Affluents & Investments

Inside the Minds (and Investment Accounts) of Affluent Americans



Join the conversation!

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The Longest-Running, Most Widely-Used Study of Affluents



N=24,424

Affluents (\$100K+ HHI)
Reflecting population of 75.5M adults

- Ultra Affluent \$250K+ HHI (N=3,076)
- \$5M+ net worth (N=1,215)

Transitioning to \$125K+ HHI in Fall 2017 Release

Heritage

40 years tracking lifestyles, media & spending

Platform

Online survey with extensive recontact capabilities

Timely

Continuous fielding; two releases annually; quarterly Barometers

Global

Complementary study in 50 additional countries



Ipsos Affluent Survey Content: Media, Money & Mindsets

Extensive survey content includes:



8 radio networks 11 streaming services 12 social networks 38 advertising touchpoints 102 television networks 105 independent websites 156 printed publications

290+ media brands measured cross-platform







12 public activities done 16 major sports followed 47 planned life events 50 types of video content watched

81 sports and leisure activities 134 psychographic statements 1.400+ brands measured

Marketplace **₹**









150+ categories of expenditures Household & personal incomes Net worth and liquid assets Occupation, title, industry

Age, gender, education Ethnicity & culture Household composition Marital status

Category deep dives include:





























Today's Sources: Recontact Methodology for Quant & Qual Insights

Ipsos Affluent Survey USA N=24,424 \$100K+ HHI



Recontact



- Quarterly
- Q1 2017 N=856
- Optimism
- Finances

Recontact

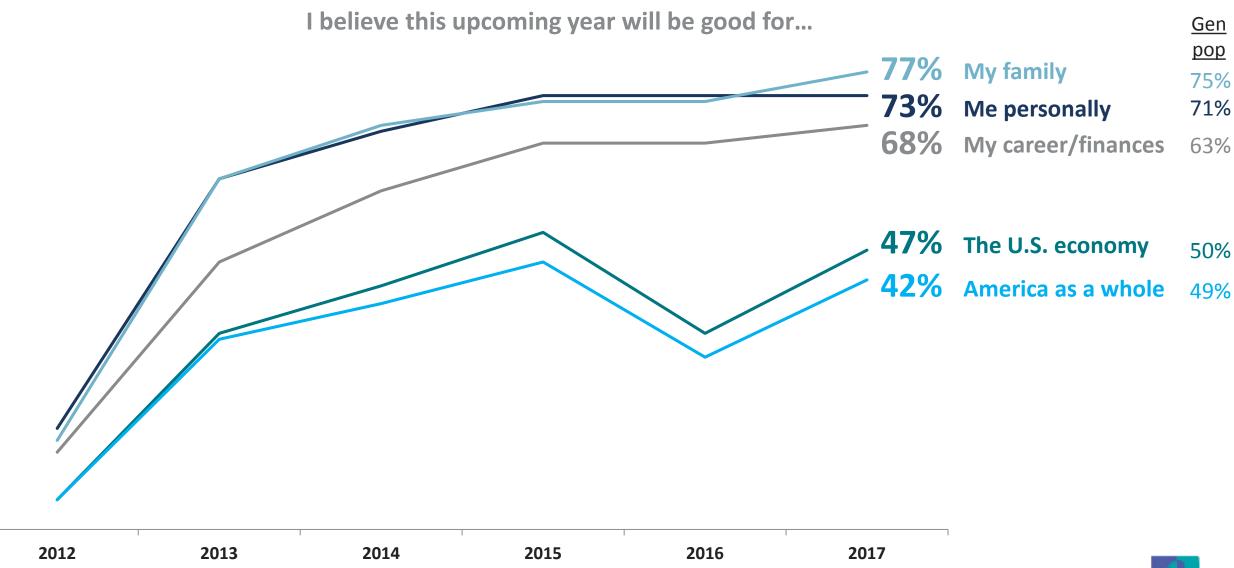


- In-depth telephone interviews
- N=12
- Deep dive on finances, including advisors, innovation & more



