



EQUITABLE



# Structured Investment Option for retirement plan participants

EQUI-VEST®

# A level of protection.<sup>1</sup> Growth potential. Choices that work for you.

## Customized to suit your goals and needs<sup>2</sup> with a Structure Investment Option, you choose:

What level of protection you're seeking	How long to keep your money at work in the market before you check in at maturity and see if you want to make changes	Which well-known benchmark to track <sup>3</sup>
Against the first 10% of a downturn	1 year	S&P 500® Index Russell 2000® Index MSCI EAFE Index
Against the first 20% of a downturn	3 years 5 years	S&P 500® Index Russell 2000® Index

**Based on your choices, a performance cap will be set and stay the same until the maturity date for the 1-, 3- or 5-year period. You can always see current performance cap rates at [equitable.com/equivestsio](https://equitable.com/equivestsio).**

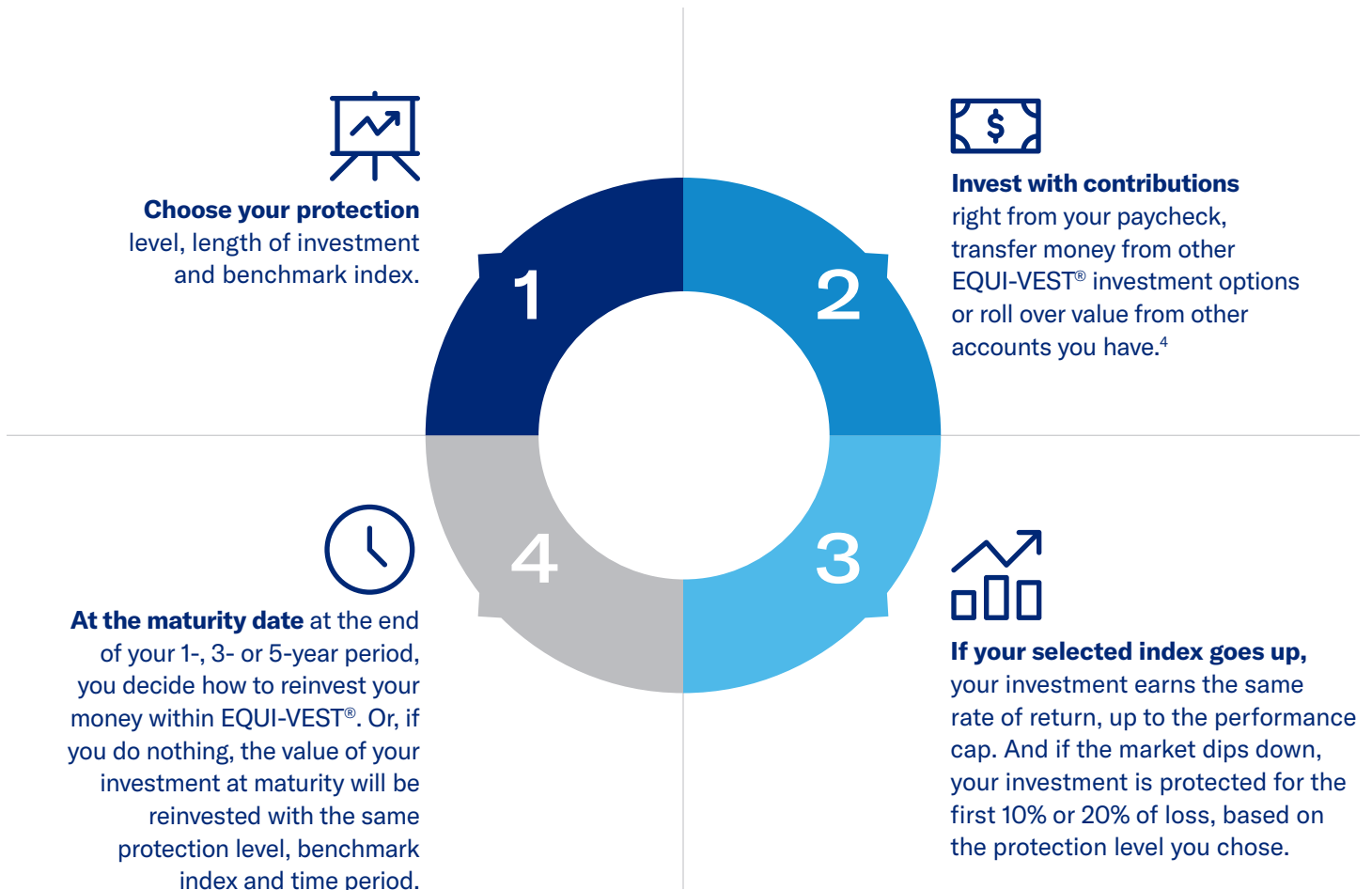
<sup>1</sup> Equitable Financial will absorb the first -10% or -20% (also referred to as a Segment Buffer) of any investment loss within a specified time frame, and the account value is then reduced by any negative investment performance beyond that level of protection. When investment losses exceed the level of protection selected, there is risk of a substantial loss of principal.

