



# 2025 Essential 40 Stock ETF Insights

"Buy What You Need" \*

\* "buy what you need," means investors should invest in companies they understand and whose products or services they use in their daily lives. This allows them to make more informed investment decisions based on their own knowledge and experience.

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Investors should carefully consider the investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses of the Fund. This and other important information about the Fund is contained in the prospectus, which can be obtained by calling 1-800-451-5493. The prospectus should be read carefully before investing. The Essential 40 Stock Fund is distributed by Northern Lights Distributors, LLC, Member FINRA/SIPC. KKM Financial and any firms mentioned herein are not affiliated with Northern Lights Distributors, LLC. Member FINRA/SIPC





## **Essential 40 (ESN) Website**



### https://essential40etf.com



CNBC

KKM Financial launches The Essential 40 ETF (Symbol: ESN)

Watch Video

The thoughts and opinions expressed in the video are solely those of the author as of 10/21/2024. The discussion of individual companies should not be considered a recommendation of such companies by the Fund's investment adviser. The discussion is designed to provide a reader with an understanding of how the Fund's investment adviser manages the Fund's portfolio.

**ESSENTIAL 40 ETF** 

The Essential 40 Stock ETF seeks to provide investors a broadly diversified portfolio of U.S. stocks that are essential and vital to the U.S. economy. The primary investment objective of the Essential 40 Stock ETF (the "Fund") is to seek to track, before fees and expenses, the performance of the Essential 40 Stock Index. This distinct, equal-weighted basket of forty stocks is believed to represent the companies that are considered essential to the American way of life.



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KKM works with wealth advisors, financial institutions, and family offices globally. KKM offers portfolio management solutions and provides risk mitigation solutions via research-based products utilizing dynamic stock selection, ETF model portfolio strategies, and option overlay programs. Our firm was founded by prominently recognized and respected <u>CNBC Contributor Jeff Kilburg</u> and is headquartered in Chicago, IL. KKM has served as a portfolio consultant to Nuveen Investments.

Performance	Premium/Discount	Holdings	Documents
As of 05/13/2025			
NAV \$15.42 \$-0.06 (-0.39%)	Market Price \$15.43 \$-0.05 (-0.32%)	30-Day Median Bid/Ask Spread <b>0.1320%</b>	Premium/Discount <b>0.06%</b>



Q1 FACT SHEET | as of March 31, 2025

#### The Essential 40 Stock ETF **Ticker: ESN**

#### Why Invest

- The Essential 40 ETF is a large cap core strategy for investors taking a long-term view.
- · Forty stocks that we believe are deemed essential to the U.S. economy and the American way of life.
- · Equal weighted basket seeking to mitigate risk built upon the foundation of "buy what you need"\*.

#### Performance - USD (%)

#### Calendar Year Returns through 3/31/2025

Returns	1Q25	YTD	1Yr	2Yr	ЗYr	5Yr	10Yr	Since Inception (6/11/2024)
Essential 40 Stock ETF - NAV	3.23%	3.23%	7.83%	16.49%	8.84%	17.77%	8.14%	7.26%
Essential 40 Stock ETF - Market Price	3.23%	3.23%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
S&P 500 Equal Weight Index	-0.61%	-0.61%	4.09%	11.47%	5.20%	17.71%	12.50%	12.33%
S&P 500 Total Return Index	-4.27%	-4.27%	8.25%	18.57%	9.06%	18.59%	10.00%	10.09%

From fund inception 6/11/2014 until 12/04/2017, Morningstar classified the fund as a Hedged Equity strategy. This fund experienced a significant change in its investment strategy as of 12/04/2017 and recategorized this fund as a Large Blend strategy.

NAV: Net Asset Value represents the closing price of underlying securities. Market Price: Market Price calculated using the price which investors buy and sell ETF shares in the market. The market returns in the table are based upon the midpoint of the bid/ask spread at 4:00pm EST, and do not represent the returns that you would have received if you traded shares at other times.

