



Skyler

BARISTA

LOCATION:

St. Louis, Missouri

SALARY INFORMATION:

- Annual Salary = \$22,000
- Monthly Salary = \$1,833
- Monthly Take-Home Pay (after taxes and benefits) = \$1,500

BUDGET NEEDS

- Skyler shares an apartment with two roommates. They each pay \$400/month in rent and \$100/month in utilities.
- Skyler's car is paid for, but her car insurance costs \$90/month.
- Her health insurance is included in her workplace benefits, so she doesn't have to pay for it out of pocket.
- She pays \$85/month for her cell phone.
- Skyler has no credit card debt, but does make \$100/month payments on her student loans.
- Her groceries and household basics cost approximately \$200/month.

BUDGET WANTS

- Skyler loves dining out with her friends, and spends about \$200/month at restaurants. However, she doesn't do much shopping.
- She gets her hair cut a couple times per year, which breaks down to roughly \$25/month.
- She subscribes to Netflix and FabFitFun, for a total of \$25/month.
- Skyler's family lives across the country, so she sets aside \$100/month in a travel fund for family and other trips.
- She donates \$25/month to various charities.

SAVINGS GOALS

- Skyler sets aside \$50 each month for retirement in her Roth IRA
- She also is sure to save \$50/month in a separate savings account for emergencies
- Skyler loves the holidays but knows they are expensive, so she also sets aside \$25 in a Holiday Fund for food and gifts.

Skyler's Monthly Budget

TAKE HOME PAY = \$1500 PER MONTH

BUDGET NEEDS

Rent / Mortgage	\$400
Utilities	\$100
Transportation	\$90
Health Insurance	\$0
Cell Phone Bill	\$85
Student Loans	\$100
Credit Card Debt	\$0
Groceries / Household	\$200

BUDGET WANTS

Shopping / Dining Out	\$200
Health / Beauty	\$25
Subscriptions	\$25
Travel	\$100
Gifts / Donations	\$125

SAVINGS GOALS

Retirement	\$50
Emergency Fund	\$50
Holiday Fund	\$25

SUMMARY

Total take home pay: \$1500

Add up budget needs: \$975

Add up budget wants: \$375

Add up savings goals: \$125

Get out a calculator and input:
Take home pay - needs - wants - goals.

Answer = \$25

If the answer is positive, there is extra money in the budget. If the answer is negative, she is overspending!

RECOMMENDED CHANGES

If Skyler has extra money in her budget, what should she do with it? If she doesn't have enough money in her budget, what do you think she should cut back on?

She could put the money towards her student loans, to pay them off faster. She could increase her travel fund, to see her family more. She could also add more to her retirement or emergency fund. Finally, she could simply spend a bit more.



LOCATION:

Tampa, Florida

SALARY INFORMATION:

- Annual Salary = \$29,000
- Monthly Salary = \$2,417
- Monthly Take-Home Pay (after taxes and benefits) = \$2,000

Ava

ADMINISTRATIVE ASST.

BUDGET NEEDS

- Ava lives with family, and pays no rent or utilities, but wishes she had a place of her own.
- Ava's family lives far from work, so she spends \$400/month on transportation between her car loan, insurance, and gas costs.
- Her health insurance costs \$250/month.
- She pays \$75/month for her cell phone.
- Ava has no student loans, but does make \$200/month payments towards some lingering credit card debt.
- She pays her family \$150/month to help with communal groceries and household basics.

BUDGET WANTS

- Ava spends roughly \$230/month on shopping and dining out.
- She gets her hair cut a couple times per year, which costs roughly \$25/month. She also pays \$50/month to get her nails done.
- She subscribes to Netflix and Spotify, for a total of \$25/month.
- Ava hates flying, but she saves \$50/month for weekend road trips with her friends.
- Charitable giving is important to her, so she donates \$20/month to local charities.

SAVINGS GOALS

- Ava sets aside \$50 each month for retirement in her Roth IRA
- She also is sure to save \$50/month in a separate savings account for emergencies
- Ava really wants to move out, so she also sets aside \$100/month in a Moving Out Fund.

