

by Jim S Miller, President, Prime Performance, Inc.

## **Client Experience With Investment Call Centers**

2012 INVESTMENT CALL CENTER SATISFACTION SURVEY



The results from this survey of 2,543 investment clients who recently spoke with a call center representative show client satisfaction is declining, primarily due to a significant drop among Gen X clients. Vanguard scores highest in customer satisfaction, followed by Scottrade and Fidelity. Vanguard and Scottrade are most likely to be recommended by their clients. Clients believe Morgan Stanley Smith Barney has the friendliest representatives and requires the least effort to handle client requests.

This report analyzes results at ten major investment firms, including; Charles Schwab, E\*Trade, Fidelity Investments, JP Morgan Chase, Merrill Lynch, Morgan Stanley Smith Barney, Scottrade, TD Ameritrade, Vanguard and Wells Fargo.

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### Methodology

DATA COLLECTION December 2011 METHOD Online Survey

#### SAMPLE SIZE

2,543 adults who had spoken with an investment call center representative within the last month at one of ten major firms. The firms include: Charles Schwab, E-Trade, Fidelity Investments, JP Morgan Chase, Merrill Lynch, Morgan Stanley Smith Barney, Scottrade, TD Ameritrade, Vanguard and Wells Fargo.

#### SAMPLE

A total of 2,543 interviews were conducted in the U.S. Sampling error cannot be calculated for surveys that use a self-selected online panel of respondents. If this sample had been conducted among a fully random sample, the estimated margin of error for the sample would be  $\pm 1.7$  percentage points at the 95% confidence level.

#### SCORING

Depending on the question, consumers selected responses along a seven-point scale or selected "yes", "no" or "don't remember". For questions on a seven-point scale, positive responses are the percent of individuals selecting one of the top two boxes (6 or 7). Negative responses are the percent of individuals selecting one of the bottom three boxes (1, 2 or 3). For "yes", "no", "don't remember" questions, positive responses are the percent of individuals selecting "yes". "Net Score" is the top two box score (6 or 7) minus the bottom three box score (1, 2, or 3) for questions on a seven-point scale. "Net Satisfaction Score" is the top two box score (6 or 7) for the question "Overall, how satisfied are you with the service you received?" minus the bottom three box score (1, 2, or 3) for the question. Some scores may not add up due to rounding.

#### FIRMS INCLUDED IN STUDY RESULTS

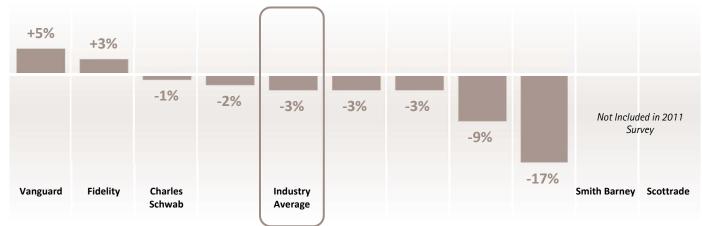
Only firms with 150 or more completed surveys are included in the results. On average, each ranked firm received 254 completed surveys. For each question, only the top three firms are named, but scores for the remaining firms are displayed (without names).

#### GENERATIONS

Generation Y (Gen Y) – born after 1980 Generation X (Gen X) – born between 1965 and 1980 Boomers – born between 1946 and 1964 Pre-Boomers – born before 1946



	Net Score*		% Positive Responses (% Satisfied)* Net Score: % of positive responses% Negative Responses (% Dissatisfied)minus % of negative responses
Vanguard	81%	1%	82%
Scottrade	78%	1%	79%
Fidelity	77%	3%	79%
	76%	3%	80%
	75%	5%	80%
Industry Average	67%	5%	72%
	65%	5%	70%
	65%	4%	69%
	63%	6%	69%
	52%	8%	60%
	52%	8%	61%





Wet Score*         % Positive Responses (% Dissatisfied)         *Net Score: % of positive responses           Sen X and Gen Y (born 1965 or later)         ************************************					
Vanguard**       69%       1%       70%         Fidelity       69%       4%       73%         Charles Schwab       66%       5%       71%         65%       2%       67%       67%         65%       2%       67%       68%         60%       6%       66%       66%         60%       6%       66%       66%         60%       6%       63%       63%         58%       6%       60%       60%         50%       8%       58%       58%		Net Score*			
Fidelity       69%       4%       73%         Charles Schwab       66%       5%       71%         65%       2%       67%         65%       2%       67%         62%       6%       68%         60%       6%       66%         60%       6%       66%         60%       6%       64%         58%       6%       63%         52%       8%       60%         50%       8%       60%	Gen X and Gen	Y (bori	n 1965 or late	r)	
Charles Schwab       66%       5%       71%         65%       2%       67%         62%       6%       68%         60%       6%       66%         60%       6%       64%         58%       6%       63%         52%       8%       60%         50%       8%       58%	Vanguard**	69%	1%		70%
65%       2%       67%         62%       6%       68%         60%       6%       66%         60%       6%       66%         ndustry Average       58%       6%       63%         58%       6%       63%       60%         52%       8%       60%       58%         50%       8%       58%       58%	Fidelity	69%	4%		73%
62%       6%       68%         60%       6%       66%         60%       6%       66%         ndustry Average       58%       6%       64%         58%       6%       63%         52%       8%       60%       60%         50%       8%       58%       58%	Charles Schwab	66%	5%		71%
60%       6%       66%         60%       6%       66%         ndustry Average       58%       6%       64%         58%       6%       63%         52%       8%       60%         50%       8%       60%		65%	2%		67%
ndustry Average       58%       6%       64%         58%       6%       63%         52%       8%       60%         50%       8%       60%		62%	6%		68%
58%       6%       63%         52%       8%       60%         50%       8%       58%		60%	6%		66%
52%       8%       60%         50%       8%       58%	Industry Average	58%	6%		64%
<b>50% 8% 58%</b>		58%	6%		63%
		52%	8%		60%
<b>49% 9% 58%</b>		50%	8%		58%
		49%	9%		58%

### Boomers and Pre-Boomers (born 1964 or earlier)

Scottrade**	97%	0%	97%
Vanguard	90%	1%	91%
Charles Schwab	85%	2%	87%
Fidelity	85%	1%	86%
	80%	4%	84%
Industry Average	79%	3%	83%
	78%	4%	82%
	73%	2%	75%
	72%	4%	75%
	65%	6%	71%
	59%	9%	68%



	Net Score*			% Positive Responses (% Satisfied) % Negative Responses (% Dissatisfied)	* Net Score: % of positive responses minus % of negative responses
Household Inc	ome l	ess than \$	75,00	00	
Scottrade	79%	1%			80%
Vanguard**	77%	1%			78%
Charles Schwab	76%	3%			79%
	74%	5%			79%
	73%	4%			76%
	66%	6%			72%
Industry Average	65%	5%			71%
	64%	4%			68%
	61%	5%			66%
	57%	9%			66%
	38%	12%		50%	

