

# North Carolina Financial Literacy Scorecard

The North Carolina Financial Literacy Council (FLC) released the first-ever Financial Literacy Scorecard for the state in May 2026. Access the complete scorecard at [FLC.NC.GOV](https://FLC.NC.GOV).

## Key Findings:

- 1. Overall financial literacy remains relatively low.** Nationally, only 27% of respondents answered at least two-thirds of FINRA's financial literacy questions correctly, while 34% answered fewer than one-third correctly.
- 2. The results for neighboring states are similar, but North Carolina lags the national average on several measures.** Fewer North Carolina residents (3 to 6% fewer) answered questions correctly than the national average.
- 3. Many people overestimate their financial knowledge.** While only 27% of US respondents demonstrate high financial literacy, 40% rate their own financial knowledge as high.
- 4. A gender gap persists, with the differences as high as 18% on some questions.** Women score lower than men on the seven financial literacy questions and report lower confidence in managing their finances. Trends from 2015 to 2024 suggest persistent differences between men and women. Women also report having poorer access to financial literacy programs.
- 5. Respondents who participated in financial education programs performed better on financial literacy questions and reported greater confidence in handling financial decisions.** Financial education participation in North Carolina is associated with a 13-percentage-point increase in high financial literacy.