Ava's Monthly Budget

TAKE HOME PAY = \$2000 PER MONTH

BUDGET NEEDS

Rent / Mortgage	\$0
Utilities	\$0
Transportation	\$400
Health Insurance	\$250
Cell Phone Bill	\$75
Student Loans	\$0
Credit Card Debt	\$200
Groceries / Household	\$150

BUDGET WANTS

Shopping / Dining Out	\$230
Health / Beauty	\$75
Subscriptions	\$25
Travel	\$50
Gifts / Donations	\$20

SAVINGS GOALS

Retirement	\$50
Emergency Fund	\$50
Moving Out Fund	\$100

SUMMARY

Total take home pay:	\$2000
Add up budget needs:	\$1075
Add up budget wants:	\$400
Add up savings goals:	\$200
Get out a calculator and input: Take home pay - needs - wants - goals.	
Answer =	\$325

If the answer is positive, there is extra money in the budget. If the answer is negative, she is overspending!

RECOMMENDED CHANGES

If Ava has extra money in her budget, what should she do with it? If she doesn't have enough money in her budget, what do you think she should cut back on?

She could put the money towards the Moving Out Fund, which would allow her to move out faster. Or, she could combine the extra from her Moving Out Fund and actually move out, if she can find someplace affordable enough.



LOCATION:

Dallas, Texas

SALARY INFORMATION:

- Annual Salary = \$37,000
- Monthly Salary = \$3,083
- Monthly Take-Home Pay (after taxes and benefits) = \$2,500

Emilia

IT TECH SUPPORT

BUDGET NEEDS

- Emilia works from home, so she prefers to live alone. Her studio apartment costs \$1000/month plus \$100/month in combined utilities (water, gas, internet, etc.).
- Because she works from home, she only spends \$50/month on public transportation.
- Her work covers her health insurance.
- She pays \$90/month for her cell phone.
- Emilia has no credit card debt, but does make \$200/month payments on her student loans.
- Her groceries and household basics cost approximately \$250/month.

BUDGET WANTS

- Emilia lives in a fun part of town, so she loves dining out with friends and shopping at local businesses. She spends about \$600/month on dining out and shopping.
- She gets her hair cut a couple times per year, which breaks down to roughly \$25/month.
- She subscribes to Netflix and FabFitFun (totaling \$25), plus she has a Crossfit gym membership, though she rarely goes. Her subscriptions add up to roughly \$225/month.
- Emilia prefers local adventures to traveling, so she rarely sets aside money in a travel budget.
- She donates \$25/month to various charities.

SAVINGS GOALS

- Emilia sets aside \$200 each month for retirement in her Roth IRA
- She has a good emergency fund already, and is not currently saving for it.
- Emilia wants a new phone, so she is saving \$25/month for that goal.

Emilia's Monthly Budget

TAKE HOME PAY = \$2500 PER MONTH

BUDGET NEEDS

Rent / Mortgage	\$1000
Utilities	\$100
Transportation	\$50
Health Insurance	\$0
Cell Phone Bill	\$90
Student Loans	\$200
Credit Card Debt	\$0
Groceries / Household	\$250

BUDGET WANTS

Shopping / Dining Out	\$600
Health / Beauty	\$25
Subscriptions	\$22
Travel	\$0
Gifts / Donations	\$25

SAVINGS GOALS

Retirement	\$200
Emergency Fund	\$0
New Phone	\$25

SUMMARY

Total take home pay: \$2500

Add up budget needs: \$1690

Add up budget wants: \$875

Add up savings goals: \$225

Get out a calculator and input:
Take home pay - needs - wants - goals.

Answer = -\$290

If the answer is positive, there is extra money in the budget. If the answer is negative, she is overspending!

RECOMMENDED CHANGES

If Emilia has extra money in her budget, what should she do with it? If she doesn't have enough money in her budget, what do you think she should cut back on?

She could cancel her Crossfit membership, freeing up \$200/month. She could also cut back on grocery spending, dining out, or shopping. She could also reduce payments to her Roth IRA, though this should be treated as a last resort.



Gabrielle

MIDDLE SCHOOL TEACHER

LOCATION:

Seattle, Washington

SALARY INFORMATION:

- Annual Salary = \$45,000
- Monthly Salary = \$3,750
- Monthly Take-Home Pay (after taxes and benefits) = \$3,000

BUDGET NEEDS

- Gabrielle shares an apartment with her roommates. They each pay \$750/month in rent and \$150/month in utilities.
- Gabrielle pays a car loan, car insurance, and gas. Together, this costs \$450/month.
- Her health insurance is covered through work.
- She pays \$85/month for her cell phone.
- Gabrielle pays \$150/month on her student loans, and \$200/month towards some old credit card debt.
- Her groceries and household basics cost approximately \$300/month.

