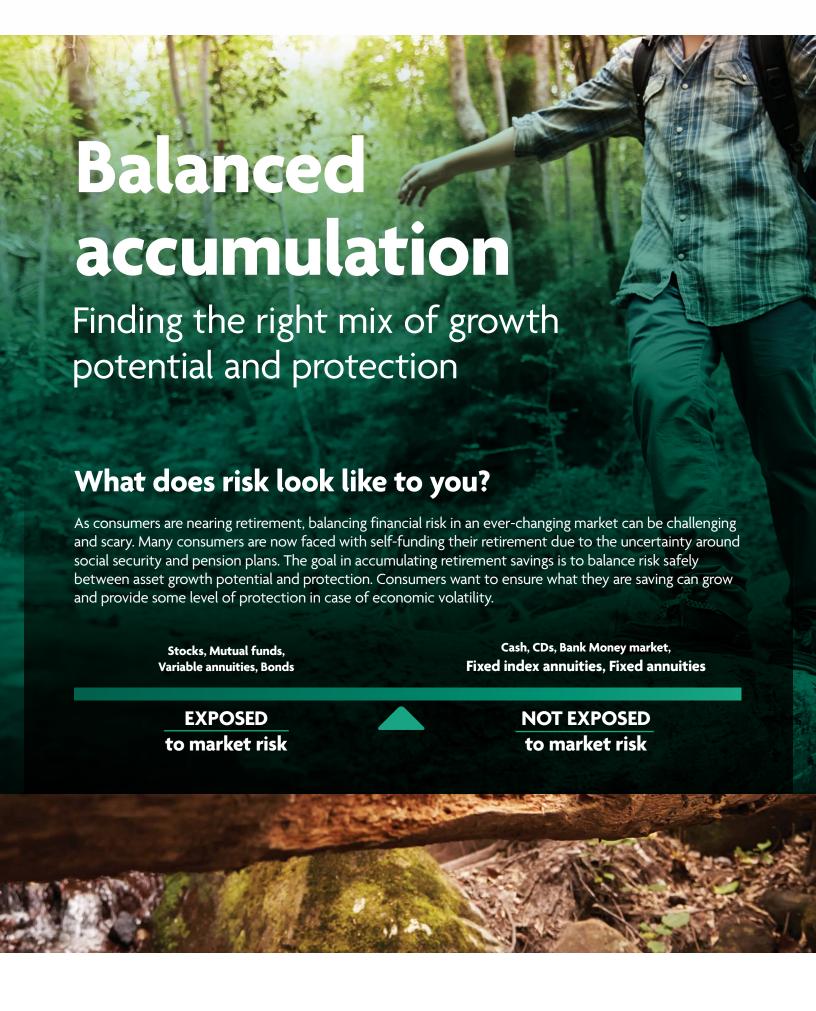




# Balanced accumulation



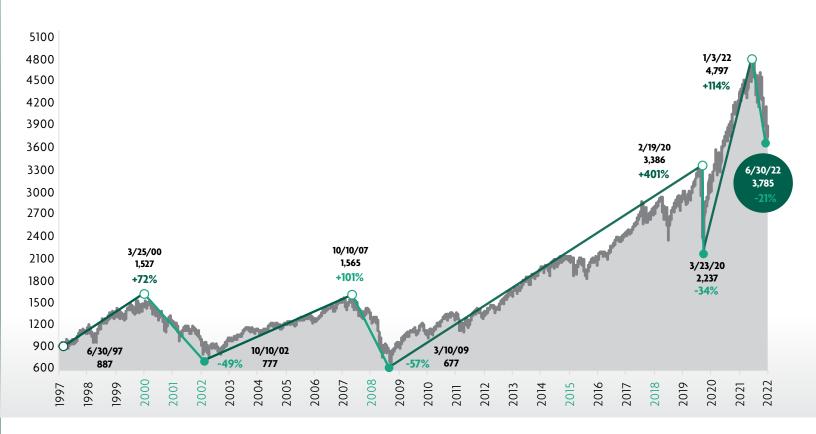


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#### **S&P 500**®

#### performance history

# Retire on your terms – not when the market dictates



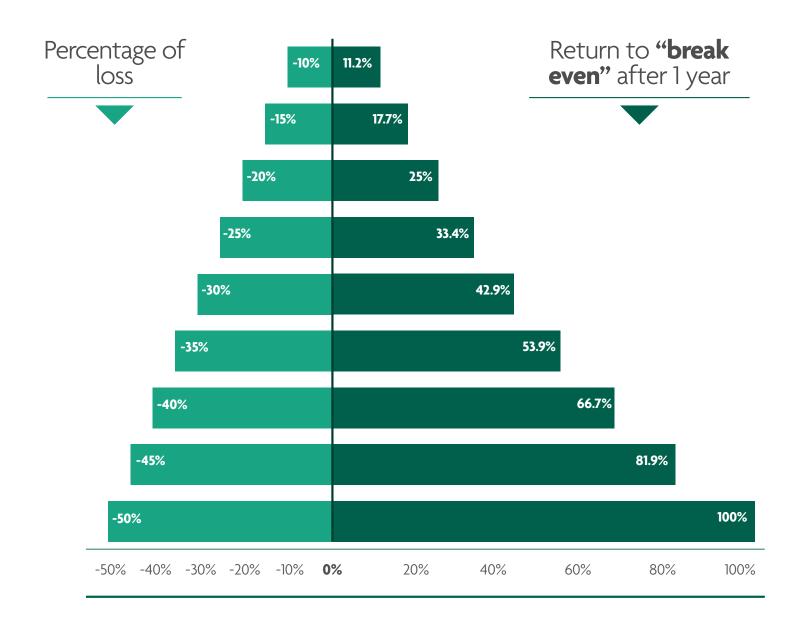
#### Source for chart: <a href="https://finance.yahoo.com/quote/%5EGSPC/history?p=%5EGSPC">https://finance.yahoo.com/quote/%5EGSPC/history?p=%5EGSPC</a>

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#### **Volatility**

### Are you overexposed?

Market volatility continues to rise on both the gains and losses front. Those with all their retirement assets exposed to market volatility have seen both historic gains but also historic downturns. While the overall long-term value of the market is a net positive, many consumers have concerns about volatility impacting their assets as they approach retirement. Consider for example, what kind of gain is needed to recover from a market loss.



#### **Protection**

# Will your gains be overwhelmed by inflation or taxes?

In an uncertain economic environment, many consumers may be seeking fixed rate products like certificates of deposit (CDs) for security. While benefits such as short term durations and a guaranteed interest rate can be appealing, two factors are often overlooked that can negatively impact a conservative fixed rate: taxes and inflation.

