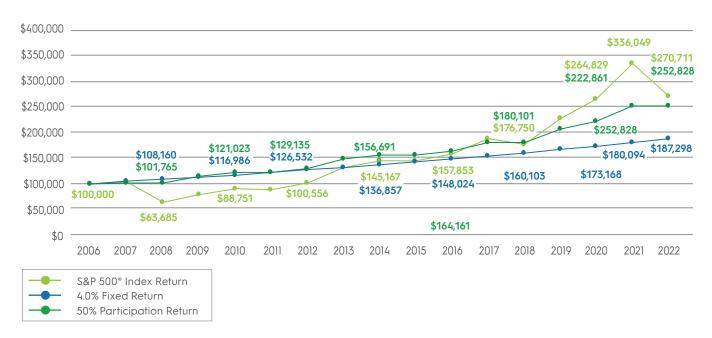


## **SOUND STRATEGIES**

# The value of downside protection



This graph is a hypothetical depiction showing the S&P 500° Index return, which represents an underlying index upon which can serve as a benchmark for interest crediting. It also shows a fixed account earning 4.0% annually. Lastly, it illustrates the return of an S&P 500 (R) indexed account option with a 50% Participation Rate (Par return).

This hypothetical demonstration assumes \$100,000 initial premium into both an indexed and fixed annuity and no withdrawals taken. Hypothetical values and returns are calculated using the last business day of each year's closing value. The graph does not account for any potential charges applicable to an annuity contract. If charges were taken into consideration, results would be lower. Past performance is not indicative of future results.

#### **Participation Rate of Return?**

The participation return (par return) in this example is a hypothetical scenario showing growth if you received half of the return on the S&P 500° Index in all the years it was positive in exchange for zero growth in any year it was negative. In other words, you sacrifice some potential growth in order to prevent any market loss. Par returns are common in insurance products like fixed indexed annuities.

### What is a fixed indexed annuity?

financial security for retirement. With a fixed indexed annuity, your money can earn interest based on the performance of an index. It is important to note that fixed indexed annuities do not participate in the market, but credit interest based on a benchmark index.

Insurance products issued by:

You have options

This chart shows you results over time

conditions. Ultimately you can decide

from three different strategies. Each

has its own merit in different market

if the difference in return is worth

reducing market loss.

Minnesota Life **Insurance Company** 

# Annuities are offered by insurance companies to provide long-term

Not a deposit – Not FDIC/NCUA insured – Not insured by any federal government agency – Not guaranteed by any bank or credit union - May go down in value An annuity is intended to be a long-term, tax-deferred retirement vehicle. Earnings are taxable as ordinary income when distributed, and if withdrawn before age 59½, may be subject to a 10% federal tax penalty. If the annuity will fund an IRA or other tax qualified plan, the tax-deferral feature offers no additional value. Qualified distributions from a Roth IRA are generally excluded from gross income, but taxes and penalties may apply to non-qualified distributions. Please consult a tax advisor for specific information. There are charges and expenses associated with annuities, such as surrender charges (deferred sales charges) for early withdrawals.

Guarantees are subject to the financial strength and claimspaying ability of the issuing insurance company. Indexes are not available for direct investment.

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