

5 Common Myths Debunked

What You Really Need To Know About Fixed Indexed Annuities

Fixed indexed annuities (FIAs) are growing in popularity, but so is the misinformation surrounding them. As you plan for a secure retirement, it's important to separate fact from fiction. Here's the truth behind five common misconceptions:

MYTH	FACT
1. Fixed Indexed Annuities Are Risky	FIAs are not exposed to direct market losses. Your principal is protected—even when the market dips. You benefit from growth linked to market performance, with an earnings guarantee of no less than 0%. That means you can sleep at night knowing your money won't go backward due to market volatility.
2. You Can't Access Your Money	Most contracts allow for annual withdrawals of up to 10% or more without penalties. Plus, many include liquidity features such as guaranteed lifetime withdrawal benefit riders or surrender charge waivers for long-term care or terminal illness. FIAs are retirement tools—not lockboxes.
3. Returns Are Too Low	While you may not capture all of the market's highs, you also avoid its lows—a tradeoff many are happy to make for peace of mind. Over time, FIAs can deliver competitive returns, especially when compared with other financial products, without sacrificing safety.
4. They're Too Complicated	Though some FIAs offer bells and whistles that can add complexity, with the right advisor and product recommendation, FIAs can be easy to understand. You know what you're getting: tax-deferred growth, market-linked earnings potential, and guarantees.
5. Annuities Are Only for Seniors	While retirees often use FIAs to provide lifetime income, these products can benefit individuals in their 40s, 50s, and 60s who want to grow assets safely. The earlier you start, the more you can benefit from tax-deferred compounding and income planning.

Bottom Line: FIAs aren't one-size-fits-all, but they can offer powerful protection and peace of mind. Don't let misinformation hold you back from exploring a solution designed to grow and protect your retirement income.

**Talk to a licensed insurance or financial services professional today
to learn if a fixed indexed annuity is right for you.**

Fixed indexed annuities may not be suitable for all. To help determine if an annuity meets your unique financial situation and liquidity needs, consult a licensed insurance agent. In addition, please thoroughly review all marketing materials, specimen contracts and riders, buyer's guides, and forms related to the annuity for costs and important details. Insurance agents do not give investment, legal, or tax advice. Annuities held within qualified plans do not provide any additional tax benefits. Withdrawals may be subject to income tax, and a 10% federal income tax penalty may apply to withdrawals taken before age 59½. Additionally, surrender charges and a market value adjustment may apply if you withdraw more than the penalty-free amount in a year. Fixed indexed annuities guarantee a minimum interest rate on all or a percentage of each contribution over the life of your contract, less any withdrawals and/or deductions and early surrender charges. Guarantees are based on the claims-paying ability of the insurer.