

The power of Accumulator Ascent IUL and Putnam Index Strategies

Symetra Accumulator Ascent IUL is designed with your client's future income needs in mind. When paired with our exclusive Putnam Index Strategies based on the Putnam Dynamic Low Volatility Excess Return Index™ (Putnam Index)—Accumulator Ascent IUL provides a cost-efficient policy structure with volatility-controlled index options to help protect against market fluctuations and maximize cash value accumulation potential.

Hypothetical backtested and historical returns and hypothetical backtested crediting strategy performance [2004-2023]¹

Year	Index returns		Annual point-to-point crediting strategy performance **		
	Putnam Index*	S&P 500® Index	S&P 500® Index Core Strategy: 100% participation with 11.50% cap	Putnam Index with Bonus Strategy: 188.75% participation with 1.00% bonus ²	Putnam Index with High Participation Rate Strategy: 220% participation with no bonus
2004	8.43%	9.00%	9.00%	16.91%	18.55%
2005	0.73%	3.02%	3.02%	2.38%	1.61%
2006	7.19%	13.65%	11.50%	14.57%	15.82%
2007	2.57%	3.56%	3.56%	5.85%	5.65%
2008	-0.97%	-38.50%	0.00%	1.00%	0.00%
2009	5.77%	23.45%	11.50%	11.89%	12.69%
2010	8.00%	12.78%	11.50%	16.10%	17.60%
2011	9.38%	-0.03%	0.00%	18.70%	20.64%
2012	8.02%	13.40%	11.50%	16.14%	17.64%
2013	7.60%	29.61%	11.50%	15.35%	16.72%
2014	9.74%	11.38%	11.38%	19.38%	21.43%
2015	1.11%	-0.72%	0.00%	3.10%	2.44%
2016	4.21%	9.55%	9.55%	8.95%	9.26%
2017	12.81%	19.41%	11.50%	25.18%	28.18%
2018	-0.34%	-6.24%	0.00%	1.00%	0.00%
2019	11.62%	28.85%	11.50%	22.93%	25.56%
2020	4.04%	16.26%	11.50%	8.63%	8.89%
2021	3.13%	26.89%	11.50%	6.91%	6.89%
2022	-11.62%	-19.44%	0.00%	1.00%	0.00%
2023	-2.21%	24.23%	11.50%	1.00%	0.00%
Average annual return³	4.59%	6.66%	6.79%	10.96%	11.61%
10-year average annual return³	3.25%	11.02%	7.84%	9.81%	10.27%
20-year average annual return³	4.46%	9.01%	7.58%	10.85%	11.48%

Key takeaways

- The hypothetical Putnam Index Strategies outperform the S&P 500 Core Index Strategy over these 10-year and 20-year timeframes.
- Higher participation rates and bonuses can have a measurable impact on indexed crediting rates.
- Protection from market downturns with a guaranteed floor of 0% (plus bonus, if applicable) is an attractive feature of the index crediting strategies available within the Symetra IUL policies.

The bottom line

While there is no guarantee that an index strategy using the Putnam Low Volatility Excess Return Index will outperform one using the S&P 500® Index as its benchmark in any given year, this analysis using simulated return histories indicates that the Putnam Index Strategies may have the potential to produce positive results.

¹Putnam Index performance above is based on hypothetical back-tested data from January 1, 2004 through June 23, 2020, and the actual historical performance of the Index based on daily closing levels thereafter June 24, 2020 thru December 31, 2023. Hypothetical back-test for illustrative purposes only. The hypothetical historical values above have not been verified by an independent third party. Historical performance represents hypothetical data determined by retroactive application of a back-tested model, itself designed with the benefit of hindsight. Hypothetical back-tested data is theoretical, subject to risk, and not predictive of future results. Alternative modeling techniques or assumptions would produce different hypothetical historical information that might prove to be more appropriate and that might differ significantly from the hypothetical historical information set forth above. Hypothetical back-tested results are neither an indicator nor a guarantee of future returns. Actual results will vary, perhaps materially, from the analysis implied in the hypothetical historical information that forms part of the information contained in the table above. Past performance is no guarantee of future performance.

²Symetra Accumulator Ascent IUL as of April 15, 2024.

Please note: Symetra Accumulator Ascent IUL was not available until 2022. It is not possible to invest in an index.

The Putnam Dynamic Low Volatility Excess Return Index and S&P 500 Core Index Strategies first became available through the Symetra Accumulator Ascent IUL product on April 8, 2022.

To learn more about Symetra Accumulator Ascent IUL and the Putnam Index Strategies, contact our Life Sales Desk.

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Important information

Symetra Accumulator Ascent IUL is a flexible premium adjustable life insurance policy with index-linked interest options issued by Symetra Life Insurance Company, 777 108th Avenue NE, Suite 1200, Bellevue, WA 98004. Not available in all U.S. states or any U.S. territory. Where available, it is usually issued under policy form number ICC17_LC1.

