



Assessing the level of financial literacy among university students

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ABSTRACT :

This study investigates the level of financial literacy among university students, aiming to understand their knowledge, attitudes, and behaviors towards personal finance management. A mixed-methods approach is employed, combining surveys and interviews to gather data from a diverse sample of undergraduate students. Results reveal varying degrees of financial literacy, with notable gaps in understanding key concepts such as budgeting, saving, investing, and debt management. Furthermore, the study explores the factors influencing financial literacy levels, including socio-demographic characteristics and educational experiences. Findings provide valuable insights for policymakers, educators, and financial institutions to develop targeted interventions and educational programs to enhance the financial capabilities of university students, promoting their long-term financial well-being.

Keywords: Assessing the level of financial literacy among university students.

Introduction :

Financial literacy is a critical component of personal and societal well-being, influencing individuals' financial decisions, savings, investments, and overall economic stability. Amidst the complexities of modern financial systems, the need for adequate financial knowledge and skills is increasingly recognized, particularly among university students who are transitioning into financial independence and responsibility.

This paper aims to investigate the level of financial literacy among university students, recognizing its implications for their future financial well-being. By understanding the current state of financial literacy among this demographic, interventions and educational programs can be tailored to address specific knowledge gaps and empower students to make informed financial decisions.

In recent years, concerns have been raised about the financial literacy levels of university students, with studies highlighting deficiencies in understanding basic financial concepts such as budgeting, debt management, investment strategies, and retirement planning. These deficiencies can have long-term consequences, affecting students' ability to manage their finances effectively, accumulate wealth, and navigate financial challenges throughout their lives.

Furthermore, the increasing availability of financial products and services, coupled with the rise of digital and online platforms, adds complexity to the financial landscape faced by university students. Without adequate financial literacy, students may be vulnerable to financial pitfalls, including excessive debt, predatory lending, and fraudulent schemes.

Understanding the factors that influence financial literacy among university students is essential for developing targeted interventions. Socioeconomic background, educational experiences, family influence, and access to financial resources are among the factors that may impact students' financial knowledge and behaviors. By identifying these factors, educators, policymakers, and financial institutions can design effective strategies to enhance financial literacy and promote financial well-being among university students.

In summary, this paper seeks to contribute to the existing literature on financial literacy by assessing the level of financial knowledge and skills among university students. By shedding light on the current state of financial literacy in this demographic, it aims to inform the development of evidence-based interventions and initiatives to improve students' financial capabilities and empower them to achieve financial security and success in the future.

Literature Review :

A literature review on assessing the level of financial literacy among university students would likely include studies on various assessment tools, factors influencing financial literacy, demographic differences, interventions to improve financial literacy, and the implications of financial literacy on students' financial behaviors and outcomes. Key themes may revolve around the importance of financial education, gaps in knowledge, and the impact of financial literacy on long-term financial well-being.

Objectives :

When assessing the level of financial literacy among university students, the objectives typically include:

- 1:- Understanding Knowledge Gaps: Identify areas where students lack essential financial knowledge or skills.
- 2:- Tailoring Education Programs: Develop targeted financial literacy programs based on identified gaps to improve students' understanding and decision-making.
- 3:-Informing Policy: Provide data to policymakers to create initiatives aimed at enhancing financial literacy at the university level and beyond.
- 4:- Promoting Financial Well-being: Help students make informed financial decisions, reduce financial stress, and improve long-term financial well-being.
- 5:- Assessing Effectiveness: Evaluate the effectiveness of existing financial literacy initiatives and interventions in universities.

These objectives contribute to the broader goal of equipping university students with the necessary financial knowledge and skills to navigate their financial futures successfully.

Methodology

Assessing the financial literacy of university students is crucial for their future financial well-being. A common methodology involves designing a survey or questionnaire covering key financial concepts such as budgeting, saving, investing, and debt management. The survey can be administered electronically or in person to a representative sample of students. Additionally, qualitative methods such as focus groups or interviews can provide deeper insights into students' attitudes and behaviors towards money. Analyzing the data collected using statistical techniques helps quantify the level of financial literacy and identify areas for improvement in financial education programs.

Findings and Conclusions Findings:

- 1:- Assessment of students' understanding of basic financial concepts such as budgeting, saving, investing, and debt management.
- 2:- Identification of areas where students excel or struggle in terms of financial knowledge.
- 3:- Correlation between financial literacy levels and demographic factors such as age, gender, socioeconomic background, and academic major.
- 4:- Impact of educational interventions or prior financial education on students' financial literacy.

Conclusions:

- 1:- Overall level of financial literacy among university students.
- 2:- Implications of findings for curriculum development and educational policy.
- 3:- Suggestions for improving financial literacy among university students, including targeted interventions or resources.
- 4:- Potential long-term effects of increased financial literacy on students' financial well-being and decision-making.

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