

Name:	Date:
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INTRO

DRAW A PICTURE

1. If you've got a dream career in mind, you might next have a dream LIFE in mind. Draw a quick picture of you, enjoying your best life.

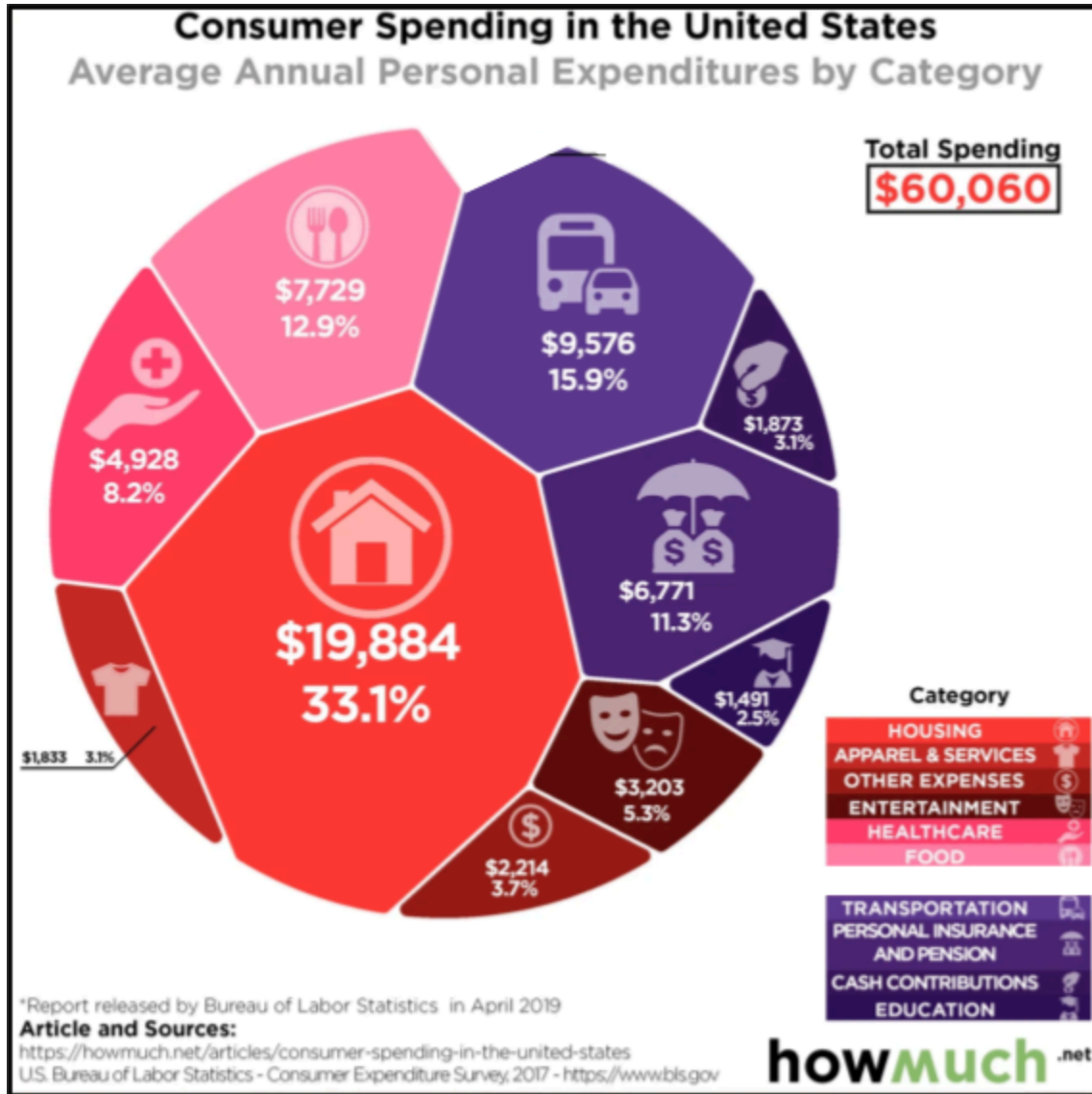
2. The average starting salary for a college graduate in 2018 is \$51,000. Estimate how much salary you'll need to make in order to live your dream life.



LEARN IT

INFOGRAPHIC: [Visualizing How Americans Spend Their Money](#) [←CLICK FOR LARGE VERSION]

Did your dream life have a nice house or apartment? Do you care what kind of car you drive, or would you prefer to spend money on entertainment, vacation, or time with friends? Take a look at how much the Average American spends each year.



1. What is the largest expense in the average person's budget?

2. What percent of their budget do they spend on clothing (apparel)? Does this number surprise you? Why or why not?

3. The average American doesn't spend their entire life in college. Why do you think they spend 2.5% on education per year?

4. On the graph key, put a star next to the 3 spending categories that are MOST important to you in your "dream life."

VIDEO: [Living On Your Own](#)

Rent is often the largest portion of a young adult's budget, and that doesn't even include other related things you'll need to pay for at home. Watch to learn about some other costs of moving into a new apartment.

1. This video moves quickly, but use this space to write down as many "new apartment" expenses as you can catch while Jen plays whack-a-bill.

2. Why should you ideally have quite a few months of rent saved up before you consider living on your own?



DO IT

MOVE: Build Your Budget

Once you are out on your own, your first adult budget will depend greatly on your starting salary, your student loan debt, and your savings goals. After that, it's up to you to decide how you'll budget your expenses to meet all of your needs and some of your wants. Follow your teacher's directions to complete the activity.

Now that you've played the game, answer these "big picture" questions.

1. If all of your own personal decisions were going into the spreadsheet, how would your overall budget change?

2. Would your budget survive if you had a major life change (hospitalized and out of work for two months) or a large expense (invited to a friend's wedding across the country)? What would you need to do in order for your budget to work?



EXIT TICKET

1. Name 5 bills you expect to pay monthly once you're an adult.

2. If Jerome and Estelle both earn the same salary, why might their monthly budgets look very different?