



Advanced Markets

# Tax efficiency for today. Flexibility for tomorrow.

A tax control strategy



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# A life less taxing



# Achieve your objectives – now and later

## Manage your tax liability today

You've worked hard and smart to reach a level of income that can provide the financial security you desire. One unfortunate consequence is that you pay more in taxes. Even with a successful investment strategy, taxes can have a tremendous impact on your returns.

**You have more control over your taxes than you might think. With an investment-only variable annuity strategy, you can:**

- **Manage the amount of taxes you pay each year, by managing the amount of distributions you take**
- **Save and invest in a tax-efficient manner**
- **Control when you pay taxes on your investment income from your variable annuity**

By using Transamerica's investment-only variable annuity strategy, you can more effectively manage the amount of taxes you pay each year by significantly reducing your taxable income.

## Save more for tomorrow

Not all investment strategies are created equal. As you know, there are strict limits on what you can contribute to certain tax-deferred retirement vehicles such as IRAs and 401(k)s.

These restrictions may lead you to believe your options are limited.

**The good news: Your ability to grow your investments tax-deferred is unlimited.**

Using Transamerica's investment-only variable annuity strategy gives you the ability to:

- Save more for retirement in a tax-efficient manner
- Defer your taxable investment income today
- Create income to use in retirement, at a time when you may have moved into a lower tax bracket

Withdrawals of taxable amounts are subject to ordinary income tax and may be subject to a 10% additional federal tax if withdrawn before age 59½.

## Have the flexibility you need – when you need it

Unlike other annuity strategies, Transamerica's investment-only variable annuity strategy gives you the option to add, for an additional fee – now or at a future date:

- A lifetime income option with guaranteed minimum withdrawal benefits available with the optional *Transamerica Principal Optimizer<sup>SM</sup>* or *Transamerica Income Edge<sup>SM</sup> 1.2*
- Transamerica's optional death benefits that can protect or enhance the amount you invest for your heirs
- Control over how your beneficiaries receive the assets by preselecting the death benefit options that are available

All guarantees, including optional benefits, are based on the claims-paying ability of the issuing insurance company.



**Consider this:** Because lifetime income benefits can be added at a later date, an investment-only variable annuity strategy allows you to pay for what you need, only when you need it.

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## Controlling the tax factor

### The tax landscape – more income, more taxes

Many Americans have received a tax break due to the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017. However, certain aspects of the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012 (ATRA), which ushered in a series of tax increases on individuals earning more than \$200,000 and married couples filing jointly who make more than \$250,000, still apply.

When your income reaches specific thresholds, additional tax liabilities may be imposed, and your eligibility for certain tax deductions, exemptions, and credits are phased out. The amount of taxable income you receive can also impact other areas of your overall financial strategy, such as:

