

WORTH READING

New to AAll? Here's a sample of the quality education we provide to individual investors. We hope you find it useful. It touches on one aspect of the broad subjects we cover for anyone who has an interest in handling their own investments. AAll teaches you what you need to know about financial planning, comparing mutual funds, investing for income, screening for and analyzing stocks, asset allocation strategies, handling taxes, saving for and investing in retirement and more.

We appreciate your interest!

For more information and to sign up for AAll membership, please visit our website at AAll.com.



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The American Association of Individual Investors

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The American Association of Individual Investors is a nonprofit group whose sole purpose is to assist its 150,000+ members with their investment information and education needs. For over 40 years, AAll has been providing guidance and tools to both the beginner and advanced investor. AAll helps members build their investment wealth through guides, model portfolios, the monthly *AAll Journal* and a comprehensive website.

COMPUTERIZED INVESTING

Best of the Web: Seven Key Sites for Investors

These handpicked websites stand out as leaders in their respective fields, providing free access to quality data and tools.

BY AAI STAFF

In years past, AAI's Best of the Web Guide highlighted websites in a range of investing and finance categories of interest to individual investors. Though curated, the guide still covered a large number of websites.

This year, we are making a change. Rather than compiling a comprehensive list, we are focusing on a small number of free investment websites that we think members should bookmark. These key resources provide valuable investing data, information and tools. In addition, they offer access to comprehensive databases not found elsewhere on the web.

CEF Connect (www.cefconnect.com)

CEF Connect provides data, news and comprehensive information on closed-end funds.

The Daily Pricing tab provides closing price and net

CEF Connect Closed-End Fund Screener



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contributed to this article.

asset value (NAV) as well as other key metrics. At a glance, you'll see the current market price's percentage premium or discount to NAV, the distribution rate (yield), the one-year NAV return and the fund's strategy. Clicking a fund name or ticker takes you to more in-depth information on the fund, including historical data on distributions, premium/discount pricing and performance.

The fund screener allows you to filter closed-end funds to find one that fits your desires. You can filter for various types of municipal bond, taxable bond, equity and hybrid funds. Common data points are preselected, but can be customized. Data is supplied by Morningstar. After searching, a list of funds meeting your criteria will be shown.

To take advantage of the portfolio and alerts tool, you will need to register for a free account. Doing so allows you to create and track a personalized portfolio with custom alerts set for various factors such as price changes.

The education center provides basic information such as how closed-end funds work and what types of investors they are best suited for. It also goes into detail about different strategies that closed-end funds can employ as well as more advanced topics such as leverage.

EDGAR (www.sec.gov/edgar.shtml)

EDGAR is a database of regulatory filings operated by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). The database is a great resource for finding filings such as quarterly and annual reports by corporations, mutual funds and variable insurance products.

In EDGAR, you can also find a description of a company's business, a financial performance summary, risk disclosures, regulatory issues and legal issues, as well as disclosures of key material information. Information on insider transactions can also be found.

Using EDGAR can be a bit tricky at first, so here is some useful information to know. Regulatory filings are mostly designated by a number and code. Annual filings (10-K) provide comprehensive information about a

EDGAR Company Search

EDGAR | Company Filings



Company and Person Lookup ?

More Options ▾

How to Use this Search?

Enter **name, ticker or CIK** into the **single search field**.
Suggestions as you type link directly to filings.

Guides

How to Research Public Companies

Learn how to quickly research a company's operations and financial information with EDGAR search tools.

Form Types

Review reference versions of EDGAR forms filed by companies, funds, and individuals.

Investor.gov

Your online resource to help you make sound investment decisions and avoid fraud.

company. Quarterly filings (10-Q) are published following the release of first-, second- and third-quarter earnings. Corporations and mutual funds can be searched by name or ticker. You are also able to search by state, country or standard industrial classification (SIC). EDGAR has a tutorial page that is useful for new users.

EMMA (<https://emma.msrb.org>)

Electronic Municipal Market Access (EMMA) provides data, disclosure and educational content on municipal bonds. Investors can find information on bonds issued by states, cities, counties and other muni bond issuers. Trade data, financial disclosures, official statements and other information is easily accessible for a given bond issue.

EMMA New Issue Calendar

New Issue Calendar

The new issue calendar lists municipal securities issues scheduled to come to market through the use of competitive and negotiated sales. The calendar displays a variety of relevant information about each upcoming bond offering. A second tab listing recently sold issues is enhanced with information disclosed to the MSRB, including a final pricing scale. For more information on understanding the new issue calendar, visit EMMA Help.

