



Vanguard FTSE All-World ex-US Small-Cap ETF Prospectus

February 28, 2025

Exchange-traded fund shares that are not individually redeemable and are listed on NYSE Arca

Vanguard FTSE All-World ex-US Small-Cap Index Fund ETF Shares (VSS)

This prospectus contains financial data for the Fund through the fiscal year ended October 31, 2024.

The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) has not approved or disapproved these securities or passed upon the adequacy of this prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

Contents

| | | | |
|-------------------------------------|----|------------------------------|----|
| ETF Summary | 1 | Financial Highlights | 35 |
| Investing in Vanguard ETF® Shares | 9 | Glossary of Investment Terms | 37 |
| More on the Fund and ETF Shares | 11 | | |
| The Fund and Vanguard | 27 | | |
| Investment Advisor | 28 | | |
| Dividends, Capital Gains, and Taxes | 29 | | |
| Share Price and Market Price | 32 | | |
| Additional Information | 34 | | |

ETF Summary

Investment Objective

The Fund seeks to track the performance of a benchmark index that measures the investment return of stocks of international small-cap companies.

Fees and Expenses

The following tables describe the fees and expenses you may pay if you buy, hold, and sell ETF 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 example below.**

Shareholder Fees

(Fees paid directly from your investment)

| | |
|---|-------|
| Transaction Fee on Purchases and Sales | None* |
| Transaction Fee on Reinvested Dividends | None* |
| Transaction Fee on Conversion to ETF Shares | None* |

* None through Vanguard (Broker fees vary)

Annual Fund Operating Expenses

(Expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment)

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-------|
| Management Fees | 0.05% |
| 12b-1 Distribution Fee | None |
| Other Expenses | 0.03% |
| Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses | 0.08% |

Example

The following example is intended to help you compare the cost of investing in the Fund's ETF Shares with the cost of investing in other funds. It illustrates the hypothetical expenses that you would incur over various periods if you were to invest \$10,000 in the Fund's shares. This example assumes that the shares provide a return of 5% each year and that total annual fund operating expenses remain as stated in the preceding table. You would incur these hypothetical expenses whether or not you were to sell your shares at the end of the given period. Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions your costs would be:

| 1 Year | 3 Years | 5 Years | 10 Years |
|--------|---------|---------|----------|
| \$8 | \$26 | \$45 | \$103 |

This example does not include the brokerage commissions that you may pay to buy and sell ETF Shares of the Fund.

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 more taxes when Fund shares are held in a taxable account. These costs, which are not reflected in annual fund operating expenses or in the previous expense example, reduce the Fund's performance. During the most recent fiscal year, the Fund's portfolio turnover rate was 17% of the average value of its portfolio.

Principal Investment Strategies

The Fund employs an indexing investment approach designed to track the performance of the FTSE Global Small Cap ex US Index (the Index), a float-adjusted, market-capitalization-weighted index designed to measure equity market performance of international small-capitalization stocks. As of October 31, 2024, the Index included 4,714 stocks of companies located in 44 markets, including both developed and emerging markets. As of October 31, 2024, the largest markets covered in the Index were Canada, Japan, India, and the United Kingdom (which made up approximately 15%, 13%, 9%, and 9%, respectively, of the Index's market capitalization). The Fund attempts to sample the target index by investing all, or substantially all, of its assets in common stocks in the Index and by holding a representative sample of securities that resembles the full Index in terms of key risk factors and other characteristics. These factors include industry weightings, country weightings, market capitalization, and other financial characteristics of stocks.

Principal Risks

An investment in the Fund could lose money over short or long periods of time. You should expect the Fund's share price and total return to fluctuate within a wide range. The Fund is subject to the following risks, which could affect the Fund's performance:

- *Stock market risk*, which is the chance that stock prices overall will decline. Stock markets tend to move in cycles, with periods of rising prices and periods of falling prices. The Fund's investments in foreign stocks can be riskier than U.S. stock investments. Foreign stocks may be more volatile and less liquid than U.S. stocks. The prices of foreign stocks and the prices of U.S. stocks may move in opposite directions. In addition, the Fund's target index may, at times, become focused in stocks of a particular market sector, which would subject the Fund to proportionately higher exposure to the risks of that sector.
- *Country/regional risk*, which is the chance that world events—such as political upheaval, financial troubles, or natural disasters—will adversely affect the value of securities issued by companies in foreign countries or regions. Because the Fund may invest a large portion of its assets in securities of companies located in any one country or region, the Fund's performance may be hurt disproportionately by the poor performance of its investments in that area. Country/regional risk is especially high in emerging markets.
- *Investment style risk*, which is the chance that returns from non-U.S. small-capitalization stocks will trail returns from global stock markets. Historically, non-U.S. small-cap stocks have been more volatile in price than the large-cap stocks that dominate the global markets, and they often perform quite differently. The stock prices of small companies tend to experience greater volatility because, among other things, these companies tend to be more sensitive to changing economic conditions.
- *Emerging markets risk*, which is the chance that the stocks of companies located in emerging markets will be substantially more volatile, and substantially less liquid, than the stocks of companies located in more developed foreign markets because, among other factors, emerging markets can have greater custodial and operational risks; less developed legal, tax, regulatory, financial reporting, accounting, and recordkeeping systems; and greater political, social, and economic instability than developed markets.
- *Currency risk*, which is the chance that the value of a foreign investment, measured in U.S. dollars, will decrease because of unfavorable changes in currency exchange rates. Currency risk is especially high in emerging markets.
- *Special risks of investing in China*. The Fund's investments in companies or issuers economically tied to China are subject to the *country/regional*, *emerging markets*, and *currency* risks described above, in addition to unique risks.

Investments economically tied to China are associated with considerable degrees of social and humanitarian, legal, regulatory, political, and economic uncertainty. Risks described above may be more pronounced for the Fund. All of these factors, among others, could have negative impacts on the Fund. For example, the Fund may not be able to access its desired amount of shares of companies incorporated in China that trade on the Shanghai and Shenzhen Stock Exchanges (A-shares) and/or the Hong Kong Stock Exchange (H-shares), which may cause the Fund to miss out on desirable investment opportunities. Investments economically tied to China may be (or become in the future) restricted or sanctioned by the U.S. government or another government, which could cause these securities to decline in value or become less liquid. If the Fund's holdings become impacted by restrictions or sanctions, the Fund may incur losses. Additionally, the Fund may gain exposure to certain companies in China through legal structures known as variable interest entities (VIEs), which provide exposure to Chinese companies through contractual arrangements instead of equity ownership. Investing through a VIE does not offer the same level of investor protection as direct ownership and is subject to risks including breach of the contractual arrangements, difficulty in enforcing the contractual arrangements outside of the U.S., and intervention by the U.S. government. These risks could significantly affect a VIE's market value, which in turn could impact the Fund's performance.

- *Index-related risks.* The Fund is subject to risks associated with index investing, which include passive management risk, tracking error risk, and index provider risk. Passive management risk is the chance that the Fund's use of an indexing strategy will negatively impact the Fund's performance. Because the Fund seeks to track the performance of its target index regardless of how that index is performing, the Fund's performance may be lower than it would be if the Fund were actively managed. Tracking error risk is the chance that the Fund's performance will deviate from the performance of its target index. Tracking error risk may be heightened during times of increased market volatility or under other unusual market conditions. Index provider risk is the chance that the Fund will be negatively impacted by changes or errors made by the index provider. Any gains, losses, or costs associated with or resulting from an error made by the index provider will generally be borne by the Fund and, as a result, the Fund's shareholders.

- *Index sampling risk*, which is the chance that the securities selected for the Fund, in the aggregate, will not provide investment performance matching that of the Fund's target index. Index sampling risk for the Fund is expected to be low.

Because ETF Shares are traded on an exchange, they are subject to additional risks:

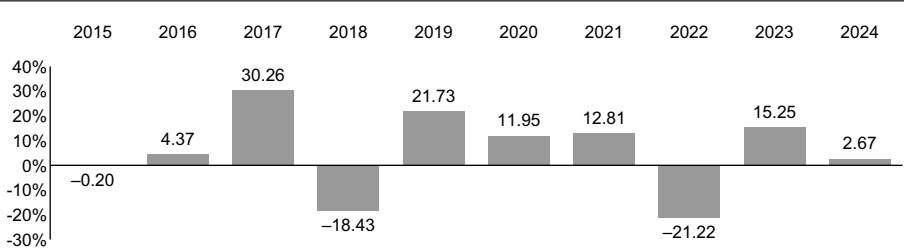
- The Fund's ETF Shares are listed for trading on NYSE Arca and are bought and sold on the secondary market at market prices. Although it is expected that the market price of an ETF Share typically will approximate its net asset value (NAV), there may be times when the market price and the NAV differ significantly. Thus, you may pay more or less than NAV when you buy ETF Shares on the secondary market, and you may receive more or less than NAV when you sell those shares.
- Although the Fund's ETF Shares are listed for trading on NYSE Arca, it is possible that an active trading market may not be maintained.
- Trading of the Fund's ETF Shares may be halted by the activation of individual or marketwide trading halts (which halt trading for a specific period of time when the price of a particular security or overall market prices decline by a specified percentage). Trading of the Fund's ETF Shares may also be halted if (1) the shares are delisted from NYSE Arca without first being listed on another exchange or (2) NYSE Arca officials determine that such action is appropriate in the interest of a fair and orderly market or for the protection of investors.

