MM as at December 31, 2025.

## Portfolio Manager Commentary

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Materials and mining equities regained momentum in 2025 as uncertainty and geopolitical risk push investors back toward hard assets. Gold and industrial metals benefited from their roles in inflation hedging and as strategic inputs for global electrification, defense, and next-generation technologies such as artificial intelligence. Against a backdrop of supply constraints, shifting trade dynamics, and renewed volatility across financial markets, the sector is increasingly being viewed as both a cyclical opportunity and a long-term structural allocation.

Gold showcased a strong 2025 rally as geopolitical risk and debasement concerns push investors toward traditional safe haven assets. In December, gold surged to a record high above \$4,500 an ounce as escalating tensions in Venezuela and expectations for more US rate cuts continue to lift demand for the safe-haven metal.<sup>1</sup>

Copper remains the standout structural growth story in global mining. According to S&P Global, global copper demand is projected to rise roughly 50% by 2040, reaching 42 million metric tons annually, driven by electrification, artificial intelligence, defense, robotics, and data center expansion. Supply, however, is expected to lag meaningfully, potentially leaving nearly a quarter of demand unmet without significant new mining or recycling. Copper's role as the backbone of electrification makes demand highly inelastic, particularly in defense and critical infrastructure, reinforcing a positive long-term outlook.<sup>2</sup>

Global steel demand is expected to return to modest growth in 2026, with consumption rising 1.3% to roughly 1.77 billion tonnes, according to the World Steel Association. While China's demand continues to decline, the pace is slowing, and growth in India, the Middle East, Southeast Asia, Europe, and parts of Africa is offsetting weakness. Infrastructure spending, defense investment, and industrial development remain key drivers, though high costs, trade tensions, and protectionism continue to cap upside. Overall, steel markets are shifting from contraction to stabilization, with emerging economies leading incremental growth.<sup>3</sup>

## Performance Attribution

For the twelve-month period ending December 31, 2025, AngloGold Ashanti PLC made the biggest contribution to the Fund, followed by Newmont Corporation. By weight, the Fund's largest holdings were Carpenter Technology Corporation, AngloGold Ashanti PLC, and Freeport-McMoRan Inc.

(1) <https://www.mining.com/gold-price-tops-4500-for-first-time/>

(2) <https://www.reuters.com/business/energy/ai-boost-copper-demand-50-by-2040-more-mines-needed-ensure-supply-sp-says-2026-01-08/>

(3) <https://eurometal.net/global-steel-demand-set-to-rebound-in-2026-worldsteel-says/>

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## Recent Developments

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In 2026, financial markets are operating in an environment increasingly shaped by heightened geopolitical conflict, most notably the developing war in the middle east. The escalation has triggered sharp moves across global markets, including spikes in oil and gas prices, increased demand for safe haven assets, and renewed volatility in equities, bonds, and foreign currencies. While underlying economic activity remains resilient in several regions, higher energy prices and elevated geopolitical uncertainty have added new risks to inflation trajectories and policy expectations. Governments are reassessing defense spending and trade arrangements, while central banks face a more complex balance between managing inflation pressures and supporting growth. Market volatility has intensified across asset classes, particularly in sectors sensitive to energy costs, geopolitical risk, and global supply chains. The duration and broader economic impact of the conflict remain uncertain, and the potential financial implications for investments continue to evolve as conditions develop.

## Related Party Transactions

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The Manager, a corporation incorporated under the laws of the Province of Ontario, is the trustee, manager, and portfolio advisor of the Fund and is responsible for the day-to-day administration of the Fund. The Fund pays annual management fees to the Manager as consideration for its services. Any management fees paid to the Manager are related party transactions, as the Manager is considered to be a related party to the Fund. The management fees are disclosed in the statements of comprehensive income in the annual financial statements of the Fund and are discussed in greater detail below.

The Fund is permitted to purchase, sell and hold securities of certain issuers that are directly or indirectly related to the Manager. With respect to investment in related issuers, the Manager has relied on the approval that it has received from the Investment Review Committee ("IRC"). The Manager complies with its current policy and procedures regarding investments in related issuers and reports periodically to the IRC.

## Management Fees

The management fees are calculated based on 0.60% per annum of the average daily net asset value of the Fund. The fees are accrued daily and are generally paid monthly. For the year ended December 31, 2025, the Fund incurred \$350,217 in management fees. These management fees were received by the Manager for the day-to-day operations of the fund, including managing the portfolio, maintaining portfolio systems used to manage the Fund, maintaining the [www.evolveetfs.com](http://www.evolveetfs.com) website, and providing all other services including marketing and promotion.

