## Research on Financial Literacy Survey of 10,000 Individuals

Age and gender differences in financial literacy and characteristics of their investment-related activities【50s or older】

November 2018<br>MUFG Financial Education Institute

## Survey Overview

(1) Name:
(2) Method:
(3) Period:
(4) Respondent:

Financial Literacy Survey on 10,000 Individuals
Web-based questionnaire by a research company
December 1, 2017 (Fri) - December 4, 2017 (Mon)
Company employee (of company with 300 or more employees) : 8,500
Public official: 1,000
Female/male homemaker: 500
Total: 10,000

* The age group ratio (30s or younger, 40s, 50 s or older) and the gender ratio of company employees $(8,500)$ were decided based on corresponding distribution figures in regular employees of companies with 300 employees or more of "Employment Status Survey" by Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (2012)
(5) Number of questions asked: 38
<Company employees>

|  | Male |  | Female |  | Total |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 30s or younger | 2,984 | 35.1\% | 1,134 | 13.3\% | 4,118 | 48.4\% |
| 40s | 2,077 | 24.4\% | 417 | 4.9\% | 2,494 | 29.3\% |
| 50s or older | 1,630 | 19.2\% | 258 | 3.0\% | 1,888 | 22.2\% |
| Total | 6,691 | 78.7\% | 1,809 | 21.3\% | 8,500 | 100.0\% |

<Breakdown of 50s or older>

|  | Male |  | Female |  | Total |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| $\mathbf{5 0 - 5 4}$ | 807 | $42.7 \%$ | 159 | $8.4 \%$ | 966 | $51.2 \%$ |
| $\mathbf{5 5 - 5 9}$ | 632 | $33.5 \%$ | 76 | $4.0 \%$ | 708 | $37.5 \%$ |
| $\mathbf{6 0}$ or <br> older | 191 | $10.1 \%$ | 23 | $1.2 \%$ | 214 | $11.3 \%$ |
| Total | 1,630 | $86.3 \%$ | 258 | $13.7 \%$ | 1,888 | $100.0 \%$ |

## Introduction

## Analysis on male and female financial literacy and characteristics of investment-related activities in the 50s or older age group

■ Most company employees in their 50s or older have experienced changes of job positions due to the age limit system for managerial personnel, which serves an opportunity for them to think about their post-retirement life

■ In terms of funds needed to cover post-retirement living, there is a gap in financial assets between "those who have invested for asset building" and "those who have not" at this point in life. We consider that the gap between those who have invested periodically for asset building since they are young and those who have not becomes obvious when they turn 50 or older

■ We also see a sharp contrast in opinions about investment of this generation between a positive attitude and a negative attitude toward investment

- There is a non-negligible portion of this generation with such a positive attitude who actually start investing with their retirement allowance or a certain amount of saving. Starting investing with such a large sum of money without any previous investment experience could pose unexpected risks to them in terms of investment objective and investment amount

■ On the other hand, there is another non-negligible portion of this generation who are indifferent to investment or are vehemently negative about investment. We assume that they might not have considered their living expenses and income after retirement or that a negative image of investment has deep-rooted in their outlook on life

■ We have found that a higher percentage of the 50 s or older have never considered investing compared with the other generations and even if they start investing, the possibility of experiencing unexpected risks is higher due to shorter investment periods, suggesting that it is more important for this generation to have correct perceptions about benefits and risks of investment

## Generation Background

The time period when the 50s age group generation (50s or older company employees) grew up

|  | "Post Baby Boomer Generation" | "Shinjinrui (new breed) Generation" |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Born between 1952 and 1959 Late 50s-Mid 60s | Born between 1960 and 1965 Early 50s-Late 50s |
|  | - They were junior high/senior high/university students during the rapid economic growth <br> - The long term employment system with seniority-based pay structures was a norm <br> - Women started having more working opportunities <br> - The workaholic working style ("Can you fight 24 hours, Japanese businessman?" generation) | - They were young children during the rapid economic growth <br> - The Unified First-stage University Entrance Examination (Kyotsuichiji) was introduced <br> - Enjoyed a steady pay raise while they were young and then experienced the performance-based pay system <br> - Equal Employment Opportunity Act for Men and Women became effective |
|  | - Apathy in politics Sometimes described as generation with 3 apathies (apathy in efforts, apathy in something exciting, apathy in anything) <br> - The 1st Otaku (people with obsessive interests) generation. Folk song fan generation <br> - Accept diversified hobbies and preferences | - Favor comic, animation and techno pop <br> - Develop passion for "big-name brand" and favor spending <br> - The first generation that got over the unified entrance exam of Kyotsuichiji |

## Investment Experience Matrix

## Details of investment experience (of 8,500 company employees)

- The survey identifies investment experience through corporate DC pension plan and personal investment experience separately.
- The analysis is conducted only on the "personal investment experience".