BUDGET WANTS

- Gabrielle doesn't do much shopping or dining out, but she loves buying coffee each morning on her way to work. This costs \$150/month.
- Because teaching is stressful, she spends \$200/month on massage and other beauty treatments.
- She also uses a HelloFresh subscription to save time while cooking, which costs \$130/month.
- Gabrielle wishes she could travel more, but only sets aside \$50/month in her travel fund.
- She donates \$20/month to various charities.

SAVINGS GOALS

- Gabrielle gets a full pension for retirement, so she only puts \$50/month into her Roth IRA.
- She also is sure to save \$100/month in a separate savings account for emergencies
- Gabrielle is saving up to buy a new laptop, and puts \$25/month towards that goal.

Gabrielle's Monthly Budget

TAKE HOME PAY = \$3000 PER MONTH

BUDGET NEEDS

Rent / Mortgage	\$750
Utilities	\$150
Transportation	\$450
Health Insurance	\$0
Cell Phone Bill	\$85
Student Loans	\$150
Credit Card Debt	\$200
Groceries / Household	\$300

BUDGET WANTS

Shopping / Dining Out	\$150
Health / Beauty	\$200
Subscriptions	\$130
Travel	\$50
Gifts / Donations	\$20

SAVINGS GOALS

Retirement	\$50
Emergency Fund	\$100
New Laptop	\$25

SUMMARY

Total take home pay: \$3000

Add up budget needs: \$2085

Add up budget wants: \$550

Add up savings goals: \$175

Get out a calculator and input:
Take home pay - needs - wants - goals.

Answer = \$190

If the answer is positive, there is extra money in the budget. If the answer is negative, she is overspending!

RECOMMENDED CHANGES

If Gabrielle has extra money in her budget, what should she do with it? If she doesn't have enough money in her budget, what do you think she should cut back on?

She could put the money towards travel, since she wishes she could do more of that. She could also put extra money towards her retirement, emergency fund, or new laptop goals in order to achieve them more quickly.



Daniela

ENTREPRENEUR

LOCATION:

Portland, Maine

SALARY INFORMATION:

- Annual Salary = \$52,000
- Monthly Salary = \$4,333
- Monthly Take-Home Pay (after business expenses and taxes) = \$3,500

BUDGET NEEDS

- Daniela shares an apartment with two roommates. They each pay \$500/month in rent and \$100/month in utilities.
- Daniela's car is paid for, but her car insurance plus gas costs \$200/month.
- Because she is self-employed, she covers all her medical expenses herself. She pays \$500/month for insurance and other needs.
- She pays \$60/month for her cell phone.
- Daniela has no student loans, but is paying down some old credit cards. She could pay only \$200/month, but she pays \$500 to try and wipe out her debt faster.
- Her groceries and household basics cost approximately \$250/month.

BUDGET WANTS

- Daniela loves dining out with her friends, and spends about \$300/month at restaurants. However, she doesn't do much shopping.
- She gets her hair cut a couple times per year, which breaks down to roughly \$25/month. She also sees a therapist, which costs \$200/month.
- She subscribes to Netflix and Spotify, for a total of \$25/month.
- Daniela's favorite hobby is travel, so she sets aside \$300/month for various trips.
- She donates \$20/month to local charities.

SAVINGS GOALS

- Daniela is self-employed, so sets aside \$500 each month for retirement in her Roth IRA.
- She is sure to save \$100/month in a separate savings account for emergencies.
- Daniela is also saving up \$50/month for a new camera.

Daniela's Monthly Budget

TAKE HOME PAY = \$3500 PER MONTH

BUDGET NEEDS

Rent / Mortgage	\$500
Utilities	\$100
Transportation	\$200
Health Insurance	\$500
Cell Phone Bill	\$60
Student Loans	\$0
Credit Card Debt	\$500
Groceries / Household	\$250

BUDGET WANTS

Shopping / Dining Out	\$300
Health / Beauty	\$22
Subscriptions	\$25 ⁵
Travel	\$300
Gifts / Donations	\$100

SAVINGS GOALS

Retirement	\$500
Emergency Fund	\$100
New Camera	\$50

SUMMARY

Total take home pay: \$3500

Add up budget needs: \$2110

Add up budget wants: \$950

Add up savings goals: \$650

Get out a calculator and input:
Take home pay - needs - wants - goals.

Answer = -\$130

If the answer is positive, there is extra money in the budget. If the answer is negative, she is overspending!

RECOMMENDED CHANGES

If Daniela has extra money in her budget, what should she do with it? If she doesn't have enough money in her budget, what do you think she should cut back on?

