

# How to Handle Buyer's Remorse as Interest Rates Rise

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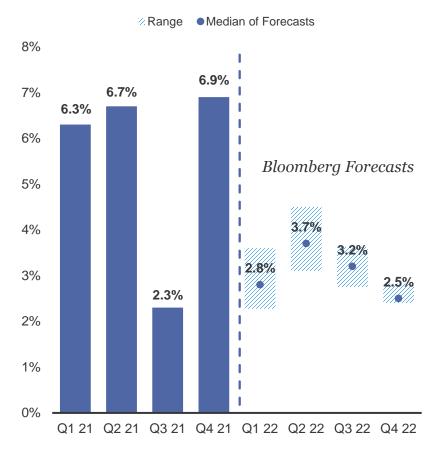
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# **Unprecedented Fiscal and Monetary Support Has Supported Strong Economic Recovery**





#### **Congressional Actions**

#### \$7.8 billion

Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act

#### \$15.4 billion

Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA)

#### \$2.1 trillion

Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act

#### \$483 billion

Paycheck Protection Program and Health Care Enhancement Act

#### \$900 billion

Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act

#### \$1.9 trillion

American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act of 2021

#### \$1.2 trillion

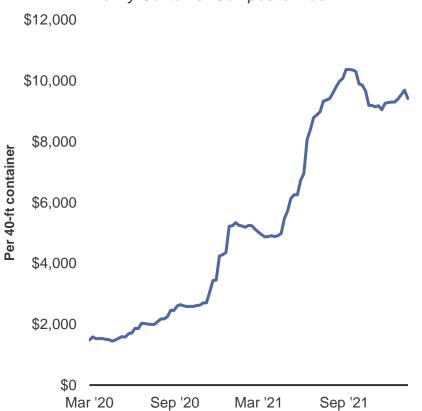
Infrastructure Bill



# **Supply Chain Disruptions in 2021**

#### **Shipping Container Costs**

Drewry Container Composite Index





A record 96 container ships waiting outside the nation's busiest port



*Industrial rents rose 7.1% on the year* 

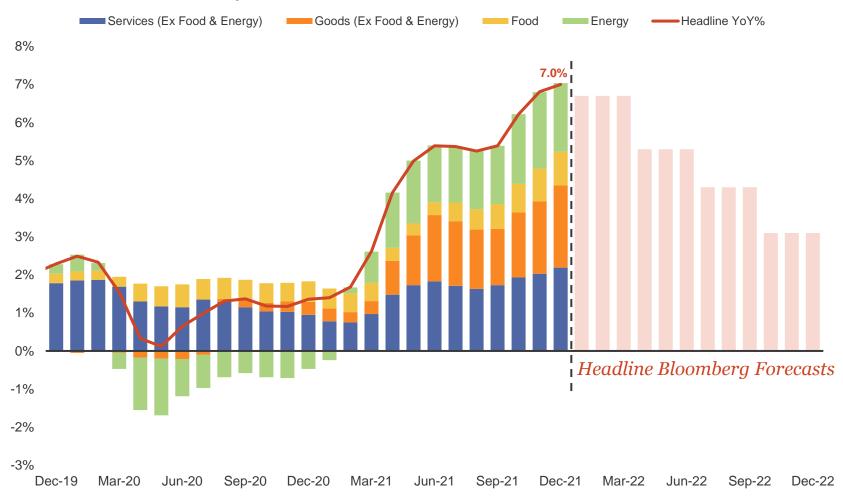


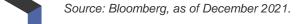
Driver shortage worsened by over 30% since the pandemic



# **Inflation at 40-Year High**

#### **Top-Line Contributions and CPI Year over Year**





# **Takeaways**

► Economic growth in 2021 has been strong, supported by the Federal Reserve and Congress.

► Pandemic-related headwinds remain, including supply issues.

