NUVEEN TAX ADVANTAGED TOTAL RETURN STRATEGY FUND Form N-Q May $28,\,2010$

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, DC 20549 FORM N-Q

QUARTERLY SCHEDULE OF PORTFOLIO HOLDINGS OF REGISTERED MANAGEMENT INVESTMENT COMPANY

Investment Company Act file number 811-21471

Nuveen Tax Advantaged Total Return Strategy Fund

(Exact name of registrant as specified in charter)
333 West Wacker Drive, Chicago, Illinois 60606
(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip code)
Kevin J. McCarthy Vice President and Secretary

333 West Wacker Drive, Chicago, Illinois 60606

(Name and address of agent for service)

Registrant s telephone number, including area code: 312-917-7700

Date of fiscal year end: 12/31 Date of reporting period: 3/31/2010

Form N-Q is to be used by management investment companies, other than small business investment companies registered on Form N-5 (§§ 239.24 and 274.5 of this chapter), to file reports with the Commission, not later than 60 days after the close of the first and third fiscal quarters, pursuant to rule 30b1-5 under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (17 CFR 270.30b1-5). The Commission may use the information provided on Form N-Q in its regulatory, disclosure review, inspection, and policymaking roles.

A registrant is required to disclose the information specified by Form N-Q, and the Commission will make this information public. A registrant is not required to respond to the collection of information contained in Form N-Q unless the Form displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number. Please direct comments concerning the accuracy of the information collection burden estimate and any suggestions for reducing the burden to the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, NW, Washington, DC 20549-0609. The OMB has reviewed this collection of information under the clearance requirements of 44 U.S.C. § 3507.

Item 1. Schedule of Investments
Portfolio of Investments (Unaudited)
Nuveen Tax-Advantaged Total Return Strategy Fund (JTA)
March 31, 2010

	, 2010	
Shares	Description (1)	Value
	Common Stocks 94.0% (70.2% of Total Investments)	
	Aerospace & Defense 5.9%	
62,200 81,300	Lockheed Martin Corporation Raytheon Company	\$ 5,176,284 4,643,856
	Total Aerospace & Defense	9,820,140
	Commercial Banks 3.2%	
155,000 106,500	Banco Santander Central S.A. Wells Fargo & Company	2,056,850 3,314,280
	Total Commercial Banks	5,371,130
	Commercial Services & Supplies 3.1%	
207,300	Pitney Bowes Inc.	5,068,485
	Communications Equipment 2.8%	
667,000	Motorola, Inc.	4,682,340
	Containers & Packaging 1.0%	
69,800	Packaging Corp. of America	1,717,778
	Diversified Financial Services 4.7%	
1,546,500 34,200	Citigroup Inc. JPMorgan Chase & Co.	6,263,324 1,530,450
	Total Diversified Financial Services	7,793,774

Diversified Telecommunication Services 5.0%

Total Machinery

105,500 249,000 121,300	AT&T Inc. Frontier Communications Corporation Verizon Communications Inc.	2,726,120 1,852,560 3,762,726
	Total Diversified Telecommunication Services	8,341,406
	Electric Utilities 1.3%	
52,200	EDP Energias de Portugal, S.A., Sponsored ADR, (11)	2,078,703
	Food & Staples Retailing 2.0%	
151,500	Kroger Co.	3,281,490
,		, ,
	Household Products 2.8%	
74,600	Kimberly-Clark Corporation	4,690,848
74,000	Killiberry-Clark Corporation	4,020,040
	Industrial Conglomerates 1.9%	
175,000	General Electric Company	3,185,000
	Insurance 18.0%	
266,400	Genworth Financial Inc., Class A	4,885,776
243,600	Hartford Financial Services Group, Inc.	6,923,111
72,500	Loews Corporation	2,702,800
136,900 233,200	MetLife, Inc. Symetra Financial Corporation	5,933,246 3,073,576
119,600	Travelers Companies, Inc.	6,451,223
	Total Insurance	29,969,732
	Machinery 4.2%	
50,800	Caterpillar Inc.	3,192,780
75,000	Ingersoll Rand Company Limited, Class A	2,615,250
55,200	Trinity Industries Inc.	1,101,792

