

## Summary of Selected Findings: Mississippi

	State	Nation	Region	
Making Ends Meet				
Difficulty covering expenses and paying bills				
Very difficult	14%	11%	13%	
Somewhat difficult	42%	39%	43%	
Not at all difficult	41%	48%	43%	
Spending vs. saving				
Spending less than income	37%	40%	38%	
Spending about equal to income	38%	38%	42%	
Spending more than income	21%	18%	16%	
Overdraw checking account occasionally	25%	19%	19%	Respondents with checking accounts
Have unpaid medical bills	33%	21%	26%	
Number of times mortgage payments have been late				
Once	11%	7%	10%	Respondents with mortgages
More than once	16%	9%	10%	
Have taken a loan from retirement account in past year	21%	13%	12%	Respondents with self-directed employer plan or non-employer plan
Have taken a hardship withdrawal from retirement account in past year	17%	10%	11%	
Have experienced large unexpected drop in income in past year	27%	22%	23%	
Planning Ahead				
Have emergency funds	40%	46%	42%	
Do not have emergency funds	56%	50%	54%	
Have tried to figure out retirement savings needs	36%	39%	38%	Non-retired respondents
Have not tried to figure out retirement savings needs	60%	56%	58%	
Have set aside money for children’s college education	28%	41%	33%	Respondents with financially dependent children
Have not set aside money for children’s college education	67%	56%	65%	
Retirement Accounts				
Have employer-provided retirement plan (e.g., pension, 401(k))	50%	53%	50%	Non-retired respondents
Have non-employer retirement plan (e.g., IRA, Keogh, SEP, etc.)	19%	28%	22%	
Regularly contribute to self-directed retirement account	81%	79%	82%	Respondents with self-directed employer plan or non-employer plan

	State	Nation	Region
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*Stocks, Bonds, and Mutual Funds*

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

23%	30%	23%
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**Managing Financial Products**

*Banking*

Have checking account

86%	91%	88%
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Have savings account, money market account, or CDs

63%	75%	68%
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*Credit Cards*

Credit card behaviors in past year

Always paid credit cards in full

48%	52%	51%
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Carried over a balance and was charged interest

50%	47%	48%
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Paid the minimum payment only

32%	32%	31%
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Charged a late fee for late payment

14%	14%	13%
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Charged an over the limit fee for exceeding credit line

11%	8%	7%
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Used the cards for a cash advance

12%	11%	10%
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*Respondents with credit cards*

*Other Payment Methods*

Use reloadable prepaid debit cards

29%	24%	27%
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Use mobile payment methods

22%	22%	21%
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*Mortgages*

Have mortgage

48%	57%	54%
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Have home equity loan

14%	16%	13%
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*Homeowners*

Home "underwater" (negative equity)

12%	9%	8%
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*Homeowners*

*Other Debt*

Have student loan

29%	26%	25%
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Have auto loan

34%	30%	29%
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*Non-Bank Borrowing*

Non-bank borrowing methods used in past 5 years

Auto title loan

14%	10%	12%
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Short term 'payday' loan

17%	12%	15%
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Pawn shop

24%	16%	21%
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Rent-to-own store

14%	10%	13%
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Used one or more non-bank borrowing methods in past 5 years

35%	26%	31%
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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)	73%	75%	72%
Exactly \$102	10%	8%	9%
Less than \$102	6%	5%	6%
Don't know	9%	12%	12%

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	12%	10%	11%
Exactly the same	9%	10%	9%
<u>Less than today</u> (correct answer)	59%	59%	58%
Don't know	20%	20%	21%

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

They will rise	20%	19%	19%
<u>They will fall</u> (correct answer)	25%	28%	28%
They will stay the same	6%	5%	5%
There is no relationship between bond prices and the interest rate	6%	9%	10%
Don't know	43%	38%	38%

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%	4%	5%
<u>At least 2 years but less than 5 years</u> (correct answer)	30%	33%	31%
At least 5 years but less than 10 years	33%	29%	29%
At least 10 years	8%	8%	7%
Don't know	23%	25%	26%

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)	76%	75%	75%
False	7%	8%	8%
Don't know	15%	16%	16%

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

True	12%	10%	12%
<u>False</u> (correct answer)	37%	46%	42%
Don't know	51%	44%	46%

Mean number of correct quiz answers	2.99	3.16	3.05
Mean number of incorrect quiz answers	1.34	1.25	1.31
Mean number of "don't know" quiz answers	1.61	1.54	1.59

<i>Comparison Shopping</i>	State	Nation	Region	
Compared credit cards	42%	35%	36%	<i>Respondents with credit cards</i>
Did not compare credit cards	53%	58%	57%	

**Notes:**

Region = East South Central Census Division (Alabama, Kentucky, Mississippi, Tennessee).

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 2015.

For additional findings and details, full survey results are available for download at [http://usfinancialcapability.org/downloads/NFCS\\_2015\\_Full\\_Data\\_Tables.xls](http://usfinancialcapability.org/downloads/NFCS_2015_Full_Data_Tables.xls)