

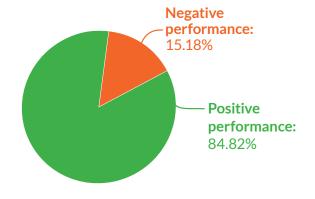
S&P 500 2-Year Index Analysis

With a registered index-linked annuity from MassMutual Ascend Life Insurance Company, you can allocate funds to 2-year term indexed strategies that earn returns based on the S&P 500 Index. This index includes stocks issued by 500 of the top companies in leading industries in the U.S. economy. Let's take a closer look.

S&P 500 returns using rolling periods

The data below uses 2-year rolling returns¹ of the S&P 500 price return index (SPX) from December 31, 2004 through December 31, 2024, for a total of 4,698² observations.

Positive Performance		Negative Performance		Average Performance		
Maximum Return³	Num of Gains	Minimum Return⁴	Num of Losses	Average Return	Average Gain	Average Loss
99.15%	3,985 (84.82%)	-51.77%	713 (15.18%)	18.65%	25.81%	-21.35%



Key insights

- In over 84% of the 2-year periods over the last twenty years, the S&P 500 experienced positive performance.
- When the S&P 500 experienced positive performance, the average gain was over 25%.
- When the S&P 500 experienced negative performance, the average loss was -21.35%.

Applying downside protection factors to a negative return

S&P 500 2-year term indexed strategies offer one type of downside protection factor – a 50% downside participation rate. Let's take a look at how this type of downside protection works, and how it would have protected against the average 2-year loss of -21.35%:

Downside protection factor	50% downside participation rate			
How it works	Protects against half of index losses			
How it protects against -21.35% average loss	Because the indexed strategy would have been protected from half of the index loss, the indexed strategy would have decreased by 10.67% (-21.35 x 50%)			

MassMutual Ascend offers several registered index-linked annuities, which have varying types of upside potential and partial downside protection. These solutions also offer benefits such as tax deferral and guaranteed lifetime income. Talk with your financial professional about how a registered index-linked annuity can fit into your portfolio and help you reach your goals.

MassMutual Ascend first offered annuities with 2-year S&P 500 indexed strategies in May 2019.

The information shown is reflective of point-to-point returns for a full two-year period. A withdrawal during a two-year term would be subject to an alternate valuation formula.

MassMutual Ascend's registered index-linked annuities can only be sold through a Broker/Dealer that is contracted with MassMutual AscendSM. This material must be preceded or accompanied by a prospectus. To obtain a copy of the prospectus, please visit MassMutualAscend.com/RILArates.

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

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¹2-year rolling returns refers to every 2-year period that started on a business day after December 30, 2004 and ended before January 1, 2025.

² Zero flat 2-year periods, in which the S&P 500 return was 0%, are included in the number of total observations.

³ Maximum return: 2-year period ending 3/23/2022

⁴ Minimum return: 2-year period ending 3/9/2009