6,909,822

Media 0.1%

3,177	SuperMedia Inc.	129,939
	Metals & Mining 5.0%	
82,000 136,000	AngloGold Ashanti Limited, Sponsored ADR Barrick Gold Corporation	3,111,900 5,214,240
	Total Metals & Mining	8,326,140
	Oil, Gas & Consumable Fuels 9.5%	
100,500	ConocoPhillips	5,142,585
87,000	Eni S.p.A., Sponsored ADR	4,082,910
28,000	Exxon Mobil Corporation	1,875,440
81,600	Total S.A., Sponsored ADR	4,734,432
	Total Oil, Gas & Consumable Fuels	15,835,367
	Pharmaceuticals 12.5%	
94,500	GlaxoSmithKline PLC, ADR	3,640,140
185,500	Merck & Company Inc.	6,928,424
255,300	Pfizer Inc.	4,378,395
157,900	Sanofi-Aventis, ADR	5,899,144
	Total Pharmaceuticals	20,846,103
	Road & Rail 1.5%	
33,000	Union Pacific Corporation	2,418,900
	Software 6.1%	
304,500	CA Inc.	7,146,614
100,700	Microsoft Corporation	2,947,489
	Total Software	10,094,103
	Tobacco 3.4%	
109,400	Philip Morris International	5,706,304
		176 267 704
	Total Common Stocks (cost \$142,513,587)	156,267,504

]	Ratings	
Shares	Description (1)	Coupon	_	Value
	Convertible Preferred Securities 0.3% (0.2% of Total Investments)			
	Commercial Banks 0.3%			
500	Wells Fargo & Company, Convertible Bond	7.500%	A-	\$ 488,500
	Total Convertible Preferred Securities (cost \$421,350)			488,500
		-	D 4	
Shares	Description (1)	Coupon	Ratings (2)	Value
	\$25 Par (or similar) Preferred Securities 6.2% (4.6% of Total Investments)			
	Capital Markets 0.8%			
20,600	Credit Suisse	7.900%	A3	\$ 533,334
24,750	Deutsche Bank Capital Funding Trust V	8.050%		630,383
5,250	Deutsche Bank Contingent Capital Trust III	7.600%	BBB+	130,410
	Total Capital Markets			1,294,127
	Commercial Banks 1.2%			
24,000	Banco Santander Finance	10.500%	A-	678,000
5,000	Barclays Bank PLC	8.125%		128,700
25,000	Barclays Bank PLC	6.625%		567,500
22,500	PNC Financial Services	9.875%	A3	656,100
	Total Commercial Banks			2,030,300
	Commercial Services & Supplies 0.3%			
500	Pitney Bowes Interntational Holdings, 144A	6.125%	A3	496,906
	Consumer Finance 0.4%			
5 000		6 2600	מממ	115 600
5,000 19,700	HSBC Finance Corporation HSBC USA Inc., Series H	6.360% 6.500%	BBB A-	115,600 473,785
,. 00		2.20070		
	Total Consumer Finance			589,385

	Electric Utilities 1.7%				
27,400	Georgia Power Company		6.125%	BBB+	688,288
5,000	Gulf Power Company		6.450%	BBB+	506,514
19,100	Mississippi Power Company		5.250%	A3	477,500
25,000	PPL Electric Utilities Corporation		6.250%	BBB	623,438
5,000	Southern California Edison Company		6.125%	Baa2	476,250
	Total Electric Utilities				2,771,990
	Insurance 1.5%				
3,000	Aegon N.V.		6.500%	BBB	61,440
30,000	Aegon N.V.		6.375%	BBB	610,200
22,800	Arch Capital Group Limited		8.000%		588,696
25,000	Endurance Specialty Holdings Limited		7.750%		612,750
28,500	Prudential PLC		6.750%	A-	690,840
	Total Insurance				2,563,926
	Multi-Utilities 0.3%				
5,400	Consolidated Edison Company of New York Inc.		5.000%	BBB	481,896
	Total \$25 Par (or similar) Preferred Securities (cost \$10,174,464)				10,228,530
Principal		eighted verage			
Amount	A	VELAGE	MaturityR	?atings	
(000)	Description (1)	Coupon	(4)	(2)	Value
	Variable Rate Senior Loan Interests 28.2% (21.1% of Total Investment	ıts) (3)			
	Chemicals 0.5%				
897	Rockwood Specialties Group, Inc., Term Loan H 6	5.000%	7/30/12	Ba2 \$	902,733
	Commercial Services & Supplies 0.6%				
998	Universal City Development Partners, Ltd., Term Loan 6	6.500%	11/06/14	Ba2	1,008,921
990	Oniversal City Development Latiners, Etc., Term Loan).500 %	11/00/14	Daz	1,000,921
	Diversified Telecommunication Services 1.1%				