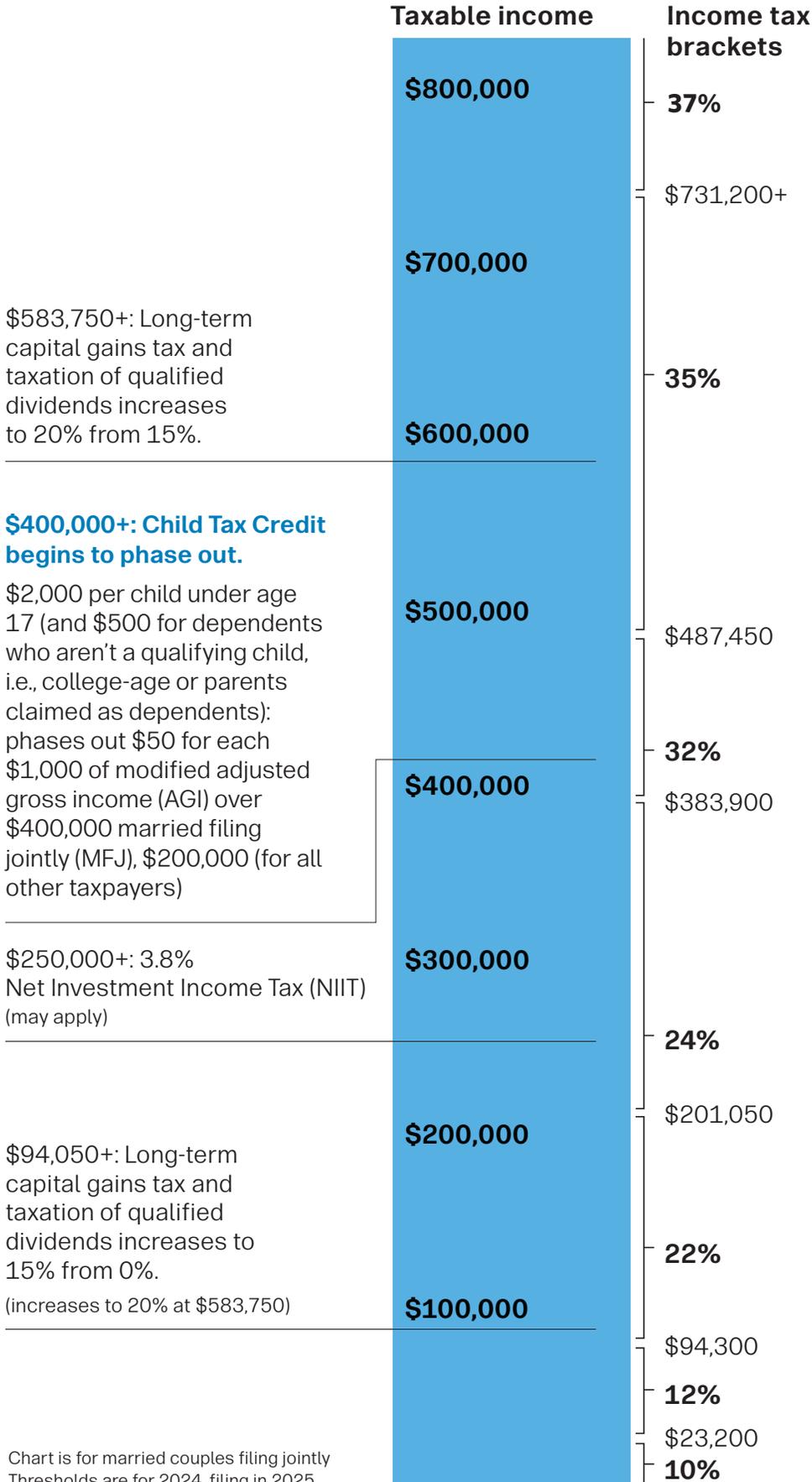
- The taxation of your Social Security benefits
- The amount you'll pay in Medicare premiums
- Your ability to contribute to a Roth IRA or deduct contributions to a Traditional IRA (dependent upon employer-sponsored retirement plan participation as well)



**Consider this:** The American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012 (ATRA) imposes tax liabilities if your income reaches specific thresholds. By offering a sound structure for tax deferral, an investment-only variable annuity strategy counters with a powerful tool.

## The very real impact of taxes on high-income earners

The current tax landscape imposes progressive income tax thresholds on those classified as “high-income earners.”



# The power of tax deferral

## Deferring investment income

When income (such as interest, dividends, or capital gains) is generated by investments in a taxable account, you may have to pay taxes on that income. That means less of your money will be working for you during the following year. This is sometimes referred to as “tax drag.”

Additionally, when an investment is sold to purchase another within a taxable account, it triggers a taxable event to the extent of any realized gain on the initial investment. That means with most accounts, you may have no control over how much in capital gains will be generated each year.

In contrast, an investment-only variable annuity strategy allows you to change investments among the various subaccounts without triggering a tax liability. This keeps more of your money tax-deferred and working for you, which can make a significant difference in the long run.



### Consider this:

Because capital gains, dividends, and interest income are deferred in an investment-only variable annuity strategy, this strategy is an effective way to hold investments that are typically considered tax inefficient.

### A comparison of the different tax rates for various investment options

		Top marginal tax rate <sup>1</sup>
Bond fund	Interest	40.8%
	Long-term capital gain	23.8%
	Short-term capital gain	40.8%
Stock fund	Dividends	23.8%
	Long-term capital gain	23.8%
	Short-term capital gain	40.8%
Investment-only variable annuity strategy <sup>2</sup>	Initial investment and gains	Tax-deferred until distributions occur



**Consider this:** An investment-only variable annuity strategy provides a tax-deferred vehicle that enables you to change investments among the various subaccounts without triggering a tax liability.

