

NUVEEN TAX ADVANTAGED TOTAL RETURN STRATEGY FUND

Form N-Q

May 30, 2014

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: 3/31/2014

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, 2014

Shares	Description (1)	Value
	LONG-TERM INVESTMENTS 137.7% (95.9% of Total Investments)	
	COMMON STOCKS - 103.0% (71.8% of Total Investments)	
	Automobiles - 3.9%	
175,300	Ford Motor Company	\$ 2,734,680
153,000	General Motors Company	5,266,260
	Total Automobiles	8,000,940
	Capital Markets - 4.0%	
127,000	Ares Capital Corporation	2,237,740
107,000	Bank of New York Company, Inc.	3,776,030
160,000	Medley Capital Corporation	2,177,600
	Total Capital Markets	8,191,370
	Chemicals - 1.1%	
22,300	Agrium Inc.	2,174,696
	Commercial Banks - 10.8%	
125,000	Citigroup Inc.	5,950,000
131,000	JPMorgan Chase & Co.	7,953,010
161,500	Wells Fargo & Company	8,033,010
	Total Commercial Banks	21,936,020
	Communications Equipment - 4.4%	
200,000	Cisco Systems, Inc.	4,482,000
339,600	Ericsson LM Telefonaktiebolaget	4,526,868
	Total Communications Equipment	9,008,868
	Consumer Finance - 2.2%	
58,000	Capital One Financial Corporation	4,475,280
	Containers & Packaging - 1.1%	
43,000	Avery Dennison Corporation	2,178,810
	Diversified Financial Services - 2.2%	
140,000	Deutsche Boerse AG, Unsponsored ADR, (3)	1,111,600
240,000	ING Groep N.V, (2), Sponsored ADR	3,420,000
	Total Diversified Financial Services	4,531,600
	Diversified Telecommunication Services - 1.9%	
29,400	CenturyLink Inc.	965,496
103,000	Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corporation, ADR	2,805,720
	Total Diversified Telecommunication Services	3,771,216
	Electric Utilities - 1.0%	
52,700	NRG Yield Inc., Class A Shares	2,083,231
	Food & Staples Retailing - 4.4%	
163,000	Carrefour SA, Sponsored ADR, (3)	1,255,100
89,500	CVS Caremark Corporation	6,699,970
119,000	Metro AG, Unsponsored ADR, (3)	971,766
	Total Food & Staples Retailing	8,926,836
	Hotels, Restaurants & Leisure - 1.3%	
82,700	Norwegian Cruise Line Holdings Limited, (2)	2,668,729
	Household Products - 1.1%	
27,000	Procter & Gamble Company	2,176,200
	Industrial Conglomerates - 2.0%	
93,500	General Electric Company	2,420,715
45,000	Koninklijke Philips Electronics NV	1,582,200
	Total Industrial Conglomerates	4,002,915
	Insurance - 9.5%	
164,000	American International Group, Inc.	8,201,640
165,100	Hartford Financial Services Group, Inc.	5,823,077
19,700	Swiss Re AG, Sponsored ADR, (3)	1,827,604
97,250	Unum Group	3,433,898
	Total Insurance	19,286,219
	Machinery - 2.0%	
32,500	Ingersoll Rand Company Limited, Class A	1,860,300
33,000	PACCAR Inc.	2,225,520
	Total Machinery	4,085,820

