

Research Question Examples: Finance & Accounting

About this document

This PDF contains 35 **finance & accounting research question examples**, each quoted word for word from one of 18 completed dissertations and theses (2010–2026), grouped into 5 sections. Each question links to the thesis that asked it, so you can read how it was answered. Use them to see what a well-formed finance & accounting research question looks like, then adapt the shape to your own study.

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Contents

Descriptive questions · 9 questions	2
Causal questions · 8 questions	3
Exploratory questions · 8 questions	4
Relational questions · 7 questions	5
Comparative questions · 3 questions	6
How to adapt a question to your own study	6

Descriptive questions

These questions ask what is happening: how much, how often, or what kinds. They describe a situation rather than explain it.

1. What are the gaps between the revenue capacity, projected revenue and actual collections in Tanga LGAs?

Asked in: [Assessment of revenue collection efficiency in local government authorities: The case of Tanga local government authorities](#) · Kiaze, Ally · Mzumbe University · 2014

2. What are the factors that determine revenue collection efficiency in Tanga LGAs?

Asked in: [Assessment of revenue collection efficiency in local government authorities: The case of Tanga local government authorities](#) · Kiaze, Ally · Mzumbe University · 2014

3. What is the level of financial literacy of students in Estonian and Finnish universities of technology?

Asked in: [Financial literacy in perspective – evidence from Estonian and Finnish students](#) · Mändmaa, Sirli · LUT University · 2022

4. To what extent are microfinance organizations capable of achieving both objectives of poverty reduction and organizational sustainability simultaneously?

Asked in: [NGOs' Capacity Building and Mission Drift : Commercialization of Microfinance Programs and Poverty Reduction in Bangladesh](#) · Md. Sher-E Khoda · University of Jyväskylä · 2020

5. What modeling method will give the best result when predicting the sales volume of old apartments for the next 12 months given the nature of the data?

Asked in: [Predicting real estate sales volume in Finland: Building a predictive model for the sales volume of old apartments](#) · Tuukka Pesonen · Aalto University · 2018

6. What are the benefits of [foreign direct investment] support to the economy?

Asked in: [The impact of foreign direct investment on Ghana's capital market](#) · Boateng, Susana · Ashesi University · 2010

7. What are the positive and negative aspects with a removal of LIFO regarding the IFRS adoption?

Asked in: [The US Adoption towards IFRS under Special Consideration of LIFO](#) · Anna Lexell · Jönköping University · 2010

8. What are the cost drivers of part numbers during the different phases of its life cycle?

Asked in: [The use of strategic cost management to understand the real cost of part numbers.](#) · Melissa Kride · Mälardalen University · 2025

9. What are the means by which lenders can control the effects of asymmetric information?

Asked in: [Epäsymmetrinen informaatio vieraan pääoman ehtoisessa kiinteistörahoituksessa - kiinteistörahoittajan näkökulma ja keinot vaikutusten hallitsemiseksi](#) · Sievers, Tommi · Aalto University · 2010

Causal questions

These questions ask whether one thing causes a change in another. Answering them usually takes an experiment or a careful design that rules out other explanations.

10. To what extent do ESG individual pillars contribute to reducing firms' default probabilities?

Asked in: [Bank's capital structure and risk allocation after the introduction of ESG criteria in the financial sector](#) · Egidio Palmieri · University of Udine · 2023

11. What is the influence of internal industry practices on the payment of private health insurance claims processing in Kenya?

Asked in: [Determinants of delays in the payment of private health insurance claims in Kenya](#) · Ndonga, Stanley Ngure · Strathmore University · 2018

12. What is the influence of systems availability on the payment of private health insurance claims in Kenya?

Asked in: [Determinants of delays in the payment of private health insurance claims in Kenya](#) · Ndonga, Stanley Ngure · Strathmore University · 2018

13. What is the influence of laws and regulations on the payment of private health insurance claims in Kenya?

Asked in: [Determinants of delays in the payment of private health insurance claims in Kenya](#) · Ndonga, Stanley Ngure · Strathmore University · 2018

14. What is the influence of insurance fraud on the payment of private health insurance claims in Kenya?

Asked in: [Determinants of delays in the payment of private health insurance claims in Kenya](#) · Ndonga, Stanley Ngure · Strathmore University · 2018

15. What is the impact of human capital management practices that affect the performance of financial operations in the finance department?