An investment in the Fund is not a deposit of a bank and is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other government agency.

Annual Total Returns

The following bar chart and table are intended to help you understand the risks of investing in the Fund. The bar chart shows how the performance of the Fund's ETF Shares (based on NAV) has varied from one calendar year to another over the periods shown. The table shows how the average annual total returns of the ETF Shares compare with those of the Fund's target index and a comparative index, which have investment characteristics similar to those of the Fund. Returns for the FTSE Indexes shown are adjusted for withholding taxes applicable to U.S.-based mutual funds organized as Delaware statutory trusts. Keep in mind that the Fund's past performance (before and after taxes) does not indicate how the Fund will perform in the future. Updated performance information is available on our website at vanguard.com/performance.

Annual Total Returns — Vanguard FTSE All-World ex-US Small-Cap Index Fund ETF Shares



During the periods shown in the bar chart, the highest and lowest returns for a calendar quarter were:

| | Total Return | Quarter |
|---------|--------------|----------------|
| Highest | 24.10% | June 30, 2020 |
| Lowest | -29.68% | March 31, 2020 |

Average Annual Total Returns for Periods Ended December 31, 2024

| | 1 Year | 5 Years | 10 Years |
|--|--------|---------|----------|
| Vanguard FTSE All-World ex-US Small-Cap Index Fund ETF Shares | | | |
| <i>Based on NAV</i> | | | |
| Return Before Taxes | 2.67% | 3.32% | 4.72% |
| Return After Taxes on Distributions | 1.83 | 2.63 | 3.94 |
| Return After Taxes on Distributions and Sale of Fund Shares | 2.15 | 2.52 | 3.58 |
| <i>Based on Market Price</i> | | | |
| Return Before Taxes | 2.88 | 3.38 | 4.75 |
| FTSE Global Small Cap ex US Index | | | |
| (reflects no deduction for fees or expenses) | 2.99% | 3.36% | 4.61% |
| FTSE Global All Cap ex US Index | | | |
| (reflects no deduction for fees or expenses) | 5.52 | 4.42 | 5.13 |

Actual after-tax returns depend on your tax situation and may differ from those shown in the preceding table. When after-tax returns are calculated, it is assumed that the shareholder was in the highest individual federal marginal income tax bracket at the time of each distribution of income or capital gains or upon redemption. State and local income taxes are not reflected in the calculations. Please note that after-tax returns are not relevant for a shareholder who holds fund shares in a tax-deferred account, such as an individual retirement account or a 401(k) plan. Also, figures captioned *Return After Taxes*

on Distributions and Sale of Fund Shares may be higher than other figures for the same period if a capital loss occurs upon redemption and results in an assumed tax deduction for the shareholder.

Investment Advisor

The Vanguard Group, Inc. (Vanguard)

Portfolio Managers

Nicole Brubaker, Portfolio Manager at Vanguard. She has co-managed the Fund since February 2025.

Jeffrey D. Miller, Portfolio Manager at Vanguard. He has managed the Fund since 2015 (co-managed since 2016).

Michael Perre, Principal of Vanguard. He has co-managed the Fund since 2016.

Purchase and Sale of Fund Shares

ETF Shares may only be bought and sold in the secondary market through a brokerage firm. The price you pay or receive for ETF Shares will be the prevailing market price, which may be more (premium) or less (discount) than the NAV of the shares. The brokerage firm may charge you a commission to execute the transaction. Unless imposed by your brokerage firm, there is no minimum dollar amount you must invest and no minimum number of shares you must buy. ETF Shares of the Fund cannot be directly purchased from or redeemed with the Fund, except by certain authorized broker-dealers. These broker-dealers may purchase and redeem ETF Shares only in large blocks (Creation Units), typically in exchange for baskets of securities.

An investor may incur costs attributable to the difference between the highest price a buyer is willing to pay to purchase ETF Shares (bid) and the lowest price a seller is willing to accept for ETF Shares (ask) when buying or selling shares in the secondary market (bid-ask spread). Recent information, including information on the Fund's NAV, market price, premiums and discounts, and bid-ask spreads, is available online at *vanguard.com*.

Tax Information

The Fund's distributions may be taxable as ordinary income or capital gains. If you are investing through a tax-advantaged account, such as an IRA or an employer-sponsored retirement or savings plan, special tax rules apply. You should consult your own tax advisor with respect to any particular U.S. or non-U.S. tax consequences of your investment in the Fund.

Payments to Financial Intermediaries

The Fund and its investment advisor do not pay financial intermediaries for sales of Fund shares.

Investing in Vanguard ETF[®] Shares

What Are Vanguard ETF Shares?

Vanguard ETF Shares are an exchange-traded class of shares issued by certain Vanguard funds. ETF Shares represent an interest in the portfolio of stocks or bonds held by the issuing fund. This prospectus describes Vanguard FTSE All-World ex-US Small-Cap ETF, a class of shares issued by Vanguard FTSE All-World ex-US Small-Cap Index Fund. In addition to ETF Shares, the Fund offers two conventional (i.e., not exchange-traded) classes of shares. This prospectus, however, relates only to ETF Shares.

How Are Vanguard ETF Shares Different From Conventional Mutual Fund Shares?

Conventional mutual fund shares can be directly purchased from and redeemed with the issuing fund for cash at the net asset value (NAV), typically calculated once a day. ETF Shares, by contrast, cannot be purchased directly from or redeemed directly with the issuing fund by an individual investor. Rather, ETF Shares can only be purchased or redeemed directly from the issuing fund by certain authorized broker-dealers. These broker-dealers may purchase and redeem ETF Shares only in large blocks (Creation Units), usually in exchange for baskets of securities and not for cash (although some funds issue and redeem Creation Units in exchange for cash or a combination of cash and securities).

An organized secondary trading market is expected to exist for ETF Shares, unlike conventional mutual fund shares, because ETF Shares are listed for trading on a national securities exchange. Individual investors can purchase and sell ETF Shares on the secondary market through a broker. Secondary-market transactions occur not at NAV, but at market prices that are subject to change throughout the day based on the supply of and demand for ETF Shares, changes in the prices of the fund's portfolio holdings, and other factors.

The market price of a fund's ETF Shares typically will differ somewhat from the NAV of those shares. The difference between market price and NAV is expected to be small most of the time, but in times of market disruption or extreme market volatility, the difference may become significant.


How Do I Buy and Sell Vanguard ETF Shares?

ETF Shares of the Fund are listed for trading on NYSE Arca. You can buy and sell ETF Shares on the secondary market in the same way you buy and sell any other exchange-traded security—through a broker. Your broker may charge a commission to execute a transaction. You will also incur the cost of the “bid-ask spread,” which is the difference between the highest price a buyer is willing to pay to purchase ETF Shares (bid) and the lowest price a seller is willing to accept for ETF Shares (ask) when buying or selling shares in the secondary market. Because secondary-market transactions occur at market prices, you may

pay more (premium) or less (discount) than NAV when you buy ETF Shares and receive more or less than NAV when you sell those shares. In times of severe market disruption, the bid-ask spread and premiums/discounts can increase significantly. Unless imposed by your broker, there is no minimum dollar amount you must invest and no minimum number of ETF Shares you must buy.

Your ownership of ETF Shares will be shown on the records of the broker through which you hold the shares. Vanguard will not have any record of your ownership. Your account information will be maintained by your broker, which will provide you with account statements, confirmations of your purchases and sales of ETF Shares, and tax information. Your broker also will be responsible for ensuring that you receive income and capital gains distributions, as well as shareholder reports and other communications from the fund whose ETF Shares you own. You will receive other services (e.g., dividend reinvestment and average cost information) only if your broker offers these services.

More on the Fund and ETF Shares

This prospectus describes the principal risks you would face as a Fund shareholder. It is important to keep in mind one of the main principles of investing: generally, the higher the risk of losing money, the higher the potential reward. The reverse, also, is generally true: the lower the risk, the lower the potential reward. As you consider an investment in any fund, you should take into account your personal tolerance for fluctuations in the securities markets. Throughout the prospectus, this  symbol is used to mark detailed information about some of the risks that you would confront as a Fund shareholder. To highlight terms and concepts important to fund investors, we have provided Plain Talk[®] explanations along the way. Reading the prospectus will help you decide whether the Fund is the right investment for you. We suggest that you keep this prospectus for future reference.

Share Class Overview

This prospectus offers the Fund's ETF Shares, an exchange-traded class of shares. A separate prospectus offers the Fund's Admiral Shares[™], which generally have an investment minimum of \$3,000. Another prospectus offers the Fund's Institutional Shares, which are generally for investors who invest a minimum of \$5 million.

All share classes offered by the Fund have the same investment objective, strategies, and policies. However, because different share classes can have different expenses, their investment returns may differ.

