



How and When Matters

An In-depth Look at Tennessee CPAs Perceptions of International Accounting

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Abstract

Literature has formed varying opinions of the world of international accounting. However, these opinions come from professionals across the globe. There is one voice I have not exposed...

What are the opinions of accounting professionals in TN?

This question I expect to answer, along with the cause of these views (**path to receiving their CPA and years of experience**).

Research Question

What are Tennessee accounting professionals' perceptions on current international accounting issues, according to their experience level and their educational background?

Research Objectives

The world of international accounting is a topic on the minds of all public accounting professionals. With my research I desire to reveal the opinions of professionals on **three current international accounting issues**...

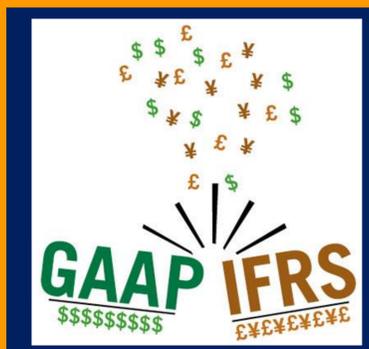
- Is IFRS **less difficult** to implement than US GAAP?
- Is it fair for international companies traded in the US to **file in their own country's accounting standards**?
- Have opinions changed on the current status of the **FASB/IASB standards convergence**?

Method

100 Tennessee CPAs will be interviewed by survey to determine their opinions on the three prevalent international accounting issues selected. I anticipate to uncover a **causal relationship** between their perceptions and their educational background and years of experience.

Survey to be administered to CPA professionals.

<p>How and When Matters An In-depth Look at Tennessee CPAs Perceptions of International Accounting CPA Survey</p> <p>How long have you been a CPA in public accounting?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Less than ten years <input type="checkbox"/> Ten to twenty years <input type="checkbox"/> Twenty to thirty years <input type="checkbox"/> Thirty to forty years <input type="checkbox"/> Forty+ years</p> <p>What level of education did you complete to receive your CPA license?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Undergraduate degree in Accounting only <input type="checkbox"/> Undergraduate degree in Accounting plus a Master's of Accountancy <input type="checkbox"/> Undergraduate in Accounting plus a Master's of Business Administration <input type="checkbox"/> Undergraduate in Accounting with additional undergraduate hours <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____</p> <p>US GAAP is more difficult to implement than IFRS because IFRS is more principles based and US GAAP is more rules based.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Strongly Agree <input type="checkbox"/> Agree <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Disagree <input type="checkbox"/> Strongly Disagree</p> <p>It is unfair for international firms publically traded in the United States to file in compliance with their own country's accounting standards and not in compliance with US GAAP.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Strongly Agree <input type="checkbox"/> Agree <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Disagree <input type="checkbox"/> Strongly Disagree</p>	<p>Foreign countries are adapting IFRS to meet their country's needs instead of adopting IFRS in its entirety.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Strongly Agree <input type="checkbox"/> Agree <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Disagree <input type="checkbox"/> Strongly Disagree</p> <p>Think back to 10 years ago and your opinion of the ongoing convergence of IFRS and US GAAP. Ten years ago, I believed the convergence of the two standards was inevitable.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Strongly Agree <input type="checkbox"/> Agree <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Disagree <input type="checkbox"/> Strongly Disagree</p> <p>Now, think to today and the current state of the convergence with its gridlock on lease standards. Today, I believe the convergence is still inevitable.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Strongly Agree <input type="checkbox"/> Agree <input type="checkbox"/> Neutral <input type="checkbox"/> Disagree <input type="checkbox"/> Strongly Disagree</p> <p>If your opinion has changed over the last ten years, what is the reasoning behind the change?</p> <p>Are there any other issues with international accounting today you believe are pertinent to my study? Please explain.</p>
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Conclusions

After preliminary discussions with accounting professionals, literature review, and research, these preliminary findings have been discovered...

- IFRS** is perceived as **less difficult** to implement due to its **principle-based** nature.
- The SEC rules on international filings are clear**, but it will be interesting to uncover whether **professionals believe the ruling prevents comparability of companies**.
- The FASB and IASB are facing disagreements between **lease standards**, but has this changed the opinions of TN CPAs on an **impending convergence of the standards**.

It will be interesting to discover if my independent variables (professional experience and path to CPA) affect opinions of these current international accounting issues.

References

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Jackling, B., Howieson, B., & Natoli, R. (2012). Some implications of IFRS adoption for accounting education. *Australian Accounting Review*, 22, 331-340.

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