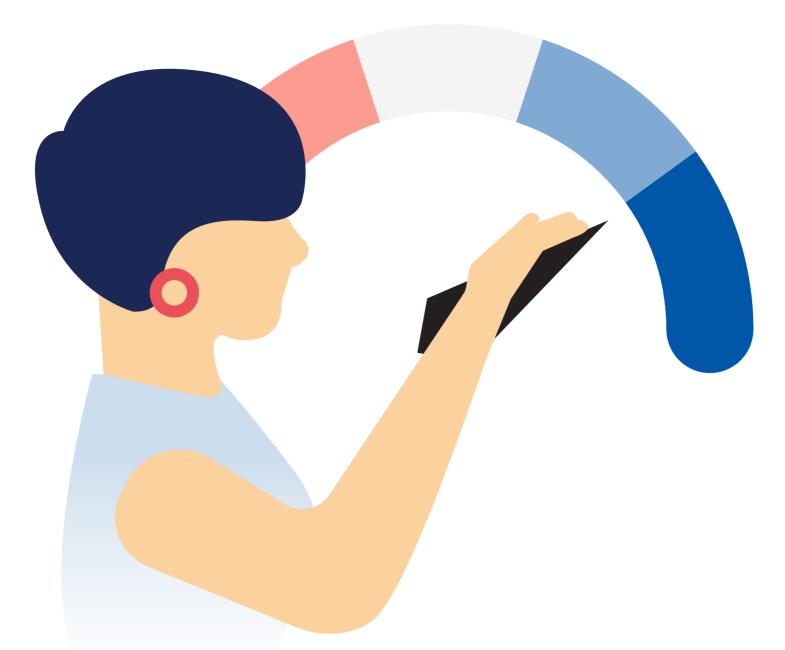


Your Credit Score



Managing your credit and using it responsibly is about more than just money. It can impact so many facets of your life, from buying a home, renting an apartment, financing a car, getting a job, even buying a cell phone. Understanding exactly what comprises your credit score, why it matters, and how you can boost your credit standing is key to securing a solid financial future.



Your Credit Score Counts 1

Financing a car



According to an Experian report, the average credit score

715 662

for a new for a used car loan car loan.



Getting the things you need

Utility, cable, and cell phone providers all run credit checks to ensure you'll responsibly pay your bills on time.

Y

Buying a house

Your credit score could change the rate on a mortgage by as much as **1.5 percentage** points.

A monthly payment on a **\$200,000** mortgage, for instance, can increase by as much as **\$200.**

Hearing "You're hired!"



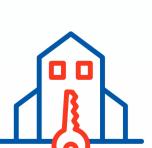
A 2018 HR report found that

95%

of companies conduct some kind of background check

1/3

indicate they head first to an applicant's credit report.



Renting an apartment

A credit check is often cited as the most important factor when determining a landlord's choice of tenant.

How Your Credit Score Is Determined ²



35% Bill payment history

Even one missed or late payment can wreak havoc on your score.



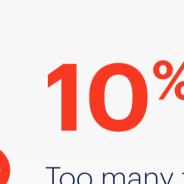
15% Length of credit history

A longer credit history will provide credit bureaus with a more well-defined look at your past credit usage and management.

This cree total

30% Outstandi

This examines the amount of credit you've used against the total credit available to you.



% New credit

Too many formal requests, or "hard inquiries," for new credit can hurt your score.



6.8%

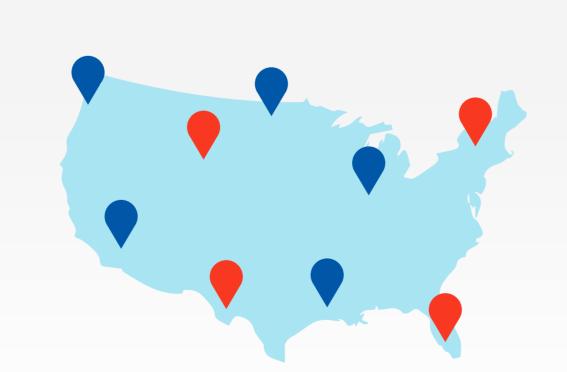
Types of credit used 10%

Diversity of credit demonstrates your ability to responsibly manage different types of debt.

Americans & Credit Score 3

12.5%

9.3%



500 - 549 600 - 649 650 - 699

i i i

4.3% 7.8%

300 - 499 550 - 599

16.2% 700 - 749

20.7% 750 -799

22.3% 800

Population %
Credit Score

How to Improve Your Credit Score





Don't cancel multiple credit cards. This may actually hurt your score by lowering your available credit.



Don't consolidate credit card balances. Generally, it's better to have lower balances on several different cards than a high balance on one card.



Do pay your bills on time.
A single late payment
can drop your score
by 100 points or more.



Do chip away at large credit card balances.
Aim for a balance below 30% of the card's limit.

To learn more and see additional resources around understanding credit, visit our website.