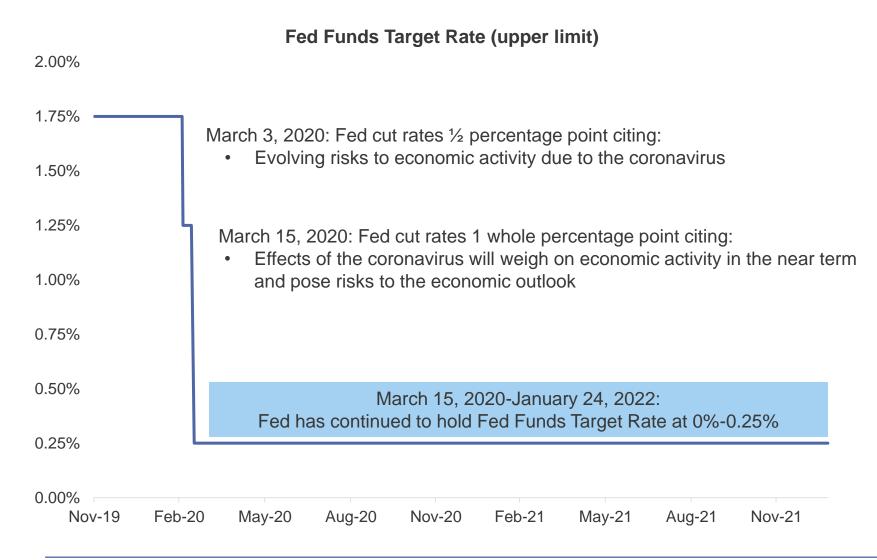
Prices are high across all sectors, including food and energy, and inflation is at a 40-year high.



