

A Study on Financial Behavior and Budgeting Practices Among Young Professionals

Zirpe Kalyani Sopan¹, Dr. R. H Attar², Prof. Shirsath Y. S³
^{1,2,3}Dept. MBA in Finance

Sunitatai Eknathrao Dhakane College of Management, Shevgaon, Ahilyanagar, MH
Savitribai Phule Pune University, Maharashtra

Abstract: *Financial behavior and budgeting practices play a vital role in determining the financial stability and future security of young professionals. As individuals enter the workforce, they begin to experience financial independence along with increasing responsibilities such as rent, transportation, daily expenses, savings, loan repayments, and lifestyle-related spending. In such a situation, effective budgeting and responsible financial behavior become essential for maintaining financial discipline and avoiding unnecessary financial stress. The present study focuses on understanding the financial behavior and budgeting practices among young professionals. It examines how young working individuals manage their income, expenses, savings, and financial commitments in their day-to-day lives. The study also aims to identify the extent to which budgeting is followed, the factors influencing spending and saving decisions, and the role of financial awareness in shaping financial habits. For the purpose of the study, primary data can be collected through a structured questionnaire from young professionals belonging to different occupational backgrounds. The collected data may be analyzed using percentage analysis, charts, and simple statistical tools to interpret budgeting habits, saving patterns, debt usage, and financial planning behavior. The findings are expected to reveal that while many young professionals are aware of the importance of budgeting, only a limited number follow it consistently. The study may also indicate that income level, lifestyle preferences, digital payment usage, and financial literacy significantly influence personal financial behavior. The study concludes that proper budgeting practices and improved financial awareness can help young professionals develop healthier financial habits, increase savings, manage expenses effectively, and reduce financial stress. The findings of the study may be useful for students, educators, financial institutions, employers, and policymakers in promoting better personal financial management among the younger working population.*

Keywords: Financial Behavior, Budgeting Practices, Young Professionals, Personal Finance, Saving Habits, Spending Pattern, Financial Literacy, Expense Management, Financial Planning, Money Management

I. INTRODUCTION

In today's fast-changing economic environment, managing personal finances has become an important part of everyday life. For young professionals, the transition from student life to employment brings both opportunities and challenges. Earning a regular income gives them financial independence, but at the same time, it also increases their responsibilities. Monthly salaries are often divided among rent, transportation, food, utility bills, loan repayments, savings, family support, and personal spending. Because of these multiple financial commitments, budgeting and responsible money management have become essential for maintaining financial balance and stability. Young professionals are one of the most financially active groups in society. They are usually at the beginning of their careers, where income may be limited but aspirations and lifestyle expectations are high. With the growing influence of social media, online shopping, digital payment systems, easy credit access, and changing consumer behavior, spending decisions are often made quickly and sometimes without proper financial planning. This can lead to overspending, poor



saving habits, debt accumulation, and financial stress. On the other hand, individuals who develop disciplined financial behavior early in life are more likely to achieve financial security, meet future goals, and maintain a healthier relationship with money.

Financial behavior refers to the way individuals handle their money in terms of earning, spending, saving, borrowing, and investing. It reflects a person's financial habits, decision-making patterns, and level of financial awareness. Budgeting practices, in this context, refer to the planning and control of income and expenditure in order to meet both present needs and future goals. A proper budget helps individuals track where their money is going, avoid unnecessary expenses, prioritize savings, and manage emergencies more effectively. For young professionals, budgeting is not just a financial tool but also a habit that can shape long-term financial well-being.

In recent years, personal finance has become more relevant than ever. The availability of UPI payments, digital wallets, credit cards, "buy now, pay later" services, and mobile banking applications has made financial transactions faster and more convenient. While these tools provide ease and flexibility, they can also encourage impulsive spending if not used wisely. At the same time, inflation, rising urban living costs, and uncertainty in job markets make financial planning increasingly necessary for young earners. This makes it important to study how young professionals actually behave with money and whether they follow any structured budgeting methods in their daily lives.

The present study, therefore, aims to examine the financial behavior and budgeting practices among young professionals. It seeks to understand how they manage income, expenses, savings, debt, and financial priorities. The study also attempts to identify the factors that influence their budgeting habits and financial decisions. By analyzing these aspects, the research will provide useful insights into the financial mindset and money management patterns of young working individuals.