The performance data quoted represents past performance. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data quoted above. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. The investment return and principal value of an investment will fluctuate so that investor's shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost. For the most recent month-end performance call 1-800-451-5493 or visit essential40etf.com.

#### **Fund Details**

Objective	Long-term growth of capital
Inception Date	6/11/14
Total Net Assets	\$84mm
Morningstar Category	US Large Blend Fund
Distribution Frequency	Annual

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Ticker	ESN
CUSIP Number	664925708
Exchange	Nasdaq
Key Facts	As of 12/31/24

🐼 KKM

Net Expense Ratio	0.70%
Gross Expense ratio	1.05%
Launch Date	6/11/2014
Dividend Frequency	Quarterly
# of Holdings	40
Average Market Cap	\$184,000,000
AUM	\$85.430.711

The Adviser contractually agreed to waive management fees and make payments to limit fund expenses, until at least September 30, 2025

#### Portfolio management

Jeff Kilburg	Manager Since 2014		
Daniel Deming	Manager Since 2017		



#### The Essential 40 Stock ETF Ticker: ESN

Portfolio Risk Score			Morningstar Risk & Return	Risk & Volatility Measures			
	Risk Score	Risk Level		Capture Ratios	Investment	Category	Index
	0-23	Conservative	Risk vs. Category	Alpha	0.32	-0.98	-0.30
	24-47	Moderate		Beta	0.87	0.97	1.02
72	48-78	Aggressive	Low Belo Aver Abov High	R <sup>2</sup>	89.57	94.02	99.86
12	79-99	Very Aggressive	Return vs. Category	Sharpe			
	= 100+	Extreme		Ratio	0.33	0.26	0.31
a 100			Low Belo Aver Abov High	Standard Deviation	15.98	17.23	17.58

#### Top 10 Holdings



Beta (3Y)

Beta (5Y)

Beta (10Y)

Standard Deviation (3Y)

Standard Deviation (SY)

Standard Deviation (10Y)

Sy	mbol	Name	% Weight	(Daily)	Returns (Daily)
•	CVS	CVS Health Corp	3.04%	66.71	3.07%
•	BRK.B	Berkshire Hathaway Inc	2.99%	533.25	34.41%
•	AWK	American Water _ Co Inc	2.94%	147.01	22.99%
	CME	CME Group Inc	2.90%	277.08	38.29%
•	DUK	Duke Energy Corp	2.82%	122.02	28.96%
0	WM	Waste Management Inc	2.76%	233.36	13.80%
•	٧	Visa Inc	2.75%	345.50	29.59%
•	LLY	Eli Lilly and Co	2.75%	898.95	15.85%
0	٧Z	Verizon Commun.ons Inc	2.75%	44.06	19.08%
0	IBM	International Bus.es Corp	2.74%	241.82	50.42%

Lg Cap Value 38.61%	Mid Cap Value 8.51%	Sm Cap Value	0.00%
Lg Cap Blend 34.86%	Mid Cap Blend 7.47%	Sm Cap Blend	0.00%
Lg Cap Growth 8.27%	Mid Cap Growth 2.28%	Sm Cap Growt	th 0.00%
Risk Info		Deta as of: Mar	31,2025
	Essenti	al 40 Stock ETF	Bmark
Alpha (3Y)		0.3870	
Alpha (5Y)		1.340	-
Alpha (10Y)		-2.934	

Holdings are subject to change and do not constitute a recommendation or solicitation to buy or sell a particular security. Current and future portfolio holdings are subject to risk.

