Research Exemplar Talk: Tax Research

Nathan C. Goldman

North Carolina State University





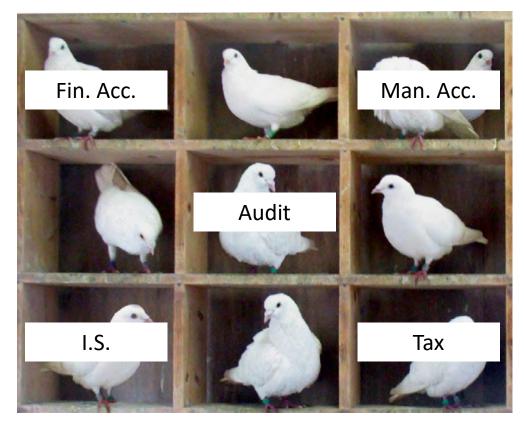
Where Were You 10 Years Ago Today?

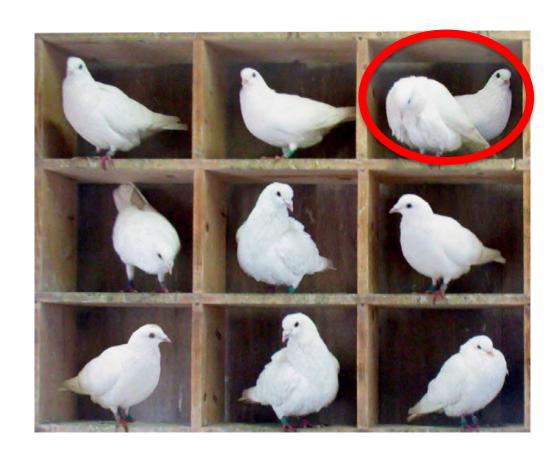


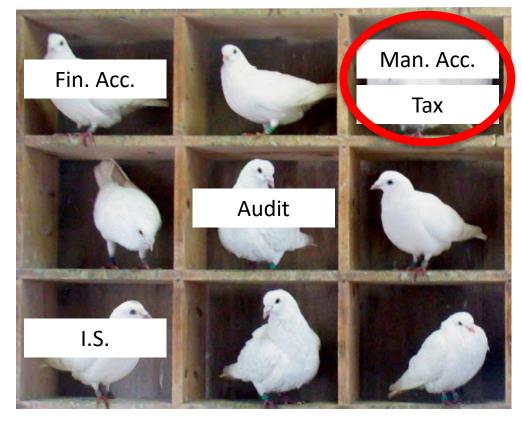












Journal of Accounting and Economics 60 (2015) 149-167



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Journal of Accounting and Economics

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/jae



The importance of the internal information environment for tax avoidance *, * *



John Gallemore a, Eva Labro b,*

ARTICLEINFO

Article history:
Received 12 April 2013
Received in revised form
25 July 2014
Accepted 8 September 2014
Available online 2 October 2014

JEL classification: M41

Keywords: Internal information quality Management accounting Tax avoidance Tax risk

ABSTRACT

We show that firms' ability to avoid taxes is affected by the quality of their internal information environment, with lower effective tax rates (ETRs) for firms that have high internal information quality. The effect of internal information quality on tax avoidance is stronger for firms in which information is likely to play a more important role. For example, firms with greater coordination needs because of a dispersed geographical presence benefit more from high internal information quality. Similarly, firms operating in a more uncertain environment benefit more from the quality of their internal information in helping them to reduce ETRs. In addition, we provide evidence that high internal information quality allows firms to achieve lower ETRs without increasing the risk of their tax strategies (as measured by ETR volatility). Overall, our study contributes to the literature on tax avoidance by providing evidence that the internal information environment of the firm is important for understanding its tax avoidance outcomes.

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Tax & Audit

THE ACCOUNTING REVIEW Vol. 91, No. 5 September 2016 pp. 1411–1439 American Accounting Association DOI: 10.2308/secr-51338

Do Income Tax-Related Deficiencies in Publicly Disclosed PCAOB Part II Reports Influence Audit Client Financial Reporting of Income Tax Accounts?

> Katharine D. Drake The University of Arizona

Nathan C. Goldman

The University of Texas at Dallas

Stephen J. Lusch The University of Kansas

ABSTRACT: Delottés 2007 PCAOB Part II report identifies, among other issues, concerns related to the audit firm's quality controls with respect to auditing income tax accounts. We investigate whether Delottier sclions to remediate the PCAOB's concerns are associated with changes to their clients' financial reporting for income taxes. We find that Delottier's clients increased the reported valuation allowance on deferred tax assets and increases with the reported reserver for uncertain tax benefits (UTBs) in response to increased auditor scruliny over income tax accounts. Additionally, we find that in subsequent periods, Delottier's clients report valuation allowances and other balances that are not significantly different than other annually inspected auditors, consistent with Delottier changing the controls related to audits of income tax accounts after the failed remediation of the 2007 Part II report.

Keywords: PCAOB inspections; auditor scrutiny; valuation allowances; uncertain tax benefits.