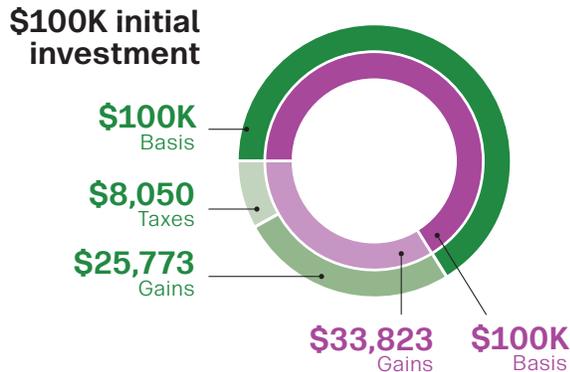
<sup>1</sup> Assumes 3.8% tax for NIIT, in addition to the 20% tax rate for Taxable Income over \$583,750.

<sup>2</sup> Withdrawals of taxable amounts are subject to ordinary income tax and may be subject to a 10% additional federal tax if withdrawn before age 59½.

## The benefits of tax deferral

A variable annuity is a tax-deferred vehicle that enables you to change investments among the various subaccounts without triggering a tax liability. Consider two hypothetical investments of \$100,000 each. Also, assume this hypothetical taxpayer is a high-income earner in the highest tax bracket. Account A is a taxable account, while Account B is tax-deferred. After five years with 6% growth annually, the account owner wants to change how each account is invested. The tax consequences of the change of investments are different for each account:

## The impact of changing investments



### Account A: Taxable account

#### \$125,773 to reinvest after paying taxes

\$33,823 of long-term capital gain taxed at 23.8% (20% + 3.8% NIIT for Taxable Income over \$583,750) = \$8,050 in taxes due

### Account B: Tax-deferred account

#### \$133,823 remains invested

Investment changes are not taxable.

5 years later after 6% growth per year

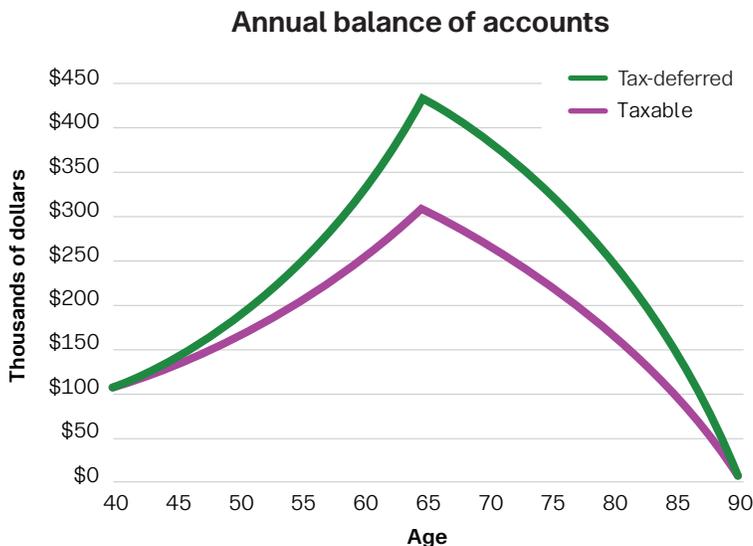
When the investment in Account A is sold, the owner must recognize the taxes on the gain portion before reinvesting. The owner of Account B can change the investment in the tax-deferred account without immediate taxation, leaving the full \$133,823 invested. The owner of Account A will have no remaining tax liability on this investment. The owner of Account B is liable for all taxes when it is liquidated or the account is surrendered. Account A was taxed at the capital gains rate, while Account B, upon liquidation, will be taxed at ordinary income tax rates, rather than capital gains rates.

This hypothetical illustration assumes an initial investment of \$100,000, an annual growth rate of 6% and an income tax rate of 23.8%. Returns and principal invested in stocks are not guaranteed. Withdrawals of tax-deferred accumulations are subject to ordinary income tax and may be subject to a 10% additional federal tax if withdrawn before age 59½. This is for illustrative purposes only, is not indicative of any investment, and does not guarantee or predict actual performance. The fees and expenses typically involved with a variable annuity are not reflected in the performance of Account B. If they were, the return of Account B investment would be lower.