	Edgar Filing: NUVEEN TAX ADVANTAGED TOTAL RETU	JRN STRATEGY F	UND - Forn	n N-Q	
331 331 331 943	Intelsat, Tranche B2, Term Loan A Intelsat, Tranche B2, Term Loan B Intelsat, Tranche B2, Term Loan C MetroPCS Wireless, Inc., Term Loan	2.728% 2.728% 2.728% 2.500%	1/03/14 1/03/14 1/03/14 11/03/13	BB- BB- BB- Ba1	322,704 322,605 322,605 925,765
1,936	Total Diversified Telecommunication Services				1,893,679
	Electric Utilities 1.6%				
777 216 1,950	Dynegy Holdings, Inc., Delayed Term Loan Dynegy Holdings, Inc., Term Loan TXU Corporation, Term Loan B2	4.000% 4.000% 3.730%	4/02/13 4/02/13 10/10/14	Ba2 Ba2 B+	766,004 213,122 1,606,178
2,943	Total Electric Utilities				2,585,304
	Health Care Equipment & Supplies 1.8%				
1,980 989	Biomet, Inc., Term Loan Renal Advantage, Inc., Term Loan	3.282% 2.756%	3/25/15 10/06/12	BB- N/R	1,952,882 959,234
2,969	Total Health Care Equipment & Supplies				2,912,116
	Health Care Providers & Services 5.5%				
97 1 806	Community Health Systems, Inc., Delayed Term Loan Community Health Systems, Inc., Term Loan	2.502% 2.502%	7/25/14 7/25/14 11/18/13	BB BB BB	94,755 1,850,363 2,388,735
1,896 2,444 456 124 1,317 958 1,995	HCA, Inc., Term Loan IASIS Healthcare LLC, Delayed Term Loan IASIS Healthcare LLC, Letter of Credit IASIS Healthcare LLC, Term Loan Quintiles Transnational Corporation, Term Loan B Rehabcare Group, Inc., Term Loan B	2.540% 2.248% 2.247% 2.248% 2.300% 6.000%	3/14/14 3/14/14 3/14/14 3/29/13 11/24/15	Ba2 Ba2 Ba2 BB	439,859 119,385 1,270,943 933,883 2,016,197
2,444 456 124 1,317 958	HCA, Inc., Term Loan IASIS Healthcare LLC, Delayed Term Loan IASIS Healthcare LLC, Letter of Credit IASIS Healthcare LLC, Term Loan Quintiles Transnational Corporation, Term Loan B	2.248% 2.247% 2.248% 2.300%	3/14/14 3/14/14 3/14/14 3/29/13	Ba2 Ba2 BB	439,859 119,385 1,270,943 933,883 2,016,197
2,444 456 124 1,317 958 1,995	HCA, Inc., Term Loan IASIS Healthcare LLC, Delayed Term Loan IASIS Healthcare LLC, Letter of Credit IASIS Healthcare LLC, Term Loan Quintiles Transnational Corporation, Term Loan B Rehabcare Group, Inc., Term Loan B	2.248% 2.247% 2.248% 2.300%	3/14/14 3/14/14 3/14/14 3/29/13	Ba2 Ba2 BB	439,859 119,385 1,270,943 933,883