THE IOURNAL OF THE AMURICAN TAXATION ASSOCIATION Vol. 38, No. 2 Fall 2016 pp. 67–85 American Accounting Association DOI: 10.2308/ans-51323

The Cost of Compliance: FIN 48 and Audit Fees

Matthew J. Erickson The University of Arizona

Nathan C. Goldman University of Texas at Dollars

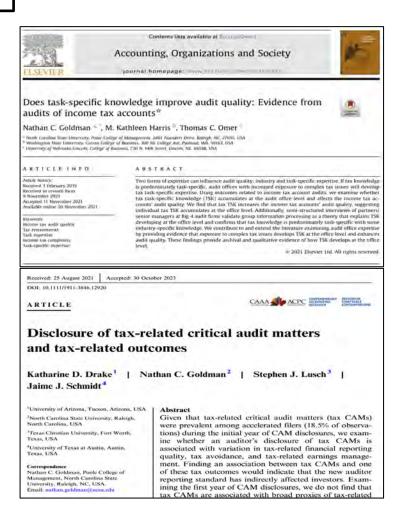
James Stekelberg

The University of Arizona

ABSTRACT: Effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2006. FIN 48 alignificantly altered uncertain tax benefit (UTB) recognition and disclosure requirements relative to its predicessors islandard, FAS 5. We examine the effect of the new standard on audit pricing. We first document that UTB-related audit fees increased (ellowing the implementation of FIN 48. However, we also find that this increase is primarily driven by a spike in fault pricing of UTBs in the 2008-2012 period is not significantly different from that of the 2002-2006 period. We interpret these results to indicate that although firms incurred willingtent FIN 48 implementation coats, the ongoing audit pricing of UTBs ander FIN 48 is similar to that of FAS 5. Our findings suggest that any potential benefits of FIN 48 may outweigh associated coats related to a temporary increase in audit fees.

Keywords: FIN 48; uncertain law positions; audit fees.

JEL Classifications: H25, M40, M41; M42; M48



Tax & Financial

THE JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN TAXATION ASSOCIATION Vol. 46, No. 1 Spring 2024 American Accounting Association DOI: 10.2308/JATA-2021-034

Did FASB Interpretation Number 48 (FIN 48) Affect Noninnovative Corporate Investment?

Nathan C. Goldman

North Carolina State University

ABSTRACT: As firms lower innovative investment in response to FASB Interpretation Number 48 (FIN 48), they choose between reallocating those funds to noninnovative investment, not changing noninnovative investment or lowering noninnovative investment. Using a difference-in-differences research design, I provide evidence of the latter outcome. I also show that the results persist each year following FIN 48, are consistent across both types of noninnovative investment, and are more prominent among firms with declining research and development (R&D) and among firms not previously under continuous audit. I also provide evidence that these effects are mitigated when managers have greater incentives to reallocate investment. Wy floringing respond to Blouin and Robinson (2014) call to understand the real effects of FIN 48 by providing evidence that thowers firms incentives for noninnovative investment.

Keywords: FIN 48: noninnovative investment: capital expenditures; mergers and acquisitions; tax disclosure.

ARTICLE



IRS scrutiny and corporate innovation

¹Poole College of Management, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, North Carolina, USA

²Institute of Financial Management, Department of Business Administration Accounting & Finance, University of Hohenheim, Stutgart, Germany

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⁴NHH—Norwegian School of Economics, Bergen, Norway

⁵Federal University of Espirito Santo, Vitória, Espírito Santo, Brazil

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Abstrac

The IRS administers tax laws enacted by Congress. As part of the IRS's duties, they often consider taxpayers' financial statements to help ensure accurate tax reporting and payments. We posit that enhanced financial statement disclosures of tax information under FASB Interpretation Number 48 (FIN 48) lead to more IRS scrutiny and alter the incentives for corporate innovation. Using patent applications as a measure of corporate innovation, we employ a difference-in-differences research design with publicly listed US firms as the treatment group and privately held US firms not subject to the disclosure requirements as the control group. We find robust evidence that, following the onset of FIN 48, the number of patent applications by publicly listed firms decreased between 15.4% and 24.3% relative to private firms. This decline in patent applications is attributable to increDo Financing Constraints Lead to Incremental Tax Planning? Evidence from the Pension Protection Act of 2006*

JOHN L. CAMPBELL , J.M. Tull School of Accounting, University of Georgia†

NATHAN C. GOLDMAN , Poole College of Management, North Carolina State University

BIN LI ., C.T. Bauer College of Business, University of Houston

ABSTRACT

Over the past three decades, academic research has sought to understand how cash shortfalls impact a firm's ability to take all available value-increasing investment projects. We investigate whether firms facing greater financing constraints turn to tax strategies that generate lower cash effective tax rates (ETRs) to mitigate the adverse effect of these financing constraints. We use the Pension Protection Act of 2006 (PPA 2006) as an exogenous shock to financing constraints for pension firms, but not for other firms. Using a difference-in-differences research design, we predict and find that pension firms experience a decrease in their cash ETRs by 1.8%—2.4% after the PPA 2006, relative to other firms. These cash tax savings mitigate the investment shortfall brought about by financing constraints by 19%. We also predict and find that the decline in cash ETRs is greater among firms more adversely affected by the PPA 2006. Our paper sheds light on the direction, causality, and economic magnitude of the association between financing constraints and tax planning activities. We also provide insight into the role of tax planning activities within firms' broader corporate business strategies in responding to financing constraints constraints.



Executive compensation, individual-level tax rates, and insider trading profits*



Nathan C. Goldman - , Naim Bugra Ozel "

* Poole College of Management, North Carolina State University, USA

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ARTICLE INFO

Available online 26 December 2022

Article history.
Received 23 Octobes 2019
Received in revined farm 15 December 2022
Accepted 16 December 2022

fEL classificana 1124 1131

Keywords: Insider trailing

Individual-level races

We examine whether individual-level taxes affect executives' propensity to use nonpublic information in insider trades. We predict and find a positive relation between abnormal insider trading profitability and income tax rates. Using plausibly exogenous variation in state income fax rates, we estimate that the average executive uses insider trading profits to fax fate, we estimate that the average executive uses insider trading profits to fax fates. We show that the sensitivity of these profits to fax fates varies predictably with the executives' compensation and shareholdings, firm monitoring effectiveness, and information asymmetry between insiders and outside investors. We also demonstrate a positive association between SEC enforcement actions and tax fates, suggesting that tax-rate-driven changes in abnormal trading profits expose insiders to legal risk. We find that insider trading volume exhibits little sensitivity to tax rates. Our findings show that income taxes affect executives' tendency to use private information in their trades.

