

The Impact of Investment Behavior to Financial Well-Being Among Small Medium Enterprises in Panabo City

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Abstract— The study aimed to determine the relationship between investment behavior and financial well-being of SME's in Panabo City. 138 participants of SME's owners or managers in Panabo City were the respondents of this research. Along with this, the goal of this study was to analyze the impact of financial socialization on financial behavior and well-being. It also investigated how the gender and age modifies the impact of financial behavior on financial well-being. The number of respondents was determined by the researchers using the simple sampling technique and the descriptive-correlation method. The statistical tools used were mean and person-r. The result revealed that the level of investment behavior of SME's in Panabo City in terms of spending and saving pattern gathered the highest mean of 4.11 rated as high, and investment technique gathered the highest mean of 3.77 rated as high. For the level of financial well-being of SME's in Panabo City in terms of financial preparedness for emergency gathered the highest mean of 4.00 rated as high, current money management stress gathered the highest mean of 3.82 rated as high and perceived financial security gathered the highest mean of 4.05 rated as high. The researchers strongly recommend to sustain high SME performance in Panabo City required continuous adaptation to new trends, highlighting a significant positive relationship between investment behavior to financial well-being. The computed correlation coefficient of 0.599 and associated p- of 0.000, which is below 0.05 led to the rejection of the null hypothesis.

Keywords— SME, financial, investment, Panabo City, performance.

I. INTRODUCTION

Financial well-being, a multifaceted concept encompassing financial health, wellness and security, is not merely a desirable outcome for SMEs; it is fundamental to their long-term sustainability and contribution to economic growth (U and Attamah, 2021, p. 113). A strong financial foundation enables SMEs to navigate economic uncertainties, adapt to market changes, and invest in growth opportunities (Fidyah, 2020, p. 45). However, achieving and maintaining financial well-being requires careful planning, informed decision-making, and skillful management of financial resources. For SMEs, this translates into strategic investment choices that align with their business objectives, risk tolerance, and long-term vision. A lack of financial literacy, poor

investment strategies, and inadequate financial planning can lead to financial instability, hindering growth and potentially resulting in business failure (Makdissi, Nehme and Cahine, 2020, p. 9). This is particularly relevant in a dynamic economic environment characterized by increasing competition, technological advancements, and evolving consumer preferences.

In its numerous reports on SME development in Southeast Asia, emphasizes the critical role of financial inclusion and access to financial resources in promoting SME growth and economic development (Asian Development Bank, 2020, p. 87). The ADB's research highlights the strong correlation between access to finance, financial literacy, and business

success, underscoring the importance of addressing financial constraints and promoting financial capability among SMEs (OECD, 2020, p. 42). Financial well-being of SMEs is crucial not only for their success but also for the overall economic stability and growth of Panabo City, as it enhances resilience, adaptability, and sustainable development (Sajuyigbe, Eniola, Obi and Peter 2021, p. 64). Financially secure SMEs are better positioned to invest in innovation, create jobs, generate tax revenue, engage in corporate social responsibility, and promote economic and social equity (Makdissi, Nehme and Cahine, 2020, p. 19). In the context of Panabo City, enhancing the financial well-being of SMEs is not merely a matter of individual business success; it is a critical component of broader regional economic development, poverty reduction, and improved quality of life for the city's residents (Angeles, 2022, p. 511).

This study links investment behavior to financial well-being, showing that prudent spending, saving, and informed investment decisions lead to greater financial success (Danial, Mustafa, Mahussin, Alam and Daud, 2020, p. 249). Effective investment involves understanding risk tolerance and diversification to mitigate losses (Nungchim and Leihaothabam, 2022, p.18). A comprehensive long-term financial plan, considering both short and long-term goals, is crucial for guiding investment decisions and ensuring security (Sopiah, Kamaludin, Sanga-dji and Normaditya, 2021, p. 398). Financial education enhances informed decision-making and reduces costly errors (Pinca, NG, Lacerona, Minorca, Rodriguez and Ramos, 2024, p. 94), while understanding market trends and risk management is also essential for achieving business objectives (Donggon, Felecitas, Senerez and Petalcorin, 2024, p. 37). This study will analyze SME investment behaviors in Panabo City to identify strategies that contribute to, or hinder, financial well-being.

