



# *Chapter 2*

# **The Business, Tax, and Financial Environments**

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# ***The Business, Tax, and Financial Environments***

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**The Business Environment**

**The Tax Environment**

**The Financial Environment**



# ***The Business Environment***

**The U.S. has four basic forms of business organization:**

**Sole Proprietorships**

**Partnerships (general and limited)**

**Corporations**

**Limited liability companies**



# ***The Business Environment***

**Sole Proprietorship** -- A business form for which there is one owner. This single owner has unlimited liability for all debts of the firm.

**Oldest form of business organization.**

**Business income** is accounted for on the owner's ***personal income tax form.***



# ***Summary for Sole Proprietorship***

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## **Advantages**

**Simplicity**

**Low setup cost**

**Quick setup**

**Single tax filing  
on individual form**

## **Disadvantages**

**Unlimited liability**

**Hard to raise  
additional capital**

**Transfer of  
ownership  
difficulties**



# ***The Business Environment***

**Partnership** -- A business form in which two or more individuals act as owners.

**Business income** is accounted for on each partner's ***personal income tax form***.



# Types of Partnerships

General Partnership -- All partners have *unlimited liability* and are liable for all obligations of the partnership.

Limited Partnership -- Limited partners have *liability limited* to their capital contribution (investors only). At least one general partner is required and all general partners have unlimited liability.



# ***Summary for Partnership***

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## **Advantages**

**Can be simple**

**Low setup cost, higher than sole proprietorship**

**Relatively quick setup**

**Limited liability for limited partners**

## **Disadvantages**

**Unlimited liability for the general partner**

**Difficult to raise additional capital, but easier than sole proprietorship**

**Transfer of ownership difficulties**





# ***The Business Environment***

**Corporation** -- A business form legally separate from its owners.

An artificial entity that can own assets and incur liabilities.

**Business income** is accounted for on the ***income tax form of the corporation.***



# ***Summary for Corporation***

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## **Advantages**

**Limited liability**

**Easy transfer of ownership**

**Unlimited life**

**Easier to raise large quantities of capital**

## **Disadvantages**

**Double taxation**

**More difficult to establish**

**More expensive to set up and maintain**



# ***The Business Environment***

**Limited Liability Companies** -- A business form that provides its owners (called “members”) with corporate-style limited personal liability and the federal-tax treatment of a partnership.

**Business income** is accounted for on each “member’s” ***individual income tax form.***



# ***Limited Liability Company (LLC)***

**Generally, an LLC will possess only the first two of the following four standard corporation characteristics**

**Limited liability**

**Centralized management**

**Unlimited life**

**Transfer of ownership without other owners' prior consent**



# ***Summary for LLC***

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## **Advantages**

**Limited liability**

**Eliminates double  
taxation**

**No restriction on  
number or type of  
owners**

**Easier to raise  
additional capital**

## **Disadvantages**

**Limited life  
(generally)**

**Transfer of  
ownership  
difficulties  
(generally)**



# Corporate Income Taxes

| Corp. Taxable Income |                | Tax        |  |
|----------------------|----------------|------------|--|
| At Least             | But <          | Rate       | Tax Calculation                        |
| \$ 0                 | \$ 50,000      | 15%        | .15x(Inc > 0)                          |
| 50,000               | 75,000         | 25%        | \$ 7,500 + .25x(Inc > 50,000)          |
| 75,000               | 100,000        | 34%        | 13,750 + .34x(Inc > 75,000)            |
| <b>100,000</b>       | <b>335,000</b> | <b>39%</b> | <b>22,250 + .39x(Inc &gt; 100,000)</b> |
| 335,000              | 10,000,000     | 34%        | 113,900 + .34x(Inc > 335,000)          |
| 10,000,000           | 15,000,000     | 35%        | 3,400,000 + .35x(Inc > 10,000,000)     |
| 15,000,000           | 18,333,333     | 38%        | 5,150,000 + .38x(Inc > 15,000,000)     |
| 18,333,333           |                | 35%        | 6,416,667 + .35x(Inc > 18,333,333)     |



# ***Income Tax Example***

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Lisa Miller of *Basket Wonders (BW)* is calculating the ***income tax liability***, ***marginal tax rate***, and ***average tax rate*** for the fiscal year ending December 31.

***BW's*** corporate taxable income for this fiscal year was **\$250,000**.



# ***Income Tax Example***

## **Income tax liability**

$$\begin{aligned} &= \$22,250 + .39 \times (\$250,000 - \$100,000) \\ &= \$22,250 + \$58,500 \\ &= \$80,750 \end{aligned}$$

$$\textbf{\underline{Marginal tax rate}} = 39\%$$

$$\begin{aligned} \textbf{\underline{Average tax rate}} &= \$80,750 / \$250,000 \\ &= 32.3\% \end{aligned}$$





# ***Depreciation***

**Depreciation** represents the systematic allocation of the cost of a capital asset over a period of time for financial reporting purposes, tax purposes, or both.