## Household Income \$75,000 or more

Vanguard**	85%	1%	86%
Fidelity	80%	2%	82%
Smith Barney**	76%	4%	80%
Charles Schwab	76%	4%	80%
	75%	1%	76%
Industry Average	70%	4%	74%
	69%	3%	72%
	67%	5%	72%
	67%	6%	73%
	58%	6%	64%
	45%	6%	51%



	Net Score*		% Positive Responses (% Satisfied) % Negative Responses (% Dissatisfied)	* Net Score: % of positive responses minus % of negative responses
Net Worth less than \$500,000				
Scottrade	83%	1%		84%
Vanguard	80%	1%		80%
Charles Schwab	75%	3%		78%
	74%	3%		77%
	72%	6%		78%
	67%	4%		71%
Industry Average	66%	5%		71%
	64%	3%		67%
	63%	7%		69%
	58%	9%		67%
	44%	12%	56%	

## Net Worth \$500,000 or more

Vanguard**	85%	2%	87%
Fidelity	81%	3%	83%
Smith Barney**	79%	3%	82%
	78%	4%	82%
	70%	1%	71%
Industry Average	69%	4%	73%
	69%	2%	71%
	67%	7%	74%
	64%	5%	69%
	63%	6%	69%
	40%	6%	46%



	Net Score*		% Positive Responses (% Satisfied) % Negative Responses (% Dissatisfied)	* Net Score: % of positive responses minus % of negative responses
Women				
Vanguard**	85%	1%		87%
Charles Schwab	81%	3%		83%
Fidelity	77%	2%		79%
	75%	0%		75%
	71%	4%		74%
Industry Average	70%	4%		74%
	69%	2%		71%
	69%	4%		72%
	64%	9%		73%
	61%	6%		68%
	56%	8%	64	4%

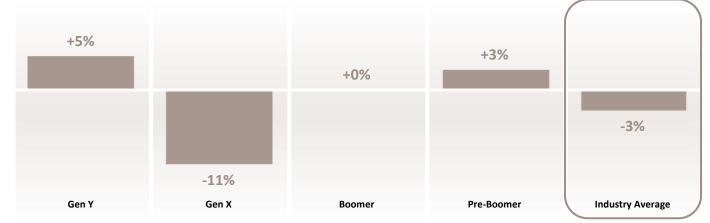
### Men

Smith Barney	83%	2%	85%
Silici Balley	03/0	_	00/0
Scottrade	79%	2%	81%
Vanguard	77%	1%	78%
Fidelity	77%	3%	80%
	73%	4%	77%
Industry Average	65%	5%	71%
	63%	6%	69%
	62%	5%	68%
	57%	9%	65%
	49%	8%	58%
	48%	9%	57%



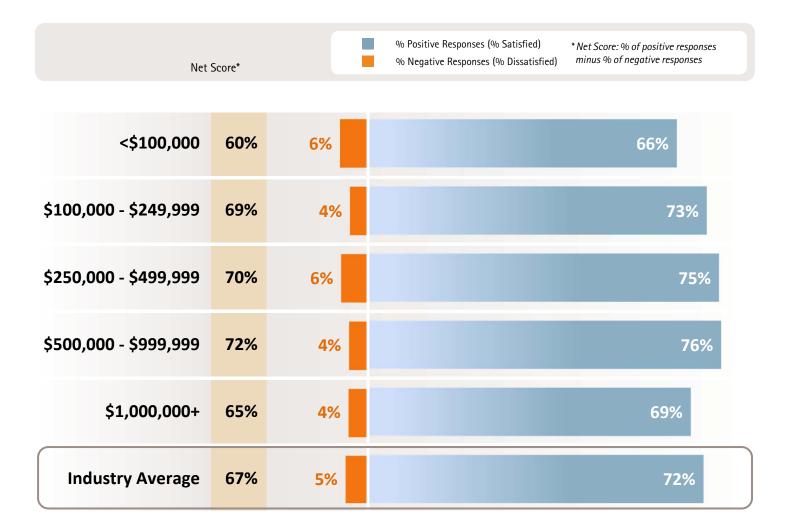
## **Overall satisfaction** - **by generation**

	Net Score*		<ul> <li>% Positive Responses (% Satisfied) * Net Score: % of positive responses</li> <li>% Negative Responses (% Dissatisfied) minus % of negative responses</li> </ul>
Gen Y	58%	6%	63%
Gen X	59%	6%	65%
Boomer	78%	3%	81%
Pre-Boomer	83%	3%	86%
Industry Average	67%	5%	72%





## **Overall satisfaction** - **by net worth**







## **Overall satisfaction** - **by income**

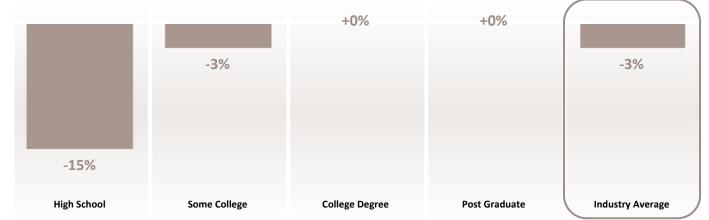
Net	Score*		% Positive Responses (% Satisfied) % Negative Responses (% Dissatisfied)	* Net Score: % of positive responses minus % of negative responses
< \$50,000	65%	6%		72%
\$50,000 - \$74,999	65%	5%		70%
\$75,000 - \$99,999	70%	4%		75%
\$100,000 - \$149,999	69%	4%		73%
\$150,000+	70%	3%		73%
Industry Average	67%	5%		72%





## **Overall satisfaction** - **by education**

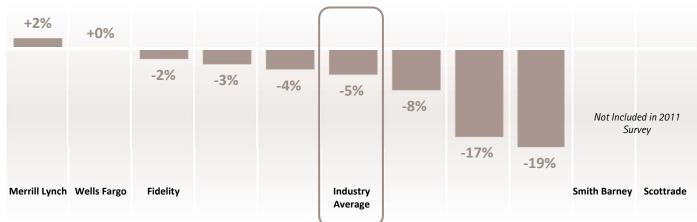
	Net Score*		% Positive Responses (% Satisfied)       * Net Score: % of positive responses         % Negative Responses (% Dissatisfied)       * net Score: % of negative responses
High School	58%	8%	66%
Some College	69%	5%	74%
College Degree	70%	4%	74%
Post Graduate	70%	3%	73%
Industry Average	67%	5%	72%





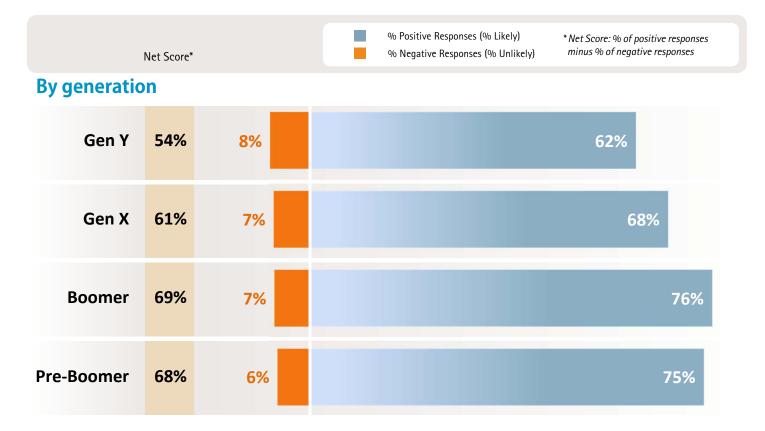
## Likely to recommend firm?