## 5 Steps for Starting Investing

## Respondent categorization based on 5 steps for starting investing

■ The research classifies survey respondents into 5 categories according to which of the 5 steps they have taken and a ratio of those who have reached each step is defined as "Retention Ratio" of each step. Some of the analyses are conducted on specific category respondents using the 5 step category


## Content

Financial literacy and characteristics of investment-related activities of $\mathbf{5 0}$ s or older generation

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# Financial literacy and characteristics of investment-related activities of 50s or older generation 

Analysis on responses to questions of the survey suited to identify features of the 50 s or older generation by comparing them to those of the other generations

## Key Takeaways

Financial literacy and characteristics of investment-related activities of 50 s or older generation

| Financial literacy/ |
| :---: |
| Investment-related |
| activity | Financial Asset $_{\text {Status }}$| Investment status |
| :--- |
| Understanding |
| Interest |
| Information |
| Collection |

- Financial literacy and financial activity level of males are higher than those of females
- Female financial literacy increases as they grow older
- The gap in financial assets between "those who have invested for asset building" and "those who have not" widens as they grow older

■ The ratio of those who "Never considered investing" is higher compared with the other generations, while the ratio of "Have experienced investing" is as high as those of the others
■ Their ratio of "Have no interest in investing in the first place" is higher compared with the other generations as reason for "Have not considered investing"
■ On the other hand, of those who "Have considered investing", majority of males choose "having secured a certain amount of money including retirement allowance" as reason for opening an account", while the ratio of females who choose "information from financial institution" as the reason is high

- While their interest levels in financial product and economic theory are lower compared with the other generations, their interest level in life designing is almost as high as those of the other generations
■ The ratio of those who estimate "their monthly expense to live a financially comfortable postretirement life" lower than actual expenses is higher compared with the other generations

■ In addition to website information, many males use print media including newspaper, while many females use information from financial institutions. On the other hand, their usage rate of smartphone is lower compared with the other generations

## Financial Literacy and Investment-related Activity (1)

Financial literacy in males is relatively high in all age groups


## Financial Literacy and Investment-related Activity (2)

Male financial activity point is relatively high in all age groups


Financial Activity Point
(Respondent) Company employees


## Financial Asset Status

## The older generation tend to have more financial assets


(Notes) 1.Investment Ratio: The number of those who "Have experienced investing (P5)" (personal investment experience excluding investment experience through corporate DC pension plan) divided by the total number of each financial asset range

## Investment Status (1)

—Ratio of Respondents Who Reach Each of the " 5 Steps for Starting Investing"
As they grow older, the ratio of "Never considered investing (P5)" becomes higher in males, while the ratio of "Have experienced investing (P5)" becomes higher in females


## Takeaway

The gender differences in tendencies seen in the " 5 Steps for Starting Investing" become more obvious as they grow older

## Steps taken to start investing (consideration of opening an account, starting procedure, opening an account and start investing)

(Respondent) Company employees


【5 Steps for Starting Investing】 (See P5)

- Have never considered investing nor opening an investment account
- Have considered opening an account but have not started procedures for the opening
- Have started procedures to open an account but cancelled before their completion
- Have opened an account by completing the procedures but have never made any investments

■ Have opened an account and experienced investments using the account

## Investment Status (2)

## -Retention Ratio of Each Step of the 5 Steps for Starting Investing

Retention rate of 50 s or older at "Have considered investing" is the lowest among all generations


Retention Ratio of Each Step of the 5 Steps for Starting Investing ${ }^{1}$
(Respondent) Company employees

[^0]
## Investment Status

## —Reason for Not Considering Opening an Account

The ratio of "Have no interest in investing in the first place" in 50 s or older is higher compared with the other generations
(1) Their ratio of "Have no interest in investing in the first place" is higher compared with the other generations
(2) Their ratios of "Lack of knowledge" and "Worry about losing money" are lower than those of the other generations but are still high at around 50\%

## Takeaway

The above survey results suggest the following 2 possibilities;
(1) Having witnessed the burst of bubble economy and subsequent sluggish Japanese stock market performance, the oldest age group has developed a negative perspective on investment
(2) Many of this age group have an optimistic outlook that their postretirement life is financially secured without making investment