**Generally, profitable firms prefer to use an accelerated method for tax reporting purposes.**



# ***Common Types of Depreciation***

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**Straight-line (SL)**

**Accelerated Types**

**Double-Declining-Balance (DDB)**

**Modified Accelerated Cost Recovery System (MACRS)**



# ***Depreciation Example***

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**Lisa Miller of *Basket Wonders (BW)* is calculating the depreciation on a machine with a **depreciable basis of \$100,000**, a **6-year useful life**, and a **5-year property class life**.**

**She calculates the annual depreciation charges using MACRS.**



# ***MACRS Example***

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**Assets are depreciated based on one of eight different property classes.**

**Generally, the half-year convention is used.**

**Depreciation in any particular year is the maximum of DDB or straight-line.**

**A switch in depreciation methods is made from DDB to SL during the life of the asset.**



# ***MACRS Example***

| <b>Year</b> | <b>Depreciation Calculation</b>             | <b>Depreciation Charge</b> | <b>Net Book Value</b> |
|-------------|---|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>0</b>    | ---   | ---                        | <b>\$100,000</b>      |
| <b>1</b>    | $.5 \times 2 \times (1/5) \times \$100,000$ | <b>\$ 20,000</b>           | <b>80,000</b>         |
| <b>2</b>    | $2 \times (1/5) \times \$80,000$            | <b>32,000</b>              | <b>48,000</b>         |
| <b>3</b>    | $2 \times (1/5) \times \$48,000$            | <b>19,200</b>              | <b>28,800</b>         |
| <b>4</b>    | $\$28,800 / 2.5 \text{ Years}$              | <b>11,520</b>              | <b>17,280</b>         |
| <b>5</b>    | $\$28,800 / 2.5 \text{ Years}$              | <b>11,520</b>              | <b>5,760</b>          |
| <b>6</b>    | $\$28,800 / 2.5 \text{ Yrs} \times .5$      | <b>5,760</b>               | <b>0</b>              |



# ***MACRS Schedule***

| <b>Recovery<br/>Year</b> | <b>Property Class</b> |               |               |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|---------------|
|                          | <b>3-Year</b>         | <b>5-Year</b> | <b>7-Year</b> |
| <b>1</b>                 | <b>33.33%</b>         | <b>20.00%</b> | <b>14.29%</b> |
| <b>2</b>                 | <b>44.45</b>          | <b>32.00</b>  | <b>24.49</b>  |
| <b>3</b>                 | <b>14.81</b>          | <b>19.20</b>  | <b>17.49</b>  |
| <b>4</b>                 | <b>7.41</b>           | <b>11.52</b>  | <b>12.49</b>  |
| <b>5</b>                 |                       | <b>11.52</b>  | <b>8.93</b>   |
| <b>6</b>                 |                       | <b>5.76</b>   | <b>8.92</b>   |
| <b>7</b>                 |                       |               | <b>8.93</b>   |
| <b>8</b>                 |                       |               | <b>4.46</b>   |



# ***Other Tax Issues***

**Alternative Minimum Tax** is a special tax which equals 20% of alternative minimum taxable income (generally not equal to taxable income). Corporations pay the maximum of AMT or regular tax liability.

**Quarterly Tax Payments** require corporations to pay 25% of their estimated annual tax liability on the 15th of April, June, September, and December.



# ***Interest Deductibility***

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**Interest Expense** is the interest paid on outstanding debt and is ***tax deductible***.

**Cash Dividend** is the cash distribution of earnings to shareholders and is *not* a tax deductible expense.

The **after-tax cost of debt** is:

$$(\text{Interest Expense}) \times (1 - \text{Tax Rate})$$

Thus, debt financing has a ***tax advantage!***





# ***Handling Corporate Losses and Gains***

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Corporations that sustain a net operating loss can carry that loss back (***Carryback***) **2 years** and forward (***Carryforward***) **20 years** to offset operating gains in those years.

Losses are generally carried back first and then forward starting with the earliest year with operating gains.



# ***Corporate Losses and Gains Example***

Lisa Miller is examining the impact of an operating loss at *Basket Wonders (BW)* in 2003. The following time line shows operating income and losses.