A Note to Investors

Vanguard ETF Shares can be purchased directly from the issuing Fund only by certain authorized broker-dealers in exchange for a basket of securities (or, in some cases, for cash or a combination of cash and securities). Individual investors generally will not be able to purchase ETF Shares directly from the Fund. Instead, these investors will purchase ETF Shares on the secondary market through a broker.

Plain Talk About Fund Expenses

All funds have operating expenses. These expenses, which are deducted from a fund's gross income, are expressed as a percentage of the net assets of the fund. Assuming that operating expenses remain as stated in the Fees and Expenses section, Vanguard FTSE All-World ex-US Small-Cap Index Fund ETF Shares' expense ratio would be 0.08%, or \$0.80 per \$1,000 of average net assets. The average expense ratio for international small-cap funds in 2023 was 1.36%, or \$13.60 per \$1,000 of average net assets (derived from data provided by Lipper, a Thomson Reuters Company, which reports on the fund industry).

Plain Talk About Costs of Investing

Costs are an important consideration in choosing an ETF. That is because you, as a shareholder, pay a proportionate share of the costs of operating a fund and any transaction costs incurred when the fund buys or sells securities, including costs generated by shareholders of other share classes offered by the fund. These costs can erode a substantial portion of the gross income or the capital appreciation a fund achieves. Even seemingly small differences in expenses can, over time, have a dramatic effect on a fund's performance.

The following sections explain the principal investment strategies and policies that the Fund uses in pursuit of its investment objective. The Fund's board of trustees, which oversees the Fund's management, may change investment strategies or policies in the interest of shareholders without a shareholder vote, unless those strategies or policies are designated as fundamental. Note that the Fund's investment objective is not fundamental and may be changed without a shareholder vote. Under normal circumstances, the Fund will invest at least 80% of its assets in the stocks that make up its target index. The Fund may change its 80% policy only upon 60 days' notice to shareholders.

Market Exposure

The Fund invests mainly in common stocks of international small-cap companies.




The Fund is subject to stock market risk, which is the chance that stock prices overall will decline. Stock markets tend to move in cycles, with periods of rising prices and periods of falling prices. The Fund's investments in foreign stocks can be riskier than U.S. stock investments. Foreign stocks may be more volatile and less liquid than U.S. stocks. The prices of foreign stocks and the prices of U.S. stocks may move in opposite directions. In addition, the Fund's target index may, at times, become focused in stocks of a particular market sector, which would subject the Fund to proportionately higher exposure to the risks of that sector.


Stocks of publicly traded companies are often classified according to market capitalization, which is the market value of a company's outstanding shares. These classifications typically include small-cap, mid-cap, and large-cap. It is important to understand that there are no "official" definitions of small-, mid-, and large-cap, even among Vanguard fund advisors, and that market capitalization ranges can change over time. The asset-weighted median market capitalization of the Fund's stock holdings as of October 31, 2024, was \$2 billion.

The Fund invests in companies that are smaller and generally less well known than larger, more widely held companies. Small companies tend to be more vulnerable to adverse developments than larger companies. Small companies may have limited product lines, markets, or financial resources, or they may depend on a limited management group. Their securities may trade infrequently and in limited volumes. As a result, the prices of these securities may fluctuate more than the prices of securities of larger, more widely traded companies. Also, there may be less publicly available information about small companies or less market interest in their securities as compared with larger companies, and it may take longer for the prices of these securities to reflect the full value of their issuers' earnings potential or assets.



The Fund is subject to country/regional risk and currency risk. Country/regional risk is the chance that world events—such as political upheaval, financial troubles, or natural disasters—will adversely affect the value of securities issued by companies in foreign countries or regions. Because the Fund may invest a large portion of its assets in securities of companies located in any one country or region, the Fund's performance may be hurt disproportionately by the poor performance of its investments in that area. Currency risk is the chance that the value of a foreign investment, measured in U.S. dollars, will decrease because of unfavorable changes in currency exchange rates. Country/regional risk and currency risk are especially high in emerging markets.

 *The Fund is subject to investment style risk, which is the chance that returns from non-U.S. small-capitalization stocks will trail returns from global stock markets. Historically, non-U.S. small-cap stocks have been more volatile in price than the large-cap stocks that dominate the global markets, and they often perform quite differently. The stock prices of small companies tend to experience greater volatility because, among other things, these companies tend to be more sensitive to changing economic conditions.*

 *The Fund is subject to emerging markets risk, which is the chance that the stocks of companies located in emerging markets will be substantially more volatile, and substantially less liquid, than the stocks of companies located in more developed foreign markets because, among other factors, emerging markets can have greater custodial and operational risks; less developed legal, tax, regulatory, financial reporting, accounting, and recordkeeping systems; and greater political, social, and economic instability than developed markets. Additionally, information regarding companies located in emerging markets may be less available and less reliable, which can impede the ability to evaluate such companies.*

Plain Talk About International Investing

U.S. investors who invest in foreign securities will encounter risks not typically associated with U.S. companies because foreign stock and bond markets operate differently from the U.S. markets. For instance, foreign companies and governments may not be subject to the same or similar auditing, legal, tax, regulatory, financial reporting, accounting, and recordkeeping standards and practices as U.S. companies and the U.S. government, and their stocks and bonds may not be as liquid as those of similar U.S. entities. In addition, foreign stock exchanges, brokers, companies, bond markets, and dealers may be subject to different levels of government supervision and regulation than their counterparts in the United States. Further, the imposition of economic or other sanctions on the United States by a foreign country, or on a foreign country or issuer by the United States, could impair a fund's ability to buy, sell, hold, receive, deliver, or otherwise transact in certain investment securities or obtain exposure to foreign securities and assets. These factors, among others, could negatively affect the returns U.S. investors receive from foreign investments.

Geopolitical & Sanctions risk. Investing can be affected by geopolitical events such as wars, terrorism or other national security concerns, or global health crises. Due to growing dependencies between global economies, these geopolitical events can negatively affect global securities, markets, and

economies. It is possible that events which only impact one country/region could have negative short- or long-term effects on markets, issuers, and/or foreign exchanges, in both the U.S. and other countries.

At times, the U.S. government, other governments, or other supranational bodies (e.g., the United Nations) may impose sanctions on countries and/or entities. Vanguard's compliance with sanctions could impact the Fund, including the Fund's ability to transact in or obtain exposure to certain foreign securities and assets. Sanctions also could cause significant losses to a Fund's portfolio holdings and its returns could be negatively impacted. In lieu of sanctions, a company, or specific goods that a company produces, could be subjected to trade embargoes or tariffs which do not prohibit investing in the company but could impact the value of the company.

Special risks of investing in China. The Fund invests in companies or issuers economically tied to China, which subjects the Fund to risks not typically associated with investments in more established markets. Investments in companies or issuers economically tied to China are subject to all of the foreign investment risks described in this prospectus, as well as to the special risks and considerations discussed below. Foreign investment risks (*country/regional risk, emerging markets risk, currency risk, and geopolitical and sanctions risk*) may be more pronounced with respect to the Fund's investments economically tied to China or for the Fund as a whole. Each of these factors could increase the Fund's volatility, cause the Fund to incur losses, or otherwise impact the Fund's performance.

Investments in companies or issuers economically tied to China are subject to considerable degrees of social and humanitarian, legal, regulatory, political, and economic uncertainty. For example, the Chinese government has historically exercised authority over publicly traded Chinese companies and may continue to do so. This authority can include, but is not limited to, dictating what types of products Chinese companies should produce and to whom such products can be sold, nationalizing or seizing assets, and pursuing regulatory enforcement in an unpredictable manner. The Chinese government's monetary policy, which may include restricting currency access or devaluing Chinese currency, could have a negative impact on the Fund's ability to effectively trade in the Chinese markets. China has ongoing disputes with Hong Kong, Taiwan, the Xinjiang region and the Uyghur population, and other neighboring areas. These disputes continue to escalate due to ongoing Chinese military exercises (such as land reclamation efforts in the South China Sea), policymaking within China, assertions of human rights violations by the UN and other developed nations, and statements from high-ranking Chinese government officials. In addition, the Chinese government

has been accused of participating in state-sponsored cyberattacks against other foreign countries and foreign companies. Concerns have also been raised regarding Chinese companies that engage in activities that potentially pose a national security threat to the United States and other countries. Actual or threatened responses to these activities, including sanctions or other restrictions (such as tariffs or embargoes) imposed by the United States or other countries, can significantly impact the Chinese economy and companies or issuers economically tied to China. The Chinese government may also itself impose trade restrictions on Chinese companies. Compliance with sanctions could lead to a large market selloff, which could result in significant losses to the Fund if the Fund holds securities that are sanctioned. All of these factors could cause the Fund's investments in companies or issuers economically tied to China to decline in value or become less liquid.