# What's going on with interest rates?

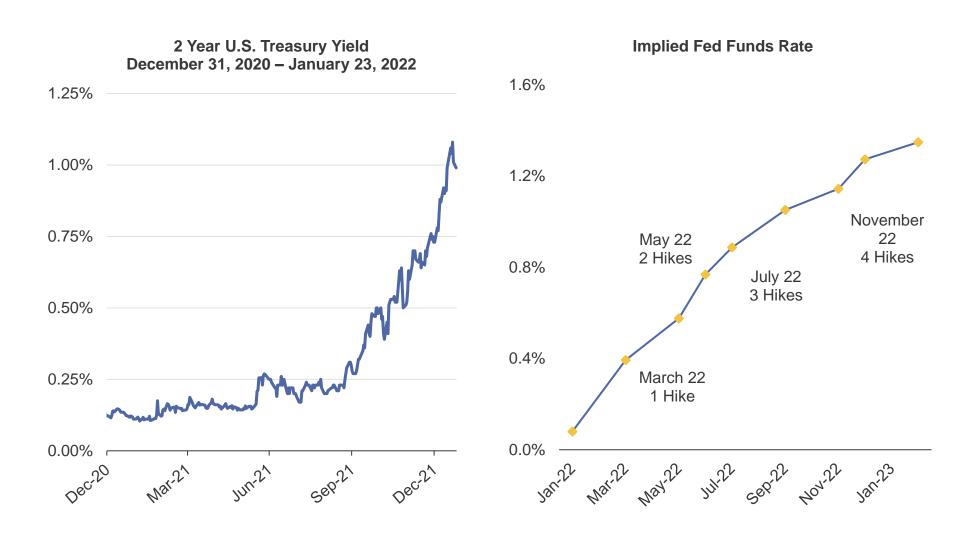


# A Step Back...How Did We Get Here?





## Fed is set to raise interest rates in 2022...



# **Takeaways**

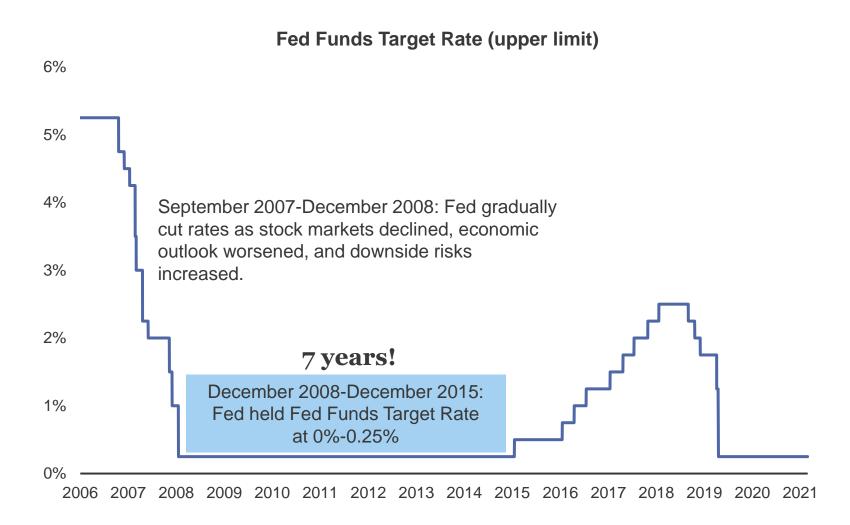
- ▶ In March 2020, the Federal Reserve cut the fed funds target rate to 0%-0.25% to help the economy withstand the impacts of the coronavirus.
- Interest rates on securities with maturities under five years followed suit and sank to historically low levels.
- After almost two years of interest rates near historic lows, rates are now moving higher.
- Interest rates are moving up in anticipation of the Federal Reserve raising the Fed funds target rate, with the first hike coming next month.



# Why does this sound familiar?

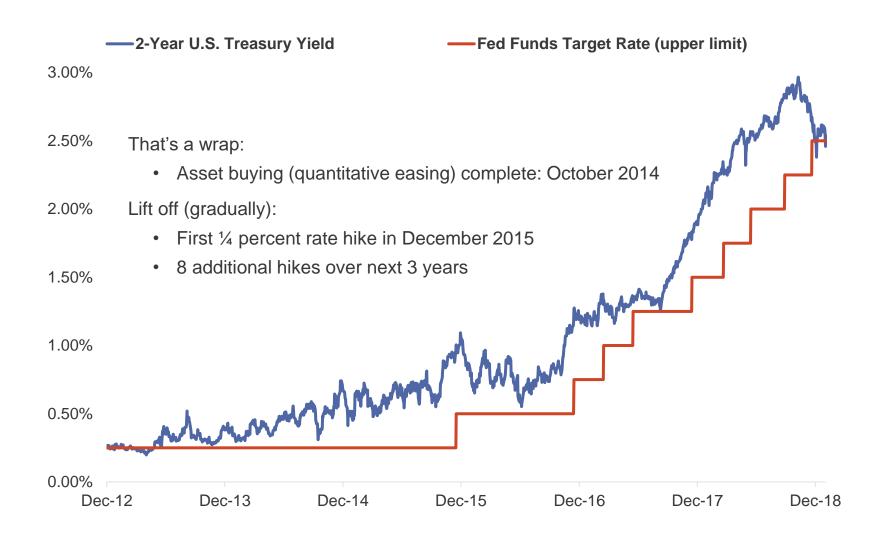


# Another Step Back...We've Been Here Before





#### Rate Hikes the Last Time Around





# What may happen this time around?



# First Let's Compare the Economic Situations

	2015	2021
Inflation	0.7% yoy December	7% yoy December
Pandemic impacts	None	Many
Unemployment Rate	Trending lower 5% in December	Trending lower 3.9% in December
GDP	3.1%	5.5%
2-Year Treasury yield (12/31)	1.06%	0.73%
Most recent recession	Ended: June 2009 Lasted:19 months	Ended: April 2020 Lasted: 2 months



# Now Let's See What The Fed is Telling Us

# Federal Reserve's Changing Stance on Inflation and Monetary Policy

- April 2021: Fed characterizes inflationary pressure as "transitory"
- June 2021: Widening dispersion between Fed participants' views on monetary policy as economy improves; more officials indicate rate lift-off is expected by end of 2023
- September 2021: Signals tapering of asset purchases could begin later in the year, but rates will remain near zero
- November 2021: Retires the term "transitory," announces tapering of bond purchases; signals 2-3 rate hikes in 2022
- December 2021: Announces accelerated tapering; sees three rate hikes in 2022
- March 2022: Expected completion of tapering; likely first rate hike

