

Inflation Awareness and Its Relation to the Financial Stability of Caloocan City Jeepney Drivers

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ABSTRACT

This study examined how inflation awareness relates to the financial stability of jeepney drivers in Caloocan City, a sector highly exposed to rising fuel costs and fluctuating daily income. Although jeepney drivers are among the most economically vulnerable workers in the transport system, limited research has explored how their understanding of inflation shapes their financial decisions and overall economic resilience. Addressing this gap, the study aimed to describe the demographic characteristics of drivers, assess their financial stability, evaluate their level of inflation awareness, and determine whether a meaningful relationship exists between these variables. A quantitative correlational design was used with the jeepney drivers selected by stratified random sampling and asked to respond to a validated survey tool and with the following data obtained on demographic factors, financial behaviors, and perceptions of inflation. Analysis of the responses showed that the jeepney-driving workforce is largely composed of older individuals who have remained in the occupation for many years, shaping their financial habits and exposure to economic pressures. Drivers demonstrated the ability to manage essential financial responsibilities, though their stability remained sensitive

to income unpredictability and operational costs. Their awareness of inflation was generally limited to basic concepts, affecting how effectively they adjust their financial decisions during economic shifts. The study further found that understanding inflation alone does not guarantee stronger financial conditions. There is a need to emphasize the necessity for financial education programs that combine economic awareness with practical financial management skills to help jeepney drivers navigate inflationary challenges more confidently.

Keywords: Inflation awareness, financial stability, jeepney drivers, economic behavior, financial literacy