

## **The Study of Financial Problems Among the Universiti Tun Hussein Onn Malaysia (UTHM) Pagoh's Campus Students**

**Nurhana Mohamad\*, Norhaliza Abu Bakar, Nur Amirah  
Auni Mohd Khalid, Nurul Hanani Abdullah, Celine Chua  
Miao Chiun**

Department of Science and Mathematics, Centre for Diploma Studies, Universiti  
Tun Hussein Onn Malaysia, Hab Pendidikan Tinggi Pagoh, KM1 Jalan Panchor,  
84600 Pagoh, Muar, Johor, Malaysia

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.30880/mari.2021.02.01.011>

Received 11 November 2020; Accepted 01 January 2021; Available online 03 February  
2021

**Abstract:** In this research, the financial problems among the students of UTHM campus Pagoh is studied. A questionnaire on how the students manage their financial is distributed. The data obtained is analyzed using Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) software. The results showed that half of the students expressed an interest to attend financial course in order to overcome their financial problems.

**Keywords:** Financial Problem, SPSS Software

### **1. Introduction**

Every student in Malaysia should have some knowledge on financial management. There were a few issues arise regarding the students, lack of ability to survive at university [1]. The ability to manage personal finances has becomes increasingly important in today's world. This research is conducted to determine whether students in UTHM Pagoh's Campus having a financial problem. According to [2] and [3] students may be learning from parents but studies found that most parents do not have this knowledge so it may not be sufficient for them to become smart investors in today's society and in Malaysia not every family have a good and stable income. There are three categories based on Jabatan Statistik Malaysia (JSM) classification that are T20, M40 and B40 [4]. The T20 group has a median household income of at least RM13,148, and the median for the M40 and B40 groups at least RM6,275 and RM3,000, respectively.

Thus, this study is conducted to examine the financial literacy of randomly students in Universiti Tun Hussein Malaysia (UTHM), Campus Pagoh. The financial literacy of students is compared. In addition, other factors are also examined in relation to financial literacy, such as gender and race. It is important to conduct this study as it is claimed that financial literacy can promotes self-confidence, self-control and independence of these students.

## 2. Materials and Methods

This section describes all the necessary information that is required to obtain the results of the study.

### 2.1 Collecting data

There are 100 students participated in an anonymous survey conducted in order to obtain information about the expenses and money problem among student in UTHM and then identify the factors that contribute to the financial problem. This survey included three parts, Part A, B, and C. Part A is consists of the questions on personal information, part B is mainly about the financial problem and Part C is the opinion of the respondents. The questions consists of race, age, gender, money spend per day, amount of money spend per month, the sources of money, the uses of spending money, income of the family, the number of siblings, the number of siblings that are still studying and the question either the students doing part time job or not.

### 2.2 Sample

A set of questionnaires that consists of three parts were randomly distributed to 100 students of diploma and bachelor degree students. The questionnaires were prepared in English that have both closed and open-ended questions.

### 2.3 Procedure

All the data was collected through questionnaires. The students were given a few minutes to answer all of the questions. Once the data has been collected, SPSS was used to analyse it. Before the analysis was conducted, a hypothesis testing was used to predict the outcome of this project.

