Annuities 101

I.I.I. Webinar September 9, 2009



Steven N. Weisbart, Ph.D., CLU, Senior Vice President and Chief Economist Insurance Information Institute ◆ 110 William Street ◆ New York, NY 10038 Tel: (212) 346-5540 ◆ Cell: (917) 494-5945 ◆ stevenw@iii.org ◆ www.iii.org¹

iii

Presentation Outline

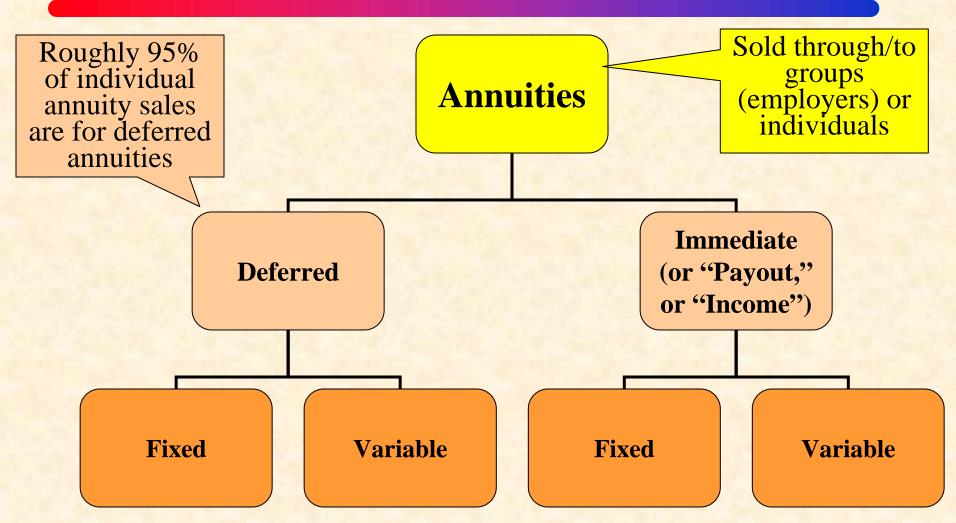
- I. Basic Annuity Categories
- II. Deferred Annuities
- III. Immediate Annuities
- IV. Can't I Just Do This Myself?
- V. Suitability
- VI. Buying Tips
- VII. I.I.I. and Other Online Resources

Basic Annuity Categories

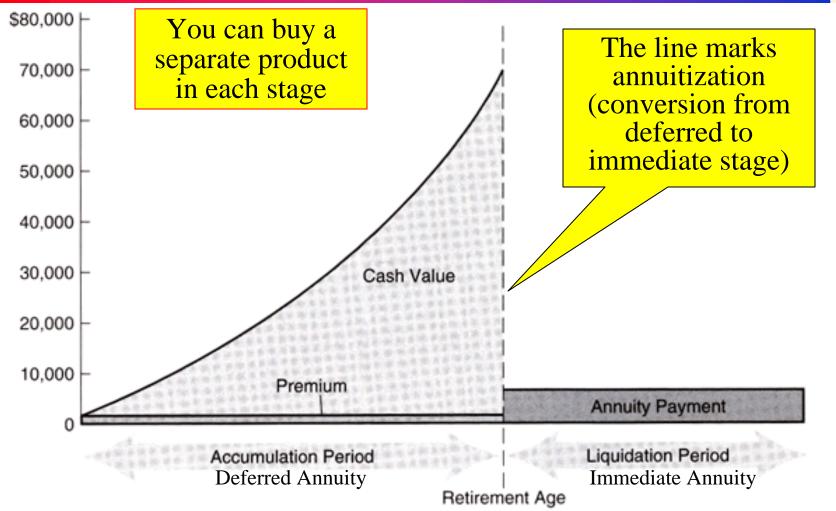




Annuity Types, Classified by When Withdrawals Begin & Underlying Investment



One Product, Two Stages: A Deferred Stage, Then an Immediate Stage



Source: Black and Skipper, *Life & Health Insurance*, 13th edition, (Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice-Hall, 2000) p. 165.