**What impact does the 2003 loss have on *BW*?**





# ***Corporate Losses and Gains Example***

The loss can offset the gain in each of the years 2001 and 2002. The remaining **\$250,000** can be carried forward to 2004 or beyond.

| 2000      | 2001       | 2002       | 2003              |
|-----------|------------|------------|-------------------|
| \$150,000 | \$150,000  | \$100,000  | -\$500,000        |
|           | -\$150,000 | -\$100,000 | \$250,000         |
| <hr/>     | <hr/>      | <hr/>      | <hr/>             |
| \$150,000 | 0          | 0          | <b>-\$250,000</b> |



# ***Corporate Capital Gains / Losses***

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Generally, the sale of a “capital asset” (as defined by the IRS) generates a **capital gain** (asset sells for more than original cost) or **capital loss** (asset sells for less than original cost).

Often historically, capital gains income has received more favorable U.S. tax treatment than operating income.



# ***Corporate Capital Gains / Losses***

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Currently, **capital gains** are taxed at ordinary income tax rates for corporations, or a maximum 35%.

**Capital losses** are deductible only against **capital gains**.



# ***Personal Income Taxes***

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The U.S. has a **progressive tax structure** with four tax brackets of **15%**, **28%**, **31%**, and **36%**.

A **10% surtax** is applied to certain high income individuals raising their marginal rate to **39.6%**.

Personal income taxes are determined by taxable income, filing status, and various credits.



# ***Financial Environment***

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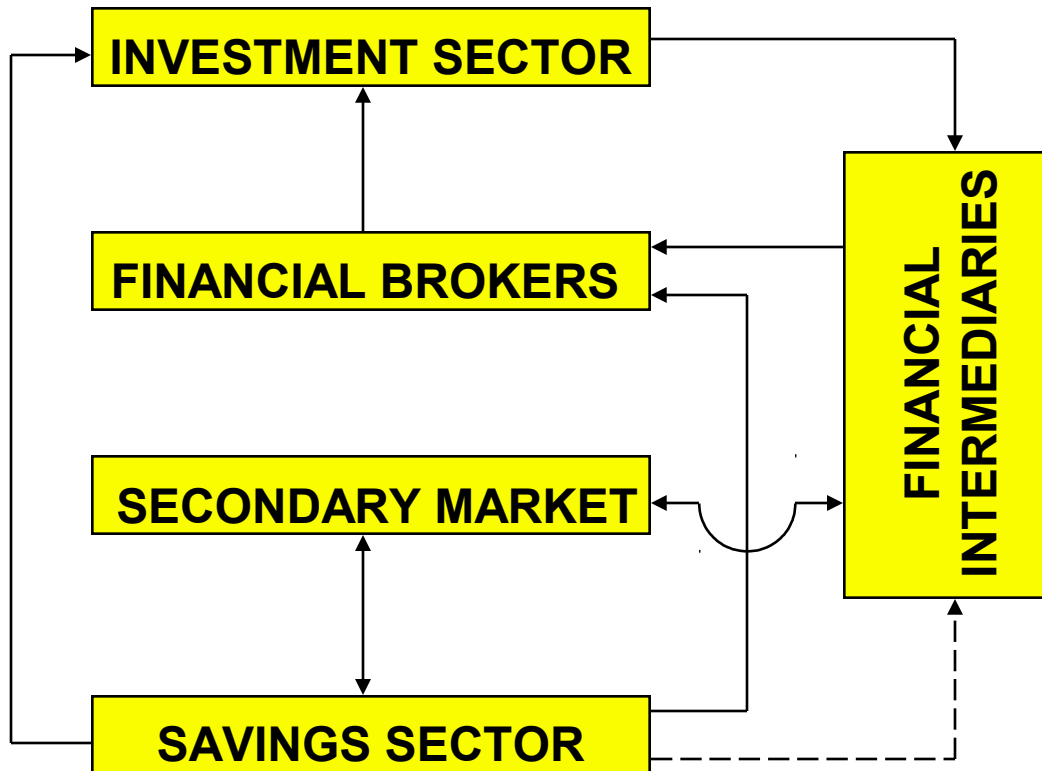
**Businesses interact continually with the **financial markets**.**

**Financial Markets are composed of all institutions and procedures for bringing buyers and sellers of financial instruments together.**

