

Aim beyond the horizon

Franklin Templeton active municipal bond ETFs



Navigate the muni universe with the precision of a space mission

The vast and mysterious universe requires the expertise of seasoned astronauts and cutting-edge technology. Similarly, the complex and often opaque world of municipal bonds-the muniverse-demands skill and innovation.

Just as space exploration reaches beyond the horizon to unlock new possibilities, municipal bonds fuel the infrastructure that keeps our communities thriving—schools, hospitals, roads, and more. Chart your course toward discovery and value with our active municipal bond ETFs.

Table of contents

Your go-to partner to help chart the course	2
Active management is mission critical	3
Go-for-launch: Active muni bond ETFs	6

Your go-to partner to help chart the course

Franklin Templeton Fixed Income Municipal Bond Experts¹

\$64.1 billion

in municipal bond assets under management

30+

investment professionals

24 years

of financial industry experience, on average

15

research analysts

Experience and resources matter

FTFI is one of the largest municipal bond fund managers in the nation. Our experienced team of over 30 investment professionals has an average of 24 years of tenure with the firm. Leveraging the collective experience of our entire team, we apply an active approach that seeks to provide tax-efficient portfolios.

Comprehensive research capabilities

Our team of investment professionals conducts in-depth research up and down the yield curve, across the entire term structure, around the country and across the full credit spectrum in order to uncover opportunities others may miss.

Focus on risk management

Our team places a premium on risk management, which is fully incorporated into our process. We are generally patient when times are good and active when volatility increases. Unlike aggressive strategies which run a greater risk of becoming forced sellers, periods of stress have often been when we are able to capitalize on opportunities that can enhance a portfolio's income earning potential.



Ben BarberSVP
Director of Municipal Bonds
32 years of industry experience



Jennifer Johnston SVP Director of Municipal Research 31 years of industry experience



1. As of September 30, 2025

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Active management is mission critical

When it **is** rocket science, don't leave your team of experts behind. Consider these **five reasons** why active management may lead to superior outcomes compared to a passive approach.

A complex market

Investing in municipal bonds is difficult because the market is vast in size and complex, with a fragmented trading system making it difficult to navigate.

50,000+

Issuers for municipal securities, compared to 6,000 for corporate securities²

70+%

Of municipal bonds are held by individual investors, some of whom represent direct holders of bonds³

10,000+

New issues are priced each year; a large number of those issuers are infrequent participants³ 1,000,000

Distinct municipal bonds, compared to 40,000 distinct corporate bonds⁴

Shifting dynamics Shifting dyna

The proportion of municipal bonds rated AAA has fallen sharply since 2007–from 69% to just 17% in 2025. That dramatic shift underscores the need for the in-depth research from professional managers covering every level of the market.

Municipal Bond Market: Ratings Breakdown⁵

The Supply of High Quality Municipal Bonds is Down



- 2. Source: Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board (MSRB) as of January 31, 2025. Most recent data available.
- 3. Source: The Federal Reserve System, December 2024. Represents all municipals bonds held by individuals in a brokerage account or through a commingled vehicle.
- 4. Bloomberg.

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^{5.} Source: Bloomberg Municipal Research. Ratings shown are assigned by one or more Nationally Recognized Statistical Rating Organizations ('NRSRO'), such as Standard & Poor's, Moody's and Fitch. When ratings from multiple agencies are available, the highest is used, consistent with the portfolio investment process. Ratings reflect an NRSRO's opinion of an issuer's creditworthiness and typically range from AAA (highest) to D (lowest). The Refunded category consists of refunded bonds secured by U.S. government or other high-quality securities. The Not Rated category consists of ratable securities that have not been rated by an NRSRO. The Not Applicable category consists of third-party ETFs and securities that only have a short-term rating and are not cash equivalents. Cash includes equivalents, which may be rated.



Research coverage for non-rated bonds

For many issuers, obtaining a credit rating is not cost-effective, especially when new debt is infrequently issued or when the potential rating may not secure lower financing costs. In 2024, approximately 65% of new debt offerings were \$25 million or less in size, and nearly 80% were \$50 million or less. These distinctive characteristics of municipal market debt lead to inherent inefficiencies, which can be addressed through diligent active management, comprehensive credit research, and a thorough understanding of market participants.

