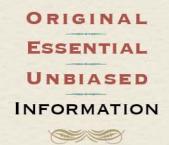


- November 7-10, 2010 | San Antonio -



# Tax Sensitive Investing

# **Effectively Managing Operating Funds in a Rising Tax Environment**

Christopher Van Alstyne
Senior Vice President
Investment Relationship Manager
Northern Trust Global Investments

#### **AGENDA**

#### **November 10, 2010**

- Northern Trust Corporate Overview
- The Corporate Tax Burden
- Tax Sensitive Investing
- Portfolio Construction
- Current Market Conditions/Considerations
- Tax-Adjusted Yield History Five Years
- Appendix
  - Economic Research Forecasts
  - Biographies



## **Northern Trust Corporate Overview**

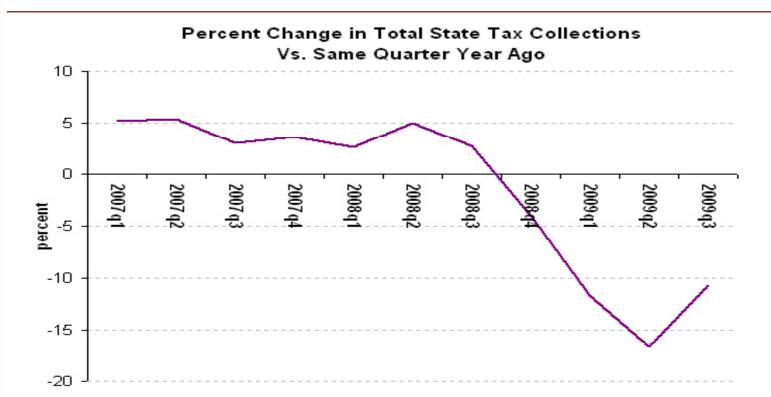
Northern Trust:
A Global Leader in
Investment, Trust and
Wealth Management
Service

For more than a century, Northern Trust has successfully provided people and institutions with financial products and advice through:

- Distinctive solutions
- High touch service
- Industry-leading technology

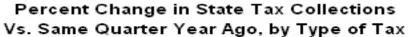
	As of 6/30/10
Assets Under Management	U.S. \$603.0 Billion
Assets Under Custody	U.S. \$3.6 Trillion
Worldwide Staff	12,940

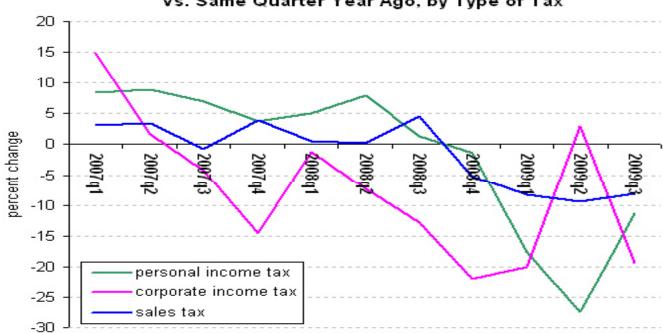




Source: Rockefeller Institute of Government







Source: Rockefeller Institute of Government



When compared to other OECD countries:

- 24 U.S. states have a combined corporate tax rate higher than top-ranked Japan.
- 32 states have a combined corporate tax rate higher than third-ranked Germany.
- 46 states have a combined corporate tax rate higher than fourth-ranked Canada.
- All 50 states have a combined corporate tax rate higher than fifth-ranked France.

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# Obama's 2011 Budget Tax Hikes Contradict Focus on Job Creation

The president needs to remove economic uncertainty

Eliminate the corporate income tax, and nobody gets hurt

Minneapolis Star Tribune - Todd Rapp - Feb 6, 2010

### In anti-tax Oregon, voters consider tapping the rich

Two measures will test how willing residents are to increase taxes on those theoretically best equipped to pay them -- the wealthy and big companies.

January 26, 2010/By Kim Murphy Los Angeles Times



## **Tax Sensitive Investing**

In today's complex financial environment, managing and investing balance sheet cash is a responsibility that requires not only time, but knowledge, expertise, and day-to-day attention. Highly volatile markets make the timing and execution of purchases and sales critical.

