

## Wages for grads up most in 10 years

Kyodo News

The average starting monthly pay for university graduates who took white-collar jobs in April was ¥205,074, up ¥1,354 from the previous year and the sharpest rise in a decade, the Japan Business Federation said Monday.

The nation's largest business lobby, commonly referred to as Nippon Keidanren, conducted a survey of 731 firms from early May to early June. It found that companies are increasingly raising their starting pay to attract new employees as the economy continues to expand and baby boomers continue to retire.

Salaries for new employees rose from a year earlier in all surveyed categories — from new junior high school graduates to those with postgraduate degrees. The margin of increase ranged from 0.52 percent to 1.11 percent.

But the number of companies granting year-on-year pay hikes to new workers was lower than expected in light of the corporate sector's buoyant earnings, with only 43.1 percent of the 731 responding firms raising pay.

The Japan Times: Wednesday, Sept. 5, 2007  
(C) All rights reserved

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

[Close window](#)