

# BECOME A BUDGET GURU

Budgeting is an essential skill that allows you to spend wisely and save for the future. Creating a budget may seem daunting, but can be easily managed with a few simple tips.

## SEE THE BIG PICTURE

66%

of Americans live PAYCHECK TO PAYCHECK.

60%

of American adults report that they have NO EMERGENCY SAVINGS.

72%

of Americans are STRESSED ABOUT MONEY ISSUES.

## MASTER YOUR ACCOUNTS



### CHECKING

This is where your spending money should reside—it will pay for the larger, more substantial costs, such as rent and utilities.



### CREDIT CARD

Use your credit card for smaller everyday purchases such as dining out and pay off your bill on time to help build credit.



### SAVINGS

Use this for short-term goals such as saving for vacation or buying a new car—money placed in this account will accrue small interest.



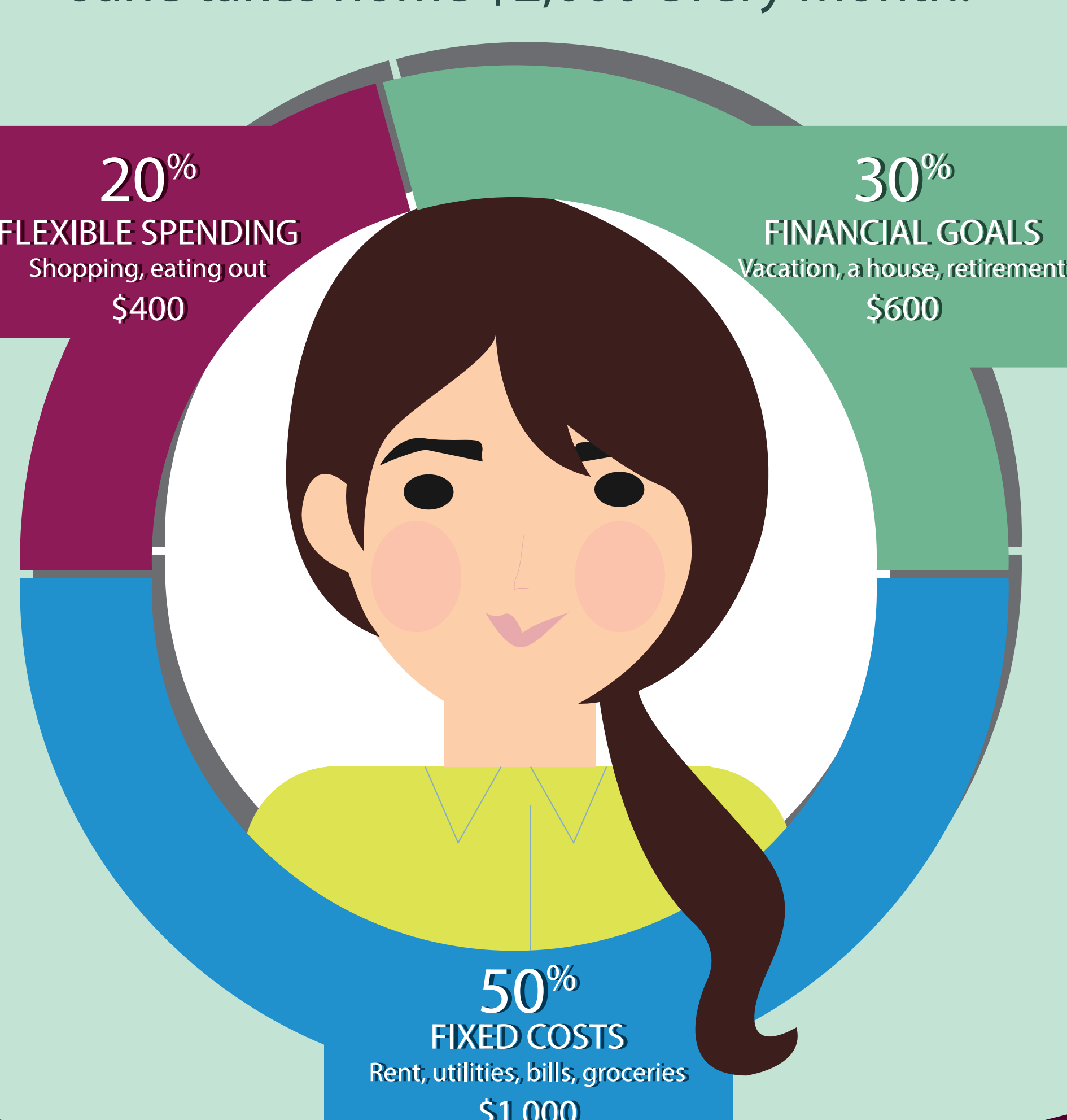
### INVESTMENT

This higher interest accruing account is ideal for truly long-term saving goals, such as retirement or for your kids' college tuition.

## BUDGET WISELY

### 50/30/20 RULE

Jane takes home \$2,000 every month.



## SET SAVINGS GOALS

### EMERGENCY FUNDS

Be prepared for potentially costly events by creating a financial cushion from your monthly income—save enough to cover 3 months of expenses.

### SHORT-TERM

Whether it's a vacation or a new television, short term goals take time, but will pay off relatively early.

### LONG-TERM

From owning a home to retirement, long-term goals take years to build up, but are well worth the lengthy investment.

## START SAVING

### 52-WEEK SAVINGS CHALLENGE

Gradually save money by setting aside \$1 in the first week of the challenge, \$2 in the second week, and so on until week 52, by the end of which you'll have \$1,378 saved.

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Sources:

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