

## Summary of Selected Findings: Alaska

				State	Nation	Region	
<b>Making Ends Meet</b>							
Difficulty covering expenses and paying bills							
Very difficult				14%	12%	8%	
Somewhat difficult				33%	35%	35%	
Not at all difficult				51%	50%	54%	
Spending vs. saving							
Spending less than income				38%	41%	42%	
Spending about equal to income				33%	36%	37%	
Spending more than income				27%	19%	18%	
Overdraw checking account occasionally				25%	19%	15%	Respondents with checking accounts
Have unpaid medical bills				26%	23%	15%	
Number of times mortgage payments have been late							
Once				13%	9%	9%	Respondents with mortgages
More than once				13%	9%	5%	
Have taken a loan from retirement account in past year				19%	16%	18%	Respondents with self-directed employer plan or non-employer plan
Have taken a hardship withdrawal from retirement account in past year				16%	13%	14%	
Have experienced large unexpected drop in income in past year				24%	20%	20%	
<b>Planning Ahead</b>							
Have emergency funds				50%	49%	51%	
Do not have emergency funds				47%	46%	44%	
Have tried to figure out retirement savings needs				52%	41%	40%	Non-retired respondents
Have not tried to figure out retirement savings needs				45%	54%	54%	
Have set aside money for children’s college education				44%	38%	42%	Respondents with financially dependent children
Have not set aside money for children’s college education				53%	57%	52%	
<i>Retirement Accounts</i>							
Have employer-provided retirement plan (e.g., pension, 401(k))				64%	54%	50%	Non-retired respondents
Have non-employer retirement plan (e.g., IRA, Keogh, SEP, etc.)				33%	29%	29%	
Regularly contribute to self-directed retirement account				75%	79%	81%	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

37%	32%	34%
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**Managing Financial Products**

*Banking*

Have checking account

94%	89%	90%
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Have savings account, money market account, or CDs

85%	71%	73%
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*Credit Cards*

Credit card behaviors in past year

Always paid credit cards in full

49%	54%	56%
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Carried over a balance and was charged interest

57%	46%	44%
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Paid the minimum payment only

40%	35%	35%
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Charged a late fee for late payment

23%	16%	14%
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Charged an over the limit fee for exceeding credit line

15%	10%	8%
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Used the cards for a cash advance

13%	13%	13%
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*Respondents with credit cards*

*Mobile Payment Methods*

Use mobile phone to pay at point of sale

36%	35%	39%
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Use mobile phone to transfer money to another person

55%	37%	43%
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*Mortgages*

Have mortgage

66%	56%	63%
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Have home equity loan

18%	16%	17%
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*Homeowners*

Home "underwater" (negative equity)

15%	9%	9%
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*Homeowners*

*Other Debt*

Have student loan

28%	26%	24%
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Have auto loan

39%	33%	29%
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*Non-Bank Borrowing*

Non-bank borrowing methods used in past 5 years

Auto title loan

11%	11%	12%
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Short term "payday" loan

15%	14%	15%
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Tax refund advance

10%	10%	10%
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Pawn shop

19%	18%	17%
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Rent-to-own store

11%	12%	11%
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Used one or more non-bank borrowing methods in past 5 years

27%	29%	29%
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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%	72%	72%
Exactly \$102	6%	7%	7%
Less than \$102	4%	6%	7%
Don't know	12%	13%	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	15%	12%	14%
Exactly the same	7%	10%	10%
<u>Less than today</u> (correct answer)	59%	55%	55%
Don't know	19%	21%	20%

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

They will rise	28%	22%	22%
<u>They will fall</u> (correct answer)	23%	26%	28%
They will stay the same	4%	6%	6%
There is no relationship between bond prices and the interest rate	7%	10%	10%
Don't know	38%	36%	33%

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	6%	5%	6%
<u>At least 2 years but less than 5 years</u> (correct answer)	31%	30%	31%
At least 5 years but less than 10 years	29%	29%	31%
At least 10 years	8%	8%	6%
Don't know	25%	26%	24%

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)	75%	73%	72%
False	7%	9%	8%
Don't know	18%	17%	20%

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

True	12%	11%	12%
<u>False</u> (correct answer)	49%	43%	42%
Don't know	38%	45%	44%

Mean number of correct quiz answers	3.16	3.00	3.01
Mean number of incorrect quiz answers	1.32	1.35	1.39
Mean number of "don't know" quiz answers	1.51	1.58	1.54

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<i>Comparison Shopping</i>				
Compared credit cards	39%	38%	35%	<i>Respondents with credit cards</i>
Did not compare credit cards	57%	56%	59%	

**Notes:**

Region = Pacific Census Division (Alaska, California, Hawaii, Oregon, Washington).

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 2018.

For additional findings and details, full survey results are available for download at [http://usfinancialcapability.org/downloads/NFCS\\_2018\\_Full\\_Data\\_Tables.xlsx](http://usfinancialcapability.org/downloads/NFCS_2018_Full_Data_Tables.xlsx)