Despite the widely acknowledged importance of SMEs to economic growth, a significant research gap exists concerning their investment behavior and financial well-being in Panabo City. Few localized studies have explored the unique socioeconomic and regulatory challenges facing SMEs in this area

(Angeles, 2022, p. 508). This lack of region-specific data hinders the development of targeted support programs. Understanding how investment decisions affect financial stability and resilience in Panabo's unique context is crucial for creating effective financial strategies and policies (Makdissi, Nehme and Chahine, 2020, p. 12). This study responds to the need for empirical data on SME investment behavior and its implications for financial well-being. As SMEs face increasingly complex challenges in today's global economy, equipping them with sound investment knowledge and financial tools is more important than ever (Sajuyigbe, 2021, p. 67). This research will help bridge the gap, guiding policymakers, financial institutions, and entrepreneurs toward data-driven, effective solutions

Moreover, Investment behavior growth of behavioral investing is driven by empirical evidence that directly contradicts the random walk theory (Majumdar, Supriya, Boddu, and Reddy, 2022, p.1). Investors must conduct risk analysis for major assets to limit risk tolerance, so that by undervaluing risk tolerance, investors do not lose out on opportunities by not investing (Eastburn and Sharland, 2017, p.1). As a result, it is vital to expand investment opportunities in semi-urban and rural areas, as well as to educate the public about financial. Lifestyle is another significant aspect in determining people's investment behavior. Therefore, investment/stockbrokers and capital market operators must now understand the investor's lifestyle to build successful instruments and grow their penetration into new financial avenues. An investor's lifestyle can be calculated by studying their behaviors, desires, and opinions. The individual's lifestyle is mostly determined by their income, which provides a clear image of their excess funds. The occupation also influences their chance to invest (Bosea, Basuah, Asare, Barimah, 2023, p. 197).

This section presents the study about investment behavior to financial well-being among SMEs. The independent variable is investment behavior which contains of the subsequent indicators; spending and saving patterns and investment techniques. In this context, financial challenges such as personal bankruptcy, health issues, early retirement, job losses,

debt repayment stress, and failure to meet savings targets will be handled more efficiently and smoothly by those who are financially prepared than those who are not. As a result, financially prepared people would have a higher level of financial well-being than those who are not financially prepared (Kamakia and Mwangi, 2017, p.8). In other words, financially educated people can make sensible financial decisions that are essential for their financial well-being.

The first indicator in independent variable is spending and Saving Patterns, the saving behavior included percentage of monthly income saved, saving for emergency and saving for retirement while the spending behavior included percentage of monthly income spent and frequency of over budget (Min, Gee and Kian, 2014, p.91). Spending and saving patterns of individual have been a source of interest for researchers. Personal financial management entails developing plans to fulfill the individual's future financial needs, as well as selecting how and where to spend, save, and invest while taking into account the constraints of such decisions. People's spending has increased in recent years as a result of technological advancements and expanded accessibility to goods and services. Increased youth spending, driven by various factors, necessitated wiser spending and saving habits to mitigate overspending and impulsive buying for future financial security (Arshath, Hisham Mahmood, Hamed, Ali, Nasser, 2021, p.1).

The second indicator in independent variable is Investment Techniques, the market offers several investment prospects. People should choose an investment option that meets their needs, risk tolerance, and expected returns. Because investors have so many investment possibilities, their decision-making process is increasingly complex and critical. Each professional investor has a particular investment strategy. The market offers a wide range of investment opportunities, including equity, preference, debentures, hard assets, gold, silver, mortgage lending, life insurance, government provident funds, mutual funds, term deposits, postal service savings, and many more (Majumdar, Supriya, Boddu, and Reddy, 2022, p.7).

The dependent variable is financial well-being with the subsequent indicators, financial preparedness for emergency, current money management stress and perceived financial security. Financial Well-Being it is defined as confidence in one's ability to maintain current and expected ideal living standards, as well as financial freedom. Furthermore, CFPB1 defines financial well-being as "a state of being wherein a person can fully meet current and ongoing financial obligations, can feel secure in their financial future, and is able to make choices that allow them to enjoy life." Therefore, financial insecurity created instability, hindering economic advancement, where small financial problems quickly became major, long-term challenges. The multifaceted nature of financial well-being required further research, but this study focused on three key components: preparedness, stress, and security, examining their relationship with financial literacy and self-efficacy, informed by existing literature (Brüggen, Hogreve, Holmlund, Kabadayi, and Löfgren, 2017 p. 1).

