

## **Avalara**

# Nexus and the sales tax puzzle

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Sales Executive July 27, 2022

## Agenda

1

> What is nexus and why does it matter?

2

> Audit risk

-

> Tips to streamline tax compliance



#### IT ALL COMES DOWN TO NEXUS

## When must businesses collect sales tax?

Sales tax nexus defines the level of connection between a taxing jurisdiction (e.g., a state), and an entity (e.g., your business).

Until this connection is established, the taxing jurisdiction cannot impose its sales taxes on you





Seller has physical presence in the state: office, warehouse, even remote employees

Seller meets a set level of sales transactions or gross receipts activity within a state. No physical presence required.

Seller meets sales threshold in a state from the activities of an in-state referral agent. Remote retailer holds substantial interest in, or is owned by, an in-state retailer that sells the same or similar line of products under the same or similar name. Marketplace facilitators may be required to collect and remit sales tax instead of the individual seller if it operates its business in a state and provides ecommerce infrastructure, customer service, payment processing services, and marketing.





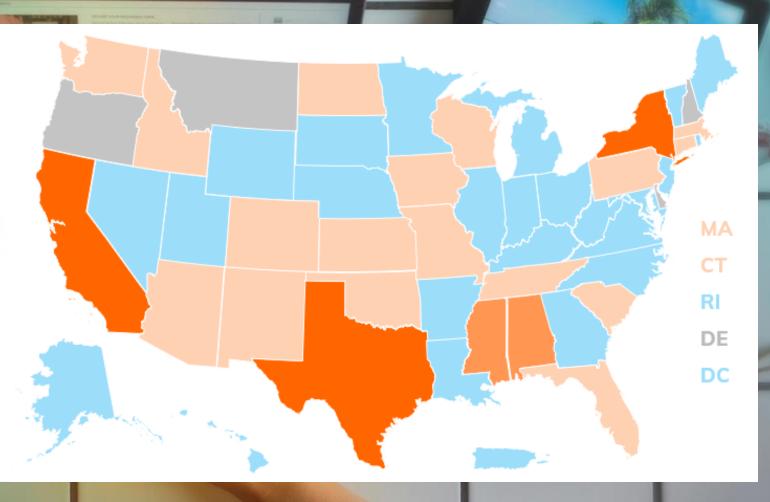
#### SOUTH DAKOTA VS. WAYFAIR, INC.

### Why is it important?

- Physical presence is no longer the only requirement.
- An economic threshold can be as low as \$100,000 in sales/200 transactions.
- > This applies not just to online sellers but individuals who sell anything, including digital goods and software.
- Your customers now determine where you must collect.
- Some states tax everything, especially things that are not commonly taxed.

## Economic nexus thresholds by state

- \$500,000
- \$250,000
- \$100,000
- \$100,000 **or** 200 transactions
  - Does not have economic nexus law
- Connecticut's threshold is gross receipts of \$100,000 and 200 retail transactions
- New York's threshold is \$500,000 and 100 transactions
- > Beginning January 1, 2022, Maine will remove the 200-transaction limit from its threshold



Use our free sales tax risk assessment to determine where you have nexus.

# Why should you address your nexus issues now?

# Complexity is growing





Nexus: economic and physical



Rules change constantly



Compliance costs increasing

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# Compliance is not optional





The burden of proof is on you



Easy targets audited repeatedly



Back taxes, penalties, & interest

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### Needier, greedier states

- Sales taxes are a large part of a state's revenues
- States are actively searching for uncollected sales tax revenue
- States implementing new laws / initiatives to collect
  - Economic nexus laws
  - Marketplace fairness laws
  - Use tax reporting laws



## Rapid growth triggers tax challenges

- Adding new geographies or products
- Implementing ERP, ecommerce or other business applications
- Mergers, acquisitions, and fundraising
- Newly-hired finance executives
- Sales tax audit



## How high is audit risk?

## 60% of audits target four industries:

- Manufacturing
- Construction
- Wholesalers and distributors
- > Retail

## Most common mistakes found by auditors:

- Nexus oversights
- Misreporting use tax
- Exemption management/ documents errors

