Two in three students see grim future

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Roughly two in three university students feel pessimistic about the country's future, according to an Internet survey by FIL Investments (Japan) Ltd.

Seventy-two percent of the pessimists attributed their view to the excessive future financial burden they think younger generations will have to shoulder because of the large public deficit, the survey showed.

Seventy percent of the pessimistic respondents cited an expected continuation of unstable employment conditions in light of the economic slump, while 55 percent of them pointed to the difficulty of reducing the overdependence on younger generations in securing financial sources for public pensions, the survey said.

As for the future social security system, more than half of those surveyed called for benefit levels to be maintained or enhanced, even if larger financial burdens result for the current working population.