

## Gender gap remains with financial literacy

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There's a gap between men and women when it comes to financial literacy and it is most prevalent in the areas of investing and budgeting.

Women, according to a new report, don't know as much as men about investment options and they're less sure of their investment decisions. They are budgeting less successfully than males and they are more uncomfortable with the amount of non-mortgage debt they're carrying.

All of this because women historically face greater financial obstacles than men – they earn less, they live longer and they are usually the primary caregivers for their families, tending to everyone else before they take care of themselves, the report says.

Here are some of the highlights from the gender-gap study issued June 14 by Financial Finesse, a financial education firm based in California. The data comes from user-driven responses derived from an online survey conducted between Jan. 1 and March 31.

- 64 percent of women say they have general knowledge of bonds, stocks and mutual funds; 84 percent of men report the same level of knowledge.
- 25 percent of women are confident about their investment allocations; 42 percent of men are similarly confident.
- 63 percent of women spend less each month than they make; 80 percent of men do the same.
- 46 percent of women say they are uncomfortable with the amount of non-mortgage debt they carry; 30 percent of men report uneasiness about debt.
- 49 percent of women pay credit card bills in full each month; 65 percent of men do the same.

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