The hypothetical chart shows what a "real rate" of return can be when adjusted for any applicable taxes and potential inflation rates.

The CD return rates below are calculated using the six-month annualized average monthly CD rate as reported by the Federal Reserve. The tax rate used in the example is the highest marginal federal income-tax rate based on \$100,000 of taxable income for a married couple filing jointly. The tax rate assumed will not apply to every consumer, and a lower tax rate may have a more favorable impact on the real return. The use of alternate assumptions will produce different results.

Year	Annualized average six-month CD rate'	Taxes <sup>2</sup>	Inflation consumer price index (CPI) <sup>,</sup>	Real return after taxes and inflation
2000	6.58%	28.00%	3.4%	1.34%
2001	3.64%	27.50%	1.6%	1.04%
2002	1.81%	27.00%	2.4%	-1.08%
2003	1.17%	25.00%	1.9%	-1.02%
2004	1.74%	25.00%	3.3%	-2.00%
2005	3.72%	25.00%	3.4%	-0.61%
2006	5.23%	25.00%	2.5%	1.42%
2007	5.23%	25.00%	4.1%	-0.18%
2008	3.14%	25.00%	0.1%	2.25%
2009	0.87%	25.00%	2.7%	-2.05%
2010	0.53%	25.00%	1.5%	-1.10%
2011	0.33%	25.00%	3.0%	-2.75%
2012	0.23%	25.00%	1.7%	-1.53%
2013	0.20%	25.00%	1.5%	-1.35%
2014	0.13%	25.00%	0.8%	-0.70%
2015	0.13%	25.00%	0.7%	-0.60%
2016	0.14%	25.00%	2.1%	-2.00%
2017	0.16%	25.00%	2.1%	-1.98%
2018	0.27%	22.00%	1.9%	-1.69%
2019	0.43%	22.00%	2.3%	-1.96%
2020	0.20%	22.00%	1.4%	-1.24%
2021	0.09%	22.00%	7.0%	-6.93%

