

Summary of Selected Findings: North Carolina

	State	Nation	Region	
Making Ends Meet				
Difficulty covering expenses and paying bills				
Very difficult	9%	10%	11%	
Somewhat difficult	35%	33%	32%	
Not at all difficult	53%	54%	54%	
Spending vs. saving				
Spending less than income	43%	43%	44%	
Spending about equal to income	37%	34%	33%	
Spending more than income	17%	19%	19%	
Overdraw checking account occasionally	22%	21%	21%	Respondents with checking accounts
Have unpaid medical bills	29%	22%	24%	
Number of times mortgage payments have been late				
Once	8%	8%	9%	Respondents with mortgages
More than once	8%	9%	10%	
Have taken a loan from retirement account in past year	19%	14%	17%	Respondents with defined contribution retirement accounts
Have taken a hardship withdrawal from retirement account in past year	18%	14%	18%	
Have experienced large unexpected drop in income in past year	23%	26%	26%	
Planning Ahead				
Have emergency funds	49%	53%	53%	
Do not have emergency funds	46%	43%	42%	
Have tried to figure out retirement savings needs	38%	39%	41%	Non-retired respondents
Have not tried to figure out retirement savings needs	55%	55%	54%	
Have set aside money for children’s college education	35%	40%	42%	Respondents with financially dependent children
Have not set aside money for children’s college education	61%	54%	51%	
Retirement Accounts				
Have employer-provided retirement plan (e.g., pension, 401(k))	49%	49%	47%	Non-retired respondents
Have non-employer retirement plan (e.g., IRA, Keogh, SEP, etc.)	22%	26%	27%	
Regularly contribute to retirement account	86%	79%	80%	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

31%	35%	34%
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Managing Financial Products

Banking

Have checking account

91%	91%	90%
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Have savings account, money market account, or CDs

75%	72%	71%
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Credit Cards

Credit card behaviors in past year

Always paid credit cards in full

52%	59%	58%
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Carried over a balance and was charged interest

47%	43%	43%
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Paid the minimum payment only

41%	35%	36%
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Charged a late fee for late payment

19%	17%	18%
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Charged an over the limit fee for exceeding credit line

12%	11%	12%
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Used the cards for a cash advance

14%	15%	16%
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Respondents with credit cards

Mobile Payment Methods

Use mobile phone to pay at point of sale

43%	43%	45%
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Use mobile phone to transfer money to another person

51%	53%	55%
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Mortgages

Have mortgage

58%	51%	53%
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Have home equity loan

14%	12%	12%
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Homeowners

Home "underwater" (negative equity)

9%	7%	9%
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Homeowners

Other Debt

Have student loan

23%	23%	24%
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Have auto loan

32%	29%	31%
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Non-Bank Borrowing

Non-bank borrowing methods used in past 5 years

Auto title loan

13%	12%	14%
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Short term "payday" loan

13%	15%	17%
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Tax refund advance

13%	11%	14%
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Pawn shop

22%	21%	23%
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Rent-to-own store

15%	14%	16%
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Used one or more non-bank borrowing methods in past 5 years

32%	32%	33%
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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	9%	9%	10%
Less than \$102	5%	6%	6%
Don't know	15%	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%	11%
Exactly the same	13%	11%	13%
<u>Less than today</u> (correct answer)	52%	53%	50%
Don't know	24%	23%	24%

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

They will rise	22%	20%	21%
<u>They will fall</u> (correct answer)	25%	25%	24%
They will stay the same	5%	6%	7%
There is no relationship between bond prices and the interest rate	8%	9%	10%
Don't know	39%	39%	37%

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)	28%	30%	28%
At least 5 years but less than 10 years	27%	28%	29%
At least 10 years	9%	7%	7%
Don't know	29%	28%	29%

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)	37%	36%	34%
2% of the population will get the disease	12%	13%	13%
25 out of every 1,000 people will get the disease	18%	17%	17%
Don't know	33%	33%	35%

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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)	68%	69%	67%
False	8%	9%	9%
Don't know	23%	22%	23%
Buying a single company's stock usually provides a safer return than a stock mutual fund.			
True	15%	12%	14%
<u>False</u> (correct answer)	35%	42%	39%
Don't know	49%	45%	46%
Mean number of correct quiz answers	3.14	3.23	3.09
Mean number of incorrect quiz answers	1.66	1.63	1.73
Mean number of "don't know" quiz answers	2.11	2.06	2.11

Notes:

Region = South Atlantic Census Division (Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia).

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.