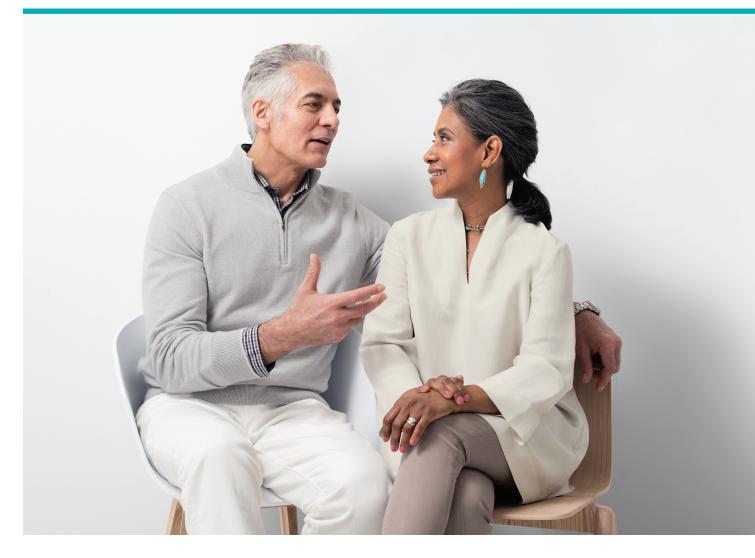




LIFE Indexed Universal with INSURANCE Long-Term Care Provided by Riders

Brighthouse SmartCare[®]

How Indexed Growth Can Challenge Fixed Rate Guarantees



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| Two Paths for | Growth Potential

In addition to providing a death benefit, permanent life insurance products like Indexed Universal Life (IUL) and Fixed Universal Life (FUL) policies offer cash value growth opportunities, although how that cash value grows can vary greatly.

IUL products provide cash value growth potential by tracking the performance of major market indices. To help protect from market downturns, IULs often feature a Floor Rate, which is a minimum interest rate credited to the cash value regardless of how the index performs. These policies also typically include a Cap Rate that limits the policy's growth potential up to an annual percent.

In contrast, FUL products offer cash value growth through company-declared interest crediting rates. While these products can provide some cash value growth, fixed crediting rates may not provide the cash value growth potential that index-linked crediting rates can provide in low interest rate environments.

A Historical Look at Market Performance

Investing in equity markets can be a risky but rewarding endeavor. Clients with a conservative risk tolerance may hesitate on or even shut down investing conversations because the risk of loss may be too great – especially for retirees and those close to retirement.

However, investors with longer investment time horizons may benefit from longer-term equity market performance. Average annual returns for U.S. equity markets have historically grown over time, even during periods of negative economic conditions. In fact, looking at the historical sequence of returns for the S&P 500[®] Index over the last two decades shows long-term cumulative growth despite periods of poor economic growth, such as the 2008 recession and post-recession recovery.

We use up to a 5.92% illustration rate for each index-linked Brighthouse SmartCare[®] policy – a hybrid life insurance product with long-term care riders. Although Brighthouse SmartCare wasn't available until December 2018, we can see how a policy's value would have changed over time by looking at historical market performance.

In the graph below, we show the historical annual S&P 500 Index return from 2004 to 2023. With our current 9.5% Cap Rate for the S&P 500 and 0% Floor Rate included, the average index crediting rate over that time would have experienced 6.48% growth.



S&P 500 Index Performance, 2004-2023

Source: Guide to the Markets. J.P. Morgan Asset Management, December 31, 2023.

Returns are cumulative and based on the S&P 500 Index price movement only. Past performance does not guarantee future results. Market indices referenced are not managed and are used as a measurement of the value of a section of the stock market. Information about indices is provided to illustrate historical market trends and does not represent the performance of any specific investment. Performance does not include dividends. This product does not invest directly in any index. Data as of December 31, 2023. For more information on Brighthouse SmartCare, talk to your Life and LTC Specialist or visit **brighthousefinancialpro.com**.

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Brighthouse SmartCare is a life insurance policy that accelerates the death benefit for qualified long-term care services and is not a health insurance policy providing long-term care insurance subject to the minimum requirements of New York Law, does not qualify for the New York State Partnership for Long-Term Care Program, and is not a Medicare supplement policy.

Brighthouse SmartCare[®] is an indexed universal life insurance policy with long-term care riders issued by, and product guarantees are solely the responsibility of, Brighthouse Life Insurance Company, Charlotte, NC 28277 and, in New York only, by Brighthouse Life Insurance Company of NY, New York, NY 10017 ("Brighthouse Financial"). All guarantees, including any optional benefits, are subject to the claims-paying ability and financial strength of the issuing insurance company. Each issuing insurance company is solely responsible for its own financial condition and contractual obligations. Brighthouse SmartCare has exclusions, limitations, reduction of benefits, and terms under which the policy may be continued in force or discontinued. May not be available in all states or firms.

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Brighthouse Life Insurance Company 11225 North Community House Road Charlotte, NC 28277 brighthousefinancial.com Brighthouse Life Insurance Company of NY 285 Madison Avenue New York, NY 10017

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