

## QUARTERLY COMMENTARY

American Century®

# U.S. QUALITY GROWTH ETF

Seeks to provide more consistent exposure to U.S. growth companies by emphasizing both stable growers as well as high quality, high-growth companies.

Allocations are adjusted to stable and high growth names based on analysis of risk-adjusted returns rather than pure price momentum, in an effort to allow the portfolio to respond – but not overreact – to changing markets. Monthly rebalancing in 15 percent increments also helps keep risk in check.

### Strategy Highlights

**Emphasis on quality growth.** QGRO seeks to deliver investment results that closely correspond, before fees and expenses, to the performance of the American Century U.S. Quality Growth Index (the underlying index). The underlying index is designed to dynamically allocate to companies that exhibit what we think are higher-growth and quality characteristics relative to their peers.

**Dampen the impact of cyclical.** QGRO offers what we believe is a systematic, rules-based approach to growth investing that focuses on a company's key business metrics. The portfolio aims to provide more consistent exposure to U.S. growth companies by distinguishing between what we think are high-growth and stable-growth companies and dynamically allocating to each category depending on our assessment of the market environment.

**Risk management.** The team limits the size of individual positions to mitigate concentration risk. We believe this has been particularly important recently as large-cap growth concentration has been at all-time highs.

### Portfolio Review

**Stocks declined.** U.S. stocks fell, largely driven by uncertainty over President Donald Trump's tariff agenda, which dominated the daily news. Investors grew cautious as they considered the impact of proposed tariffs on global growth, inflation and the Federal Reserve's interest rate policy.

**Value outperformed.** Large-cap value was the only U.S. stock category to post a quarterly gain. Mid-cap stocks outperformed large-cap stocks, which surpassed substantial declines for small caps, and value stocks outperformed growth stocks across the capitalization spectrum.

**Consumer discretionary was a top contributor.** Stock selection in the sector was positive. In the automobiles industry, our underweight allocation to electric vehicle maker Tesla relative to the benchmark was a significant contributor.

**Information technology benefited performance.** Positioning in the sector relative to the benchmark helped performance. Among industries, semiconductors and semiconductor equipment and IT services were top contributors.

**Pharmaceuticals hampered performance.** Positioning in the industry relative to the benchmark was negative and helped drive underperformance in the health care sector. Positioning among health care providers and services stocks was also detrimental.

**Dynamic allocation.** The strategy began the quarter with an allocation of 35% stable growth/65% high growth and maintained that allocation through the end of the quarter.

### GOAL & STRATEGY:

Tracks the American Century U.S. Quality Growth Index.

### PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT TEAM

Name	Start Date	
	Industry	Company
Rene Casis	1997	2018
Will Enderle	2017	2019

### TOP HOLDINGS (%)

Booking Holdings Inc	3.56
Meta Platforms Inc	3.25
TJX Cos Inc/The	3.17
Netflix Inc	3.07
Eli Lilly & Co	3.04
Palo Alto Networks Inc	2.95
Progressive Corp/The	2.77
Uber Technologies Inc	2.54
Spotify Technology SA	2.49
Boston Scientific Corp	2.42

### Top Ten Holdings Total 29.26

The holdings listed should not be considered recommendations to purchase or sell a particular security. Equity holdings are grouped to include common shares, depository receipts, rights and warrants issued by the same company. Fund holdings subject to change.

PERFORMANCE (%)	1 Mo.	QTR	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	Since Inception	Inception Date	Gross Expense Ratio %
NAV	-8.14	-5.94	10.56	11.76	20.61	14.21	9/10/18	0.29
Market Price	-8.12	-5.94	10.59	11.75	20.59	14.21	9/10/18	-
Russell 1000 Growth Index	-8.42	-9.97	7.76	10.10	20.09	15.05	-	-
Spliced U.S. Quality Growth	-8.12	-5.87	10.92	12.12	21.12	14.60	-	-

*Extraordinary performance is attributable in part to unusually favorable market conditions and may not be repeated or consistently achieved in the future.*

Performance data quoted represents past performance and is no guarantee of future results. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data quoted. Investment return and principal value will fluctuate so that an investor's shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than original cost. Returns less than one year are not annualized. NAV prices are used to calculate market price performance prior to the date when the Fund first traded on the New York Stock Exchange. Market performance is determined using the bid/ask midpoint at 4:00 p.m. Eastern time, when the NAV is typically calculated. Market performance does not represent the returns you would receive if you traded shares at other times. To obtain performance data current to the most recent month end, please visit <https://ipro.americancentury.com/etf-performance>. Index performance does not represent the fund's performance. It is not possible to invest directly in an index.

On May 31, 2023, QGRO began to track the American Century® U.S. Quality Growth Index. Historical index data prior to May 31, 2023, is for the iSTOXX® American Century® USA Quality Growth Index. Spliced index data on and after May 31, 2023, is for the Spliced U.S. Quality Growth Index.

#### A Note About Risk:

Investment return and principal value of security investments will fluctuate. The value at the time of redemption may be more or less than the original cost. Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

Historically, mid cap stocks have been more volatile than the stock of larger, more-established companies. Smaller companies may have limited resources, product lines and markets, and their securities may trade less frequently and in more limited volumes than the securities of larger companies.

This fund is not actively managed and the portfolio managers do not attempt to take defensive positions under any market conditions, including declining markets. The portfolio managers also do not generally add or remove a security from the fund until such security is similarly added or removed from the underlying index. Therefore, the fund may hold an underperforming security or not hold an outperforming security until the underlying index reacts. This may result in underperformance compared to the market generally.

In addition, there is no assurance that the underlying index will be determined, composed or calculated accurately. While the index provider provides descriptions of what the underlying index is designed to achieve, the index provider does not guarantee the quality, accuracy or completeness of data in respect of its indices, and does not guarantee that the underlying index will be in line with the described index methodology. Gains, losses or costs to the fund caused by errors in the underlying index may therefore be borne by the fund and its shareholders.

**DUE TO MARKET VOLATILITY, CURRENT PERFORMANCE MAY BE DIFFERENT THAN THE FIGURES SHOWN.**

Exchange Traded Funds (ETF) are bought and sold through exchange trading at market price (not NAV), and are not individually redeemed from the fund. Shares may trade at a premium or discount to their NAV in the secondary market. Brokerage commissions will reduce returns.

**You should consider the fund's investment objectives, risks, and charges and expenses carefully before you invest. The fund's prospectus or summary prospectus, which can be obtained at [americancentury.com](http://americancentury.com), contains this and other information about the fund, and should be read carefully before investing.**

The American Century® U.S. Quality Growth Index seeks to capture the performance of large- and mid-capitalization companies in the U.S. that possess attractive quality, growth and valuation fundamentals. It is not possible to invest directly in an index.

The iSTOXX® American Century® USA Quality Growth Index (underlying index) is a systematic, rules-based proprietary index that is owned and calculated by STOXX based on the STOXX 900 Index. The underlying index aims to dynamically allocate to both stable growth and high growth companies. The Stoxx 900 Index covers the 900 largest U.S. companies by market capitalization.

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The Russell 1000® Index measures the performance of the 1,000 largest companies in the Russell 3000® Index (the 3,000 largest publicly traded U.S. companies based on total market capitalization). The Russell 1000® Growth Index measures the performance of those Russell 1000® companies with higher price-to-book ratios and higher forecasted growth values. Created by Frank Russell Company, indices are not investment products available for purchase.

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