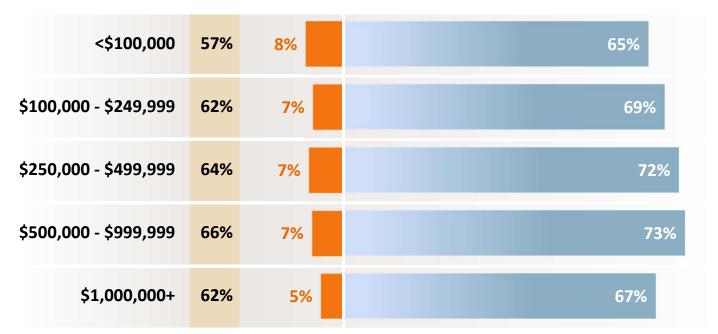
	Net Score*		% Positive Responses (% Likely) % Negative Responses (% Unlikely)	* Net Score: % of positive responses minus % of negative responses
Vanguard	78%	4%		82%
Scottrade	78%	3%		80%
Fidelity	72%	3%		75%
Charles Schwab	72%	4%		76%
	65%	9%		74%
Industry Average	63%	7%		69%
	59%	8%		67%
	57%	9%		66%
	54%	10%		64%
	53%	7%	61	1%
	47%	11%	58%	6





## Likely to recommend firm?

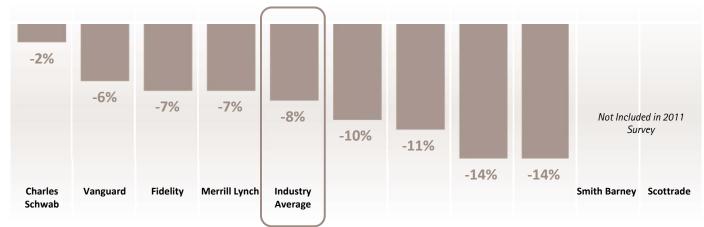






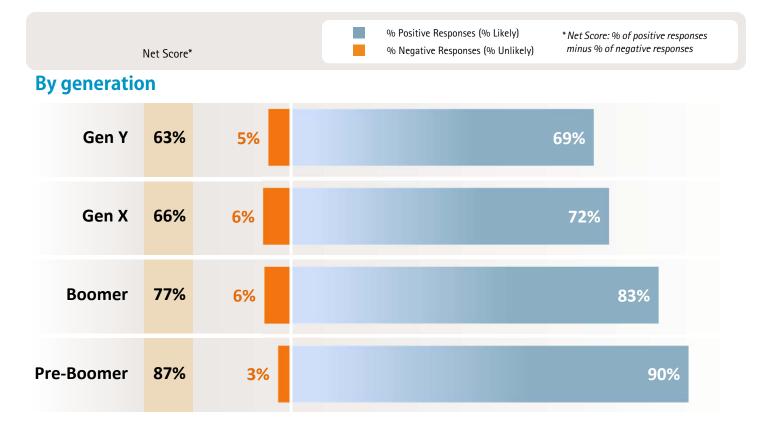
# Likely to continue using firm over the next 12 months?

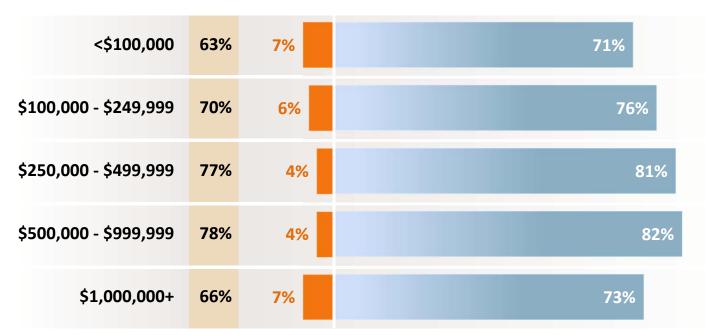
	Net Score*		% Positive Responses (% Likely) % Negative Responses (% Unlikely)	* Net Score: % of positive responses minus % of negative responses
Vanguard	84%	3%		86%
Charles Schwab	81%	3%		84%
Scottrade	81%	4%		85%
	79%	6%		85%
	78%	4%		82%
Industry Average	71%	6%		77%
	69%	7%		77%
	67%	7%		74%
	64%	6%		70%
	62%	7%		70%
	58%	9%		67%





## Likely to continue using firm over the next 12 months?

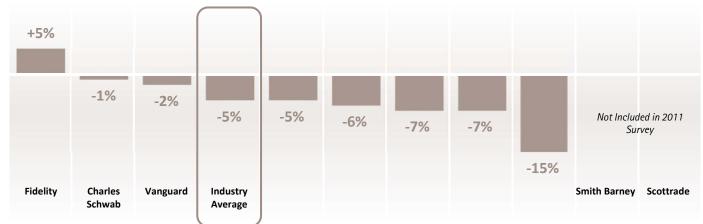






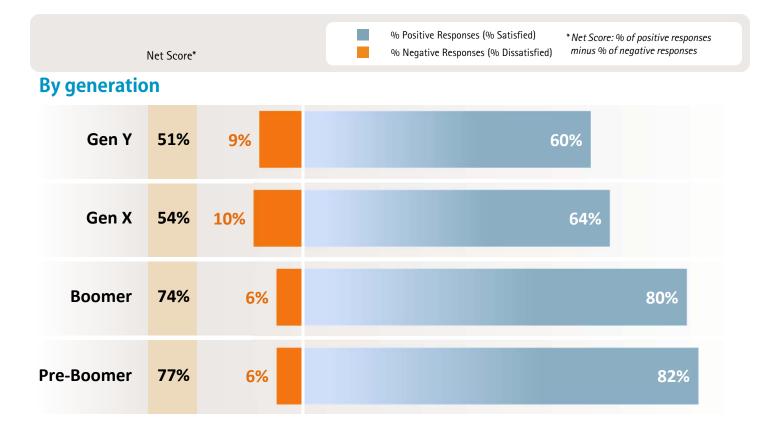
## Effective at meeting your needs?