	Name	Type	Width	Decimals	Label	Values	Missing	Columns	Align	Measure	Role
1	Gender	Numeric	8	1		{1 0, male}...	None	8	Right	Nominal	Input
2	Age	Numeric	8	1		None	None	8	Right	Scale	Input
3	Race	Numeric	8	1		{1 0, Malay}	None	8	Right	Nominal	Input
4	Day	Numeric	8	1		{1 0, RM10}	None	8	Right	Scale	Input
5	Month	Numeric	8	1		{1 0, RM100}	None	8	Right	Scale	Input
6	Money	Numeric	8	1		None	None	8	Right	Scale	Input
7	Semester	Numeric	8	1		None	None	8	Right	Scale	Input
8	Source	Numeric	8	1		{1 0, PTPTN}	None	8	Right	Nominal	Input
9	Spend	Numeric	8	1		{1 0, Food}	None	8	Right	Nominal	Input
10	Income	Numeric	8	1		None	None	8	Right	Scale	Input
11	Siblings	Numeric	8	1		None	None	8	Right	Ordinal	Input
12	Studying	Numeric	8	1		None	None	8	Right	Ordinal	Input
13	Job	Numeric	8	1		{0, No}	None	8	Right	Nominal	Input
14	No	Numeric	8	1		None	None	8	Right	Nominal	Input
15	No1	Numeric	8	1		{0, No}	None	8	Right	Nominal	Input
16	No2	Numeric	8	1		{0, No}	None	8	Right	Nominal	Input
17	No3	Numeric	8	1		{0, No}	None	8	Right	Nominal	Input
18	No4	Numeric	8	1		{0, No}	None	8	Right	Nominal	Input
19	No5	Numeric	8	1		{0, No}	None	8	Right	Nominal	Input
20	No6	Numeric	8	1		{0, No}	None	8	Right	Nominal	Input
21	No7	Numeric	8	1		{0, No}	None	8	Right	Nominal	Input
22	No8	Numeric	8	1		{0, No}	None	8	Right	Nominal	Input
23	No9	Numeric	8	1		{0, No}	None	8	Right	Nominal	Input
24	No10	Numeric	8	1		{0, No}	None	8	Right	Nominal	Input
25	No11	Numeric	8	1		{0, No}	None	8	Right	Nominal	Input
26	No12	Numeric	8	1		{0, No}	None	8	Right	Nominal	Input
27	No13	Numeric	8	1		{0, No}	None	8	Right	Nominal	Input
28	No14	Numeric	8	1		{0, No}	None	8	Right	Nominal	Input
29	No15	Numeric	8	1		{0, No}	None	8	Right	Nominal	Input

Figure 1: Key in questionnaire data into variable view in SPSS

The first step in analyzing the data was the process of entering in all the data obtained into SPSS. All the questions and data collected need to be insert one-by-one into variable view and data view in SPSS (refer **Figure 1**). The questions in Part B section 1 were defined to two types of category which is ‘with financial problem’ and ‘without financial problem’. Next, the analysis was conducted in the SPSS and the graphs were interpreted for every question in the questionnaire. All the graphs were reviewed to find the correlation among the parameters.

## 2.4 SPSS

The data obtained then inserted into SPSS. The data were analyzed using simple linear regression. Then open-ended questions were analyzed through quantitative content analysis. One big advantage is SPSS is easy to use for simple analyses as for complex ones [5].

## 2.5 Regression

Based on [6], regression is a statistical measurement used in finance, investing and other disciplines that attempt to determine the strength of the relationship between one dependent variable and a series of other changing variables. Regression also can be used for analysis since it has interesting theoretically. This is because it has elegant underlying mathematics and also well-developed statistical theory [7]. Simple linear regression is a statistical method that will establishes the relationship between the independent variable and dependent variable as a straight line [8].

## 3. Results and Discussion

Based on the observation in **Table 1**, more than 50% of the students get their money from their parents and Perbadanan Tabung Pendidikan Tinggi Negara (PTPTN). The family funding is one of the financial resources for students. The amount of their income in the family will affects their financial in the university. If students have proper plan on how to manage the money, it will not be a problem for the students in the university.

**Table 1: The source of money**

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	PTPTN	19	19.0	19.0	19.0
	Parents	51	51.0	51.0	70.0
	Scholarship	4	4.0	4.0	74.0
	Other	1	1.0	1.0	75.0
	Parent, PTPTN	21	21.0	21.0	96.0
	Parent, PTPTN, Other	2	2.0	2.0	98.0
	Parents, Scholarship	1	1.0	1.0	99.0
	PTPTN,Work	1	1.0	1.0	100.0
	Total	100	100.0	100.0	

