AMERICAN EQUITY
INVESTMENT LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY®

MOST TRUSTWORTHY COMPANIES IN AMERICA
2023 - 2025
Newsweek
statista
MULTI-YEAR WINNER
RECOGNIZED SINCE 2023, 2024, & 2025

American Equity
GUARANTEESHIELD
FIXED ANNUITY

American Equity GuaranteeShield 3 & 5

Retirement unknowns

Today's retirees face a variety of factors unique to this generation

Market risk

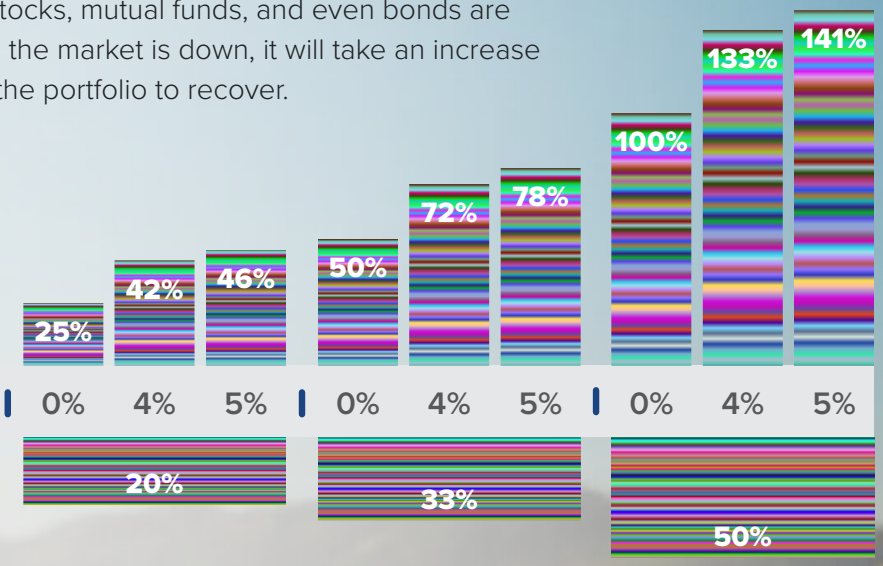
The reality is that most people planning to retire in the near future will be impacted by a bear market.

Bear market cycles

Withdrawal rate risk

The future value of investor assets, such as stocks, mutual funds, and even bonds are not guaranteed. If a withdrawal is taken while the market is down, it will take an increase in value much greater than the decrease for the portfolio to recover.

Percent gain required over three years while taking income from the original investment



Example shown for illustrative purposes only and does not reflect any specific investment.

American Equity GuaranteeShield

Everyone's path to financial security is different. That doesn't mean getting there needs to be complicated.

Our straightforward fixed annuity products are designed to help you maintain and grow assets through principal protection, a guaranteed interest rate, and tax-deferral advantages.

Understanding fixed annuities

What is a fixed annuity?

A fixed annuity is a contract backed by the financial strength and claims paying ability of the issuing company. This guarantees contract owners a retirement vehicle designed to protect assets while allowing for growth opportunities. It does this through a combination of powerful benefits:

- Principal protection
- Guaranteed income
- Tax-deferral
- A level of liquidity
- May avoid probate

How a fixed annuity works

This long-term retirement product is purchased with an insurance provider that, in turn, guarantees principal protection and tax-deferred growth on assets. Throughout the course of the contract, the fixed annuity earns additional interest credits based on an established rate.

Protect your growth

American Equity GuaranteeShield fixed annuities are designed to protect a portion of your portfolio from retirement unknowns that can stand in the way of your accumulation goals. Through features like principal protection and a guaranteed interest rate, the American Equity GuaranteeShield annuity helps guarantee your principal and any earned interest is protected from market down turns while providing consistent accumulation benefits.

Principal protection

Ongoing growth

Tax-deferral

Money access options

American Equity provides withdrawal flexibility and a variety of liquidity options

Free withdrawals

This is an opportunity each year (after the first contract year) to take free withdrawals up to 10% of the contact value.

Enhanced benefit rider
(Not available in CA)

The no-fee rider is added to the annuity contract by the Company and may provide additional withdrawal or surrender options.

Qualifying nursing care benefit

After the first contract year, a one-time withdrawal of up to 100% of the contract value is allowed if the owner is confined to a qualified care facility for a minimum of 90 days. Confinement must begin after the contract issue date and written proof is required from both the qualified care facility and recommending physician.

Terminal illness benefit

After the first contract year, a one-time withdrawal of up to 100% of the contract value is allowed if the owner is diagnosed with a terminal illness. Diagnosis must occur after the contract issue date and written proof with supporting documentation is required from a qualified physician.

Death benefit

Death benefit proceeds are paid to the surviving joint owner. If there is no surviving joint owner, the death benefit is paid to the named beneficiary(ies) with no surrender charges. Generally paid in a lump-sum, other payment options are also available.