	Net Score*		<ul> <li>% Positive Responses (% Satisfied) * Net Score: % of positive responses</li> <li>% Negative Responses (% Dissatisfied) minus % of negative responses</li> </ul>
Scottrade	72%	4%	77%
Fidelity	72%	4%	76%
Vanguard	71%	6%	77%
Charles Schwab	71%	4%	75%
	70%	8%	78%
Industry Average	62%	8%	70%
	62%	8%	69%
	61%	9%	70%
	55%	11%	66%
	47%	10%	58%
	47%	14%	61%

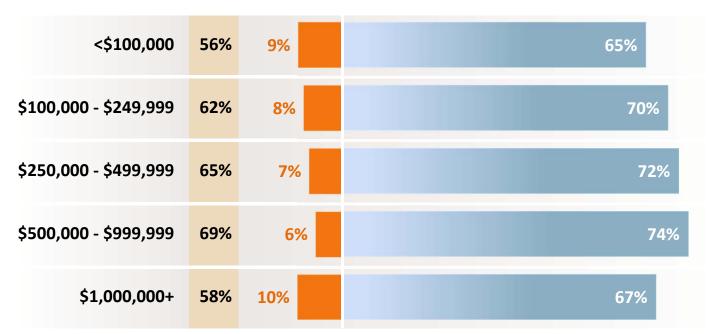




## Effective at meeting your needs?



#### By net worth

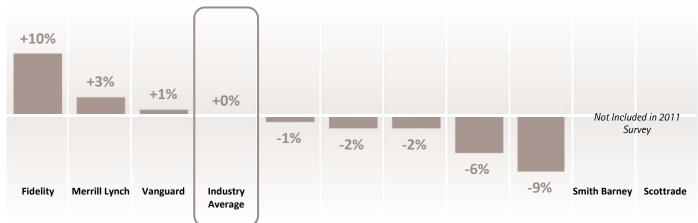


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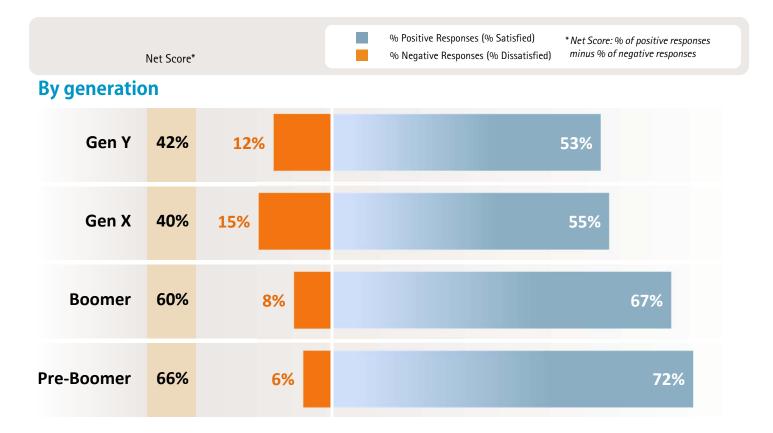
## Doing what is in your best interest?

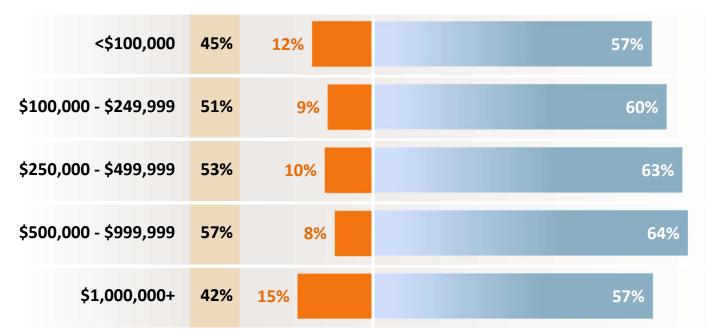
	Net Score*		i	% Positive Responses (% Satisfied)* Net Score: % of positive responses% Negative Responses (% Dissatisfied)minus % of negative responses
Scottrade	66%	5%		72%
Vanguard	60%	7%		66%
Fidelity	60%	5%		65%
	59%	6%		65%
	53%	9%		62%
Industry Average	50%	11%		60%
	49%	12%		61%
	47%	11%		58%
	43%	13%		56%
	42%	13%		55%
	30%			51%





## Doing what is in your best interest?

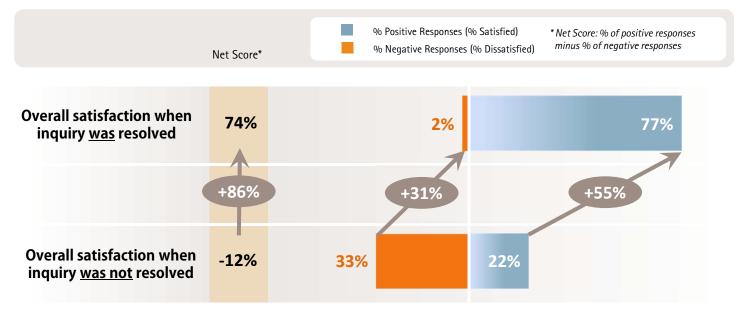




# Was your inquiry resolved to your satisfaction during this contact?

	% Positive Responses (% Yes)
Charles Schwab	97%
Fidelity	96%
Vanguard	95%
	94%
	93%
	93%
Industry Average	92%
	91%
	91%
	85%
	78%

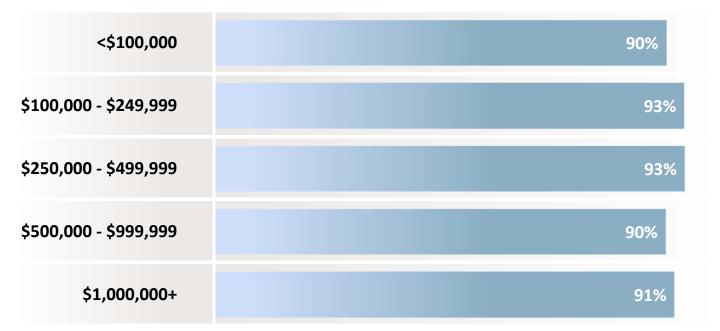
### Overall satisfaction based on: Was your inquiry resolved to your satisfaction during this contact?





# Was your inquiry resolved to your satisfaction during this contact?



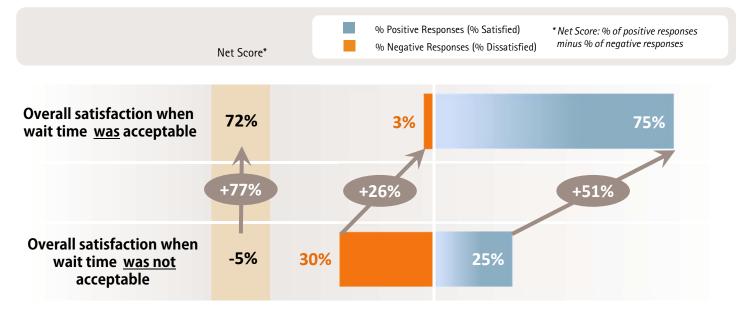




## Was the wait time acceptable?

	% Positive Responses (% Yes)
Scottrade	98%
Smith Barney	96%
Charles Schwab	96%
	95%
	94%
	94%
	94%
Industry Average	93%
	92%
	89%
	88%