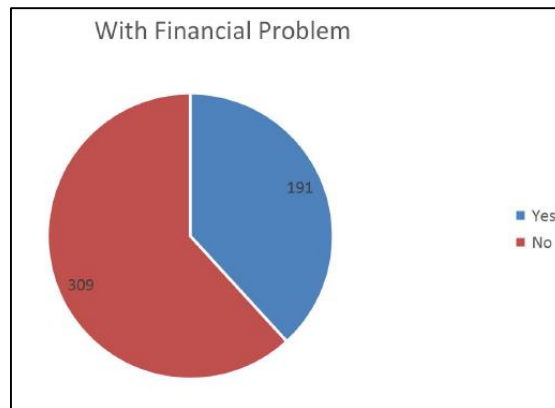
Based on **Table 2**, majority of the respondents said the range to spend per day is RM10 until RM20. This is because the price of food are too expensive and sometimes they need to use their expenses money for assignment and final year project. It can be showed that their financial is limited to academic and daily expenses.

**Table 2: The amount spend by day**

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	RM10	50	50.0	50.0	50.0
	RM20	31	31.0	31.0	81.0
	RM30	7	7.0	7.0	88.0
	RM40	2	2.0	2.0	90.0
	RM50	1	1.0	1.0	91.0
	Other	9	9.0	9.0	100.0
	Total	100	100.0	100.0	

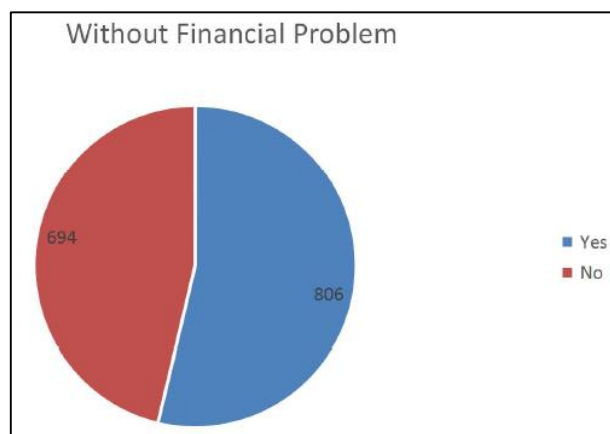
The data revealed that 73% of the respondents did not have any financial problem, but 27% of the student do not have any knowledge and skill on how to manage their financial. Financial educations should be one of the subject at the university or can be added on as one of the subject in school to guides the students in proper financial management.

The next analysis in Part B of survey will go in details about the financial problem. There are 68% of students answer “Yes” for the question if they interested in attending financial courses and there are 32% did not interested in attending financial course. For the second question, it can be observed from the data is that 11% of the students have rented a house outside with university friend and 89% of students did not rented a house outside. This is probably because 89% of students stayed in hostel. For the third question, there are 33% of students are bearing a high living expenses each month and 67% of students did not bearing high expenses each month. The next question is about the education loan. There are 38% of students get the education loan to pay for tuition fee but 62% of students did not get the education loan for tuition fee. For the fifth question, 41% of students always ask for extra money from parents and only 59% of students did not ask for extra money from parents. It can be concluded that on **Figure 2**, the data of with financial problem that consists of five questions, most of the students choose “No” as the answer that implies that most of the students answered that they did not have financial problem.



**Figure 2: Total survey with financial problem**

Next, there are 15 questions that leads to without the financial problem. The questions are related to the current financial management taken by students. It contains the questions such as if students always keep track of expenses on a regular basis, if students always put money aside for savings and future purchase, if students always plan expenses budget every month, if students make goals about how to spend money and discuss it with family and if students compare every shop or buy things on sale.



**Figure 3: Total survey without financial problem**

From **Figure 3** most of the students choose ‘‘Yes’’. This means the students also did not have any financial problem. The result for both of the figures shows that most of the students did not have any financial problem and the remaining students did not have any knowledge on how to manage their financial. As a result the students will not have enough money for the day or maybe for the semester and experience financial problems.