Consider tax sensitive investing objectives for balance sheet and operating assets:

- Incorporates the effective Fed corporate tax rate into everyday portfolio management decisions
- Captures value through trading on the dynamic and cyclical relationship of tax exempt muni yields to taxable alternatives
- Easily incorporated into a "second line of liquidity" investment strategy, overnight to 2 or 3
  year maturity focus
- Provides advantages in diversification and overall higher quality of municipal market versus corporates credits
- Investing on a best net after tax basis adds value continuously



- 1. Duration decision
- 2. Yield curve construction
- 3. Sector and quality weighting
- 4. Security selection



		Risk		
	Cash	Enhanced Cash	Short Duration Bond	
Description:	\$1 NAV Funds comprised of high quality 2(a)7 securities structured to maximize income while preserving principal and liquidity	Total Return Portfolios invested in high quality short-term instruments with a target WAM of 6-12 months	Total Return Portfolio focusing on sector allocation, security selection and yield curve management across a broad universe of investment grade securities	
Weighted Avg. Maturity:	90 day Weighted Average Life Max	6 Months	1.5-2.0 Years	
Average Quality:	AA	AA	AA	



#### 1. Duration decision

- a) Macro economic analysis
- b) Interest rate strategy forecast rolling six month view



#### 2. Yield curve construction

- a) Tactical liquidity considerations
- b) Scenario analysis anticipated curve reshaping
- c) Maturity demand/supply
- d) Relative value decision taxable vs. tax exempt



# 3. Sector and quality weighting

- a) Economic analysis by sector/state/region
- b) Relative value analysis -- credit and quality spreads
- c) Best net after tax screen snapshot and cyclical factors



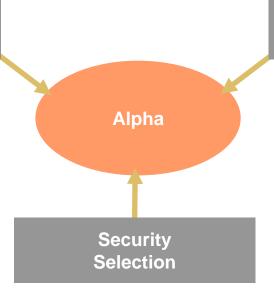
#### 4. Security selection

- a) Credit analysis by specialists for taxable and municipal securities
- b) Opportunities in new issue and secondary markets
- c) Dynamic sell/buy discipline actively employed particularly for money market issues



# Yield Curve Weighting

- Modest yield curve risk relative to money market alternatives
- Target Weighted Average Maturity (WAM) of 6 months for Standard and 12 months for Extended
- Yield curve "Roll-Down" a source of value from a positively sloped curve



#### Sector Allocation

- Spread product may enhance yield in a risk controlled manner
- Asset Backed
   Securities, Taxable
   Municipals, Corporate
   Bonds, Treasury and
   Agency Securities



# Eligible security universe:

- Treasuries, Agencies (state tax exempt include FHLB, FFCB, TVA), repo
- Bank CDs, commercial paper, corporate bonds, sovereign bonds, supranationals
- Asset backed issues
- Taxable munis
- Tax exempt muni VRDNs (variable rate demand notes with daily and weekly put options)
- Tax exempt Muni commercial paper
- Tax exempt muni notes and bonds: G.O.s, essential service bonds, revenue bonds, tax anticipation notes, AMT issues, put bonds
- Credit parameters: Recommend Tier Two or better short-term, Single A or better long-term
- Maturity parameters: Overnight to two or three years, with weighted average life standard



# Current Market Conditions/Considerations Current Market Yields

**Source: Northern Trust** 



# **Current Market Conditions/Considerations Yield ratios : Prime Muni / US Treasury**

Source : Northern Trust



# **Current Market Conditions/Considerations**Indices



# **Tax-Adjusted Yield History - Five Years**

## Municipal vs. Corporate and US Treasury

- 2 year maturity
- AAA Tax-Exempt Munis vs. AA Corporate Bonds and US Treasury Notes
- 5 year history at 35% tax rate

# Municipals vs. Taxable securities

- 1 week maturity
- Tax-Exempt Muni Variable Rate Demand Notes vs. LIBOR
- 5 year history at 35% tax rate