#### Overall satisfaction based on: Was the wait time acceptable?





## Was the wait time acceptable?



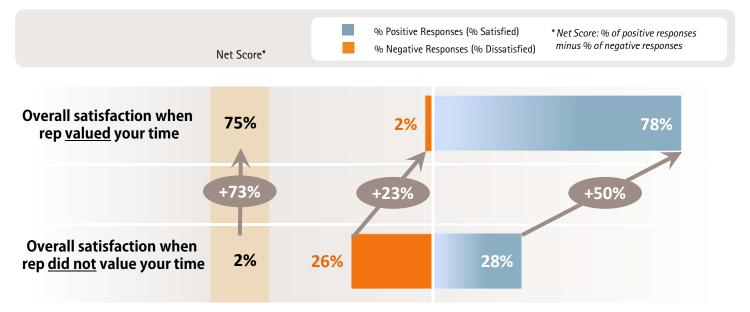
<\$100,000	92%
\$100,000 - \$249,999	93%
\$250,000 - \$499,999	94%
\$500,000 - \$999,999	93%
\$1,000,000+	95%



## Did the representative value your time?

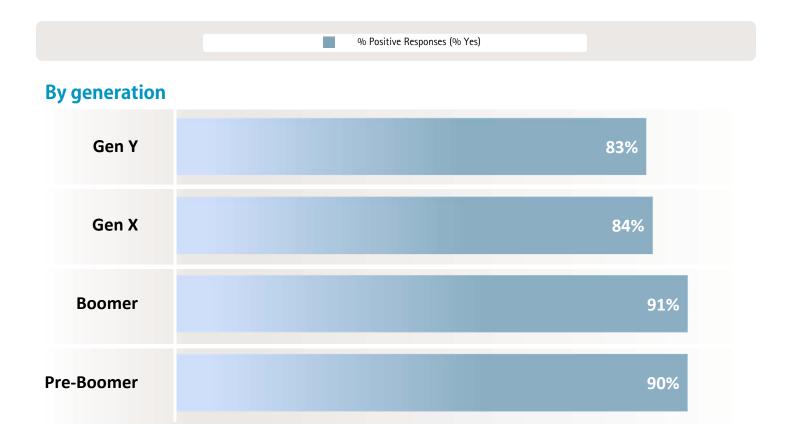
	% Positive Responses (% Yes)
Vanguard	92%
Fidelity	91%
Scottrade	90%
	89%
	88%
	87%
	87%
Industry Average	87%
	85%
	83%
	79%

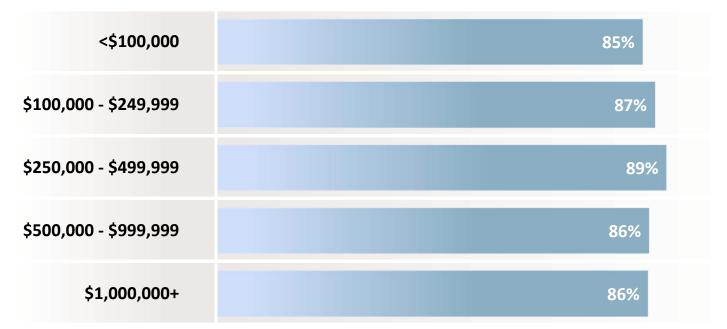
#### Overall satisfaction based on: Did the representative value your time?





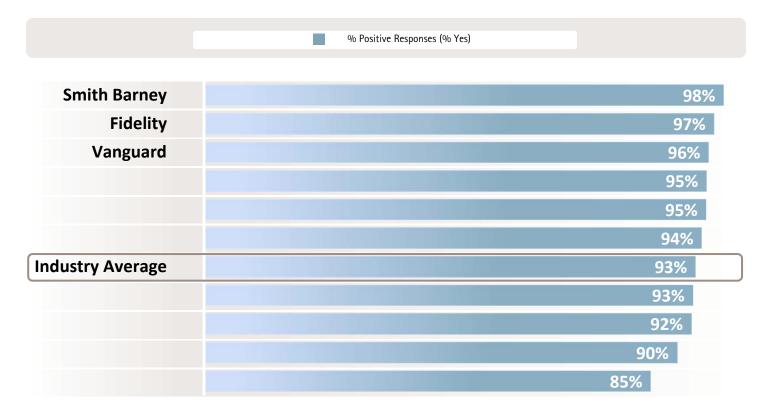
## Did the representative value your time?



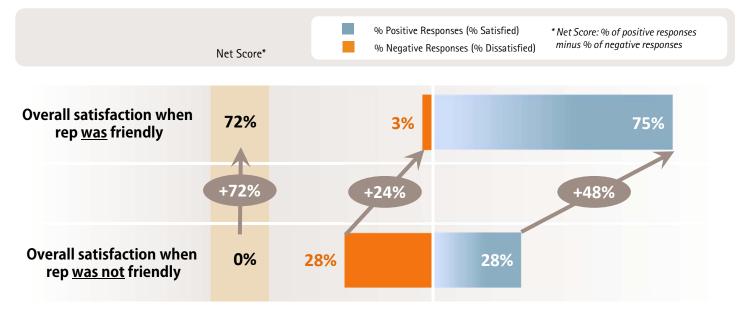




## Was the representative friendly?



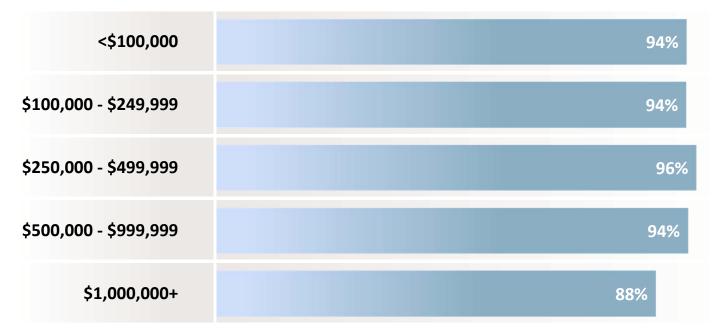
#### Overall satisfaction based on: Was the representative friendly?





## Was the representative friendly?

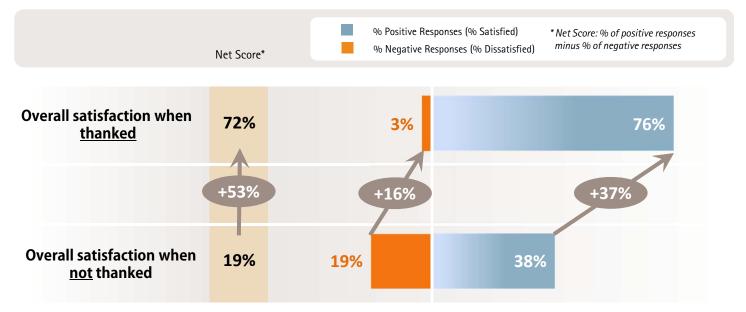




# Did the representative thank you for your business?

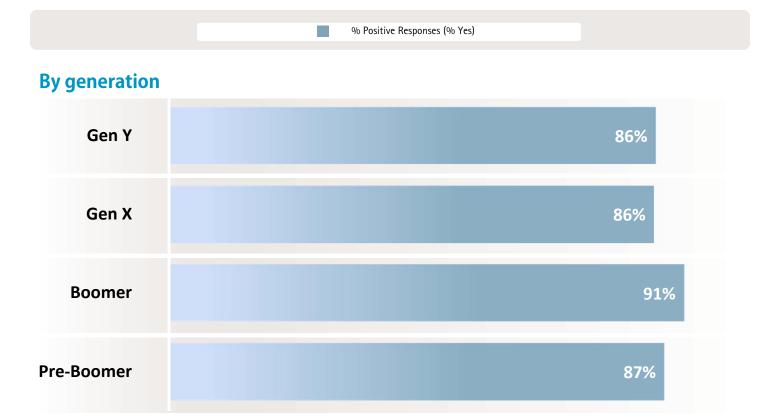
	% Positive Responses (% Yes)	
Fidelity		94%
Charles Schwab		92%
Vanguard		88%
Industry Average		87%
		87%
		87%
		87%
		86%
		86%
	8	4%
	8	4%

