

# PUBLIC FINANCE MARKET UPDATE Prepared by PMA Securities, Inc.

**JUNE 2016** 

## BQ vs. Non-BQ (Aa2)



#### **PUBLIC FINANCE TRENDS**

## Volatility in the Illinois Municipal Market

Graph 1 compares a Bank-Qualified (BQ) issue to a Non Bank-Qualified (NBQ) issue. This month's data surprisingly shows lower NBQ rates at every term of comparison. Please note, however, that the indicated yields do not account for couponing, which may be an important factor in the lower NBQ rates. Graph 2 reflects the value of credit strength and shows another surprising result as the spread between Aa2 and A2 credits is tighter than expected. Both of the above graphs are uncommon and may be indicative of a volatile Illinois market, which continues to be plagued by political strife. As recently as May 31, 2016, the State Senate failed to pass a House-approved budget, prolonging the year-long budget impasse.

Source: Bloomberg

### FEATURED ECONOMIC INDICATOR

## **US Productivity Tumbles**

The U.S. economy has experienced a dramatic fall in productivity since the Great Recession. Productivity is defined as output per hours worked in the economy. It decreased at a 2.2% seasonally adjusted annual rate in the fourth quarter. The math is simple - economic growth has been slow while hours worked have increased. A lack of investment by businesses and deteriorating infrastructure may be to blame. Others believe we may be on the cusp of reaping the benefits of new technologies such as social media and artificial intelligence. If productivity does not improve, businesses may cut jobs to reduce costs.

Source: Financial Times, Wall Street Journal, Prudent Man Advisors, Inc.



Source: Bloomberg

## Aa2 vs. A2 (BQ)



## U.S. Economic Indicators

Event	Event Date	Period	Survey	Actual	Prior / Revised (R)
Retail Sales Ex. Auto (MoM)	05/13/16	APR	0.5%	0.8%	0.4% (R)
Core CPI (YoY)	05/17/16	APR	2.1%	2.1%	2.2%
New Home Sales	05/24/16	APR	523K	619K	531K (R)
Personal Income (MoM)	05/31/16	APR	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%
Personal Spending (MoM)	05/31/16	APR	0.7%	1.0%	0.0% (R)
Consumer Confidence	05/31/16	MAY	96.1	92.6	94.7 (R)
ISM Manufacturing	05/31/16	MAY	50.3	51.3	50.8
Change in Nonfarm Payrolls	06/03/16	MAY	160K		160K
Unemployment Rate	06/03/16	MAY	4.9%		5.0%

Source: Bloomberg Finance L.P., 6/2/16

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