**The purpose of financial markets is to efficiently allocate savings to ultimate users.**



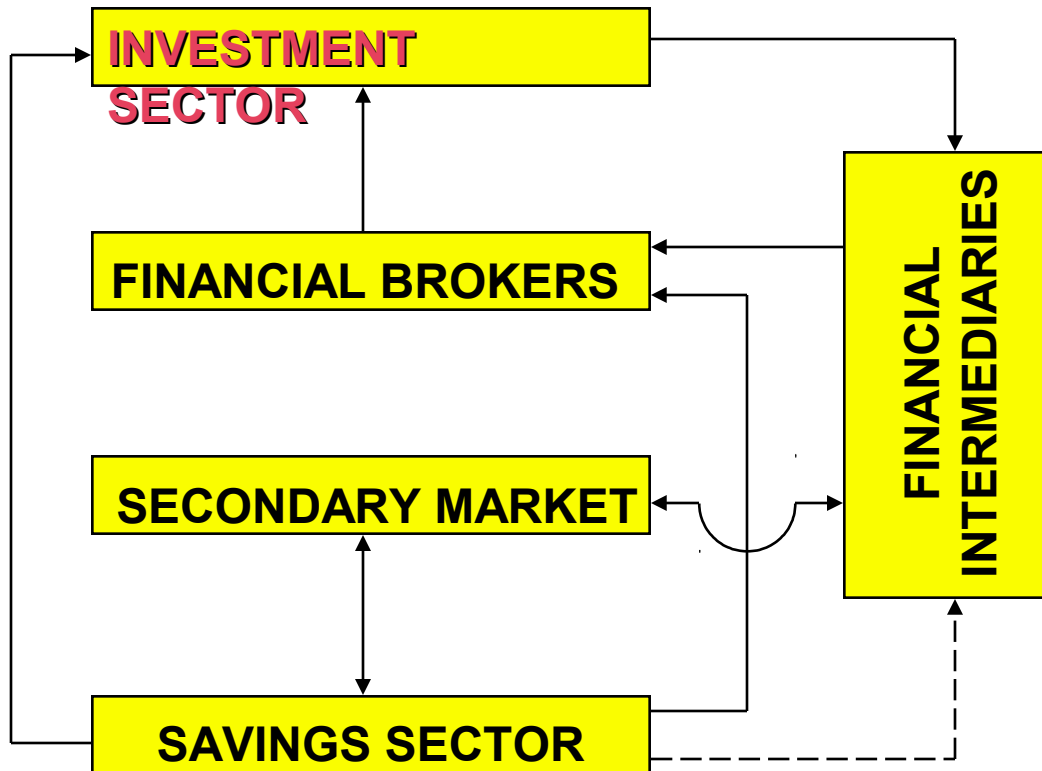
# *Flow of Funds in the Economy*





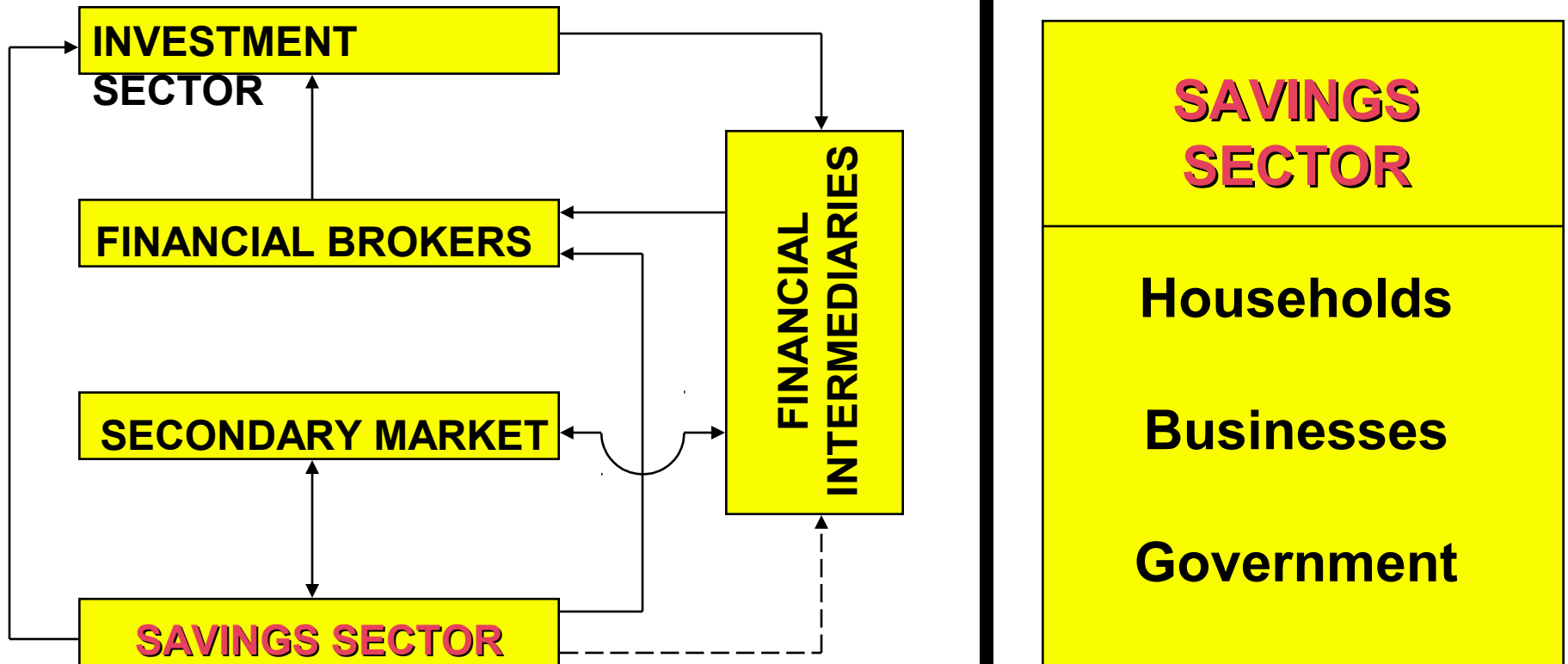