Source: Federal Reserve and Bloomberg, as of 12/31/2021. Individual

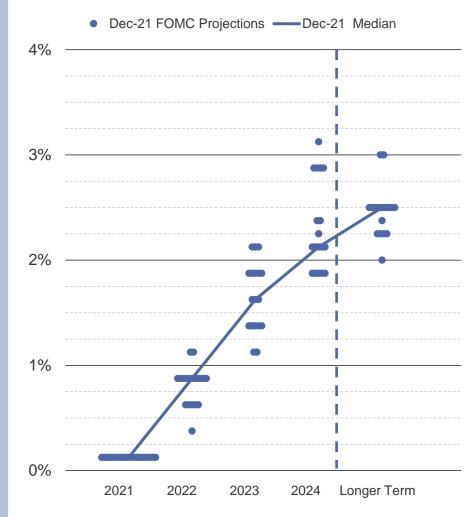
dots represent each Fed members' judgement of the midpoint of the

appropriate target range for the federal funds rate at each year end.

2022 Q2: Expectation for more rate hikes; possible reduction in Fed balance sheet

## **Fed Funds Target Rate Expectations**

#### Fed Participants' Assessments of "Appropriate" Monetary Policy





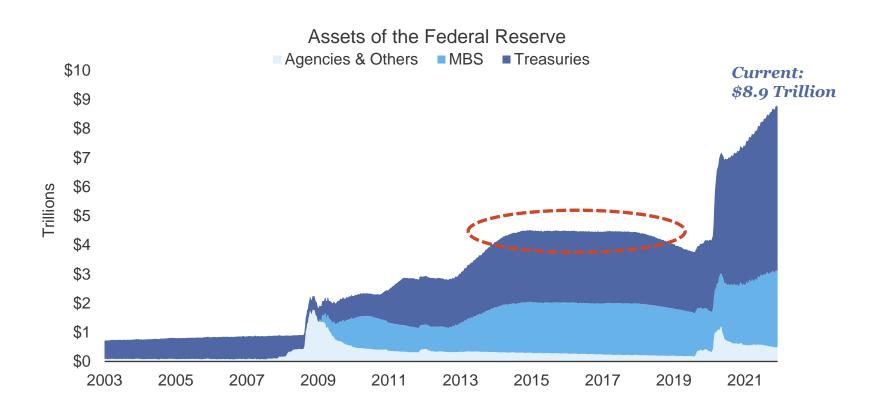
# **Balance Sheet Expectations for 2022**

#### Like last time...

· Balance sheet size was maintained, providing sustained support

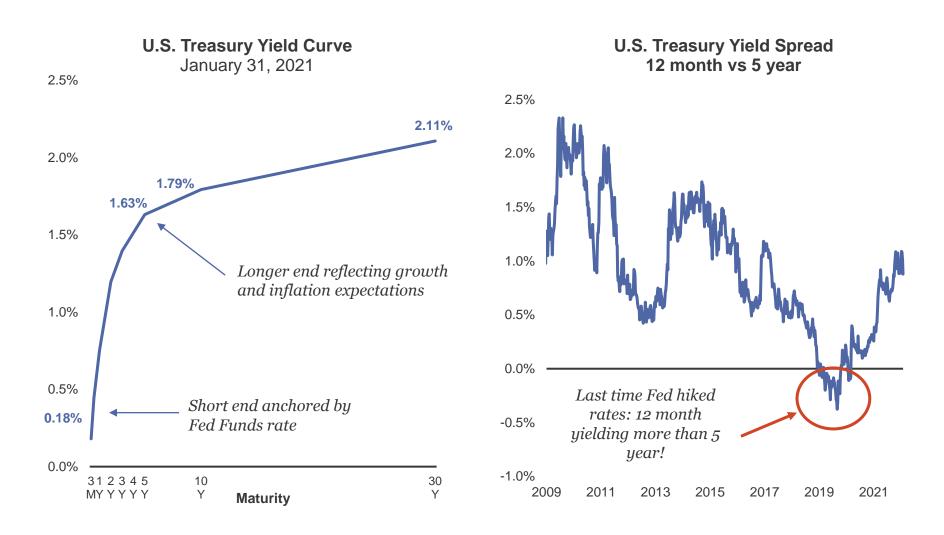
#### Unlike last time...