The importance of this study lies in its practical relevance. Understanding the financial behavior of young professionals can help educational institutions, employers, financial advisors, and policymakers design better financial literacy programs and awareness initiatives. It can also encourage young individuals themselves to reflect on their financial habits and adopt more disciplined budgeting practices for a secure financial future.

II. PROBLEM STATEMENT

In recent years, young professionals have gained greater financial independence due to early employment opportunities and steady sources of income. However, along with this independence comes the responsibility of managing income, expenses, savings, and financial commitments effectively. Despite having access to various financial tools such as digital payment systems, credit facilities, and investment options, many young individuals find it difficult to maintain a balance between their earnings and expenditures.

One of the major concerns is the lack of consistent budgeting practices among young professionals. While many are aware of the importance of saving and financial planning, they often fail to follow a structured budget in their daily lives. Factors such as rising living costs, changing lifestyle preferences, peer influence, impulsive spending, and easy access to credit can lead to poor financial decisions. As a result, individuals may experience low savings, increased debt, and financial stress.

Another issue is the varying level of financial awareness among young earners. Some individuals may not have adequate knowledge about managing money, prioritizing expenses, or planning for future financial goals. This lack of financial understanding can affect their ability to make informed decisions regarding saving, investing, and spending.

Therefore, it becomes important to examine how young professionals manage their finances and whether they adopt proper budgeting practices. The study aims to identify the gap between financial knowledge and actual financial behavior, and to understand the key factors influencing their money management habits.

III. OBJECTIVE

- To study the financial behavior of young professionals in managing their income, expenses, and savings.
- To examine the budgeting practices followed by young professionals in their daily financial life.



- To identify the factors influencing spending and saving habits among young professionals.
- To analyze the relationship between financial awareness and budgeting behavior.
- To understand the financial challenges faced by young professionals in managing personal finances effectively.

IV. LITERATURE SURVEY

1. Hilgert, Hogarth, and Beverly (2003) – Connection Between Financial Knowledge and Financial Behavior

Hilgert, Hogarth, and Beverly examined how financial knowledge influences household financial management behavior. Their study focused on important areas such as cash-flow management, credit management, saving, and investment practices. The researchers found that individuals with better financial knowledge were more likely to follow recommended financial practices in their daily lives. They observed that awareness about money management often translated into better handling of expenses, debt, and savings.

The study highlighted that financial behavior is not random; rather, it is shaped by the level of understanding individuals have regarding personal finance. People who were aware of budgeting, spending control, and financial planning showed more discipline in managing their money. This finding is highly relevant to young professionals, as the early stage of employment often determines future financial habits.

This research is important because it established a direct link between financial literacy and actual financial behavior. It supports the idea that improving financial knowledge among young earners can lead to better budgeting and responsible money management.

2. Lusardi, Mitchell, and Curto (2009) – Financial Literacy Among Young Adults

Lusardi, Mitchell, and Curto conducted an influential study to understand the financial literacy levels of young adults. Their research revealed that a large number of young people lacked basic financial knowledge related to inflation, interest rates, and risk diversification. The study showed that many young adults enter financial life without fully understanding essential financial concepts, which may affect their spending, saving, and investment decisions.

The researchers also found that financial literacy varied across educational background, family environment, and socio-economic conditions. Young adults from financially aware families and stronger educational backgrounds were more likely to make better financial decisions. This indicates that financial behavior is not only shaped by income but also by financial education and early exposure to money management practices.

This study is highly relevant to the present research because young professionals often begin earning before developing strong budgeting skills. The findings suggest that low financial literacy may lead to weak financial planning and poor budgeting discipline.

3. Ajzen (1991) – Theory of Planned Behavior and Financial Decision-Making

Ajzen introduced the Theory of Planned Behavior, which explains how human actions are influenced by attitudes, social pressure, and perceived control over behavior. Although the theory was developed in a broader behavioral context, it has strong relevance in understanding personal financial decisions such as budgeting, saving, and spending. According to this theory, a person is more likely to practice budgeting if they believe it is useful, feel social support for financial discipline, and have confidence in their ability to control spending.

