



The First Trust Growth Strength™ Net Fee Index Methodology

September 2025

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The First Trust Growth Strength™ Net Fee Index seeks to produce a daily return reflective of the performance of The Growth Strength™ Index after accounting for a daily withholding equivalent to a 0.65% annual management fee. The underlying Index is The Growth Strength™ Index (NQCAPSG™). The Growth Strength™ Index seeks to provide exposure to growth companies with strong market positions that have the potential to provide their stockholders with a greater degree of stability and performance over time. The companies are screened so that the index constituents generally have strong balance sheets, a high degree of liquidity, the ability to generate earnings growth, and a record of financial strength and profit growth. The Index is composed of 50 stocks selected objectively based on cash on hand, debt ratios and revenue and cash flow growth. The index components are equally weighted at each quarterly rebalance.

The Growth Strength™ Index is calculated as a Price Return index in USD.

+ **The First Trust Growth Strength™ Net Fee Index (FTGRSTNF™)**

1.2 INDEX RULES FOR THE UNDERLYING INDEX

See the [“The Growth Strength Index Methodology”](#).

1.3 THE INDEX FORMULA

The formula for calculating the Index is:

The Price Excess Return Index is calculated according to the following formula:

$$\begin{aligned} + \quad & PER_t = PER_{t-1} \left(\frac{PR_t}{PR_{t-1}} - ExcRt \times \frac{day}{365} \right) \\ + \quad & PER_{t-1} = \text{Price Excess Return Index Value previous calculation date} \\ + \quad & PER_t = \text{Price Excess Return Index Value on } t \\ + \quad & PR_{t-1} = \text{Price Return Index Value previous calculation date} \\ + \quad & PR_t = \text{Price Return Index Value on } t \\ + \quad & ExcRt = 0.65\% \\ + \quad & day = \text{number of calendar days between business day } t - 1 \text{ and } t \end{aligned}$$

1.3.1 FIRST TRUST GROWTH STRENGTH™ NET FEE INDEX

Index	Symbol	Base Date	Base Value	Currency
The First Trust Growth Strength™ Net Fee Index	FTGRSTNF™	01/22/2024	1000.00	USD

1.3.2 CALCULATION AND DISSEMINATION FREQUENCY

The Index is calculated during the trading day and is disseminated every second from 09:30:01 to 17:16:00 ET. The closing value of the Index may change up until 17:15:00 ET due to corrections to the closing value of the Underlying Indexes.

2. DISCLAIMER

Nasdaq may, from time to time, exercise reasonable discretion as it deems appropriate in order to ensure Index integrity, including but not limited to, quantitative inclusion criteria. Nasdaq may also, due to special circumstances, if deemed essential, apply discretionary adjustments to ensure and maintain the high quality of the index construction and calculation. Nasdaq does not guarantee that any Index accurately reflects future market performance.

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