• Federal Reserve has indicated that balance sheet reduction is likely imminent





# As Fed Raises Rate Curve May Become Flatter





# **Takeaways**

- Unlike the last time the Fed raised interest rates, inflation is high!
- ► The Fed's view of the elevated inflation has shifted from being described as "transitory" to being something they need to address…and quickly.
- ► To combat high inflation, the Fed has accelerated their asset tapering (to end by March); it is set to follow up immediately with a reduction of their balance sheet and is expected to raise Fed funds target rate at a steep pace.
- The yield curve is currently steep, but it will likely start to flatten (become inverted?) as the Fed starts raising interest rates.

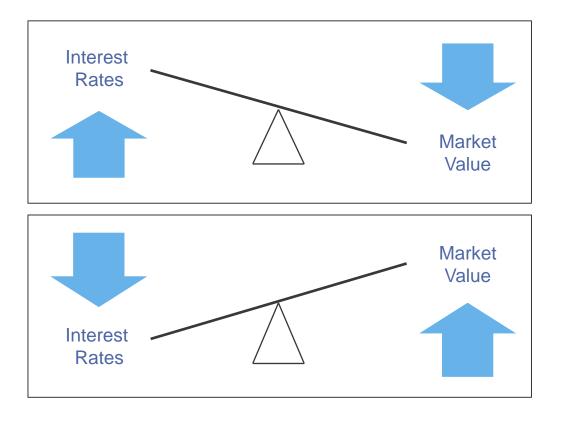


# How will my investment program be impacted?



# **Impact on Portfolio Holdings**

#### **Market Values of Current Holdings Will Fall**

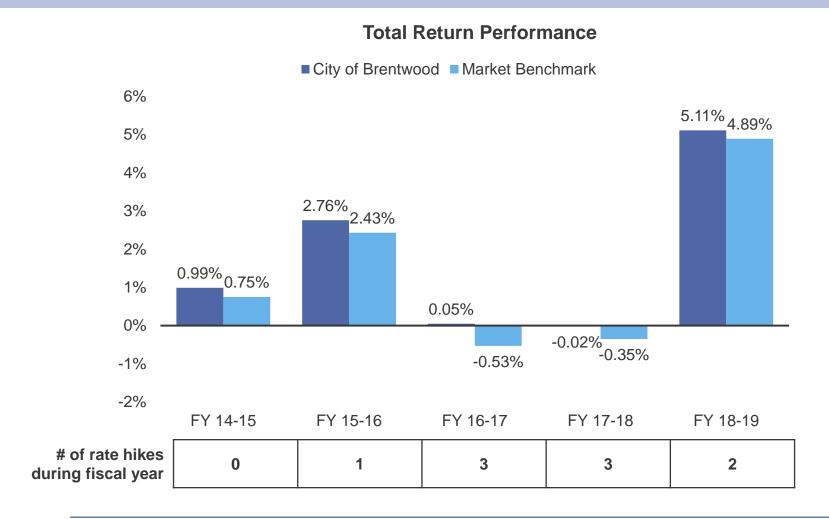


Market values move inversely to interest rates



# **What Happened Last Time?**

#### **Periods of Negative Total Returns**



# Impact on Portfolio Holdings

#### **New Investments Purchased At Higher Yields**





# **Takeaways**

- ► On fixed income securities, yields and prices move inversely, so when interest rates rise, prices (market values) of fixed income portfolios/indices fall.
- Rising rates/falling prices can lead to negative total returns, when unrealized market value losses are greater than realized earnings.
- ▶ But, as new investments are purchased in the higher interest rate environment, rising interest rates result in increased interest earnings.