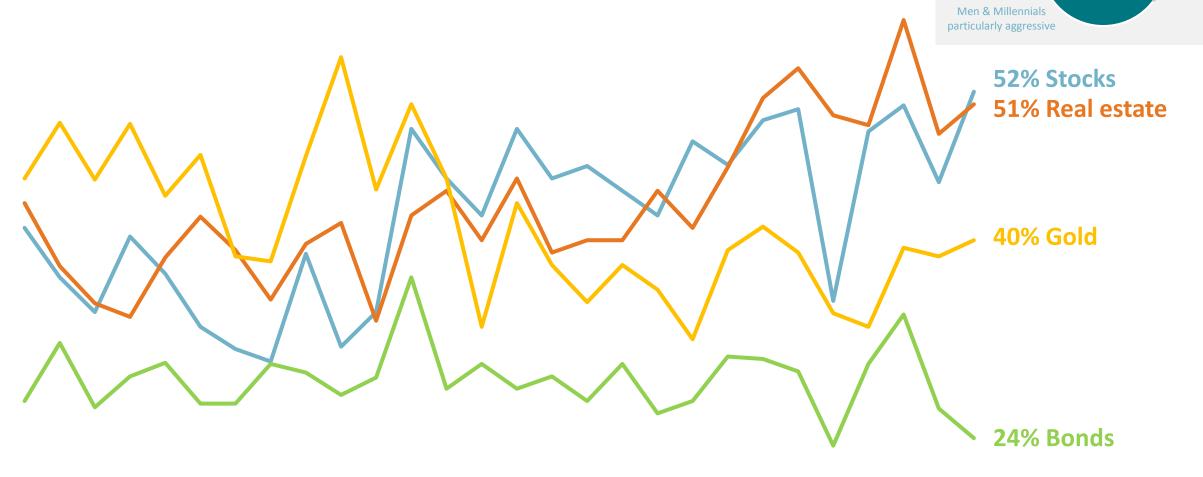


Looking Ahead: Expectations Higher for 2017 Than for 2016



Bullishness Rebounding After Q4 Skittishness





Investment approach for 2017

More conservative 12%

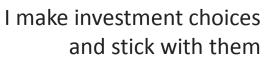
More aggressive _ 17%

No change

71%

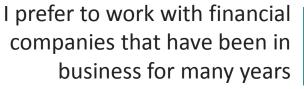
Most Investors Are Buy-and-Hold; Seek Stability

Which statement better describes your investment approach?



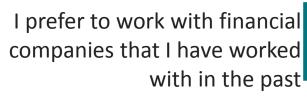


I actively move in and out of different investments





I am very open to working with financial companies that are new and innovative





I am very open to working with financial companies that I have not worked with before





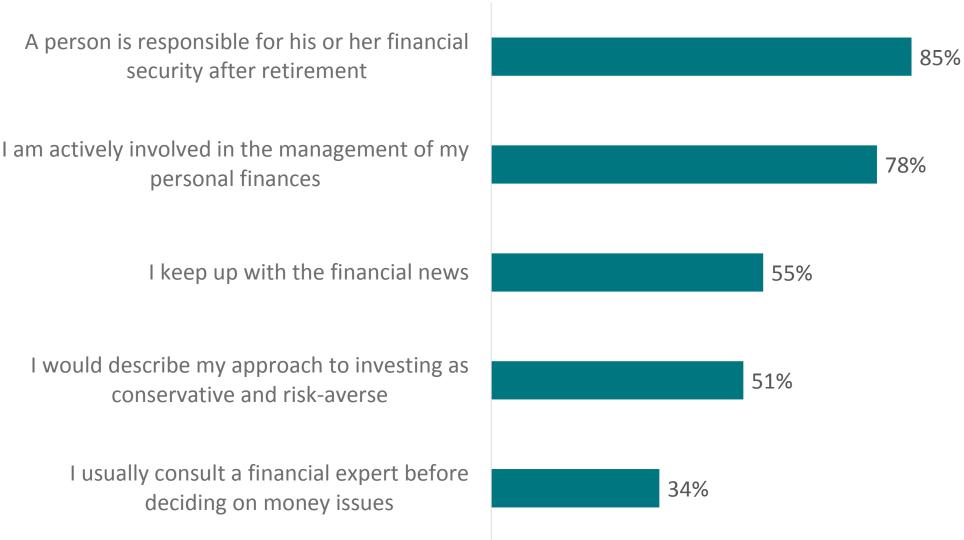
Half (or Less) Are Prepared to Transfer Their Wealth

