

Life Insurance Needs Worksheet

Get a general sense of how much life insurance you need to protect your family. Before buying life insurance, it makes sense to consult with an insurance professional for a more thorough analysis of your needs. This worksheet assumes you died today.

Income

- 1. Total annual income your family would need if you died today** \$ _____
What your family needs, before taxes, to maintain its current standard of living (Typically between 60% - 75% of total income)
- 2. Annual income your family would receive from other sources** \$ _____
For example, spouse's earnings or a fixed pension. (Do not include income earned on your assets, as it is addressed later in the calculation)
- 3. Income to be replaced** \$ _____
Subtract line 2 from line 1
- 4. Capital needed for income** \$ _____
Multiply line 3 by appropriate factor in Table A. Factor _____.

Expenses

- 5. Funeral and other final expenses** \$ _____
Typically the greater of \$15,000 or 4% of your estate
- 6. Mortgage and other outstanding debts** \$ _____
Include mortgage balance, credit card balance, car loans, etc.
- 7. Capital needed for college**
(2016-2017 average 4-year cost: Private \$182,920; Public \$80,360)

	Estimated 4-Year Cost	x	Appropriate Factor in Table B	=	NPV	
Child 1	_____	x	_____	=	_____] → \$ _____
Child 2	_____	x	_____	=	_____	
Child 3	_____	x	_____	=	_____	

- 8. Total capital required** \$ _____
Add items 4, 5, 6, and 7

Income

- 9. Savings and Investments:** \$ _____
Bank accounts, money market accounts, CDs, stocks, bonds, mutual funds, annuities, etc.
- 10. Retirement Savings:** \$ _____
IRAs, 401(k)s, SEP plans, SIMPLE IRA plans, Keoghs, pension and profit sharing plans
- 11. Present amount of life insurance** \$ _____
Including group insurance as well as insurance purchased on your own
- 12. Total income producing assets** \$ _____
Add lines 9, 10 and 11
- 13. Life insurance needed** \$ _____
Subtract line 12 from line 8

Table A

Years Income Needed	Factor
10	8.8
15	12.4
20	15.4
25	18.1
30	20.4
35	22.4
40	24.1

Table B

Years Before College	Factor
5	.95
10	.91
15	.86
20	.82

Note: These tables help you determine net present value (NPV), the amount of capital required today to satisfy future income or college cost needs, given an assumed investment return of 6% inflation of 3% for living costs and 5% for college costs.