

The annual yield of the Index in 2003 averaged 4.74%, lower than 2002 and for more than the past two decades. Volatility, as seen in the "Low-to-High-Spread" below, picked up as various economic and other factors influenced the market. The variance of 0.97% between the high and low rates in 2003 indicates the relative stability of the tax-exempt market.

20 G.O. Bond Buyer Index - Annual Averages

	Year Low		Year High		Low-to-High	Average
	Date	Yield	Date	Yield	Spread	Annual Yield
1993	Oct 20	5.20%	Jan 14	6.19%	0.99%	5.69%
1994	Feb 03	5.25%	Nov 17	7.06%	1.81%	6.15%
1995	Dec 07	5.35%	Jan 05	6.66%	1.31%	5.95%
1996	Feb 15	5.33%	Jun 13	6.12%	0.79%	5.75%
1997	Dec 23	5.14%	Apr 03	5.88%	0.74%	5.51%
1998	Oct 01	4.82%	Apr 30	5.32%	0.50%	5.07%
1999	Jan 08	4.96%	Dec 29	6.00%	1.04%	5.48%
2000	Dec 28	5.14%	Jan 20	6.09%	0.95%	5.71%
2001	Nov 08	4.91%	Apr 26	5.34%	0.43%	5.15%
2002	Oct 10	4.66%	Mar 21	5.34%	0.68%	5.03%
2003	Jun 12	4.21%	Aug 14	5.18%	0.97%	4.74%

A second indicator of the volatility of the municipal market is the difference in the average monthly yield. As shown below, 2003 volatility was higher on a intermonthly basis than in the past five years.

20 G.O. Bond Buyer Index - Monthly Average

	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
January	5.04%	5.01%	6.07%	5.09%	5.16%	4.64%
February	5.01%	5.03%	6.00%	5.17%	5.10%	4.73%
March	5.21%	5.10%	5.83%	5.13%	5.28%	4.89%
April	5.23%	5.07%	5.75%	5.27%	5.21%	4.92%
May	5.19%	5.18%	6.00%	5.29%	5.18%	5.10%
June	5.11%	5.37%	5.80%	5.20%	5.08%	4.74%
July	5.15%	5.39%	5.63%	5.19%	5.02%	4.33%
August	5.09%	5.58%	5.51%	5.03%	4.95%	4.41%
September	4.98%	5.69%	5.55%	5.09%	4.73%	4.74%
October	4.93%	5.92%	5.59%	5.04%	4.87%	4.76%
November	5.03%	5.86%	5.54%	5.03%	4.95%	4.81%
December	4.97%	5.95%	5.23%	5.24%	4.84%	4.90%
Monthly Average Differential ..	0.10%	0.07%	0.13%	0.08%	0.10%	0.16%

The Bond Buyer Index was reported at 4.64% on January 9, 2004. This compares to 4.60% during the last week of 2003.