The first indicator for financial well-being is financial preparedness for an emergency is conceptualized as an individual's state of being financially prepared to deal with a financial shock that may hinder him or her from carrying out routine activities (Abrantes-Braga and Veludo-de-Oliveira 2019, p.54). As a result, those who have financial stability and the assurance of completing their financial responsibilities are more likely to enjoy greater financial well-being in such a situation (Hagerty and Veenhoven, 2003, pg.14). The concept of 'financial preparedness for emergency' encapsulates this view of financial well-being and is likely to serve as a motivator.

The second indicator for financial well-being is current money management stress is referred to as feelings of tension or worry about one's financial condition, as well as an incapacity to effectively manage money in order to satisfy financial responsibilities and live the desired lifestyle (Netemeyer, Warmath, Fernandes, and Lynch 2018, p.7). Although the majority of research studies show a negligible relationship between income and financial well-being, there is a growing body of evidence linking current money management stress and

financial well-being (Ng and Diener 2014, p.2). In this context, find a negative correlation between the two. As a result, persons who have enough money to cover their immediate needs are more likely to be content with their lives (Ruberton, Gladstone, Lyubomirsky, 2016, pg. 4).

The third indicator for financial well-being is perceived financial security describes to an individual's subjective assessment of their economic resources and circumstances. People who felt financially secure, especially those with past experience in social work and other income options, were more likely to have started a social enterprise, highlighting the importance of financial stability in social entrepreneurship (Mohamed and Zouaoui, 2024, p.8). Individual perceptions of economic problems and strains have been highlighted as one of the most severe chronic stresses that people encounter on a daily basis (Kahn and Pearlin, 2006, p.17). As a result, perceived financial stability reflects people's level of happiness with their financial situation. In this regard, while examining the causes and impacts of reported financial well-being, identify felt financial stability as a major cause, (Netemeyer, Warmath, Fernandes, and Lynch, 2017, pg.1).

This study seeks to close the research gap by examining how investment behavior affects the financial well-being of SMEs in Panabo City. The findings will provide valuable insights into the investment practices that strengthen or weaken SME financial resilience. The results will also inform practical recommendations on improving financial planning, investment strategies, and financial management for SMEs (Pinca, NG, Lacerona, Minorca, Rodriguez and Ramos, 2024, p. 101). Moreover, the research will guide policymakers in designing targeted programs to address the unique financial needs of SMEs in the region. Financial institutions can benefit from the findings by developing tailored financial products and services that enhance access to credit and investment tools (OECD 2020, p. 49). Finally, this study will contribute to academic literature on financial behavior and SME sustainability in developing economies, laying the

groundwork for future research (Danial, Mustafa, Mahussin, Alam and Daud, 2020, p. 250).

This study has significance as it explored the relationship between investment behavior and financial well-being among small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and it provides essential information for multiple stakeholders. Primarily, SME owners and managers can use the findings to improve their financial decision-making, resulting in better business performance and sustainability. Financial Institutions acquire a better understanding of SME investment habits, allowing businesses to develop financial products and services more effectively. Policymakers may apply the research findings to develop targeted financial literacy programs and supportive policies that promote SMEs growth. Educators and training institutions may benefit as well from implementing the study's findings into educational programs, equipping future entrepreneurs with essential financial abilities. Lastly, future researchers could apply these findings to look into related topics, such as the long-term effects of investment behavior on SME success or cross-regional comparisons. Overall, these contributions highlight the study's importance in improving the financial well-being of SMEs and leading broader economic development strategies.

