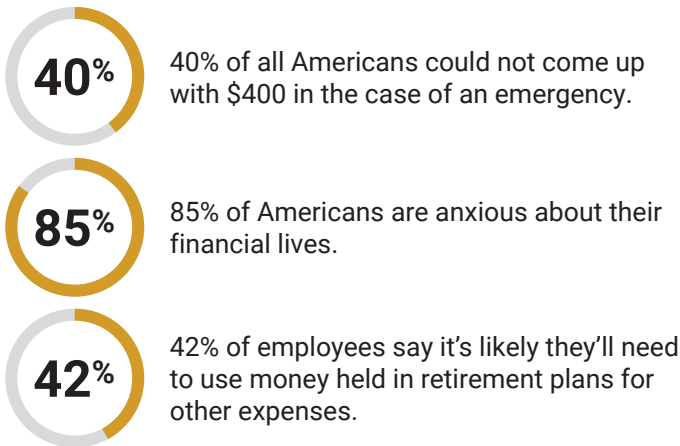


Building a Better Budget

1 Why is it important to maintain a budget?



2 Where do I start?

Step 1: Understand Your Current Spending Habits & Cash Flow



Review 3 months of credit card statements & bank account history



Track your expenses in an Excel sheet or budgeting app



Start with your cash inflow, including all areas of income

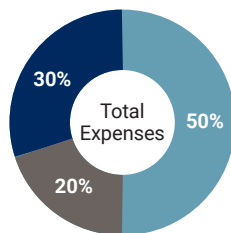
Categorize & Analyze Your Expenses

Lifestyle

- Cable TV
- Streaming Services
- Trips to the Movies
- Unessential Clothing
- Dining Out

Savings & Debt

- Savings Account
- 401(k), IRA, 403(b)
- HSA/FSA Contributions
- Investment Accounts



Necessary

- Mortgage or Rent
- Utility Bills
- Groceries
- Child Care
- Transportation
- Essential Clothing

Step 2: Build Your Emergency Savings



Emergency account with at least \$1,000.



3-6 months worth of your expenses in a savings account is ideal.

Step 3: Evaluate Where You Can and Need to Make Changes

- ▶ If you have more money **coming in than going out**, you may simply need to re-allocate where excess money is going depending on your financial goals.
- ▶ If you have more money **going out than coming in** each month, you'll have to look for areas to cut back or look for ways to increase your income.

3 How do I stick to it?



Don't be too restrictive



Keep it in writing – digital format or on paper



Include the whole family when planning



Try to have someone else help keep you accountable



Try not to change everything at once



Schedule time to review and reconcile your budget



Reward yourself as you hit small milestones



Use any tools available to you

Following the steps above will set you on the correct path to understanding your budget and building a better one.

▶ Contact your HORAN Wealth representative at 513.745.0707 and visit www.horanwealth.com for more information.

▶ For additional HORAN WealthBeing resources visit: horaneducation.com