

Summary of Selected Findings: Massachusetts

	State	Nation	Region	
Making Ends Meet				
Difficulty covering expenses and paying bills				
Very difficult	9%	10%	9%	
Somewhat difficult	29%	33%	31%	
Not at all difficult	59%	54%	57%	
Spending vs. saving				
Spending less than income	48%	43%	47%	
Spending about equal to income	28%	34%	30%	
Spending more than income	19%	19%	19%	
Overdraw checking account occasionally	18%	21%	18%	Respondents with checking accounts
Have unpaid medical bills	14%	22%	17%	
Number of times mortgage payments have been late				
Once	8%	8%	7%	Respondents with mortgages
More than once	8%	9%	8%	
Have taken a loan from retirement account in past year	14%	14%	12%	Respondents with defined contribution retirement accounts
Have taken a hardship withdrawal from retirement account in past year	12%	14%	10%	
Have experienced large unexpected drop in income in past year	20%	26%	21%	
Planning Ahead				
Have emergency funds	60%	53%	58%	
Do not have emergency funds	36%	43%	38%	
Have tried to figure out retirement savings needs	38%	39%	40%	Non-retired respondents
Have not tried to figure out retirement savings needs	54%	55%	53%	
Have set aside money for children’s college education	48%	40%	45%	Respondents with financially dependent children
Have not set aside money for children’s college education	46%	54%	50%	
Retirement Accounts				
Have employer-provided retirement plan (e.g., pension, 401(k))	51%	49%	53%	Non-retired respondents
Have non-employer retirement plan (e.g., IRA, Keogh, SEP, etc.)	31%	26%	31%	
Regularly contribute to retirement account	82%	79%	82%	Respondents with defined contribution retirement accounts

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Stocks, Bonds, and Mutual Funds

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

37%	35%	37%
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Managing Financial Products

Banking

Have checking account

91%	91%	92%
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Have savings account, money market account, or CDs

77%	72%	78%
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Credit Cards

Credit card behaviors in past year

Always paid credit cards in full

62%	59%	59%
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Carried over a balance and was charged interest

39%	43%	41%
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Paid the minimum payment only

31%	35%	32%
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Charged a late fee for late payment

16%	17%	15%
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Charged an over the limit fee for exceeding credit line

10%	11%	9%
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Used the cards for a cash advance

14%	15%	13%
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Respondents with credit cards

Mobile Payment Methods

Use mobile phone to pay at point of sale

44%	43%	42%
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Use mobile phone to transfer money to another person

52%	53%	49%
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Mortgages

Have mortgage

52%	51%	53%
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Have home equity loan

13%	12%	14%
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Homeowners

Home "underwater" (negative equity)

7%	7%	6%
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Homeowners

Other Debt

Have student loan

25%	23%	25%
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Have auto loan

29%	29%	32%
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Non-Bank Borrowing

Non-bank borrowing methods used in past 5 years

Auto title loan

13%	12%	11%
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Short term "payday" loan

11%	15%	10%
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Tax refund advance

11%	11%	10%
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Pawn shop

14%	21%	15%
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Rent-to-own store

12%	14%	12%
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Used one or more non-bank borrowing methods in past 5 years

23%	32%	25%
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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)	70%	69%	72%
Exactly \$102	8%	9%	7%
Less than \$102	6%	6%	6%
Don't know	16%	15%	14%

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%	12%	12%
Exactly the same	11%	11%	10%
<u>Less than today</u> (correct answer)	54%	53%	55%
Don't know	21%	23%	21%

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

They will rise	19%	20%	18%
<u>They will fall</u> (correct answer)	29%	25%	29%
They will stay the same	6%	6%	6%
There is no relationship between bond prices and the interest rate	9%	9%	9%
Don't know	37%	39%	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%	5%	4%
<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	25%	28%	27%
At least 10 years	9%	7%	9%
Don't know	27%	28%	27%

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)	36%	36%	36%
2% of the population will get the disease	12%	13%	13%
25 out of every 1,000 people will get the disease	18%	17%	18%
Don't know	32%	33%	32%

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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)	66%	69%	71%
False	9%	9%	8%
Don't know	24%	22%	21%
Buying a single company's stock usually provides a safer return than a stock mutual fund.			
True	11%	12%	10%
<u>False</u> (correct answer)	43%	42%	44%
Don't know	45%	45%	45%
Mean number of correct quiz answers	3.30	3.23	3.37
Mean number of incorrect quiz answers	1.61	1.63	1.57
Mean number of "don't know" quiz answers	2.01	2.06	1.99

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 June – October 2021.

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