## Administration Fees

The administration fees are calculated based on 0.15% per annum of the average daily net asset value of the Fund. The fees are accrued daily and are generally paid monthly. For the year ended December 31, 2025, the Fund incurred \$89,351 in administration fees. These administration fees were received by the Manager for the following operating expenses of the Fund including but not limited to: mailing and printing expenses for periodic reports to unitholders; Registrar and Transfer Agent and Custodian; any reasonable out of pocket expenses incurred by the Manager or its agents in connection with their ongoing obligations to the Fund; IRC committee member fees and expenses in connection with the IRC; expenses related to compliance with NI 81-107; fees and expenses relating to voting of proxies by a third party; insurance coverage for the members of the IRC; fees payable to the auditors and legal advisors of the Fund; regulatory filing, stock exchange and licensing fees and CDS fees; costs and expenses of complying with all applicable laws, regulations and policies, including expenses and costs incurred in connection with the continuous public filing requirements such as permitted prospectus preparation and filing expenses; and legal, accounting and audit fees and fees and expenses of the Trustee, Custodian and Manager which are incurred in respect of matters not in the normal course of the Fund's activities. The administration fee paid to the Manager by the Fund may, in any particular period, be less than or exceed the operating expenses that the Manager incurs for the Fund.

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## Financial Highlights

The following tables show selected key financial information about the Fund and are intended to help readers understand the Fund's financial performance for the period indicated.

### The Fund's Net Assets Per Unit<sup>1</sup>

	December 31, 2025 (\$)	December 31, 2024 (\$)	December 31, 2023 (\$)	December 31, 2022 (\$)	December 31, 2021 (\$)
<b>Unhedged ETF Units - Net Assets per Unit</b>					
Net Assets per Unit, beginning of period	23.07	27.30	26.01	27.73	24.91
<b>Increase (decrease) from operations:</b>					
Total revenue	1.47	0.79	0.94	1.34	1.24
Total expenses	(0.29)	(0.31)	(0.38)	(0.40)	(0.40)
Realized gains (losses)	1.93	1.59	0.24	0.13	1.95
Unrealized gains (losses)	3.41	(3.90)	2.93	(0.60)	1.26
<b>Total increase (decrease) from operations<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>6.52</b>	<b>(1.83)</b>	<b>3.73</b>	<b>0.47</b>	<b>4.05</b>
<b>Distributions:</b>					
From dividends	(1.32)	(0.49)	(0.63)	(0.97)	(0.96)
From capital gains	(0.48)	(0.55)	-	(0.23)	(0.61)
Return of capital	(0.60)	(1.36)	(1.77)	(1.08)	(0.16)
<b>Total annual distributions<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>(2.40)</b>	<b>(2.40)</b>	<b>(2.40)</b>	<b>(2.28)</b>	<b>(1.73)</b>
<b>Net Assets per Unit, end of period</b>	<b>27.57</b>	<b>23.07</b>	<b>27.30</b>	<b>26.01</b>	<b>27.73</b>
<b>Hedged ETF Units - Net Assets per Unit</b>					
Net Assets per Unit, beginning of period	21.40	27.12	25.60	29.01	25.71
<b>Increase (decrease) from operations:</b>					
Total revenue	1.45	0.76	0.93	1.39	1.27
Total expenses	(0.29)	(0.31)	(0.37)	(0.41)	(0.42)
Realized gains (losses)	1.72	0.06	0.28	(1.18)	(0.03)
Unrealized gains (losses)	2.78	(3.89)	2.86	(3.13)	1.18
<b>Total increase (decrease) from operations<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>5.66</b>	<b>(3.38)</b>	<b>3.70</b>	<b>(3.33)</b>	<b>2.00</b>
<b>Distributions:</b>					
From dividends	(1.15)	(0.46)	(0.60)	(0.97)	(0.77)
From capital gains	(0.54)	(0.56)	-	(0.23)	(0.70)
Return of capital	(0.71)	(1.38)	(1.80)	(1.08)	(0.26)
<b>Total annual distributions<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>(2.40)</b>	<b>(2.40)</b>	<b>(2.40)</b>	<b>(2.28)</b>	<b>(1.73)</b>
<b>Net Assets per Unit, end of period</b>	<b>25.12</b>	<b>21.40</b>	<b>27.12</b>	<b>25.60</b>	<b>29.01</b>

1 This information is derived from the Fund's audited annual financial statements as at December 31, 2025, 2024, 2023, 2022, and 2021. The Hedged and Unhedged ETF Units effectively began operations on June 11, 2019.