# *Flow of Funds in the Economy*



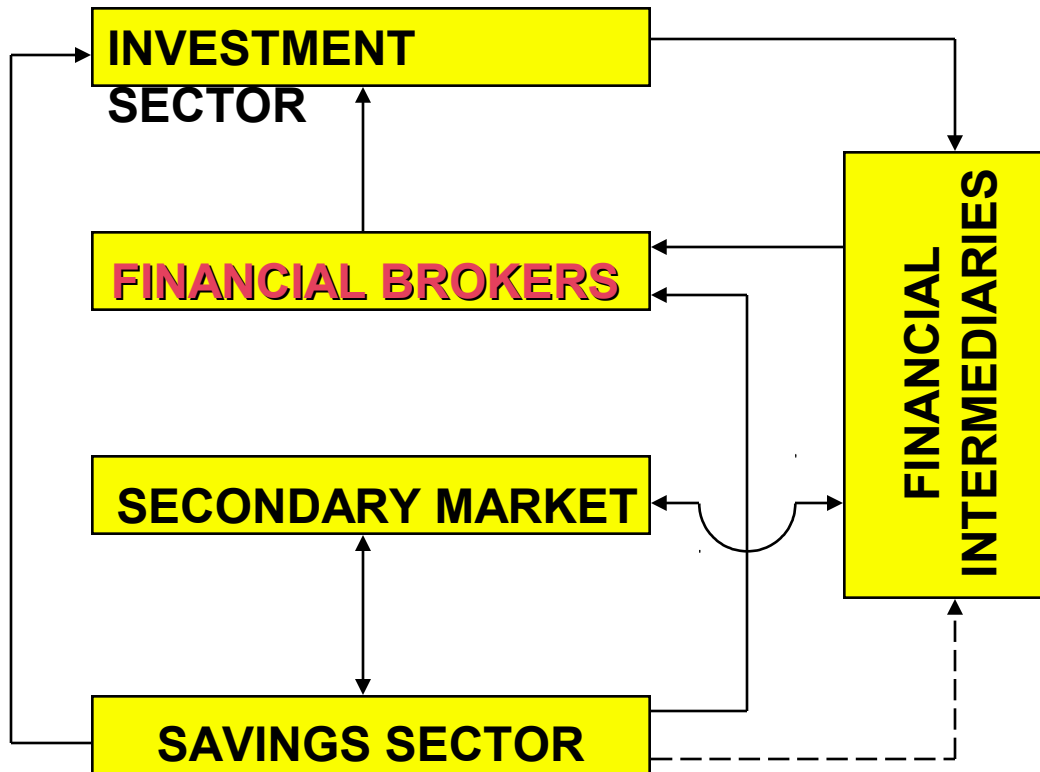


# *Flow of Funds in the Economy*



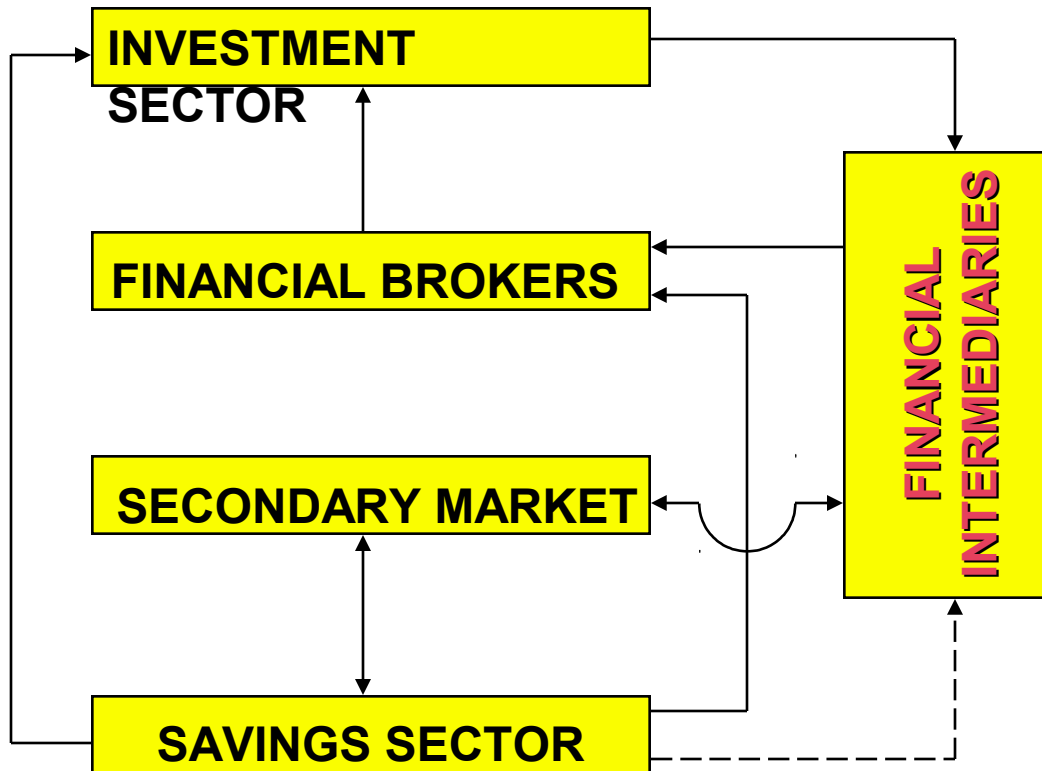