The Fund may be subject to additional risks depending on the types of Chinese securities in which it invests and how it gains exposure to those securities. Companies incorporated in China can issue different types of shares depending on the exchange on which the shares will trade and the types of investors to whom the shares will be available. For example, A-shares are traded on the Shanghai and Shenzhen Stock exchanges and are available to the Fund through the China Stock Connect program (Stock Connect) or with a license granted under the qualified foreign investor (QFI) framework. To the extent that the Fund invests in A-shares, the Fund is subject to the risk that it will not be able to access its desired amount of A-shares through Stock Connect or a QFI license. There is no guarantee that the Chinese government will continue to allow investment through Stock Connect and/or the QFI framework. Investing through these channels is also subject to trading restrictions and suspensions and operational, clearing, and settlement risks. H-shares are traded on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange and are generally available to all investors, but are subject to the risk that the Hong Kong stock market may have little to no correlation to the performance of the mainland Chinese stock market.

The Fund may also gain exposure to Chinese companies through legal structures known as variable interest entities (VIEs), which provide exposure to a Chinese company through contractual arrangements instead of equity ownership. Investing through a VIE does not offer the same level of investor protection as direct ownership and is subject to risks including breach of the contractual arrangements, difficulty in enforcing the contractual arrangements outside of the United States, and intervention by the Chinese government. These risks could significantly affect a VIE's market value, which in turn could impact the Fund's performance.

Market disruptions can adversely affect local and global markets as well as normal market conditions and operations. Any such disruptions could have an adverse impact on the value of the Fund's investments and Fund performance.

Security Selection

The Fund attempts to track the investment performance of a benchmark index consisting of common stocks of international small-cap companies located in developed and emerging markets around the world. The companies in which the Fund invests will be within the capitalization range of the companies included in the FTSE Global Small Cap ex US Index (\$1 million to \$26 billion as of October 31, 2024). Historically, the stocks of these companies have been more volatile than—and at times have performed quite differently from—large-cap stocks. In the future, the Index's market capitalization range may be higher or lower, and the Fund's investments may track a different index. Such changes may occur at any time and without notice to Fund shareholders.

Indexing Strategy. The Fund uses a *sampling method* of indexing, meaning that the Fund's advisor, using computer programs, generally selects from the target index a representative sample of securities that will resemble the target index in terms of key risk factors and other characteristics. These factors include industry weightings, country weightings, market capitalization, and other financial characteristics of stocks.

Index investing and risks. The Fund is an index fund. Index funds attempt to track—not outperform—the performance of a specified market index (target index). An index is a group of securities whose overall performance is used as a standard to measure the investment performance of a particular market. Some indexes represent entire markets, such as the U.S. stock market, while others cover a segment of a market, such as short-term bonds. As an index fund, the Fund seeks to track the performance of its target index regardless of how the target index is performing. The advisor's use of an indexing, or passive, approach to select and maintain investments for the Fund means that the advisor will select securities based on their inclusion in the target index and will not use strategies to reduce negative impacts to the Fund during periods of market volatility. As a result, the Fund's performance may be lower than it would be if the Fund were actively managed.

One cannot invest directly in an index. Instead, an index fund's advisor will typically seek to hold all, or substantially all, of the securities that make up the fund's target index (often referred to as "replicating" an index or a "full replication" approach) or a representative sample of the securities that make up a fund's target index (often referred to as "sampling" an index).



The Fund is subject to index sampling risk, which is the chance that the securities selected for the Fund, in the aggregate, will not provide investment performance matching that of the Fund's target index. Index sampling risk for the Fund is expected to be low.

As an index fund, the Fund is subject to tracking error. It is important to understand that an index fund will never perform exactly the same as its target index because, among other things, an index fund will have operating expenses and transaction costs and its target index will not. Beyond these inherent differences between the operation of an index fund and the operation of its target index, there are a variety of other factors that can cause or result in tracking error. These may include, but are not limited to:

- Price differences between the securities held by an index fund and those included in its target index
- Cash flows into or out of an index fund
- The size of an index fund
- Compliance with new or existing regulatory requirements
- Portfolio transactions carried out by an index fund's advisor to minimize the distribution of capital gains
- Changes to the underlying securities that make up an index fund's target index
- Errors made by the index provider

Tracking error risk may be heightened during times of increased market volatility or under other unusual market conditions. An index fund that samples its target index may be more likely to experience tracking error than an index fund that replicates its target index.

The Fund is subject to risks associated with the provider of its target index. The index provider determines which securities to include in the target index and how the securities are weighted. The index provider does not provide any warranty or accept any liability with respect to the quality, accuracy, or completeness of the target index or any data used to compile the target index. Under normal circumstances, the index provider will rebalance (update) the target index on a regular schedule. The index provider may rebalance the target index outside of the regular schedule or delay or cancel a scheduled rebalance, which could result in added costs for the Fund or cause the Fund to experience tracking error. The index provider may make errors, and it is possible that such errors may not be identified by the index provider for a period of time or at all. Any gains, losses, or costs associated with or resulting from an error made by the index provider will

generally be borne by the Fund and, as a result, the Fund's shareholders. Vanguard does not provide any warranty or guarantee against errors made by the index provider.

Depository receipts. The Fund, in most cases, will obtain economic exposure to stocks of its target index (component securities) by investing directly in the component securities. However, the Fund reserves the right to obtain economic exposure to component securities indirectly by purchasing depository receipts (also sold as participatory notes) of the component securities. Depository receipts are securities that are listed on exchanges or quoted in over-the-counter markets in one country but represent shares of issuers domiciled in another country. Generally, the Fund will hold depository receipts only when the advisor believes that the Fund would benefit from holding the depository receipt, rather than the underlying component security. For example, the Fund might opt to hold depository receipts if the foreign market in which a stock trades does not provide adequate protection to the rights of foreign investors or if government regulators place restrictions on the free flow of capital or currency. The Fund treats depository receipts that represent interests in component securities as component securities for purposes of any requirements related to the percentage of component securities held in the Fund's portfolio.

The FTSE Global Small Cap ex US Index. The FTSE Global Small Cap ex US Index is maintained by FTSE Group (FTSE), a widely known global index provider.

Ownership Limitations

As the assets managed by Vanguard and its external advisors continue to grow, the securities held by Vanguard funds increasingly are impacted by ownership limitations. Ownership limitations restrict the amount that funds can invest in certain securities, due to either regulatory limits that apply to certain industries (for example, banking and utilities) or mechanisms that some issuers have in place to deter takeover attempts (for example, poison pills). These restrictions can have negative impacts on funds, including the inability of an index fund to track its index, the inability of a fund to meet its investment objectives, negative performance impacts, and unanticipated tax consequences. The impact of a particular ownership limitation on a Vanguard fund will vary based on several factors, including, but not limited to, the industry to which the limitation applies, the country or region of a particular issuer, and the regulatory body imposing the limitation. In addition to the impacts of specific ownership limitations, Vanguard is also subject to the risk of multiple ownership limitations applying at one time, which could increase the likelihood of a fund experiencing the negative impacts listed above. Vanguard attempts to mitigate the impacts of ownership limitations

on Vanguard funds through the various methods discussed below in *Methods to address ownership limitations*. However, it is possible that these methods will be unsuccessful.

Impacts of ownership limitations. When an ownership limitation applies, Vanguard may need to tell the Vanguard funds how much of impacted securities each fund can buy and hold. When this occurs, a Vanguard fund may not be able to buy additional securities or continue to hold existing securities above its allocated amounts. For index funds, this can result in tracking error if a fund cannot buy or hold the securities it needs in order to replicate or sample its target index. For active funds, this can result in a fund's advisor not being able to take advantage of favorable opportunities to invest in securities that are subject to limitations. For both index and active funds, the inability to buy or hold securities could prevent a fund from being able to meet its investment objective or invest in accordance with its investment strategy, and/or could negatively impact the fund's performance. In addition, the steps Vanguard and the Vanguard funds take to address ownership limitations could result in additional costs and/or unanticipated tax consequences to a fund that affect the amount, timing, and character of distributions to the fund's shareholders. The more assets Vanguard and its third-party advisors manage, the more likely it is that ownership limitations could affect Vanguard funds negatively.

Methods to address ownership limitations. Vanguard and the Vanguard funds try to manage the negative impacts that ownership limitations could have on the Vanguard funds by seeking permission (relief) from regulators and/or issuers to purchase or hold more securities than the amount allowed by ownership limitations. However, it is not always possible to secure relief, and there is an increasing amount of uncertainty around how much ownership limitations relief regulators will grant to asset managers like Vanguard. Given this uncertainty, there is no guarantee that Vanguard or the Vanguard funds will be able to obtain additional relief from ownership limitations in the future. In addition, the relief upon which Vanguard and the Vanguard funds currently rely, which has allowed Vanguard to exceed certain ownership limitations, could be reduced or revoked, forcing the Vanguard funds to sell down one or more securities to comply with the ownership limitations. If a fund has to sell securities, there could be negative impacts to fund performance as well as unanticipated tax consequences that could impact the amount, timing, and character of distributions to the fund's shareholders.

