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# **SIT MINNESOTA TAX-FREE INCOME FUND (SMTFX)**

## **PRESENTATION TO FINANCIAL PLANNING ASSOCIATION OF MINNESOTA**

**SEPTEMBER 18, 2018**

**PRESENTATION BY**

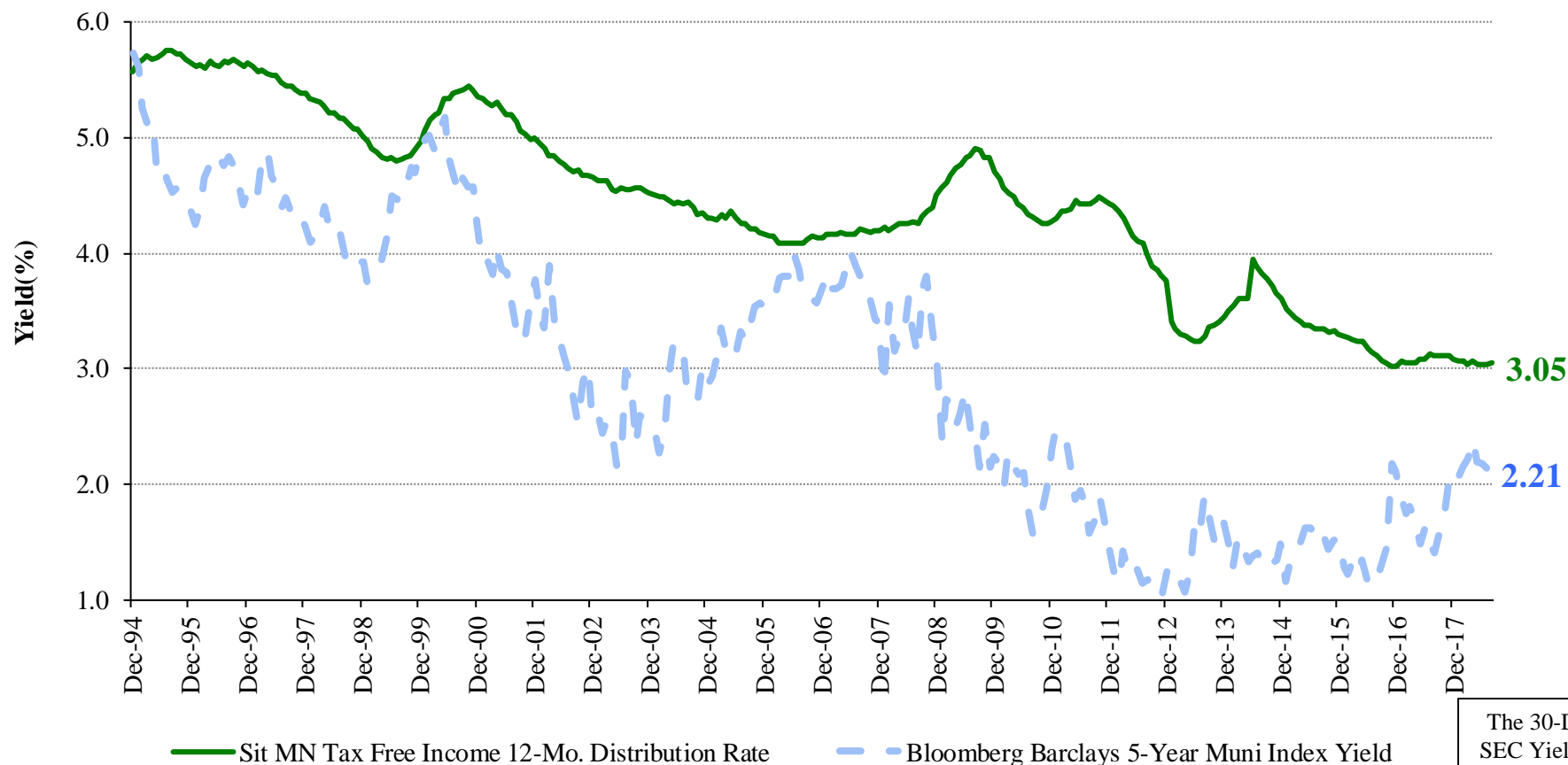
**MICHAEL C. BRILLEY**

**PRESIDENT AND CHIEF FIXED INCOME OFFICER  
SIT INVESTMENT FIXED INCOME ADVISORS, INC.**

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## SIT MN TAX-FREE INCOME 12 Mo. DISTRIBUTION RATE VS 5 YEAR MUNI INDEX YIELD

