

What empty nesters? No work, late marriage keeping offspring with parents

Kyodo News

The number of people in their 20s and 30s living with their parents increased in the five years to 2009, with more of them out of work following the 2008 global financial crisis or opting to marry later, according to a recent survey by a national research institute.

The most significant rise was among men aged 35 to 39, jumping 8.2 percentage points to 41.6 percent, according to the study released by the National Institute of Population and Social Security Research.

Most of those living with their parents are believed to be single, though the figure also includes those staying after marriage, it said.

A key factor behind the climb was the surge in unemployment amid the financial crisis that started in fall 2008, in addition to the continuing trend of marrying later in life, the institute said.

The rate rose 2.9 points to 79.4 percent for men aged 20 to 24, 0.2 point to 64.2 percent for those aged 25 to 29, and 2.5 points to 47.9 percent for those in the 30 to 34 age bracket.

Among women, the rate increased 5.9 points to 83.4 percent for those aged 20 to 24, and 4.2 points to 60.3 percent for those aged 25 to 29.

Regarding women in their 30s, it rose 3.4 points to 36.5 percent for those aged 30 to 34, and 4.5 points to 24.3 percent for those aged 35 to 39.

The number of single men and women in their 20s to 40s climbed regardless of age, with the figures for men aged 25 to 29 and those aged 35 to 39 up 7.3 points each to 71.6 percent and 30.6 percent.

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