

# Equimax participating whole life

Strong and stable dividends<sup>1</sup>



Equimax Estate Builder<sup>®</sup> and Equimax Wealth Accumulator<sup>®</sup> policyowners are eligible to participate in the earnings of the company's participating (PAR) account through dividend<sup>1</sup> payments. Let's take a closer look at our historical results.

# The participating (PAR) account rate of return

The PAR account rate of return is a short-term indicator of investment performance. It is the rate of return earned on assets held in the PAR account in a given calendar year.

Assets in the PAR account are managed to meet the guarantees of the product and provide long-term income and growth to support the dividend scale.

# The dividend scale interest rate (DSIR)

The DSIR determines the investment component of the dividend scale and helps smooth out any fluctuations experienced by the PAR account. The DSIR is different from the PAR account rate of return.

The DSIR is only one component of the dividend scale, but it is one of the more significant factors, particularly in later policy years.

The dividend scale is sensitive to the same factors that affect the participating account, but especially changes in investment returns. Improvements in some factors, like mortality or expenses, can help offset declines in others, like investment returns.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Dividends are not guaranteed and are paid at the sole discretion of the Board of Directors. Dividends may be subject to taxation. Dividends will vary based on the actual investment returns in the participating account as well as mortality, expenses, lapse, claims experience, taxes, and other experience of the participating block of policies.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> If low interest rates prevail, investment returns will be lower, and this may mean decreases in the dividend scale in the future. Dividend payments are not guaranteed, but they will never be negative.

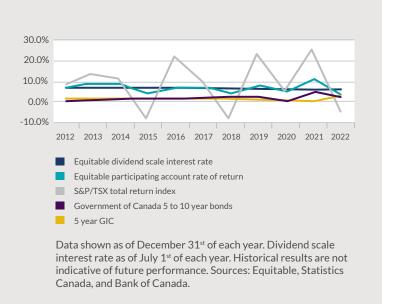
#### Historical results - PAR account & DSIR

Equitable started selling Equimax Estate Builder and Equimax Wealth Accumulator policies in 2012.

Our PAR account rate of return and DSIR have remained **strong and stable since then and compare favourably** to other well-known economic indicators.

Equitable's DSIR decreased by only 0.75% between 2012 and 2022.

2012 = 6.80% vs. 2022 = 6.05%



# Equitable has both strong and stable returns compared to other indices

	Equitable's DSIR	Equitable's PAR account rate of return	S&P/TSX total return index	Government of Canada 5 to 10 year bonds	5 year GIC
Average rate of return (2012 to 2022)	6.46%	6.59%	7.69%	1.61%	1.67%
Standard deviation (2012 to 2022)	0.31%	2.41%	12.11%	0.59%	0.50%

The average rate of return is calculated using a geometric mean. Historical results are not indicative of future performance. Sources: Equitable, Statistics Canada, and Bank of Canada.

#### Illustrated vs. actual values

Sales illustrations presented to clients at time of purchase show the non-guaranteed potential future cash value and the death benefit based on a company's dividend scale in effect (if it were to continue at the current level for the life of the policy). Dividend scales can change over time and these changes will affect future dividend¹ payments. So, let's look at some examples of how actual policy values for two clients compare to their original sales illustrations.

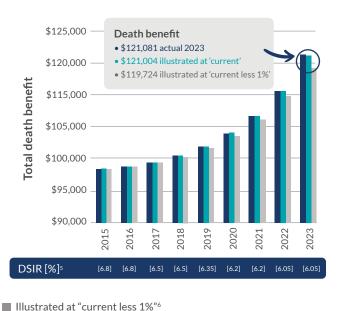
The examples on the following page are based on policies issued in 2014 and 2012. Both policies have the paid-up additions (PUA) dividend option.

The charts show the actual policy cash values and total death benefit values at each policy anniversary compared to the original illustrated values. The **actual** values reflect any dividend scale changes that have happened since the policy purchase date. The original illustrated **values** are based on the dividend scale in effect at the time of policy purchase.<sup>3</sup> The dividend scale interest rate illustrated for both examples is 6.80%

### Example #1:

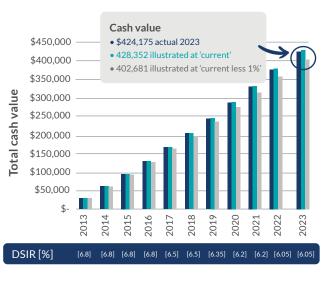
**Policy issued in April 2014**:<sup>4</sup> Female – age 10 non-smoker \$100,000 20 pay Equimax Estate Builder – annual premium \$1,309.