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Tax & Managerial

THE ACCOUNTING REVIEW Vol. 97, No. 2 March 2022 American Accounting Association DOI: 10,2308/TAR-2019-0047

Foreign Employment, Income Shifting, and Tax Uncertainty

Katharine D. Drake

The University of Arizona

Nathan C. Goldman

North Carolina State University

Francis Murphy

University of Connecticut

ABSTRACT: We examine the affect of foreign employment on two outcomes—income shifting and the tax uncertainty of foreign transactions. Using a hand-collected sample of employment disclosures, we partition our sample into firm-years with a higher or lower degree of foreign employment. Using two distinct income shifting models, we document that, on average, a high degree of foreign employment is associated with greater (as-motivated income shifting of or foreign employment). The use of the us

Journal of Accounting, Auditing & Finance Volume 39, Issue 3, July 2024, Pages 697-725 © The Author(s) 2022, Article Reuse Guidelines https://doi.org/10.1177/0148558X221089638



Article

Aggressive Tax Planning and Labor Investments

Simone Traini 10 1, Nathan C. Goldman 10 2, and Christina M. Lewellen 2

Abstrac

We examine the association between aggressive tax planning and labor investment efficiency among U.S. firms. Labor is an important input to production that is material to many firms, and prior research suggests that inefficient labor investments can negatively affect future profitability and growth. We provide evidence that firms engaging in aggressive tax planning are associated with deviations from expected labor investments, which is indicative of labor investment inefficiency. We find that our results are concentrated in labor underinvestment, consistent with risks and uncertainties from aggressive tax planning making firms more cautious when investing. Our findings are strongest among firms with greater tax risk, higher labor costs, and weaker corporate governance. Our study contributes to the literature examining tax planning consequences by providing evidence that a tradeoff exists between aggressive tax planning and investments in labor. Therefore, our results suggest that managers should carefully consider the cash flow benefits of tax planning in conjunction with the potential effects of lower labor investments to ensure that the overall long-term effect of the tax strategy is value-increasing.

IOURNAL OF MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTING RESEARCH Vol. 33, No. 1 Spring 2021 American Accounting Association DOI: 10.2308/JMAR-19-056

Board Risk Oversight and Corporate Tax-Planning Practices

Mark S. Beasley Nathan C. Goldman Christina M. Lewellen

North Carolina State University

Michelle McAllister

Northern Arizona University

ABSTRACT: Risk oversight by the board of directors is a key component of a firm's enterprise risk management framework, and recently, boards have paid more attention to their firm's tax-planning activities. In this study, we use a hand-collected sample of proxy statement disclosures about the board's role in risk oversight and provide evidence that risk oversight is negatively associated with both law uncertainty and overall tax burdens. We find that risk oversight is most strongly associated with positions that yield permanent tax benefits and also that less fastly tax-planning activities. Overall, the evidence suggests that board risk oversight is associated with more effective tax-riagning practices.

Keywords: board risk oversight, tax-planning practices; enterprise risk management; tax-planning levels; taxplanning volatility.



