Public Finance Market Comment

December 18, 2023

Casy O'Brien, Managing Director // Jock Wright, Managing Director

A Holiday surprise greeted the bond market last week! The Fed left rates unchanged at the FOMC meeting and the Dot Plot showed that the Fed is anticipating 75 basis points of cuts in 2024. This is a major pivot on the Fed's view of "higher for longer" that was the markets' outlook. A much more dovish Fed sparked a huge rally across fixed income and equities. The markets are now looking for a rate cut as early as the March 2024 meeting. Key data releases and events this week are consumer confidence, personal income and spending, PCE, durable goods, and a 20-year UST auction.

Last week, Treasuries were lower by 33 basis points in 5 years, lower by 32 basis points in 10 years, and lower by 30 basis points in 30 years. Municipal yields were lower by 16 basis points in 5 years, lower by 17 basis points in 10 years, and lower by 18 basis points in 30 years. Ratios vs. Treasuries ended the week tighter. The five-year spot is at 57% of Treasuries, the ten-year spot is at 59% of Treasuries, and the thirty-year spot ended the week at 88% of comparable Treasuries. This week's supply totals \$1.5 bln, lower than last week's \$4.8 bln calendar. U.S. municipal bond funds reported \$524 mln of net outflows in the week ended December 13th, after an outflow of \$144 mln last week, according to data released by Lipper on Thursday. The SIFMA Index was higher by 40 basis points at 3.38% from last week.

KEY INTEREST RATES

Rate	Today	Last Week	Last Month	Last Year	
Nate	12/15/2023	12/8/2023	11/15/2023	12/15/2022	
Federal Funds Rate	5.50 5.50		5.50	4.50	
Prime Rate	8.50	8.50 8.50		7.50	
LIBOR (1 month)	5.47	5.47 5.44		4.34	
LIBOR (3 month)	5.63 5.63 5.63		5.63	4.74	
SIFMA	3.38	3.38 2.98 3.81		3.73	
SIFMA/1 M LIBOR %	61.8	8 54.5 70.0		86.0	
B.B. 20 Bond Index	3.46	3.41	3.93	3.59	
B.B. Rev. Index	3.74	3.69	4.21	3.87	
30-Day Visible Supply	4.0 B	5.2 B	9.2 B	7.3 B	
10-Year MMD	2.33	2.50	3.10	2.47	

AAA-RATED GENERAL OBLIGATION TAX-EXEMPT RATES



GENERAL OBLIGATION TAX-EXEMPT BOND MARKETS

Year	AAA Tax-Exempt	Current Tax-Exempt Credit Spreads		1 Month Ago Tax-Exempt Credit Spreads			1 Year Ago Tax-Exempt Credit Spreads			
		AA	Α	BBB	AA	Α	BBB	AA	Α	BBB
1	2.71	0.01	0.07	0.46	0.02	0.10	0.47	0.05	0.16	0.49
5	2.31	0.03	0.15	0.56	0.05	0.18	0.57	0.10	0.24	0.59
10	2.33	0.07	0.27	0.83	0.10	0.31	0.88	0.18	0.38	0.90
20	3.16	0.17	0.40	0.90	0.24	0.47	0.96	0.34	0.55	0.99
30	3.53	0.18	0.41	0.92	0.26	0.49	1.00	0.37	0.57	1.01

GENERAL OBLIGATION TAXABLE MARKET

Year	Treasury	AAA Taxable	65% Taxable	Spread to AAA Tax-Exempt	SOFR Fixed/Float Swap	70% SOFR Fixed/Float Swap	SIFMA
1	4.93	4.49	2.92	0.21	5.40	3.78	3.21
5	3.91	4.59	2.98	0.67	4.46	3.12	2.70
10	3.91	4.84	3.15	0.82	4.38	3.07	2.81
20	4.19	5.21	3.39	0.23	4.36	3.05	2.90
30	4.01	5.32	3.46	-0.07	4.16	2.91	2.87

© 2023 Raymond James & Associates, Inc., member New York Stock Exchange/SIPC. Raymond James® is a registered trademark of Raymond James Financial, Inc. Source: Bloomberg & Thomson Reuters. The information contained herein is based on sources which we believe reliable but is not guaranteed by us and is not to be considered all inclusive. It is not to be construed an offer or the solicitation of an offer to sell or buy the securities herein mentioned. This firm and/or its affiliates and/or its individual shareholders and/or members of their families may have position in the securities mentioned and may make purchases and/or sales of these securities from time to time in the open market or otherwise. Opinions expressed are present opinions only and are subject to change without notice. Raymond James may also perform or seek to perform investment banking for entities referred herein. Thomson Reuters Municipal Market Data (MMD) is a proprietary yield curve which provides the offer-side of AAA rated state general obligation bonds as determined by the MMD analyst team.