As of August 31, 2018



The SEC yield reflects the rate at which the Fund is earning income on its current portfolio of securities, while the distribution rate reflects the Fund's past dividends paid to shareholders based on the net investment income distributed and the average NAV during the past 12 months. Accordingly, the Fund's SEC yield and distribution rate may differ. Performance figures are historical and do not guarantee future results. Investment returns and principal value will vary, and you may have a gain or loss when you sell shares. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data quoted. Contact the Fund for performance data current to the most recent month end at [www.sitfunds.com](http://www.sitfunds.com) or 800-332-5580. Returns include changes in share price as well as reinvestment of all dividends and capital gains. Returns do not reflect the deduction of taxes that a shareholder would pay on Fund distributions or the redemption of Fund shares. Management fees and administration expenses are included in the Fund's performance. Returns for periods greater than one year are compounded average annual rates of return. The **30-Day SEC Yield** reflects the rate at which the Fund is earning income on its current portfolio of securities, while the **Distribution Rate** reflects the Fund's past dividends paid to shareholders based on the net investment income distributed and the average NAV during the past 12 months. **Yield to worst** is the lower of the yield to maturity of the yield to the call date for a bond.



Sit Investment Associates

Carefully consider the Fund's investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses before investing. The Fund's prospectus contains this and other important Fund information and may be obtained at [www.sitfunds.com](http://www.sitfunds.com) or by calling 1-800-332-5580. Please see additional information in the last section entitled "Disclosures".

**SIT MN TAX-FREE INCOME FUND QUARTERLY AND ANNUAL RATES OF INCOME RETURN <sup>(1)</sup>**  
**(INCOME RETURN RATES ARE AFTER INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT FEES)**

	<u>1st Qtr</u>	<u>2nd Qtr</u>	<u>3rd Qtr</u>	<u>4th Qtr</u>	<u>Annual</u>		<u>1st Qtr</u>	<u>2nd Qtr</u>	<u>3rd Qtr</u>	<u>4th Qtr</u>	<u>Annual</u>
1993				0.40*	0.40*	2006	1.01	1.06	1.05	1.03	4.21
1994	1.32	1.39	1.39	1.52	5.73	2007	1.04	1.06	1.06	1.08	4.31
1995	1.43	1.41	1.40	1.41	5.77	2008	1.09	1.06	1.13	1.32	4.68
1996	1.40	1.43	1.45	1.39	5.79	2009	1.23	1.20	1.16	1.13	4.80
1997	1.35	1.37	1.35	1.33	5.51	2010	1.04	1.07	1.06	1.11	4.35
1998	1.28	1.26	1.26	1.24	5.14	2011	1.13	1.15	1.09	1.07	4.51
1999	1.12	1.21	1.28	1.38	5.10	2012	1.01	0.95	0.88	0.93	3.82
2000	1.36	1.34	1.36	1.31	5.48	2013	0.82	0.88	1.04	1.05	3.84
2001	1.28	1.27	1.21	1.25	5.11	2014	0.97	0.89	0.87	0.87	3.65
2002	1.13	1.20	1.15	1.19	4.76	2015	0.82	0.83	0.83	0.83	3.34
2003	1.11	1.13	1.16	1.14	4.62	2016	0.77	0.75	0.72	0.79	3.07
2004	1.07	1.09	1.10	1.06	4.39	2017	0.81	0.79	0.75	0.74	3.12
2005	1.10	1.06	1.01	1.01	4.24	2018	0.77	0.79	-	-	1.57**

\* Return is from 12/1/93 - 12/31/93.

(1) Income return rates were calculated by summing the quarterly dividend rates per share and dividing the sum by the NAV at the beginning of the quarter.