Stock Sector and Stock Style Exposure charts source: Morningstar

#### www.essential40etf.com

0.8742

0.8656

0.8666

13.84%

13.26%

14.77%

15.50%

14.77%

15.81%



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### FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT

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The fund experienced a significant change in its investment strategy as of 12/04/2017. Details regarding significant restructures can be obtained by emailing info@kkmfinancial.com. © 2025 Morningstar, Inc. All Rights Reserved. A fee was paid for the use of this data. Returns include reinvestment of dividends and capital gains. This Fund has a performance-based management fee that may adjust up or down based on the Fund's performance. Performance bare charges and income periods may incorporate returns from older share classes, adjusted for fees and expenses. Email Info@kkmfinancial.com for specific details. Holdings are subject to change without notice. Equity country, regional, sector and industry weights primarily based on MSCI and GICS classifications. There is no assurance the stated objective(s) will be met. Investing involves risk, including the possible loss of principal and fluctuation of value. Equity securities are subject to risks including market risk. Returns will fluctuate in response to issuer, political and economic developments.

Morningstar Portfolio Risk Score Methodology measures the overall risk of a managed investment's portfolio. MPRS uses Morningstar Risk Model's holdings-based analysis to derive a risk estimate and score, and Morningstar Smith-aset Target Allocation Indexes to define the risk ranges. Morningstar Risk is an assessment of the variations in an investment's monthly returns in comparison to similar investments. The strengt envestment's excess return over a risk-free rate (the return of the 90-day Trassury bill) in comparison to similar investments. Investments with less than three years of performance history are not rated. Ratings and/or rankings may be based, in part, on the performance of a predecessor fund or share class and are calculated by Morningstar Category/Morningstar Category & Rak Investments are placed into Morningstar Category & Nath Investments are placed into Morningstar Category & Rak Investments are placed into Morningstar (Sategory & Rak Investments are placed into Morningstar Category & Rak Investments are placed into Morningstar (Sategory & Rak Investments) are placed into the variation contained herein: (1) is proprietary to Morningstar Category & Rak Investments are placed into Mornin

S&P 500® Index reflects U.S. large-cap equity performance and represents broad U.S. equity market performance. Index performance does not reflect the expenses of managing a portfolio as an index is unmanaged and not available for direct investment.

Alpha compares risk-adjusted performance relative to an index. Positive alpha means outperformance on a risk-adjusted basis.

Turnover is a measure of portfolio trading activity. Higher turnover may indicate higher transaction costs and vice versa.

Beta measures the volatility of a security or portfolio relative to an index. Less than one means lower volatility than the index; more than one means greater volatility.

Sharpe Ratio measures risk-adjusted performance using excess returns versus the "risk-free" rate and the volatility of those returns. A higher ratio means better return per unit of risk

Standard Deviation measures historical volatility. Higher standard deviation implies greater volatility.

While the shares of ETFs are tradeable on secondary markets, they may not readily trade in all market conditions and may trade at significant discounts in periods of market stress. ETFs trade like stocks, are subject to investment risk, fluctuate in market value and may trade at prices above or below the ETF's net asset value.

Brokerage commissions and ETF expenses will reduce returns. There is no guarantee that the Fund will achieve its objective.

Principal Risks: Remember that in addition to possibly not achieving your investment goals, you could lose money by investing in the Fund. The principal risks of investing in the Fund are:

- e principal risks of misesting in the rund are: 6 General Risk. Domestic economic growth and market conditions, interest rate levels, and political events are among the factors affecting the securities markets in which the Fund invests. Large-Capitalization Securities Risk. Large-capitalization companies usually cannot respond as quickly as smaller companies to competitive challenges, and their growth rates tend to lag the growth rates of well-managed smaller companies during strong economic neriods
- Definitions. Faulty Securities Risk. The Fund invests in common stock, which subjects the Fund and its shareholders to the risks associated with common stock investing. Overall stock market risks may affect the value of the Fund. When the value of the Fund's investment to goes down, your investment in the Fund decreases in value and you could lose money.
- Futures Risk. Investments in futures involve leverage, which means a small percentage of assets invested in futures can have a disproportionately large impact on the Fund. • Options Risk. When the Fund purchases an option on a security or index it may lose the entire premium paid if the underlying security
- Option Nax. Which the full put chases and put of the section of makes it may use the end permitting part of the end point of a section of index does not decrease in value.
  Management Risk. Management risk is the risk that the investment process used by the Fund's portfolio manager could fail to achieve the Fund's investment and and cause an investment in the Fund's to lose value. Given the Fund's portfolio manager could fail to achieve Fund does not follow traditional methods of active investment management.

