

Survey on Attitudes towards the National Pension in Japan (2)

Research Institute for Socionetwork Strategies, Kansai University:

Director: Yasuharu Ukai

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Main Survey

Q4 Were you aware that you cannot receive benefits if you have paid national pension or welfare pension premiums for less than 25 years in total?

1. No, I was not aware of this
2. Yes, I was aware of this

Q5 If the minimum period of premium payment that would guarantee benefits in the future was 10 years rather than 25, what would your attitude towards premium payment be? Please note that the amount of pension benefits is reduced depending on the pension payment period.

1. I would pay the premiums irrespective of whether the minimum payment period was 25 or 10 years
2. I would not pay the premiums, irrespective of whether the minimum payment period was 25 or 10 years
3. I have already paid premiums for over 10 years, so I would not pay any more
4. Once I had paid premiums for 10 years I would stop paying

Q6 When you were a student (20 years old or older), did you make use of the system allowing students to postpone pension premium payments?

1. Yes
2. No
3. I was never a student

Q7 After graduation, did you make supplementary premium payments?

1. Yes, either in full or partially
2. No, however I intend to do so to the best of my ability in future
3. No, and I do not intend to

Q8 Have you ever used the system that allows persons under thirty to defer pension payments (Jakunensha Noufu Yuuyo Seido)?

1. Yes, I use it at present
2. Yes, I have used it in the past
- 3 No, I have never used it

Q9 After the deferment period is up, do you intend make supplementary premium payments?

1. Yes, to the best of my ability
2. No

Q10 Since the end of the deferment period, have you made supplementary premium payments?

1. Yes, either in full or partially
2. No, however I intend to do so to the best of my ability in future
- 3 No, and I do not intend to

Q11 Did you miss any national pension premium payments at any time prior to two years ago? (not including persons falling under the special provisions for students or the system allowing persons under thirty to defer pension payments)

1. Yes
2. No

Q12 Were you aware that under the current system you cannot make supplementary payments to cover unpaid premiums from any time prior to two years ago?

(not including persons falling under the special provisions for students or the system allowing persons under thirty to defer pension payments)

1. No, I was not aware of this
2. Yes, I was aware of this

Q13 If it were possible to make supplementary payments to cover missed payments for up to ten years, rather than the present two years, would you make such payments?

Please select the appropriate response.

1. I would pay an amount equivalent to the current premiums, but would not pay more to cover interest on the unpaid premiums
2. I would pay, even if interest on the premiums caused them to be higher than at present
- 3 I would not pay
4. I have not missed any payments in the last ten years

Q14 A large percentage of part-time employees and other workers who work fewer hours than full-time employees are not eligible for a welfare pension, which is a kind of employees' pension.

However, some people are of the opinion that such persons ought to be eligible for a welfare pension. If part-time employees and other such workers were to become eligible for a welfare pension, their employer would be obliged to pay premiums corresponding to the employee's salary, in turn making the employee eligible for a pension commensurate with premiums paid in addition to an old age and basic pension.

In light of this information, please select one of the following.

1. Part-time and similar employees should be made eligible for a welfare pension as it would guarantee them an income in old age
2. Part-time and similar employees should not be made eligible for a welfare pension as they would have to shoulder premium payments
3. Part-time and similar employees should not be made eligible for a welfare pension as employers would have to shoulder premium payments
4. Part-time and similar employees should not be made eligible for a welfare pension as both they and employers would have to shoulder premium payments
5. Other
6. Don't know

Q15 As a rule, the pension system is at present conducted under a social insurance system in which benefits are commensurate with premiums paid. As a result, persons who have missed many payments may not be eligible to receive benefits, or may receive only a small amount in benefits. At present, discussions are underway regarding whether to establish a minimum guaranteed pension that would ensure persons not eligible to receive benefits or only eligible to receive a small amount of benefits with an income of 70,000 yen per month. Which of the following best describes your opinion on this subject?

1. It is desirable in cases where pensions are lower than 70,000 yen and the shortfall should be supplemented with taxes as part of a minimum guaranteed pension system; furthermore, the burden imposed by such a scheme is unavoidable
2. If persons who have paid premiums are to receive larger pensions than those who have not, a tax-supported minimum guaranteed pension system is desirable; furthermore, the burden imposed by such a scheme is unavoidable

- 3 Persons who have paid premiums will resent those who have not, hence a minimum guaranteed pension system supported by use of taxpayer money is not desirable
4. Other
5. Don't know

Q16 If you had the option of choosing whether to pay social insurance premiums for a public pension that you are currently paying, would you pay?