2 Net assets and distributions are based on the actual number of units outstanding at the relevant time. The increase (decrease) from operations is based on the weighted average number of units outstanding over the period.

3 Distributions were paid in cash or reinvested in additional units of the Fund, or both. Actual distributions may vary slightly owing to rounding.

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## The Fund's Ratios/Supplemental Data

For the periods ended:	December 31, 2025	December 31, 2024	December 31, 2023	December 31, 2022	December 31, 2021
<b>Unhedged ETF Units - Ratios/Supplemental Data</b>					
Total Net Asset Value (\$) <sup>4</sup>	<b>15,164,155</b>	21,912,556	25,934,903	26,665,302	30,501,225
Number of units outstanding <sup>4</sup>	<b>550,000</b>	950,000	950,000	1,025,000	1,100,000
Management expense ratio <sup>5</sup>	<b>0.66%</b>	0.74%	0.85%	0.82%	0.82%
Trading expense ratio <sup>6</sup>	<b>0.24%</b>	0.20%	0.20%	0.20%	0.25%
Portfolio turnover rate <sup>7</sup>	<b>117.26%</b>	75.45%	66.39%	94.32%	69.36%
Net Asset Value per unit (\$)	<b>27.57</b>	23.07	27.30	26.01	27.73
Closing market price (\$)	<b>27.67</b>	23.06	27.35	25.87	27.70
<b>Hedged ETF Units - Ratios/Supplemental Data</b>					
Total Net Asset Value (\$) <sup>4</sup>	<b>44,593,098</b>	43,332,465	47,455,011	30,714,926	29,012,779
Number of units outstanding <sup>4</sup>	<b>1,775,000</b>	2,025,000	1,750,000	1,200,000	1,000,000
Management expense ratio <sup>5</sup>	<b>0.77%</b>	0.80%	0.85%	0.84%	0.85%
Trading expense ratio <sup>6</sup>	<b>0.24%</b>	0.20%	0.20%	0.20%	0.25%
Portfolio turnover rate <sup>7</sup>	<b>117.26%</b>	75.45%	66.39%	94.32%	69.36%
Net Asset Value per unit (\$)	<b>25.12</b>	21.40	27.12	25.60	29.01
Closing market price (\$)	<b>25.17</b>	21.41	27.15	25.54	29.08

4 This information is provided as at December 31, 2025, 2024, 2023, 2022, and 2021.

5 Management expense ratio ("MER") is based on total expenses plus harmonized sales tax (excluding distributions, commissions and other portfolio transaction costs) for the stated period and is expressed as an annualized percentage of daily average net asset value during the period.

6 The trading expense ratio represents total commissions and other portfolio transaction costs expressed as an annualized percentage of average daily net assets during the period.

7 The Fund's portfolio turnover rate indicates how actively the Fund's portfolio manager trades its portfolio investments. A portfolio turnover rate of 100% is equivalent to the Fund buying and selling all of the securities in its portfolio once in the course of the period. The higher the Fund's portfolio turnover rate in a period, the greater the trading costs payable by the Fund in the period, and the greater the chance of an investor receiving taxable capital gains in the period. There is not necessarily a relationship between a high turnover rate and the performance of a fund.

## Past Performance

The performance information does not take into account sales, redemption, distribution, income taxes payable by any unitholder or other optional charges that, if applicable, would have reduced returns or performance. The performance information shown assumes that all distributions made by the investment fund in the periods shown were reinvested in additional securities of the investment fund. How the Fund has performed in the past does not necessarily indicate how it will perform in the future.

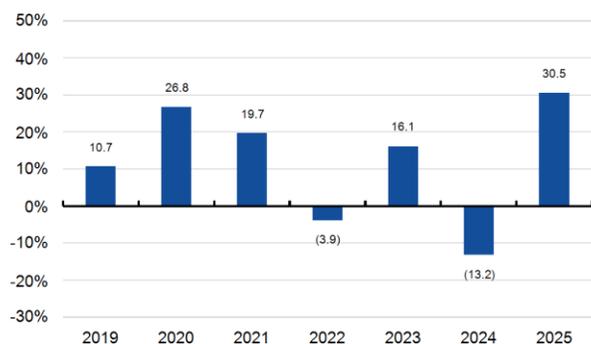
## Year-by-Year Returns

The bar chart below shows the Hedged and Unhedged ETF Units' performance for each of the financial years shown. The chart shows, in percentage terms, how much an investment made in the Fund on the first day of each financial period would have grown or decreased by the last day of that financial period.