\*\* Return is from 1/1/18 - 6/30/18

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**SIT MN TAX - FREE INCOME FUND**  
**PORTFOLIO STATISTICS (W/O CASH)**

As of August 31, 2018

	<u><b>Rated Only</b></u>	<u><b>Non-Rated Only</b></u>	<u><b>Total Portfolio</b></u>
<b>Stated Maturity (Years)</b>	17.22	15.16	16.02
<b>Weighted Average Coupon</b>	4.41	5.14	4.48
<b>Average Life Yield</b>	3.29	4.51	3.45
<b>Average Life Duration (Years)</b>	5.25	5.12	4.49
<b>Number of Different Credits</b>	269	137	406
<b>Largest Credit % of Total Portfolio</b>	1.9	0.8	--
<b>Average Credit % of Total Portfolio</b>	0.4	0.2	--
<b>% of Total Portfolio</b>	69.9	26.8	--
<b>Total Assets (including cash)</b>			\$574.5 Million

## SIT MINNESOTA TAX-FREE INCOME FUND (SMTFX)

### AUGUST 31, 2018

		Federal Tax Rate	
30 - Day SEC Yield		38.8%	40.8%
<b>2.82%</b>	Tax-Equivalent Yields *	<b>5.5%</b>	<b>5.7%</b>

\*Assumes the maximum MN tax bracket of 9.85% and 3.8% net investment income surtax.

Please see the Fund's 1-, 5-, and 10- year total return figures on page 11.

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# SIT MN TAX - FREE INCOME FUND

## AVERAGE ANNUAL RETURNS AND CATEGORY RANK

As of August 31, 2018

	<b>Total Return (%)</b>				
	<u>YTD</u>	<u>1 Yr.</u>	<u>3 Yr.</u>	<u>5 Yr.</u>	<u>10 Yr.</u>
Sit MN Tax-Free Income Fund	0.84	2.31	2.98	4.56	4.53
Bloomberg Barclay's 5-Yr Muni Index	0.66	-0.74	1.55	2.16	3.21

	<b>Morningstar Category Rank (%)</b>				
	<u>YTD</u>	<u>1 Yr.</u>	<u>3 Yr.</u>	<u>5 Yr.</u>	<u>10 Yr.</u>
Sit MN Tax-Free Income Fund	11	9	10	13	12

The Sit MN Tax-Free Income Fund's inception was 12/1/93.

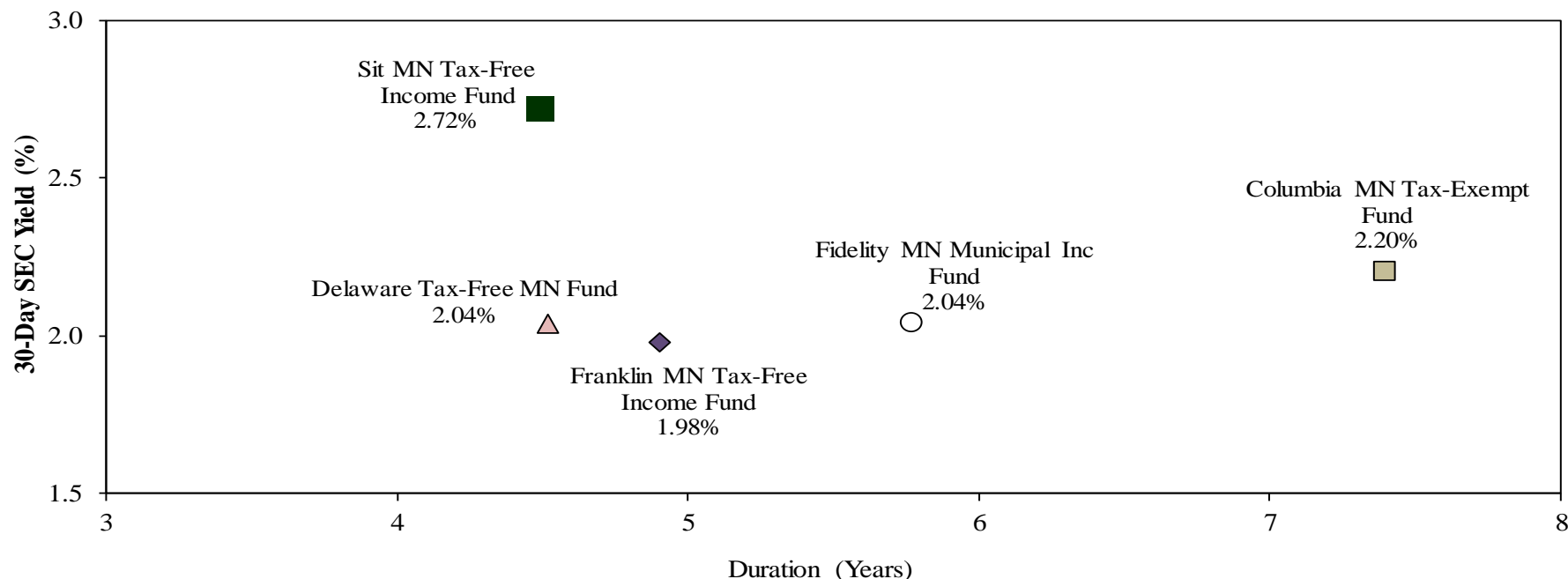
*There were 55 funds in the Minnesota Municipal Funds Category on 8/31/18.*