State	Issuer Name/Issue Description	Principal Amount (\$)	Date Time of Sale (ET)	Maturities	Bank Qualified	Tax Status	ESG Type
Week of Monday, October 17, 2022							
IN	Beech Grove Building Corporation Ad Valorem Property Tax Lease Rental Bonds, Series 2022	9,140,000	--	--	No	Tax Exempt	--
Dated Date: 11/01/2022 Source of Repayment: COP/Lease Lead Manager: Stifel Nicolaus Coupon Frequency: Annual Security Type: Bond Purpose/Sector: Financial Advisor: -- Call Type: Not Callable Coupon Type: Fixed Rate Insured: Yes ESG Certifier: -- Deal Type: Standard							
CA	California Department of Veterans Affairs Home Purchase Revenue Bonds, 2022 Series A	88,590,000	--	--	No	Tax Exempt	--
CO	Canyon Pines Metropolitan District	7,755,000	--	--	No	Tax Exempt	--
CO	Canyon Pines Metropolitan District	2,497,000	--	--	No	Tax Exempt	--
MT	City of Belgrade General Obligation Bonds, Series 2022	14,000,000	--	--	No	Tax Exempt	--
TX	City of Deer Park	15,280,000	--	--	No	Tax Exempt	--

(The documents available will vary by issuer and even issue.)

The muni bond comparison tool under the Tools and Resources tab allows you to compare trade prices and yields for municipal bonds with similar characteristics. To use the tool, you will need to enter the bond's nine-digit CUSIP number, which can be found on EMMA.

The new issue calendar lists municipal securities issues scheduled to come to market. Information on the security type, coupon type and frequency, whether the bond is callable or not and whether the security is insured or not is provided. Investors can also view daily and historical yield curves and indexes from a variety of third-party sources including Bloomberg, BondWave

and others.

All of the aforementioned tools are free to access without registration. However, to use the MyEMMA tool you must register for a free account. The tool allows users to receive custom alerts when new information becomes available on EMMA for a particular security. It also allows you to save frequently used searches.

FINRA (www.finra.org)

The Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) is a government-authorized not-for-profit company that oversees U.S. broker-dealers. A plethora of resources is available to individual investors for free, found under the For Investors tab on the website's homepage.

BrokerCheck enables you to research the background and experience of financial brokers, advisers and firms. The tool provides easy access to information, instantly telling you whether an individual or firm is registered to sell securities, offer investment advice, or both, as required by law. Specifically, you get a snapshot of a broker's employment history, regulatory actions and investment-related licensing information, arbitrations and complaints.

Other useful tools allow you to search for funds, bonds, professional investment designations, SEC-related arbitration awards, actions against individuals and unregistered soliciting entities. An array of calculators covers most needs for retirement, including estimating Social Security earnings, 401(k) and IRA required minimum distributions (RMDs) and 401(k) contributions,

FINRA BrokerCheck



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Individual Name/CRD# at Firm Name or CRD/SEC# (optional) in City, State or ZIP (optional) **Q**

Please be aware that fraudsters may link to BrokerCheck from phishing and similar scam websites, trying to steal your personal information or your money. Make sure you know who you're dealing with when investing, and contact FINRA with any concerns. For more information read our **investor alert** on imposters.

BrokerCheck is a free tool to research the background and experience of financial brokers, advisers and firms.

plus savings, education savings for college, loan payments (fixed-income) and accrued interest from bonds.

FINRA's Investor Insights page provides topical articles covering personal finance, investing and protecting your money. Articles explain basics such as market capitalization, volatility and avoiding fraud, as well as more advanced topics like alternative and emerging securities products.

Individual investors can also file complaints, resolve a securities-related dispute, use FINRA's Securities Helpline for Seniors and review other avenues for recovering losses. Note: BrokerCheck has its own dedicated help line, with the phone number at the top of the webpage.

FRED Economic Data (<https://fred.stlouisfed.org>)

Short for Federal Reserve Economic Data, FRED is a popular online database consisting of hundreds of thousands of economic data time series from numerous national, international, public and private sources. FRED covers banking, business, fiscal, consumer price index (CPI), monetary and financial data. FRED tracks more than 800,000 data points from over 100 sources. It is a one-stop shop for anyone trying to understand the economy.