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Risk Management

Make Tax Planning a Part of Your Company's Risk Management Strategy

by Mark Beasley, Nathan Goldman, Christina Lewellen and Michelle McAllister

November 13, 2020



ANY Research Via Building Bridges



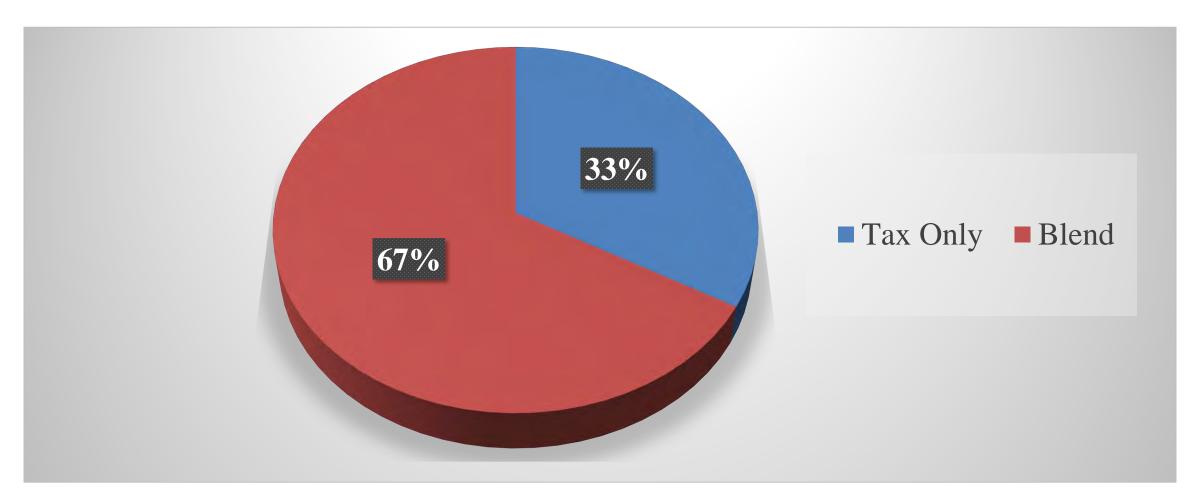
An Accounting Tax Survey

Contacted 68 of the leading accounting tax researchers in the World

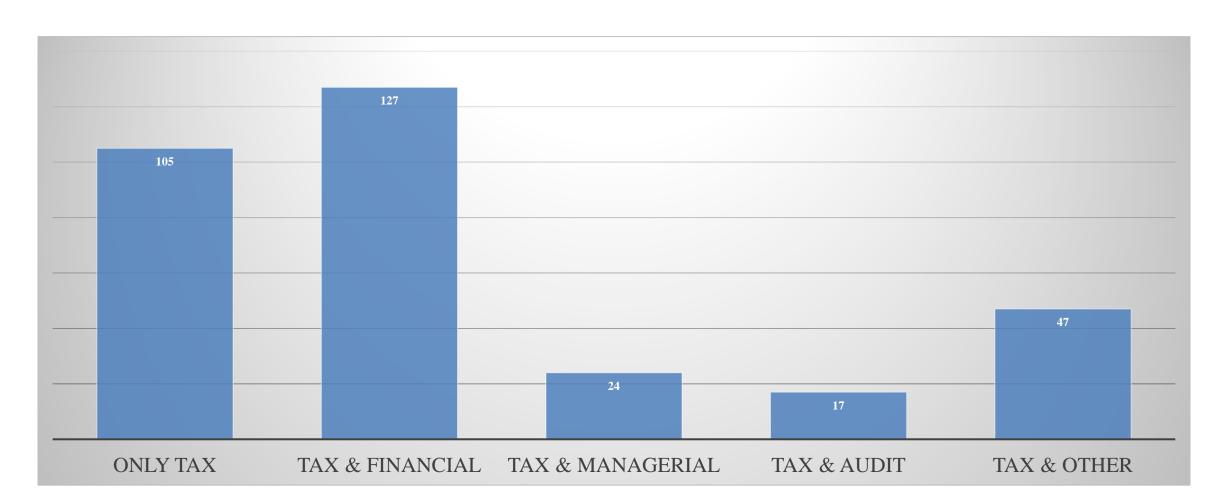
 People contacted included journal editors, leaders, and rising stars in the field

 Asked FIVE questions about the current state of accounting tax research

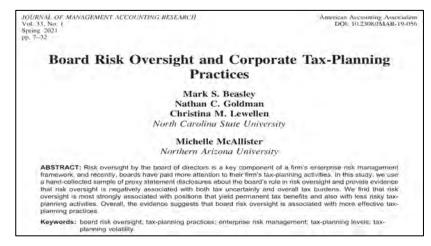
Consider your last 5 tax publications. Would you characterize them as only tax papers or a blend of different research areas?



Consider your last 5 tax publications. Would you characterize them as only tax papers or a blend of different research areas?



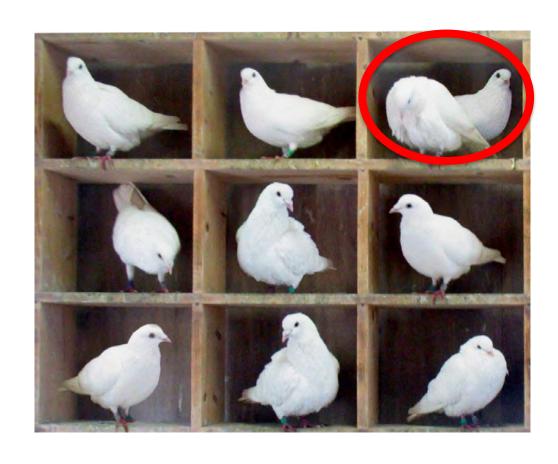
Tax & Managerial

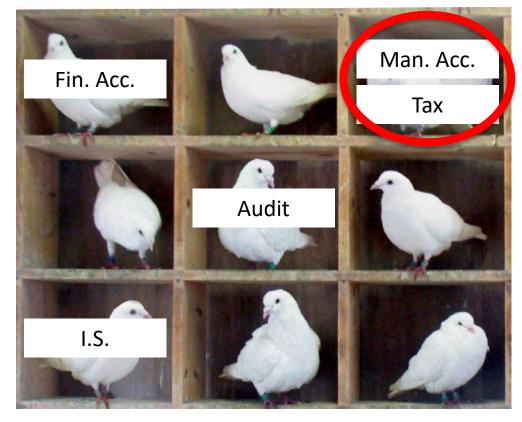




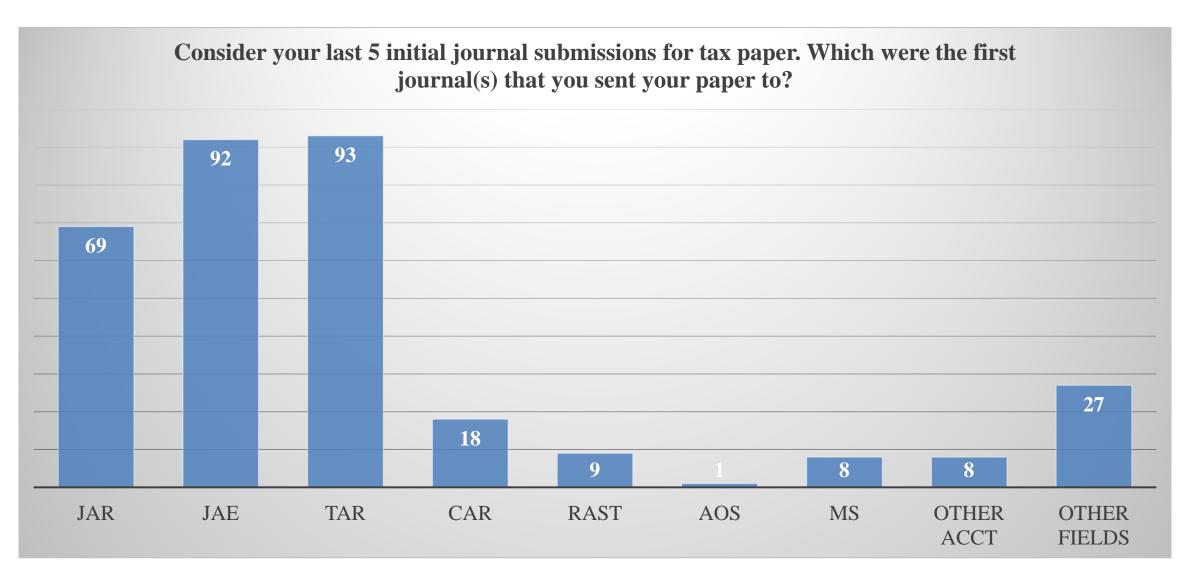
Timeline:

- 2/19: First Meeting
- 4/19: Analysis Complete
- 7/19: Submit to *JMAR Special Issue*
- 10/19: R&R @ JMAR
- 2/20: Resubmit to JMAR
- 4/20: Conditional Accept @ JMAR
- 7/20: Submit Summary to HBR
- 9/20: Published in HBR

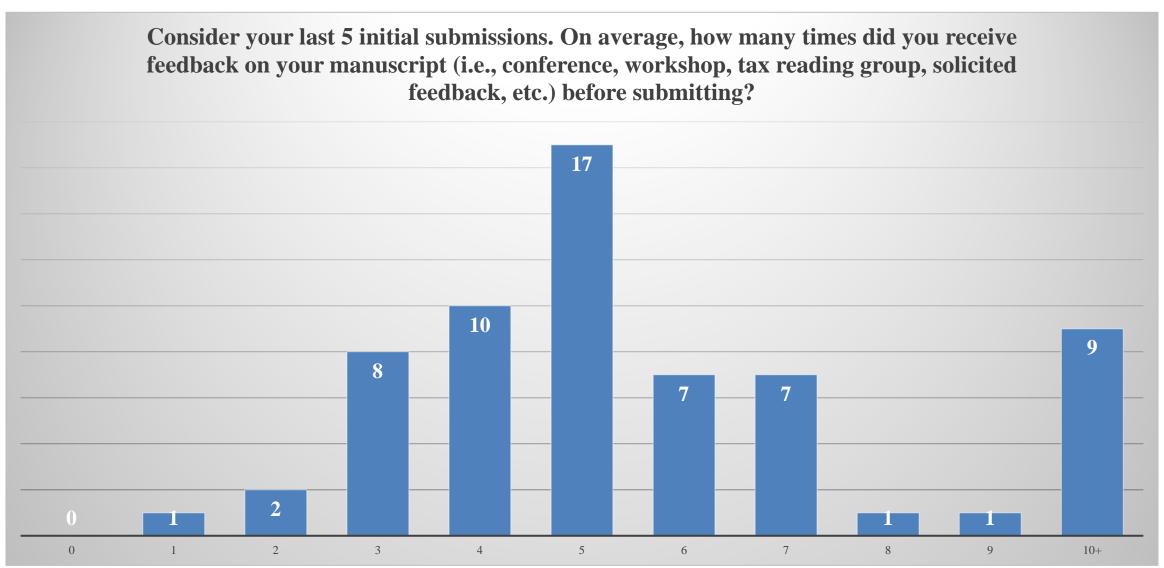




Other Survey Questions



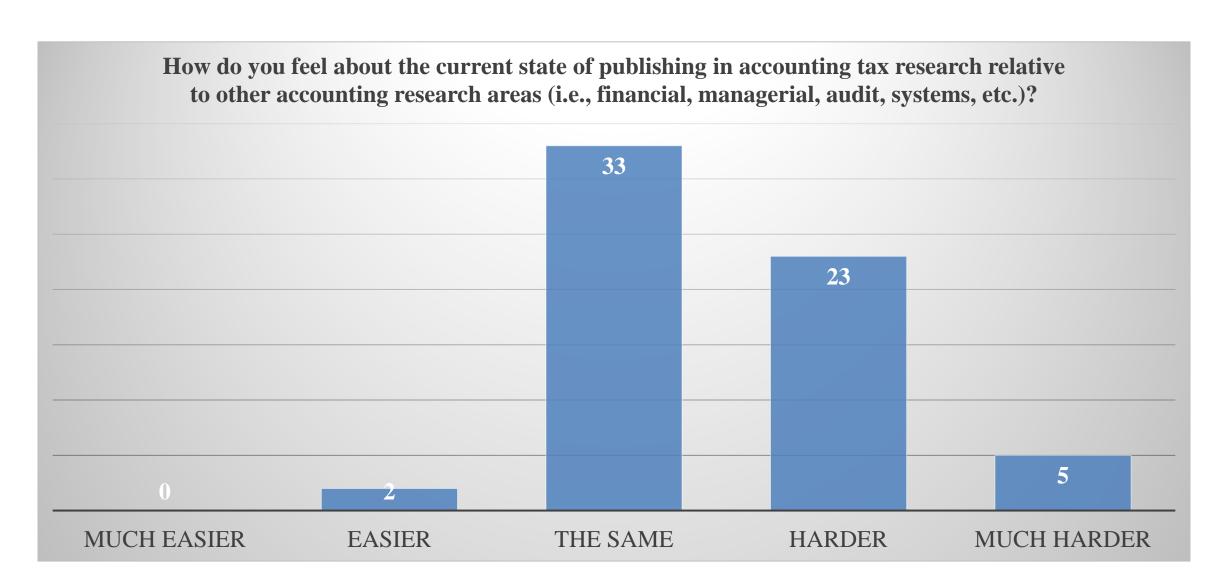
Other Survey Questions



Tax-Specific Presentation Opportunities

- ATA Midyear Meeting (February)
- UNC Tax Symposium (*March-April*)
- IESE Tax Conference (*June*)
- EIASM Conference on the Current Research in Taxation (*July*)
- Illinois Tax Symposium (September)
- UT-Waterloo Tax Symposium (September)
- NTA Annual Conference on Taxation (*November*)
- Tax Reading Groups (*Ongoing*)