Tax treatment of capital gains and dividends could favorably impact the investment return for Account A, thereby limiting the difference in performance between the hypothetical investments shown. Personal investment time frames and income tax brackets, both current and projected, should be considered as they could further impact the comparison.

## Tax deferral can help your savings grow faster

Tax deferral enhances the power of compounding growth when an investment is not slowed or interrupted by taxable events, such as withdrawals. The green line in the chart below hypothetically shows an investment that grows tax-deferred and free from taxable events for 25 years. Taxes are only due when money is withdrawn. The pink line shows how an investment grows over 25 years when it's taxed. See the difference?



This chart is hypothetical and for illustrative purposes only. The hypothetical rates of return shown in this chart are not guaranteed and should not be viewed as indicative of the past or future performance of any particular investment.

Tax deferral offers no additional value if an annuity is used to fund a qualified plan, such as a 401(k) or IRA. This example assumes a single, hypothetical contribution of a nonqualified \$100,000, a 6% annual return, and a 24% tax rate during the contribution period and a 22% tax rate during the withdrawal period. The actual tax results of any distribution will depend on an individual's personal tax circumstances. This hypothetical example illustrates tax deferral and does not represent the past or future performance of any particular product. This example does not assume subsequent investment or withdrawals and also does not include mortality and expense charges, sales charges, and administrative fees typically associated with variable annuities; inclusion of these items would lower the performance shown.

Lower maximum tax rates on capital gains and dividends would make the investment return for the taxable investment more favorable, thereby reducing the difference in performance between the accounts shown. Changes in tax rates and tax treatment earnings may impact the comparison shown. Investors should consider their individual investment time horizon and income tax brackets, both current and anticipated, when making an investment decision, as these further impact the results of the comparison.

# Easing your tax burden

## Reducing taxable income – and tax liability

Transamerica’s investment-only variable annuity tax-deferral strategy can also help reduce your annual tax liability.

Most people generate income in two ways:

- Working (earned income)
- Interest, dividends, and capital gains (investment income)

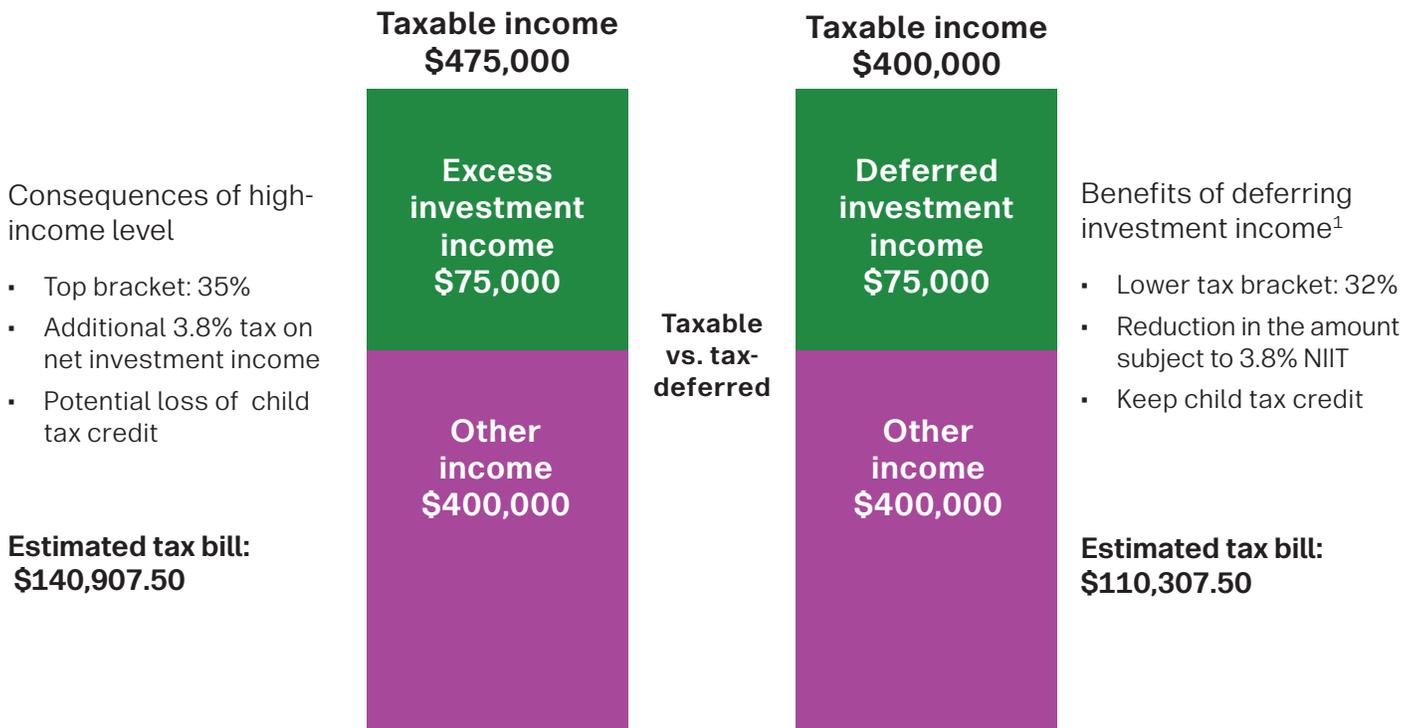
You can reduce your overall tax liability if you can reduce one or both of these sources of income when it isn’t needed.

