

Investment overview

Western Asset Tax Aware Portfolios seeks to provide investors with high quality after-tax income opportunities and total returns by investing in investment-grade municipal, treasury, and corporate credit obligations. The strategy leverages Western Asset's investment process, incorporating themes across duration, curve and structural complexities of the municipal market.

Investment objective

Seeks to:

Deliver attractive after-tax income and total return opportunities and seeks to outperform the Bloomberg Municipal 1-15 Year Bond Index over a full market cycle.

Investment philosophy

After-Tax Income Opportunities

- Access to full investment grade fixed income opportunity set across Municipals, Treasuries, and Corporates allow for diversified after-tax income opportunities across distinct sectors that can provide relative value

Access to Western Asset's Best Fixed Income Ideas

- The strategy benefits from Western Asset's macro resources which inform duration, curve, and credit positioning, as well as Western Asset's fixed income sector specialist teams that can provide value through security selection across municipal and taxable sectors

Client Flexibility and Customization

- 100% individual bond solution provides opportunity for client customization and potential tax savings through investment in in-state municipal securities, as well as efficient tax-loss harvesting opportunities through investment in more liquid fixed income sectors

Key differentiators

The Western Asset difference

- Western Asset is a globally integrated fixed income manager committed to understanding the needs of each client, identifying investment solutions and delivering superior long-term investment results.
- Western Asset Management is a leader in fixed income SMA management, with over \$22 billion across tax-exempt and taxable strategies
- Exclusive focus on fixed income management provides a unique perspective of continued relative valuation of various fixed income asset classes.
- Institutional-caliber buying power, trading expertise, and technology contribute to customization and favorable execution in markets where access to inventories is increasingly difficult.
- Client-facing resources willing to engage.

Management team

Western Asset, one of the world's leading fixed income managers, was founded in 1971. With a focus on long-term fundamental value investing that employs a top-down, bottom-up approach, the firm has nine offices around the globe and deep experience across the range of fixed income sectors. Western Asset has been recognized for its emphasis on team management and intensive proprietary research, supported by robust risk management.

Western Asset team-managed approach

- Team unites groups of specialists dedicated to different market sectors.
- Each group of sector specialists utilizes their expertise in bottom-up analysis of each portfolio sector.

¹ Diversification does not assure a profit or protect against market loss.

Investment process

STEP 1

Incorporation of client considerations

Western Asset's investment process begins with the establishment of objectives and guidelines, incorporating state, sector, liquidity and/or gain/loss considerations.

STEP 2

Interest rate and curve positioning

Western Asset's investment team incorporates a comprehensive firmwide macro process, utilizing a variety of domestic and international macroeconomic factors to establish duration and curve positioning.

Structure: The macro views and forward-looking fixed income analytics inform structure opportunities including coupon dynamics and exploit mispriced call options.

STEP 3

Sector allocation

The strategy employs Western Asset's best ideas across sectors of the municipal bond market with input from sector specialists.

STEP 4

Issue selection

Using a bottom-up process, Western Asset seeks to identify issuers with improving credit characteristics or securities where investors are compensated for underlying risk factors.

The investment process may change over time. The characteristics set forth above are intended as a general illustration of some of the criteria the strategy team considers in selecting securities for client portfolios. There is no guarantee that investment objectives will be achieved.

Portfolio Information†

As of March 31, 2025

Characteristics

	Portfolio
Effective Duration	5.64 Years
Yield to Worst	3.89%
Current Yield	4.33%
Weighted Average Life	6.80 Years
Cash Flow	3.80%

Sector Weightings (%)

	Portfolio
Leasing	20.14
Industrial Revenue	15.22
Hospital/Healthcare	14.01
Transportation	13.08
Treasury	8.04
Power	7.47
State General Obligation	7.24
IG Credit-Industrials	4.61
Local General Obligation	4.32
Education	3.12
IG Credit-Finance	2.76

Credit Quality (%)

	Portfolio
AAA	8.04
AA	17.16
A	64.32
BBB	10.48

Average Life (%)

	Portfolio
0 to 1 Year	10.11
1 to 3 Years	9.48
3 to 5 Years	15.72
5 to 7 Years	24.50
7 to 10 Years	18.10
10 to 15 Years	14.02
>15 Years	8.07

† Source: Western Asset. Portfolio characteristics listed are based on representative accounts and assumes no withdrawals, contributions, or client-imposed restrictions. Portfolio characteristics of individual client accounts may differ from those of the representative accounts as a result of account size, client-imposed restrictions, the timing of client investments, market conditions, contributions, withdrawals and other factors..

Credit quality is a measure of a bond issuer's ability to repay interest and principal in a timely manner. The credit ratings shown are based on each portfolio security's rating as provided by the following Nationally Recognized Statistical Rating Organizations ("NRSRO"): Standard and Poor's ("S&P"), Moody's Investors Service ("Moody's"), Fitch Ratings, Ltd. In the event a portfolio security is rated by more than one NRSRO, the higher rating is shown. In the case where a security is not rated by an NRSRO, these are listed as "Non Rated". The credit quality of the investments in the Portfolio does not apply to the stability or safety of the Portfolio. These ratings may change over time. The Portfolio itself has not been rated by an NRSRO.

Performance

Rates of Return – Pure Gross and Net of Fees (%) as of March 31, 2025 – (Inception date: 7/1/2024) – PRELIMINARY

	1 Mth	3 Mths	YTD	Since Incept
Tax Aware–Pure Gross of Fees—(USD)	-1.32	0.31	0.31	1.92
Tax Aware–Net of Fees—(USD)	-1.44	-0.07	-0.07	0.79
Bloomberg Muni 1-15 Yr Index—(USD)	-1.26	0.39	0.39	1.92

The strategy returns shown are preliminary composite returns, subject to future revision (downward or upward). Past performance is not a guarantee of future results. An investment in this strategy can lose value. Please visit www.franklintempleton.com for the latest performance figures. Investors cannot invest directly in an index, and unmanaged index returns do not reflect any fees, expenses or sales charges.