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ESSENTIAL 40

FSN



### How to Buy

Invest in ESN: accessible and convenient

Investing in the Essential 40 ETF (Ticker: ESN) is simple and convenient

Some of the most common U.S. brokers offering ESN include:

Altruist Allworth Financial **BNY** Pershing **Charles Schwab** E-Trade Fidelity **Interactive Brokers** Janney Montgomery LPL Financial Oppenheimer Robinhood UBS Vanguard





# ESN trades at the



### Lead Market Maker



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# Nasdaq Congratulates KKM Financial on the Launch of ESN Essential 40 Stock ETF KKM ESSENTIAL

ESN NasdaqListed

Nasdaq



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• General Risk. Domestic economic growth and market conditions, interest rate levels, and political events are among the factors affecting the securities markets in which the Fund invests.

• Large-Capitalization Securities Risk. Large-capitalization companies usually cannot respond as quickly as smaller companies to competitive challenges, and their growth rates tend to lag the growth rates of well-managed smaller companies during strong economic periods.

• Equity Securities Risk. The Fund invests in common stock, which subjects the Fund and its shareholders to the risks associated with common stock investing. Overall stock

market risks may affect the value of the Fund. When the value of the Fund's investments goes down, your investment in the Fund decreases in value and you could lose money.

• Futures Risk. Investments in futures involve leverage, which means a small percentage of assets invested in futures can have a disproportionately large impact on the Fund.

• Options Risk. When the Fund purchases an option on a security or index it may lose the entire premium paid if the underlying security or index does not decrease in value.

• Management Risk. Management risk is the risk that the investment process used by the Fund's portfolio manager could fail to achieve the Fund's investment goal and cause an investment in the Fund to lose value. Given the Fund is going to attempt to track the Index, the Fund does not follow traditional methods of active investment management."



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A Lead Market Maker (LMM) is a designated firm that is primarily responsible for providing liquidity and ensuring fair pricing of the ETF shares during regular trading hours.

An Authorized Participant (AP) is an organization that has the right to create and redeem shares of an exchange traded fund (ETF). They provide a large portion of the liquidity in the ETF market by obtaining the underlying assets required to create the shares of an ETF.

The Nasdaq Stock Exchange is a major U.S. stock exchange known for its electronic trading system and focus on technology companies. It provides a marketplace for buying and selling shares of publicly traded companies.

The S&P 500 Total Return Index is a total return index that reflects both changes in the prices of stocks in the S&P 500 Index as well as the reinvestment of the dividend income from its underlying stocks. The S&P 500<sup>®</sup> is widely regarded as the best single gauge of large-cap U.S. equities. The index includes 500 leading companies and covers approximately 80% of available market capitalization.

The S&P 500<sup>®</sup> Equal Weight Index (EWI) is the equal-weight version of the widely-used S&P 500. The index includes the same constituents as the capitalization weighted S&P 500, but each company in the S&P 500 EWI is allocated a fixed weight - or 0.2% of the index total at each quarterly rebalance.

The Essential 40 Stock Index (Total Return) definition: The Index is an Index created by FSH Trading, LLC ("FSH") and is calculated and distributed by Solactive AG. The Index is an index of companies providing goods and services that are, in the view of FSH, essential to the American economy and way of life. The Index has 40 components that are selected by a committee within FSH, using a qualitative approach to determine which companies, in the view of the committee, are irreplaceable and too essential to fail.

You cannot invest directly in an index. Index performance does not represent actual fund or portfolio performance. A fund or portfolio may differ significantly from the securities included in the index. Index performance assumes reinvestment of dividends but does not reflect any management fees, transaction costs or other expenses that would be incurred by a fund or portfolio, or brokerage commissions on transactions in fund shares. Such fees, expenses and commissions could reduce returns.

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