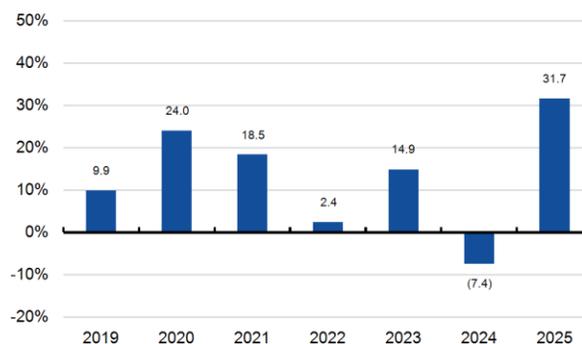
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## BASE Hedged ETF Units<sup>1</sup>



## BASE/B Unhedged ETF Units<sup>2</sup>



1 The Hedged ETF Units of the Fund effectively began operations on June 11, 2019.

2 The Unhedged ETF Units of the Fund effectively began operations on June 11, 2019.

## Annual Compound Return

The table below shows the historical annual compound total return of the Hedged and Unhedged ETF Units. The returns are for the period ended December 31, 2025. The difference in performance of the Hedged and Unhedged ETF Units relative to the Index can be attributed primarily to management and administration fees plus applicable sales taxes, and to portfolio trading. Furthermore, the difference in performance of the Hedged and Unhedged ETF Units relative to the Index can also be attributed to the implementation of the call writing strategy where the Fund tends to outperform in flat or down markets and underperform during sharp market advances. This performance difference can be seen over the period the calls are written, typically with one to two months to expiry, and then resets when new option positions are established.

	Since Inception <sup>1</sup> (%)	1 Year (%)	3 Year (%)	5 Year (%)
Hedged ETF Units	12.2	30.5	9.5	8.6
Solactive Materials & Mining Index NTR <sup>2</sup>	15.0	35.0	13.2	12.0
Unhedged ETF Units	13.6	31.7	11.9	11.2
Solactive Materials & Mining Index NTR <sup>2</sup>	15.0	35.0	13.2	12.0

1 From inception date of June 11, 2019.

2 The Index is an Index of Solactive AG and is calculated and distributed by Solactive AG. The Index provides exposure to companies that are engaged in the Materials & Mining segment. In particular, the Index encompasses mineral and metal mining companies and companies involved in the mining and processing of coal and uranium, on an equally-weighted basis. The Index is calculated as a net total return ("NTR") index, adjusted on a quarterly basis and denominated in Canadian Dollars.

## Summary of Investment Portfolio

### All Positions

Security	Percentage of Net Asset Value (%)
Carpenter Technology Corporation	5.7
AngloGold Ashanti PLC	5.5
Freeport-McMoRan Inc.	5.4
Newmont Corporation	5.4
Rio Tinto PLC, ADR	5.4
ArcelorMittal	5.4
Nucor Corporation	5.3
Vale SA, ADR	5.3

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## All Positions (cont'd)

	Percentage of Net Asset Value (%)
Security	
Royal Gold Inc.	5.3
Steel Dynamics Inc.	5.2
Southern Copper Corporation	5.1
POSCO Holdings Inc., ADR	5.0
Gold Fields Limited, ADR	5.0
BHP Group Limited, ADR	4.9
Dow Inc.	4.9
Reliance Inc.	4.6
Coeur Mining Inc.	4.3
LyondellBasell Industries NV, Class 'A'	4.2
MP Materials Corporation	2.9
Qnity Electronics Inc.	2.4
DuPont de Nemours Inc.	2.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>99.5</b>

## Industry Allocation

	Percentage of Net Asset Value (%)
Portfolio by Category	
<b>Equities</b>	
Industrials	5.7
Information Technology	2.4
Materials	91.4
Derivative Assets	0.0
Derivative Liabilities	(0.5)
Cash and Cash Equivalents	1.7
Other Assets, less Liabilities	(0.7)
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>

The summary of Investment Portfolio may change due to the ongoing portfolio transactions of the Fund. Updates are available quarterly by visiting our website at [www.evolveetfs.com](http://www.evolveetfs.com).



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