## Reason for Not Considering Opening an Account

(Respondent) Company employee respondents who chose "Have never considered opening an investment account" for their personal investment experience ${ }^{1}$


[^1]
## Investment Status (4)

## —Reason for Opening an Account (Males: Their own environment change)

As much as over $10 \%$ of this age group have opened an account after receiving retirement allowance


## Investment Status (5)

-Reason for Opening an Account (Females: Outside influences)
The ratio of those who have opened an account after being influenced by recommendations/promotional campaigns of financial institution is high

Reason for Opening an Account (outside influences)

(Respondent) Of company employee respondents who chose options other than "Have never considered opening an investment account" for their personal investment experience ${ }^{1}(5,318)$, female respondents


- Recommendation by financial institution officials
- Financial institution promotional campaign
- Recommendation by acquaintances/relatives
- Influence by acquaintances/relatives who have already started investing
- CM and advertisement to promote financial products
- Others
- Reasons not classified into the above


## Investment Status (6)

-Investment Currently Chosen by Those with Investment Experience

No large difference in financial products chosen between the oldest age group and the other age groups


## Investment Currently Chosen by Those with Investment Experience

(Respondent) Of company employees, those who currently hold investment assets through corporate DC pension plan or personal investment


## Investment Status (7)

—Financial Literacy by Investment Asset Held

Financial literacy of those who invest in both Japanese equity and investment trust is higher


## Investment Status (8)

—Investment Asset Held by Age/Gender
There is no significant differences in holder percentages of all asset types among male age groups, while the percentage of both Japanese equity and Investment trust holder in females increases as they grow older

Percentage of Each Asset Holder by Age/Gender

(Respondent) Of company employees, those who currently hold Japanese equity, investment trust or both through corporate DC pension plan or personal investment


## Understanding/Interest (1)

-Interest in Life Designing
Interest levels of both males and females in this age group are lower than those of the young generation but are almost as high as those of 40 s


## Understanding/Interest (2)

## —Interest in Learning about Financial Product

Although over $50 \%$ of males and females in the age group are interested in learning about financial product, their figures are lower than the other generations


## Understanding/Interest (3)

-Willingness to Learn about Economic Theory
Although nearly 50\% of males and females in the age group have willingness to learn about economic theory, their figures are lower than the other generations


## Understanding/Interest (4)

-Understanding Level of NISA
(Difference in Level of Understanding of NISA Between Self-Assessment and Objective Assessment by Test) (1)
In terms of self-assessment of financial knowledge, the level of males in 50s or older group is almost as high as those of the other males, while the level increases as they grow older in females

Level of Understanding of Features of Financial Product and Its Scheme (Self-Assessment ) (Understanding Level of NISA)


## Takeaway

The similar tendency in the NISA understanding is seen in the age group when they are asked about their understanding level of "foreign deposit", "equity", "outline of DC pension plan", "investment trust" and "JGB/public \& corporate bond".
(Respondent) Company employees


## Understanding/Interest (5)

—Understanding Level of NISA
(Difference in Level of Understanding of NISA Between Self-Assessment and Objective Assessment by Test) (2)
Understanding level of NISA in this age group is lower than those of the other generations


[^2]
## Understanding/Interest (6)

—Understanding Level of Necessary Expenses for a Financially Comfortable Post-retirement Life
(Difference in Level of Understanding of the Necessary Expenses Between Self-Assessment and Objective Assessment by Test)(1)
The percentages of "Understand" of both males and females in this age group exceed 60\%, which are higher than those of the other generations


## Understanding Level of Monthly Expenses Needed for a Financially Comfortable Post-retirement Life (Self-Assessment)

(Respondent) Company employees


## Understanding/Interest (7)

-Understanding Level of Necessary Expenses for a Financially Comfortable Post-retirement Life
(Difference in Level of Understanding of the Necessary Expenses Between Self-Assessment and Objective Assessment by Test) (2)
The result suggests that there is a non-negligible percentage of people who estimate their monthly expense for their financially comfortable post-retirement life lower than it actually is
The correct ratios (actual
understanding ratios confirmed
objectively by the test) are lower
than the self-assessed
understanding ratios (P25) in all
generations
Takeaway
--------------------------
Males in all generations are more
expense than females
We assume that providing more
accurate information on the
necessary expense for a financially
comfortable post-retirement life to
the 50 s age group could have
them realize their necessity for
asset building
Then

Correct/Incorrect Ratio in Test to Measure Understanding Level of Monthly Expense for a Financially Comfortable Post-retirement Life ${ }^{1}$
(Respondent) Company employees