<sup>2</sup> There are a limited number of possible protection level (Segment Type), time frame and index combinations. Please see the prospectus for more information.

<sup>3</sup> Investment performance, up to cap, is tracked to one or more well-known equity market indices.

# How the Structured Investment Option works

If you'd like to invest some money with different levels of protection, time periods and index choices, you have the flexibility to do that. We call each investment within the SIO a segment, and you can have up to 12 segments at a time for each time period/index – up to total 60 segments at once.



## Putting it all together

The Structured Investment Option gives you a simplified way to take advantage of possible gains, knowing you're protected from a portion of loss. It's a way to stay active in the market with less to worry about over the ups and downs that can occur.

Many investors worry so much about market volatility that they keep all their savings in low-risk, low-growth investments. Your ability to handle market risk is a personal decision — and one that should change as you get closer to retirement — but it's smart to consider how growth potential tied to the financial markets can help you reach your retirement goals.

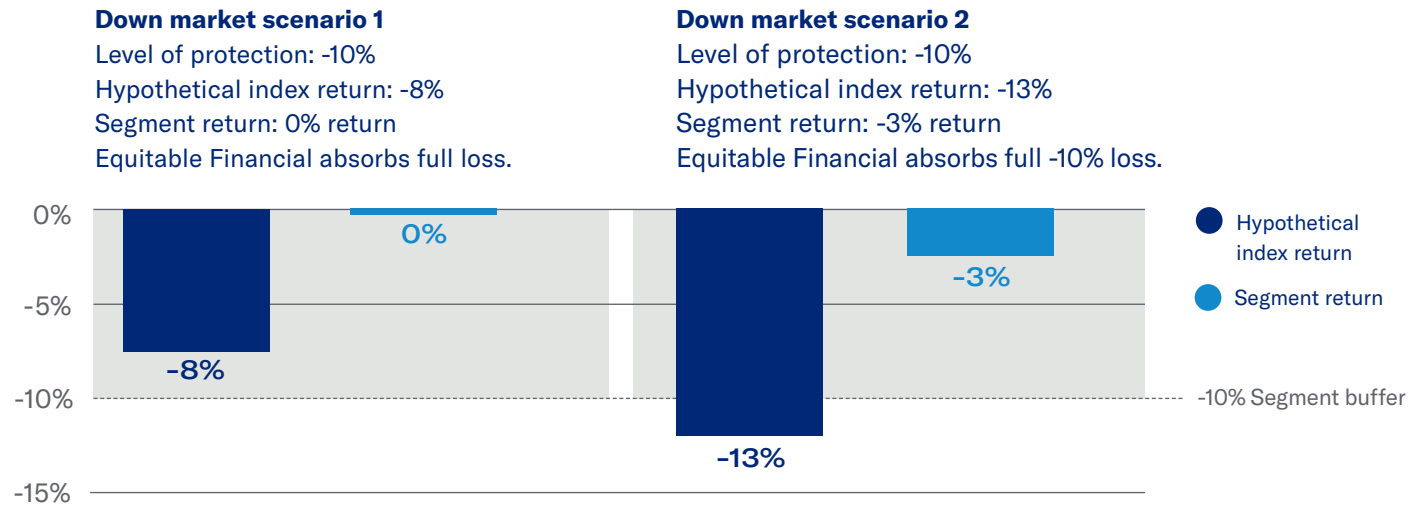
Your financial professional can help you decide if the SIO is right for you — and how to balance your level of protection and potential for growth as your life evolves.

<sup>4</sup> You can invest in a 1-year option with as little as \$5. For a 3- or 5-year option, you must have \$1,000 or more. Check your prospectus or talk to your financial professional for additional information.

# The SIO in action: a hypothetical example

This hypothetical scenario shows that with a market loss of 8%, there's 0% loss on the investment because the 10% buffer protects against the full impact of the loss in this case.