Other Survey Questions

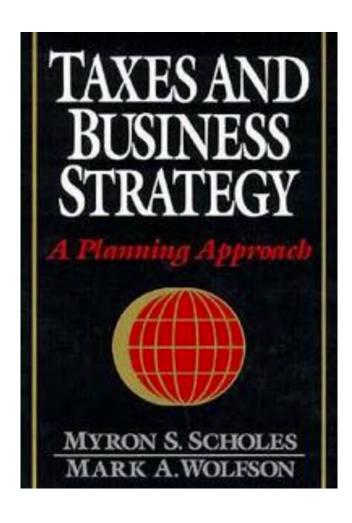


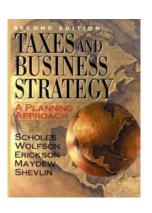
Other Survey Questions

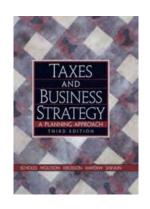
"I have had experience trying to publish papers in tax and in [OTHER AREA], and my [OTHER AREA] publications were considerably easier to get through the process than my tax papers. For example, the paper I have with [COAUTHORS] at [A-Journal]. It was the first journal we tried, and we basically got a conditional acceptance on the first round. It took less than 2.5 years from starting the project to having it be in print. All of my tax publications were considerably more time consuming...The reason these projects took more time was because we faced more opposition from reviewers and we were asked to do a lot more work by reviewers."

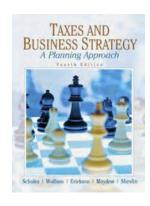
"Increasingly, tax accounting research is looking less accounting and more economics. This means that tax topics within the accounting umbrella seem to be getting short shrift at top accounting journals, while papers that put us into direct competition with economists (but where the economists tend to be better than us) are those that publish well."

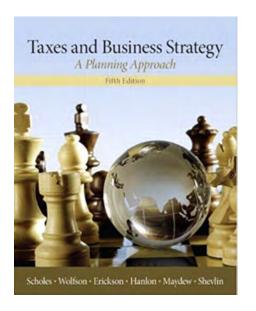
MUCH EASIER EASIER THE SAME HARDER MUCH HARDER

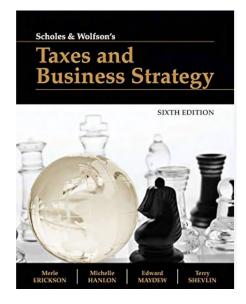














ELSEVIER Journal of Accounting and Economics 31 (2001) 321–387

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JOURNAL OF Accounting & Economics



income tax research in accounting over the last 15 years. The paper details three major areas of research: (i) the coordination of tax and non-tax factors, (ii) the effects of taxes on asset prices, and (iii) the taxation of multijurisdictional (international and interstate) commerce. Methodological concerns of particular interest to this field also are discussed. The paper concludes with a discussion of possible directions for future

This paper traces the development of archival, microeconomic-based, empirical

areas of research: (i) the coordination of tax and non-tax factors, (ii) the effects of taxes on asset prices, and (iii) the taxation of multijurisdictional (international and interstate) commerce. Methodological concerns of particular interest to this field also are discussed. The paper concludes with a discussion of possible directions for future research. © 2001 Elsevier Science B.V. All rights reserved.

JEL classification: M41; H25; K34; G32; F23

Keywords: Taxes; Empirical tax research; Non-tax costs; Financial reporting costs; Tax capitalization



Journal of Accounting and Economics 50 (2010) 127-178



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Journal of Accounting and Economics





literature: (1) the informational role of income tax expense reported for financial accounting, (2) corporate tax avoidance, (3) corporate decision-making including investment, capital structure, and organizational form, and (4) taxes and asset pricing. We summarize the research areas and questions examined to date and what we have learned or not learned from the work completed thus far. In addition, we provide our

G10 G30 M40

Keywords: Tax

Investment Corporate decision-making

Earnings quality Governance Tax avoidance We summarize the research areas and questions examined to date and what we have learned or not learned from the work completed thus far. In addition, we provide our opinion as to the interesting and important issues for future research.

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Measure	Computation	Description	Impact	Reflect deferral	Reflect non-	Reflect	Computable
			accounting earnings?	strategies?	conforming avoidance?	conforming avoidance?	by jurisdiction?
GAAP ETR	Worldwide total income tax expense Worldwide total pre—tax accounting income	Total tax expense per dollar of pre-tax book income	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
Current ETR ^a	Worldwide current income tax expense Worldwide total pre-tax accounting income	Current tax expense per dollar of pre-tax book income	Maybe	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Cash ETR ^b	Worldwide cash taxes paid Worldwide total pre-tax accounting income	Cash taxes paid per dollar of pre-tax book income	No	Yes	Yes	No	No
Long-run cash ETR ^c	\sum_{\text{iWorldwide cash taxes paid}} \) \[\sum_{\text{iWorldwide total pre-tax accounting income}} \]	Sum of cash taxes paid over n years divided by the sum of pre-tax earnings over n years	No	Yes	Yes	No	No
ETR Differential ^d	Statutory ETR—GAAP ETR	The difference of between the statutory ETR and the firm's GAAP ETR	Yes	No	Yes	No	No
DTAXe	Error term from the following regression: ETR differential × Pre-tax book income=a+b × Controls+e	The unexplained portion of the ETR differential	Yes	No	Yes	No	No
Total BTD ^f	Pre-tax book income – $((U.S. CTE+Fgn CTE)/U.S. STR) - (NOL_t - NOL_{t-1}))$	The total differences between book and taxable incomes	Yes for a portion, no for a portion	Yes	Yes	No	Yes (U.S.)
Temporary BTD	Deferred tax expense/U.S. STR		No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes (U.S.)
Abnormal total BTD ^g	Residual from $BTD/TA_{it} = \beta TA_{it} + \beta m_i + e_{it}$	A measure of unexplained total book-tax differences	Yes for a portion, no for a portion	Yes	Yes	No	No
Unrecognized tax benefits ^h	Disclosed amount post-FIN48	Tax liability accrued for taxes not yet paid on uncertain positions	Yes	If uncertain	Yes, some	Yes, some	No
Tax shelter activity ^r	Indicator variable for firms accused of engaging in a tax shelter	Firms identified via firm disclosures, the press, or IRS confidential data	Depends on the type of shelter	Shelter may be a deferral strategy; but not an overall measure	Not overall- measure is transaction based	Not overall- measure is transaction based	Unlikely
Marginal tax rate	Simulated marginal tax rate	Present value of taxes on an additional dollar of income	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Not with existing dat