# *Flow of Funds in the Economy*





# *Flow of Funds in the Economy*

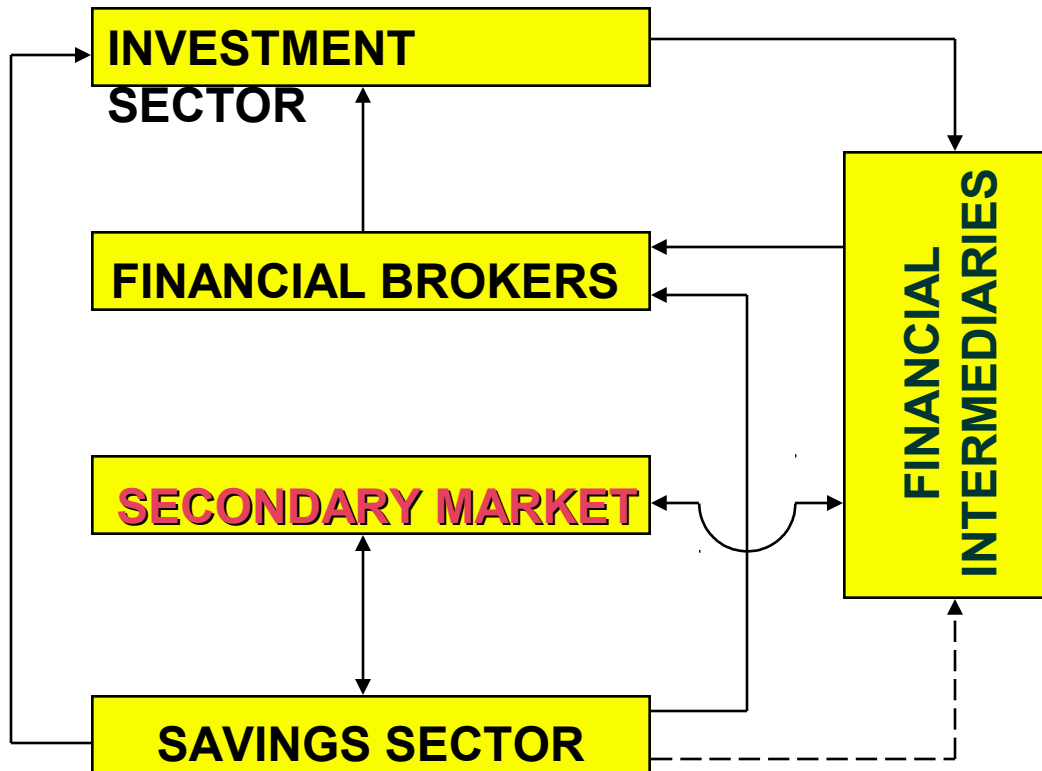


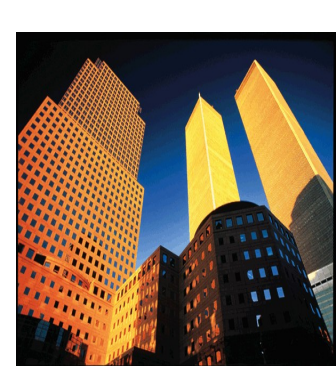
## **FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES**