Municipal Securities Are Issued At All Levels of Funding⁶

2024 Municipal Issues by Size

_	Tax Exempt			ole
Bond Issue Size	Number of Issues	Percentage	Number of Issues	Percentage
\$5 million or Less	2,080	25%	362	41%
>\$5 Million to \$25 Million	3,262	40%	238	27%
>\$25 Million to \$50 Million	1,139	14%	93	11%
>\$50 Million to \$100 Million	786	10%	76	9%
>\$100 Million to \$500 Million	804	10%	94	11%
>\$500 Million to \$ Billion	104	1%	10	1%
>\$1 Billion	44	1%	_	_
Grand Total	8,219		873	

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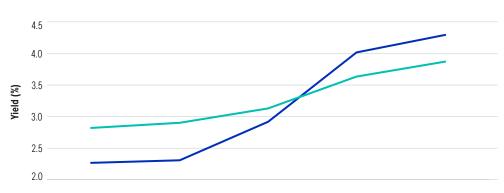
 $^{{\}it 6. Source: LSEG, excluding issues subject to Alternative \ Minimum \ Tax.}$

A steep municipal yield curve presents exciting opportunities for active management to add value

When the municipal bond yield curve is steep, it presents opportunities for active managers to generate higher returns by exploiting differences in relative value and yields across various bond maturities. Notably, the AAA-rated municipal curve exhibits a pronounced upward slope between the 10- and 30-year segments. This steepness in the longer maturities creates a beneficial "carry-and-roll" effect, which can cushion total returns even if interest rates rise.

BVAL Muni AAA Yield Curve⁷

As of September 30, 2025



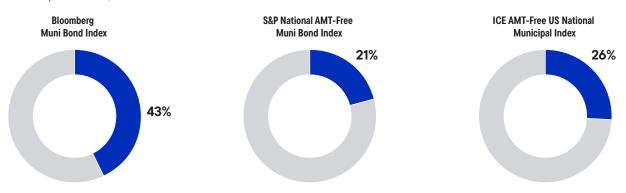
Bond Issue Size	2-Year	5-Year	10-Year	20-Year	30-Year
■ Municipal AAA (9/30/2025)	2.67	2.31	2.92	4.02	4.30
■ Municipal AAA (Prior Year-End)	2.82	2.90	3.13	3.64	3.87

Insufficient market coverage in passive muni strategies

While municipal bond indexes (and the index ETFs that track them) provide broad exposure to the muni market, they do not offer full market coverage. Key segments are often intentionally excluded from the underlying indexes, a practice that can impact returns and increase risk.

Coverage of Outstanding Municipal Bonds⁸

As of September 30, 2025



^{7.} Source: Bloomberg.

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^{8.} Source: Federal Reserve

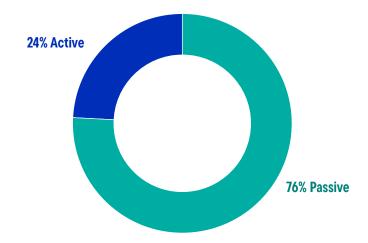
Go-for-launch: Active muni bond ETFs

Over the last 24 months, **ETFs account** for 62% of the flows within the municipal bond space (compared to 38% for mutual funds)—mirroring the broader industry trend of increased ETF adoption.

While the majority of muni ETFs are passive, **85% of muni ETF launches this year have been active.** We believe this to be an indicator that the future of muni ETFs is active.

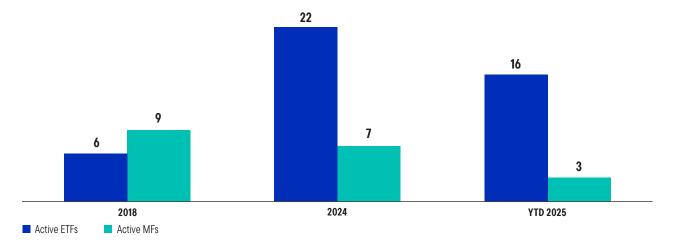
Breakdown of municipal bond ETFs by management style

Currently, the majority of ETFs in the municipal bond space are passive.



Active muni ETF vs active muni mutual fund launches

In 2024 we witnessed a shift in product launches within the active muni space—with the majority of new funds being ETFs. This trend has continued into 2025.



Source: Morningstar, as of September 30, 2025. All data for U. S.domiciled funds only.

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WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

All investments involve risks, including possible loss of principal. Fixed income securities involve interest rate, credit, inflation and reinvestment risks, and possible loss of principal. As interest rates rise, the value of fixed income securities falls, **Liquidity risk** exists when securities or other investments become more difficult to sell, or are unable to be sold, at the price at which they have been valued. Active management does not ensure gains or protect against market declines. Portfolios focused on a single state are subject to greater risk of adverse economic and regulatory changes than a geographically diversified portfolio.

ETFs trade like stocks, fluctuate in market value and may trade at prices above or below their net asset value. Brokerage commissions and ETF expenses will reduce returns. ETF shares may be bought or sold throughout the day at their market price, not their Net Asset Value (NAV), on the exchange on which they are listed. Shares of ETFs are tradable on secondary markets and may trade either at a premium or a discount to their NAV on the secondary market. Retail investors buy and sell shares of ETFs at market price (not NAV) in the secondary market throughout the trading day. These shares are not individually available for purchase or redemption directly from the ETF.

Before investing, carefully consider a fund's investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses. You can find this and other information in each prospectus, or summary prospectus, if available, at www.franklintempleton.com. Please read it carefully.

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