This study determined the relationship between investment behavior and financial well-being among SMEs owners in Panabo City. Specifically, this sought to answer the following objectives; (1) to determine the level of the respondents demographic profile in terms of gender and, the age; (2) to determine the level of investment behavior among SMEs owners in terms of spending and savings pattern, and investment techniques; (3) to determine the level of financial well-being among SMEs owners in terms of financial preparedness for emergency, current money management stress and perceived financial security; (4) Is there a significant relationship between investment behavior and financial well-being. The study's null hypothesis was tested at a 0.05 level of significance, stating that there is no significant relationship between investment behavior and

financial well-being among SMEs owners in Panabo City.

II. METHOD

This section describes numerous data collection techniques for the study. The research concept, approach, and the study's materials and tools are all considered part of the method.

Participants

This study assessed and evaluated the impact of financial behavior on the financial well-being of small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in Panabo City. The respondents were SME owners or managers in Panabo City who were willing to share insights about their business experiences. Based from the data provided by the Business Permit and Licensing Section, there are 574 registered total population of SMEs in Panabo City. The Raosoft software's sample size calculator was used to calculate the sample, which consists of 231 business owners. The researchers gathered 138 participants who met the inclusion criteria, which required that respondents be registered SME owners or managers actively involved in business operations and decision-making within Panabo City, and willing and available to participate during the data collection period. A total of 93 were excluded based on specific exclusion criteria included micro-enterprises, large enterprises, businesses located outside Panabo City, and those who were either unavailable or unwilling to participate, or felt uncomfortable providing business-related information. Notably, respondents' participation in the survey was voluntary and limited to those available and willing at the time of data collection; there were no consequences for refusing to answer.

Instrument/Material

This study used adopted and modified questionnaires from (Ganesan, 2012, p.73-84) and (Lone and Bhat, 2022, p.13). The questionnaire was designed to assess the extent of investment behavior and financial well-being in small and medium-sized enterprises. The adaptation ensured its relevance to the current research by focusing specifically on investment behavior and financial well-being among SME owners in Panabo City.

The researchers used a survey questionnaire to collect statistical information regarding the involvement of SME owners in investment behavior and financial well-being. The questionnaire comprised three parts. The first part gathered demographic profile (age and gender). The second part assessed the independent variable with questions on spending and savings patterns (3 questions) and investment techniques (6 questions), for a total of 9 questions. The third part assessed on the dependent variable with questions on financial preparedness for emergencies (5 questions), current money management stress (7 questions), and perceived financial security (4 questions), for a total of 16 questions.

A Likert Scale was used to determine the level of investment behavior to financial well-being among SMEs in Panabo City: The scale used to determine the level of investment behavior among SMEs in Panabo City are as follows: 4.21-5.00 is considered very high, indicating that investment behavior is always practiced; 3.41-4.20 is considered high, indicating that investment behavior is often practiced; 2.61-3.40 is considered average, indicating that investment behavior is sometimes practiced; 1.81-2.60 is considered low, indicating that investment behavior is less practiced; 1.00-1.80 is considered very low, indicating that investment behavior is poor practiced and did not meet its objectives.

Moreover, the scale used to determine the level of financial well-being among SMEs in Panabo City are as follows: 4.21-5.00 is considered very high, indicating that the financial well-being very efficient; 3.41-4.20 is considered high, indicating that financial well-being is efficient; 2.61-3.40 is considered average, indicating that financial well-being is sometimes efficient; 1.81-2.60 is considered low, indicating that financial well-being is less efficient; 1.00-1.80 is considered very low, indicating that financial well-being is not efficient.

Design and Procedure

The study employed a descriptive-correlational design, allowing for the investigation of one or more variables using diverse research method. This approach was suitable for identifying characteristics,

frequencies, trends and categories (McCombes, 2019, p.15). To investigate the impact of investment behavior on the financial well-being of SMEs in Panabo City, researchers used a quantitative design. A survey questionnaire on SMEs owners' experiences were gathered using a cost-effective and efficient survey questionnaire. This approach enabled the collection of a large amount of data on business-related attitudes, behaviors, and goals, resulting in statistically reliable due to the substantial sample size and the use of validated methods.