**Commercial Banks  
Savings Institutions  
Insurance Cos.  
Pension Funds  
Finance Companies  
Mutual Funds**



# *Flow of Funds in the Economy*





# ***Allocation of Funds***

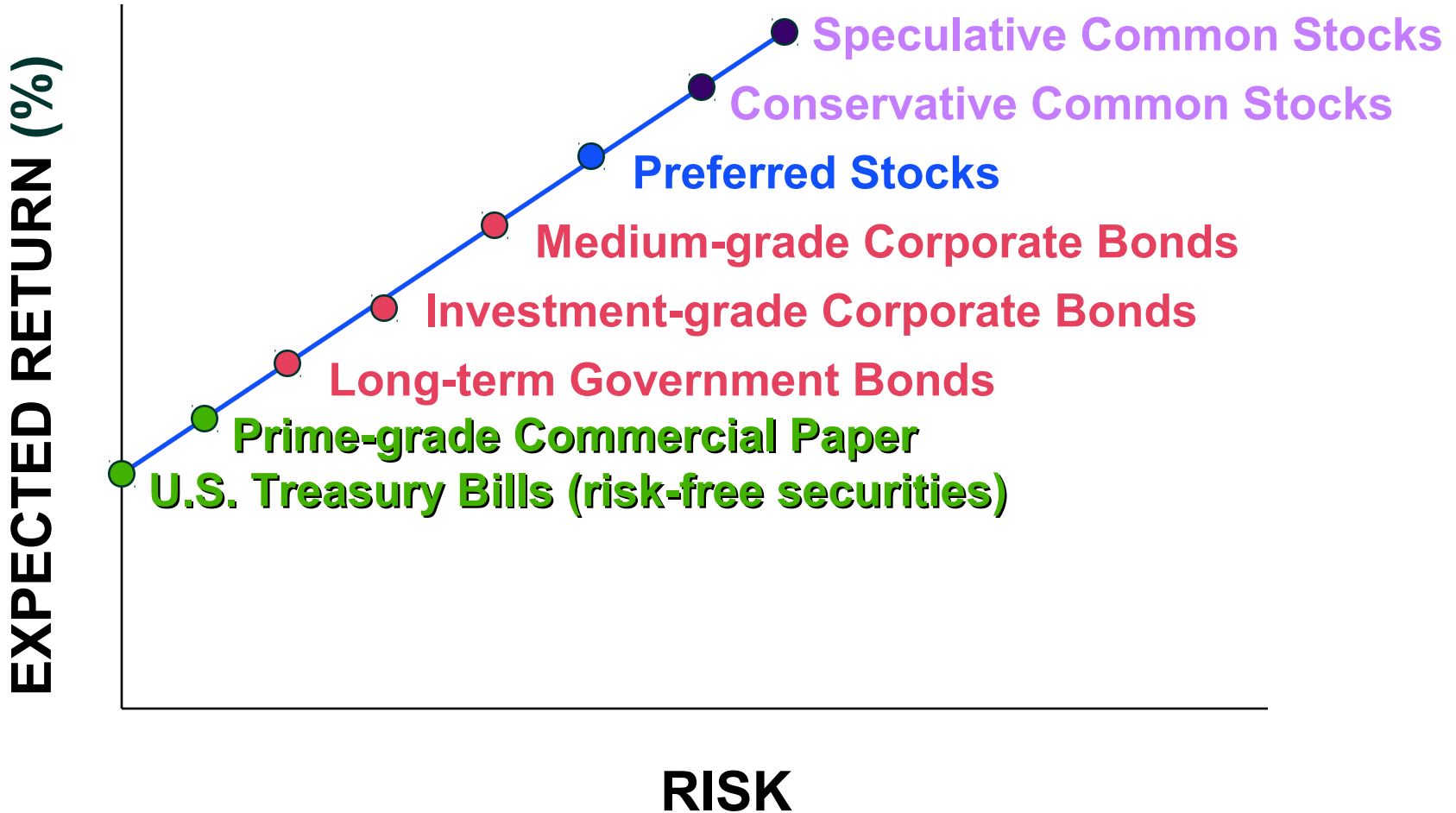
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**Funds will flow to economic units that are willing to provide the greatest expected return (holding risk constant).**

**In a rational world, the highest expected returns will be offered only by those economic units with the most promising investment opportunities.**

**Result: Savings tend to be allocated to the most efficient uses.**

# **Risk-Expected Return Profile**





# ***What Influences Security Expected Returns?***

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**Default Risk** is the failure to meet the terms of a contract.

**Marketability** is the ability to sell a significant volume of securities in a short period of time in the secondary market without significant price concession.