How do I explain negative returns and earnings to my stakeholders?



# **Communication Is Important**

- Ensure that major components of your entity's investment program are conveyed to managers/elected officials
  - Internal controls
  - Investment policy/risk tolerances
  - Overall investment strategy
- Tailor communications to audience
  - ▶ Elected Officials: Big-picture, 30,000-foot summaries
  - Manager: Detailed, fact-filled, yet concise reports
- Be prepared to educate
  - New market conditions
  - Market value losses (unrealized/realized)
  - Initial losses on sales of securities, but overall benefit
  - Importance of long-term approach



# What's the strategy today?



## What Do You Do?!

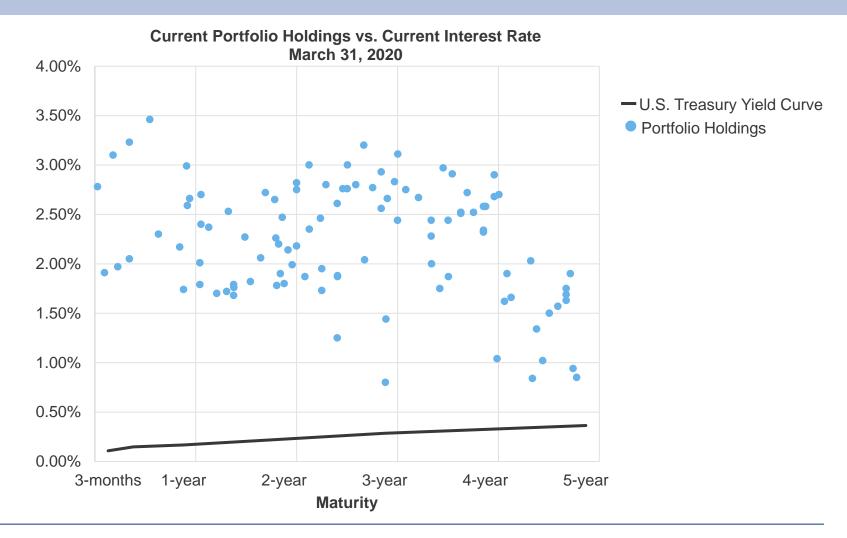
#### Some Options to Consider:

- Freak out and sell everything!
- Shorten duration modestly
- Maintain a diversified portfolio
- Capture value offered by steep yield curve



## What To Do With a Portfolio of Realized Gains

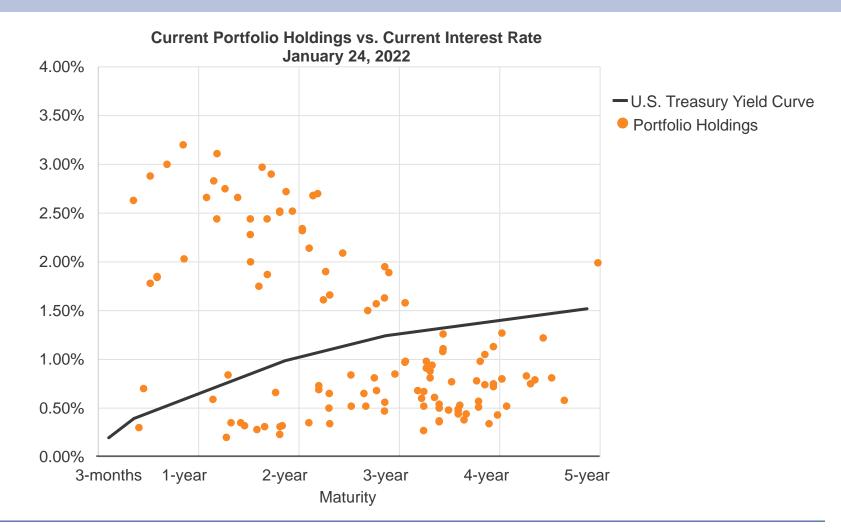
Sell everything, realize gains, and move to cash? Or stick with a disciplined strategy?