Key estate planning attitudes	
I have clear written instructions (such as a will or trust) that explain how I want my assets to be distributed when I pass away	46%
I have thought a great deal about how I want my assets to be distributed when I pass away	42%
I have spoken with a financial or legal professional about the best ways to distribute my assets when I pass away	31% 👃
I plan to distribute much of my wealth before I pass away	29%





Affluent Investors Are Self-Directed and Advice-Seeking

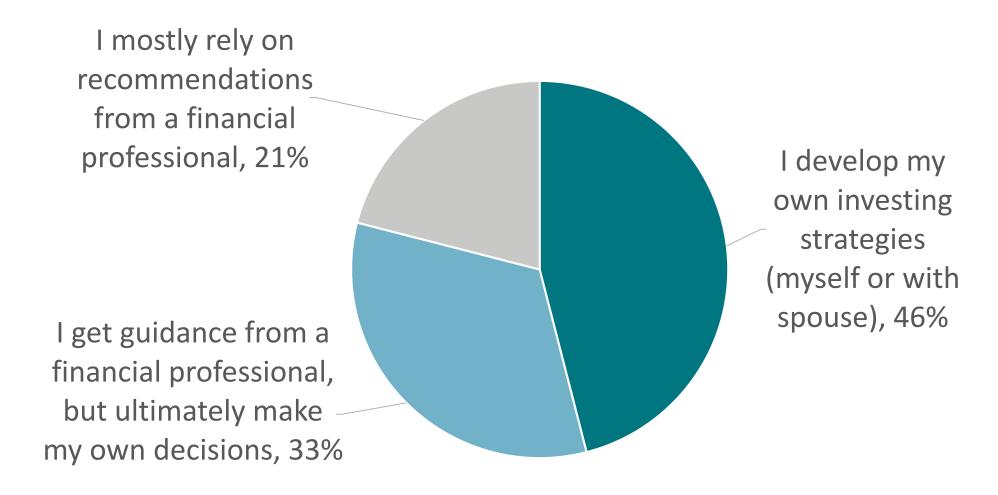


67% used a financial professional in the past year



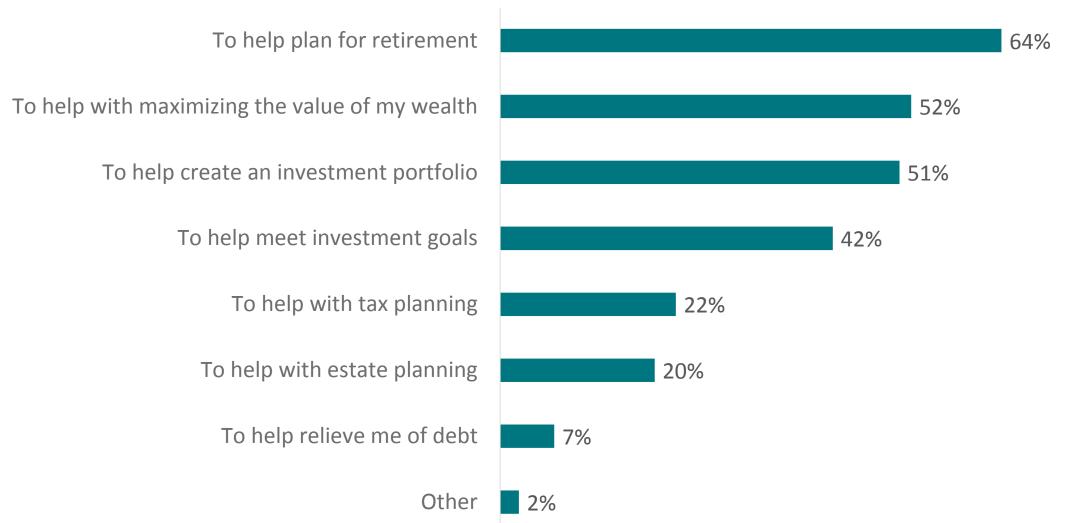
Most Get Financial Advice; One-Fifth Have Deep Advisor Relationships

How do you develop your personal investing and financial strategies?