1. Yes, certainly
2. Yes, probably
- 3 I would rather pay than not
4. I would rather not pay than pay
5. I would probably not pay
6. I would certainly not pay

Q17 Which of the following do you consider to be problems with the public pension system? Please select all appropriate responses. [Required (multiple checks acceptable)]

- 1 Recording of/tampering with pensions
- 2 Organizational issues within the Social Insurance Agency (Japan Pension Service) and Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare
- 3 Wasteful use of the pension reserve fund
- 4 Citizens feel it is unfair they should have to pay national pension premiums given the high percentage of non-payers
- 5 Each new generation derives less benefit from the pension system
- 6 The fact that national pension premiums must be paid for 25 years or more in order to receive benefits
- 7 Benefits are too low
- 8 Premiums are too high
- 9 Citizens are not dissatisfied with public pensions <EX>

Q18 Do you perceive paying pension premium as a gain or a loss?

- 1 Loss
- 2 Difficult to say
- 3 Gain
- 4 Don't know

Q19 What do you feel about the future of National Pension

- 1 People may not receive the pension within the next 5 years
- 2 People may not receive the pension within the next 6-20 years
- 3 People may not receive the pension after the next 21 years
- 4 People may receive the severely reduced pension
- 5 People may receive the somewhat reduced pension
- 6 People may receive pension (It is not reduced)
- 7 Don't know

Q20. The following questions refer to your degree of confidence in the following sources of information.

Please select one appropriate response for each information source on each line. [Required]

	1 Highly reliable	2 Fairly reliable	3 Difficult to say	4 Not very reliable	5 Totally unreliable
Television news					
Newspaper					
Internet					
Neighborhood rumors					
Rumors among co-workers					
Emails/telephone calls from friends/acquaintances					
News in weekly/monthly publications					

(Items in the left side of table are randomly disposed.)

Q21 How often do you come into contact with the following sources of information?

Please select one appropriate response for the information source on each line.

	1. Watch/listen to every day	2. Watch/listen to 4 to 5 times/week	3. Watch/listen to 3 to 4 times/week	4. Watch/listen to 1 to 2 times/week	5. Almost never watch/listen to
TV news					
Tabloid TV show					
Newspapers (except sports newspapers)					
Internet					
Information from neighbors					
Information from colleagues at work					
Information from friends outside of the workplace					
Radio					
Information in weekly/monthly publications(exce pt for comics)					

Q22. Please select the total amount of ordinary and fixed term deposits and savings you own.

[Required]

1. Less than 1,000,000 yen
2. 1,000,000 or more - Less than 5,000,000 yen
3. 5,000,000 or more - Less than 10,000,000 yen
4. 10,000,000 yen or more

Q23. Please select the total amount of ordinary and fixed term deposits and savings of your household. [Required]

1. Less than 1,000,000 yen
2. 1,000,000 or more - Less than 5,000,000 yen
3. 5,000,000 or more - Less than 10,000,000 yen
4. 10,000,000 yen or more

Q24. Please select your annual income. [Required]

1. Less than 1,000,000 yen
2. 1,000,000 or more - Less than 2,000,000 yen
3. 2,000,000 or more - Less than 3,000,000 yen
4. 3,000,000 or more - Less than 4,000,000 yen
5. 4,000,000 or more - Less than 5,000,000 yen
6. 5,000,000 or more - Less than 6,000,000 yen
7. 6,000,000 or more - Less than 7,000,000 yen
8. 7,000,000 or more - Less than 8,000,000 yen
9. 8,000,000 or more - Less than 9,000,000 yen
10. 9,000,000 or more - Less than 10,000,000 yen
11. 10,000,000 yen or more

Q25. Please select the annual income of your household. [Required]

1. Less than 1,000,000 yen
2. 1,000,000 or more - Less than 2,000,000 yen
3. 2,000,000 or more - Less than 3,000,000 yen
4. 3,000,000 or more - Less than 4,000,000 yen
5. 4,000,000 or more - Less than 5,000,000 yen
6. 5,000,000 or more - Less than 6,000,000 yen
7. 6,000,000 or more - Less than 7,000,000 yen
8. 7,000,000 or more - Less than 8,000,000 yen
9. 8,000,000 or more - Less than 9,000,000 yen
10. 9,000,000 or more - Less than 10,000,000 yen
11. 10,000,000 yen or more

