

The Benefits of an Income Annuity in your Retirement Plan:

An income annuity provides a constant stream of income during retirement. It provides a complimentary balance to the income derived from investments in the equity and fixed income markets. The income stream is not dependent on the fluctuations of the market and since the income payments continue for life, there is no danger of out-living the cash flow.

Scenario:

Participants: Man 65, Woman 62.

Retirement Spending: \$100k annually starting today, with an annual 2% increase.

Retirement Savings: \$2 million in a 401k

Market Returns: Normal Distribution, average return of 9%, annual standard deviation of 16.5%,

results based on the average of 3000 simulations.

According to actuarial life tables, 65-year-old couples that are rated preferred health class have life expectancies of 87 for men, 89 for women, a 50% probability that one will live to at least 92, and a 25% probability of living to at least 96. The ages below represent the woman's age.

Investing 100% of the account in the market can have mixed results. There is a 60.2% probability that the funds can support this retirement past the age of 105. But there is a

32.5% probability that the account will have a zero balance by the age of 96, and a 24.3% probability the account will have a zero balance by the age of 89. Statistically,

Money runs out before 89	24.3%
	32.5%
Money lasts longer than 105	60.2%

this matches up well against life expectancies. However, is it a risk you want to take for your retirement, that almost one-quarter of the time at age 89, and almost one-third of the time at age 96, you will run out of money and income?

- 2. The couple decides to invest the balance of their 401k in fixed income, anticipating returning 4% over the long term, and withdraw \$100k a year with annual inflation increases.

 Unfortunately, the money will run out by age 87, and not a viable option.
- 3. Purchase a joint annuity with the entire 401k balance that will provide a lifetime stream of income. A large life insurance company quotes an annual income stream of \$128,400 that will pay for a minimum of twenty years and pay until the death of the last surviving participant. This amount clearly exceeds the immediate spending expectations of the couple but will fall short due to inflation expectations at age 75. The couple will continue to receive annual payments.
- 4. Electing a hybrid investment strategy, the couple takes 60% of the 401k balance and purchases an annuity. This will provide \$77,040 of annual income for the rest of their lives.
 The income generated from the 401k has a greater chance of lasting through the age of 89



and 96 than portfolio that is 100% invested in the market. Plus, the hybrid strategy will always provide a stream of income, even when the 401k balance is zero.

Money runs out before 89	20.4%
Money runs out before 96	30.9%
Money lasts longer than 105	59.3%

Outliving your savings is always a fear of retirees. If your current retirement strategy is to rely on the market to provide consistent returns, this is not a guarantee. A couple of poor performing years and unexpected expenses can quickly deplete your account balances. Including an income annuity in your retirement strategy provides the security of a guaranteed income and less market dependance. Combining the annuity and social security to match basic living expenses such as rent, utilities and groceries can provide a retirement with less stress.

Contact Triathlon Partners LLC to discuss retirement strategies that best align with your objectives. Our extensive financial market and risk management experience provide a unique perspective to help navigate the process for your success.

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