

FINANCIAL WELLNESS OF SINGAPOREAN YOUTH



Financial wellness is an important aspect of an individual's overall wellness. Individuals with sufficient financial wellness can make better informed economic decisions and judgements.

Financial wellness includes four broad categories:



Earning



Saving



Risk Appetite



Financial Technology (FinTech) and Digitalisation

SMU Assistant Professor of Finance (Education) Aurobindo Ghosh conducted a benchmarking survey to assess the state of financial wellness of Singaporean youth. [Read more here.](#)



SURVEY

Financial Inclusion, Wellness and Resilience (FIWR) was measured using a comprehensive score that is comprised of twelve inter-related sub-categories: risk comprehension, insurance, investment, sources of information, consumption, earning, saving, borrowing, digital literacy, FinTech, budgeting and sustainability.

A total of 1,068 youth (18–30yo) comprising university and other tertiary sector students and young working adults were surveyed.

RESULTS



- University students in Singapore generally have adequate financial wellness although STEM students fared lower.
- Young working adults have lower FIWR scores compared to university students.
- What is concerning is the high level of debt for a third of the young working adults and their ability to detect financial scams, as well as access to financial services that is hampered by mistrust of financial institutions.
- Youth in double income households have lower FIWR scores. It could be construed that these youth have less parental, or specifically, maternal interaction. Thus, it is possible that they have less financial guidance and appreciation of the financial situation in the household.



RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1 Roll out business education to tertiary students. Those majoring in STEM disciplines are recommended to take at least a business course.
- 2 Continuing education in business is a must for young working adults to maintain or improve their financial wellness.