Asked in: [Factors affecting financial operations performance at Karen Hospital, Nairobi County](#) · Onyango, Chrispinus Otieno · Strathmore University · 2021

16. How does the effectiveness of the performance measurement systems impact the performance of financial operations of finance staff?

Asked in: [Factors affecting financial operations performance at Karen Hospital, Nairobi County](#) · Onyango, Chrispinus Otieno · Strathmore University · 2021

17. Does the commercial approach of microfinance lead toward mission drift for NGOs?

Asked in: [NGOs' Capacity Building and Mission Drift : Commercialization of Microfinance Programs and Poverty Reduction in Bangladesh](#) · Md. Sher-E Khoda · University of Jyväskylä · 2020

Exploratory questions

These questions ask how or why something happens, usually where little research exists yet. They are common in qualitative studies built on interviews or observation.

- 18.** How can the robo-advisory process with all its building blocks be formalised and dynamically extended into a coherent mathematical framework that generalises prior static formulations and equips providers with a foundation for subsequent algorithmic and operational development?

Asked in: [An Analysis and Improvement of Robo-Advisory](#) · Tahvildari, Mahan · Catholic University of Murcia · 2026

- 19.** How do students evaluate the acquired financial knowledge and knowledge providers?

Asked in: [Financial literacy in perspective – evidence from Estonian and Finnish students](#) · Mändmaa, Sirli · LUT University · 2022

- 20.** How will US companies that are using LIFO be affected by the inventory valuation change to FIFO, from an economic and accounting-based approach?

Asked in: [The US Adoption towards IFRS under Special Consideration of LIFO](#) · Anna Lexell · Jönköping University · 2010

- 21.** How can strategic cost management help in analyzing different cost drivers of part numbers within its life cycle?

Asked in: [The use of strategic cost management to understand the real cost of part numbers.](#) · Melissa Kride · Mälardalen University · 2025

- 22.** How does the implementation of generative artificial intelligence affect financial professionals' legitimacy and the role's knowledge exclusivity?

Asked in: [Ekonomiprofessionens pris för effektivitet : En fallstudie om generativ artificiell intelligens påverkan på yrkesverksamma ekonomers professionella identitet och legitimitet](#) · Matay Agirman · Mälardalen University · 2026

- 23.** How do asymmetric information and problems deriving from it affect real estate debt financing?

Asked in: [Epäsymmetrinen informaatio vieraan pääoman ehtoisessa kiinteistörahoituksessa - kiinteistörahoittajan näkökulma ja keinot vaikutusten hallitsemiseksi](#) · Sievers, Tommi · Aalto University · 2010

- 24.** How does the implementation of the IT security regulation DORA influence cost structures in Swedish financial firms?

Asked in: [Från kostnad till investering : En fallstudie om cybersäkerhet som strategisk tillgång i den svenska finansbranschen](#) · Orgäna Isaac · Mälardalen University · 2025

- 25.** How can the existing personal credit model be redefined to effectively integrate green and sustainable finance principles, with a focus on financing energy-efficient technologies?

Asked in: [Redefinir modelos de crédito pessoal : estratégias de financiamento verde e implementação de soluções energéticas eficientes](#) · Diogo Ferreira Mimoso · Catholic University of Portugal · 2025

Relational questions

These questions ask whether two things tend to go together, such as study time and exam results, without claiming that one causes the other.

- 26.** How can a GPT-based robo-advisor be implemented using a suitable questionnaire and investment universe, and what empirical patterns emerge in an investor deployment regarding portfolio composition and the relationships between profiling variables (risk-preference items and household balance-sheet indicators) and equity exposure as a risk proxy?