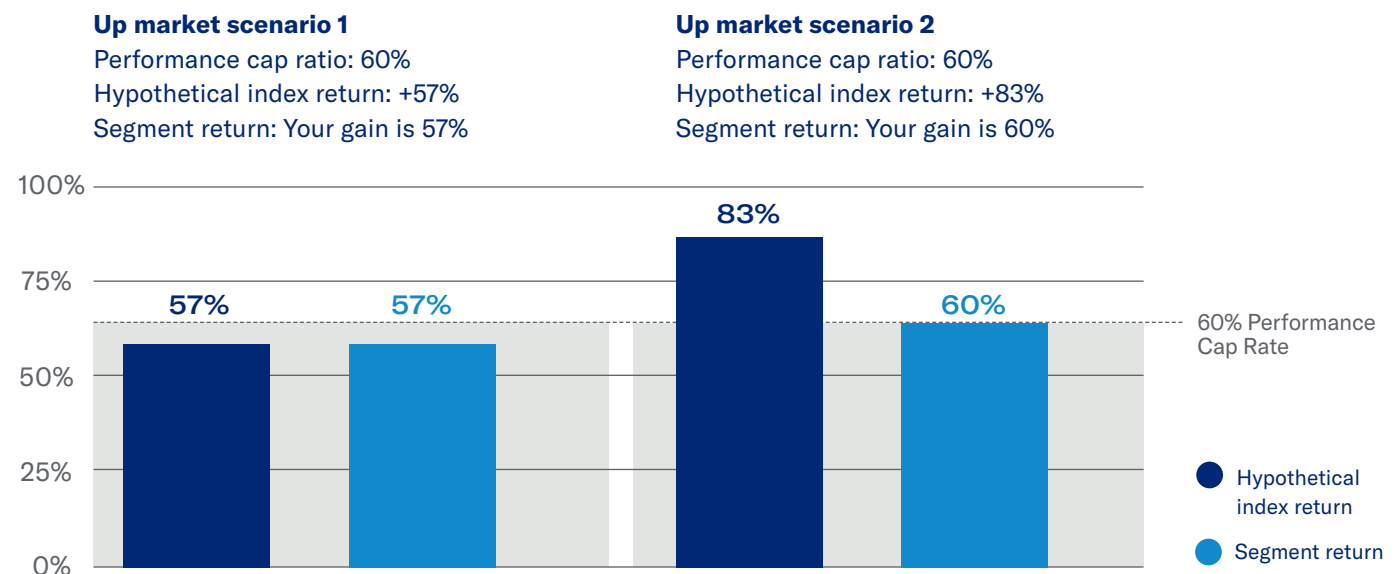
Even with a market loss of 13%, the investment sees a loss of only 3%; the buffer means that Equitable Financial absorbs the first -10%.



## Growth in action

The up market scenarios show how investment growth would match an index rate of return of 57%. However, if the index return is above the performance cap of 60%, the investment's growth stays at 60%.

Keep in mind, the performance cap is a part of the SIO design that allows for the buffer to exist and offers more predictability than investing directly in the market.



## **Consider the Structured Investment Option (SIO) to help you find the right balance of protection and growth for your retirement plan.**

The SIO is an investment option available for you within the EQUI-VEST® variable annuity. Designed to give you potential for growing your retirement savings account, plus a partial buffer against loss, the Structured Investment Option is one way to put EQUI-VEST® to work building your future with confidence. Because it combines built-in partial protection against market downturns with some growth potential that mirrors the market up to a cap, you get more growth potential with less worry.

## **What's an annuity?**

An annuity is a long-term financial product designed to help you save for retirement. It's a contract between you and an insurance company: you make an investment, and the company commits to future benefits for you, such as a guaranteed return, a source of income in retirement or a death benefit to your loved ones. Some annuities, including EQUI-VEST®, offer a level of protection for your savings while investing for potential growth. All annuities contain certain limitations, so be sure to learn about the rules and potential risk before you invest.

## For more information about our retirement plan services, please contact your local financial professional. Visit our website at [equitable.com](https://equitable.com).

Please read for more detailed understanding of the SIO.

EQUI-VEST® is a variable deferred annuity that can be used to fund a tax-deferred retirement plan. The Structured Investment Option does not involve an investment in any underlying investment portfolio. Rather, it is an obligation of, and subject to the claims-paying ability of Equitable Financial Life Insurance. The Structured Investment Option is not available in all states and EQUI-VEST® contracts. All Segment Types may not be available in your plan. Check with your financial professional for availability.

