# Taking control of your money

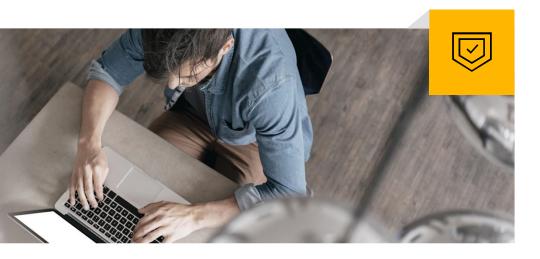


November 2020



#### About PwC

- The PwC Financial Education and Wellness Practice is focused on providing personal financial education and counseling.
- Our sole purpose is to improve the financial wellbeing of employees.
- We do not sell financial products.



Please note, this webinar is meant to provide you with only general financial education and guidance and the information provided by PricewaterhouseCoopers should not be viewed as specific investment, tax or legal advice. PricewaterhouseCoopers strongly recommends that you consult with your personal investment, tax, legal and/or financial advisor before taking any action regarding your personal finances.

### What we will cover

1

Taking control of your cash flow and finding ways to save

2

Using debt wisely and managing costs

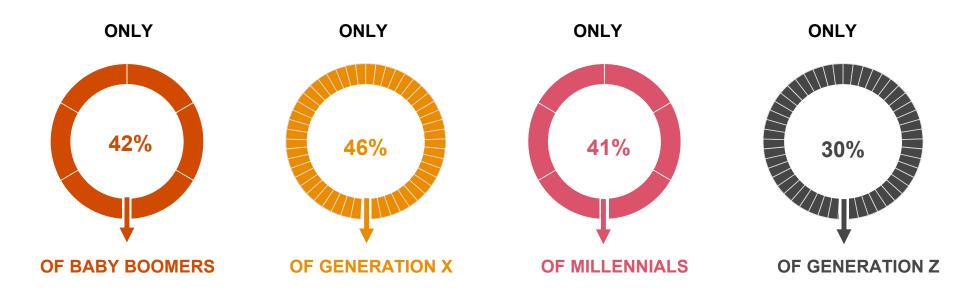
3

Understand your credit score and how to improve or maintain it





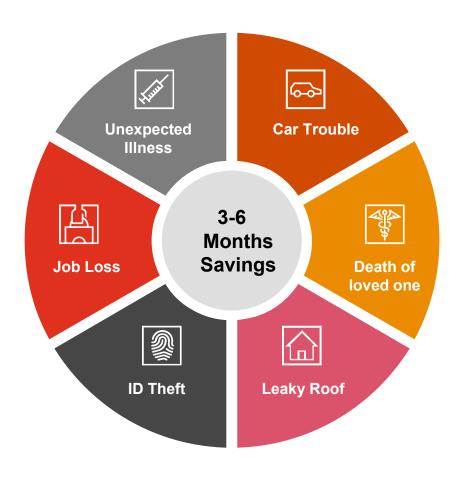
## We're not prepared!



feel prepared to meet basic needs if they were out of work for an extended time.

<sup>\*</sup>PwC 2020 Employee Financial Wellness Survey

## Importance of emergency fund



## Map out a money plan

#### Consider the 50-20-30 rule

50%

of take home pay Essential Expenses

- Mortgage or rent
- Groceries
- Utilities
- Insurance
- Child Care

20%

of take home pay Financial Goals and Obligations

- Create an emergency fund
- Saving for a down payment on a home

30%

of take home pay Personal Choices/Expenses

- Dining Out
- Shopping
- Entertainment
- Cable package

#### PwC Tip:

Make coffee at home instead of buying it on the go. This could save you over \$1,000/ year!



## Smart ways to improve your budget!

1 Create a grocery list before the trip.

Fund FSA/HSA.

