

# Prospectus Supplement

**John Hancock Exchange-Traded Fund Trust**  
**John Hancock Core Bond ETF (the fund)**

**Supplement dated April 24, 2025 to the current Summary Prospectus, as may be supplemented (the Summary Prospectus)**

Effective April 24, 2025 (the Effective Date), Spencer Godfrey will be added as an associate portfolio manager of the fund. Jeffrey N. Given, CFA, Howard C. Greene, CFA, Connor Minnaar, CFA and Pranay Sonalkar, CFA will continue as portfolio managers of the fund, and together with Spencer Godfrey will be jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the fund's portfolio. Accordingly, as of the Effective Date, the following information will be added under the heading "Portfolio management" in the "Fund summary" section for the fund:

**Spencer Godfrey**

*Associate Portfolio Manager*

Managed the fund since 2025

*You should read this supplement in conjunction with the Summary Prospectus and retain it for your future reference.*

## Summary prospectus

# John Hancock Core Bond ETF

Before you invest, you may want to review the fund's prospectus, which contains more information about the fund and its risks. You can find the fund's prospectus and other information about the fund, including the Statement of Additional Information and most recent reports, online at [www.jhinvestments.com/prospectuses](http://www.jhinvestments.com/prospectuses). You can also get this information at no cost by calling 800-225-6020 or by sending an email request to [info@jhinvestments.com](mailto:info@jhinvestments.com). The fund's prospectus and Statement of Additional Information, both dated December 13, 2024, as may be supplemented, are incorporated by reference into this summary prospectus.

### Ticker

NYSE Arca: JHCR

### Investment objective

To seek a high level of current income consistent with preservation of capital and maintenance of liquidity.

### Fees and expenses

This table describes the fees and expenses you may pay if you buy, hold, and sell shares of the fund. **You may pay other fees, such as brokerage commissions and other fees to financial intermediaries, which are not reflected in the tables and examples below.**

**Annual fund operating expenses (%)** (expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment)

Management fee	0.24
Other expenses	0.41 <sup>1</sup>
<b>Total annual fund operating expenses</b>	<b>0.65</b>
Contractual expense reimbursement	-0.36 <sup>2</sup>
<b>Total annual fund operating expenses after expense reimbursements</b>	<b>0.29</b>

**1** "Other expenses" have been estimated for the fund's first year of operations.

**2** The advisor contractually agrees to reduce its management fee or, if necessary, make payment to the fund in an amount equal to the amount by which expenses of the fund exceed 0.29% of average daily net assets. Expenses means all the expenses of the fund, excluding (a) taxes, (b) brokerage commissions, (c) interest expense, (d) litigation and indemnification expenses and other extraordinary expenses not incurred in the ordinary course of the fund's business, (e) borrowing costs, (f) prime brokerage fees, (g) acquired fund fees and expenses paid indirectly, and (h) short dividend expense. This agreement expires on August 31, 2026, unless renewed by mutual agreement of the fund and the advisor based upon a determination that this is appropriate under the circumstances at that time. The advisor also contractually agrees to waive a portion of its management fee and/or reimburse expenses for the fund and certain other John Hancock funds according to an asset level breakpoint schedule that is based on the aggregate net assets of all the funds participating in the waiver or reimbursement, including the fund (the participating portfolios). This waiver equals, on an annualized basis, 0.0100% of that portion of the aggregate net assets of all the participating portfolios that exceeds \$75 billion but is less than or equal to \$125 billion; 0.0125% of that portion of the aggregate net assets of all the participating portfolios that exceeds \$125 billion but is less than or equal to \$150 billion; 0.0150% of that portion of the aggregate net assets of all the participating portfolios that exceeds \$150 billion but is less than or equal to \$175 billion; 0.0175% of that portion of the aggregate net assets of all the participating portfolios that exceeds \$175 billion but is less than or equal to \$200 billion; 0.0200% of that portion of the aggregate net assets of all the participating portfolios that exceeds \$200 billion but is less than or equal to \$225 billion; and 0.0225% of that portion of the aggregate net assets of all the participating portfolios that exceeds \$225 billion. This waiver is allocated proportionally among the participating funds. This agreement expires on July 31, 2026, unless renewed by mutual agreement of the fund and the advisor based upon a determination that this is appropriate under the circumstances at that time.