Retirement, Growth & Portfolio Management Top Reasons for FA Use

Among FA Users: Reasons for using



Fees & Trust Are Top Barriers Among Non-FA Users

Among Non-Users of FAs: Reasons for not using





Qualitative Close-Up: Barriers to FA Use

- "Trust", "best interests" and "better job" mirror the survey as key factors in choosing an advisor
 - Trust is sacred and is on par with any important life relationship – once violated, trust is difficult to regain
 - There is skepticism about what incents a financial advisor
 - Compensation structure emerged as best way to ensure interests are aligned: flat-fee vs. commission
 - How a firm treats their employees is a marker of the firm's compensation system
 - Some feel they can do as good or a better job than an advisor
 - They have sufficient expertise due to their education or job
 - They are satisfied with the returns they get
 - They rely on secondary sources of information that they trust (Warren Buffet, Dave Ramsey, financial media)

"It's like a marriage; need to make sure it's the right fit."

-- Male, 48 years



Siddharth Gopinath
Vice-President
Ipsos Understanding Unlimited

"I think I can manage my own money - I'm big on being self-educated; I do a lot of research."

--Male, 36 years



Qualitative Close-Up: Barriers to FA Use (con't)



Siddharth Gopinath VP, IUU (Qual Expert)

- Social stigma and age are potential emerging barriers
 - Social stigma is related to poor personal money management practices and size of portfolio
 - Using an FA requires that you share your financial history,
 which can be embarrassing if negative
 - Some feel they don't have "enough" money for a FA to manage and that they would be turned away
 - Age of the FA can be a barrier, especially among older respondents (45+)
 - There was a real reluctance to work with an advisor who is "the same age as my kids"
 - They want an advisor with empathy and who can relate to their financial circumstances/goals

"For a long time my credit rating wasn't that good, so I was embarrassed to use an advisor."

-- Male, 55 years

"This is something for an old, rich, white man who is rich enough he doesn't have to worry...I would say about \$1MM."

--Female, 50 years



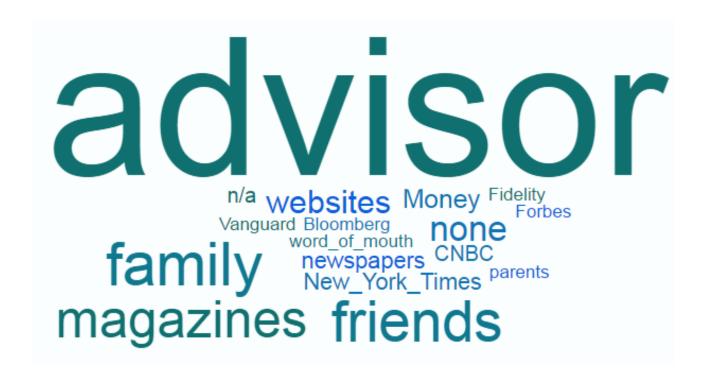
Trust in Short Supply, but Advisors & Some Brands Deliver

Please list the one financial company/brand you trust most

Morgan_Stanley
Bank_of_America
Edward_Jones Chase
USAA Wells_Fargo
Ameriprise
I_don't_know
JPMorgan Fidelity
None
Charles_Schwab

"I work with a private advisor, but trust Schwab"