<sup>1.</sup> Annualized average six-month CD rate: www.fdic.gov/regulations/resources/rates/previous.html (1962–2019); <a href="https://www.fdic.gov/regulations/resources/rates/previous.html">https://www.fdic.gov/regulations/resources/rates/previous.html</a> (1962–2019); <a href="https://www.fdic.gov/regulations/resources/rates/previous.html">https://www.fdic.gov/resourc

<sup>3.</sup> Inflation rates are based on the consumer price index (CPI), a measure of change in consumer prices as measured by the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics: <a href="https://www.bls.gov/cpi/">https://www.bls.gov/cpi/</a>.

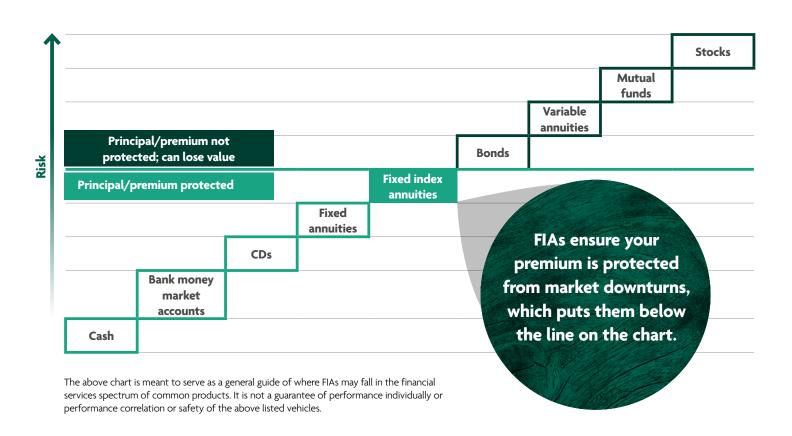
	Not FDIC/NCUA Insured	Not a Deposit Of A Bank	Not Bank Guaranteed	
May Lose Value		Not Insured By Any Federal Government Agency		

<sup>2.</sup> Highest marginal federal income-tax rates based on \$100,000 income for a married couple filing jointly: https://taxfoundation.org/2021-tax-brackets/.

## Find balance with fixed index annuities

# How can you balance financial protection with potential growth?

Balance is key in all aspects of life. Understanding risk-return balance is essential for meeting financial and retirement goals. When creating a financial retirement plan, there is no one "best" product. But some products can be a better fit to help meet your goals. View how various products fair in terms of risk, and then consider how a fixed index annuity (FIA) might play a part in your retirement accumulation strategy - offering both upside potential and premium protection against market risk.



#### **Fixed index annuities**

### How they perform in up and down markets

Fixed index annuities (FIAs) generally credit a portion of total index gains based on the crediting method chosen, but don't lose value due to market downturns.

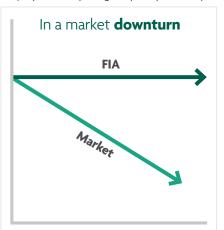
# Fixed index annuity (100% allocation to annual point to point with participation rate crediting method based on the S&P MARC 5% ER index) Accumulation value of a hypothetical fixed index annuity. Assumes no withdrawals. Interest credits to the accumulation value are subject to a hypothetical 75% participation rate. Does not reflect actual historical performance and is not a guarantee of future results.

