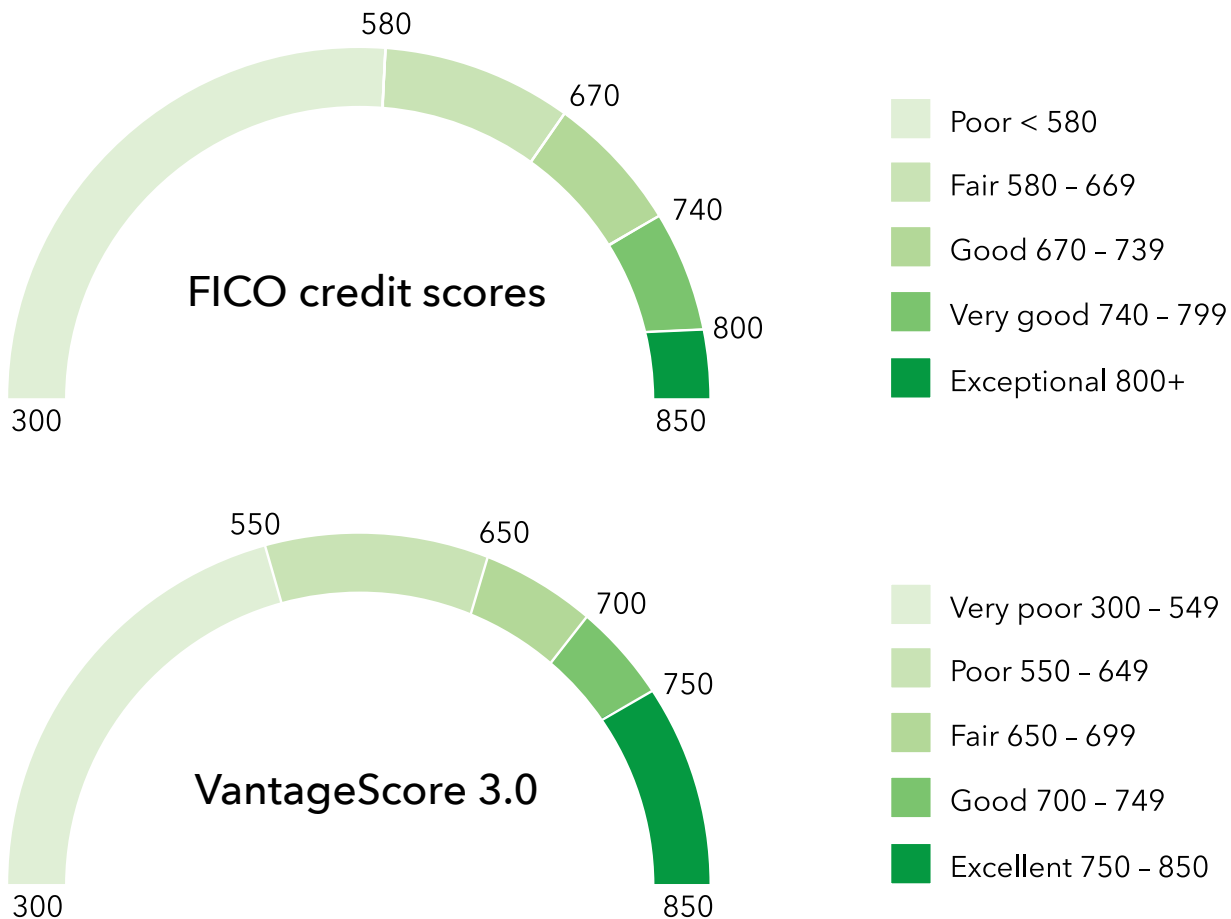# Credit scores: An infographic

Credit scores provide a snapshot of a person's financial situation. They provide a way for lenders to predict how likely a person is to pay back a loan on time.

FICO (calculated using scoring models designed by Fair Isaac Corporation) and VantageScore (calculated using scoring models designed by VantageScore Solutions) are two of the most commonly used credit scores.
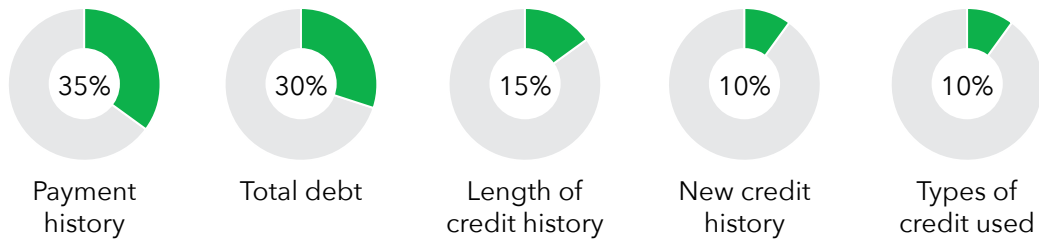
Two different ranges of credit scores

Most credit scores range from 300 to 850. A higher credit score means you are predicted to be less of a risk. Usually a high credit score makes it easier to get a loan and may result in a better interest rate, but lenders have their own cutoffs to determine eligibility.

FICO credit scores

- Poor < 580
- Fair 580 – 669
- Good 670 – 739
- Very good 740 – 799
- Exceptional 800+

VantageScore 3.0

- Very poor 300 – 549
- Poor 550 – 649
- Fair 650 – 699
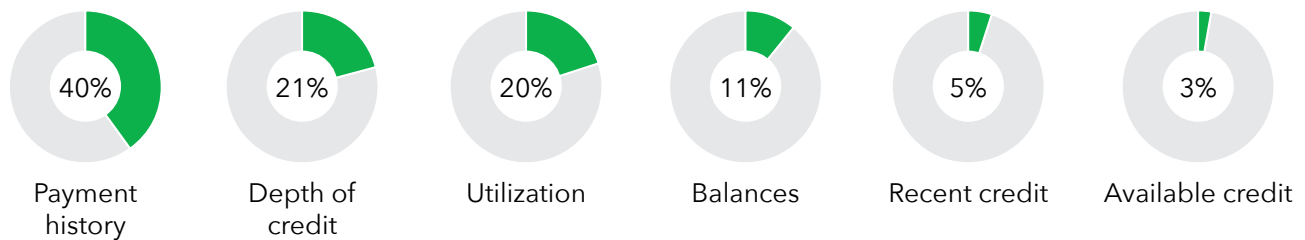- Good 700 – 749
- Excellent 750 – 850

How credit scores are calculated

Credit scores are based on the information in a person's credit report. While scoring models may vary, the way you use and repay debt affects your credit score. Paying loans on time and staying well below your credit limit helps you get and keep good credit.

FICO model

35%	30%	15%	10%	10%
Payment history	Total debt	Length of credit history	New credit history	Types of credit used

VantageScore model

40%	21%	20%	11%	5%	3%
Payment history	Depth of credit	Utilization	Balances	Recent credit	Available credit

Payment history: Whether a person is paying bills on time and as agreed.

Total debt, balances, and utilization: Total owed and available credit remaining.

Depth/length of credit history: How long a person has had an account or loan.

New/recent credit: All new loans or accounts and all creditor credit report requests.

Types of credit used: All credit cards (revolving credit) and loans (installment credit).