#### Audit red flag:

Invoices that don't show sales tax

#### What auditors will do:

Request proof your business paid tax

#### **Average cost of an audit:**

> \$114,000 including penalties, fees, and professional counsel







### The 5 steps to managing sales tax compliance

1

#### WHERE

Know where your business must collect and remit sales tax

#### **REGISTER**

Register to collect and remit sales tax

#### **CALCULATE**

Calculate the correct sales tax amount

#### **TRACK**

Track and manage exempt sales

#### REMIT

Remit sales tax to the tax authority

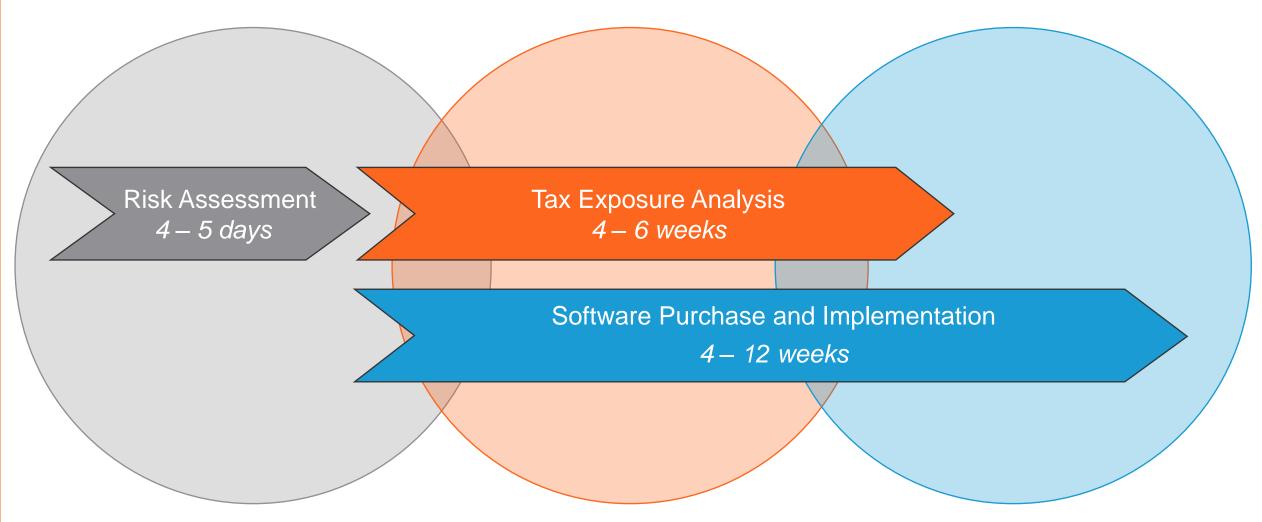
Avalara Nexus Study Avalara Licensing Avalara AvaTax Avalara CertCapture

Avalara Returns

## Avalara Path to Compliance

**Avalara**Tax compliance done right

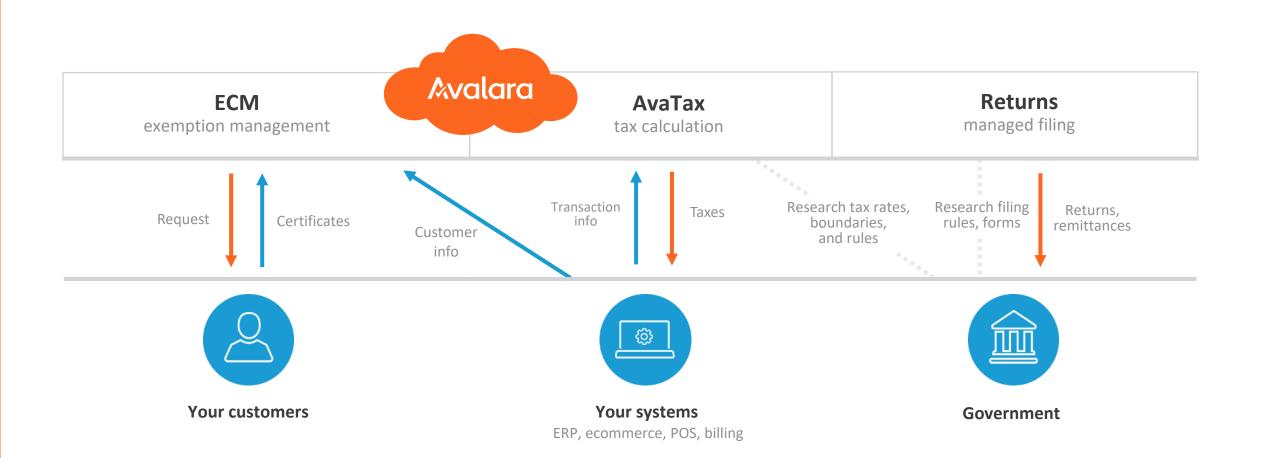
Typical Process







## Avalara Tax Compliance Suite



> Questions?

## Thank you!

If you have additional questions, please contact your account manager or me directly.

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