Equitable believes education is a key step toward addressing your financial goals, and we've designed this material to serve simply as an informational and educational resource. Accordingly, this brochure does not offer or constitute investment advice, and makes no direct or indirect recommendation of any particular product or of the appropriateness of any particular investment-related option. Your needs, goals and circumstances are unique, and they require the individualized attention of your financial professional.

**This brochure is not a complete description of the Structured Investment Option or the EQUI-VEST® contracts. This document must be preceded or accompanied by all applicable prospectuses and the program summary (for 401(a) plans only). The prospectuses and the program summary contain more detailed information about the contract/certificate, including investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses. Please read the prospectus and product brochure and consider this information carefully before investing.**

Not available in all states, contracts or plans. Check with your financial professional for availability.

You are protected from some downside risk; if the negative return is in excess of the Segment Buffer, there is risk of substantial loss of principal.

Withdrawals are subject to normal income tax treatment and, if taken prior to age 59½, may also be subject to a 10% federal income tax. Withdrawals from the EQUI-VEST® series 201 contracts may also be subject to a contractual withdrawal charge for withdrawals that exceed the free withdrawal amount. For example, for EQUI-VEST® series 201, the amount of the withdrawal charge we deduct is equal to 5% of any contribution withdrawn attributable to contributions made during the current and 5 prior contract years measured from the date of the withdrawal. Withdrawal charges will no longer apply after the completion of 12 contract years.

**S&P 500® Price Return Index** — Includes 500 leading companies in leading industries of the U.S. economy, capturing approximately 80% coverage of U.S. equities. The S&P 500® Price Return Index does not include dividends declared by any of the companies included in this index. Larger, more established companies may not be able to attain potentially higher growth rates of smaller companies, especially during extended periods of economic expansion. S&P®, Standard & Poor's®, S&P 500® and Standard & Poor's 500® are trademarks of Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC ("Standard & Poor's") and have been licensed for use by Equitable. The Structured Investment Option is not sponsored, endorsed, sold or promoted by Standard & Poor's, and Standard & Poor's does not make any representation regarding the advisability of investing in the Structured Investment Option.

**Russell 2000® Price Return Index** — Measures the performance of the small-cap segment of the U.S. equity universe. The Russell 2000® Price Return Index is a subset of the Russell 3000® Index representing approximately 10% of the total market capitalization of that index. It includes approximately 2,000 of the smallest securities based on a combination of their market cap and current index membership. The Russell 2000® Price Return Index does not include dividends declared by any of the companies included in this index. Stocks of small- and mid-size companies have less liquidity than those of larger companies and are subject to greater price volatility than the overall stock market. Smaller company stocks involve a greater risk than is customarily associated with more established companies. The Russell 2000® index is a trademark of Russell Investments and has been licensed for use by Equitable. The product is not sponsored, endorsed, sold or promoted by Russell Investments, and Russell Investments makes no representation regarding the advisability of investing in the product.

**MSCI EAFE Price Return Index** — Is a free float-adjusted market capitalization index that is designed to measure the equity market performance of developed markets, excluding the United States and Canada. The MSCI EAFE Price Return Index does not include dividends declared by any of the companies included in this index. International securities carry additional risks, including currency exchange fluctuation and different government regulations, economic conditions and accounting standards. The product referred to herein is not sponsored, endorsed or promoted by MSCI, and MSCI bears no liability with respect to any such product or any index on which such product is based. The prospectus contains a more detailed description of the limited relationship MSCI has with Equitable and any related products.

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Contract form #: 2003-GAC 403(b), 2003-GAC-401(a), 2004TSAGAC, 2004TSACERTA/B, 2004EDCGAC, 2004EDCCERT-A/B, 2006BASE-I-A/B, 2006BASE-A/B, 2008EQVSA201, 2008EQV201, 2008EQVEDC201, 2008EQVBASE201-A, 2008TSAGAC901, 2008TSA901-A/B, 2009EDCGAC901, 2009EDC901-A/B, 2009401aGAC901, 2009401a901-A/B and any state variations. Contract endorsement form #: 2010SIO201-I/G, 2011SIO901-ENGAC, 2011SIO900-ENGAC, 2012SIO900-ENGAC (NJ ARP) and any state variations. Certificate form #: 2003NJ401(a) and 2003NJ403(b).

Certificate endorsement form #: 2011SIO901A/B, 2011SIO900-A/B, 2012SIO900-B (NJ ARP) and any state variations.

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