*Category Rank Source: Morningstar*

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## FIVE LARGEST MINNESOTA TAX-EXEMPT MUTUAL FUNDS' YIELDS AND DURATION

As of June 30, 2018



### Average Annual Total Returns (%) as of June 30, 2018

	<u>1 Year</u>	<u>3 Year</u>	<u>5 Year</u>	<u>10 Year</u>
<b>Sit MN Tax-Free Income Fund (SMTFX)</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>4.5</b>
Columbia MN Tax-Exempt Fund	1.5	2.6	3.6	4.5
Delaware Tax-Free MN Fund	1.1	2.3	3.3	4.1
Fidelity MN Municipal Income Fund	0.8	2.2	2.8	3.7
Franklin MN Tax-Free Income Fund	0.8	2.0	2.8	3.8
Bloomberg Barclays 5-Year Municipal Bond Index	0.3	1.6	2.1	3.5

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# SIT MINNESOTA TAX-FREE INCOME FUND PERFORMANCE SUMMARY

## Average Annual Total Returns (%) as of June 30, 2018

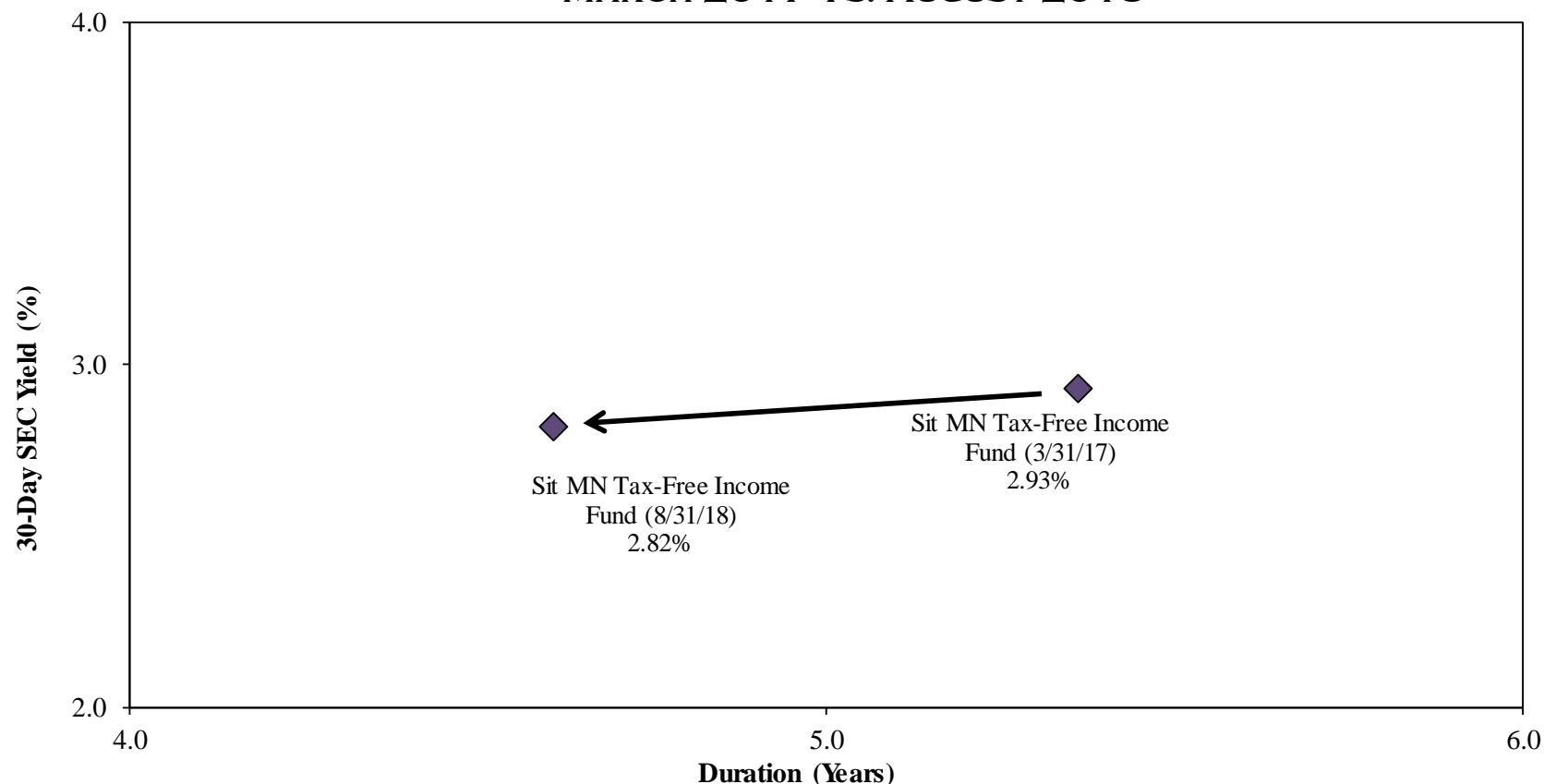
<b>Sector Performance Summary</b>	<u>% of Port.</u>	<u>1 Year</u>	<u>3 Year</u>	<u>5 Year</u>	<u>10 Year</u>
Multi-Family Housing Sector Holdings	20.2%	<b>5.3</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>6.4</b>
Single-Family Housing Sector Holdings	18.5%	<b>2.3</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>5.0</b>
<i>Bloomberg Barclays Housing Index</i>		2.1	3.2	3.9	5.0
Healthcare Sector Holdings	15.8%	<b>3.1</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>5.9</b>
<i>Bloomberg Barclays Healthcare Index</i>		2.6	3.6	5.5	5.5
Education Sector Holdings	13.2%	<b>3.1</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>5.7</b>	<b>5.9</b>