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Media - 12.1%				
327,600	Interpublic Group Companies, Inc.			5,615,064
12,436	Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, (2)			938,918
119,691	National CineMedia, Inc.			1,795,365
22,400	ProSiebenSat.1 Media AG, Unsponsored ADR, (3)			2,051,181
98,800	Time Warner Inc.			6,454,604
3,958	Tribune Company, (2)			315,255
3,185	Tribune Company, (4)			
61,100	Twenty First Century Fox Inc., Class A Shares			1,953,367
65,500	Viacom Inc., Class B			5,566,845
	Total Media			24,690,599
Metals & Mining - 1.7%				
60,100	AngloGold Ashanti Limited, (2), Sponsored ADR			1,026,508
298,900	AuRico Gold Inc.			1,300,215
64,000	Barrick Gold Corporation			1,141,120
	Total Metals & Mining			3,467,843
Oil, Gas & Consumable Fuels - 6.5%				
33,000	Phillips 66			2,542,980
58,200	Royal Dutch Shell PLC, Class A			4,252,092
65,000	Suncor Energy, Inc.			2,272,400
63,700	Total SA, Sponsored ADR			4,178,720
	Total Oil, Gas & Consumable Fuels			13,246,192
Pharmaceuticals - 17.3%				
57,400	AstraZeneca PLC, Sponsored ADR			3,724,112
100,000	GlaxoSmithKline PLC, Sponsored ADR			5,343,000
61,200	Merck & Company Inc.			3,474,324
307,600	Pfizer Inc.			9,880,112
67,000	Roche Holdings AG, Sponsored ADR, (3)			2,527,240
101,900	Sanofi-Aventis			5,327,332
94,800	Teva Pharmaceutical Industries Limited, Sponsored ADR			5,009,232
	Total Pharmaceuticals			35,285,352
Semiconductors & Equipment - 3.3%				
60,000	Analog Devices, Inc.			3,188,400
73,500	Microchip Technology Incorporated			3,510,360
	Total Semiconductors & Equipment			6,698,760
Software - 6.3%				
131,500	CA Technologies			4,072,555
146,000	Microsoft Corporation, (5)			5,984,540
65,500	Oracle Corporation			2,679,605
	Total Software			12,736,700
Thriffs & Mortgage Finance - 1.0%				
117,500	PennyMac Financial Services Inc., (2)			1,955,200
Tobacco - 1.3%				
33,200	Philip Morris International			2,718,084
Wireless Telecommunication Services - 0.6%				
32,836	Vodafone Group PLC, Sponsored ADR			1,208,693
	Total Common Stocks (cost \$154,737,301)			209,506,173

Shares	Description (1)	Coupon	Ratings (6)	Value
	CONVERTIBLE PREFERRED SECURITIES	1.0% (0.7% of Total Investments)		
	Diversified Telecommunication Services - 1.0%			
39,000	IntelSat SA	5.750%	N/R	\$ 2,092,350
	Total Convertible Preferred Securities (cost \$2,100,906)			2,092,350

Shares	Description (1)	Coupon	Ratings (6)	Value
	\$25 PAR (OR SIMILAR) RETAIL STRUCTURES	9.4% (6.5% of Total Investments)		
	Commercial Banks - 2.2%			
13,800	Boston Private Financial Holdings Inc.	6.950%	N/R	\$ 321,540
26,000	City National Corporation	6.750%	BBB-	720,460
5,000	Cullen-Frost Bankers Inc.	5.375%	BBB+	113,800
17,300	Fifth Third Bancorp.	6.625%	BBB-	458,623
10,000	First Republic Bank of San Francisco	7.000%	BBB	262,000
10,000	First Republic Bank of San Francisco	6.700%	BBB	254,100
25,000	First Republic Bank of San Francisco	6.200%	BBB	616,250
25,000	Morgan Stanley	7.125%	BB+	663,250
9,200	PNC Financial Services	6.125%	BBB	245,732
6,700	Taylor Capital Group	8.000%	N/R	179,225
25,000	U.S. Bancorp.	6.500%	BBB+	710,000
	Total Commercial Banks			4,544,980

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Consumer Finance - 0.4%				
30,000	HSBC Finance Corporation	6.360%	BBB+	753,000
2,445	SLM Corporation, Series A	6.970%	BB	119,194
	Total Consumer Finance			872,194
Diversified Consumer Services - 0.1%				
10,062	Gabelli Equity Trust	5.000%	A1	234,243
Electric Utilities - 1.1%				
18,150	Alabama Power Company, (7)	6.500%	A3	483,244
10,000	Alabama Power Company, (7)	6.450%	A3	262,500
8,260	Connecticut Power & Light Company, (7)	4.960%	BBB	405,773
5,000	Georgia Power Company, (7)	6.500%	A-	525,938
5,000	Gulf Power Company, (7)	6.450%	BBB+	495,549
	Total Electric Utilities			2,173,004
Food Products - 0.2%				
17,700	CHS Inc., (2)	7.100%	N/R	473,829
Insurance - 3.3%				
25,000	Allstate Corporation	6.750%	BBB-	632,750
30,424	Arch Capital Group Limited	6.750%	BBB	764,251
10,400	Aspen Insurance Holdings Limited	7.401%	BBB-	268,944
25,410	Aspen Insurance Holdings Limited	7.250%	BBB-	663,709
25,798	Axis Capital Holdings Limited	6.875%	BBB	650,110
25,000	Endurance Specialty Holdings Limited	7.750%	BBB-	655,500
15,000	Endurance Specialty Holdings Limited	7.500%	BBB-	392,550
35,000	MetLife Inc.	6.500%	Baa2	880,250
35,000	PartnerRe Limited	7.250%	BBB+	927,850
30,000	Principal Financial Group	6.518%	BBB	746,400
8,496	RenaissanceRe Holdings Limited	6.080%	BBB+	208,492
	Total Insurance			6,790,806
Marine - 0.2%				
10,000	Costamare Inc., (2)	8.500%	N/R	251,200
600	Navios Maritime Holdings Inc., (2)	8.750%	N/R	15,000
8,900	Seaspan Corporation	8.250%	N/R	227,128
	Total Marine			493,328
Oil, Gas & Consumable Fuels - 0.8%				
4,400	Callon Petroleum Company	10.000%	N/R	224,400
20,000	Kayne Anderson MLP Trust	4.600%	AA	504,800
4,500	Magnum Hunter Resources Corporation	8.000%	N/R	220,770
15,000	Teekay Offshore Partners LP	7.250%	N/R	381,600
	Total Oil, Gas & Consumable Fuels			1,331,570
Thrifts & Mortgage Finance - 0.6%				
52,575	Federal Agricultural Mortgage Corporation	5.875%	N/R	1,175,051
U.S. Agency - 0.5%				
6,525	Cobank Agricultural Credit Bank, 144A (7)	6.250%	A-	660,248
3,250	Cobank Agricultural Credit Bank, 144A (7)	6.125%	A-	275,335
	Total U.S. Agency			935,583
	Total \$25 Par (or similar) Retail Structures (cost \$18,321,905)			19,024,588