Q26. The following question refers to your occupation. Please select the appropriate response.
[Required]

1. Self-employed
2. Family worker
3. Regular staff
4. Part-time worker / Arbeit(temporary worker)
5. Dispatched workers from temporary labour agency
6. Contract worker
7. Entrusted employee
8. Casual or seasonal worker
9. Not working, but seeking work
10. Neither working nor seeking work

Q27. Do you have a spouse (husband or wife)? * Includes spouses through de facto marriage (common-law spouses) [Required]

1. Yes
2. No → go to Q30

Q28. Please answer the following question if you have a spouse. Which of the following best describes the level of education of your spouse? [Required]

1. Junior high school graduate
2. High school graduate
3. Vocational school graduate
4. Junior college/technical college graduate
5. University graduate
6. Graduate school graduate
7. Other [FA Required]

Q29. Which of the following best describes the occupation of your spouse? [Required]

1. Self-employed
2. Family worker
3. Regular staff
4. Part-time worker / Arbeit(temporary worker)

5. Dispatched workers from temporary labour agency
6. Contract worker
7. Entrusted employee
8. Casual or seasonal worker
9. Not working, but seeking work
10. Neither working nor seeking work

Q30. With which of the following family members do you live? [Required (multiple checks acceptable)]

1. Your spouse
2. Children
3. Spouse(s) of children
4. Your grandchildren
5. Father
6. Mother
7. Grandparents
8. Brothers / sisters
9. Other [FA Required]
10. I do not live with any members of my family

Q31 Do you currently support a particular political party? [Required]

- 1 Yes
- 2 No → Q33

Q32 Which political party do you have most support for at present? [Required]

- 1 LDP (Liberal Democratic Party)
- 2 Democratic Party
- 3 New Komeito
- 4 Communist Party
- 5 Social Democratic Party
- 6 People's New Party
- 7 New Party Nippon
- 8 Your Party (Minna-no-tou)

Q33. Please select the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statements.

[Required]

	1 Disagree strongly	2 Disagree somewhat	3 Difficult to say	4 Agree somewhat	5 Agree completely
Most people are basically honest					
I tend to trust people					
Most people are basically good and kind					
Most people trust others					
Most people can be trusted					

Q34. The following question refers to your degree of confidence in Japanese public pension system.

Please select one appropriate response. [Required]

1. Totally unreliable
2. Not very reliable
3. Difficult to say
4. Reliable to an extent
5. Completely reliable

Q35 Please select the response from the two options below that best describes your opinion regarding savings. [Required]

- 1 [A] I want my savings to be safe, even if the interest rate is low
- 2 [B] Even if my savings are not very safe, I want the interest rate to be high

Q36 If a general election were to be held right now, which party would you vote for?

- 1 I will vote and decide which political party I vote→Q37
- 2 I will vote but do not decide which political party I vote
- 3 I don't know whether I would vote. But I already have decided which political party I vote.→Q37
- 4 I don't vote

Q37 Which political party do you vote? [Required]

- 1 LDP (Liberal Democratic Party)
- 2 Democratic Party
- 3 New Komeito
- 4 Communist Party
- 5 Social Democratic Party
- 6 People's New Party
- 7 New Party Nippon
- 8 Your Party (Minna-no-tou)
- 9 Other () [Required] FA

*Which of the welfare areas in the table below do you consider important for your life, either at present or in the future? Which areas would you like the government to focus on?

In Q38, please identify the welfare areas you consider most, second most, and third most important. In Q39, please identify the welfare areas you would like the government to focus on, again in order of importance.

Please select welfare areas from the table below.

[1] Medical care and health	Health promotion, disease prevention, upgrading of medical facilities and services
[2] Education and Culture	Improvement of cultural /educational facilities (kindergartens, schools, libraries, etc.), consolidation of the education system, provision of equal opportunities in education, protection of cultural heritage, etc.

