



Budget - How do you spend your money?

Find budget calculators at horacemann.com/financial-services/calculators.



Credit - Your financial trustworthiness

Good credit means that your history of payments, employment and salary make you a good candidate for a loan, and creditors – who lend you money – will be more willing to work with you.

Credit cards

- Keep one or two, not eight or nine.
- Credit card repayment calculator: credit.com/tools/credit-card-payoff-calculator

Credit report

- Request copies of your credit reports from the three nationwide reporting agencies – Experian, Equifax, and TransUnion – every 12 months and review them for accuracy.
 - When it comes to ads for “free” credit reports, remember annualcreditreport.com is the only authorized source for free annual credit reports under federal law.
-
-
-



Insurance - Protect the things you love

Insurance protects your financial assets by helping take care of really big financial disasters.

Auto

It's usually against the law to drive without auto coverage. It could also be costly if you are in an accident.

When buying a car, check these resources:

- for the general value of the car you're buying, Kelley Blue Book, kbb.com; and
- for information about your specific car, carfax.com.

Home/renters

Homeowners are usually insured against hazards such as fire, theft, and liability, but the majority of renters aren't. Renter's insurance is relatively inexpensive.

Life

- If someone depends on you financially, you probably need life insurance.
- Having life insurance can help you or your spouse continue to save if either one of you dies before retirement.

All insurance

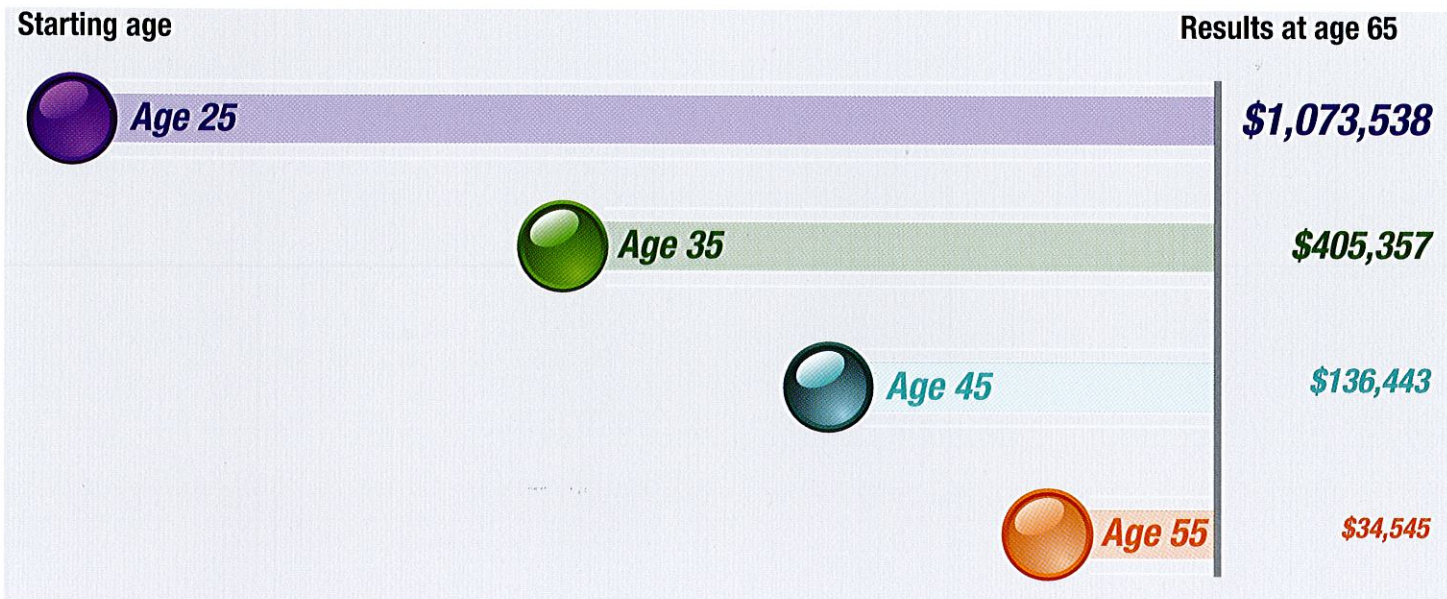
Ask about discounts!



Save - Pay yourself first

Jot down some expenses you might reduce.

Each investor started with \$0. Each investor contributes \$150 a month to start and increases the contribution each year by 6 percent. An 8 percent annual rate of return is assumed.



Close the gap