She could pay only the minimum on her credit card debt, which would free up \$300/month, but it would take much longer to pay it back. She could also cut back on her Budget Wants such as shopping and dining out. Reducing retirement should be a last resort.



LOCATION:

Atlanta, Georgia

SALARY INFORMATION:

- Annual Salary = \$59,000
- Monthly Salary = \$4,917
- Monthly Take-Home Pay (after taxes and benefits) = \$4,000

Imani

MARKETING PROFESSIONAL

BUDGET NEEDS

- Imani shares an apartment with a roommate. They each pay \$800/month in rent and \$150/month in utilities.
- Imani's public transportation card costs \$90/month.
- While Imani's employer helps with health insurance, she is still responsible for \$200/month in healthcare costs.
- She pays \$100/month for her cell phone.
- Imani has no credit card debt, but does make \$400/month payments on her student loans.
- Her groceries and household basics cost approximately \$300/month.

BUDGET WANTS

- Imani is very frugal, and only spends \$100 month on dining out and shopping.
- She gets her hair and nails done on a monthly basis, which costs \$150.
- She also subscribes to a massage service, which costs \$60/month.
- Imani's family lives across the country, so she sets aside \$150/month in a travel fund for family and other trips.
- She donates \$20/month to her favorite charities.

SAVINGS GOALS

- Her biggest dream is to retire early, but she only feels like she can afford \$600/month for it.
- Imani's emergency fund is doing well, so she has stopped contributing to it.
- Beyond her regular travel fund, she is also saving \$200/month to attend her sister's destination wedding in the fall.

Imani's Monthly Budget

TAKE HOME PAY = \$4000 PER MONTH

BUDGET NEEDS

Rent / Mortgage	\$800
Utilities	\$150
Transportation	\$90
Health Insurance	\$200
Cell Phone Bill	\$100
Student Loans	\$400
Credit Card Debt	\$0
Groceries / Household	\$300

BUDGET WANTS

Shopping / Dining Out	\$100
Health / Beauty	\$15
Subscriptions	\$60
Travel	\$150
Gifts / Donations	\$20

SAVINGS GOALS

Retirement	\$600
Emergency Fund	\$0
Sister's Wedding	\$200

SUMMARY

Total take home pay: \$4000

Add up budget needs: \$2040

Add up budget wants: \$610

Add up savings goals: \$800

Get out a calculator and input:
Take home pay - needs - wants - goals.

Answer = \$680

If the answer is positive, there is extra money in the budget. If the answer is negative, she is overspending!

RECOMMENDED CHANGES

If Imani has extra money in her budget, what should she do with it? If she doesn't have enough money in her budget, what do you think she should cut back on?

She can supercharge her retirement savings and get to early retirement much faster. She could also pay off her student loans more quickly. Finally, she could choose to spend part of the extra money on shopping and dining out.



Brittany

REGISTERED NURSE

LOCATION:

Boston, Massachusetts

SALARY INFORMATION:

- Annual Salary = \$66,000
- Monthly Salary = \$5,500
- Monthly Take-Home Pay (after taxes and benefits) = \$4,500

BUDGET NEEDS

- Brittany lives alone, even though Boston is expensive and she misses having roommates. Her rent costs \$1600/month, and plus \$200/month for utilities.
- She spends roughly \$100 month on rideshares and public transportation.
- Her health insurance is included through her workplace benefits.
- She pays \$70/month for her cell phone.
- Brittany has no student loans, but has a lot of credit card debt, so her minimum payments are \$500/month
- Her groceries and household basics cost approximately \$200/month.

BUDGET WANTS

- Brittany lives in a fun part of town, so she loves dining out with friends and shopping at local businesses. She spends about \$1000/month on dining out and shopping.
- She gets her hair cut a couple times per year, which breaks down to roughly \$25/month.
- She subscribes to Netflix and Hulu, for a total of \$25/month.
- Brittany's family lives across the country, so she sets aside \$200/month in a travel fund for family and other trips.
- She donates \$20/month to various charities.

SAVINGS GOALS

- Brittany sets aside \$200 each month for retirement in her Roth IRA.
- She also is sure to save \$100/month in a separate savings account for emergencies.
- She wants her debt to go away faster, so she pays \$500/extra each month towards debt.