Please describe the sources of financial information that you trust most

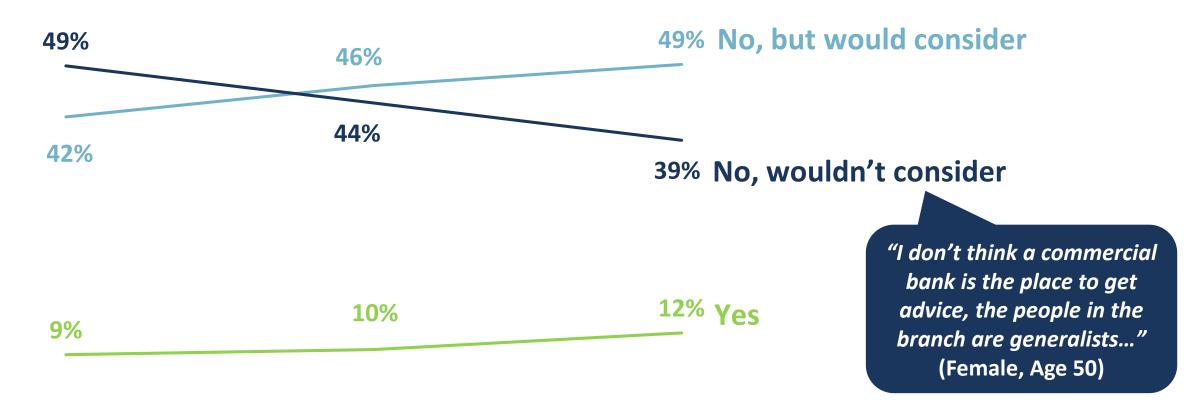


"My financial advisor, backed up by my research"



Few Use Banks for Investment Purposes, But Openness Growing

Do you use your bank for investment purposes, such as buying stocks, bonds or mutual funds?



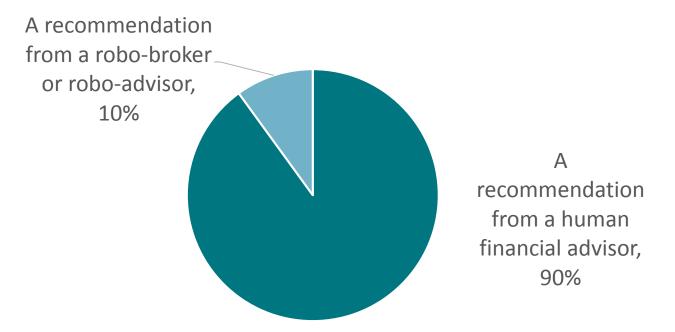


Affluents & Innovation



Robo-Brokers Still Early in the Adoption Curve

When it comes to a specific investment recommendation, which kind of financial advice would you be most likely to follow?

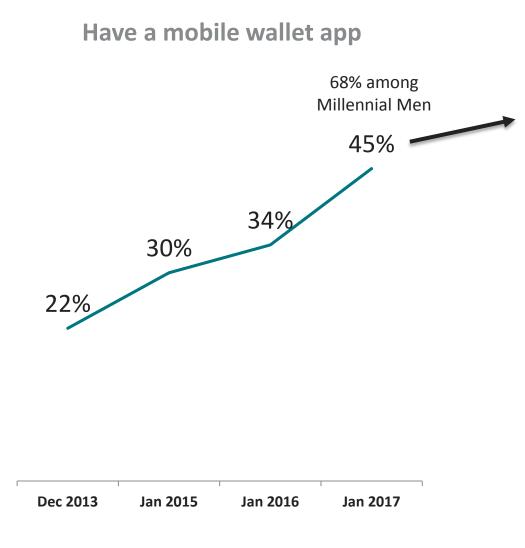


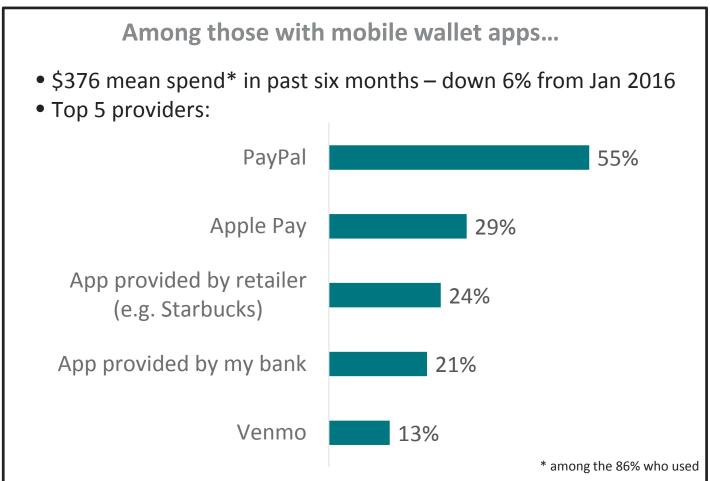
Key metrics re: robo-brokers	
Extremely/very familiar	12%
Used	4%
Extremely/very likely to use in next 12 months	7%
Extremely/very interested in learning more	12%