Differences Between Deferred and Immediate Annuities

Deferred Annuities	Immediate Annuities
Function: Accumulating funds for future payout (mainly in a single sum, rarely as immediate annuity)	Function: Paying out funds, usually for life
Funded either by periodic contributions (premiums) that can be stopped or by a single sum	Usually funded by a single sum (can be from a deferred annuity)
Annuity can be surrendered, but this might trigger a withdrawal charge and/or income taxes	Once payout is started, cannot be stopped by annuity owner

Deferred Annuities



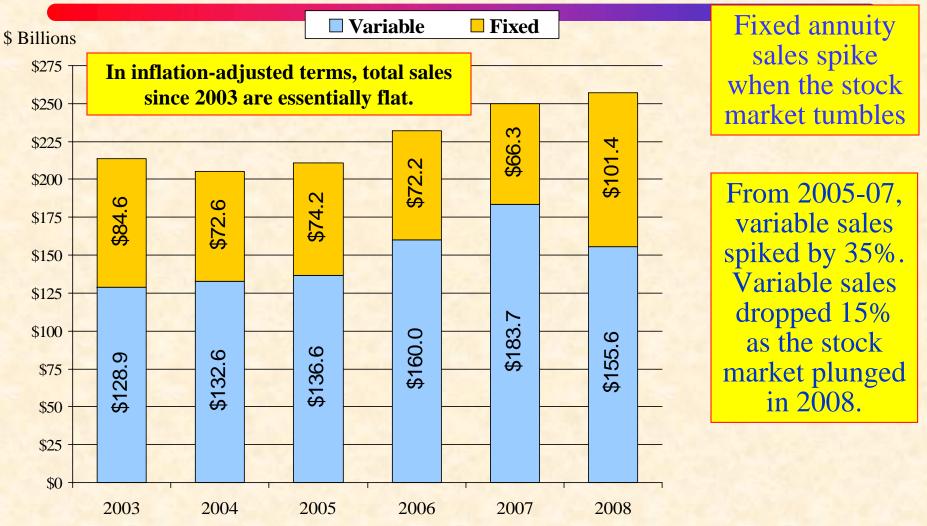


Differences Between Fixed and Variable Annuities

Fixed Annuities	Variable Annuities
Interest credited by insurer based on performance of its "general account," mainly bonds	Investment results from performance of insurance company's "sub accounts," similar to mutual funds
Guarantees principal and a minimum interest rate, and lifetime payment	Original product: Only a lifetime payment guarantee Added feature: minimum income/withdrawal guarantees
An insurance product, regulated by the states	An insurance product <i>and</i> a security, regulated by states and SEC 8



Deferred Individual Annuity Sales, 2003-2008



Source: LIMRA International, The 2008 Individual Annuity Market—Sales and Assets Report



Differences Between Variable Annuities and Mutual Funds

Variable Annuities	Mutual Funds	
Taxation on investment	Taxation on investment results	
results is deferred until funds	applies in year of activity,	
are withdrawn, then taxed at	taxed at capital gain or	
ordinary income rates	ordinary income rates, as	
	applicable	
Original product: Only life	No guarantees	
income guarantees		
Added feature: minimum		
income/withdrawal		
guarantees		
An insurance product and a	An investment product,	
security, regulated by states	regulated by the SEC	
and SEC	10	

Immediate (aka "Payout" or "Income") Annuities





Unlike Other Income Sources, Immediate Annuity Payments Come From Three Sources

Each immediate annuity payment comes from...

This is the insurance aspect of immediate annuities. Part of premiums goes into a survivorship pool, and people who die "early" subsidize those who live longer.

Return of principal

Investment Income

The "survivorship pool"

Examples of Income from \$100,000 Paid in to a Traditional Immediate Fixed Annuity

Income Option	Yearly Income (no death benefit)	Yearly Income (minimum 15 years of income)
Income for the life of a male, initially age 70	\$9,300	\$8,040
Income for the life of a female, initially age 70	\$8,556	\$7,872
Income for as long as either member of a couple initially age 70 is alive	\$7,548	\$7,380

Source: http://www.immediateannuities.com/information/rates.html visited on July 17, 2009.

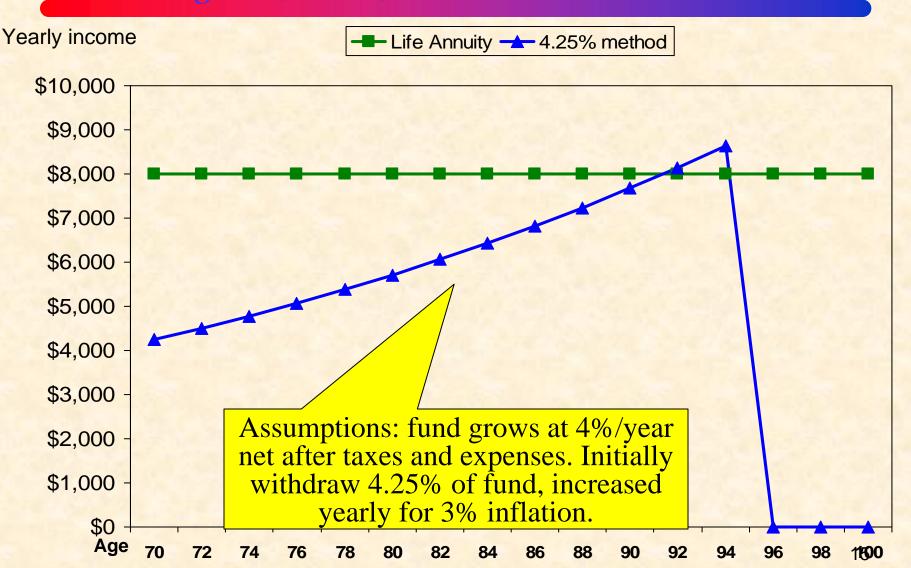
Can't I Just Do This Myself?