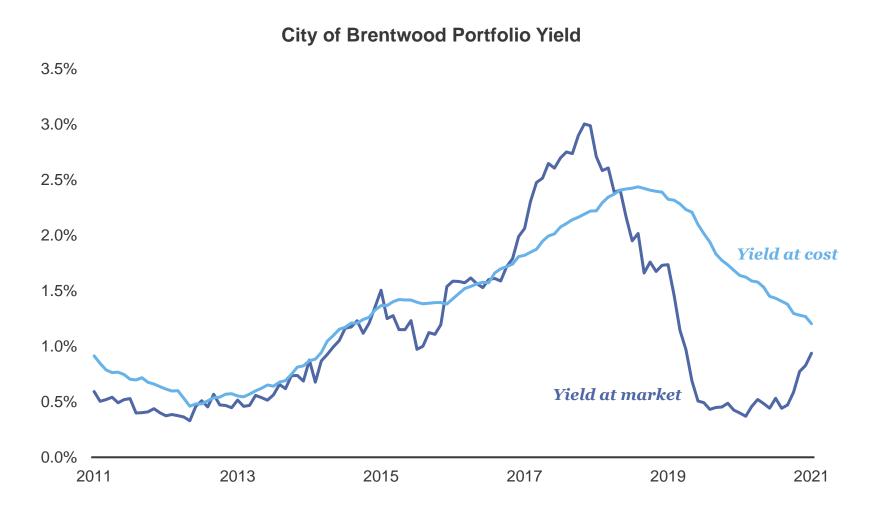
## What To Do With Securities "Under Water"

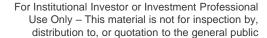
Sell everything underwater, realize losses, but reinvest in higher yields? Or stick with a disciplined strategy?



