

10% of university students don't get money from folks

Kyodo News

More than 10 percent of university students living away from home don't receive an allowance from their parents, the first time that benchmark has been reached since such information was first compiled in 1970.

According to the National Federation of University Co-operative Associations in Japan, the economic slowdown that started in September 2008 has continued to affect students' lives as those without allowances from parents hit 10.2 percent in a survey conducted in October and November, up from 8.3 percent the previous year.

The average amount that parents give their children each month fell to ¥74,060, a level last seen in 1983 and 1984 before the emergence of the bubble economy and down 27.6 percent from the record high of ¥102,240 in 1996.

The survey found a growing dependency among students on scholarships, with 37.2 percent of the respondents receiving aid. The scholarships averaged ¥60,650 a month, topping the ¥60,000 mark for the first time.

With limited money at their disposal, students living on their own spent an average of ¥23,350 on food each month, down ¥1,080 from the previous year and the lowest amount since 1976.

Slightly more than 14 percent of students said a change in their parents' financial situation during the past year had affected their financial situation, up 4.2 percentage points from a year earlier.

The survey was conducted on 9,660 students at 31 universities around the country.

The Japan Times: Friday, Feb. 12, 2010
(C) All rights reserved

[Go back to The Japan Times Online](#)

[Close window](#)