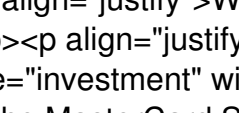


Investment a top saving priority, says survey

Written by 3K Admin

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According to the MasterCard Survey on Consumer Purchasing Priorities released today, the top three saving priorities for Malaysians are investment (59%), retirement (52%) and property purchase (29%). Meanwhile, dining and entertainment (as indicated by 76% of the Malaysian respondents), fashion and accessories (38%), fitness and wellness (37%) are the top spending priorities for the next six months. The survey also indicates that a majority of Malaysian consumers are looking to cut back on their discretionary spending; 49% of the respondents said they would decrease their discretionary spending in the next six months, 48% said they were planning to maintain their discretionary spending, while 3% planned to increase their spending. The survey is part of the MasterCard Worldwide Index of Consumer Purchasing Resilience, which measures the resilience of the top planned expenditure categories of consumers to spending cutbacks. Throughout the markets across Asia Pacific, the Middle East and Africa, spend on extracurricular activities for one's children and on fitness and wellness are expected to be the least prone to cutbacks among the ten main categories. The survey was conducted from March 23 to April 18, 2009 and involved 9,211 consumers from 21 markets. Data collection was via personal, telephone and computer-aided telephone interviews.

Source: <http://www.theedgemalaysia.com/personal-finance/147208-investment-a-top-saving-priority-says-survey.html>