This framework helps explain why some young professionals maintain monthly budgets while others do not, even when both groups earn similar incomes. Financial behavior is often shaped not only by income or knowledge but also by mindset, habits, peer influence, and self-control. For example, a young professional may know the importance of saving but may still overspend due to social expectations or weak financial discipline.

Ajzen's contribution is significant because it provides a behavioral explanation for budgeting practices. It supports the idea that financial behavior is influenced by psychological and social factors, not just financial resources.

4. Lusardi and Mitchell (2011) – Financial Literacy and Financial Planning

Lusardi and Mitchell explored the relationship between financial literacy and financial planning and found that financially informed individuals were more likely to plan for their future and manage their money effectively. Their



work emphasized that people with a stronger understanding of financial concepts are better prepared to make decisions regarding savings, investments, and long-term financial goals.

The study also pointed out that many individuals fail to plan adequately because they do not possess the required financial knowledge or confidence. This has important implications for young professionals, who often face important financial decisions related to emergency funds, debt repayment, investments, and lifestyle spending. Without budgeting and planning, these decisions may become unstructured and stressful.

This research contributes to the present study by reinforcing the role of financial literacy in shaping budgeting habits. It suggests that financial planning is more likely to be effective when individuals understand how to manage money systematically.

5. Shim et al. (2015) – Financial Socialization and Healthy Financial Development in Young Adults

Shim and colleagues studied how financial habits are developed during the transition from adolescence to adulthood. Their research showed that financial behavior among young adults is strongly influenced by socialization factors such as parents, education, and personal attitudes toward money. The study found that family guidance and early exposure to financial discussions played an important role in shaping saving and spending habits later in life.

The researchers also noted that positive financial attitudes often led to healthier financial behavior, including better budgeting and stronger control over expenses. This is especially important for young professionals, who are in a stage of life where financial independence increases rapidly. If they have developed disciplined habits early, they are more likely to budget regularly and avoid unnecessary financial stress.

This study is useful for the present research because it highlights that budgeting behavior is not developed overnight. Instead, it is shaped over time through financial experiences, learning, and environment.

6. Stolper and Walter (2017) – Financial Literacy, Advice, and Financial Behavior

Stolper and Walter examined the relationship between financial literacy, financial advice, and actual financial behavior. Their study concluded that individuals with higher financial literacy are generally more likely to make informed and responsible financial decisions. They also found that people with better financial understanding are more likely to seek useful financial advice and apply it effectively in real life.

The study emphasized that financial behavior is influenced not only by what people know but also by how they use that knowledge in practical situations. This is particularly relevant for young professionals, who often have access to digital finance tools, online financial information, and investment platforms but may not always use them wisely. Budgeting, in such cases, becomes a practical expression of financial awareness.

This research supports the present study by showing that financial knowledge and responsible financial action go hand in hand. It also suggests that encouraging financial awareness among young professionals can improve their budgeting habits and overall financial well-being.

V. PROPOSED SYSTEM

1. Financial Awareness Assessment System

The proposed system begins with establishing a structured mechanism to assess the financial awareness of young professionals on a regular basis. This can be done through surveys, self-assessment forms, interviews, and financial behavior questionnaires to understand their level of knowledge regarding budgeting, saving, spending, debt management, and financial planning. These tools help in identifying major issues such as lack of savings discipline, overspending habits, poor financial planning, and limited understanding of personal finance concepts. By collecting both qualitative and quantitative information, a clearer picture of the financial behavior of young professionals can be obtained.

Furthermore, the analysis of this information should be carried out in a systematic and continuous manner to identify financial patterns and behavioral trends over time. Statistical tools, charts, and dashboards can be used to interpret the data effectively. This helps in understanding the financial strengths and weaknesses of respondents and allows suitable



financial improvement strategies to be developed. Regular assessment ensures that the study remains relevant and useful in identifying the real financial challenges faced by young professionals.