Principal Amount (000)	Description (1)	Coupon	Maturity (8)	Ratings (6)	Value
	VARIABLE RATE SENIOR LOAN INTERESTS	22.9% (15.9% of Total Investments) (9)			
	Aerospace & Defense - 0.2%				
\$ 425	Hamilton Sundstrand, Term Loan, First Lien	4.000%	12/13/19	B+	\$ 425,785
	Airlines - 0.2%				
495	Delta Air Lines, Inc., Term Loan B1	3.500%	10/18/18	Ba1	494,676
	Auto Components - 0.9%				
1,116	Federal-Mogul Corporation, Tranche B, Term Loan	2.098%	12/29/14	B1	1,112,374
655	Federal-Mogul Corporation, Tranche C, Term Loan	2.098%	12/28/15	B1	652,883
1,771	Total Auto Components				1,765,257
	Automobiles - 0.5%				
997	Chrysler Group LLC, Term Loan B	3.500%	5/24/17	BB+	999,306
	Capital Markets - 0.2%				
498	Guggenheim Partners LLC, Initial Term Loan	4.250%	7/22/20	N/R	501,076

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Chemicals - 1.0%					
968	Univar, Inc., Term Loan	5.000%	6/30/17	B+	966,139
993	US Coatings Acquisition, Term Loan B	4.000%	2/01/20	B+	995,159
1,961	Total Chemicals				1,961,298
Computers & Peripherals - 0.5%					
998	Dell, Inc., Term Loan B	4.500%	4/29/20	BB+	992,014
Diversified Consumer Services - 0.4%					
763	Hilton Hotels Corporation, Term Loan B2	3.750%	10/26/20	BB	765,447
Diversified Financial Services - 0.2%					
433	WideOpenWest Finance LLC, Term Loan B	4.750%	4/01/19	Ba3	435,125
Diversified Other - 0.2%					
498	Rexnord LLC, Term Loan B	4.000%	8/21/20	BB-	498,976
Diversified Telecommunication Services - 0.4%					
821	Intelsat Jackson Holdings, S.A., Tranche B2, Term Loan	3.750%	6/30/19	BB-	823,754
Food Products - 1.8%					
1,390	H.J Heinz Company, Term Loan B2	3.500%	6/05/20	BB	1,398,967
1,204	Michael Foods Group, Inc., Term Loan	4.250%	2/25/18	Ba3	1,208,887
966	US Foods, Inc., Incremental Term Loan	4.500%	3/31/19	B2	972,617
3,560	Total Food Products				3,580,471
Health Care Equipment & Supplies - 0.7%					
1,466	Kinetic Concepts, Inc., Term Loan D1	4.000%	5/04/18	BB-	1,472,645
Health Care Providers & Services - 2.3%					
748	Community Health Systems, Inc., Term Loan D	4.250%	1/27/21	BB	755,370
988	DaVita, Inc., New Term Loan B2	4.000%	11/01/19	Ba2	994,729
958	Golden Living, Term Loan	5.000%	5/04/18	B	948,943
995	HCA, Inc., Tranche B4, Term Loan	2.984%	5/01/18	BB	996,244
76	HCA, Inc., Tranche B5, Term Loan	2.903%	3/31/17	BB	75,610
896	Kindred Healthcare, Inc., Term Loan B1	4.250%	6/01/18	Ba3	898,363
4,661	Total Health Care Providers & Services				4,669,259
Hotels, Restaurants & Leisure - 1.5%					
943	24 Hour Fitness Worldwide, Inc., Term Loan B	5.248%	4/22/16	Ba3	953,196
989	MGM Resorts International, Term Loan B	3.500%	12/20/19	BB	988,532
1,200	Seaworld Parks and Entertainment, Inc., Term Loan B2	3.000%	5/14/20	BB+	1,184,153
3,132	Total Hotels, Restaurants & Leisure				3,125,881
Household Durables - 1.7%					
995	Jarden Corporation, Term Loan B1	2.903%	9/30/20	BBB-	996,758
1,579	Reynolds Group Holdings, Inc., Incremental US Term Loan, First Lien	4.000%	12/01/18	B+	1,588,649
791	Tempur-Pedic International, Inc., New Term Loan B	3.500%	3/18/20	BB	791,108
3,365	Total Household Durables				3,376,515
