

1. WATER USE
2. ADMINISTRATION OF RIVERS AND COASTS

1. Water Use

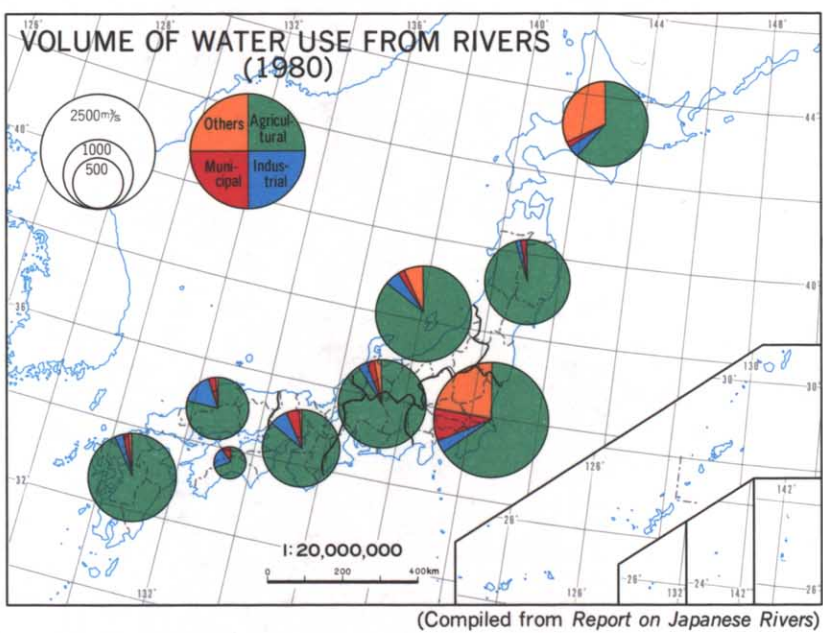
It is estimated that the volume of water consumed for municipal use in 1985 amounted to 30,700 million m³ (15,100 million m³ for living and 15,600 million m³ for industrial use), while 58,500 million m³ was used for agriculture. The rate of increase in the consumption of water for living use was 6.9% (annual average) for 1965-1975, but this decreased to 1.9% (annual average) between 1975-1985. This was caused by the fact that the water supply diffusion rate reached a high level and by improvements in the rationalization of water use. The rate of water consumption for industrial use (volume of fresh water supply) has likewise not shown an increase since mid-1970s, due to water recycling and the change in industrial structure. The volume of water consumed for agricultural use increased slightly, owing to an increase in the volume of water use per unit area through improvements in paddy field maintenance, despite the fact that total paddy field area is decreasing.

The sources of water for the above are mainly rivers and groundwater. The development of water sources has also been facilitated due to increased demand for water, with the volume of water provided for municipal use by water source-exploiting facilities, such as dams with a pondage of one million m³ and over, reaching 11,100 million m³ in 1986.

The annual volume of underground water consumed is estimated to be approximately nine thousand million m³. Waste water, recycled industrial waste water, freshwater obtained from salt water and rainwater are also utilized.

[Salient Points of the Legend and Map Compilation]

Dams with an available pondage of less than two million m³ are not indicated. 'Waterway' refers, not to the courses of rivers, but to constructed irrigation canals.



2. Administration of Rivers and Coasts

Almost all rivers in Japan are administered according to the River Act. The River Act classifies rivers into class A and class B rivers. Class A rivers are those designated by the Minister of Construction as important water systems in terms of land safety and the national economy, and numbered 109 water systems and 13,594 rivers as of April, 1987. Class B rivers are those related to the important water systems in terms of public benefit, which are not class A rivers, designated by prefectural governors; these numbered 2,666 water systems and 6,826 rivers as of April, 1987. Rivers designated by the mayors of Si, Mati and Mura, and which are not included in either class A or class B, come under the jurisdiction of the River Act with necessary modification.

The administration of class A rivers is carried out by the Minister of Construction and in part by prefectural governors.

The total length of the Japanese coastline is 34,301km. Coasts designated as coast protection areas (coasts which must be protected from disasters caused by tsunamis, tidal waves, high tides and ground movement are designated as coast protection areas by prefectural governors) account for 46.6% of the total. The remainder are those administered for the purpose of road protection, railway protection, forestry reserve, etc., and natural coasts which do not need to be administered for the purpose of land safety.

The total length of coastline within areas designated as coast protection areas amounts to 13,437 km. Of this, coastlines equipped with conservation facilities account for 9,073 km.

The jurisdiction of coastlines in coast protection areas is classified by ministry as follows: 35.9% come under the Ministry of Construction; 28.2% under the Ministry of Transport; 21.4% under the Fishery Agency; 12.7% under the Agricultural

Structure Improvement Bureau and 1.8% under the co-jurisdiction of the Ministry of Construction and the Agricultural Structure Improvement Bureau.

Coast protection projects are carried out according to the Coast Law. The total cost of projects carried out in 1987 was 169 thousand million yen (31.8% for the Ministry of Construction; 39.8% for the Ministry of Transport; 16.7% for the Fishery Agency and 11.8% for the Agricultural Structure Improvement Bureau). Of these projects, 10.1% were directly promoted by the Government, while the remainder were carried out by prefectures, Si, Mati or Mura as supplementary projects.

[Sources]

1. Ministry of Construction, *Annual Report of Discharge (1976-1985)*
2. Ministry of Health and welfare, *Waterwork Statistics, 1986*
3. Japan Dam Association, *Handbook of Dams, 1986*
4. Ministry of Construction, *Report on Japanese Rivers, 1986*
5. National Land Agency, *White Paper on Land Use, 1989*
6. Ministry of Construction, *Coast Statistics, 1987*
7. Japan River Association, *Handbook of Rivers, 1988*
8. Ministry of International Trade and Industry data
9. Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries data
10. Ministry of Transport data
11. Ministry of Construction data