Moreover, the following procedures were utilized by the researchers in conducting the study: (1) A Letter of request for validation was first sent to the evaluators for validation and approval of the proposed and prepared questionnaires. (2) The researchers asked for the list of SME's in Panabo City, which served as confirmation of how many SME's were in Panabo City. (3) Letter of request to conduct the survey was issued to the SMEs in Panabo City, requesting permission and approval to conduct the study, as well as for them to gather and collect the essential information. The questionnaires were conducted and distributed individually by the researchers. Personal interviews and distribution were performed in their free time to clarify the responses to survey questions. Once respondents had completed the survey questions, the data was gathered, encoded, and submitted for statistical analysis. Results were analyzed and interpreted based on the significance of the study. The researchers used the following statistical tools: (1)

Mean, which was used to determine the level of investment behavior and financial well-being; (2) Pearson-r, which was used to determine the significant relationship between investment behavior and financial well-being among SME's in Panabo City.

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This chapter presented the analysis and interpretation of data on investment behavior to financial well-being among SME's in Panabo City. The indicators were presented and discussed. The sequence of major topics in the study was as follows: respondent's profile, the level of investment behavior among SMEs owners in terms of spending and saving patterns, investment techniques; the level of financial well-being in terms of financial preparedness for emergency, current money management's stress, and perceived financial security among SME's in Panabo City.

Respondents Profile

As shown in Table 1 and 2, the demographic data of the study gathered 138 respondents of SMEs owners and managers in Panabo City. The study defined respondents age and gender by specifying the level of affected SME's owners or managers affected their financial well-being. Presented in Table 1, the majority of the respondents from SME's owners and managers in Panabo City are female comprising 73.19%. While, the minority are male comprising of 26.81% from the total respondent population. This indicates that female participation in the study was significantly higher during the data gathering process.

Table 1. Respondents Gender

Gender	Frequency	Percentage
Male	37	26.81%
Female	101	73.19%
Total	138	100%

Table 2. Respondents Age

Age Group	Frequency	Percentage
17-25	13	9.42%
26-47	106	76.81%
48-65	19	13.77%
Total	138	100%

Presented in Table 2, revealed that the majority comprising 76.81%, were aged between 26-47, indicating a strong representation from this demographic. The second largest group consisted of individuals aged 48-65 accounting for 13.77% of the respondents. In contrast, the youngest age group 17-25 was the least represented, making up only 9.42% of the total respondents.

The Level of Investment Behavior

Presented in Table 3 were the results of the SMEs' investment behavior's two variables with their corresponding means. The level of investment

behavior had a grand result of 3.88, described as high, indicating that investment behavior is often practiced. The respondents' responses on each indicator were analyzed and are presented below. Among the two indicators, spending and saving patterns got the highest mean of 4.11. It revealed that the SMEs in Panabo City had a high level of spending and saving patterns among enterprises that were about money management with some prioritizing immediate expenses while others focused on building financial reserves. Conversely, investment techniques got the lowest mean of 3.45, indicating that the SMEs in Panabo City understood investment techniques.

Table 3. Level of Investment Behavior

Indicators	Standard Deviation	Mean	Descriptive Equivalent
Spending and Savings Pattern	0.93	4.11	High
Investment Techniques	1.08	3.77	High
Overall	1.04	3.88	High

The spending and saving patterns gathered the highest mean of 4.11 out of the three indicators, which was viewed as high, indicating that investment behavior of SMEs often practiced. In spending and saving patterns, item 1 got the highest mean of 4.24 which described as very high, indicating that the SME's has a monthly savings from their income. A clear organizational structure had several advantages, such as increased production, efficiency, and decision-making. Every structure had benefits as well as harms. The money was a component of a broader control that included a variety of certainties, standards, and possibilities related to the raising and use of money by people, organizations, and governments (Etcuban, Dinanao, Macugay, and Velita, 2020, p.56).

While, item 2 got the lowest mean of 3.96 which described as high, stated that the SME's owners spend their monthly income in utility expenses and household expenditures. Smart spending isn't just about saving money; it's a way of life that helps families make thoughtful choices about how they use their money. When times are tough, it's easy to cut back too much, but good financial management means finding a balance. This study explores how families

and businesses handle their money (Politano, 2020 p.1).