[^3]
## Information Collection (1)

—Information collection "When Considering Opening an Account" (Male)
Utilization ratio of PC is the highest in males in this age group but their newspaper utilization ratio is also higher than the other male generations
(1) The ratio of those who used comparison websites on PC for information collection is high
(2) The ratio of those who used newspaper article is higher compared with the other generations

## Media Used for Information Collection When Considering Opening an Account

(Respondent) Of company employee respondents who chose options other than "Have never considered opening an investment account" for their personal investment experience ${ }^{1}(5,318)$, male respondents 2.35


[^4]
## Information Collection (2)

-Information collection "When Considering Opening an Account" (Female)
Like males in this age group, utilization ratio of PC is the highest in females but their utilization ratio of information from financial institution is also high and highest among all female generations

## Media Used for Information Collection When Considering Opening an Account

(Respondent) Of company employee respondents who chose options other than "Have never considered opening an investment account" for their personal investment experience ${ }^{1}(5,318)$, female respondents 2234


[^5]
## Information Collection (3)

-Learning Opportunities After Starting Investment (Male)
Majority of males in this age group use print media including newspaper and magazines etc. to learn about investment

After starting investment, many respondents used print media including newspaper, magazines and books to learn about investment. Among males of all generations, their website information ratio is the lowest.

## Takeaway

- The non-negligible ratio of respondents voluntarily continued learning about investment after starting investing
- Nearly $10 \%$ of respondents learned about investment at training courses at work, which, we assume, were seminars for the Soon-to-Be Retirees

Learning Opportunities After Starting Investment
(Respondent) Of company employee respondents who chose "Have opened an account and experienced investments using the account ${ }^{1}(3,362)$, male respondents

(Notes) 1.Excluding investment experience through corporate DC pension plan

## Information Collection (4)

-Learning Opportunities After Starting Investment (Female)

## Many females in this age group use print media to learn about investment, while over $50 \%$ of them do not learn about investment

(1) Many females in this age group use print media to learn about investment like their male counterparts
(2) On the other hand, the ratio of "Do not collect information nor learn about investment" after making investment is higher at over $50 \%$ compared with the other generations

## Takeaway

The ratio of those who do not learn about investment in females of this age group is higher compared with their male counterparts and the other generations.
We attribute this tendency to the possibility that they find it unnecessary to collect information by themselves since many of them use information given from financial institution officials

Learning Opportunities After Starting Investment
(Respondent) Of company employee respondents who chose "Have opened an account and experienced investments using the account ${ }^{1}(3,362)$, female respondents


- Female: 50s or older ( $n=101$ ) $\quad$ Female: 40s ( $n=141$ ) $\quad$ Female: 30s or younger ( $n=345$ )

[^6]
## Conclusion

## In the age of 100 -year lifespan, the 50 s or older age group people (especially those in their $50 \mathrm{~s}^{1}$ ) are just at the halfway to their goal. Therefore, it is important for them to realize that they can still enjoy benefits of long-term investment for asset building from now

- Our analysis on the age group reveals that they are as interested in life designing as the other generations, while there is a non-negligible percentage of the cohort who estimate their monthly expenses for their financially comfortable post-retirement life lower than it actually is or who are not interested in investment in the first place
- With the accelerating longevity, our current average life expectancies at $60^{2}$ are 23.72 years for males and 28.97 for females, respectively and the post-retirement or second life period for the cohort is becoming longer compared with the period for those who retired when this age group people were younger
- Having this cohort comprehend the funds required to cover their second life expenses and learn correctly about necessity for asset building and about benefits and risks of investment could potentially boost their needs for asset building from their 50s


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[^0]:    (Notes) 1.Ratio of those who reach each step of the " 5 Steps for Starting Investing" in each gender group

[^1]:    (Notes) 1.Excluding investment experience through corporate DC pension plan

[^2]:    (Notes) 1.【Question/Form of Test】Test with multiple choice questions in which a test-taker is to choose 1 correct answer from 5 choices of explanation about NISA

[^3]:    (Notes) 1.【Question/Form of Test】 Test with multiple choice questions in which a test-taker is to choose 1 correct answer from 5 choices of explanation about monthly expense for a financially comfortable post-retirement life

[^4]:    (Notes) 1.Excluding investment experience through corporate DC pension plan

[^5]:    (Notes) 1.Excluding investment experience through corporate DC pension plan

[^6]:    (Notes) 1.Excluding investment experience through corporate DC pension plan