3 Bundle insurance.

4 Avoid bank fees.

5 Fewer visits to favorite restaurant & coffee shop.

6 Cut down cable bill and subscription services.

**7** Pack your lunch.





Using debt wisely and managing costs

#### Debt ratios



**Housing debt** – 28% of Gross Pay



**Consumer debt** – 20% of Take-Home Pay



**Total debt ratio** – 36% of Gross Pay

#### Example:

Monthly debt payments:

- Credit Cards \$500
- Student Loans \$700
- Auto Loan \$300
- Personal Loan \$500

Annual income = \$60,000

1: Calculate your total monthly debt

2: Calculate your monthly gross income

3 : Calculate your total debt ratio

4 : Compare to total debt ratio guideline

**\$500 + \$700 + \$300 + \$500 = \$2,000** 

\$60,000/12 = \$5,000

**\$2,000/\$5000 = 40%** 

## Create a debt payment plan



Choose a debt repayment method



**Get Started** 



- Lender
- Monthly Minimum Payment
- Interest Rate
- · Total Balance

- Debt snowball
- · Debt avalanche
- Other

• Decide and take action!

## Approaching debt repayment

#### **Debt snowball**

List out all your debts in order of lowest balance to highest balance and pay them off in that order. Any extra funds above the minimum payments go toward the **debt with the smallest balance**.

#### **Debt avalanche**

List out all of your debts in order of highest to lowest interest rate and pay them off in that order. Any extra funds above the minimum payments go toward the **debt with the highest interest rate**. Additional debt payment \$100

Minimum payment \$90

Student loan A

Balance: \$7,700

Interest rate: 7.08%

Additional debt payment \$100

Minimum payment \$90

Minimum payment \$134

Student Ioan B
Balance: \$10,250
Interest rate: 9.66%

Additional debt payment \$100

Minimum payment \$90

Minimum payment \$134

Minimum payment \$230

Credit Card
Balance: \$11,500
Interest rate: 14.53%

## Avoid the minimum payment trap

#### Interest can be costly, so always try and pay more than the required minimum payment!



#### Don't turn a \$6,000 bill into a \$14,000 burden!

If each month you pay	Total you will pay	Years to pay off
Minimum	\$14,038	20.0
Minimum plus \$10 extra	\$11,946	13.6
Minimum plus \$50 extra	\$9,101	6.3
Minimum plus \$100 extra	\$7,981	3.8

#### Assumptions:

Initial charge of \$6,000; no new charges.

Interest rate of 18.0% per year (1.5% per month) on outstanding balance.

Minimum payment of 2.5% of outstanding balance each month (no less than \$25).

#### Debt consolidation



#### **Advantages**

- One payment
- Payments lower due to longer term
- Possible tax deduction (home equity loan)

#### **Disadvantages**



- Higher interest rates
- Conversion to secured debt (home equity loan)
- High fee

## A retirement plan loan – More expensive than you think

#### You may think:

- Easy credit
- Low fees
- Replacement over several years

#### But don't forget to consider:

- Double taxation on interest!
- Non-deductible interest payments
- Loss of growth
- Decreased take home pay during repayment of the loan



Assumes: \$30,000 initial loan, 5% interest rate, 7% annual rate of return. Initial loan term 5-years,+ 30 years until retirement.

## Managing debt

- Take **inventory** of your debt
- Make at least minimum payments
- Pay on time every month
- Be careful with balance transfers
- Cut-up credit cards
- Focus extra payments on highest interest rate debt in order to save the most in interest\*













Understanding your credit score

## Importance of good credit

#### **Good credit directly impacts:**



Your ability to obtain a new line of credit.



What you may pay in interest.



Your ability to rent.



Employment opportunities in certain fields.

## Why does your credit score really matter?



Let's see the impact interest will have if an individual were to take out a 36 month new car loan of \$25,000.

Credit score	Interest rate (APR)	Monthly payment	Total interest
750 (high)	3.212%	\$729	\$1,257
650 (medium)	9.265%	\$798	\$3,731
580 (low)	14.704%	\$863	\$6,068

Interest rates are estimates and for illustration purposes only. Source: www.myfico.com

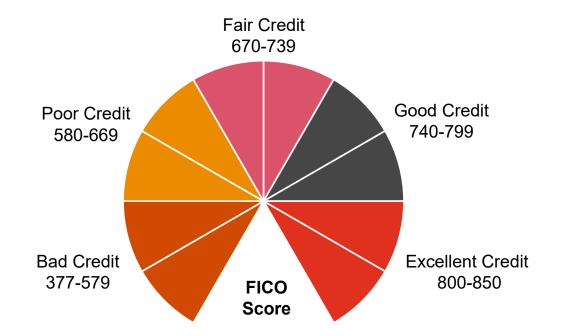
### Your FICO score

#### What is it?

- A standard measure of your credit risk.
- Based on a snapshot of your credit report at a particular point in time.