Moreover, investment techniques got the highest mean of 3.77, which was viewed as high, indicating that the level of investment behavior among SME's was always practiced. In investment techniques, item 5 got the highest mean of 4.12, which was described as high, indicating that the SME's has considered the factors before investing in high returns, have security, and low risk. This reflects a range of attitudes encompassing financial literacy, responsible spending and saving habits, effective budgeting, wise investment choices, and preparedness for unforeseen circumstances (Ibitomi, Dada, Aderotimi, and Gaude-Jiwul, 2024, p. 72). While, item 2 got the lowest mean of 3.45 which described as high, indicating that the SME's diversified in investment portfolio. Production business with diversified items are more profitable than single-item production firms (Rahim and Balan, 2021, p.4).

Level of Financial Well-Being

Presented in Table 4 were the results of SME's financial well-being two variables with their corresponding means. The level of financial well-being had a grand result of 3.93, described as high,

indicating that investment behavior is often practiced. The respondents' responses on each indicator were analyzed and are presented below.

Among the three indicators, perceived financial security got the highest mean of 4.05, demonstrated a very efficient financial well-being. Financial preparedness for emergency got the second highest mean of 4.00, indicating that their financial well-being is efficient. Current money management stress got the mean of 3.82 suggested that, despite generally good money management, these businesses encountered efficient financial well-being.

The financial well-being of SME's in Panabo City consisted of three variables: financial preparedness, current money management stress, perceived financial security. The evaluation was based on 16-item questions about financial well-being: five items of questions for financial preparedness for emergency, seven items for current money management stress, and four item of question for perceived financial security.

Among the three indicators, perceived financial security got the highest mean of 4.05, described as high which means the level of financial well-being of SME's is always practiced. Among those items on perceived financial security, item 2 got the highest mean of 4.51 which described as very high, indicating that the SME's planned to secure their future financially. Confidence in making sound financial decisions, financial self-efficacy leads to greater financial security and overall well-being (Netemeyer,

Warmath, Fernandes and Lynch Jr., 2018, p.10). While, item 4 got the lowest mean of 3.52 which described as high, indicating that the SME's are not worried about the current financial situations. For SMEs, financial security comes from understanding money, easy access to financial resources, good money management, and a healthy economy, leading to reduced financial worries and greater well-being. (Lone and Bhat, 2022, p.10).

the financial well-being is always practiced. In financial preparedness, item 2 and 3 both got the highest mean of 4.24 which described as very high, indicating that the SME's regularly manage to save some money from income and able to save money to secure future life. A company's financial success was dependent on how it secured and managed financial matters. Effective financial management was essential to acquiring the money required to fund assets and activities, strategically allocating resources, and ensuring the efficient use of funds to meet organizational goals (Nkwinika and Akinola, 2023, p.13). While, item 5 got the lowest mean of 3.69 which described as high, indicating that the SME's considered credit limits as extra cash (cash buffer) whenever planned to budget. Businesses with limited cash flow aimed to reduce investment in working capital so as to avoid the need for costly external borrowing, while those with available internal cash flow ought to have improved investment in working capital to increase performance. (Afrifa and Tingbani, 2018, p.21).

Table 4. Level of Financial Well-being

Indicators	Standard Deviation	Mean	Descriptive Equivalent
Financial Preparedness for Emergency	0.97	4.00	High
Current Money Management Stress	1.00	3.82	High
Perceived Financial Security	1.07	4.05	High
Overall	1.01	3.93	High

In current money management stress got the lowest mean of 3.82 of the three indicators rated as high, indicating that the level of financial well-being of SMEs always practiced. Among those items on current money management stress, item 1 got the highest mean of 4.24 which described as very high, indicating that the SME's are able to covered financial expenses

if they lose a job until they find a new one. SMEs have played an important role in job creation and economic dynamism. They serve as an engine of job creation and are seedbeds of developing entrepreneurial talent and innovation Small businesses are flexible in keeping up with changing markets, responsive to new opportunities and quicker to adapt to capture economic

upswings than large firms (Bakhtiari, Breunig, Magnani and Zhang, 2020, p.1). While, item 4 got the lowest mean of 3.53 which described as high, indicating that the SME's are not frequently concerned about personal finances in general. Strong financial controls were vital for the success and long-term survival of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). Effective financial management allowed SMEs to use their limited resources wisely, make sound business decisions, and confidently handle economic challenges. It helped SME owners understand their financial situation, set clear financial goals, and track their progress (Nkwinika and Akinola, 2023, p.18).