Household Products - 0.2%					
385	Spectrum Brands, Inc., Term Loan A	3.000%	9/04/17	BB	385,961
Independent Power Producers & Energy Traders - 0.5%					
998	Calpine Corporation, Delayed Term Loan	4.000%	10/31/20	BB-	1,001,864
Internet & Catalog Retail - 0.3%					
626	Burlington Coat Factory Warehouse Corporation, Term Loan B2	4.250%	2/23/17	BB-	629,695
Machinery - 0.1%					
269	Gardner Denver, Inc., Term Loan	4.250%	7/30/20	B1	268,868
Media - 3.3%					
247	Clear Channel Communications, Inc., Tranche D, Term Loan	6.903%	1/30/19	CCC+	242,520
92	Clear Channel Communications, Inc., Term Loan E	7.653%	7/30/19	CCC+	92,168
997	Cumulus Media, Inc., Term Loan B	4.250%	12/23/20	B+	1,006,204
1,216	Interactive Data Corporation, Term Loan	3.750%	1/31/18	Ba3	1,218,252
480	Media General, Inc., Delayed Draw, Term Loan	4.250%	7/31/20	BB-	485,025

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260	Nielsen Finance LLC, Term Loan E	2.904%	5/01/16	BBB-	260,279
498	Springer Science & Business Media, Inc., Term Loan	5.000%	8/14/20	B	498,744
1,340	Tribune Company, Term Loan B	4.000%	12/27/20	BB-	1,342,276
1,548	Univision Communications, Inc., Replacement Term Loan, First Lien	4.000%	3/01/20	B+	1,549,545
6,678	Total Media				6,695,013
	Multiline Retail - 0.4%				
694	Hudson's Bay Company, Term Loan B, First Lien	4.750%	11/04/20	BB	704,460
	Oil, Gas & Consumable Fuels - 1.2%				
249	Drill Rigs Holdings, Inc., Tranche B1, Term Loan	6.000%	3/31/21	B+	254,399
1,500	Energy Transfer Equity L.P., Term Loan, First Lien	3.250%	12/02/19	BB	1,498,636
645	Fieldwood Energy LLC, Term Loan, First Lien	3.875%	9/28/18	Ba2	646,612
127	Frac Tech International LLC, Term Loan	8.500%	5/06/16	B2	129,246
2,521	Total Oil, Gas & Consumable Fuels				2,528,893
	Pharmaceuticals - 1.4%				
1,000	Grifols, Inc., Term Loan, WI/DD	TBD	TBD	Ba1	1,000,625
735	Quintiles Transnational Corp., Term Loan B3	3.750%	6/08/18	BB	736,708
1,148	Valeant Pharmaceuticals International, Inc., Term Loan E	3.750%	8/05/20	Ba1	1,155,184
2,883	Total Pharmaceuticals				2,892,517
	Real Estate Investment Trust - 0.4%				
733	iStar Financial, Inc., Term Loan	4.500%	10/15/17	BB-	736,629
	Road & Rail - 0.2%				
394	Swift Transportation Company, Inc., Term Loan B2	4.000%	12/21/17	Ba1	398,203
	Semiconductors & Equipment - 0.4%				
736	NXP Semiconductor LLC, Term Loan D	3.750%	1/11/20	BB+	734,360
	Software - 1.5%				
424	Activision Blizzard, Inc., Term Loan B	3.250%	10/12/20	BBB	424,345
967	Emdeon Business Services LLC, Term Loan B2	3.750%	11/02/18	BB-	969,088
784	Infor Global Solutions Intermediate Holdings, Ltd., Term Loan B5	3.750%	6/03/20	Ba3	782,813
836	Sophia LP Term Loan B	4.000%	7/19/18	B+	837,456
3,011	Total Software				3,013,702
	Wireless Telecommunication Services - 0.3%				
496	Charter Communications Operating Holdings LLC, Term Loan E	3.000%	7/01/20	Baa3	492,776
102	Clear Channel Communications, Inc., Tranche B, Term Loan	3.803%	1/29/16	CCC+	100,976
598	Total Wireless Telecommunication Services				593,752
\$ 46,370	Total Variable Rate Senior Loan Interests (cost \$46,045,891)				46,471,402