[3] Working life	Workplace safety, employment stability, security of employment opportunities, development/promotion of work skills
[4] Holidays and leisure	Improvement of the holiday system, development of leisure facilities and services (parks, sports facilities, transportation/accommodation agencies, etc.)
[5] Income and consumers' affairs	[[Securing]] a steady increase in income, price stability, ensuring safety of products, optimization of commodity prices, etc.
[6] Living conditions	Securing housing/improving housing quality, improving living environment (treatment of garbage/human waste/sewage, etc.) reduction of pollution/disaster damage, etc.
[7] Safety and personal protection	Reduction of crime, protection of human rights, fair law enforcement, etc.
[8] Family	[[Building]] trust between parents/children/ siblings, improvement of family welfare services, [[prevention of?]]family disintegration
[9] Community life	Improvement of community facilities (civic centers, assembly halls, etc.), support for local events/social education, vitalization of community activities
[10] Justice and life security	Fair income distribution, inequality correction, improvement of welfare for the disabled and the elderly

Q38 Important areas [required]

1st Priority [1]

2nd Priority [2]

3rd Priority [3]

Q39 Areas you would like the government to focus on [Required]

1st Priority [1]

2nd Priority [2]

3rd Priority [3]

The average economic growth rate for the period 1998 to 2008 was (-) 0.28%.

In addition, the average rate of price increase during this period was (-)0.27%.

Furthermore, the average growth rate of household income per household was (-) 1.53% for the period 1997 to 2006.

The following question asks you to predict the economic situation in ten years' time.

Do you think that economic growth/your income/price levels will increase on average over the next ten years?

For the following items, please select the plus if you think they will increase, or the minus if you think they will decrease.

After answering, please indicate to the second decimal place the average increase/decrease that you think will take place over the next ten years.

*Only one digit can be entered per box. For example, for "5%" ⇒ enter "05.00" (%).

Q40, 41 ⇒ [1] Economic growth

Q42, 43 ⇒ [3] Your income

Q44, 45 ⇒ [3] Price levels

Q40 [1] Economic growth

Please select the plus or the minus. [Required]

If you think zero, please select "Plus" and type 0.00

1 Plus

2 Minus

Q41 [1] Economic growth

Please enter an appropriate number. *Only one digit can be entered per column. [Required]

Q42 [2] Your income

Please select the plus or the minus. [Required]

If you think zero, please select "Plus" and type 0.00

1 Plus

2 Minus

Q43 [2] Your income

Please enter an appropriate number. *Only one digit can be entered per column. [Required]

Q44 [3] Price levels

Please select the plus or the minus. [Required]

If you think zero, please select “Plus” and type 0.00

- 1 Plus
- 2 Minus

Q45 [3] Price levels

Please enter an appropriate number. *Only one digit can be entered per column. [Required]

Q46 Suppose that you had to choose between [A] receiving a specified amount of money today, or [B] receiving some other amount of money in one week's time.

For Q1-5, please select either A or B. [Required]

	[A]	[B]
1	[A] Receive 10,000 yen today	[B] Receive 10,000 yen in one week
2	[A] Receive 10,000 yen today	[B] Receive 10,004 yen in one week
3	[A] Receive 10,000 yen today	[B] Receive 10,012 yen in one week
4	[A] Receive 10,000 yen today	[B] Receive 10,019 yen in one week
5	[A] Receive 10,000 yen today	[B] Receive 10,038 yen in one week

Q47 Suppose that you had to choose between [A] receiving a specified amount of money today, or [B] receiving some other amount of money in one year's time.

For Q1-5, please select either A or B. [Required]

	[A]	[B]
1	[A] Receive 10,000 yen today	[B] Receive 10,000 yen in one year
2	[A] Receive 10,000 yen today	[B] Receive 10,200 yen in one year
3	[A] Receive 10,000 yen today	[B] Receive 10,600 yen in one year
4	[A] Receive 10,000 yen today	[B] Receive 11,000 yen in one year
5	[A] Receive 10,000 yen today	[B] Receive 12,000 yen in one year

Q48 Suppose that you had to choose between [A] receiving a specified amount of money today, or [B] receiving some other amount of money in ten years' time.

For Q1-5, please select either A or B. [Required]

	[A]	[B]
1	[A] Receive 10,000 yen today	[B] Receive 10,000 yen in ten years
2	[A] Receive 10,000 yen today	[B] Receive 12,190 yen in ten years
3	[A] Receive 10,000 yen today	[B] Receive 17,908 yen in ten years
4	[A] Receive 10,000 yen today	[B] Receive 25,937 yen in ten years
5	[A] Receive 10,000 yen today	[B] Receive 61,917 yen in ten years

Q49 Suppose there were a lottery with a 50/50 chance of winning or losing in which you would receive 2,000 yen if you won and nothing if you lost.

Would you buy a lottery ticket for 200 yen? Please select one of the following options. [Required]

- 1 Yes
- 2 No → Q51

If you answered [Yes] to the previous question, please answer the following question.

