

Summary of Selected Findings: New Jersey

	State	Nation	Region	
Making Ends Meet				
Difficulty covering expenses and paying bills				
Very difficult	11%	10%	9%	
Somewhat difficult	32%	33%	32%	
Not at all difficult	54%	54%	56%	
Spending vs. saving				
Spending less than income	42%	43%	43%	
Spending about equal to income	33%	34%	35%	
Spending more than income	19%	19%	18%	
Overdraw checking account occasionally	23%	21%	21%	<i>Respondents with checking accounts</i>
Have unpaid medical bills	19%	22%	18%	
Number of times mortgage payments have been late				
Once	9%	8%	13%	<i>Respondents with mortgages</i>
More than once	6%	9%	11%	
Have taken a loan from retirement account in past year	11%	14%	17%	<i>Respondents with defined contribution retirement accounts</i>
Have taken a hardship withdrawal from retirement account in past year	15%	14%	18%	
Have experienced large unexpected drop in income in past year	23%	26%	23%	
Planning Ahead				
Have emergency funds	57%	53%	55%	
Do not have emergency funds	39%	43%	39%	
Have tried to figure out retirement savings needs	36%	39%	36%	<i>Non-retired respondents</i>
Have not tried to figure out retirement savings needs	58%	55%	57%	
Have set aside money for children's college education	46%	40%	47%	<i>Respondents with financially dependent children</i>
Have not set aside money for children's college education	46%	54%	46%	
Retirement Accounts				
Have employer-provided retirement plan (e.g., pension, 401(k))	52%	49%	49%	<i>Non-retired respondents</i>
Have non-employer retirement plan (e.g., IRA, Keogh, SEP, etc.)	28%	26%	29%	
Regularly contribute to retirement account	79%	79%	75%	<i>Respondents with defined contribution retirement accounts</i>

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Stocks, Bonds, and Mutual Funds

Invest in stocks, bonds, mutual funds, or other securities outside of retirement account 40% 35% 37%

Managing Financial Products

Banking

Have checking account 92% 91% 91%

Have savings account, money market account, or CDs 75% 72% 73%

Credit Cards

Credit card behaviors in past year

Always paid credit cards in full 65% 59% 62%

Carried over a balance and was charged interest 39% 43% 42%

Paid the minimum payment only 32% 35% 32%

Charged a late fee for late payment 17% 17% 18%

Charged an over the limit fee for exceeding credit line 10% 11% 12%

Used the cards for a cash advance 15% 15% 16%

Respondents with credit cards

Mobile Payment Methods

Use mobile phone to pay at point of sale 47% 43% 44%

Use mobile phone to transfer money to another person 54% 53% 49%

Mortgages

Have mortgage 50% 51% 45%

Have home equity loan 17% 12% 16%

Homeowners

Home “underwater” (negative equity) 6% 7% 9%

Homeowners

Other Debt

Have student loan 25% 23% 23%

Have auto loan 25% 29% 25%

Non-Bank Borrowing

Non-bank borrowing methods used in past 5 years

Auto title loan 12% 12% 13%

Short term “payday” loan 11% 15% 14%

Tax refund advance 10% 11% 13%

Pawn shop 16% 21% 17%

Rent-to-own store 10% 14% 15%

Used one or more non-bank borrowing methods in past 5 years 25% 32% 28%

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Financial Knowledge

Suppose you had \$100 in a savings account and the interest rate was 2% per year. After 5 years, how much do you think you would have in the account if you left the money to grow?

<u>More than \$102</u> (correct answer)	69%	69%	66%
Exactly \$102	7%	9%	10%
Less than \$102	6%	6%	6%
Don't know	16%	15%	17%

Imagine that the interest rate on your savings account was 1% per year and inflation was 2% per year. After 1 year, how much would you be able to buy with the money in this account?

More than today	10%	12%	12%
Exactly the same	12%	11%	12%
<u>Less than today</u> (correct answer)	51%	53%	50%
Don't know	25%	23%	25%

If interest rates rise, what will typically happen to bond prices?

They will rise	20%	20%	17%
<u>They will fall</u> (correct answer)	25%	25%	27%
They will stay the same	4%	6%	7%
There is no relationship between bond prices and the interest rate	9%	9%	8%
Don't know	40%	39%	39%

Suppose you owe \$1,000 on a loan and the interest rate you are charged is 20% per year compounded annually. If you didn't pay anything off, at this interest rate, how many years would it take for the amount you owe to double?

Less than 2 years	5%	5%	5%
<u>At least 2 years but less than 5 years</u> (correct answer)	31%	30%	29%
At least 5 years but less than 10 years	26%	28%	26%
At least 10 years	8%	7%	8%
Don't know	29%	28%	30%

Which of the following indicates the highest probability of getting a particular disease?

<u>There is a one-in-twenty chance of getting the disease</u> (correct answer)	34%	36%	35%
2% of the population will get the disease	13%	13%	12%
25 out of every 1,000 people will get the disease	17%	17%	17%
Don't know	35%	33%	34%

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A 15-year mortgage typically requires higher monthly payments than a 30-year mortgage, but the total interest paid over the life of the loan will be less.			
<u>True</u> (correct answer)	67%	69%	66%
False	12%	9%	11%
Don't know	21%	22%	23%
Buying a single company's stock usually provides a safer return than a stock mutual fund.			
True	15%	12%	13%
<u>False</u> (correct answer)	45%	42%	41%
Don't know	40%	45%	44%
Mean number of correct quiz answers	3.23	3.23	3.15
Mean number of incorrect quiz answers	1.65	1.63	1.66
Mean number of "don't know" quiz answers	2.06	2.06	2.13

Notes:

Region = Middle Atlantic Census Division (New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania).

State figures are weighted by age x gender, ethnicity and education.

National figures are weighted by age x gender, ethnicity, education and Census Division.

Census Division figures are weighted by age x gender, ethnicity, education and state.

Differences between groups may or may not be statistically significant.

Percentages may not add up to 100 because of missing or "don't know" responses.

Survey was conducted June – October 2021.

Additional findings and details are available for download at www.FINRAFoundation.org/NFCS.