When a Vanguard fund cannot buy or hold securities directly due to ownership limitations, the fund will typically try to get indirect exposure to impacted securities. The fund does this so that it can replicate as closely as possible the returns the fund would get if it directly owned the impacted securities. Indirect

exposure can be accomplished through the use of derivatives, such as total return swaps, or by investing in wholly owned subsidiaries that hold the impacted securities. Both of these methods of obtaining indirect exposure increase fund costs, and, depending on the extent to which these alternatives are used by a fund to avoid exceeding ownership limits, the added costs could have a negative impact on the fund's performance. The risks of derivatives use are discussed elsewhere in the prospectus.

Other Investment Policies and Risks

The Fund reserves the right to substitute a different index for the index it currently tracks if the current index is discontinued, if the Fund's agreement with the provider of its target index is terminated, or for any other reason determined in good faith by the Fund's board of trustees. In any such instance, the substitute index would represent the same market segment as the current index.

The Fund may invest, to a limited extent, in equity futures and options contracts, warrants, convertible securities, and swap agreements, all of which are types of derivatives. Generally speaking, a derivative is a financial contract whose value is based on the value of a financial asset (such as a stock, a bond, or a currency), a physical asset (such as gold, oil, or wheat), a market index, or a reference rate. Investments in derivatives may subject the Fund to risks different from, and possibly greater than, those of investments directly in the underlying securities or assets. Derivatives may be used as an alternate means to obtain economic exposure if the Fund is required to limit its investment in a particular issuer or industry. The Fund will not use derivatives for speculation or for the purpose of leveraging (magnifying) returns.

The Fund may enter into foreign currency exchange forward contracts, which are a type of derivative, in order to maintain the same currency exposure as its target index. A foreign currency exchange forward contract is an agreement to buy or sell a currency at a specific price on a specific date, usually 30, 60, or 90 days in the future. In other words, the contract guarantees an exchange rate on a given date. These contracts, however, would not prevent the Fund's securities from falling in value as a result of risks other than unfavorable currency exchange movements. The Fund may use these contracts to manage currency exposure and to settle trades in a foreign currency.

Cash Management

The Fund's daily cash balance may be invested in Vanguard Market Liquidity Fund, a government money market fund, and/or Vanguard Municipal Low Duration Fund, a short-term municipal bond fund (each, a CMT Fund). When

investing in a CMT Fund, the Fund bears its proportionate share of the expenses of the CMT Fund in which it invests. Vanguard receives no additional revenue from Fund assets invested in a CMT Fund.

Redemption Requests

Methods used to meet redemption requests. Redemptions of ETF Shares are typically met through a combination of cash and securities held by the Fund; see “How Are Vanguard ETF Shares Different From Conventional Mutual Fund Shares?” If cash is used to meet redemptions, the Fund typically obtains such cash through positive cash flows or the sale of Fund holdings consistent with the Fund’s investment objective and strategy. Please consult the Fund’s *Statement of Additional Information* for further information on redemptions of ETF Shares.

Under certain circumstances, including under stressed market conditions, the Fund may borrow money (subject to certain regulatory conditions and if available under board-approved procedures) through an interfund lending facility; through a bank line-of-credit, including a joint committed credit facility; or through an uncommitted line-of-credit from Vanguard in order to meet redemption requests.


Potential redemption activity impacts. Vanguard funds can be negatively impacted by certain large redemptions. These redemptions could occur due to a single shareholder or multiple shareholders deciding to sell a large quantity of shares of a fund or a share class of the fund. Large redemptions can occur for many reasons, either as a result of actions taken by Vanguard or its affiliates, or as a result of events unrelated to actions taken by Vanguard or its affiliates. Actions taken by Vanguard could include, but are not limited to, changes to a fund’s advisor(s), changes to a fund’s portfolio manager(s), changes to the composition of a fund’s portfolio, and/or other product changes or launches that, for example, result in shareholders redeeming shares of one fund to purchase shares of another fund or investment vehicle. For a fund of funds, actions taken by Vanguard could include a withdrawal from an underlying fund or a change in the allocation to underlying funds. Events unrelated to actions taken by Vanguard could include shareholders selling out of a fund in response to market movements or regulatory changes.


A large redemption could adversely affect a fund’s liquidity and net asset value (NAV). For example, a large redemption could require a fund’s manager to sell portfolio holdings at unplanned or inopportune times. The manager’s sale of these holdings, which is a taxable event, could require the fund to distribute any corresponding capital gains or other taxable income to the fund’s remaining shareholders; see *Dividends, Capital Gains, and Taxes* for additional information. The increased trading activity could also increase underlying costs for the fund due to commissions paid by the fund.

Temporary Investment Measures


The Fund may temporarily depart from its normal investment policies and strategies when the advisor believes that doing so is in the Fund's best interest, so long as the strategy or policy employed is consistent with the Fund's investment objective. For instance, the Fund may invest beyond its normal limits in derivatives or exchange-traded funds that are consistent with the Fund's investment objective when those instruments are more favorably priced or provide needed liquidity, as might be the case when the Fund receives large cash flows that it cannot prudently invest immediately. A Fund may also invest beyond its normal limits in derivatives as an alternate means to obtain economic exposure if the Fund is required to limit its investment in a particular issuer or industry.


Special Risks of Exchange-Traded Shares


 *ETF Shares are not individually redeemable. They can be redeemed with the issuing Fund at NAV only by certain authorized broker-dealers and only in large blocks known as Creation Units. Consequently, if you want to liquidate some or all of your ETF Shares, you must sell them on the secondary market at prevailing market prices.*

 *The market price of ETF Shares may differ from NAV. Although it is expected that the market price of an ETF Share typically will approximate its NAV, there may be times when the market price and the NAV differ significantly. Thus, you may pay more (premium) or less (discount) than NAV when you buy ETF Shares on the secondary market, and you may receive more or less than NAV when you sell those shares. These discounts and premiums are likely to be greatest during times of market disruption or extreme market volatility.*

Vanguard's website at vanguard.com shows the previous day's closing NAV and closing market price for the Fund's ETF Shares. The website also discloses, in the **Premium/Discount Analysis** section of the ETF Shares' Price & Performance page, how frequently the Fund's ETF Shares traded at a premium or discount to NAV (based on closing NAVs and market prices) and the magnitudes of such premiums and discounts.

 *An active trading market may not exist. Although Vanguard ETF Shares are listed on a national securities exchange, it is possible that an active trading market may not be maintained. Although this could happen at any time, it is more likely to occur during times of severe market disruption. If you attempt to sell your ETF Shares when an active trading market is not functioning, you may have to sell at a significant discount to NAV. In extreme cases, you may not be able to sell your shares at all.*

 *Trading may be halted. Trading of Vanguard ETF Shares on an exchange may be halted by the activation of individual or marketwide trading halts (which halt trading for a specific period of time when the price of a particular security or overall market prices decline by a specified percentage). Trading of ETF Shares may also be halted if (1) the shares are delisted from the listing exchange without first being listed on another exchange or (2) exchange officials determine that such action is appropriate in the interest of a fair and orderly market or for the protection of investors.*

 *By investing in the ETF Shares of a fund that also offers conventional mutual fund shares, you could be subject to costs and/or tax impacts that you would not be subject to if you invested in exchange-traded shares offered by a fund without a conventional mutual fund share class. These costs include brokerage and other transaction costs associated with the Fund buying and selling portfolio securities in response to conventional mutual fund share class inflows and outflows, cash drag as a result of the Fund holding the cash necessary to satisfy conventional mutual fund share class transactions, and taxable capital gains distributions if the Fund has to sell portfolio holdings at a gain in order to satisfy mutual fund share class redemptions.*

Conversion Privilege

Owners of conventional shares issued by the Fund may convert those shares to ETF Shares of equivalent value of the same fund. Please note that investors who own conventional shares through a 401(k) plan or other employer-sponsored retirement or benefit plan generally may not convert those shares to ETF Shares and should check with their plan sponsor or recordkeeper. ETF Shares, whether acquired through a conversion or purchased on the secondary market, cannot be converted to conventional shares by a shareholder. Also, ETF Shares of one fund cannot be exchanged for ETF Shares of another fund.

You must hold ETF Shares in a brokerage account. Thus, before converting conventional shares to ETF Shares, you must have an existing, or open a new, brokerage account. This account may be with Vanguard Brokerage Services[®] or with any other brokerage firm. To initiate a conversion of conventional shares to ETF Shares, please contact your broker.

Vanguard Brokerage Services does not impose a fee on conversions from Vanguard conventional shares to Vanguard ETF Shares. However, other brokerage firms may charge a fee to process a conversion. Vanguard reserves the right, in the future, to impose a transaction fee on conversions or to limit, temporarily suspend, or terminate the conversion privilege.

Converting conventional shares to ETF Shares is generally accomplished as follows. First, after your broker notifies Vanguard of your request to convert, Vanguard will transfer your conventional shares from your account to the broker's

omnibus account with Vanguard (an account maintained by the broker on behalf of all its customers who hold conventional Vanguard fund shares through the broker). After the transfer, Vanguard's records will reflect your broker, not you, as the owner of the shares. Next, your broker will instruct Vanguard to convert the appropriate number or dollar amount of conventional shares in its omnibus account to ETF Shares of equivalent value, based on the respective NAVs of the two share classes.

