

Weighted Average Cost of Capital (WACC)

<http://spreadsheetml.com/finance/weightedaveragecostofcapital.shtml>

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ConnectCode's Financial Modeling Templates

Have you thought about how many times you use or reuse your financial models? Everyday, day after day, model after model and project after project. We definitely have. That is why we build all our financial templates to be reusable, customizable and easy to understand. We also test our templates with different scenarios vigorously, so that you know you can be assured of their accuracy and quality and that you can save significant amount of time by reusing them. We have also provided comprehensive documentation on the templates so that you do not need to guess or figure out how we implemented the models.

All our template models are only in black and white color. We believe this is how a professional financial template should look like and also that this is the easiest way for you to understand and use the templates. All the input fields are marked with the '' symbol for you to identify them easily.*

Whether you are a financial analyst, investment banker or accounting personnel. Or whether you are a student aspiring to join the finance world or an entrepreneur needing to understand finance, we hope that you will find this package useful as we have spent our best effort and a lot of time in developing them.

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1. Cost of Capital

1.1 Cost of Capital

Capital is the money that a company uses to finance its business. For example, in buying assets for operating the business and investing in projects that generate cash flows for the company. The capital can come from investors who invest in the common stocks of the company or from funds borrowed from others known as debt. The cost of capital can be thought of as the cost of doing business.

Imagine if the company uses only common stocks (equity) to finance all its assets, then the stockholders will own all the assets and all the cash flows generated by the business. The investors will be expecting a certain rate of return for putting money into the common stock. The cost of capital in this case can be thought of as the required rate of return by the investors. When the company needs to invest in a new project, it may need to consider whether the returns will be able to meet the expectations of the investors.

To complicate matters, most companies use a mixture of debt and equity to finance their business. Thus cost of capital involves a mixture of the cost of equity and the cost of debt. In this case, the cost of capital for a company is the required rate of return that the company needs to earn in order to pay the debts and to meet the expectations of the rate of return required by the investors.

1.2 Weighted Average Cost of Capital (WACC)

Weighted Average Cost of Capital is defined as the average cost of capital for a company, calculated as a weighted average of the costs of equity and the costs of debt.

The formula below is used to calculate the Weighted Average Cost of Capital (WACC):

$$\text{WACC} = (\text{Debt} / (\text{Debt} + \text{Equity})) * \text{Cost of Debt} + (\text{Equity} / (\text{Debt} + \text{Equity})) * \text{Cost of Equity}$$

$$\text{Equity} = \text{Shares Market Price} * \text{Shares Issued}$$

Cost of Debt is usually defined as the after-tax cost of debt:

$$\text{After-tax Cost of Debt} = (1 - \text{Tax Rate}) * \text{Cost of Debt}$$

The WACC Calculator spreadsheet uses the formula above to calculate the Weighted Average Cost of Capital.

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Weighted Average Cost of Capital (WACC)					
2						
3						
4	Debt (D)*				\$50.00	
5	Cost of Debt (rd)*				8.00%	
6	Shares Market Price (sp)*				\$0.75	
7	Shares Issued (sv)*				100.00	
8	Equity (e)				75.00	
9	Cost of Equity (re)*				14.60%	
10	Tax Rate (tr)*				35.00%	
11	Equity Weight (ew)*				60.00%	
12	Debt Weight (dw)*				40.00%	
13	Weighted Average Cost of Capital (WACC)				10.8400%	

1.3 Cost of Equity

The Cost of Equity is defined as the rate of return that an investor expects to earn for bearing risks in investing in the shares of a company. Two common ways of calculating the Cost of Equity is the Dividend Growth Model by Gordon and the Capital Asset Pricing Model (CAPM).

1.3.1 Cost of Equity (Gordon)

In the Dividend Growth Model by Gordon, the price of a company stock is calculated as the sum of all the company's future dividends. The dividends are assumed to be growing at a constant rate.

Price of Stock Today = (Current Dividend * (1+ Dividend Growth Rate)) / (Required Return- Dividend Growth Rate)

Rearranging the formula gives us the following:

Required Return = (Current Dividend * (1+ Dividend Growth Rate))/Current Price of Stock + Dividend Growth Rate

The Required Return is the Cost of Equity and this is calculated in the worksheet CostofEquity-Gordon.

	A	B	C	D
1	Cost of Equity (Gordon Dividend Growth Model)			
2				
3				
4	Current Dividend*			\$2.80
5	Growth Rate (g)*			5.00%
6	Price of Stock Today (P0)*			\$36.00
7	Required Return(Cost of Equity)			13.17%

In the CostofEquity-Gordon-DivHistory worksheet, the Cost of Equity is calculated using the same formula as mentioned above. The Growth Rate is however estimated from the Dividend History.

	A	B	C
1	Cost of Equity based on Dividend History (Gordon)		
2			
3			
4		Price of Stock Today (P0)*	\$49.00
5		Dividend of Stock just paid (D0)*	\$0.60
6			
7	Periods	Dividend History*	
8	1	\$10.00	
9	2	\$10.50	
10	3	\$11.00	
11	4	\$11.50	
12	5	\$12.00	
13	6	\$12.50	
14	7	\$13.00	
15	8	\$13.50	
16	9	\$14.00	
17	10	\$14.50	
18	11	\$15.00	
19			
20		10 year Growth Rate (g)*	4.14%
21		Cost of Equity (r)*	5.41%

1.3.2 Cost of Equity (Capital Asset Pricing Model)

The Capital Asset Pricing Model is a theory that describes the relationship of the expected rate of return as a function of the risk free interest rate, the investment's beta, and the expected market risk premium.

Expected rate of return = Risk free rate + Beta * (Market Risk Premium)

The Expected rate of return is the Cost of Equity and this is calculated in the worksheet Cost of Equity (CAPM).

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	Cost of Equity (Capital Asset Pricing Model)						
2							
3							
4	Risk free rate (Rf)*						3.00%
5	Beta (B)*						1.50
6	Market risk premium *						9.00%
7	Cost of Equity						16.50%

1.4 Cost of Debt

A company's debt is usually a mixture of loans, bonds and other securities. A company's Cost of Debt is the interest rate that a company pays on its debt. It is important to note that the interest a company pays is a tax deductible expense. Thus the after-tax rate is usually used for a company's cost of debt.

After-tax Cost of Debt = $(1 - \text{Tax Rate}) * \text{Cost of Debt}$