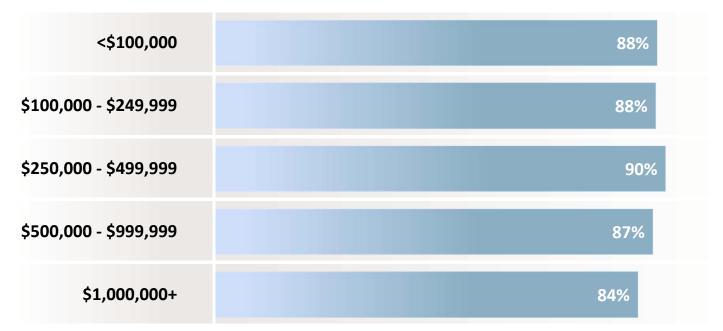
### Overall satisfaction based on: Did the representative thank you for your business?





# Did the representative thank you for your business?



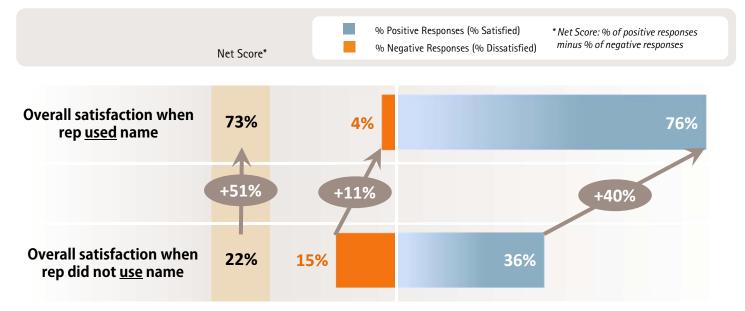




## Did the representative use your name?

	% Positive Responses (% Yes)
Smith Barney	91%
Merrill Lynch	91%
Fidelity	88%
	87%
	87%
Industry Average	86%
	84%
	83%
	83%
	81%
	81%

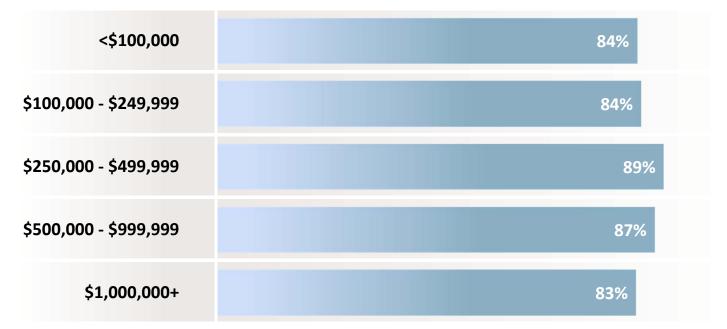
#### Overall satisfaction based on: Did the representative use your name?





## Did the representative use your name?







## Seeming genuinely interested in helping you?

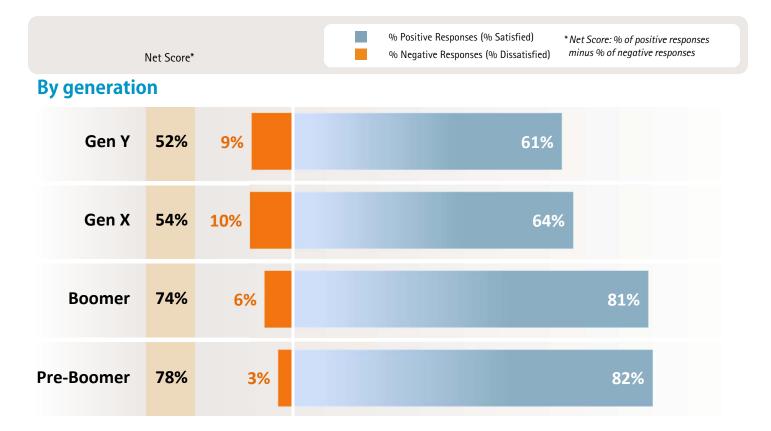
	Net Score*		 % Positive Responses (% Satisfied) % Negative Responses (% Dissatisfied)	* Net Score: % of positive responses minus % of negative responses
Scottrade	73%	4%		78%
Fidelity	73%	3%		76%
Charles Schwab	72%	5%		77%
Smith Barney	72%	7%		79%
	67%	6%		73%
	64%	7%		71%
Industry Average	62%	8%		70%
	62%	8%		70%
	54%	11%		65%
	<b>49%</b>	11%		60%
	47%	L4%		61%

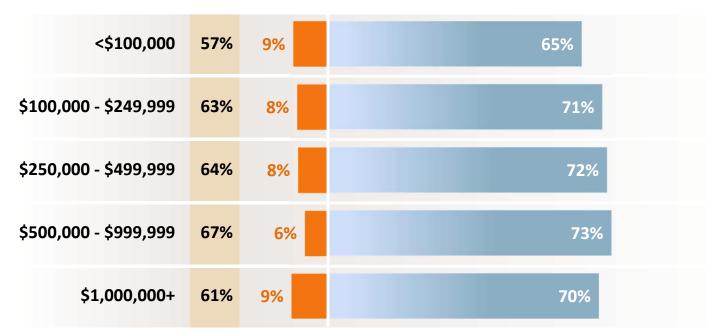
#### Overall satisfaction based on: Seeming genuinely interested in helping you?

