MassMutual Ascend

Understanding protection during a term with an Index Frontier buffer strategy

When your clients purchase an Index Frontier® registered index-linked annuity, they can allocate money to a 10% buffer indexed strategy.

Before the end of a term, the 10% buffer is calculated daily as a prorated share of the annual 10% buffer using a simple formula: 10% buffer multiplied by the number of days elapsed since the term start date, divided by the total number of days in the term. This means a buffer strategy provides more protection as the term-end nears.

Let's take a look at two sample strategy value calculations – one earlier in the term, and one later in the term. Both examples assume:

- At the start of a one-year term, $100,000 is allocated to a 10% buffer strategy
- On the day of the calculation, the investment base is $100,000 because no money was withdrawn from the strategy
- On the day of the calculation, the index is down -15%

Sample Calculation: Day 146 Of Term

Step 1: Determine the buffer on day 146 of the term

10% buffer	×	(146/365)	=	4% buffer

Step 2: Determine the vested loss by applying the buffer to the negative index change

-15% index change	+	4% buffer	=	11% vested loss

Step 3: Determine the vested loss as a dollar amount

$100,000 investment base	×	11% vested loss	=	$11,000 vested loss

Step 4: Determine the strategy value on day 146 of the term

$100,000 investment base	-	$11,000 vested loss	=	$89,000 strategy value on calculation date

146 days into the term, a 4% buffer applied.

Sample Calculation: Day 292 Of Term

Step 1: Determine the buffer on day 292 of the term

10% buffer	×	(292/365)	=	8% buffer

Step 2: Determine the vested loss by applying the buffer to the negative index change

-15% index change	+	8% buffer	=	7% vested loss

Step 3: Determine the vested loss as a dollar amount

$100,000 investment base	×	7% vested loss	=	$7,000 vested loss

Step 4: Determine the strategy value on day 292 of the term

$100,000 investment base	-	$7,000 vested loss	=	$93,000 strategy value on calculation date

292 days into the term, an 8% buffer applied. As the term progressed, greater protection was provided, resulting in a smaller vested loss, even when the negative index change was the same.

Annuities are intended to be long-term products and may not be suitable for all investors. Withdrawals from an annuity contract may have tax consequences.

The Index Frontier 5 and Index Frontier 7 registered index-linked annuities can only be sold through a Broker/Dealer that is contracted with MassMutual Ascend Life Insurance Company. Any sales solicitation must be accompanied or preceded by a prospectus. To obtain a copy of the prospectus, please visit MassMutualAscend.com/RILArates.

Principal Underwriter/Distributor: MM Ascend Life Investor Services, LLC, member FINRA and an affiliate of MassMutual Ascend.

Products issued by MassMutual Ascend Life Insurance Company (Cincinnati, Ohio), a wholly owned subsidiary of Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company (MassMutual), under contract forms P1822217NW and P1822317NW. Contract and rider form numbers may vary by state. Products and features may vary by state, and may not be available in all states.

All guarantees subject to the claims-paying ability of MassMutual Ascend.

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