2. Budget Planning and Expense Tracking System

Budget planning forms a central part of the proposed system, as it helps young professionals manage their monthly income and expenses in an organized manner. The system encourages individuals to divide their earnings into essential categories such as rent, food, transportation, savings, loan repayments, investments, and personal spending. This structured budgeting approach enables them to gain better control over their financial resources and reduce unnecessary expenditure.

In addition, the system emphasizes the importance of regularly tracking expenses through budgeting sheets, mobile applications, or personal records. Expense tracking helps in identifying where money is being spent and whether spending aligns with financial goals. When individuals maintain a record of their expenses, they are more likely to avoid impulsive purchases and become financially disciplined. A proper budget planning and tracking system can significantly improve money management habits among young professionals.

3. Saving and Emergency Fund Development Mechanism

A strong saving habit is essential for financial stability, and therefore the proposed system includes a structured saving and emergency fund mechanism. Young professionals should be encouraged to allocate a fixed percentage of their monthly income toward savings before spending on non-essential items. This “save first” approach helps in building financial discipline and prepares individuals for future needs and uncertainties.

Moreover, the system highlights the importance of maintaining an emergency fund to deal with unexpected financial situations such as medical expenses, job loss, family emergencies, or sudden repairs. Many young earners fail to plan for emergencies, which often forces them to rely on loans or credit. Developing a habit of regular saving and building a financial cushion can improve confidence, reduce financial stress, and contribute to long-term financial well-being.

4. Responsible Spending and Debt Management System

Responsible spending is another important component of the proposed system. Young professionals often face challenges in balancing needs and wants, especially in an environment influenced by social media, digital shopping, lifestyle trends, and easy access to online payment systems. The system therefore focuses on encouraging mindful spending behavior by helping individuals differentiate between essential and non-essential expenses. This promotes more thoughtful financial decision-making and helps in reducing wasteful expenditure.

Additionally, the proposed system emphasizes debt management, particularly in relation to credit cards, personal loans, education loans, and installment-based purchases. Uncontrolled borrowing can create financial pressure and disturb monthly budgeting. Therefore, individuals should be encouraged to borrow only when necessary and to repay debts on time. By practicing controlled spending and responsible debt management, young professionals can maintain better financial health and avoid long-term financial burdens.

5. Financial Literacy and Training Programs

Financial literacy plays a major role in shaping personal financial behavior, and the proposed system includes structured financial education and training initiatives. These programs can focus on areas such as budgeting, saving, banking, digital payments, interest rates, investments, credit management, and financial goal setting. Such educational efforts can help young professionals understand the practical importance of managing money wisely and planning for the future.

Furthermore, financial literacy sessions can be organized through workshops, seminars, online modules, or awareness campaigns in workplaces, colleges, and training institutions. When individuals gain knowledge about financial concepts, they become more confident in making decisions related to spending, saving, and investing. Continuous financial education can help build stronger financial habits and improve budgeting practices among young working adults.



6. Digital Financial Management System

The growing use of technology in financial activities has made digital financial management an important part of the proposed system. Young professionals today commonly use UPI, mobile banking, digital wallets, expense tracker apps, and online investment platforms in their daily financial life. The proposed system encourages the use of such digital tools to simplify budgeting, expense monitoring, savings tracking, and bill payments. These tools can help individuals manage finances more efficiently and in real time.

At the same time, the system also highlights the need for responsible digital financial behavior. While digital platforms offer convenience and speed, they can also encourage impulsive spending if used without control. Therefore, users should be guided to use financial apps not only for payments but also for tracking and planning purposes. Integrating technology into personal finance management can make budgeting more practical, accessible, and effective for young professionals

7. Financial Goal Setting and Future Planning System

An effective financial system should not only focus on present income and expenses but also on future financial goals. The proposed system includes goal-setting mechanisms where young professionals are encouraged to define short-term and long-term financial objectives such as purchasing a vehicle, pursuing higher education, starting a business, traveling, buying a house, or building retirement savings. Clear financial goals help individuals manage their resources with greater purpose and discipline.

In addition, future planning encourages individuals to align their monthly budgeting habits with their personal aspirations. When young professionals plan ahead, they are more likely to control unnecessary spending and prioritize savings and investments. Goal-based financial planning provides direction, motivation, and a sense of financial security. It also helps in developing a responsible and forward-looking financial mindset among young earners.