Significant Relationship between Investment Behavior and Financial Well-Being among SME's in Panabo City

Presented in Table 5, is the significant relationship between investment behavior and financial well-being.

Table 5. The Significant Relationship between Investment Behavior and Financial well-being

Variables	Standard Deviation	Mean	Description	r-value	P-value
Investment Behavior	4.11	0.93	High		
Financial Well-being	3.77	1.08	High	0.599**	0.000
Overall	3.88	1.04	High		

All of these results demonstrated how important financial literacy and responsible financial behavior were in determining an individual's or entrepreneurs' overall financial health. Reduced financial stress and greater confidence in one's financial future were more likely to occur when people possessed the information and abilities necessary to make wise financial decisions. This emphasized the necessity of financial education programs that fostered short-term stability and long-term financial security by enhancing financial understanding and encouraging habits.

IV. CONCLUSION

This section summarizes the findings of the study on the impact of investment behavior to financial well-being among Small and Medium Enterprises in Panabo City, from which conclusions are drawn and recommendations are offered.

The computed r-value of 0.599, associated with a p-value of 0.000, was less than 0.05. Therefore, the null hypothesis (H₀) was rejected.

This indicated a significant relationship between investment behavior and financial well-being among SMEs in Panabo City.

The result of the study supported the theory of (Prawitz, Garman, Sorhaindo, and Drentea, 2006, p.34) that financial well-being was a multidimensional construct encompassing satisfaction with one's current financial situation, perceived financial security, and the ability to meet long-term goals.

Meanwhile, (Lusardi and Mitchell, 2014, p.13) emphasized that financial behavior, such as investment planning and decision-making, had a direct impact on long-term financial health, especially in business contexts.

Conclusion

The following conclusions were drawn based on the findings of the study. The demographic profile showed more female than male respondents, and the majority of participants were in the middle age range, with smaller coming from the younger and older age groups. The overall mean rating of investment behavior of SME owners in Panabo City is described as High, which means SME owners has a positive investment approach reflecting good financial decision-making. Also, the overall mean rating obtained by financial well-being is described as high, this indicates that SMEs had good financial health. Furthermore, the computed r-value between investment behavior and financial well-being is 0.599 with a p-value of 0.000, which is less than a 0.05 significance level. Thus, the null hypothesis is rejected. It implies that there is significant relationship between investment behavior and financial well-being among SMEs in Panabo City.

V. RECOMMENDATION

After a comprehensive analysis of the gathered data, the researchers concluded that small and medium enterprise (SME) owners could greatly benefit from targeted workshops and training programs aimed at enhancing their understanding of sound investment strategies. These workshops should be tailored to address the specific needs and challenges faced by SMEs and focus on practical, real-world applications of investment principles. In addition, SME owners are strongly encouraged to seek guidance from licensed financial advisors or investment analysts who can offer professional, personalized advice based on the unique circumstances of each business. By doing so, business owners will be better equipped to make informed and strategic decisions that can lead to sustainable growth and financial stability.

In relation to the level of financial well-being, the researchers recommend that SME owners be provided with accessible and actionable resources, including stress management tools, comprehensive financial planning assistance, and participation in financial literacy programs. These initiatives should focus on essential topics such as effective cash flow management, responsible debt handling, the importance of building emergency funds, and strategies for long-term financial planning. Implementing community-based financial education campaigns and information drives would also help increase awareness and build stronger financial habits among local entrepreneurs. Improving financial literacy among SME owners not only empowers them to manage their business finances more confidently but also reduces financial-related stress, enhances overall financial well-being, and strengthens their potential for long-term business success. By equipping them with the right knowledge and tools, they are more likely to avoid common financial pitfalls and be resilient in times of economic uncertainty.

This study could help entrepreneurs understand how their investment behavior affected their financial well-being and may also have served as a guide to help them become more knowledgeable about managing the financial aspects. Lastly, future researchers might carry out the same study on the Impact of Investment

Behavior to Financial Well-Being in order to determine whether the current research and future research still yielded the same findings.

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