Brittany's Monthly Budget

TAKE HOME PAY = \$4500 PER MONTH

BUDGET NEEDS

Rent / Mortgage	\$1600
Utilities	\$200
Transportation	\$100
Health Insurance	\$0
Cell Phone Bill	\$70
Student Loans	\$0
Credit Card Debt	\$500
Groceries / Household	\$200

BUDGET WANTS

Shopping / Dining Out	\$1000
Health / Beauty	\$25
Subscriptions	\$25
Travel	\$200
Gifts / Donations	\$50

SAVINGS GOALS

Retirement	\$200
Emergency Fund	\$100
Extra Debt Payments	\$500

SUMMARY

Total take home pay: \$4500

Add up budget needs: \$2670

Add up budget wants: \$1300

Add up savings goals: \$800

Get out a calculator and input:
Take home pay - needs - wants - goals.

Answer = -\$240

If the answer is positive, there is extra money in the budget. If the answer is negative, she is overspending!

RECOMMENDED CHANGES

If Brittany has extra money in her budget, what should she do with it? If she doesn't have enough money in her budget, what do you think she should cut back on?

She could reduce her extra debt payments, though that would mean she pays things off more slowly. She could also consider finding a roommate or cutting back on her shopping and dining out budget.



Suyin

SALES PROFESSIONAL

LOCATION:

Minneapolis, Minnesota

SALARY INFORMATION:

- Annual Salary = \$74,000
- Monthly Salary = \$6,167
- Monthly Take-Home Pay (after taxes and benefits) = \$5,000

BUDGET NEEDS

- Suyin lives alone, paying \$1400/month in rent and \$250/month in combined utilities.
- Suyin's car is paid for, but her car insurance and gas costs \$200/month.
- She pays \$450/month for health insurance.
- She pays \$85/month for her cell phone.
- Suyin has no credit card debt, but does make \$700/month payments on her student loans.
- Her groceries and household basics cost approximately \$350/month.

BUDGET WANTS

- Suyin loves dining out with her friends, and spends about \$500/month at restaurants. However, she doesn't do much shopping.
- Between regular haircuts and the occasional massage/facial, she pays \$100/month on health and beauty.
- She pays \$10/month for Spotify.
- Suyin loves to travel, but feels like she doesn't have the money.
- She donates \$20/month to various charities.

SAVINGS GOALS

- Suyin sets aside \$300 each month for retirement in her Roth IRA
- She also is sure to save \$100/month in a separate savings account for emergencies.
- Suyin has always wanted to buy a home, so she's saving \$250/month for a down payment.

Suyin's Monthly Budget

TAKE HOME PAY = \$5000 PER MONTH

BUDGET NEEDS

Rent / Mortgage	\$1400
Utilities	\$250
Transportation	\$200
Health Insurance	\$45
Cell Phone Bill	\$85 ⁰
Student Loans	\$700
Credit Card Debt	\$0
Groceries / Household	\$350

BUDGET WANTS

Shopping / Dining Out	\$500
Health / Beauty	\$10
Subscriptions	\$10 ⁰
Travel	\$0
Gifts / Donations	\$20

SAVINGS GOALS

Retirement	\$300
Emergency Fund	\$100
House Down Payment	\$250

SUMMARY

Total take home pay: \$5000

Add up budget needs: \$3435

Add up budget wants: \$710

Add up savings goals: \$650

Get out a calculator and input:
Take home pay - needs - wants - goals.

Answer = \$285

If the answer is positive, there is extra money in the budget. If the answer is negative, she is overspending!

RECOMMENDED CHANGES

If Suyin has extra money in her budget, what should she do with it? If she doesn't have enough money in her budget, what do you think she should cut back on?

She could start to travel, since that's something she feels like she can't afford. She could also pay down her student loans faster, increase her dining out budget, or put extra money towards her savings goals to make them happen faster.



Zara

FINANCIAL ANALYST

LOCATION:

Salt Lake City, Utah

SALARY INFORMATION:

- Annual Salary = \$81,000
- Monthly Salary = \$6,750
- Monthly Take-Home Pay (after taxes and benefits) = \$5,500

BUDGET NEEDS

- Zara loves her loft, even though it's expensive. She pays \$1700/month in rent and \$300/month in utilities.
- Zara just got the car of her dreams, but between the payment, insurance, and gas, she's paying \$600/month.
- She pays \$350/month for health insurance.
- She pays \$150/month for her cell phone.
- Zara has no student loans, but does make \$200/month payments on old credit cards.
- Her groceries and household basics cost approximately \$400/month.

BUDGET WANTS

- Zara loves shopping and dining out with her friends, and spends about \$1000/month on those activities.
- She rarely splurges for health and beauty treatments, though she pays \$50/month for vitamins and medications.
- Her friends joke that she is the "Subscription Queen," since she pays about \$400 for various services and subscriptions.
- Zara's travels cost her roughly \$200/month.
- She also donates \$20/month to various charities.