### Expense example

This example is intended to help you compare the cost of investing in the fund with the cost of investing in other funds. Please see below a hypothetical example showing the expenses of a \$10,000 investment in the fund for the time periods indicated assuming you redeem all of your shares at the end of those periods. The example assumes a 5% average annual return and that fund expenses will not change over the periods. The example does not take into account brokerage commissions that you may pay on your purchases and sales of shares of the fund. Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions, your costs would be:

#### Expenses (\$)

1 year	30
3 years	172

### Portfolio turnover

The fund pays transaction costs, such as commissions, when it buys and sells securities (or "turns over" its portfolio). A higher portfolio turnover rate may indicate higher transaction costs and may result in higher taxes when fund shares are held in a taxable account. These costs, which are not reflected in annual fund operating expenses or in the example, affect the fund's performance. Because the fund had not commenced operations as of the date of the fund's prospectus, there is no portfolio turnover to report.

## Principal investment strategies

---

The fund is an exchange-traded fund (ETF), which is a fund that trades like other publicly-traded securities. The fund is not an index fund. The fund is actively managed and does not seek to replicate the performance of a specified index.

Under normal market conditions, the fund invests at least 80% of its net assets (plus any borrowings for investment purposes) in investment-grade bonds (securities rated from AAA to BBB by S&P Global Ratings (S&P) and Fitch Ratings, Inc. (Fitch Ratings) and Aaa to Baa by Moody's Investors Service, Inc. (Moody's), or equivalent by any nationally recognized statistical rating organization (NRSRO) or their unrated equivalents as determined to be of comparable credit quality by the fund's manager). The fund will maintain an average credit rating of A- or higher. These may include corporate bonds, debentures and notes, convertible securities, hybrid securities, mortgage-backed and asset-backed securities, To-be-announced (TBA) mortgage contracts, U.S. government and agency securities, and variable and floating rate securities. The fund does not invest in bonds rated below investment grade at the time of purchase. Foreign (non-U.S.) securities, as determined by country of incorporation and/or country of risk, are restricted from purchase. The fund will not invest in bank loans. The fund's investment policies are based on credit ratings at the time of purchase.

The fund's average maturity (time until a final payment is due) and average duration (measure of price sensitivity to interest rates) will be substantially similar to that of the Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Bond Index but may deviate under certain market conditions for temporary defensive purposes.

The manager focuses on sector allocation, industry allocation, and security selection in making investment decisions. The manager uses bottom-up research to find individual securities that appear comparatively undervalued. The fund will not invest in securities denominated in foreign currencies.

The fund may engage in derivative transactions in exchange-listed futures contracts which may be used for hedging, risk management and/or efficient portfolio management purposes. The fund's investments in U.S. government and agency securities may or may not be supported by the full faith and credit of the United States. The fund does not employ the use of leverage. The fund may engage in derivatives transactions which may magnify the fund's gains and losses. The fund may trade securities actively.

Under normal circumstances, the fund may not invest more than 10% of its net assets in cash or cash equivalents.

## Principal risks

---

An investment in the fund is not a bank deposit and is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other government agency. Many factors affect performance, and fund shares will fluctuate in price, meaning you could lose money. The fund's investment strategy may not produce the intended results.

The fund's main risks are listed below in alphabetical order, not in order of importance. *Before investing, be sure to read the additional descriptions of these risks beginning on page 5 of the prospectus.*

**Active trading market risk.** Active trading markets for fund shares may not be developed or maintained by market makers or authorized participants. Market makers are not obligated to make a market in the fund's shares or to submit purchase or redemption orders for creation units. Decisions by market makers or authorized participants to reduce their role with respect to market making or creation/redemption activities in times of market stress could lead to wider bid-ask spreads and variances in the market of fund shares.

**Authorized participant concentration risk.** To the extent that authorized participants are unable or otherwise unavailable to proceed with creation and/or redemption orders and no other authorized participant is able to create or redeem in their place, shares may trade at a discount to net asset value (NAV) and may face delisting. To the extent that the fund's limited number of intermediaries that act as authorized participants exit the business or are unable to proceed with creation and/or redemption orders and no other authorized participant is able to create or redeem in their place, there may be a significantly diminished trading market for fund shares.

**Cash transactions risk.** Under certain circumstances, the fund intends to effect some or all of its creation and redemption transactions using cash, rather than in-kind securities. As a result, an investment in the fund may be less tax-efficient than an investment in an ETF that effects all of its creation and redemption transactions in-kind. In order to obtain the cash needed to distribute redemption proceeds, the fund may be required to sell portfolio securities which may cause the fund to recognize capital gains or losses and incur higher brokerage costs. To the extent that the maximum additional charge for creation or redemption transactions is insufficient to cover these costs and expenses, the fund's NAV could be negatively impacted.