	Net Score*		onses (% Satisfied) ponses (% Dissatisfied)	* Net Score: % of µ minus % of nega	,
Overall satisfaction when question score is <u>6 or 7</u>	86%	1%			86%
Overall satisfaction when question score is <u>4 or 5</u>	41%	5%		46%	
Overall satisfaction when question score is <u>1, 2 or 3</u>	-22% 39%		17%		



## Seeming genuinely interested in helping you?





## Appearing knowledgeable about products and services?

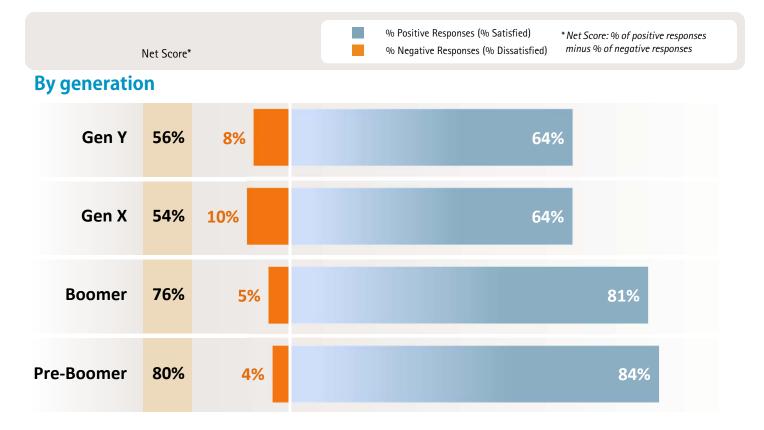
	Net Score*		% Positive Responses (% Satisfied) % Negative Responses (% Dissatisfied)	* Net Score: % of positive responses minus % of negative responses
Charles Schwab	76%	4%		80%
Vanguard	75%	4%		79%
Fidelity	75%	3%		78%
	74%	5%		79%
	72%	7%		79%
	67%	7%		73%
Industry Average	65%	7%		72%
	60%	9%		68%
	59%	10%		69%
	49%	9%	5	8%
	48%	13%		61%

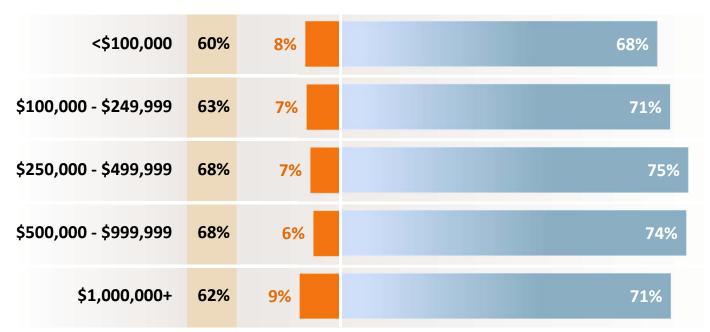
#### Overall satisfaction based on: Appearing knowledgeable about products and services?

	Net Score*		ponses (% Satisfied sponses (% Dissati		core: % of positive s % of negative res	'
Overall satisfaction when question score is <u>6 or 7</u>	86%	1%				87%
Overall satisfaction when question score is <u>4 or 5</u>	33%	7%		40%		
Overall satisfaction when question score is <u>1, 2 or 3</u>	-20% 38%		18%			



## Appearing knowledgeable about products and services?







## Listening and correctly understand your needs?

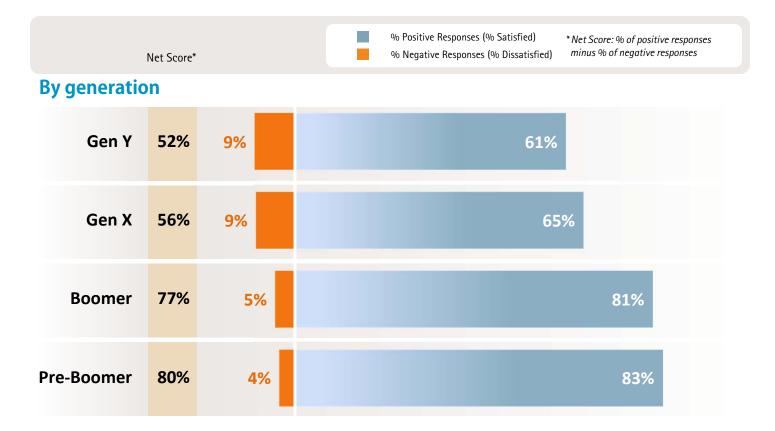
	Net Score*		i	% Positive Responses (% Satisfied) % Negative Responses (% Dissatisfied)	* Net Score: % of positive responses minus % of negative responses
Smith Barney	76%	5%			81%
Fidelity	75%	3%			78%
Scottrade	75%	5%			80%
	74%	5%			79%
	73%	5%			78%
	65%	6%			71%
Industry Average	64%	7%			71%
	59%	9%			68%
	58%	9%			67%
	52%	10%			62%
	46%	13%			58%

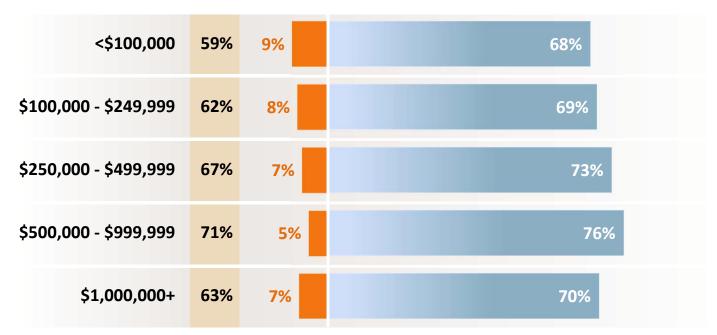
#### Overall satisfaction based on: Listening and correctly understand your needs?

	Net Score*			ponses (% Satisfie sponses (% Dissat		Net Score: % of µ minus % of nega	oositive responses tive responses
Overall satisfaction when question score is <u>6 or 7</u>	87%		1%				88%
Overall satisfaction when question score is <u>4 or 5</u>	30%		8%		38%		
Overall satisfaction when question score is <u>1, 2 or 3</u>	-18%	37%		18%			



## Listening and correctly understand your needs?





## Explaining things in a way that was easy to understand?

	Net Score*		•	% Positive Responses (% Satisfied) % Negative Responses (% Dissatisfied)	* Net Score: % of positive responses minus % of negative responses
Vanguard	73%	5%			78%
Charles Schwab	72%	4%			77%
Fidelity	72%	4%			75%
	71%	6%			77%
	69%	5%			75%
	63%	5%			68%
Industry Average	62%	7%			70%
	59%	10%			69%
	56%	7%			63%
	48%	12%			60%
	47%	11%			58%

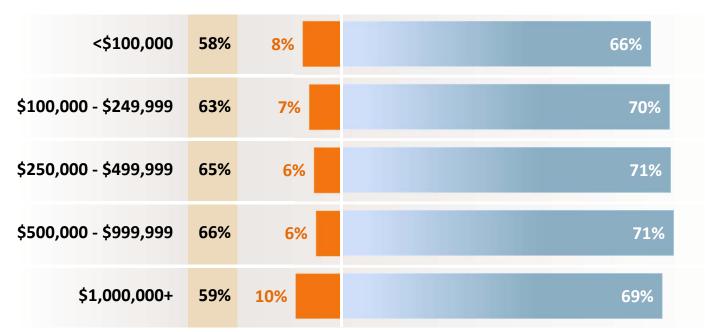
### Overall satisfaction based on: Explaining things in a way that was easy to understand?

