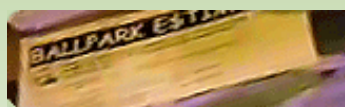


**BALLPARK ESTIMATE**  
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**Non-Interactive Ballpark**



**Ballpark E\$timate®**

## **BALLPARK FAQ**

Questions that apply to both the interactive and the noninteractive versions

### **How do married couples fill out the worksheet?**

If you are married, you and your spouse should each fill out your own Ballpark E\$timate® worksheet taking your marital status into account when entering your Social Security benefit in Step 2.

### **Where do I enter money I expect to receive in retirement from rental property or an annuity?**

If you anticipate receiving income from rental property or an annuity in retirement, enter the amount you expect to receive annually in "Other" on line 2 of the noninteractive version and line 14 of the interactive version.

Questions that apply to the interactive version only

### **How do I determine inflation assumption (item # 6)?**

The 2010 Social Security Trustees' report includes the following:

Price Inflation Assumptions:

"The ultimate annual increases in the CPI [consumer price index] are assumed to be 1.8, 2.8, and 3.8 percent for the low-cost, intermediate, and high-cost assumptions, respectively."

### **How do I determine wage growth assumption (item # 7)?**

The 2010 Social Security Trustees' report includes the following:

Average Earnings Assumptions:

"The assumed average annual growth rates in the average covered wage from 2019 to 2084 are 3.6, 4.0, and 4.4 percent for the low-cost, intermediate, and high-cost assumptions, respectively."

PLEASE NOTE: These are general guidelines provided to assist users. The assumptions may or may not reflect *actual* future events.

Questions that apply to the non-interactive version only

### **How do I determine what percentage of my current income to use on line 1?**

When determining your goal, you need to think about the type of lifestyle you would like in retirement. Do you want the cruise-of-the-month retirement or are you planning to spend your time in the garden? 70% of current income is the figure often quoted by financial planners to maintain your pre-retirement standard of living. You may want to consider using a higher percentage (between 70% and 120%) of your current gross income if:

- you are fairly young and/or your prime earning years are ahead of you
- you do not anticipate owning your home outright when you retire
- you have a family history of very long life or medical problems
- you would like a retirement lifestyle that is more than comfortable

### **What if I have less than 10 years until retirement?**

Ballpark was developed as a one-page, easy-to-use form that would quickly and easily give you a good estimate of what you need to save each year to fund a comfortable retirement. We feel that individuals with less than 10 years until retirement really need more than the good estimate Ballpark provides. They need to begin a comprehensive plan based on their individual situation either with one

of the more comprehensive worksheets, computer software, or with the help of a financial professional.

**What are the assumptions used in the non-interactive version of Ballpark?**

Ballpark assumes you will realize a constant real rate of return of 3% after inflation, that your wages will increase with inflation, and you will begin to receive income from Social Security at age 65.

Miscellaneous Issues

**What is your duplication policy regarding Ballpark?**

The Ballpark E\$estimate® was designed to be easily duplicated. For anyone wanting to distribute the Ballpark E\$estimate to colleagues, employees, classes, etc., we encourage you to print out the pdf version and make as many copies as you need. We ask that you include the introductory page that is included in the two page pdf.

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**What is your privacy statement regarding Ballpark?**

Although the information you provide on the Ballpark E\$estimate® worksheet may be temporarily stored on your computer, it cannot be stored or viewed by the American Savings Education Council (ASEC) or any vendor who may provide internet services to ASEC.

**Who can I contact if I have a question that is not answered here?**

If you have a question or concern that is not addressed here, [contact ASEC](#).

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