**Changing distribution levels risk.** The fund may cease or reduce the level of its distribution if income or dividends paid from its investments declines.

**Credit and counterparty risk.** The issuer or guarantor of a fixed-income security, the counterparty to an over-the-counter derivatives contract, or a borrower of fund securities may not make timely payments or otherwise honor its obligations. A downgrade or default affecting any of the fund's securities could affect the fund's performance.

**Economic and market events risk.** Events in the U.S. and global financial markets, including actions taken by the U.S. Federal Reserve or foreign central banks to stimulate or stabilize economic growth, may at times result in unusually high market volatility, which could negatively impact performance. Reduced liquidity in credit and fixed-income markets could adversely affect issuers worldwide. Banks and financial services companies could suffer losses if interest rates rise or economic conditions deteriorate.

**ETF trading risk.** The market price of shares may include a bid-ask spread (the difference between the prices at which investors are willing to buy and sell shares), which may vary over time and may increase for various reasons, including decreased trading volume or reduced market liquidity.

**Fixed-income securities risk.** A rise in interest rates typically causes bond prices to fall. The longer the average maturity or duration of the bonds held by a fund, the more sensitive it will likely be to interest-rate fluctuations. An issuer may not make all interest payments or repay all or any of the principal borrowed. Changes in a security's credit quality may adversely affect fund performance.

**Hedging, derivatives, and other strategic transactions risk.** Hedging, derivatives, and other strategic transactions may increase a fund's volatility and could produce disproportionate losses, potentially more than the fund's principal investment. Risks of these transactions are different from and possibly greater than risks of investing directly in securities and other traditional instruments. Under certain market conditions, derivatives could become harder to value or sell and may become subject to liquidity risk (i.e., the inability to enter into closing transactions). Derivatives and other strategic transactions that the fund intends to utilize include: credit default swaps. Swaps generally are subject to counterparty risk. In addition, swaps may be

subject to interest-rate and settlement risk, and the risk of default of the underlying reference obligation. Derivatives associated with foreign currency transactions are subject to currency risk.

**High portfolio turnover risk.** Trading securities actively and frequently can increase transaction costs (thus lowering performance) and taxable distributions.

**Liquidity risk.** The extent (if at all) to which a security may be sold or a derivative position closed without negatively impacting its market value may be impaired by reduced market activity or participation, legal restrictions, or other economic and market impediments. Liquidity risk may be magnified in rising interest rate environments due to higher than normal redemption rates. Widespread selling of fixed-income securities to satisfy redemptions during periods of reduced demand may adversely impact the price or salability of such securities. Periods of heavy redemption could cause the fund to sell assets at a loss or depressed value, which could negatively affect performance. Redemption risk is heightened during periods of declining or illiquid markets.

**Mortgage-backed and asset-backed securities risk.** Mortgage-backed and asset-backed securities are subject to different combinations of prepayment, extension, interest-rate, and other market risks. Factors that impact the value of these securities include interest rate changes, the reliability of available information, credit quality or enhancement, and market perception.

**Operational and cybersecurity risk.** Cybersecurity breaches may allow an unauthorized party to gain access to fund assets, customer data, or proprietary information, or cause a fund or its service providers to suffer data corruption or lose operational functionality. Similar incidents affecting issuers of a fund's securities may negatively impact performance. Operational risk may arise from human error, error by third parties, communication errors, or technology failures, among other causes.

**Premium/discount risk.** The NAV of the fund and the value of your investment may fluctuate. Disruptions to creations and redemptions or the market price of the fund's holdings, the existence of extreme market volatility or potential lack of an active trading market for shares may result in shares trading at a significant premium or discount to NAV. If a shareholder purchases shares at a time when the market price is at a premium to the NAV or sells shares at a time when the market price is at a discount to the NAV, the shareholder may sustain losses. Given the nature of the relevant markets for certain of the fund's securities, shares may trade at a larger premium or discount to the NAV than shares of other ETFs. In addition, in stressed market conditions, the market for shares may become less liquid in response to deteriorating liquidity in the markets for the fund's underlying portfolio holdings. While the creation/redemption feature is designed to make it more likely that the fund's shares normally will trade on stock exchanges at prices close to the fund's next calculated NAV, exchange prices are not expected to correlate exactly with the fund's NAV due to timing reasons, supply and demand imbalances and other factors.