	Edgar Filing: NUVEEN TAX ADVANTAGED TOTAL RETURN	N STRATEGY F	-UND - Fori	m N-Q	
9,071	Total Hotels, Restaurants & Leisure				8,836,532
	Insurance 0.3%				
498	Conseco, Inc., Term Loan	7.500%	10/10/13	В-	484,147
	IT Services 2.2%				
1,950 1,991	First Data Corporation, Term Loan B1 SunGard Data Systems, Inc., Term Loan B	3.000% 1.979%	9/24/14 2/28/14	B+ BB	1,732,066 1,927,058
3,941	Total IT Services				3,659,124
	Machinery 0.4%				
693	Manitowoc Company, Term Loan	7.500%	11/06/14	BB	694,950
	Media 4.6%				
2,156 299 958 286 611 772 1,975 341 2,000 9,398	Charter Communications Operating Holdings LLC, Term Loan Mediacom Broadband LLC, Tranche D, Term Loan Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Studios, Inc., Term Loan B (12) Nielsen Finance LLC, Term Loan A Nielsen Finance LLC, Term Loan B SuperMedia, Term Loan, (5), (6) Tribune Company, Term Loan B, (5), (6) Tribune Company, Term Loan X, (5), (6) Univision Communications, Inc., Term Loan Total Media	2.310% 5.500% 18.250% 2.229% 3.979% 8.000% 3.000% 2.750% 2.540%	3/06/14 3/31/17 4/08/12 8/09/13 5/02/16 12/31/15 6/04/14 N/A 9/29/14	BB+ BB- N/R Ba3 Ba3 B- Ca Ca B2	2,086,329 301,485 461,731 275,121 600,852 725,934 1,262,355 215,211 1,786,494 7,715,512
	Pharmaceuticals 2.0%				
2,106 178 496 228 380 3,388	Mylan Laboratories, Inc., Term Loan Warner Chilcott Corporation, Add on Term Loan Warner Chilcott Corporation, Term Loan A Warner Chilcott Corporation, Term Loan B1 Warner Chilcott Corporation, Term Loan B2 Total Pharmaceuticals	3.551% 5.750% 5.500% 5.750% 5.750%	10/02/14 4/30/15 10/30/14 4/30/15 4/30/15	BB+ BB+ BB+ BB+	2,111,364 178,197 497,325 229,085 381,468 3,397,439

Real Estate Management & Development 0.7%

LNR Property Corporation, Term Loan B

1,184

1,088,206

7/12/11 CCC

3.480%

	Road & Rail 1.0%				
1,757	Swift Transportation Company, Inc., Term Loan	8.250%	5/10/14	B-	1,686,167
	Trading Companies & Distributors 0.6%				
192 786	Brenntag Holdings GmbH & Co. KG, Acquisition Facility Brenntag Holdings GmbH & Co. KG, Facility B2	2.007% 1.997%	1/20/14 1/20/14	BB- BB-	189,021 774,158
978	Total Trading Companies & Distributors				963,179
49,938	Total Variable Rate Senior Loan Interests (cost \$49,170,413)				46,942,129
Principal Amount (000)/					
Shares	Description (1)	Coupon	H Maturity	Ratings (2)	Value
	Capital Preferred Securities 0.5% (0.4% of Total Investments)				
	Commercial Banks 0.2%				
250	Wells Fargo & Company, Series K	7.980%	N/A (9)	A-	\$ 262,500
	Diversified Financial Services 0.3%				
500	JP Morgan Chase & Company	7.900%	N/A (9)	BBB+	534,852
	Total Capital Preferred Securities (cost \$687,625)				797,352
Principal Amount (000)	Description (1)	Coupon	Maturity		Value
	Short-Term Investments 4.7% (3.5% of Total Investments)				
7,784	Repurchase Agreement with Fixed Income Clearing Corporation, dated 3/31/10, repurchase price \$7,783,886, collateralized by \$7,920,000 U.S Treasury Notes, 2.375%, due 8/31/14, value \$7,939,800	0.000%	4/01/10		\$ 7,783,886