# **Tax-Adjusted Yield History - Five Years**

2 Year Yields - Muni vs. Corp & Treasury - Tax adjusted @ 35%

Source: Bloomberg



# **Tax-Adjusted Yield History - Five Years**

1 Week Yields - Muni vs. LIBOR - Tax adjusted @ 35%

Source: Bloomberg



# **Appendix**



#### **Economic and Interest Rate Forecast**

Table 1 US GDP, Inflation, and Unemployment Rate

	08:3a	08:4a	<u>2009</u> 09:1a 09:2a 09:3a 09:4f		2010 10:1f 10:2f 10:3f 10:4f			<u>04 to 04 Change</u> 2008a 2009f 2010f			<u>Annual Change</u> 2008a 2009f 2010f					
REAL GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT (% change from prior quarter)	-2.7	-5.4	-6.4	-0.7	2.8	3.5	2.4	2.4	2.7	3.2	-1.9	-0.3	2.7	0.4	-2.5	2.5
CONSUMPTION EXPENDITURES BUSINESS INVESTMENT RESIDENTIAL INVESTMENT CHANGE IN INVENTORIES ('00 dlrs, bill)	-3.5 -6.1 -15.9 -29.7	-3.1 -19.5 -23.2 -37.4	0.6 -39.2 -38.2 -113.9	-0.9 -9.6 -23.3 -160.2	2.9 -4.1 19.5 -133.4	1.9 -6.9 12.0 -88.8	1.7 -0.7 2.5 -68.8	2.0 0.3 2.5 -58.8	2.0 1.0 4.0 -48.8	2.3 2.9 5.0 -33.8	-1.8 -6.0 <b>-</b> 21.0	1.1 -16.3 -10.7	2.0 0.9 3.5	-0.2 1.6 -22.9 -25.9*	-0.6 -18.2 -20.0 -124.1*	1.9 -2.3 4.6 -52.6*
GOVERNMENT NET EXPORTS ('00 dlrs, bill.) FINAL SALES	4.8 -479.2 -2.9	1.2 -470.9 -4.7	-2.6 -386.5 -4.1	6.7 -330.4 0.2	3.1 -358.0 1.9	1.6 -346.1 1.6	1.9 -337.4 1.8	1.3 -324.8 2.1	2.1 -312.7 2.3	1.8 -299.7 2.7	3.1	2.2 0.0	1.8 2.2	3.1 -494.3* 0.8	2.1 -355.2* -1.7	2.2 -318.7* 1.9
NOMINAL GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT	1.4	-5.4	-4.6	-0.8	3.3	7.0	4.8	4.8	4.7	5.0	0.1	1.1	5.2	2.6	-1.1	4.8
GDP DEFLATOR - IMPLICIT (% change) CPI (% Change, 1982-84 = 100)	4.1 6.2	0.0 -8.3	1.9 -2.4	1.1 1.3	3.4 3.6	3.4 3.6	2.3 2.5	2.3 2.5	2.3 2.5	2.9 3.1	2.0 1.5	1.4 1.5	2.4 2.6	2.1 3.8	1.4 -0.3	2.2 2.8
CIVILIAN UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (avg.)	6.1	6.9	8.1	9.3	9.6	10.1	10.2	10.5	10.4	10.1				5.8*	9.3*	10.3*

a=actual

f=forecast

\*=annual average

**Table 2 Outlook for Interest Rates** 

	Quarterly Average											Annual Average		
SPECIFIC INTEREST RATES	<u>08:3a</u>	<u>08:4a</u>	<u>09:1a</u>	<u>09:2a</u>	<u>09:3a</u>	<u>09:4f</u>	10:1f	10:2f	10:3f	10:4f	2008a	<u>2009f</u>	<u>2010f</u>	
Federal Funds	1.94	0.51	0.18	0.18	0.16	0.13	0.15	0.15	0.40	0.95	1.93	0.16	0.41	
2-yr. Treasury Note	2.36	1.21	0.91	1.01	1.03	0.85	0.75	0.85	1.15	1.70	2.00	0.95	1.11	
10-yr. Treasury Note	3.86	3.25	2.74	3.31	3.52	3.40	3.40	3.45	3.70	4.00	3.67	3.24	3.64	

a = actual

f = forecast

**Source: Northern Trust** 



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