Transamerica Retirement Services Morningstar Group Retirement Plan Annuity (GRPA) Database



FAQs on Transamerica Separate Accounts

- Q: How do I access investment data on Transamerica's unregistered separate accounts in Morningstar?
- A: You can access investment data on Transamerica's separate accounts with a subscription to Morningstar Advisor Workstation, Morningstar Office Workstation, Morningstar Direct or Morningstar Principia (VA database). The separate accounts are listed in the Group Retirement Plan Annuity (GRPA) subaccounts database, which is in the Variable Annuity Subaccounts universe.
- Q: I see multiple versions of your separate accounts listed. How do I know which ones correspond to the investment choices for a particular plan I advise?
- A: Within the GRPA subaccounts database, Morningstar labels each investment with the policy/product name followed by the investment name. When looking for particular Transamerica separate accounts, you will need to know the issuing insurance company (TLIC or TFLIC), the expense class (10, 20 or 30) and the investment name. For direct-advised separate accounts, the investment name is the actual separate account name ending in "Ret Opt" or "Ret Acct". However, for separate accounts investing in underlying mutual funds or collective investment trusts, the underlying investment name and share class is shown.
- Q: How are the various components of the separate account expense ratios shown in the GRPA database?
- A: Morningstar categorizes the Separate Account Maintenance Charges and Administrative Charges in its GRPA database as M&E Risk Charges. The same expenses are also shown as Insurance Expenses. The total expense ratios, which are inclusive of underlying mutual fund expenses, can be found in the Total Net Expense field. Please note that Separate Account Maintenance and Administrative charges do not represent insurance expenses and there is no death benefit offered under the TLIC or TFLIC group annuity contract serviced by Transamerica. Morningstar classifies these charges and Transamerica is unable to change the Morningstar labeling system.
- Q: Why are some Total Net Expenses reported by Morningstar different than the Total Expense Ratios shown on the Transamerica investment fact sheets or performance overviews?
- A: Typically, the discrepancies are a result of timing differences in updates. For example, Morningstar typically updates the underlying Prospectus Net Expense Ratios very shortly after underlying mutual funds release their annual prospectus. Therefore, the changes to Total Net Expenses are also reflected at that time. However, Transamerica typically updates the Total Expense Ratios later than Morningstar so there may be a discrepancy until Transamerica updates the underlying Prospectus Net Expense Ratios.
- Q: For certain separate accounts, I have noticed some differences in the trailing returns reported by Transamerica compared to Morningstar. What are the potential reasons for these discrepancies?
- A: In most cases, performance discrepancies between what is reported by Transamerica and Morningstar are due to differences in calculation methodologies in the event of underlying fund mergers or a change in investment for the separate account (e.g., direct-advised separate account conversion to a separate account investing in an underlying mutual fund). Transamerica maintains the historical track record prior to the date of the change. However, Morningstar replaces performance prior to the change with hypothetical returns of the current investment/manager, recalculated to reflect the actual fees of the separate account. Please see the applicable Transamerica investment fact sheet for disclosures that reflect any prior underlying investment change and the effective date of such change.

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- Q: When Transamerica adds new separate accounts to their investment lineups, how soon after will they be available in Morningstar?
- A: New separate accounts should typically be available in Morningstar in the beginning of the month following their launch in Transamerica's products.
- Q: If I need any technical assistance with Morningstar's products, who do I contact?
- A: Please reach out to your Morningstar representative for any technical support questions.

Transamerica or Transamerica Retirement Services refers to Transamerica Retirement Services Corporation, which is headquartered in Los Angeles, CA. Transamerica is not affiliated with Morningstar.