8. Financial Well-being and Stress Management System

The final component of the proposed system focuses on financial well-being and stress management. Poor money management, rising expenses, debt burdens, and lack of savings often lead to financial stress among young professionals. Therefore, the proposed system aims to identify financial stress factors and promote healthier financial habits that can improve overall well-being. Managing money effectively not only supports financial stability but also contributes to emotional and mental peace.

Moreover, financial well-being can be strengthened through counseling, awareness programs, and practical financial planning support. Young professionals should be encouraged to adopt realistic spending habits, maintain savings, avoid unnecessary debt, and seek guidance when required. A financially secure individual is more confident, stable, and capable of handling future responsibilities. Thus, improving financial well-being is an essential part of building a strong and sustainable budgeting system.

VI. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

1. Research Design

The present study adopts a descriptive research design, as it aims to examine and describe the financial behavior and budgeting practices of young professionals. Descriptive research is appropriate for this study because it focuses on understanding the existing financial habits, attitudes, and money management patterns of respondents without changing or controlling any variables. It helps in presenting a clear picture of how young professionals manage their income, expenses, savings, and financial planning in their daily lives.

This research design enables the researcher to identify important aspects such as spending habits, saving patterns, use of budgeting methods, financial awareness, and debt management behavior. It also helps in analyzing how these factors influence the financial discipline and overall financial well-being of young professionals. By using this approach, the study provides a systematic understanding of budgeting practices and financial behavior, which is useful for drawing meaningful conclusions and practical suggestions.



2. Sources of Data

The study is based on both primary and secondary data sources in order to ensure reliability and depth in analysis. Primary data is collected directly from young professionals through a structured questionnaire containing multiple-choice questions related to budgeting habits, expense tracking, savings behavior, financial literacy, debt usage, and personal financial planning. This primary data provides direct insight into the real financial practices and opinions of the respondents.

Secondary data is collected from various published and reliable sources such as books, research journals, financial literacy reports, articles, websites, and previous studies related to personal finance and budgeting behavior. These secondary sources help in understanding the theoretical background of the study and provide support for the research findings. The use of both primary and secondary data strengthens the validity and quality of the study.

3. Sampling Technique

The study uses a convenience sampling method, where respondents are selected based on their availability, accessibility, and willingness to participate in the survey. This method is suitable for the present study as it is simple, practical, and time-efficient, especially when the researcher has limited time and resources for data collection.

Although convenience sampling may not fully represent the entire population of young professionals, it provides useful and relevant insights into their financial behavior and budgeting practices. The selected respondents may include individuals from different occupations, income groups, and work sectors to ensure variety in the responses. This diversity helps in making the findings more meaningful and applicable to a broader working youth population.

4. Sample Size

The sample size for the study consists of 109 respondents, which is considered adequate for analyzing general trends and patterns related to financial behavior and budgeting practices among young professionals. A proper sample size helps in improving the consistency and reliability of the results and supports effective interpretation of the collected data.

The respondents are selected from different employment backgrounds such as private sector employees, government employees, freelancers, and self-employed individuals. This variety ensures that the study captures multiple financial perspectives and experiences. A diverse sample contributes to a more balanced and comprehensive analysis of the financial habits of young working adults.

5. Data Collection Method

The primary data for the study is collected through a structured questionnaire designed to gather information regarding financial behavior and budgeting practices. The questionnaire consists mainly of multiple-choice questions that cover important areas such as monthly budgeting, saving habits, spending behavior, debt management, emergency funds, financial planning, and use of digital financial tools. The structured format ensures uniformity in responses and makes the data easier to analyze.

The questionnaire may be distributed through both online and offline methods. Online platforms such as Google Forms can be used for easy and quick data collection, while printed questionnaires may be used for respondents who are more comfortable with offline participation. This combined method helps in improving response rates and collecting data from a wider range of young professionals. It also ensures better accessibility and quality of responses.

6. Tools and Techniques of Analysis

The data collected for the study is analyzed using simple and effective statistical tools such as percentage analysis, tables, and charts. Percentage analysis is used to understand the proportion of respondents showing different financial behaviors such as saving regularly, following budgets, using credit, or maintaining emergency funds. It helps in presenting the data in a simple and understandable form.