	Net Score*		•	onses (% Satisfied) ponses (% Dissatisfied)	* Net Score: % of positive minus % of negative res	'
Overall satisfaction when question score is <u>6 or 7</u>	87%		1%			88%
Overall satisfaction when question score is <u>4 or 5</u>	32%		8%	40	%	
Overall satisfaction when question score is <u>1, 2 or 3</u>	-11%	33%		21%		



## Explaining things in a way that was easy to understand?

	Net Score*		% Positive Responses (% Satisfied)       * Net Score: % of positive responses         % Negative Responses (% Dissatisfied)       * nus % of negative responses
By generatio	n		
Gen Y	51%	8%	60%
Gen X	54%	10%	63%
Boomer	74%	6%	80%
Pre-Boomer	80%	3%	83%





## Asking questions about your financial needs?

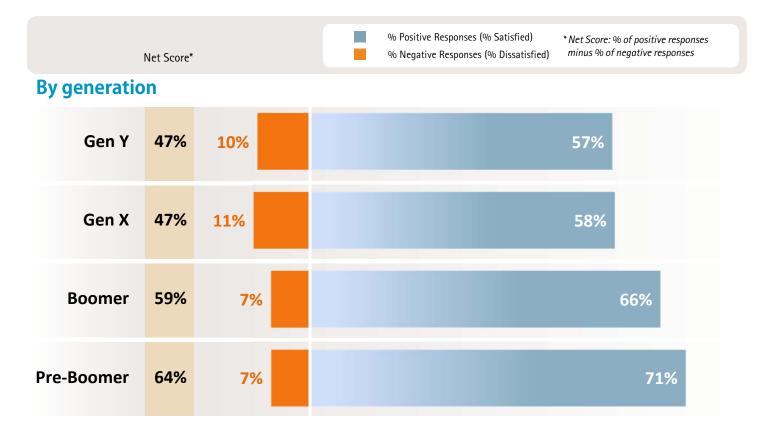
	Net Score*	-	% Positive Responses (% Satisfied) % Negative Responses (% Dissatisfied)	* Net Score: % of positive responses minus % of negative responses
Vanguard	63%	7%		70%
Fidelity	61%	6%		67%
Scottrade	59%	6%		65%
	58%	6%		64%
	56%	8%		64%
	56%	11%		66%
Industry Average	53%	9%		62%
	48%	12%		60%
	44%	10%		54%
	44%	15%		59%
	43%	8%		52%

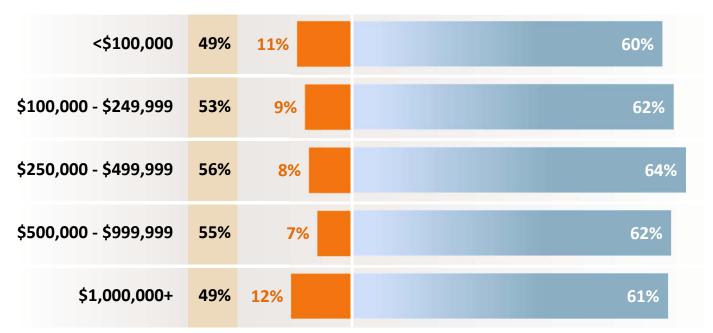
#### Overall satisfaction based on: Asking questions about your financial needs?

	Net Score*		% Positive Responses (% Satisfi % Negative Responses (% Dissa		,
Overall satisfaction when question score is <u>6 or 7</u>	87%		1%		88%
Overall satisfaction when question score is <u>4 or 5</u>	47%		5%	52%	
Overall satisfaction when question score is <u>1, 2 or 3</u>	-2%	30%	289	6	



## Asking questions about your financial needs?







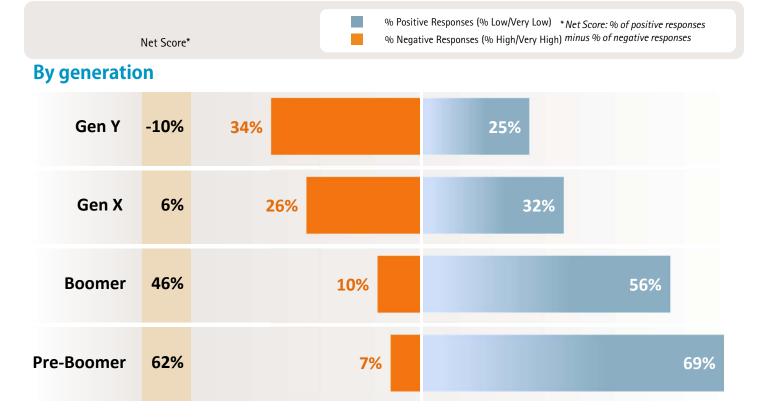
## How much effort did it take on your part to handle your request?

	Net Score*		sponses (% Low/Very Low) * Net Score: % of positive responses esponses (% High/Very High) minus % of negative responses
Smith Barney	61%	7%	68%
Charles Schwab	48%	10%	58%
Vanguard	42%	11%	53%
	35%	14%	49%
	23%	20%	43%
Industry Average	21%	21%	42%
	18%	24%	42%
	13%	23%	36%
	13%	27%	40%
	-11%	35%	23%
	-12%	33%	21%

### Overall satisfaction based on: How much effort did it take on your part to handle your request?

	Net Score*	% Positive Responses (% Satisfied) % Negative Responses (% Dissatisfied)	* Net Score: % of positive responses minus % of negative responses
Overall satisfaction when effort is Low or Very Low	88%	1%	89%
Overall satisfaction when effort is Moderate	52%	6%	58%
Overall satisfaction when effort is High or Very High	53%	10%	63%

## How much effort did it take on your part to handle your request?



<\$100,000	11%	24%	35%
\$100,000 - \$249,999	22%	19%	42%
\$250,000 - \$499,999	31%	16%	47%
\$500,000 - \$999,999	17%	26%	43%
\$1,000,000+	25%	20%	45%

## About the author

Jim S Miller is the President of Prime Performance. Jim has worked for some of the nation's largest financial institutions, including SunTrust Bank, Bank One and NationsBank. Through senior roles in marketing, finance, market research, customer analytics, incentive management and retail administration, Jim has acquired a broad understanding of the many challenges faced by financial institutions.

During Jim's 20+ years in the financial services industry, Jim has had a unique view into how the actions of frontline employees affects the behavior of clients which ultimately drives an organization's bottom line. It is his personal mission to empower financial institutions to realize their full potential by improving their client experience.

Jim majored in Finance at The College of William and Mary and earned his MBA from The University of Virginia's Darden Graduate School of Business Administration. Jim now calls Boulder, CO home.



## **About Prime Performance**

**Prime Performance** works exclusively with financial institutions to help reduce customer attrition, increase share of wallet, grow market share and improve profitability by developing and implementing a superior client experience. Since 1989, we've been pioneers in measuring client satisfaction and converting that data into comprehensive, actionable plans for improving client experience.

We know that service creates loyal clients. We also know that loyal clients are more profitable clients. How do we know this? Because we've spent over 20 years talking to millions of people about what they want from their financial institution and what keeps them coming back. If you're looking to improve your firm's bottom line, let Prime Performance put this knowledge to work for you.