

## Summary of Selected Findings: Maine

	State	Nation	Region	
Making Ends Meet				
Difficulty covering expenses and paying bills				
Very difficult	14%	16%	17%	
Somewhat difficult	46%	42%	40%	
Not at all difficult	38%	40%	40%	
Spending vs. saving				
Spending less than income	41%	41%	42%	
Spending about equal to income	39%	36%	36%	
Spending more than income	15%	19%	18%	
Overdraw checking account occasionally	20%	22%	20%	Respondents with checking accounts
Have unpaid medical bills	25%	26%	21%	
Number of times mortgage payments have been late				
Once	9%	8%	7%	Respondents with mortgages
More than once	11%	13%	12%	
Have taken a loan from retirement account in past year	12%	14%	11%	Respondents with self-directed employer plan or non-employer plan
Have taken a hardship withdrawal from retirement account in past year	5%	10%	10%	
Have experienced large unexpected drop in income in past year	27%	29%	27%	
Planning Ahead				
Have emergency funds	38%	40%	44%	
Do not have emergency funds	59%	56%	51%	
Have tried to figure out retirement savings needs	36%	37%	39%	Non-retired households
Have not tried to figure out retirement savings needs	59%	59%	56%	
Have set aside money for children’s college education	26%	34%	38%	Respondents with financially dependent children
Have not set aside money for children’s college education	70%	63%	57%	
Retirement Accounts				
Have employer-provided retirement plan (e.g., pension plan,	50%	49%	52%	Non-retired respondents
Have non-employer retirement plan (e.g., IRA, Keogh, SEP, etc.)	21%	24%	27%	
Regularly contribute to self-directed retirement account	76%	77%	77%	Respondents with self-directed employer plan or non-employer plan

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*Stocks, Bonds, and Mutual Funds*

Invest in stocks, bonds, mutual funds, or other securities outside of retirement account

34%	35%	42%
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*All except unbanked respondents*

**Managing Financial Products**

*Managing Money*

Payment methods used frequently

Cash	31%	33%	34%
Paper checks	17%	15%	15%
Credit cards	28%	30%	34%
Debit cards tied to bank account	52%	46%	43%
Pre-paid debit cards	2%	6%	4%
Online payments directly from bank account	36%	35%	35%
Money orders	3%	5%	4%

*Banking*

Have checking account	89%	89%	90%
Have savings account, money market account, or CDs	82%	72%	78%

*Mortgages*

Have mortgage	55%	60%	62%	<i>Homeowners</i>
Have home equity loan	19%	18%	21%	

Home "underwater" (negative equity)	7%	14%	14%	<i>Homeowners</i>
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*Credit Cards*

Credit card behaviors in past year

Always paid credit cards in full	46%	49%	54%
Carried over a balance and was charged interest	52%	49%	46%
Paid the minimum payment only	37%	34%	32%
Charged a late fee for late payment	18%	16%	16%
Charged an over the limit fee for exceeding credit line	6%	8%	8%
Used the cards for a cash advance	10%	11%	9%

*Respondents with credit cards*

*Other Debt*

Have student loan	14%	20%	19%
Have auto loan	34%	31%	29%

*Non-Bank Borrowing*

Non-bank borrowing methods used in past 5 years

Auto title loan	4%	9%	6%
Short term 'payday' loan	5%	12%	7%
Advance on tax refund (refund anticipation check)	5%	8%	6%
Pawn shop	13%	18%	13%
Rent-to-own store	11%	10%	9%

Used one or more non-bank borrowing methods in past 5 years	24%	30%	22%
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## Financial Knowledge & Decision-Making

### Financial Literacy

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)	79%	75%	76%
Exactly \$102	7%	7%	8%
Less than \$102	4%	6%	6%
Don't know	9%	11%	9%

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	9%	9%	8%
Exactly the same	5%	9%	9%
<u>Less than today</u> (correct answer)	67%	61%	63%
Don't know	17%	20%	19%

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

They will rise	20%	20%	19%
<u>They will fall</u> (correct answer)	25%	28%	30%
They will stay the same	4%	5%	5%
There is no relationship between bond prices and the interest rate	11%	9%	9%
Don't know	39%	37%	36%

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)	77%	75%	77%
False	11%	9%	8%
Don't know	12%	15%	14%

Buying a single company's stock usually provides a safer return than a stock mutual fund.

True	5%	9%	9%
<u>False</u> (correct answer)	53%	48%	51%
Don't know	41%	42%	39%

4 or 5 correct quiz answers

42% 39% 42%

3 or fewer correct quiz answers

58% 61% 58%

Mean number of correct quiz answers

3.01 2.88 2.98

Mean number of incorrect quiz answers

0.75 0.81 0.80

Mean number of "don't know" quiz answers

1.18 1.26 1.17

### Comparison Shopping

Compared credit cards

32% 33% 33%

Did not compare credit cards

63% 61% 60%

*Respondents with credit cards*

<i>Credit Reports and Credit Scores</i>	<b>State</b>	<b>Nation</b>	<b>Region</b>
Obtained a copy of credit report in past year	37%	39%	38%
Checked credit score in past year	41%	43%	42%

**Notes:**

Region = New England Census Division (Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont).

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 July - October 2012.

For additional findings and details, full survey results are available for download at [http://usfinancialcapability.org/downloads/NFCS\\_2012\\_Full\\_Data\\_Tables.xls](http://usfinancialcapability.org/downloads/NFCS_2012_Full_Data_Tables.xls)