Asked in: [An Analysis and Improvement of Robo-Advisory](#) · Tahvildari, Mahan · Catholic University of Murcia · 2026

- 27.** Do institutional investors and bankers perceive that the level of compliance with the [Bangladesh Corporate Governance Guidelines-2006] by the investee or borrowing company positively influences the investment and lending decisions respectively in Bangladesh?

Asked in: [Corporate governance reform in a developing country : the case of Bangladesh](#) · Md. Abdus Sobhan · University of Edinburgh · 2014

- 28.** Do students use financial services and plan their financial affairs, and is there a relationship between students' choices and financial literacy?

Asked in: [Financial literacy in perspective – evidence from Estonian and Finnish students](#) · Mändmaa, Sirli · LUT University · 2022

- 29.** Is foreign exchange rate transaction exposure significant for all Egyptian insurance companies (a firm level study), when using fundamental (economic) analysis to model the interplay of foreign exchange rates with the other economic variables involved?

Asked in: [Foreign Exchange Rate Transaction Exposure in Emerging Insurance Markets: A Model of the Egyptian Insurance Market.](#) · Islam Samy Soliman Amer · University of Bradford · 2013

- 30.** Is foreign exchange rate transaction exposure significant for all Egyptian insurance companies (a firm level study) when using technical (statistical) analysis to model the interplay of foreign exchange rates with the other economic variables involved?

Asked in: [Foreign Exchange Rate Transaction Exposure in Emerging Insurance Markets: A Model of the Egyptian Insurance Market.](#) · Islam Samy Soliman Amer · University of Bradford · 2013

- 31.** Is foreign exchange rate transaction exposure significant for the whole insurance industry (an industry level study)?

Asked in: [Foreign Exchange Rate Transaction Exposure in Emerging Insurance Markets: A Model of the Egyptian Insurance Market.](#) · Islam Samy Soliman Amer · University of Bradford · 2013

- 32.** Do strategic management accounting, strategic management and cultural aspects vary across Singaporean companies in [Strategic Investment Decision] making?

Asked in: [Influences of context and culture on singaporean strategic investment decision making practises](#) · Li Khee Christine Soh · University of Edinburgh · 2014

Comparative questions

These questions compare two or more groups or settings, such as two schools or two teaching methods, to see whether they differ.

- 33. What portfolio strategies and specific compositions of asset classes and weightings are proposed by the robo-advisors active in Germany based on the results of investor profiling, and what are the differences, similarities, and typical portfolios that can be derived from this?**

Asked in: [An Analysis and Improvement of Robo-Advisory](#) · Tahvildari, Mahan · Catholic University of Murcia · 2026

- 34. How do [robo-advisors] in Germany perform in terms of their (risk-adjusted) performance compared to benchmarks between January 2017 and February 2022?**

Asked in: [An Analysis and Improvement of Robo-Advisory](#) · Tahvildari, Mahan · Catholic University of Murcia · 2026

- 35. How does the sales volume of old apartments differ based on the apartment's location and type?**

Asked in: [Predicting real estate sales volume in Finland: Building a predictive model for the sales volume of old apartments](#) · Tuukka Pesonen · Aalto University · 2018

How to adapt a question to your own study

Every question here was asked by someone else, about their own setting. These four steps turn one into a question that is yours.

- 1. Pick the shape, not the wording.** Notice whether the question compares, explores, explains or measures. That shape is what transfers to your study.

Recommended reading: [How to write a research question](#)

- 2. Swap in your own population and setting.** Change who, where and when, and check the question still makes sense.

Recommended reading: [How to find a research gap](#)

- 3. Check it fits your method.** A "how" or "why" question usually points to qualitative work; "how much" or "is there a relationship" to quantitative.

Recommended reading: [Qualitative vs quantitative research](#)

- 4. Line up your aims, objectives and questions.** Your committee will check that they agree.

Recommended reading: [Research aims, objectives and questions](#)

Do this with two or three questions and compare them: the one you can actually answer with the time and access you have is usually the right one.