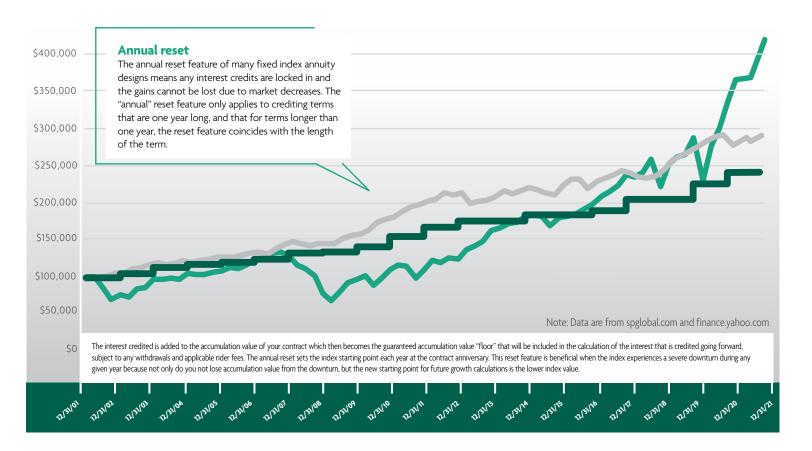
- S&P Multi-Asset Risk Control 5% Excess
  Return index (S&P MARC 5% ER) Based on a
  quarterly review of \$100,000 directly invested in
  the S&P MARC 5% ER without dividends taken
  into account. Index has been in existence since
  3/27/2017. Ending values in years prior to inception
  are determined by S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC or
  its affiliates ("SPDJI") using the same methodology
  as used currently.
- S&P 500° Based on a quarterly review of \$100,000 directly invested in the S&P 500° without dividends taken into account.

**Market-linked interest** 



**0% floor** (subject to a cap, margin or participation rate)







## Over \$109.6 billion

Total assets under Sammons Financial Group Management

### Over \$35.3 billion<sup>2</sup>

North American life and annuity total assets

### Over \$102.4 billion<sup>1</sup>

Sammons Financial Group total liabilities

#### Over \$33.3 billion<sup>2</sup>

North American life and annuity total liabilities



Member companies



#### Over 1.7 million<sup>3</sup>

Life and annuity policy holders



Member companies

#### **130+ years**

North American Company for Life and Health Insurance®



and the Santanian state of the santa

#### Currently "A+" rated by:

A.M. Best (Superior)<sup>A,B</sup> – (Second category out of 15)

Superior ability to meet ongoing obligations to policyholders

**S&P Global Ratings (Strong)** <sup>8,c</sup> – (Fifth category out of 22)

Very strong financial security characteristics

#### Fitch Ratings (Stable) - (Fifth category out of 19)

A strong business profile, low financial leverage, very strong capitalization, and strong operating profitability supported by strong investment performance

The above ratings apply to North American's financial strength and claims paying ability. These ratings do not apply to the safety or performance of the variable accounts, which will fluctuate in value.

- 1. As of December 31, 2021. Source: Statutory Annual Statements of the Sammons Financial Group member companies as filed with the National Association of Insurance Commissioners.
- 2. Source: North American Balance Sheet as of 12/31/2021.
- 3. Policy count, assets under management, per statutory basis, as of December 31, 2021.

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Fixed index annuities (FIAs) are not a direct investment in the stock market. They are long term insurance products with guarantees backed by the issuing company. They provide potential for interest to be credited based in part on the performance of the index without risk of loss of premium due to market fluctuations. Although fixed index annuities guarantee no loss of premium due to market downturns, deductions from your accumulation value for additional optional benefit riders or strategy fees associated with allocations to enhanced crediting methods could exceed interest credited to the accumulation value, which would result in loss of premium. They may not be appropriate for all clients. Fixed index annuities are not designed to compete with and should generally not be compared to a security or a direct investment in an index fund. While in this specific example during certain time periods, the accumulation value appears favorable when viewed with the performance of the indexes, in many scenarios this will not be the case. Interest credits for an FIA will not mirror the applicable index returns since any interest credits are subject to limits (index cap rate, index margin, and/or participation rate) on the amount of interest that is credited. FIAs do not include dividends for the applicable indices. This example should not be viewed as an illustration or a prediction of future performance or future interest credited within any of our FIAs. This information is provided for general reference purposes and should not be viewed as investment advice or as a recommendation for a specific allocation. Neither North American, nor any agents acting on its behalf should be viewed as providing legal, tax or investment advice. Always consult with and rely on a qualified advisor. This allocation provides the potential for interest to be credited based in part on the performance of the index without risk of loss of premium due to market fluctuations.

S&P MARC 5% ER Index is managed to a volatility target, and as a result the index performance will not match the performance of any other index or the markets in general since volatility control tends to reduce both the rate of negative performance and positive performance of the underlying index, thereby creating more stabilized performance. The S&P MARC 5% ER Index has been in existence since Mar. 27, 2017. Ending Values in years prior to inception are determined by S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC or its affiliates ("SPDJI") using the same methodology as used currently.

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