# ***Ratings by Investment Agencies on Default Risk***

| <b>MOODY'S INV SERVICE</b> |                                     | <b>STANDARD &amp; POOR'S</b> |                         |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Aaa</b>                 | <b>Best Quality</b>                 | <b>AAA</b>                   | <b>Highest Grade</b>    |
| <b>Aa</b>                  | <b>High Quality</b>                 | <b>AA</b>                    | <b>High Grade</b>       |
| <b>A</b>                   | <b>Upper Med Grade</b>              | <b>A</b>                     | <b>Higher Med Grade</b> |
| <b>Baa</b>                 | <b>Medium Grade</b>                 | <b>BBB</b>                   | <b>Medium Grade</b>     |
| <b>Ba</b>                  | <b>Possess Speculative Elements</b> | <b>BB</b>                    | <b>Speculative</b>      |
| ⋮                          | ⋮                                   | ⋮                            | ⋮                       |
| <b>C</b>                   | <b>Lowest Grade</b>                 | <b>D</b>                     | <b>In Default</b>       |

***Investment grade*** represents the top four categories.  
***Below investment grade*** represents all other categories.



# ***What Influences Expected Security Returns?***

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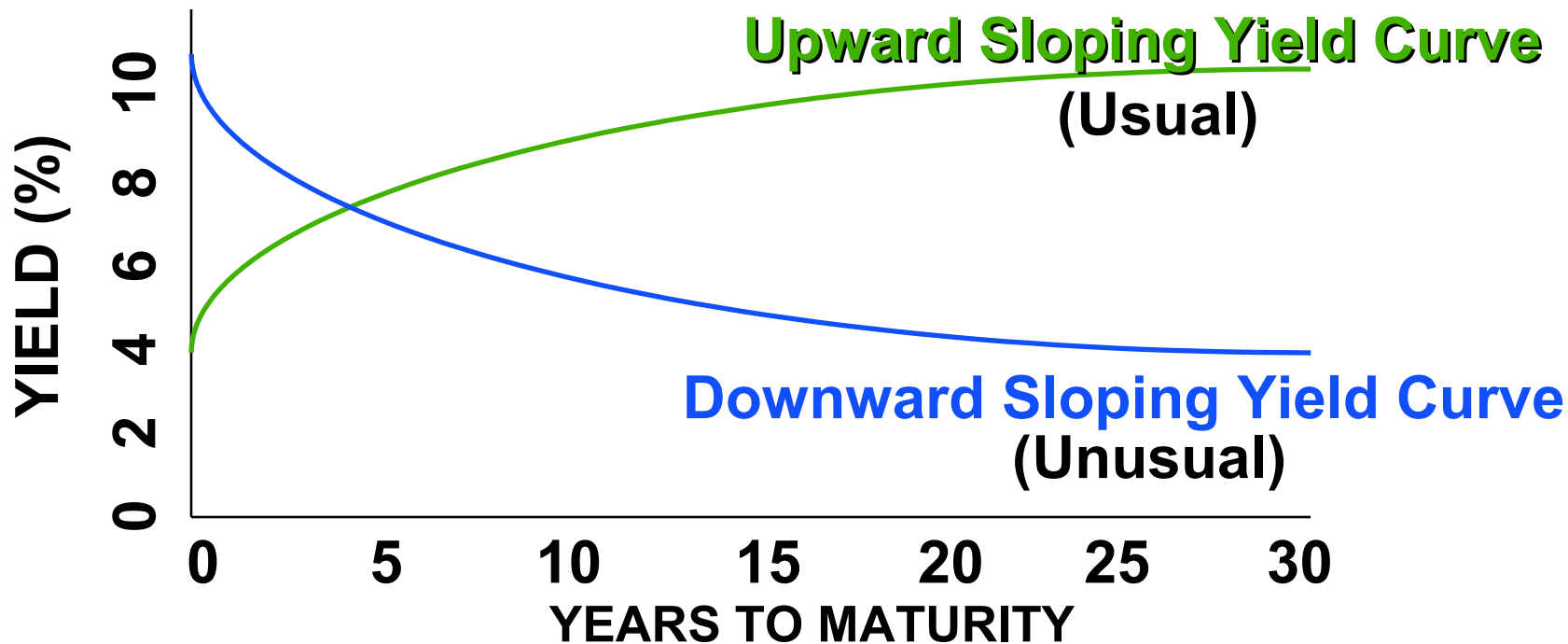
**Maturity** is concerned with the life of the security; the amount of time before the principal amount of a security becomes due.

**Taxability** considers the expected tax consequences of the security.



# ***Term Structure of Interest Rates***

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A **yield curve** is a graph of the relationship between yields and term to maturity for particular securities.



# ***What Influences Expected Security Returns?***

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**Embedded Options** provide the opportunity to change specific attributes of the security.

**Inflation** is a rise in the average level of prices of goods and services. The greater inflation expectations, then the greater the expected return.