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Municipal-Bond Supply Dries Up After Setting a Record December.

- 30-day visible supply down 40 percent from this time last year
- States and cities set to issue \$5.3B in the next 30 days

States and cities are set to issue about half the amount of debt at the start of 2018 compared with a year ago.

Issuers from California to Virginia plan to take on \$5.3 billion of municipal debt in the next month; that's the lowest since June 30 and down from \$8.9 billion of anticipated sales during a 30-day period beginning Dec. 27, 2016.

The dearth of supply comes as states and localities sold a record \$55.6 billion of debt this month through Dec. 22 as they accelerated their offerings to avoid potential changes from the federal tax-overhaul bill.

The decline means fewer bonds for investors to choose from in early 2018. That may help generate gains in the tax-exempt market, which advanced each January for the past six years, according to Bloomberg-Barclay's Municipal Bond Index.

Bloomberg Markets

By Michelle Kaske

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