#### Example #2:

**Policy issued in May 2012**: <sup>4</sup> Male – age 52, non-smoker \$1,000,000 life pay Equimax Wealth Accumulator – annual premium \$36,970





Illustrated at "current"3

■ Illustrated at "current less 1%"<sup>6</sup>

Actual

## In summary

What do these examples tell us? Most importantly, they confirm that both policies are performing well – and closely match the values the advisor originally illustrated at time of purchase. The actual 2022 cash values and death benefits and the values these clients were presented in their original sales illustrations are almost identical. For these examples, actual 2022 values are comparable to the illustrated values assuming the current dividend scale in effect at time of purchase,<sup>3</sup> and are comparable or better than the illustrated values under the current less 1% scenario.<sup>6</sup>

These results reflect the strong and stable returns realized in these Equitable policies since their purchase. Although the dividend scale interest rate declined over the example period, which contributed to lower dividends<sup>1</sup> and policy values, Equitable's favourable experience in managing expenses, mortality and policy loans helped offset this. These results represent the common experience of Equimax Estate Builder and Equimax Wealth Accumulator policyholders over this time.<sup>7</sup>

Although the experience for Equimax policies to date has closely tracked the illustrated values, there is no guarantee that this will be the case for policies issued today or in the future, or that this will continue to be the case for policies issued in the past.

# Looking ahead with confidence

Equitable's strong and stable dividend results are due to our continued focus on prudent investment strategies and risk management that support our participating account management mandate. Our goal is to ensure we can meet the guarantees of the product and provide long-term income and growth to support the dividend scale. As a mutual company, our participating policyholders are our owners, and we are dedicated to meeting our commitments to them – today and in the future.

Dividend scales will change<sup>2</sup> but with prudent management, Equitable's **Equimax participating whole life** will continue to deliver excellent value by providing lifetime protection and an opportunity for tax-advantaged growth.

For more information on Equitable's participating account and dividends please see <u>Form 1038 – Understanding Participating Whole Life Insurance</u> and <u>Form 1360 – Participating Account Asset Mix Quarterly Update</u>.

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- <sup>1</sup> Dividends are not guaranteed and are paid at the sole discretion of the Board of Directors. Dividends may be subject to taxation. Dividends will vary based on the actual investment returns in the participating account as well as mortality, expenses, lapse, claims experience, taxes, and other experience of the participating block of policies. <sup>2</sup> If low interest rates continue, investment returns will be lower, and this may mean decreases in the dividend scale in the future. Dividend payments are not guaranteed, but they will never be negative. <sup>3</sup> The illustrated values for both examples assume the same dividend scale; the dividend scale in effect with introduction of the Equimax Estate Builder and Equimax Wealth Accumulator plans in 2012. The dividend scale interest rate (DSIR) in effect was 6.80%. The dividend scale remained in place until July 1, 2016. For historical information on the DSIR please refer to Form 1505 Dividend Scale Interest Rate History on EquiNet<sup>®</sup>. <sup>4</sup> The actual policy values and the illustrated values assume no changes to the policy since it was issued, and there are no cash withdrawals or loans affecting the values. <sup>5</sup> The dividend scale interest rate (DSIR) value shown is the actual DSIR in effect at the time of the policy anniversary for the applicable year shown. <sup>6</sup> The current less 1% scenario illustrates values assuming a 1% reduction in the dividend scale interest rate. This means the dividend scale interest rate assumption would be 5.80% instead of 6.80%. <sup>7</sup> Results for the policy examples shown are not indicative of future results or results for other series of participating whole life policies, including the Equimax Estate Builder and Equimax Wealth Accumulator policies currently offered. Actual policy values will depend on the underlying product pricing and guarantees that apply to a specific policy, as well as the dividend scale changes that have occurred over the life of the policy.

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