FRED Economic Data

AT A GLANCE	POPULAR SERIES	LATEST RELEASES	TOOLS	NEED HELP??
10-Year Treasury Constant Maturity Minus 2-Year Treasury Constant Maturity 2 days ago	10-Year Breakeven Inflation Rate 2 days ago			
30-Year Fixed Rate Mortgage Average in the United States 4 days ago	Unemployment Rate oct 7			
Federal Funds Effective Rate oct 3	Assets: Total Assets: Total Assets (Less Eliminations from Consolidation): Wednesday Level 3 days ago			
Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers: All Items in U.S. City Average 4 days ago	Gross Domestic Product sep 29			
ICE BofA US High Yield Index Option-Adjusted Spread 4 hours ago	10-Year Treasury Constant Maturity Minus 3-Month Treasury Constant Maturity 2 days ago			

[More Popular Series](#)

From the home page, users can search for data by typing in their search term or alternatively can browse the data through organized points of access. Data are browsable by 1) the source, 2) release document, 3) category, 4) latest update and 5) tags. You can also search by popular series or by trending terms like gross domestic product (GDP), inflation, unemployment and gold.

For first-time users, we recommend selecting the Category icon, which breaks down the available data into the following topics: money, banking and finance;

population, employment and labor markets; national accounts; production and business activity; prices; international; U.S. regional; and academic.

Each specific category has further breakdowns of subcategories. For example, in money, banking and finance, subcategories include banking, business lending, exchange rates, financial indicators, interest rates, monetary data and foreign exchange intervention. Most investors will find the financial indicators subcategory most valuable; it provides information on indicators such as stock and bond market indexes, volatility indexes and financial activity measures. The interest rates subcategory reports rates for a wide range of financial instruments.

IRS.gov (www.irs.gov)

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) is a comprehensive resource for tax-related items. It is an authoritative source for answers to tax questions and provides access to tax forms and instructions. Its newsroom keeps readers up to date on tax news, including any changes to deadlines.

Tax payments, including those for estimated federal taxes, can be made directly on the website. Tax records and refund status can both be easily accessed.

Select Individuals from the File drop-down menu for the most pertinent information and resources. Among the useful areas here for individual investors is the Life Events section. It is organized by type of event such as married, separated and divorced, health care law, disasters and casualties, planning for retirement and mutual fund distributions. Links take you to resources that explain the tax impact of each event.

The site has a tax withholding estimator tool that helps you assess the federal income tax you may want your employer to withhold from your paycheck and

to see how your refund, take-home pay or tax due are affected by the withholding amount.

Click on Seniors & Retirees from the Individuals area to find valuable information ranging from Social

Security benefits and individual retirement arrangements to filing. The Social Security benefits section helps you determine if your benefits are taxable and allows you to request your benefit statement. The individual retirement arrangements section provides answers about distributions and withdrawals.

Other pages of the Individuals area provide information on whether you need to file a tax return, where to get free tax help from volunteers, tips for choosing a tax professional, how to amend a tax return and what to do if you can't pay; plus, it provides access to the IRS' free online filing service.

Moody's (www.moody.com)

Moody's database provides credit ratings for corporate bonds. Moody's is one of the three largest credit rating agencies in the world, along with S&P and Fitch Ratings. We highlight Moody's because of the extensive amount of information available to individual investors.

Registration is required, though a paid subscription is not needed to access credit rating reports. Both bond and stock investors may find the information useful for assessing a firm's creditworthiness.

The Rating Actions section of the website lists the latest rating news issued by Moody's analysts. Reports are also available on insurance companies, closed-end funds and municipal bonds in addition to other debt issues.

Moody's Rating Actions

Research				
Date	Document Type	Title	Issuer/Entity	
18 Oct 2022	Rating Action	Moody's affirms five classes of WFCM 2018-C45	Wells Fargo Commercial Mortgage Trust 2018-C45	
18 Oct 2022	Rating Action	Moody's assigns provisional ratings to four CMBS REMIC classes of FREMF 2022-K150 REMIC and three SPC classes of Freddie Mac SPCs, Series K-150	Freddie Mac Str... FREMF 2022-K150...	
18 Oct 2022	Rating Action	Moody's assigns initial Aa2 issuer rating to Greene County Public Library, OH and Aa2 to PLF notes	Greene County Public Library, Oh	
18 Oct 2022	Rating Action	Moody's assigns Aa1 to Washington State's COPs, Series 2022C; outlook stable	Washington (State of)	
18 Oct 2022	Rating Action	Moody's affirms five classes of COMM 2016-COR1 Mortgage Trust	COMM 2016-COR1 Mortgage Trust	

How We Chose These Investment Websites

In determining which websites to feature, we took into account the quality of information provided as well as the agency, organization or entity running the website. We also sought authoritative resources that were available at no cost to individual investors.

All of these websites stand out as leaders in their respective fields. Several are used by us regularly. If there are resources you believe should have been included in this list, please post them in the comments section at this article on AAIL.com. ■