Your Fund's transfer agent will reflect ownership of all ETF Shares in the name of the Depository Trust Company (DTC). The DTC will keep track of which ETF Shares belong to your broker, and your broker, in turn, will keep track of which ETF Shares belong to you.

Because the DTC is unable to handle fractional shares, only whole shares can be converted. For example, if you owned 300.25 conventional shares, and this was equivalent in value to 90.75 ETF Shares, the DTC account would receive 90 ETF Shares. Conventional shares with a value equal to 0.75 ETF Shares (in this example, that would be 2.481 conventional shares) would remain in the broker's omnibus account with Vanguard. Your broker then could either (1) credit your account with 0.75 ETF Shares or (2) redeem the 2.481 conventional shares for cash at NAV and deliver that cash to your account. If your broker chose to redeem your conventional shares, you would realize a gain or loss on the redemption that must be reported on your tax return (unless you hold the shares in an IRA or other tax-deferred account). Please consult your broker for information on how it will handle the conversion process, including whether it will impose a fee to process a conversion.

If you convert your conventional shares to ETF Shares through Vanguard Brokerage Services, *all* conventional shares for which you request conversion will be converted to ETF Shares of equivalent value. Because no fractional shares will have to be sold, the transaction will not be taxable.

Here are some important points to keep in mind when converting conventional shares of a Vanguard fund to ETF Shares:

- The conversion process can take anywhere from several days to several weeks, depending on your broker. Vanguard generally will process conversion requests either on the day they are received or on the next business day. Vanguard imposes conversion blackout windows around the dates when a fund with ETF Shares declares dividends. This is necessary to prevent a shareholder from collecting a dividend from both the conventional share class currently held and also from the ETF share class to which the shares will be converted.

- Until the conversion process is complete, you will remain fully invested in a fund's conventional shares, and your investment will increase or decrease in value in tandem with the NAV of those shares.
- The conversion transaction is nontaxable except, if applicable, to the very limited extent previously described.

A precautionary note to investment companies: The Fund's ETF Shares are issued by a registered investment company/ registered investment companies, and therefore the acquisition of such shares by other investment companies and private funds is subject to the restrictions of Section 12(d)(1) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the 1940 Act). SEC Rule 12d1-4 under the 1940 Act permits registered investment companies to invest in other registered investment companies beyond the limits in Section 12(d)(1), subject to certain conditions, including that funds with different investment advisors must enter into a fund of funds investment agreement.

Shareholder Rights

The Fund's Agreement and Declaration of Trust, as amended, requires a shareholder bringing a derivative action on behalf of Vanguard International Equity Index Funds (the Trust) that is subject to a pre-suit demand to collectively hold at least 10% of the outstanding shares of the Trust or at least 10% of the outstanding shares of the series or class to which the demand relates and to undertake to reimburse the Trust for the expense of any counsel or advisors used when considering the merits of the demand in the event that the board of trustees determines not to bring such action. In each case, these requirements do not apply to claims arising under the federal securities laws to the extent that any such federal securities laws, rules, or regulations do not permit such application. The Trust's Bylaws also provide that shareholders waive the right to trial by jury to the fullest extent permitted by law.

Frequent Trading and Market-Timing

Unlike frequent trading of a Vanguard fund's conventional (i.e., not exchange-traded) classes of shares, frequent trading of ETF Shares does not disrupt portfolio management or otherwise harm fund shareholders. The vast majority of trading in ETF Shares occurs on the secondary market. Because these trades do not involve the issuing fund, they do not harm the fund or its shareholders. Certain broker-dealers are authorized to purchase and redeem ETF Shares directly with the issuing fund. Because these trades typically are effected in kind (i.e., for securities and not for cash), or are assessed a transaction fee when effected in cash, they do not cause any of the harmful effects to the issuing fund (as previously noted) that may result from frequent

trading. For these reasons, the board of trustees of each fund that issues ETF Shares has determined that it is not necessary to adopt policies and procedures to detect and deter frequent trading and market-timing of ETF Shares.

Portfolio Holdings

Please consult the Fund's *Statement of Additional Information* or our website for a description of the policies and procedures that govern disclosure of the Fund's portfolio holdings.

Turnover Rate

Although the Fund generally seeks to invest for the long term, it may sell securities regardless of how long they have been held. Generally, an index fund sells securities in response to redemption requests from shareholders of conventional (i.e., not exchange-traded) shares or to changes in the composition of its target index. Turnover rates for small-cap stock index funds tend to be higher than for large-cap stock index funds (although still relatively low, compared with actively managed stock funds) because the indexes they track are more likely to change as a result of companies merging, growing, or failing. The **Financial Highlights** section of this prospectus shows historical turnover rates for the Fund. A turnover rate of 100%, for example, would mean that the Fund had sold and replaced securities valued at 100% of its net assets within a one-year period. In general, the greater the turnover rate, the greater the impact transaction costs will have on a fund's return. Also, funds with high turnover rates may be more likely to generate capital gains, including short-term capital gains, that must be distributed to shareholders and will be taxable to shareholders investing through a taxable account.

The Fund and Vanguard

The Fund is a member of The Vanguard Group, Inc. (Vanguard), a family of over 200 funds. All of the funds that are members of Vanguard (other than funds of funds) share in the expenses associated with administrative services and business operations, such as personnel, office space, and equipment.

Vanguard Marketing Corporation provides marketing services to the funds. Although fund shareholders do not pay sales commissions or 12b-1 distribution fees, each fund (other than a fund of funds) or each share class of a fund (in the case of a fund with multiple share classes) pays its allocated share of the Vanguard funds' marketing costs.

Plain Talk About Vanguard's Unique Corporate Structure

Vanguard is owned jointly by the funds it oversees and thus indirectly by the shareholders in those funds. Most other mutual funds are operated by management companies that are owned by third parties—either public or private stockholders—and not by the funds they serve.

Investment Advisor

The Vanguard Group, Inc., P.O. Box 2600, Valley Forge, PA 19482, which began operations in 1975, serves as advisor to the Fund through its Equity Index Group. As of October 31, 2024, Vanguard served as advisor for approximately \$8.4 trillion in assets. Vanguard provides investment advisory services to the Fund pursuant to the Funds' Service Agreement and subject to the supervision and oversight of the trustees and officers of the Fund.

For the fiscal year ended October 31, 2024, the advisory expenses represented an effective annual rate of 0.01% of the Fund's average net assets.

Under the terms of an SEC exemption, the Fund's board of trustees may, without prior approval from shareholders, change the terms of an advisory agreement with a third-party investment advisor or hire a new third-party investment advisor—either as a replacement for an existing advisor or as an additional advisor. Any significant change in the Fund's advisory arrangements will be communicated to shareholders in writing. As the Fund's sponsor and overall manager, Vanguard may provide investment advisory services to the Fund at any time. Vanguard may also recommend to the board of trustees that an advisor be hired, terminated, or replaced or that the terms of an existing advisory agreement be revised. The Fund has filed an application seeking a similar SEC exemption with respect to investment advisors that are wholly owned subsidiaries of Vanguard. If the exemption is granted, the Fund may rely on the new SEC relief.

For a discussion of why the board of trustees approved the Fund's investment advisory arrangements, see the semiannual report to shareholders covering the fiscal period ended April 30, 2024.

The managers primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund are:

Nicole Brubaker, Portfolio Manager at Vanguard. She has been with Vanguard since 2014, has worked in investment management since 2018, and has co-managed the Fund since February 2025. Education: B.S., Millersville University.

Jeffrey D. Miller, Portfolio Manager at Vanguard. He has been with Vanguard since 1999, has worked in investment management since 2007, has managed investment portfolios since 2010, and has managed the Fund since 2015 (co-managed since 2016). Education: B.A., The Pennsylvania State University; M.B.A., Drexel University.

Michael Perre, Principal of Vanguard. He has been with Vanguard since 1990, has managed investment portfolios since 1999, and has co-managed the Fund since 2016. Education: B.A., Saint Joseph's University; M.B.A., Villanova University.

The Fund's *Statement of Additional Information* provides information about each portfolio manager's compensation, other accounts under management, and ownership of shares of the Fund.

Dividends, Capital Gains, and Taxes

Fund Distributions

The Fund distributes to shareholders virtually all of its net income (interest and dividends, less expenses) as well as any net short-term or long-term capital gains realized from the sale of its holdings. From time to time, the Fund may also make distributions that are treated as a return of capital. Income dividends generally are distributed quarterly in March, June, September, and December; capital gains distributions, if any, generally occur annually in December. In addition, the Fund may occasionally make a supplemental distribution at some other time during the year.

From time to time, the Fund may pay out higher-than-expected distributions. As an index fund, the Fund must adjust its holdings to reflect changes in its target index. In some cases, such changes may force an index fund to sell securities that have appreciated in value, thereby realizing a capital gain that must be distributed to shareholders. A security may move out of an index for a number of reasons, including a merger or acquisition, a substantial change in the market capitalization of the issuer, or the movement of a country from emerging market to developed market status.