Q50 If the cost of the ticket in the previous question were to increase, up to what amount would you be willing to pay?

*Please enter an amount greater than 200 yen. [Required]

I would pay up to () yen (more than 200 yen) (max. 5 half-width digits)

If you answered [No] to the previous question, please answer the following question.

Q51 If the cost of the ticket in the previous question were to decrease, below what amount would you be willing to pay? Please select the very maximum amount you would pay from the options below.

*If you would not even pay one yen, please enter a zero (0).

*Please enter an amount below 200 yen. [Required] [Required]

I would pay up to () yen (below 200 yen) (max. 5 half-width digits)

Q52 <Suppose there were a lottery with a 50/50 chance of winning or losing in which you would receive 2,000 yen if you won and nothing if you lost.>

Would you sell someone your ticket for 200 yen? Please select one of the following options.

[Required]

- 1 Yes
- 2 No → Q54

If you answered [Yes] to the previous question, please answer the following question.

Q53 If the price of the ticket were to fall, down to what price would you still sell the ticket? Please select the very minimum amount you would accept for the ticket from the options below.

*Please enter an amount below 200 yen. [Required] [Required]

I would still sell if the price fell to () yen (below 200 yen) (max. 5 half-width digits)

If you answered [No] to the previous question, please answer the following question.

Q54 If the cost of the ticket were to increase, above what price would you sell the ticket? Please select the very maximum amount you would accept for the ticket from the options below.

*Please enter an amount above 200 yen. [Required] [Required]

I would sell if the price rose above () yen (above 200 yen) (max. 5 half-width digits)

Q55 Suppose there were a lottery with a 1/100 chance of winning or losing in which you would receive 100,000 yen if you won and nothing if you lost.

Would you buy a lottery ticket for 200 yen? Please select one of the following options. [Required]

- 1 Yes
- 2 No → Q57

If you answered [Yes] to the previous question, please answer the following question.

Q56 If the cost of the ticket in the previous question were to increase, up to what amount would you be willing to pay?

*Please enter an amount greater than 200 yen. [Required]

I would pay up to () yen (more than 200 yen) (max. 5 half-width digits)

If you answered [No] to the previous question, please answer the following question.

Q57 If the cost of the ticket in the previous question were to decrease, below what amount would you be willing to pay? Please select the very maximum amount you would pay from the options below.

*If you would not even pay one yen, please enter a zero (0).

*Please enter an amount below 200 yen. [Required]

I would pay up to () yen (below 200 yen) (max. 5 half-width digits)

Q58 What do you think the minimum living expenses per month are for an elderly person?

[Required]

* Unit: yen

Example: for "50,000 yen" → enter "50,000"

() yen (max. 7 half-width digits)

Q59 Please select an appropriate response for each of the following. [Required]

	Yes	No
If my friends or acquaintances were paying pension premiums, I would pay as well		
Even if my friends or acquaintances were not paying pension premiums, I would pay		
If I were paying pension premiums, my friends and acquaintances would pay		
Even if I were not paying pension premiums, my friends and acquaintances would pay		

Q60 What percentage of your friends/acquaintances would have to be paying pension premiums for you to pay them as well?

If you would definitely pay, irrespective of the percentage of your friends/acquaintances who pay premiums, please enter a zero (0). If you definitely would not pay, irrespective of the percentage of your friends/acquaintances who pay premiums, please enter 100. [Required]

If ()% of my friends/acquaintances were paying premiums, I would pay (max. 3 half-width digits)

Q61 On an ordinary day, how high would the percentage of the chance of rain have to be for you to take an umbrella upon leaving your home? [Required]

()% or more (max. 3 half-width digits)

Q62 In the last two years (24 months), how many months' worth of the nation's health insurance premiums have you paid?(excluding the period that you join corporate health insurance)

1. I have paid all the premiums (no payments missed)
2. I have paid most of the premiums
- 3 I have paid approximately half of the premiums
4. I have not paid many premiums
5. I have paid no premiums (not even one month's worth)

Q63 If you had the option of choosing whether to pay social insurance premiums for nation's health insurance that you are currently paying, would you pay?

Please select the response that most closely matches your opinion.

1. Yes, certainly
2. Yes, probably
3. More likely to pay than not
4. More likely to not pay than pay
5. I would probably not pay
6. I would certainly not pay

Q64 Please enter your postcode.

[][][][][][][][]