THE JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN TAXATION ASSOCIATION Vol. 40, No. 2 Fall 2018 pp. 63-81 American Accounting Association DOI: 10.2308/atax-51993

Perspectives on Corporate Tax Planning: Observations from the Past Decade

Jaron H. Wilde

The University of Iowa

Ryan J. Wilson

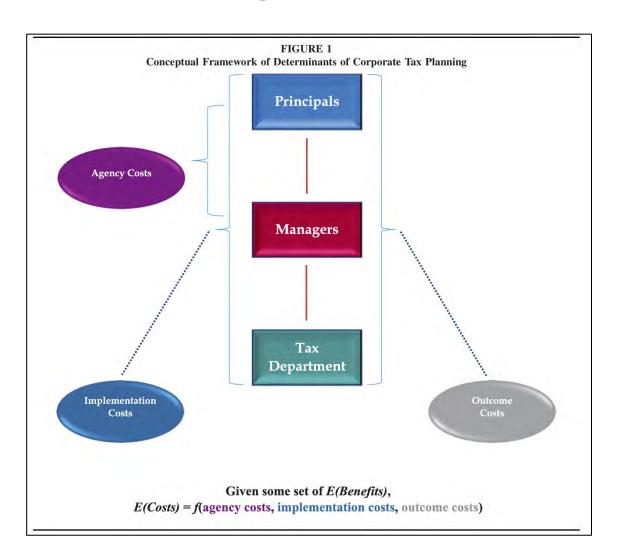
University of Oregon

ABSTRACT: Interest in corporate tax planning has accelerated in recent years as a combination of political, economic, and technological factors have fueled the public's awareness of corporate tax activities. Academic research on corporate tax planning has grown in step with this public interest. This paper provides a survey of that literature, with a focus on developments over the last decade. In the survey, we highlight key contributions, provide a framework for links among studies, and reference some areas in which our understanding is still limited.

Keywords: tax avoidance; tax planning; tax aggressiveness; tax sheltering; income shifting.

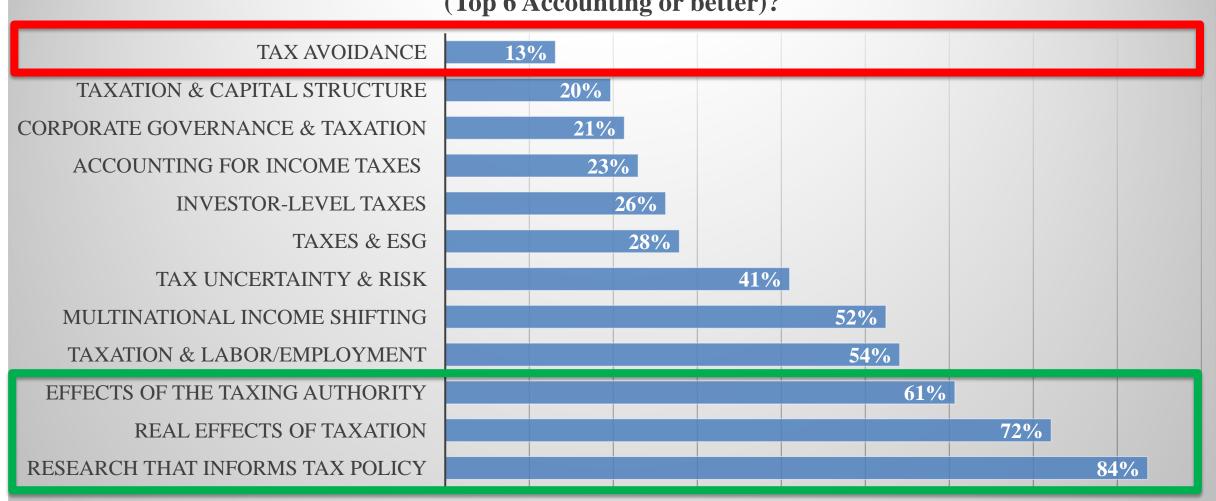






Other Survey Questions

What are area(s) of tax research that you feel are ripe for a top-tier tax publication (Top 6 Accounting or better)?



The Real Effects of Taxation

European Accounting Review, 2022

Vol. 31, No. 1, 269-296, https://doi.org/10.1080/09638180.2021.1934055



Real Effects of Corporate Taxation: A Review

Martin Jacob*

WHU - Otto Beisheim School of Management, Vallendar, Germany

(Received: 29 November 2019; accepted: 13 May 2021)

ABSTRACT In this study, I review the empirical literature on the real effects of corporate taxation. I define real effects broadly as firms' investment responses, corporate risk taking, capital structure choices, and aggregate outcomes such as GDP growth. I base my analysis on 79 empirical studies on the investment effects of corporate taxation and contrast these results to theoretical predictions. Consistent with theory, there seems to be a consensus that higher corporate tax rates reduce corporate investment, foreign direct investment (FDI), aggregate growth, and innovation. Similarly, many papers examine bonus depreciation, which consistently increases investment. At the same time, there is little evidence on the employment effects of corporate taxes and on the role of several tax base elements in shaping investments. Importantly, the role of tax avoidance (opportunities) in the tax effect on investment has received very little attention from the empirical literature over the past two decades. I also derive several other potential avenues for future research.

