

# Gather Information

Enter monthly expenses for the following items. Total each category and calculate monthly expenses.

Housing/Utility	
Rent/mortgage	\$ _____
Heating	\$ _____
Electricity	\$ _____
Water/sewage	\$ _____
Renter/homeowner insurance	\$ _____
Trash service	\$ _____
Telephone/cell phone	\$ _____
Home maintenance	\$ _____
<b>TOTAL</b>	\$ _____

Transportation	
Gas	\$ _____
Car payment(s)	\$ _____
Car insurance	\$ _____
Car maintenance	\$ _____
Car registration	\$ _____
Public transportation	\$ _____
Parking/tolls	\$ _____
<b>TOTAL</b>	\$ _____

Insurance	
Health	\$ _____
Life	\$ _____
Disability	\$ _____
<b>TOTAL</b>	\$ _____

Food	
Groceries	\$ _____
Work related (lunch/snacks)	\$ _____
<b>TOTAL</b>	\$ _____

Medical	
Doctor visits	\$ _____
Dental/vision	\$ _____
Prescriptions	\$ _____
<b>TOTAL</b>	\$ _____

Childcare	
Daycare/babysitting	\$ _____
Child support/alimony	\$ _____
<b>TOTAL</b>	\$ _____

Education	
Tuition	\$ _____
Books/supplies	\$ _____
News/media subscriptions	\$ _____
<b>TOTAL</b>	\$ _____

Personal	
Barber/salon services	\$ _____
Toiletries/cosmetics	\$ _____
Children's allowances	\$ _____
Tobacco products	\$ _____
Beer/wine/liquor	\$ _____
Clothing	\$ _____
Laundry/dry cleaning	\$ _____
<b>TOTAL</b>	\$ _____

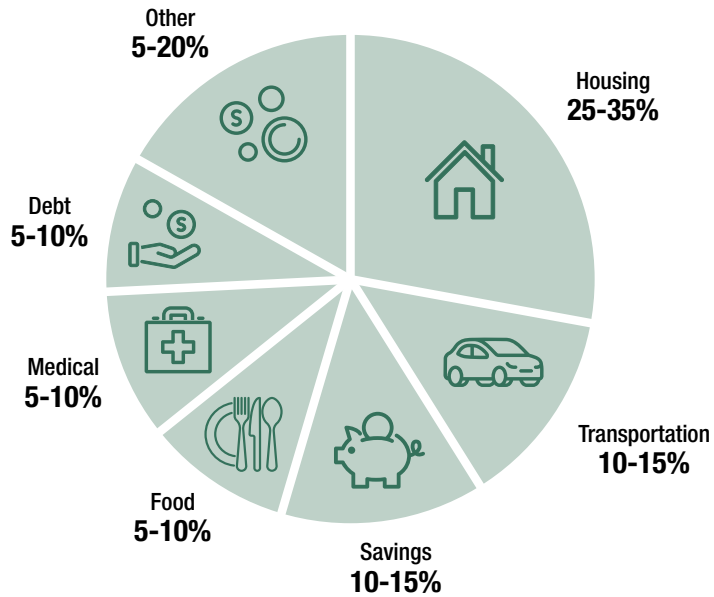
Entertainment	
Sporting events/concerts/etc.	\$ _____
Movies	\$ _____
Restaurant/take-out	\$ _____
Internet service	\$ _____
TV subscription	\$ _____
Gambling/lottery	\$ _____
Fitness/social clubs	\$ _____
Vacation/travel	\$ _____
Hobbies	\$ _____
<b>TOTAL</b>	\$ _____

Debts	
Student loan	\$ _____
Credit card	\$ _____
Medical bills	\$ _____
Personal loans	\$ _____
<b>TOTAL</b>	\$ _____

Savings	
Emergency Fund	\$ _____
Down payment fund	\$ _____
<b>TOTAL</b>	\$ _____

Net Monthly Income	\$ _____
— Total Monthly Expenses	\$ _____
<b>= TOTAL Cash Flow</b> (disposable/deficit)	\$ _____

Calculate and compare your spending to the financial community guidelines.



To calculate the recommended expenditure for each category, multiply the recommended percentages by your net income.

For example, if your net income is \$3,000 per month and the recommended allowance for housing is 35%, multiply 3,000 by .35.

The recommended housing expenditure should not exceed \$1,050 per month.

To calculate your true monthly budget expenditure for each category, divide your monthly expense by your net income, and multiply that by 100.

For example, if your housing expense is \$1,200 per month, divide by \$3,000, and multiply by 100. You are spending 40% of the recommended expenditure on housing.

Budgeted Expense	Recommended	Recommended Expenses (net monthly income X recommended %)	Actual Expense	Budget Percentage (expense ÷ income X 100)	Explanation
Housing	25-35%	\$	\$	%	
Transportation	10-15%	\$	\$	%	
Savings	10-20%	\$	\$	%	
Food	5-15%	\$	\$	%	
Medical	5-10%	\$	\$	%	
Debt Payments	5-10%	\$	\$	%	
All Other	5-20%	\$	\$	%	