Based on **Table 3**, the average for the students who keep every purchase receipt to know where the money is going are 3.18. Next, the average for the students who attend any personal financial management course are 2.21. As for the question three, it stated that the average for the students who always take note on every purchase are 3.26. The average for the students who save some of the expenses based on the color of the notes are 3.01. This indicates that the level of financial management of students is at a moderate level. Students need to manage expenses well so that loan money or parental allowance money can be used adequately.

**Table 3: The mean of financial management for students**

		Financial Management
N	Valid	100
	Missing	0
Did you keep your every purchase receipt for you to know where’s your money is going.		3.18
Did you attend any personal financial management course whether it is online or offline.		2.21
Did you always take note on every purchase you made to limit your expenses.		3.26
Did you save some of your expenses based on the color of the notes		3.01

**Table 4: The mean of financial problem for students**

		Financial Problem
N	Valid	100
	Missing	0
Do you think online shopping influences the spending cost of students		4.10
Do you agree that online shopping increase the spending cost of students		4.21

Based on **Table 4**, about 4.10 in average of the students agree that online shopping influences the spending cost of the students. While about 4.21 in average of the students, agree that online shopping increase the spending cost of students.

For the second question in Part C is about how they becoming stress or depress if they suddenly encountered financial problem. Around 80% students in this survey said ‘‘Yes’’ for this question. While 12% respondents answer ‘‘No’’ which means they can handle their stress if they encountered financial problem. The rest of them answered unsure of the problem. It can be concluded that most of the students will become stress because they do not know how to manage money with the right way.

The last question for this survey is based on Part B. After the respondents answered Part B, they will analyze the answer and decide whether they can manage money well or not. From the survey, 12% respondents said ‘‘No’’ for this question. Around 82% respondents said they could manage their

financial properly. However, most of the students interested to attend the financial management courses offered in future in order to increase their knowledge especially to handle problems.

#### 4. Conclusion

In conclusion, there were a lot of issues that related to the financial management among university students. The issue mostly are related with managing and saving money. Besides that, questionnaires should also be distributed to all types of students regarding their races and geographical region around the country. The factors that contributed to the financial problem are lack of knowledge in management, high living expenses in university and get influence by online shopping. By conducting this research, it helps students to be excellent in money management and achieve all of success and their dream. The students need to be expose on smart financial planning and always updating on current news in university for student's welfare.

#### Acknowledgement

This work was supported by the Research Management Center of Universiti Tun Hussein Onn Malaysia under Tier 1 Vote Number H198 Grant.

#### References

- [1] S. Abdullah, N.H. Mohammed, S. Mat Salleh, K. Mat Rashid. and S.S.S. Mohd Kamal, "Financial Literacy among UiTM's Students," *Journal of Applied Environmental and Biological Sciences*, pp. 31-35, 2017
- [2] W. Kirst, "5 Solutions Sudden Student Financial Problems," Stanford, October 12, 2016. [Online]. Available: <https://stanford.edu>. [Accessed on 8 May 2019]
- [3] M.H.I. Mohd Rafi, "A Study on Financial Management Among Student", *Research Hub*, vol.2, pp. 76, 2016.
- [4] "Golongan Isi Rumah B40, M40 dan T20 di Malaysia Berdasarkan Pendapatan," *CompareHero*, August 8, 2019. [Online]. Available: <https://comparehero.my>. [Accessed October 9, 2019].
- [5] G. Norris, F. Qureshi, D. Howitt, and D. Cramer, *Introduction to Statistics with SPSS for Social Science*, 1st ed. Reading, Pearson Education Limited, 2012. [E-book] Available: Amazon e-book.
- [6] B. Beers, "Regression Definition," *Investopedia*, April 28, 2019. [Online]. Available: <https://www.investopedia.com>. [Accessed on 8 May 2019]
- [7] C.M. Douglas, A.P. Elizabeth and G.V. Vining, "Introduction to Linear Regression Analysis 5th ed, Reading. Wiley Publication, April 2012. [E-book] Available: Wiley website.
- [8] "Simple Linear Regression," *MBA skool*, January 22, 2018. [Online]. Available: <https://https://www.mbaskool.com>. [Accessed on April 30, 2019].