Familiarity nearly 2X among ultra Affluents



Nearly Half Have a Mobile Wallet App

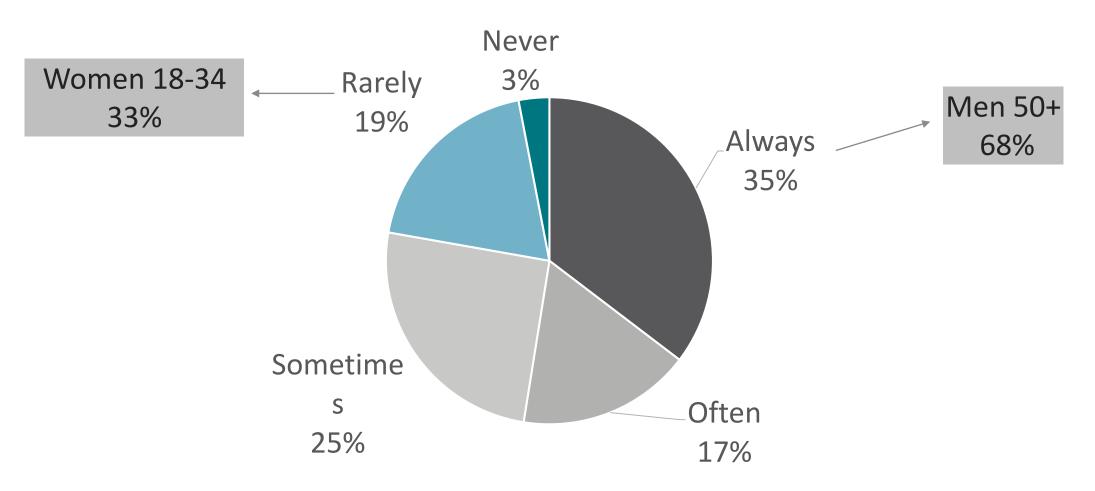






Nearly One-Fourth Rarely or Never Carry Cash

How often, if at all, do you carry cash with you?





Final Thoughts & Next Steps



Key Take-Aways

- Affluent outlook: Opportunity ahead despite an uncertain future
- Investment approach: Self-directed and advice-seeking
- **Unfulfilled need:** Someone/something to trust
- Trend leaders: Often (but not always) skew male, Millennial, Ultra Affluent

Thought Starters for Digger Deeper

- Asset insights: Ownership & balances across 15 different account types
- **Segment profiles:** \$5+ million net worth, \$1+ million liquid assets, etc.
- B-to-B: Profiling financial advisors (younger, heavier readers, distinct attitudes, etc.)
- **Recontact research:** Custom research with our 24,000+ respondents
- Global perspective: The Ipsos Affluent Survey covers 51 countries



Thank You!



Stephen Kraus

Chief Insights Officer
Steve.Kraus@lpsos.com

Steve brings more than two decades of experience in understanding human behavior, and his insights on media use and consumer behavior are regularly cited in the media. Author of three books on affluence, Steve holds a Ph.D. in social psychology from Harvard University.

With over 10 years of applied research experience,

including segmentation, predictive modeling, and other statistical methods. An ARF award winner,

University and a B.A. in economics & psychology

from the University of Pennsylvania.

Maria holds an M.A. in psychometrics from Fordham

Maria's background is in quantitative analysis,



Maria Cole

Director Marketing Sciences

Maria.Cole@Ipsos.com



Category Leads



Donna Den Braven

Vice President, Ipsos Connect Lead contact for publishers

<u>Donna.DenBraven@lpsos.com</u>

646-313-6143



Ashley Hoskinson

Vice President, Ipsos Connect Lead contact for agencies & advertisers

Ashley.Hoskinson@Ipsos.com

347-330-8064