Plain Talk About Distributions

As a shareholder, you are entitled to your portion of a fund's income from interest and dividends as well as capital gains from the fund's sale of investments. Income consists of both the dividends that the fund earns from any stock holdings and the interest it receives from any money market and bond investments. Capital gains are realized whenever the fund sells securities for higher prices than it paid for them. These capital gains are either short-term or long-term, depending on whether the fund held the securities for one year or less or for more than one year.

Reinvestment of Distributions

In order to reinvest dividend and capital gains distributions, investors in the Fund's ETF Shares must hold their shares at a broker that offers a reinvestment service. This can be the broker's own service or a service made available by a third party, such as the broker's outside clearing firm or the DTC. If a reinvestment service is available, distributions of income and capital gains can automatically be reinvested in additional whole and fractional ETF Shares of the Fund. If a reinvestment service is not available, investors will receive their distributions in cash. To determine whether a reinvestment service is available and whether there is a commission or other charge for using this service, consult your broker.

As with all exchange-traded funds, reinvestment of dividend and capital gains distributions in additional ETF Shares will occur two business days or more after the ex-dividend date (the date when a distribution of dividends or capital gains is deducted from the price of the Fund's shares). The exact number of days depends on your broker. During that time, the amount of your distribution will not be invested in the Fund and therefore will not share in the Fund's income, gains, and losses.

Basic Tax Points

Investors in taxable accounts should be aware of the following basic federal income tax points:

- Distributions are taxable to you whether or not you reinvest these amounts in additional ETF Shares.
- Distributions declared and recorded in December—if paid to you by the end of January—are taxable as if received in December.
- Any dividend distribution or short-term capital gains distribution that you receive is taxable to you as ordinary income. If you are an individual and meet

certain holding-period requirements with respect to your ETF Shares, you may be eligible for reduced tax rates on “qualified dividend income,” if any, or a special tax deduction on “qualified REIT dividends,” if any, distributed by the Fund.

- Any distribution of net long-term capital gains is taxable to you as long-term capital gains, no matter how long you have owned ETF Shares.
- Capital gains distributions can occur when the Fund sells assets at a gain. Capital gains distributions vary from year to year as a result of the Fund’s investment activities and cash flows, including those due to redemption activity by Fund shareholders.
- Capital gains distributions may occur if Vanguard makes changes that would impact the Fund directly or indirectly, including if Vanguard makes changes to the Fund’s portfolio or to any other Vanguard fund or product that would involve the redemption of shares of the Fund and the related sale of the Fund’s ETF Shares investments.
- Your cost basis in the Fund will be decreased by the amount of any return of capital that you receive. This, in turn, will affect the amount of any capital gain or loss that you realize when selling your ETF Shares.
- Return of capital distributions generally are not taxable to you until your cost basis has been reduced to zero. If your cost basis is at zero, return of capital distributions will be treated as capital gains.
- A sale of ETF Shares is a taxable event. This means that you may have a capital gain to report as income, or a capital loss to report as a deduction, when you complete your tax return.

Individuals, trusts, and estates whose income exceeds certain threshold amounts are subject to a 3.8% Medicare contribution tax on “net investment income.” Net investment income takes into account distributions paid by the Fund and capital gains from any sale of ETF Shares.

Dividend distributions and capital gains distributions that you receive, as well as your gains or losses from any sale of ETF Shares, may be subject to state and local income taxes.

The Fund may be subject to foreign taxes or foreign tax withholding on dividends, interest, and some capital gains that it receives on foreign securities. If at the end of the taxable year more than 50% of the value of the Fund’s assets consists of securities of foreign corporations, and the Fund makes a special election, you will generally be required to include in your income, for U.S. federal income tax purposes, your share of the qualifying foreign income taxes paid by the Fund in respect of its foreign portfolio securities. There is no assurance that

the Fund will make this election for a taxable year, even if it is eligible to do so. You may qualify for an offsetting credit or deduction under U.S. tax laws for any amount designated as your portion of the Fund's foreign tax obligations, provided that you meet certain requirements. See your tax advisor or IRS publications for more information.

This prospectus provides general tax information only. If you are investing through a tax-advantaged account, such as an IRA or an employer-sponsored retirement or savings plan, special tax rules apply. Please consult your tax advisor for detailed information about any tax consequences for you.

Share Price and Market Price

Share price, also known as NAV, is typically calculated as of the close of regular trading on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE), generally 4 p.m., Eastern time, on each day that the NYSE is open for business (a business day). In the rare event the NYSE experiences unanticipated disruptions and is unavailable at the close of the trading day, NAVs will be calculated as of the close of regular trading on the Nasdaq (or another alternate exchange if the Nasdaq is unavailable, as determined at Vanguard's discretion), generally 4 p.m., Eastern time. Each share class has its own NAV, which is computed by dividing the total assets, minus liabilities, allocated to the share class by the number of Fund shares outstanding for that class. On U.S. holidays or other days when the NYSE is closed, the NAV is not calculated, and the Fund does not sell or redeem shares. However, on those days the value of the Fund's assets may be affected to the extent that the Fund holds securities that change in value on those days (such as foreign securities that trade on foreign markets that are open).

Remember: If you buy or sell ETF Shares on the secondary market, you will pay or receive the market price, which may be higher or lower than NAV. Your transaction will be priced at NAV only if you purchase or redeem your ETF Shares in Creation Unit blocks (an option available only to certain authorized broker-dealers) or if you convert your conventional fund shares to ETF Shares.

Stocks held by a Vanguard fund are valued at their *market value* when reliable market quotations are readily available from the principal exchange or market on which they are traded. Such securities are generally valued at their official closing price, the last reported sales price, or if there were no sales that day, the mean between the closing bid and asking prices. When a fund determines that market quotations either are not readily available or do not accurately reflect the value of a security, the security is priced at *fair value* (the amount that the owner might reasonably expect to receive upon the current sale of the security).

The values of any foreign securities held by a fund are converted into U.S. dollars using an exchange rate obtained from an independent third party as of the close of regular trading on the NYSE. The values of any mutual fund shares, including institutional money market fund shares, held by a fund are based on the NAVs of the shares. The values of any ETF shares or closed-end fund shares held by a fund are based on the market value of the shares.

A fund also will use fair-value pricing if the value of a security it holds has been materially affected by events occurring before the fund's pricing time but after the close of the principal exchange or market on which the security is traded. This most commonly occurs with foreign securities, which may trade on foreign exchanges that close many hours before the fund's pricing time. Intervening events might be company-specific (e.g., earnings report, merger announcement) or country-specific or regional/global (e.g., natural disaster, economic or political news, interest rate change, act of terrorism). Intervening events include price movements in U.S. markets that exceed a specified threshold or that are otherwise deemed to affect the value of foreign securities.

Fair-value pricing may be used for domestic securities—for example, if (1) trading in a security is halted and does not resume before the fund's pricing time or a security does not trade in the course of a day and (2) the fund holds enough of the security that its price could affect the NAV.

Fair-value prices are determined by Vanguard according to procedures adopted by the board of trustees. When fair-value pricing is employed, the prices of securities used by a fund to calculate the NAV may differ from quoted or published prices for the same securities.

The Fund has authorized certain financial intermediaries and their designees, and may, from time to time, authorize certain funds of funds for which Vanguard serves as the investment advisor (Vanguard Funds of Funds), to accept orders to buy or sell fund shares on its behalf. The Fund will be deemed to receive an order when accepted by the financial intermediary, its designee, or one of the Vanguard Funds of Funds, and the order will receive the NAV next computed by the Fund after such acceptance.

Vanguard's website will show the previous day's closing NAV and closing market price for the Fund's ETF Shares.

Additional Information

The Trust's Bylaws designate Delaware courts as the sole and exclusive forum for certain claims against or related to the Trust, a trustee, an officer, or other employee of the Trust, provided that, unless the Trust otherwise consents in writing, the U.S. Federal District Courts be the sole and exclusive forum for the resolution of complaints under the Securities Act of 1933 or the 1940 Act. These provisions may limit a shareholder's ability to bring a claim in a different forum and may result in increased shareholder costs in pursuing such a claim.

| Vanguard Fund | Inception Date | Vanguard Fund Number | CUSIP Number |
|---|----------------|----------------------|--------------|
| Vanguard FTSE All-World ex-US Small-Cap Index Fund | | | |
| ETF Shares | 4/2/2009 | 3184 | 922042718 |

Certain affiliates of the Fund and the advisor may purchase and resell ETF Shares pursuant to the prospectus.

CGS identifiers have been provided by CUSIP Global Services, managed on behalf of the American Bankers Association by FactSet Research Systems Inc., and are not for use or dissemination in a manner that would serve as a substitute for any CUSIP service. The CUSIP Database, © 2025 American Bankers Association. "CUSIP" is a registered trademark of the American Bankers Association.

Financial Highlights

Financial highlights information is intended to help you understand a fund's performance for the past five years (or, if shorter, its period of operations). Certain information reflects financial results for a single fund share. Total return represents the rate that an investor would have earned or lost each period on an investment in a fund or share class (assuming reinvestment of all distributions). This information has been obtained from the financial statements audited by PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, whose report, along with fund financial statements, is included in a fund's most recent annual Financial Statements and Other Information. You may obtain a free copy of a fund's latest disclosure documents upon request.