Keywords: Corporate taxation; Literature review; Real effects; Investments; Employment; Tax avoidance

JEL Classification: M48; M41; H25; H26



Firms' Real and Reporting Responses to Taxation: A Review*

Rebecca Lester

Marcel Olbert‡

February 3, 2025

Abstract

Taxation is a central economic policy tool, with governments increasingly using tax policy to stimulate local economic growth and also regulate multinational firms. We review the empirical literature that studies the effect of tax policies on firms' investment, employment, and other real outcomes. Building on the neoclassical theory of corporate taxes and tangible investment, we propose an organizing framework for our review that captures the wide set of tax policies and firm responses examined in accounting research. This framework highlights four dimensions along which accounting scholars contribute to the literature: i) documenting the role of financial reporting incentives as a moderating factor in firms' real responses, ii) studying firms' reporting versus real responses, iii) quantifying real effects of tax disclosure regulations, and iv) improving measurement of firms' tax status as well as frequently used proxies for investment and employment. We identify open questions for future research and suggest new international, federal, and local settings that may help uncover underlying mechanisms driving observed economic phenomena. Specifically, we encourage scholars to further distinguish firms' reported and real responses to tax changes and improve measurement of these outcomes, especially in settings related to environmental taxation or settings in which tax avoidance and real outcomes are closely





The Real Effects of Taxation

Jacob (2022)

- Capital Expenditures
- Employment
- M&A
- Location Choices of Investment
- Innovation/R&D
- Corporate Risk Taking
- Aggregate Outcomes
- Capital Structure

Lester & Olbert (2025)

- Corporate Investment & Taxation
- Employment & Taxation
- Geographical Allocation of Physical Capital
- Tax Planning & Real Activities
- Risk-taking & Statutory Tax Rate and Base Rules
- Indirect Real Effects
- Taxes and Sustainability
- Real Responses to Tax Disclosure Regulation

The Real Effects of Taxation



No. 2023-09 December 2023

Income Taxes (Topic 740)

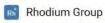
Scientific American

The One Big Beautiful Bill Act Is a 'Nightmare Scenario' for Clean Energy, Analysts Say



The One Big Beautiful Bill Act, passed by the House of Representatives last week, would slow efforts to green the energy system as climate...

3 days ago



<u>House-passed "One Big Beautiful Bill Act" Deepens Cuts to Clean Energy</u>



Yesterday, the House of Representatives voted to pass HR 1, the "One Big Beautiful Bill Act," by a margin of one vote.



The Big Beautiful Bill Could Decimate Legal Accountability for Tech and Anything Tech Touches



To understand how the so-called "AI moratorium" will destroy state laws and the internet, consider the literal meaning of its text,...

3 days ago

Improvements to Income Tax Disclosures

The Effects of the Taxing Authority



Original Article 🙃 Full Access

IRS Attention

ZAHN BOZANIC, JEFFREY L. HOOPES, JACOB R. THORNOCK, BRADEN M. WILLIAMS

First published: 30 September 2016 | https://doi.org/10.1111/1475-679X.12154 | Citations: 243



RECHERCHE COMPTABLE CONTEMPORAINE



Article 🙃 Full Access

Tax Reporting Behavior Under Audit Certainty

Benjamin C. Ayers, Jeri K. Seidman K. Erin M. Towery

First published: 17 July 2018 | https://doi.org/10.1111/1911-3846.12439 | Citations: 59



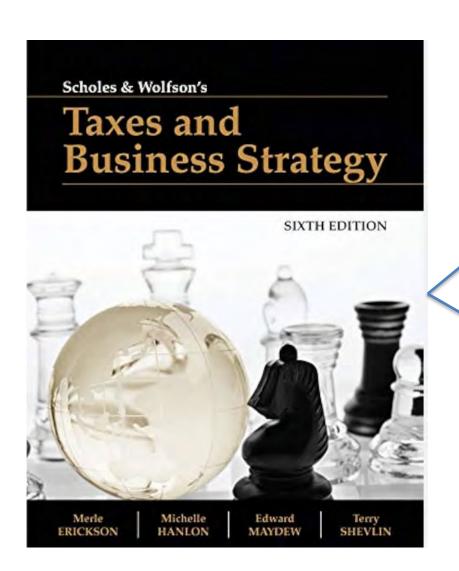
IRS scrutiny and corporate innovation

Nathan Goldman 🔀, Niklas Lampenius, Suresh Radhakrishnan, Arthur Stenzel, Jose Elias Feres de Almeida

First published: 13 September 2023 | https://doi.org/10.1111/1911-3846.12905



A Look Toward Informing Tax Policy



Did State Tax Policy Influence State-Level COVID-19
Restrictions?

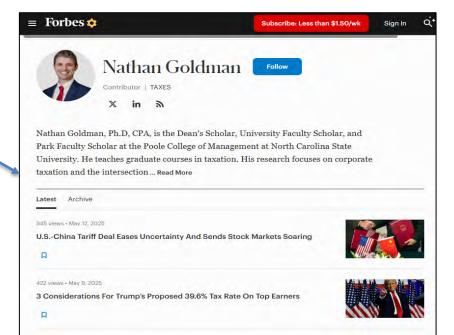
37 Pages • Posted: 14 Jun 2023 • Last revised: 12 Jul 2023

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Date Written: July 11, 2023



An Accounting Tax Survey

• On 4/29/25, I contacted 68 of the leading accounting tax researchers in the World

• People contacted included journal editors, leaders, and rising stars in the field

Asked FIVE questions about the current state of accounting tax research

• By 5/1/25, I received 64 responses (94% response rate)

Form Meaningful Connections!