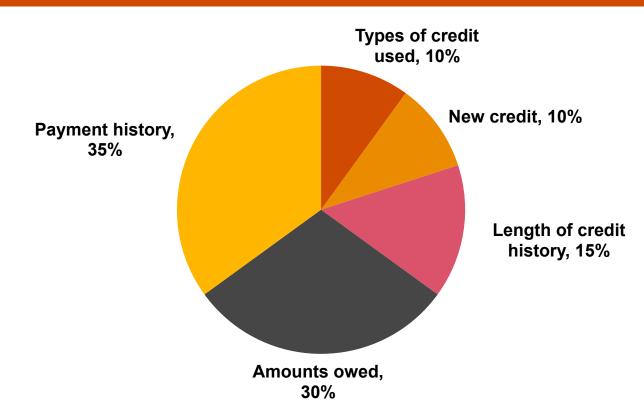
#### How do you obtain it?

 Some banks and credit card companies are now providing your credit score at no cost.



## What determines your credit score?

#### What's considered?



Source: Fair Isaac Corporation

## Improving your credit score

1	Keep credit inquiries down.
2	Open new credit accounts only as needed.
3	Pay off debt rather than moving it around.
4	Keep balances low on credit cards.
5	Get current and stay current.
6	Pay your bills on time.

<sup>\*</sup>Chart shown for illustration purposes only

## Your credit report



#### What is in your credit report?

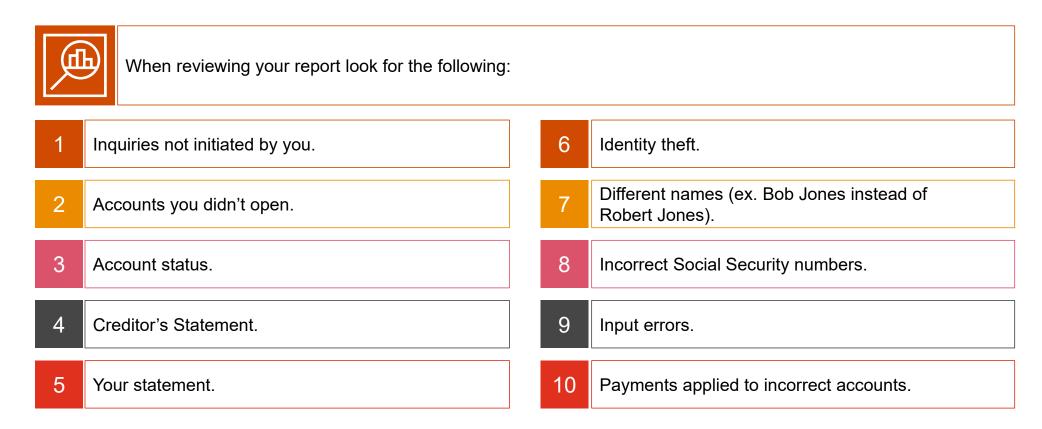
- · A compilation of your bill-paying history.
- A status report of all past and present credit accounts.
- A listing of all credit inquiries.
- A listing of late payments and bankruptcies.
- · Used as the basis for calculating your credit score



Visit www.annualcreditreport.com to obtain a free copy of your credit report.

During COVID-19 the three bureaus are now offering free weekly online reports through April 2021!

## Reviewing your credit report



#### How to fix an error

How do you fix an error on your credit report?







#### **Action items**



Determine if you are prepared for unexpected expenses. Set a goal to build your emergency fund.



2

Develop a budget to meet expenditure and savings goals.





Take inventory of your debts.





Come up with a debt paydown plan.





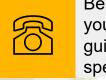
Check your credit score and obtain and review your credit report.





Implement a plan to improve your score.





Be sure to consult with your advisor for further guidance on your specific situation.



## Questions?

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