Policy endorsements are not available in all U.S. states or any U.S. territory, and terms and conditions may vary by state in which they are available. Where available, they are usually issued under the following endorsement form numbers: Putnam Dynamic Low Volatility Excess Return Index with Bonus Index Account form number ICC22_LE2, Putnam Dynamic Low Volatility Excess Return Index with High Participation Rate Index Account form number ICC22_LE3, and the S&P 500® Index Account form number ICC20_LE9.

Guarantees and benefits are subject to the claims-paying ability of Symetra Life Insurance Company.

Election of a Putnam Index Strategy does not guarantee a greater index credit for any other index segment term.

Other index strategies are available within Symetra Accumulator Ascent IUL.

Symetra Accumulator Ascent IUL has fixed and indexed accounts. Interest credited to the indexed accounts is affected by the value of outside indexes. Values based on the performance of any index are not guaranteed. The policy does not directly participate in any outside investment or index.

Allocations to the fixed account or index strategies are based on the allocation instructions provided at time of application and may be subsequently changed in writing by the policy owner. When allocations occur, an index segment for each respective index strategy is created. Each index segment has its own index crediting method, index value, index cap, index spread, index floor, index participation rate, index segment term, and index start and maturity date. The index caps, floors and participation rates after the initial index segment term may be higher or lower than the initial rates, but will never be less than the guaranteed minimums shown in the policy. The index spreads after the initial index segment term may be higher or lower than the initial spreads, but will never be higher than the guaranteed maximum shown in the policy.

The index cap is set by Symetra and is the maximum interest rate that can be applied to an index segment at the end of any given index segment term. The index cap is subject to change and is set for each index segment on the index segment start date. In situations where Symetra does not impose a cap, there may still be an upper limit based on the design of the volatility-controlled index.

An index segment represents the portion of the index account that credits interest based on a change in the indexes applicable to that index segment. Index credits are calculated and credited (if applicable) on the respective index segment's maturity date. Amounts withdrawn from the index account before the index segment's maturity date will not receive an index credit, if applicable, for that term.

Current index caps, spreads, participation rates, and floors are subject to change without notice.

Except for the Putnam Dynamic Low Volatility Excess Return Index, the performance of an index does not include the payment or reinvestment of dividends in the calculation of its performance.

It is not possible to invest in an index.

Symetra reserves the right to add, modify or remove any index strategy or crediting method. If any index is discontinued or any index is changed substantially, Symetra reserves the right to substitute a comparable index.

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This is not a complete description of the Symetra Accumulator Ascent IUL policy. Please refer to the policy.

¹ The Putnam Index levels are calculated by S&P Dow Jones Indices. The performance of the Putnam Index is based on hypothetical back-tested data prior to the actual launch of the Index. The hypothetical back-test is for illustrative purposes only. Hypothetical back-tested data has many built-in limitations, some of which are described below. The hypothetical back-test performance data and other data (such as hypothetical asset allocations) presented reflects application of the current index methodology and selection of index constituents prepared with the benefit of hindsight. No theoretical approach can take into account all of the factors in the markets in general and the impact of decisions that might have been made during the actual operation of an index. Simulated performance data is based on criteria applied retroactively with the benefit of hindsight and knowledge of factors that may have positively affected its performance and may reflect a bias toward strategies that have performed well in the past. Back-tested performance data and hypothetical asset allocations do not reflect actual performance or actual asset allocations of the index. Actual results may vary, perhaps materially, from the simulated results presented. There are numerous factors related to the markets in general or the implementation of any specific investment strategy, which cannot be fully accounted for in the preparation of simulated results and all of which can adversely affect actual results. No representation is being made that any account, product, or strategy will or is likely to achieve profits, losses, or results similar to those shown.

Numbers shown for Symetra index strategies are hypothetical and based off of our historical back-tested rates for these strategies. Back-tested projections are hypothetical to estimate how the index may have performed prior to its existence and there is no assurance or guarantee that the index will operate or would have operated in the past in a manner consistent with back-tested projections. Due to revisions to AG49A(B), you will not be able to recreate these results using an illustration. Please note that past performance is not an indication of future results, however these results are being shown to project the potential results of using Symetra's index strategies.

² When the Putnam Index with Bonus strategy is selected, an additional index credit rate is applied to any monies allocated to that index strategy when the segment matures—regardless of the index's performance—to determine the amount of the additional bonus. The rate will vary upon each allocation, but it will never be less than the guaranteed minimum additional index credit rate defined in your policy. The additional index credit amount (bonus) is in addition to any applicable interest based on the performance of the index. The Putnam Index with High Participation Rate strategy does not provide a bonus, but instead provides a higher participation rate than the Putnam Index with Bonus strategy. The terms "bonus" and "additional index credit amount" and "bonus rate" and "additional index credit rate" are used interchangeably in Symetra Accumulator Ascent IUL marketing pieces.

³ The average annual return is a measure of how much an investment has earned on average each year, over a specified period of time.

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