¹ **Fees:** Periods less than one year are not annualized. Performance results are for the composite which includes all actual, fully discretionary accounts with substantially similar investment policies and objectives managed to the composite's investment strategy. Composite returns are stated in U.S. dollars and assume reinvestment of any dividends, interest income, capital gains, or other earnings. The composite may include account(s) that are gross of fees and pure gross of fees. "Pure" gross-of-fee returns do not reflect the deduction of any expenses, including transaction costs. A traditional (or "true") gross-of-fee return reflects performance after the reduction of transaction costs but before the reduction of the investment advisory fee. The gross-of-fee return may include a blend of "true" gross-of-fee returns for non-wrap accounts and "pure" gross-of-fee returns for wrap accounts. Net-of-fee returns is reduced by a model "wrap fee" (1.5% is the maximum anticipated wrap fee for fixed income portfolios) which includes trading expenses as well as investment management, administrative and custodial fees. The model wrap fee used represents the highest anticipated wrap fee applicable to the strategy. Actual fees and account minimums may vary. For fee schedules, contact your financial professional, or if you enter into an agreement directly with Franklin Templeton Private Portfolio Group, LLC ("FTPPG"), refer to FTPPG's Form ADV Part 2A disclosure document. Management and performance of individual accounts may vary for reasons that include the existence of different implementation practices and model requirements in different investment programs. **To obtain specific information on available products and services or a GIPS® Report, contact your Franklin Templeton separately managed account sales team at (800) DIAL BEN/342-5236. Western Asset Management Company, LLC claims compliance with the Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS®). GIPS® is a registered trademark of CFA Institute. CFA Institute does not endorse or promote this organization, nor does it warrant the accuracy or quality of the content contained herein.**

Terms and definitions:

Weighted Average Life: An estimate of the number of years to maturity, taking the possibility of early payments into account, for the underlying holdings.

Effective Duration is a duration calculation for bonds with embedded options. Effective duration takes into account that expected cash flows will fluctuate as interest rates change.

Duration measures the sensitivity of price (the value of principal) of a fixed-income investment to a change in interest rates. The higher the duration number, the more sensitive a fixed-income investment will be to interest rate changes.

Yield to worst (YTW) is based on a portfolio's current holdings on one specific day, is gross of all portfolio expenses, and is calculated based on assumptions that prepayment occurs if the bond has call or put provisions and the issuer can offer a lower coupon rate based on current market rates. If market rates are higher than the current yield of a bond, the YTW calculation will assume no prepayments are made, and YTW will equal the yield to maturity. The YTW will be the lowest of yield to maturity or yield to call (if the bond has prepayment provisions). The YTW of a bond portfolio is the market-weighted average of the YTWs of all the bonds in the portfolio.

Standard deviation measures the risk or volatility of an investment's return over a particular time period; the greater the number, the greater the risk.

The **up-capture ratio** measures the manager's overall performance to the benchmark's overall performance, considering only quarters that are positive in the benchmark. An up-capture ratio of more than 100 indicates a manager who outperforms the relative benchmark in the benchmark's positive quarters.

The **down-capture ratio** is the ratio of the manager's overall performance to the benchmark's overall performance, considering only quarters that are negative in the benchmark. A down-capture ratio of less than 100 indicates a manager who outperforms the relative benchmark in the benchmark's negative quarters and protects more of a portfolio's value during down markets.

Alpha is a measure of performance vs. a benchmark on a risk-adjusted basis. A positive alpha of 1.0 means the portfolio has outperformed its benchmark index by 1%. Correspondingly, a similar negative alpha would indicate an underperformance of 1%. Alpha is a measure of the difference between actual returns and expected performance measuring sensitivity to index movements.

Beta measures the sensitivity of an investment to the movement of its benchmark. A beta higher than 1.0 indicates the investment has been more volatile than the benchmark and a beta of less than 1.0 indicates that the investment has been less volatile than the benchmark.

Sharpe ratio is a risk-adjusted measure, calculated using standard deviation and excess return to determine reward per unit of risk. The higher the Sharpe ratio, the better a portfolio's historical risk-adjusted performance.

R-squared measures the strength of the linear relationship between a fund and its benchmark. R-squared at 1.00 implies perfect linear relationship and zero implies no relationship exists.

The **Bloomberg Municipal 1-15 Year Bond Index** is a market value weighted index of investment-grade fixed-rate municipal bonds with maturities of 1-15 years.

Source: Bloomberg Indices.

What are the risks?

All investments involve risk, including the loss of principal, and there is no guarantee that investment objectives will be met. Fixed income securities are subject to interest rate and credit risk, which is a possibility that the issuer of a security will be unable to make interest payments and repay the principal on its debt. As interest rates rise, the price of fixed income securities falls. Investments may also be made in mortgage-backed, asset-backed securities and taxable municipal securities. **Asset-backed securities** generally decrease in value as a result of interest rate increases but may benefit less than other fixed-income securities from declining interest rates, principally because of prepayments. **Mortgage-backed securities** involve additional risk over more traditional fixed-income investments, including interest rate risk, implied call and extension risks; and the possibility of premature return of principal due to mortgage prepayment, which can reduce expected yield and lead to price volatility. **Foreign securities**, where permitted, are subject to the additional risks of fluctuations in foreign exchange rates, changes in political and economic conditions, foreign taxation, and differences in auditing and financial standards. These risks are magnified in the case of investments in **emerging markets**.

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