<i>Bloomberg Barclays Education Index</i>		1.6	3.0	3.8	4.6
 <b>Non-Rated Bond Performance Summary</b>					
	<u>% of Port.</u>	<u>1 Year</u>	<u>3 Year</u>	<u>5 Year</u>	<u>10 Year</u>
Non-Rated Holdings	26.8 %	<b>5.6</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>6.1</b>
Rated Holdings	69.9 %	2.2	3.5	4.2	5.1
Sit MN Tax-Free Income Fund Gross of Fees		3.7	3.9	4.6	5.3
 <i>Sit MN Tax-Free Income Fund Net of Fees</i>		<b>2.9</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>4.5</b>
<i>Bloomberg Barclays 5-Year Muni Bond Index</i>		0.3	1.6	2.1	3.5

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## MN TAX - FREE INCOME FUND YIELDS AND DURATIONS MARCH 2017 Vs. AUGUST 2018



### Average Annual Total Returns (%) as of August 31, 2018

	<u>1 Year</u>	<u>3 Year</u>	<u>5 Year</u>	<u>10 Year</u>	<u>Since Inception</u>
Sit Minnesota Tax-Free Income Fund (SMTFX)	2.3	3.0	4.6	4.5	4.7
Bloomberg Barclays 5-Year Municipal Index	-0.7	1.6	2.2	3.2	4.2

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## DISCLOSURES

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Carefully consider the Fund's investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses before investing. The prospectus contains this and other important Fund information and may be obtained by calling Sit Mutual Funds at 1-800-332-5580 or at [www.sitfunds.com](http://www.sitfunds.com). Read the prospectus carefully before investing.