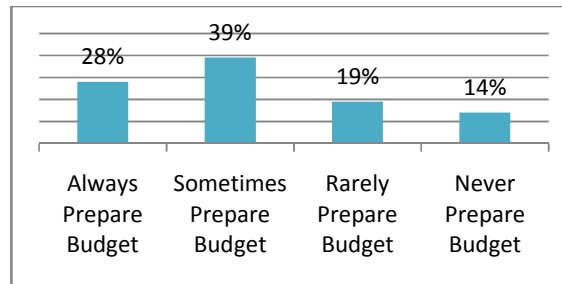
In addition, tabular representation and graphical tools such as bar charts and pie charts are used to present the findings visually. These tools make the interpretation of data easier and help in identifying financial patterns and behavioral trends among respondents. The use of these techniques improves clarity, accuracy, and presentation quality, making the analysis more meaningful and useful for the study.



VII. DATA ANALYSIS AND RESULTS

1. Monthly Budgeting Practice

Particulars	Respondents	Percentage
Always Prepare Budget	30	28%
Sometimes Prepare Budget	42	39%
Rarely Prepare Budget	21	19%
Never Prepare Budget	16	14%
Total	109	100%

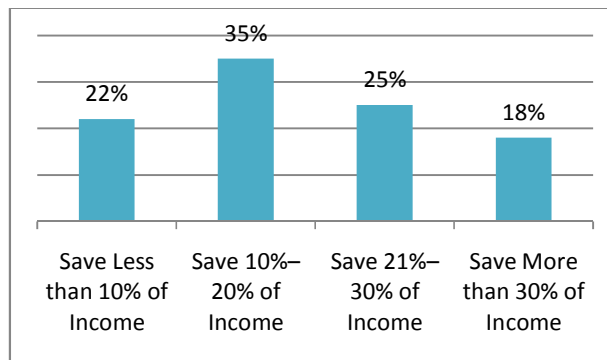


Interpretation:

The majority of young professionals (39%) prepare a budget only sometimes, while 28% always maintain a monthly budget. However, 33% of respondents either rarely or never prepare a budget, which indicates that consistent financial planning is still lacking among a significant number of young professionals.

2. Savings Habit of Respondents

Particulars	Respondents	Percentage
Save Less than 10% of Income	24	22%
Save 10%–20% of Income	38	35%
Save 21%–30% of Income	27	25%
Save More than 30% of Income	20	18%
Total	109	100%



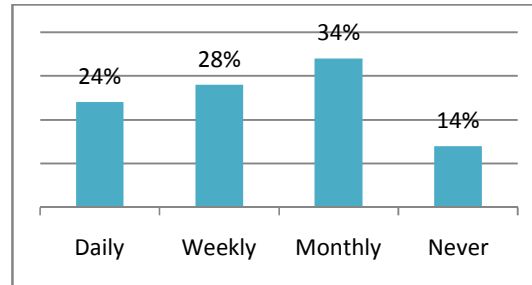
Interpretation:

It is observed that the largest group of respondents (35%) saves between 10% and 20% of their monthly income. While 43% of respondents save more than 20%, a considerable number (22%) save less than 10%, indicating that saving capacity and financial discipline vary among young professionals.



3. Frequency of Expense Tracking

Particulars	Respondents	Percentage
Daily	26	24%
Weekly	31	28%
Monthly	37	34%
Never	15	14%
Total	109	100%

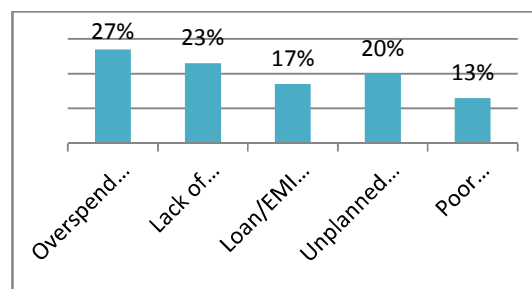


Interpretation:

The data shows that 34% of respondents track their expenses on a monthly basis, followed by 28% who do so weekly. Only 24% monitor expenses daily, while 14% never track their spending. This indicates that although many young professionals are aware of expense tracking, only a limited number follow it regularly and consistently.