Total Short-Term investments (cost \$7,705,000)	7,703,000
Total Investments (cost \$210,751,325) 133.9%	222,507,901
Borrowings (31.7)% (7), (8)	(52,600,000)
Other Assets Less Liabilities (2.2)%	(3,730,170)

Investments in Derivatives

Total Short-Term Investments (cost \$7 783 886)

Net Assets Applicable to Common Shares 100%

umber of Contracts	Туре	Notional Amount (10)	Expiration Date	Strike Price	Value
	CALL OPTIONS WRITTEN				
(820)	Anglogold Limited	\$ (3,280,000)	10/16/10	\$40.0	\$ (270,600)
(7,320)	Citigroup Inc.	(2,928,000)	9/18/10	4.0	(340,380)
(2,664)	Genworth Financial Inc.	(4,528,800)	9/18/10	17.0	(773,892)
(330)	Union Pacific Corporation	(2,475,000)	8/21/10	75.0	(125,400)

Fair Value Measurements

In determining the value of the Fund s investments, various inputs are used. These inputs are summarized in the three broad levels listed below:

(13,211,800)

Level 1 Quoted prices in active markets for identical securities.

(11,134) Total Call Options Written (premiums received \$1,193,024)

- Level 2 Other significant observable inputs (including quoted prices for similar securities, interest rates, prepayment speeds, credit risk, etc.).
- Level 3 Significant unobservable inputs (including management s assumptions in determining the fair value of investments).

The inputs or methodology used for valuing securities are not an indication of the risk associated with investing in those securities. The following is a summary of the Fund s fair value measurements as of March 31, 2010:

			Level	
	Level 1	Level 2	3	Total
Investments:				
Common Stocks*	\$ 154,188,801	\$ 2,078,703	\$	\$ 156,267,504
Preferred Securities**	8,613,922	2,900,460		11,514,382
Variable Rate Senior Loan Interests		46,942,129		46,942,129
Short-Term Investments	7,783,886			7,783,886
Derivatives:				
Call Options Written	(1,510,272)			(1,510,272)

7 783 886

\$ 166,177,731

(1,510,272)

Total \$169,076,337 \$51,921,292 \$ \$220,997,629

- * Refer to the Fund s Portfolio of Investments for industry breakdown of Common Stocks classified as level 2.
- * Preferred
 Securities
 includes
 Convertible
 Preferred
 Securities, \$25
 Par (or similar)
 Preferred

Securities and Capital Preferred

Securities held by the end of

the reporting period, if any.

Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities

The Fund records derivative instruments at fair value with changes in fair value recognized in the Statement of Operations, when applicable. Even though the Fund s investments in derivatives may represent economic hedges, they are considered to be non-hedge transactions for financial reporting purposes.

The table below presents the fair value of all derivative instruments held by the Fund as of March 31, 2010, the location of these instruments on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities, and the primary underlying risk exposure.

Location on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities

Underlying	Derivative	Asset erivative Derivatives				
Risk	Instrument	Location	Value	Location		Value
Equity Price	Options		\$	Call option	ns written, at value	\$ 1,510,272

Income Tax Information

The following information is presented on an income tax basis. Differences between amounts for financial statement and federal income tax purposes are primarily due to the treatment of paydown gains and losses, recognition of premium amortization and timing differences in recognizing certain gains and losses on investment transactions. To the extent that differences arise that are permanent in nature, such amounts are reclassified within the capital accounts on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities presented in the annual report, based on their federal tax basis treatment; temporary differences do not require reclassification. Temporary and permanent differences do not impact the net asset value of the Fund.

At March 31, 2010, the cost of investments was \$213,883,636.