Fund holdings, sector allocations (as % of market value) and portfolio characteristics may change at any time and are not investment recommendations.

**The Bloomberg Barclays 5-Year Municipal Bond Index** is an unmanaged index of long-term, fixed-rate, investment-grade, tax-exempt bonds representative of the municipal bond market and is the 5-year (4-6) component of the Bloomberg Barclays Municipal Bond Index.

**The Bloomberg Barclays Municipal Index** is an unmanaged index considered representative of the tax-exempt bond market. The index returns include the reinvestment of income and do not include any transaction costs, management fees or other costs. It is not possible to invest directly in an index.

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## DISCLOSURES - CONTINUED

**Duration** is a measure of estimated price sensitivity relative to changes in interest rates. Portfolios with longer durations are typically more sensitive to changes in interest rates. For example, if interest rates rise by 1%, the market value of a security with an effective duration of 5 years would decrease by 5%, with all other factors being constant. The correlation between duration and price sensitivity is greater for securities rates investment-grade than it is for securities rated below investment-grade. Duration estimates are based on assumptions by Sit Investment and are subject to a number of limitations.

**Effective duration** is calculated based on historical price changes of securities held by the Fund, and therefore is a more accurate estimate of price sensitivity provided interest rates remain within their historical range.

Investment in debt securities typically decrease in value when interest rates rise. The risk is usually greater for longer-term debt securities. Mortgage-backed securities involve risk of loss due to prepayments and defaults.

### Average Annual Total Returns (%) as of August 31, 2018

	<u>1 Year</u>	<u>3 Year</u>	<u>5 Year</u>	<u>10 Year</u>	<u>Since Inception</u>
<b><u>Tax-Free</u></b>					
Sit Minnesota Tax-Free Income Fund (SMTFX)	2.3	3.0	4.6	4.5	4.7
Bloomberg Barclays 5-Year Municipal Index	-0.7	1.6	2.2	3.2	4.2
Bloomberg Barclays Municipal Index	0.5	2.7	4.1	4.3	5.0

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## DISCLOSURES - CONTINUED

This summary may contain the collective opinions of our analysts and portfolio managers, and is provided for informational purposes only. While the information is accurate at the time of writing, such information is subject to change at any time without notice. Before you invest, please read the prospectus carefully.

Investment in debt securities typically decrease in value when interest rates rise. The risk is usually greater for longer-term debt securities. Mortgage-backed securities involve risk of loss due to prepayments and defaults. Income from tax-exempt funds may be subject to state & local taxes, and a portion of income may be subject to federal income tax including the alternative minimum tax (AMT). Capital gains distributions, if any, will be subject to tax.

### **Risks specific to Sit MN Tax-Free Fund**

Fixed-income securities represent issuer default risk, and the revenue bonds in which the Fund invests may entail greater credit risk than the Fund's investments in general obligation bonds. Market risk may affect a single issuer, sector of the economy, industry or the market as a whole. Tax, legislative, regulatory, demographic or political changes in Minnesota, as well as changes impacting Minnesota's financial, economic or other conditions may adversely impact the Fund. The Fund may be more adversely affected than other funds by future changes in federal or state income tax laws. A relatively small number of Minnesota tax-exempt issuers may necessitate the Fund investing a larger portion of its assets in a limited number of issuers than a more diversified fund, and the Fund may be more susceptible to a single economic, political or regulatory occurrence than a more diversified fund. The Fund invests a significant portion of its assets in certain sectors including health care facility bonds, housing authority bonds, and education bonds, and therefore the Fund may be more affected by events influencing these sectors than a fund that is more diversified across numerous sectors. Call risk exists as a fixed-income security may be called, prepaid or redeemed before maturity and that similar-yielding investments may not be available for purchase. An increase in interest rates may lower the value of the fixed-income securities held by the Fund. Falling interest rates may lower the income earned by the Fund and result in the Fund investing in lower-yielding securities, lowering the Fund's income and yield. Federal and state tax rules apply to capital gain distributions and any gains or losses on sales. Income may be subject to state, local or alternative minimum taxes. There may be limited liquidity for certain fixed-income securities. The Fund may hold securities for which prices from pricing services may be unavailable or are deemed unreliable.