4. Most Common Financial Challenge Faced

Particulars	Respondents	Percentage
Overspending	29	27%
Lack of Savings	25	23%
Loan/EMI Burden	18	17%
Unplanned Expenses	22	20%
Poor Financial Planning	15	13%
Total	109	100%



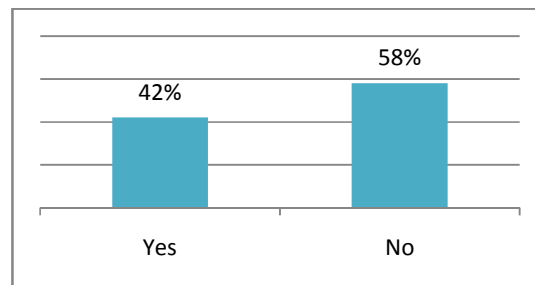
Interpretation:

The majority of respondents (27%) identified overspending as their major financial challenge, followed by lack of savings (23%) and unplanned expenses (20%). This suggests that controlling spending and building savings remain major concerns for many young professionals in managing their personal finances.



5. Use of Digital Tools for Budgeting and Financial Management

Particulars	Respondents	Percentage
Yes	46	42%
No	63	58%
Total	109	100%



Interpretation:

The data reveals that 58% of respondents do not use digital tools such as budgeting apps, spreadsheets, or expense trackers for financial management, while only 42% actively use them. This indicates that although digital financial tools are available, their adoption among young professionals is still moderate and can be improved through awareness and practice.

VIII. CONCLUSION

The present study on financial behavior and budgeting practices among young professionals highlights the growing importance of personal financial management in the lives of working youth. As young professionals begin earning and managing their own expenses, they are required to make regular financial decisions related to spending, saving, debt, and future planning. The study shows that while many respondents are aware of the importance of budgeting and financial discipline, only a limited number follow these practices consistently in their daily lives.

The findings of the study indicate that a significant number of young professionals prepare budgets only occasionally and do not always track their expenses regularly. Saving habits also vary depending on income level, financial awareness, and personal priorities. Many respondents face common financial challenges such as overspending, unplanned expenses, and lack of savings. At the same time, the study also reflects that young professionals who follow budgeting practices and monitor their expenses are generally more financially organized and better prepared to manage their personal finances.

The study further reveals that digital payment systems and modern financial tools have made transactions easier, but they have also increased the chances of impulsive spending if not used responsibly. In addition, financial literacy plays a major role in shaping financial behavior. Individuals who have better understanding of budgeting, saving, and financial planning tend to make more informed and disciplined financial decisions.

Overall, the study concludes that financial behavior and budgeting practices have a direct influence on the financial stability and well-being of young professionals. Developing proper budgeting habits, improving financial awareness, and promoting responsible spending can help young earners build a stronger financial future. Therefore, financial discipline should be encouraged at an early stage of professional life so that individuals can achieve both short-term stability and long-term financial security.

FUTURE SCOPE

The present study provides useful insights into the financial behavior and budgeting practices of young professionals. However, there is considerable scope for further research in this area. Future studies can be conducted on a larger



sample size covering respondents from different cities, industries, and socio-economic backgrounds in order to obtain more comprehensive and generalized results. Further research can also compare the financial behavior of young professionals based on variables such as gender, occupation, education level, income group, and urban-rural background. This would help in understanding whether financial habits differ across demographic categories. In addition, future studies may focus on specific aspects such as debt management, investment behavior, emergency fund planning, digital spending habits, or the impact of financial literacy programs on budgeting practices. Another important area for future research is the role of technology in personal finance management. Since many young professionals now rely on digital payment systems, mobile banking, and budgeting applications, future studies can examine how these tools influence saving behavior, expense control, and financial planning. Researchers may also explore how financial stress affects work performance, mental well-being, and lifestyle decisions among young earners. Thus, the topic offers wide scope for further academic and practical study. As financial challenges and spending patterns continue to evolve, research in this field will remain valuable for understanding and improving the financial well-being of the younger working population.

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