# Bridging the Retirement Gap

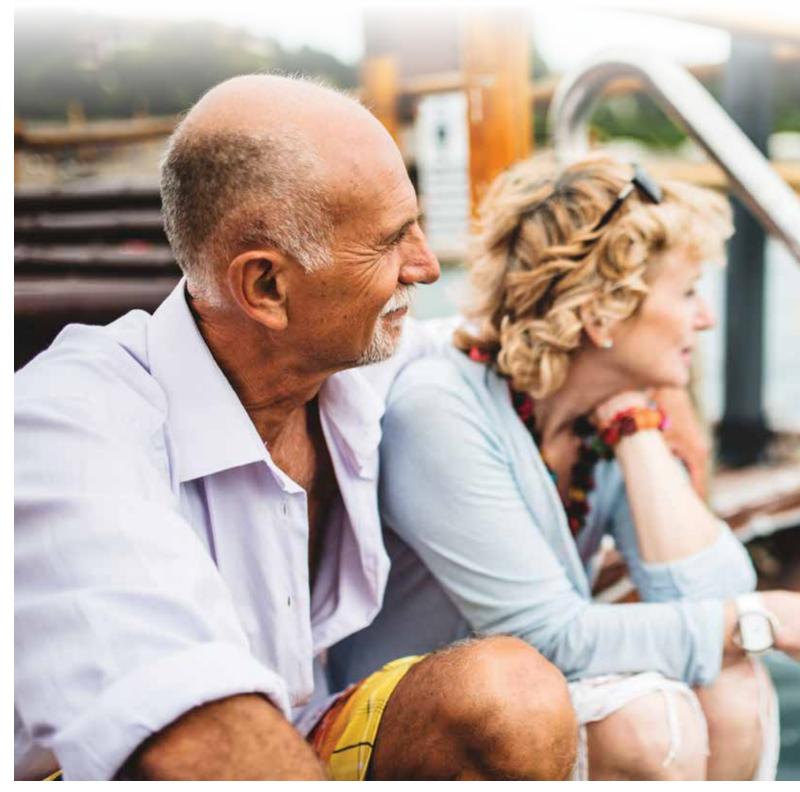




An income strategy for a more confident retirement.

### Is there a gap in your plans?

You have much to consider in your retirement planning. Rising inflation, extended life expectancy, increasing health care costs, and the uncertainty of Social Security income. To help reduce any uncertainty in your plans, it's a good idea to explore the difference in your projected retirement income and your retirement expenses. This difference represents the gap you may have in your retirement plans. Fortunately, North American can provide solutions to help you bridge that gap.



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### What Challenges Will You Face in Retirement?

# Lack of Guarantees "Do I want my retirement income guaranteed?"

What once was a tried and true source of income during retirement is now subject to uncertainty. Recent market downturns and market volatility have been a wake up call for many investors. Even with regular contributions and sensible allocations, market downturns can cause problems for many retirement portfolios. And, once upon a time, workers could count on receiving a pension after you worked with a company long enough. But now pension plans are cutting back or failing. State and local governments are cutting budgets and are raising retirement ages. Coupled with the uncertainty of Social Security income these inevitabilities need to be considered.

## Longevity "When I retire, how long do I want my retirement income to last?"

Increasing life spans may create the risk that you'll outlive your savings. According to the 2012 US Department of Health and Human Services, United States report, at birth, a male born in 1950 was expected to live to age 66 and a female to age 71. At age 65, that male born in 1950, is expected to live to age 78 and the female to age 86.



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#### Rising Costs

### "How much will my retirement cost?"

The cost of basic expenses; food, utilities, etc., tend to increase. In planning, it's wise not to underestimate the impact these costs can have on your standard of living. Inflation and health-care costs can erode your retirement nest egg. For instance, in the last 10 years, inflation has risen an average of 2.36% per year<sup>1</sup>. And, health care cost inflation has increased an average of 3.70% per year.<sup>2</sup>

#### Lack of Savings

### Do I have enough saved for retirement?

While Americans' may have a lack of confidence in their ability to secure a comfortable retirement, people often overlook the need to take steps to compensate for the shortcomings by improving their preparation. Let's explore some statistics from the 2015 Retirement Confidence Survey (RCS) report.

- More than half of workers report they and/or their spouse have less than \$25,000 in total savings and investments (excluding their home and defined benefit plans), including twenty-eight percent who have less than \$1,000 in total savings.
- Twenty-five percent of all workers think they need to accumulate at least \$500,000 by the time they retire to live comfortably in retirement. Nineteen percent feel they need between \$250,000 and \$499,999, while twenty-five percent think they need to save less than \$250,000 for a comfortable retirement.
- Thirty-nine percent of workers "guess" how much retirement savings they need to accumulate.
- 1. Usinflationcalculator.com, Table of Historical Inflation rates by month and year (2005-2015)
- 2. Forbes.com, U.S. Health Care Costs Rise Faster Than Inflation



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#### Let's Look a Little Closer

Let's estimate the following on a monthly basis:

Now that we have identified the factors that may impact your retirement planning, let's put pencil to paper. A critical step in building a retirement strategy is an assessment of your anticipated expenses and income. The following exercise will give us an idea of any gaps you may have in your future plans.

Let's explore your needs, your wants and your wishes. Needs are expressed as those things you'll need for basic living expenses. Your wants are those things on top of your normal expenses that you would like to factor in. And finally, your wishes are those things that, in a perfect world, you'd be able to afford to do.

	<b>3</b>		
Needs:	\$		
		using, living expenses)	
Wants:	\$		15 142 113 113
		creation, charitable giving)	NA 100
Wishes:	\$		MC MR 8 9
	(My dream is	:)	% A 5 6
			200
Now, let's exa	amine your proj	ected income on a monthly basis:	
			AC
Guaranteed Income:		\$	OM
		(Example: guaranteed income such pensions, Social Security)	as
Working Inc	come: \$		
•	-	(Example: part time job)	

23038Z | REV 1-18 5

### And the answer is....

Now that we have identified your expenses and income, let's calculate a simple projection on where you may fall in your retirement spending needs, assuming only your basic needs in the equation.

Total Monthly Needs:	\$		
	(Example: housing, living expenses)		
Total Monthly Income:	\$		
	(Example: guaranteed and working income totals)		
Monthly Income Gap:	\$		
	Total monthly needs minus total monthly income)		
Annual Gap:	\$		
	(Monthly gap multiplied by 12)		

Is there a gap in your plans?



6 23038Z | REV 1-18



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Bridge to a
Better Retirement
starts today.

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23038Z | REV 1-18 7

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