Gross unrealized appreciation and gross unrealized depreciation of investments at March 31, 2010, were as follows:

Gross unrealized:

Appreciation \$ 29,594,535 Depreciation (20,970,270)

Net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of investments

\$ 8,624,265

- (1) All percentages shown in the Portfolio of Investments are based on net assets applicable to Common shares unless otherwise noted.
- (2) Ratings: Using the higher of Standard & Poor s Group (Standard & Poor s) or Moody s Investor Service, Inc. (Moody s) rating. Ratings below BBB by Standard & Poor s or Baa by Moody s are considered to be below investment grade.
- (3) Senior Loans generally pay interest at rates which are periodically adjusted by reference to a base short-term, floating lending

rate plus an assigned fixed rate. These floating lending rates are generally (i) the lending rate referenced by the London Inter-Bank Offered Rate (LIBOR), or (ii) the prime rate offered by one or more major United States banks.

Senior Loans may be considered restricted in that the Fund ordinarily is contractually obligated to receive approval from the Agent Bank and/or Borrower prior to the disposition of a Senior Loan.

(4) Senior Loans generally are subject to mandatory and/or optional prepayment. Because of these mandatory prepayment conditions and because there may be significant economic incentives for a Borrower to prepay,

prepayments of Senior Loans may occur. As a result, the actual remaining maturity of Senior Loans held may be substantially less than the stated maturities shown.

- (5) Non-income producing; denotes that the issuer has defaulted on the payment of principal or interest or has filed for bankruptcy.
- (6) At or subsequent to March 31, 2010, this issue was under the protection of the Federal Bankruptcy Court.
- (7) The Fund may pledge up to 100% of its eligible investments in the Portfolio of Investments as collateral for Borrowings. As of March 31, 2010, investments with a value of \$108,846,859 have been pledged as collateral for Borrowings.

- (8) Borrowings as a percentage of Total Investments is 23.6%.
- (9) Perpetual security.Maturity date is not applicable.
- (10) For disclosure purposes,
 Notional
 Amount is calculated by multiplying the
 Number of
 Contracts by the
 Strike Price by
 100.
- (11) For fair value measurement disclosure purposes, Common Stock categorized as Level 2.
- (12) At or Subsequent to March 31, 2010, the Fund s Adviser concluded this issue is not likely to meet its future interest payment obligations and has directed the Fund s custodian to cease accruing additional income and write-off any remaining recorded

balances on the Fund s records.

N/A Not applicable.

N/R Not rated.

144A Investment is

exempt from

registration

under

Rule 144A of

the Securities

Act of 1933, as

amended. These

investments may

only be resold in

transactions

exempt from

registration

which are

normally those

transactions

with qualified

institutional

buyers.

ADR American

Depositary

Receipt.

Item 2. Controls and Procedures.

- a. The registrant s principal executive and principal financial officers, or persons performing similar functions, have concluded that the registrant s disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rule 30a-3(c) under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the 1940 Act) (17 CFR 270.30a-3(c))) are effective, as of a date within 90 days of the filing date of this report that includes the disclosure required by this paragraph, based on their evaluation of the controls and procedures required by Rule 30a-3(b) under the 1940 Act (17 CFR 270.30a-3(b)) and Rule 13a-15(b) or 15d-15(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (17 CFR 240.13a-15(b) or 240.15d-15(b)).
- b. There were no changes in the registrant s internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Rule 30a-3(d) under the 1940 Act (17 CFR 270.30a-3(d)) that occurred during the registrant s last fiscal quarter that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant s internal control over financial reporting.

Item 3. Exhibits.

File as exhibits as part of this Form a separate certification for each principal executive officer and principal financial officer of the registrant as required by Rule 30a-2(a) under the 1940 Act (17 CFR 270.30a-2(a)), exactly as set forth below: EX-99 CERT Attached hereto.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Investment Company Act of 1940, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized. (Registrant) Nuveen Tax Advantaged Total Return Strategy Fund

By (Signature and Title) /s/ Kevin J. McCarthy

Kevin J. McCarthy

Vice President and Secretary

Date May 28, 2010

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Investment Company Act of 1940, this report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the registrant and in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

By (Signature and Title) /s/ Gifford R. Zimmerman

Gifford R. Zimmerman

Chief Administrative Officer (principal executive

officer)

Date May 28, 2010

By (Signature and Title) /s/ Stephen D. Foy

Stephen D. Foy

Vice President and Controller (principal financial

officer)

Date May 28, 2010