As mentioned previously, when your investments, such as stocks, bonds, and mutual funds, are held in a taxable account, the interest, dividends, and capital gain distributions are taxable in the year they are received or realized, even if you reinvest them. But if you hold these investments in a tax-deferred variable annuity, the investment income generated is excluded from current income. This lowers your overall taxable income and, in turn, your tax liability.

**Consider this:**  
 Investment income generated in a tax-deferred investment is excluded from current income. This lowers your taxable income and tax liability.

## Reducing investment income can reduce your annual tax liability

The following chart is an example of how a married couple filing jointly reduced their tax bill by \$30,000 by deferring the taxation of their investment income using a variable annuity.



<sup>1</sup> It should be noted that to reposition current assets into a tax-deferred variable annuity, the sale of assets may create a taxable event, which may increase taxable income in that year.

Chart source: “1040 Tax Calculator (Tax Year 2023),” dinkytown.net, accessed online January 2024  
 This is for illustrative purposes only and not indicative of any investment.

## Controlling when you receive income

By definition, “tax-deferred” does not mean tax-exempt, it means that taxes are merely deferred until your assets are withdrawn. The ability to control the amount and timing of your withdrawals is one of the key benefits of a variable annuity, allowing you to pay taxes on your investment income when it is most favorable to you.

For example, distributions during retirement may be tax advantageous if your income and income tax bracket are lower than they were during your working years.

### Working years

During their working years, Larry and Margaret earn \$585,000 annually. The investment-only variable annuity strategy can help them defer taxes on their investments and lower their taxable income.

### \$400,000+: Child Tax Credit begins to phase out.

\$2,000 per child under age 17 (and \$500 for dependents who aren't a qualifying child, i.e., college-age or parents claimed as dependents): phases out \$50 for each \$1,000 of modified adjusted gross income (AGI) over \$400,000 married filing jointly (MFJ), \$200,000 (for all other taxpayers)

\$250,000+: 3.8% Net Investment Income Tax (NIIT)

### In retirement

In retirement, Larry and Margaret budget \$150,000 per year.

At that time, withdrawing investment income from their investment-only variable annuity strategy will be more tax efficient.

Taxable income	Income tax brackets
\$800,000	37% \$731,200+
\$700,000	35%
\$600,000	35%
\$500,000	35% \$487,450
\$400,000	32% \$383,900
\$300,000	24%
\$200,000	24% \$201,050
\$100,000	22% \$94,300 12% \$23,200 10%

### Considering the case of Larry and Margaret:

During their working years, Larry and Margaret earn \$585,000 annually, which places them in the 35% marginal tax bracket.

As a result, they're subject to NIIT and 20% long-term capital gains tax. Also, they are unable to receive the child tax credit.

But in retirement, all that changes. Larry and Margaret's annual income falls to \$150,000. This moves them to a 22% marginal tax bracket and keeps them below important thresholds that impose additional tax liabilities.