In the event of the contract owner's death, the death benefit paid is the entire contract value.

Tax treatment

All income payments are considered a withdrawal from the contract value, and any part of the withdrawal that is deferred interest is taxable as income. If the contract is in a qualified plan, the entire amount of the withdrawal may be taxable. The taxation of income payments is calculated as outlined in the Internal Revenue Code.

In addition, the taxable portion of any withdrawal taken before age 59½ may be subject to an additional penalty of 10% by the Internal Revenue Service.

Please contact a tax professional for additional information.

American Equity GuaranteeShield

Continuation options*

Within 30 calendar days after the end of the guarantee period, one of the following options can be chosen:

- Renew the contract for another guarantee period;
- Take a free withdrawal and apply the remaining contract value to a new guarantee period;
- Annuitize the contract and begin receiving annuity payments;
- Surrender the contract without surrender charges or market value adjustment; or
- Continue the contract without surrender charges.

If no option is chosen, the contract will automatically continue without surrender charges. Interest rates may vary each contract year, but will never be less than the minimum guaranteed interest rate of 1%.

If the contract is continued for another guarantee period, the market value adjustment, applicable surrender charges, and surrender period apply to the new guarantee period.

Surrender values and charges

The annuity's surrender value will never be less than 90% of the premium received, less any withdrawals, accumulated at the minimum guaranteed surrender value — minimum guaranteed interest rate. If a partial withdrawal or surrender is taken during the surrender charge period, a deduction will be taken out according to the surrender charge schedule.

Surrender charge schedule (age 18-85 for GS3, GS5)

Contract year	1	2	3	4	5
American Equity GuaranteeShield 3	9.00%	8.00%	7.00%		
American Equity GuaranteeShield 3 CA	8.30%	8.25%	7.25%		
American Equity GuaranteeShield 5	9.00%	8.00%	7.00%	6.00%	5.00%
American Equity GuaranteeShield 5 CA	8.30%	8.25%	7.25%	6.25%	5.20%

Market Value Adjustment (MVA)

This product includes a Market Value Adjustment (MVA) rider. An MVA may increase or decrease the amount of a withdrawal in excess of the free withdrawal amount or the surrender value. The MVA does not apply to free withdrawals, any death benefit, the Minimum Guaranteed Surrender Value (MGSV), or any distributions occurring after the surrender charge period has ended. In general, as the MVA Index increases, surrender values decrease. As the MVA Index decreases, surrender values increase.

*Renewal options may vary by state. See product disclosure for details.

Key terms & disclosures

Annuitization – Conversion of the surrender value of the annuity into regular guaranteed income payments.

Contract value – The total of the values in the annuity contract.

Death benefit – The greater of the contract value or the minimum guaranteed surrender value. Available death benefit payment options are listed in the annuity contract.

Free withdrawal – Opportunity each year, after the first contract year, to take withdrawals up to 10% of the contract value, without expense.

Interest crediting – The guaranteed initial interest rate is set at issue and guaranteed for the remainder of the guarantee period selected. Interest rates will vary based upon the amount of premium paid.

Minimum Guaranteed Surrender Value (MGSV) – At no time will the surrender value of the contract be less than 90% of premium received, less any withdrawals, accumulated at the minimum guaranteed surrender value – minimum guaranteed interest rate.

Partial withdrawal – Available at any time, for partial distribution over the free withdrawal amount. Surrender charges and minimum values will apply.

Surrender – Termination of the contract in exchange for surrender value.

Surrender charge – An amount subtracted from the contract value if surrendered at a time when the surrender charges apply.

Surrender value – The amount paid to the contract owner by American Equity when the contract is surrendered.

Withdrawal charge – An amount subtracted from the contract value if requested at a time when the withdrawal charges apply.

Annuity contract issued under form series ICC20 BASE-SPDA, ICC20 SPDA-3, ICC20 SPDA-5, ICC20 R-EBR, and state variations thereof. Availability may vary by state.

[1] Source: Ned Davis Research as of June 2023. Past performance does not guarantee future results.

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Under current tax law, the Internal Revenue Code already provides tax-deferral to qualified money, so there is no additional tax benefit obtained by funding a qualified contract, such as an IRA, with an annuity; consider the other benefits provided by an annuity, such as lifetime income and a death benefit. Indexed annuities are not stock market investments and do not directly participate in any stock or equity investments.

Market Value Adjustment (MVA) applies to partial withdrawals that exceed the free withdrawal amount allowed and surrenders occurring during the surrender charge period.

Guarantees are based on the financial strength and claims paying ability of American Equity and are not guaranteed by any bank or insured by the FDIC.

The Wellbeing Benefit can only be activated one time after a two year waiting period. Contract owner must be unable to perform two of six (seven in CA) ADLs and requires annual certification by a qualified physician. See disclosure and sales brochure for additional details.

AMERICAN EQUITY
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