Vanguard FTSE All-World ex-US Small-Cap Index Fund ETF Shares

| For a Share Outstanding Throughout Each Period | Year Ended October 31, | | | | |
|--|------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| | 2024 | 2023 | 2022 | 2021 | 2020 |
| Net Asset Value, Beginning of Period | \$100.93 | \$95.98 | \$137.63 | \$102.74 | \$105.96 |
| Investment Operations | | | | | |
| Net Investment Income ¹ | 3.221 | 3.202 | 3.157 | 2.770 | 2.177 |
| Net Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Investments | 19.402 | 5.135 | (41.764) | 35.250 | (2.905) |
| Total from Investment Operations | 22.623 | 8.337 | (38.607) | 38.020 | (.728) |
| Distributions | | | | | |
| Dividends from Net Investment Income | (3.453) | (3.387) | (3.043) | (3.130) | (2.492) |
| Distributions from Realized Capital Gains | — | — | — | — | — |
| Total Distributions | (3.453) | (3.387) | (3.043) | (3.130) | (2.492) |
| Net Asset Value, End of Period | \$120.10 | \$100.93 | \$95.98 | \$137.63 | \$102.74 |
| Total Return | 22.61% | 8.57% | -28.52% | 37.35% | -0.81% |
| Ratios/Supplemental Data | | | | | |
| Net Assets, End of Period (Millions) | \$8,758 | \$7,243 | \$6,882 | \$9,941 | \$4,814 |
| Ratio of Total Expenses to Average Net Assets | 0.08% ² | 0.08% ² | 0.07% ² | 0.07% | 0.11% |
| Ratio of Net Investment Income to Average Net Assets | 2.77% | 2.96% | 2.72% | 2.10% | 2.17% |
| Portfolio Turnover Rate ³ | 17% | 14% | 18% | 17% | 22% |

1 Calculated based on average shares outstanding.

2 The ratio of expenses to average net assets for the period net of reduction from custody fee offset arrangements was 0.07%, 0.08%, and 0.07%, respectively.

3 Excludes the value of portfolio securities received or delivered as a result of in-kind purchases or redemptions of the fund's capital shares, including ETF Creation Units.

London Stock Exchange Group companies include FTSE International Limited (“FTSE”), Frank Russell Company (“Russell”), MTS Next Limited (“MTS”), and FTSE TMX Global Debt Capital Markets Inc. (“FTSE TMX”). All rights reserved. “FTSE[®]”, “Russell[®]”, “MTS[®]”, “FTSE TMX[®]” and “FTSE Russell” and other service marks and trademarks related to the FTSE or Russell indexes are trademarks of the London Stock Exchange Group companies and are used by FTSE, MTS, FTSE TMX and Russell under license. All information is provided for information purposes only. Every effort is made to ensure that all information given in this publication is accurate, but no responsibility or liability can be accepted by the London Stock Exchange Group companies nor its licensors for any errors or for any loss from use of this publication. Neither the London Stock Exchange Group companies nor any of their licensors make any claim, prediction, warranty or representation whatsoever, expressly or impliedly, either as to the results to be obtained from the use of the Indices or the fitness or suitability of the Indices for any particular purpose to which they might be put. The London Stock Exchange Group companies do not provide investment advice and nothing in this document should be taken as constituting financial or investment advice. The London Stock Exchange Group companies make no representation regarding the advisability of investing in any asset. A decision to invest in any such asset should not be made in reliance on any information herein. Indexes cannot be invested in directly. Inclusion of an asset in an index is not a recommendation to buy, sell or hold that asset. The general information contained in this publication should not be acted upon without obtaining specific legal, tax, and investment advice from a licensed professional. No part of this information may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without prior written permission of the London Stock Exchange Group companies. Distribution of the London Stock Exchange Group companies’ index values and the use of their indexes to create financial products require a license with FTSE, FTSE TMX, MTS and/or Russell and/or its licensors.

Glossary of Investment Terms

Authorized Participant. Institutional investors that are permitted to purchase Creation Units directly from, and redeem Creation Units directly with, the issuing fund. To be an Authorized Participant, an entity must be a participant in the Depository Trust Company and must enter into an agreement with the fund's Distributor.

Bid-Ask Spread. The difference between the highest price a buyer is willing to pay to purchase ETF Shares (bid) and the lowest price a seller is willing to accept for ETF Shares (ask) when buying or selling shares in the secondary market.

Capital Gains Distributions. Payments to fund shareholders of gains realized on securities that a fund has sold at a profit, minus any realized losses.

Common Stock. A security representing ownership rights in a corporation.

Creation Unit. A large block of a specified number of ETF Shares. Certain broker-dealers known as "Authorized Participants" may purchase and redeem ETF Shares from the issuing fund in Creation Unit size blocks.

Dividend Distributions. Payments to fund shareholders of income from interest or dividends generated by a fund's investments.

Ex-Dividend Date. The date when a distribution of dividends and/or capital gains is deducted from the share price of a mutual fund, ETF, or stock. On the ex-dividend date, the share price drops by the amount of the distribution per share (plus or minus any market activity).

Expense Ratio. A fund's total annual operating expenses expressed as a percentage of the fund's average net assets. The expense ratio includes management and administrative expenses, but it does not include the transaction costs of buying and selling portfolio securities.

Float-Adjusted Index. An index that weights its constituent securities based on the value of the constituent securities that are available for public trading, rather than the value of all constituent securities. Some portion of an issuer's securities may be unavailable for public trading because, for example, those securities are owned by company insiders on a restricted basis or by a government agency. By excluding unavailable securities, float-adjusted indexes can produce a more accurate picture of the returns actually experienced by investors in the measured market.

FTSE Global All Cap ex US Index. An index consisting of large-, mid-, and small-cap stocks globally, excluding the U.S. The index is derived from the FTSE Global Equity Index Series (GEIS), which covers approximately 98% of the world's investable market capitalization.

Inception Date. The date on which the assets of a fund (or one of its share classes) are first invested in accordance with the fund's investment objective. For funds with a subscription period, the inception date is the day after that period ends. Investment performance is generally measured from the inception date.

Joint Committed Credit Facility. The Fund participates, along with other funds managed by Vanguard, in a committed credit facility provided by a syndicate of lenders pursuant to a credit agreement that may be renewed annually; each Vanguard fund is individually liable for its borrowings, if any, under the credit facility. The amount and terms of the committed credit facility are subject to approval by the Fund's board of trustees and renegotiation with the lender syndicate on an annual basis.

Median Market Capitalization. An indicator of the size of companies in which a fund invests; the midpoint of market capitalization (market price x shares outstanding) of a fund's stocks, weighted by the proportion of the fund's assets invested in each stock. Stocks representing half of the fund's assets have market capitalizations above the median, and the rest are below it.

Mutual Fund. An investment company that pools the money of many people and invests it in a variety of securities in an effort to achieve a specific objective over time.

New York Stock Exchange (NYSE). A stock exchange based in New York City that is open for regular trading on business days, Monday through Friday, from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Eastern time.

Return of Capital. A return of capital occurs when a fund's distributions exceed its earnings in a fiscal year. A return of capital is a return of all or part of your original investment or amounts paid in excess of your original investment in a fund. In general, a return of capital reduces your cost basis in a fund's shares and is not taxable to you until your cost basis has been reduced to zero.

Securities. Stocks, bonds, money market instruments, and other investments.

Total Return. A percentage change, over a specified time period, in a fund's net asset value, assuming the reinvestment of all distributions of dividends and capital gains.

Volatility. The fluctuations in value of a mutual fund or other security. The greater a fund's volatility, the wider the fluctuations in its returns.

Yield. Income (interest or dividends) earned by an investment, expressed as a percentage of the investment's price.

This page intentionally left blank.

This page intentionally left blank.



Connect with Vanguard® > vanguard.com

For More Information

If you would like more information about Vanguard FTSE All-World ex-US Small-Cap ETF, the following documents are available free upon request:

Annual/Semiannual Reports to Shareholders and Form N-CSR

Additional information about the Fund's investments is available in the Fund's annual and semiannual reports to shareholders and in Form N-CSR. In the annual report, you will find a discussion of the market conditions and investment strategies that significantly affected the Fund's performance during its last fiscal year. In Form N-CSR, you will find the Fund's annual and semiannual financial statements.

Statement of Additional Information (SAI)

The SAI provides more detailed information about the Fund's ETF Shares and is incorporated by reference into (and thus legally a part of) this prospectus.

To obtain a free copy of the latest annual or semiannual report, financial statements, or the SAI, or to request additional information about Vanguard ETF Shares, please visit <https://vgi.vg/fund-literature> or contact us as follows:

Telephone: 866-499-8473; Text telephone for people with hearing impairment: 800-749-7273

Information Provided by the SEC

Reports and other information about the Fund are available in the EDGAR database on the SEC's website at sec.gov, or you can receive copies of this information, for a fee, by electronic request at the following email address: publicinfo@sec.gov.

Fund's Investment Company Act file number: 811-05972