SAVINGS GOALS

- Zara's employer gives her a large retirement stipend, which covers her retirement savings.
- She is sure to save \$200/month in a separate savings account for emergencies.
- Zara loves the holidays but knows they are expensive, so she also sets aside \$100 in a Holiday Fund for food and gifts.

Zara's Monthly Budget

TAKE HOME PAY = \$5500 PER MONTH

BUDGET NEEDS

Rent / Mortgage	\$1700
Utilities	\$300
Transportation	\$600
Health Insurance	\$350
Cell Phone Bill	\$150
Student Loans	\$0
Credit Card Debt	\$200
Groceries / Household	\$400

SUMMARY

Total take home pay:	\$5500
Add up budget needs:	\$3700
Add up budget wants:	\$2000
Add up savings goals:	\$300
Get out a calculator and input: Take home pay - needs - wants - goals.	
Answer =	-\$170

If the answer is positive, there is extra money in the budget. If the answer is negative, she is overspending!

BUDGET WANTS

Shopping / Dining Out	\$1000
Health / Beauty	\$50
Subscriptions	\$400
Travel	\$200
Gifts / Donations	\$20

RECOMMENDED CHANGES

If Zara has extra money in her budget, what should she do with it? If she doesn't have enough money in her budget, what do you think she should cut back on?

She could find a roommate or cut back on her grocery spending. She could also reduce her shopping/dining out budget or cut back on some of the subscriptions that she doesn't use. As a last resort, she could reduce her savings.

SAVINGS GOALS

Retirement	\$0
Emergency Fund	\$200
Holiday Fund	\$100



LOCATION:

San Francisco, California

SALARY INFORMATION:

- Annual Salary = \$92,000
- Monthly Salary = \$7,667
- Monthly Take-Home Pay (after taxes and benefits) = \$6,000

Taylor

SOFTWARE DEVELOPER

BUDGET NEEDS

- While Taylor has a roommate, San Francisco is expensive! They each pay \$1600/month in rent and \$150/month in utilities.
- Taylor mostly uses public transportation and ride share apps, which costs \$150/month.
- Her work covers her health insurance and cell phone bill.
- Taylor has no credit card debt, but does make \$800/month payments on her student loans.
- Her groceries and household basics cost approximately \$500/month.

BUDGET WANTS

- Taylor loves dining out with her friends, and spends about \$800/month at restaurants. However, she doesn't do much shopping.
- She gets her hair cut a couple times per year, which breaks down to roughly \$25/month. However, she wants to increase this budget to allow for regular trips to the spa.
- She subscribes to Netflix, Billie, and Quip, for a total of \$25/month.
- Taylor loves to travel, so she sets aside \$500/month in a travel fund.
- Her goal is to donate 10% of her income to charity, but she's only donating \$20/month.

SAVINGS GOALS

- Taylor sets aside \$200 each month for retirement in her Roth IRA
- She also is sure to save \$200/month in a separate savings account for emergencies
- Taylor wants to be debt free, so she also puts \$200/month extra towards her student loans.

Taylor's Monthly Budget

TAKE HOME PAY = \$6000 PER MONTH

BUDGET NEEDS

Rent / Mortgage	\$1600
Utilities	\$150
Transportation	\$150
Health Insurance	\$0
Cell Phone Bill	\$0
Student Loans	\$800
Credit Card Debt	\$0
Groceries / Household	\$500

BUDGET WANTS

Shopping / Dining Out	\$800
Health / Beauty	\$25
Subscriptions	\$25
Travel	\$500
Gifts / Donations	\$20

SAVINGS GOALS

Retirement	\$200
Emergency Fund	\$200
Extra Loan Payments	\$200

SUMMARY

Total take home pay:	\$6000
Add up budget needs:	\$3200
Add up budget wants:	\$1850
Add up savings goals:	\$600
Answer =	\$830

Get out a calculator and input:
Take home pay - needs - wants - goals.

If the answer is positive, there is extra money in the budget. If the answer is negative, she is overspending!

RECOMMENDED CHANGES

If Taylor has extra money in her budget, what should she do with it? If she doesn't have enough money in her budget, what do you think she should cut back on?

She could put the money towards her student loans to pay them off faster. She could also increase her dining out or travel budgets, or put extra towards retirement or her emergency fund. She could also increase her charitable giving.