No-Not if You Want to Insure That Your Income Lasts for Your Lifetime





Income Comparison: Fixed Life Annuity, Male Age 70, \$100,000 Premium, vs. Invested Fund





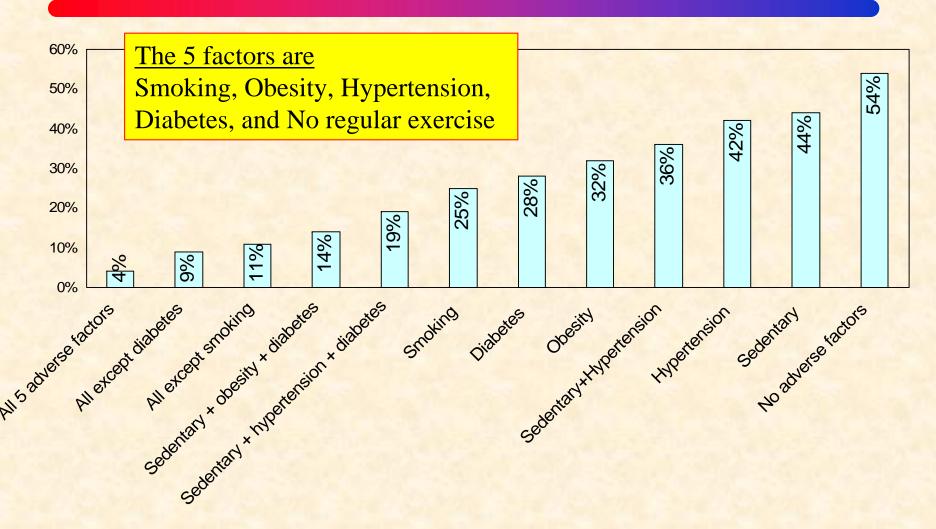
How Long a Lifetime Should People Plan For?

Based on today's data,

- Annuity mortality tables say that 1 in 3 women (and 1 in 5 men) currently age 65 will live to 90 or older.
- But those data are averages of people with a wide range of conditions. For example, ...



An Age-70 Man Has a 54% Chance of Reaching 90 If He Avoids 5 Factors



Immediate Fixed Life Annuities: Suitability

Is This Product "Right" for Everyone?



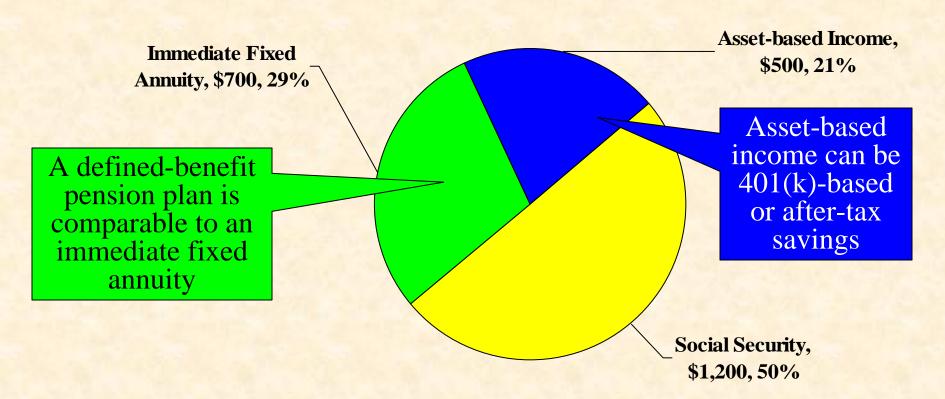


Basic Financial Planning Principles

- Don't put all of your money into
 - > a single type of investment
 - investments with time horizons that don't match your current or likely future circumstances
- Safeguard (against inflation and exhaustion) the part of your retirement income that pays for your basic expenses (food, shelter, medical care, clothing, transportation)



How an Immediate Fixed Annuity Might Fit Into a Retirement Income Composition for a Pre-retirement \$3,000 Monthly Income



With this composition, retirement income replaces 80% of final pre-retirement income. 79% of initial retirement income is guaranteed for life. Assumes retiree also has a liquid emergency fund, ideally equal to 6-months income.

