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## Truliant Members Slash Dining Out, Entertainment Spending

4/20/2009

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*Michelle Samaad*

Members of \$1.1 billion Truliant Credit Union said they have cut back on eating out, entertainment and vacations as a result of the economic downturn.

The Winston-Salem, N.C.-based CU recently surveyed more than 3,000 of its members. Seventy-three percent said they have scaled back on dining out, 70% on entertainment and 64% on travel and vacations. Members have also cut back spending on clothing (59%), home electronics (55%), car purchases/leases and repairs (45%), home appliances (35%) cell phones and/or calling plans (22%) and in other areas such as groceries and medications (5%).

Nearly half said the state of the economy has led to them cutting back on a few non-essential items. Twenty-eight percent said they have cut back on everything and only buy the necessities. The remaining members indicated they are spending about the same as before or "have difficult choices to make right now, even when it come to necessities."

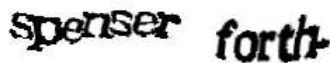
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