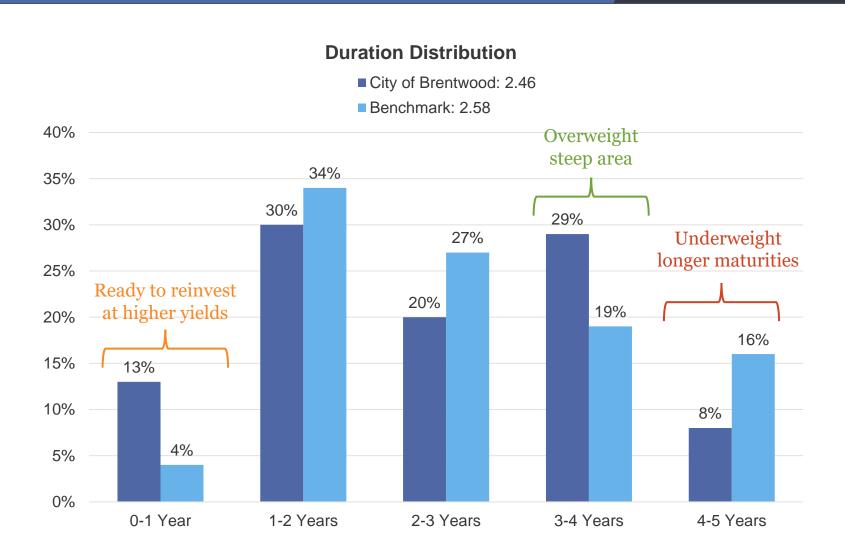


# **Stick With A Disciplined Strategy**



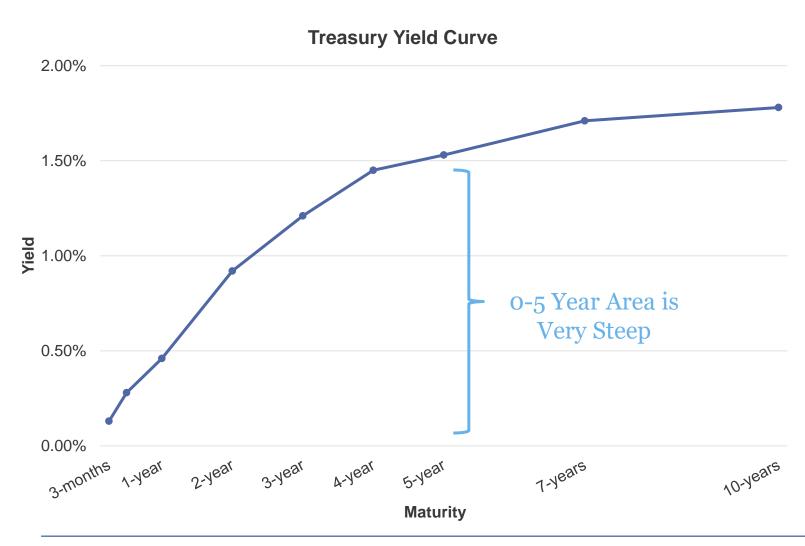


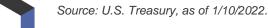
# **Be Strategic With Your Duration and Maturities**



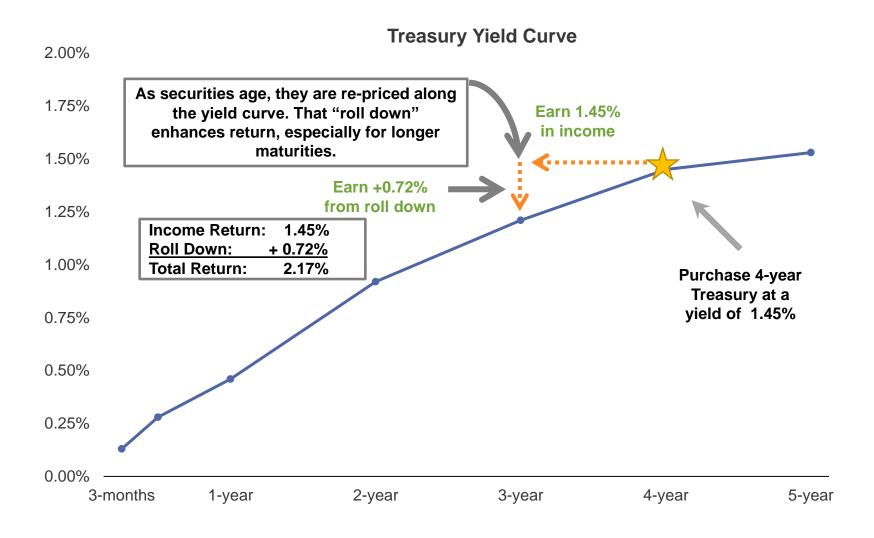


# A Steep Yield Curve Is Your Friend





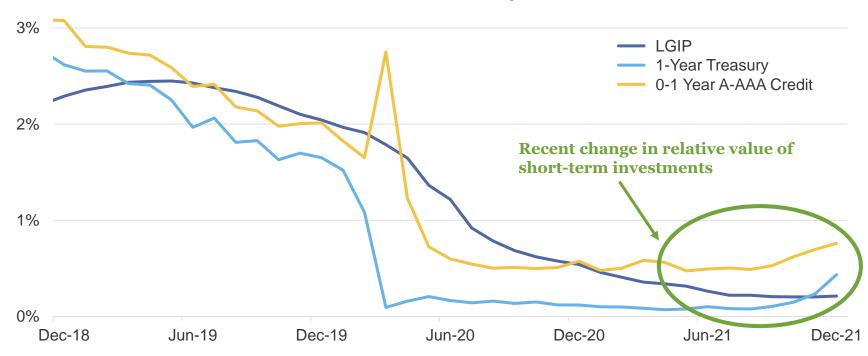
# **Rolling Down the Yield Curve**

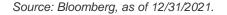


# Rise In Rates Changes Opportunities In Short-Term Market

- Evaluate all your options for cash and short-term investments
  - Bank Deposits and earnings credit rates
  - ▶ Investment Pools (LGIPs)
  - Short-Term Securities (Portfolio)

#### **Yields on Short-Term Options**





# Thank You! Questions?



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