Principal Amount (000)	Description (1)	Coupon	Maturity	Ratings (6)	Value
	CORPORATE BONDS - 0.3% (0.2% of Total Investments)				
	Commercial Banks - 0.2%				
\$ 525	M&T Bank Corporation	6.450%	12/29/49	BBB	\$ 544,688
	Media - 0.1%				
133	Clear Channel Communications, Inc.	9.000%	12/15/19	CCC+	139,650
\$ 658	Total Corporate Bonds (cost \$637,042)				684,338

Principal Amount (000)/ Shares	Description (1)	Coupon	Maturity	Ratings (6)	Value
	\$1,000 PAR (OR SIMILAR) INSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURES	1.1% (0.8% of Total Investments)			
	Commercial Banks - 0.3%				
500	PNC Financial Services Inc.	6.750%	N/A (10)	BBB	\$ 545,000
25	Zions Bancorporation	7.200%	N/A (10)	BB	25,875
	Total Commercial Banks				570,875
	Diversified Financial Services - 0.8%				

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600	General Electric Capital Corporation	7.125%	N/A (10)	AA-	684,000
400	JPMorgan Chase & Company	5.150%	N/A (10)	BBB	375,000
500	JPMorgan Chase & Company	7.900%	N/A (10)	BBB	565,000
	Total Diversified Financial Services				1,624,000
	Insurance - 0.0%				
22	Prudential PLC	7.750%	N/A (10)	A-	23,815
	Total \$1,000 Par (or similar) Institutional Structures (cost \$1,994,497)				2,218,690
	Total Long-Term Investments (cost \$223,837,542)				279,997,541

Principal Amount (000)	Description (1)	Coupon	Maturity	Value
	SHORT-TERM INVESTMENTS - 5.8% (4.1% of Total Investments)			
\$ 4,795	Repurchase Agreement with Fixed Income Clearing Corporation, dated 3/31/14, repurchase price \$4,794,850, collateralized by \$4,960,000 U.S. Treasury Notes, 1.250%, due 11/30/18, value \$4,891,800	0.000%	4/01/14	\$ 4,794,850
7,046	Repurchase Agreement with Fixed Income Clearing Corporation, dated 3/31/14, repurchase price \$7,046,365, collateralized by \$7,720,000 U.S. Treasury Bonds, 3.125%, due 2/15/42, value \$7,189,250	0.000%	4/01/14	7,046,365
\$ 11,841	Total Short-Term Investments (cost \$11,841,215)			11,841,215
	Total Investments (cost \$235,678,757) - 143.5%			291,838,756
	Borrowings (41.8%) (11), (12)			(85,000,000)
	Other Assets Less Liabilities (1.7%) (13)			(3,526,826)
	Net Assets Applicable to Common Shares - 100%			\$ 203,311,930

Investments in Derivatives as of March 31, 2014

Options Written outstanding:

Number of Contracts	Type	Notional Amount (14)	Expiration Date	Strike Price	Value (13)
(2,989)	Aurico Gold Inc	\$ (1,494,500)	6/21/14	5.0	\$ (52,308)
(294)	CenturyLink Inc.	(911,400)	4/19/14	31.0	(58,065)
(527)	NRG Yield Inc.	(2,108,000)	6/21/14	40.0	(90,907)
(328)	Vodafone Group PLC	(1,377,600)	4/19/14	42.0	(1,968)
(4,138)	Total Options Written (premiums received \$269,262)	\$ (5,891,500)			\$ (203,248)

Interest Rate Swaps outstanding:

Counterparty	Notional Amount	Fund Pay/Receive Floating Rate	Floating Rate Index	Fixed Rate (Annualized)	Fixed Rate Payment	Effective	Termination	Unrealized Appreciation
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