**Sector risk.** When a fund focuses its investments in certain sectors of the economy, its performance may be driven largely by sector performance and could fluctuate more widely than if the fund were invested more evenly across sectors.

**Trading issues risk.** Trading in shares on NYSE Arca, Inc. (NYSE Arca) may be halted in certain circumstances. There can be no assurance that the requirements of NYSE Arca necessary to maintain the listing of the fund will continue to be met.

**U.S. government agency obligations risk.** The fund invests in obligations issued by agencies and instrumentalities of the U.S. government. Government-sponsored entities such as Federal National Mortgage Association (Fannie Mae), Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (Freddie Mac) and the Federal Home Loan Banks, although chartered or sponsored by Congress, are not funded by congressional appropriations and the debt securities that they issue are neither guaranteed nor issued by the U.S. government. Such debt securities are subject to the risk of default on the payment of interest and/or principal, similar to the debt securities of private issuers. The maximum potential liability of the issuers of some U.S. government obligations may greatly exceed their current resources, including any legal right to support from the U.S. government. Although the U.S. government has provided financial support to Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac in the past, there can be no assurance that it will support these or other government-sponsored entities in the future.

## Past performance

This section normally shows how the fund's total returns have varied from year to year, along with a broad-based securities market index for reference. Because the fund had not commenced operations as of the date of this prospectus, there is no past performance to report.

## Investment management

**Investment advisor** John Hancock Investment Management LLC

**Subadvisor** Manulife Investment Management (US) LLC

## Portfolio management

The following individuals are jointly and primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the fund's portfolio.

### Jeffrey N. Given, CFA

*Senior Portfolio Manager, Co-Head of U.S. Core and Core-Plus Fixed Income*

Managed the fund since inception

### Howard C. Greene, CFA

*Senior Portfolio Manager, Co-Head of U.S. Core and Core-Plus Fixed Income*

Managed the fund since inception

### Connor Minnaar, CFA

*Portfolio Manager*

Managed the fund since inception

### Pranay Sonalkar, CFA

*Portfolio Manager*

Managed the fund since inception

## Purchase and sale of fund shares

The fund will issue and redeem shares at NAV only with authorized participants and only in a large specified number of shares, each called a "creation unit," or multiples thereof, in exchange for the deposit or delivery of a basket of securities and/or cash. Except when aggregated in creation units, the shares are not redeemable securities of the fund.

## John Hancock Core Bond ETF

Individual shares of the fund may be purchased and sold only in secondary market transactions through brokers or financial intermediaries. Shares of the fund are listed and traded on the NYSE Arca. Because shares trade at market prices rather than NAV, shares of the fund may trade at a price greater than NAV (premium) or less than NAV (discount).

An investor may incur costs attributable to the difference between the highest price a buyer is willing to pay to purchase shares of the fund (bid) and the lowest price a seller is willing to accept for shares of the fund (ask) when buying or selling shares in the secondary market (bid-ask spread).

Recent information, including information about the fund's NAV, market price, premiums and discounts, and bid-ask spreads, is included on the fund's website at [jhinvestments.com/etf](http://jhinvestments.com/etf).

### Taxes

---

The fund's distributions are taxable, and will be taxed as ordinary income and/or capital gains, unless you are investing through a tax-deferred arrangement, such as a 401(k) plan or individual retirement account. Withdrawals from such tax-deferred arrangements may be subject to tax at a later date.

### Payments to broker-dealers and other financial intermediaries

---

The advisor and its related companies may pay broker-dealers or other financial intermediaries (such as a bank) for the sale of the fund shares and related services. These payments may create a conflict of interest by influencing your broker-dealer or other intermediary or its employees or associated persons to recommend the fund over another investment. Ask your financial advisor or visit your financial intermediary's website for more information.



© 2024 John Hancock Exchange-Traded Fund Trust  
200 Berkeley Street Boston, MA, 02116  
800-225-6020, [jhinvestments.com](http://jhinvestments.com)

Manulife, Manulife Investment Management, Stylized M Design, and Manulife Investment Management & Stylized M Design are trademarks of The Manufacturers Life Insurance Company and are used by its affiliates under license.

A company of  **Manulife** Investment Management

SEC file number: 811-22733  
9880SP 12/18/24