

Summary of Selected Findings: Washington

		State	Nation	Region	
Making Ends Meet					
Difficulty covering expenses and paying bills					
Very difficult		10%	10%	9%	
Somewhat difficult		29%	33%	31%	
Not at all difficult		59%	54%	57%	
Spending vs. saving					
Spending less than income		50%	43%	45%	
Spending about equal to income		31%	34%	33%	
Spending more than income		17%	19%	18%	
Overdraw checking account occasionally		17%	21%	19%	Respondents with checking accounts
Have unpaid medical bills		14%	22%	14%	
Number of times mortgage payments have been late					
Once		3%	8%	8%	Respondents with mortgages
More than once		7%	9%	9%	
Have taken a loan from retirement account in past year		8%	14%	16%	Respondents with defined contribution retirement accounts
Have taken a hardship withdrawal from retirement account in past year		11%	14%	17%	
Have experienced large unexpected drop in income in past year		25%	26%	26%	
Planning Ahead					
Have emergency funds		59%	53%	57%	
Do not have emergency funds		38%	43%	38%	
Have tried to figure out retirement savings needs		41%	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		37%	40%	45%	Respondents with financially dependent children
Have not set aside money for children’s college education		60%	54%	50%	
Retirement Accounts					
Have employer-provided retirement plan (e.g., pension, 401(k))		50%	49%	47%	Non-retired respondents
Have non-employer retirement plan (e.g., IRA, Keogh, SEP, etc.)		30%	26%	28%	
Regularly contribute to retirement account		71%	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

40%	35%	37%
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Managing Financial Products

Banking

Have checking account

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

82%	72%	76%
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Credit Cards

Credit card behaviors in past year

Always paid credit cards in full

62%	59%	64%
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Carried over a balance and was charged interest

40%	43%	39%
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Paid the minimum payment only

32%	35%	34%
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Charged a late fee for late payment

12%	17%	16%
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Charged an over the limit fee for exceeding credit line

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

12%	15%	13%
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Respondents with credit cards

Mobile Payment Methods

Use mobile phone to pay at point of sale

39%	43%	45%
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Use mobile phone to transfer money to another person

51%	53%	53%
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Mortgages

Have mortgage

55%	51%	57%
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Have home equity loan

13%	12%	14%
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Homeowners

Home “underwater” (negative equity)

4%	7%	8%
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Homeowners

Other Debt

Have student loan

20%	23%	21%
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Have auto loan

22%	29%	25%
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Non-Bank Borrowing

Non-bank borrowing methods used in past 5 years

Auto title loan

11%	12%	12%
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Short term “payday” loan

13%	15%	15%
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Tax refund advance

8%	11%	11%
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Pawn shop

18%	21%	17%
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Rent-to-own store

8%	14%	11%
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Used one or more non-bank borrowing methods in past 5 years

27%	32%	27%
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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)	77%	69%	69%
Exactly \$102	7%	9%	10%
Less than \$102	4%	6%	6%
Don't know	12%	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	8%	11%	13%
<u>Less than today</u> (correct answer)	61%	53%	52%
Don't know	18%	23%	22%

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

They will rise	19%	20%	21%
<u>They will fall</u> (correct answer)	32%	25%	28%
They will stay the same	4%	6%	5%
There is no relationship between bond prices and the interest rate	8%	9%	8%
Don't know	37%	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	6%	5%	5%
<u>At least 2 years but less than 5 years</u> (correct answer)	36%	30%	32%
At least 5 years but less than 10 years	27%	28%	27%
At least 10 years	6%	7%	7%
Don't know	23%	28%	28%

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)	43%	36%	35%
2% of the population will get the disease	12%	13%	14%
25 out of every 1,000 people will get the disease	16%	17%	16%
Don't know	28%	33%	34%

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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)	70%	69%	66%
False	7%	9%	9%
Don't know	22%	22%	25%
Buying a single company's stock usually provides a safer return than a stock mutual fund.			
True	11%	12%	14%
<u>False</u> (correct answer)	47%	42%	44%
Don't know	41%	45%	42%
Mean number of correct quiz answers	3.67	3.23	3.26
Mean number of incorrect quiz answers	1.48	1.63	1.65
Mean number of "don't know" quiz answers	1.82	2.06	2.03

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 2021.

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