Because they choose to access their investment-only variable annuity strategy investments only after moving to the lower tax bracket, they can potentially pay less in taxes on their investment earnings.

# Redefine your limits

## The ability to save even more for retirement

Transamerica's investment-only variable annuity strategy not only offers tax deferral, but the amount of after-tax contributions is essentially unlimited.

The table below summarizes the tax attributes of three primary types of investment accounts used for retirement savings.

	Taxable account	Retirement plan	Variable annuity
Contributions	<b>Unlimited</b> After-tax only	<b>Limited</b> Pretax and after-tax depending on the type of employer-sponsored retirement plan and/or IRA limits	<b>Unlimited</b> After-tax only, subject to terms of the contract
Tax reduction	<b>Maybe</b> Some types of investments may generate little or no taxable investment income and may be taxed at long-term capital gains rate.	<b>Yes</b> Contributions may be tax-deductible and all investment income is tax-deferred.	<b>Yes</b> Contributions are not tax-deductible but investment income is tax-deferred.
Tax deferral	<b>Taxed when investments are sold or dividends are paid</b>	<b>Yes</b> Until 73 <sup>1</sup>	<b>Yes</b> For as long as the contract permits
Tax control	<b>Maybe</b> Some types of investments may generate little or no taxable investment income.	<b>Yes</b> Until 73 <sup>1</sup>	<b>Yes</b> There is no tax liability until gains are withdrawn from the contract. <sup>2</sup>
Optional living benefit	<b>None</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>Yes</b>
Optional death benefit	<b>None</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>Yes</b>



**Consider this:** An investment-only variable annuity strategy allows you to contribute an unlimited amount of money on an after-tax basis.

<sup>1</sup> Employer-sponsored retirement plans and Traditional IRAs are subject to required minimum distributions rules once the participant reaches age 73.

<sup>2</sup> Withdrawals of taxable amounts are subject to ordinary income tax and may be subject to a 10% additional federal tax if withdrawn before age 59½.



## The flexibility you need – when you need it

### Where you invest matters

Transamerica's investment-only variable annuity strategy can provide you with a number of tax advantages and additional benefits that can help you meet your retirement and estate planning objectives.

### An investment-only variable annuity strategy affords you flexibility:

**A guaranteed lifetime income option** – Transamerica provides the following guaranteed minimum withdrawal benefits:

- *Transamerica Principal Optimizer*<sup>SM</sup>
- *Transamerica Income Edge*<sup>SM</sup> 1.2

**A lasting legacy** – Transamerica provides optional death benefit riders that can protect or enhance the amount you invest for your heirs.

### The Transamerica advantage

#### Preselected beneficiary designations

- Control how your beneficiaries receive the asset
- Enables you to limit distributions to a minimum dollar amount or percentage for a specified period<sup>1</sup>

#### Systematic payouts “stretch” distribution option

- Allows your beneficiary to maintain the tax advantages available under federal tax laws

**Transamerica's investment-only variable annuity strategy provides the ideal means for managing taxes, structuring a reliable income stream, and customizing legacy planning.**

<sup>1</sup> Transamerica is obligated to pay the beneficiary the greater of the legal minimum amount required by law or the amount specified through the restriction.

When it comes to preparing  
for your future, there's no  
time like the present.

**Let's get started today.**



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**Before investing, consider a variable annuity's investment objectives, risks, charges, and expenses.  
Go to [transamerica.com](https://transamerica.com) for prospectuses containing this and other information. Please read carefully.**

Variable annuities are long-term, tax-deferred vehicles designed for retirement purposes and are subject to investment risk, including possible loss of principal.

Variable annuity fees and charges include mortality and expense risk fee and administrative charge, surrender charges, annual fee, and investment option management fee. Additional fees may apply to optional benefits selected, including death and living benefits.

Withdrawals of taxable amounts are subject to ordinary income tax and may be subject to a 10% additional federal tax if withdrawn before age 59½.

All guarantees, including optional benefits, are based on the claims-paying ability of the issuing insurance company.

There is no additional tax-deferral benefit derived from placing IRA or other tax-qualified funds into an annuity. Features other than tax-deferral should be considered in the purchase of a qualified annuity.

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