Buying Tips





Buying Suggestions

- Buy from a financially strong company
 - ➤One with high ratings from at least two independent rating agencies
 - Check with your state insurance regulator regarding complaints about the company's annuities
- Use an agent/financial advisor who puts your interest first



Buying Suggestions (cont'd)

- The I.I.I. recommends that before buying an annuity you have money to pay for emergency expenses (rule of thumb: 6 months of income, invested/saved in a form that won't go down) separate from the annuity
- Shop around; the immediate annuity market is competitive and continually changing

How Secure is a Deferred or Immediate Annuity?





Is My Immediate Fixed Annuity Secure if the Annuity Company Becomes Financially Impaired?

- Very few companies experience impairments
- Of those that do, many have enough liquid assets to pay all benefits
- Often the state's insurance regulator will get a healthy annuity company to take on the contracts and continue paying benefits
- If none of these approaches work, the regulator may put the company into "conservation" or "liquidation"
 - The state's Life and Health Insurance Guaranty Fund will assess life insurers in the state for money to pay benefits, up to the limits in state law; these limits are in the chart on the next slide

Source: Babbel and Merrill, "Rational Decumulation," May 2007, at

States' Guaranty Fund Benefit Coverage for Immediate Fixed Annuities

The amount guaranteed is the present value of expected future benefits.

States	Per Individual
Connecticut, New Jersey, New York, Washington	\$500,000
Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Minnesota, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Wisconsin, D.C.	\$300,000
Utah	\$200,000
All other states	\$100,000

Note: These limits are for immediate annuities. In some states the limits for deferred annuities are lower—typically \$100,000.

Source: The Life & Health Insurance Guaranty Association System, "The Nation's Safety Net," 26 2008 Edition. See also Babbel and Merrill, "Rational Decumulation," May 2007, at

Annuities: I.I.I. and Other On-line Resources



III.I.I. Web Site: Annuities

Basic information about annuities

http://www.iii.org/individuals/annuities/

This section contains answers to questions such as

- What are the different types of annuities?
- What is the difference between a fixed and variable annuity?
- How are annuities sold?
- What are surrender fees?
- How will I receive my annuity payments?
- How often should I review my annuity portfolio?

II.I.I. Web Site: Annuities

Statistics about annuities

 http://www.iii.org/media/facts/statsbyissue/ annuities/

This section contains statistics such as

- Fixed and variable individual annuity premiums
- Individual annuity sales by distribution channels
- Annuity sales by product type
- Net assets in variable annuities
- Top 10 Writers of New Variable Annuity Contracts
- Top 10 Writers of Index Annuities
- Top 10 Writers of Annuities Sold Through Banks



Other Immediate Annuities Web Sites

- http://paycheckforlife.org/
- www.retireonyourterms.org
- http://www.irionline.org/
- www.irionline.org/pdfs/09AnnuityFactBook/2009 AnnuityFactBook.pdf
- www.annuityshopper.com/
- www.immediateannuities.com/annuitytrends.html
- www.immediateannuities.com/annuitymuseum/



Annuities: I.I.I. and Other On-line Resources in Spanish



Online Resources in Spanish

- http://www.iii.org/individuals/annuities/enespanol/
 - Content includes answers to questions and topics such as:
 - What are the different types of annuities?
 - ➤ What is the difference between a fixed and variable annuity?
 - ➤ How and where are annuities sold?
 - Articles in English that have a Spanish version are connected by a button on the horizontal tab.
- English-Spanish Insurance and Annuities terms and definitions (Limited Glossary):
 - Definiciones básicas de anualidades
- Video Podcast in Spanish on what to ask about annuities:
 - Antes de comprar una anualidad...



Other Online Annuities Resources in Spanish

- ➤ Wiser Women.org: Siete decisiones
 financieras que pueden definir el rumbo de su
 vida financiera
 http://www.wiserwomen.org/pdf_files/7Decisi
 onsSpanish.pdf
- ➤ National Association of Insurance Commissioners – In Spanish:

http://www.naic.org/documents/consumer_alert_annuitie
s_senior_es.htm



Insurance Information Institute On-Line

TIMULIORG CONTROLLER

Thank you for your time and attention.