

1. PUBLIC PHYSICAL TRAINING FACILITIES

2. DISTRIBUTION OF OUTDOOR RECREATION AREAS (I) (II)

3. NATURAL PARKS

1. Public Physical Training Facilities

Physical training and sports facilities in Japan can be categorized into physical education facilities for school educational activities; vocational sports facilities such as facilities for employees' welfare at places of work; public sports facilities established by local public bodies; private sector profit-making (commercial) sports facilities which are designed to earn profits; and private sector non-profit-making sports facilities which are not designed to earn profits but supply facilities to the general public. In general, public sports facilities provide outdoor space, while private sector profit-making facilities require comparatively large operating expenses in order to maintain equipment and installations. Both types of facilities play important roles.

Public physical training facilities include a large number of athletic fields which can be utilized for a variety of purposes, baseball grounds, softball grounds, gymnasiums, swimming pools and tennis courts.

In recent years, the need for physical training and sports has increased, while the number of facilities has also seen a rapid increase. This is attributed to the increase in leisure time, diversification of life-styles and growing interest in health. [Salient Points of the Legend and Map Compilation]

This map shows the number of public physical training facilities (i.e., sports facilities provided by local public bodies for the public, excluding facilities established mainly for school education and facilities adjoining public education facilities) as of July 1, 1984 based on the survey of public training facilities carried out as part of the social education survey.

2. Distribution of Outdoor Recreation Areas (I) (II)

In recent years, sight-seeing as a form of recreation has become increasingly popular and is attributed to the increase in leisure time, diversification of life-styles, increase in income, and so forth. The purposes are not limited to pleasure trips or relaxation, but include communing with nature, improving health, and so on. Reacting to this trend, while at the same time aiming to promote local areas, the government, through a variety of schemes, has attempted to improve the environment of such areas and has put forward overall measures to provide outdoor recreation facilities and accommodation. The ministries and agencies in charge of each scheme vary and some of these schemes are similar in name and content, but the purpose of the redevelopment, ownership of the land, and source of funds differ slightly. Some facilities were systematized early on, such as the People's Recreational Hot Spring Areas (established in 1954), National Vacation Villages and Youth Houses (both of which were established in 1961); nevertheless, many are still as yet uncompleted.

In addition, the Inclusive Health Reinforcement Area Redevelopment Act (Legislation 71, 1987), the so-called Resort Law, was passed in May 1987 emphasizing private sector revitalization. Thus, the redevelopment of resorts with general functions and the promotion of local areas is proceeding.

In addition to those indicated on the map, group facility areas in the national and quasi-national parks, "Refresh the Hometown" project promotion model areas and others also exist.

[Salient Points of the Legend and Map Compilation]

Of a variety of areas associated with public sight-seeing recreation, this map selects and indicates major facilities by scheme, centering on outdoor recreation facilities, facilities equipped with sleeping accommodation, and facilities for youth education equipped with sleeping accommodation. A medium-scale sight-seeing recreation area (Family Trip Village) is included in the category of sight-seeing recreation areas, as are the Model Undertaking of Promotion of Mountainous Villages (regarded as the general term for the Model Undertaking of Environmental Improvement for Youth Settlement in Mountainous Villages, the Model Undertaking of Mountainous Villages Development by Cooperation with Mountainous Villages and Urban Areas and the Model Undertaking of Construction of New Mountainous Villages); and Relaxation Village (considered as the general term for Relaxation Village, Green Village and Nature Revitalization Village).

3. Natural Parks

Natural parks are parks which have been designated under the provisions of the Natural Park Law which was established to preserve exceptional natural landscapes, to promote their utilization and to benefit the health, repose and enlightenment of the people. Natural parks are classified into national parks, quasi-national parks and prefectural natural parks. The number of people visiting natural parks has been increasing yearly, reaching a total of 917 million in 1987. This is attributed, for instance, to the growing interest of the people in experiencing nature.

As of March 1989, 28 national parks covering an area of 2,040,000 ha, and 54 quasi-national parks covering 1,290,000 ha have been designated. Prefectural natural parks have been designated in all prefectures (except for the three prefectures of Gunma, Osaka and Kagawa), consisting of 300 locations and covering an area of 1,990,000 ha. The total area of these natural parks accounts for 14% of the total land area of Japan.

Special protection areas, special areas, ordinary areas and submarine park areas are established for national and quasi-national natural parks, where a variety of restrictions are in force in order to maintain scenic beauty. In the case of prefectural natural parks, special areas and ordinary areas are established. In addition, group facility areas are established within natural parks in order to improve the facilities for visitors as a whole.

Environmental destruction in natural parks is caused by a variety of development activities and, in many cases, by the concentration of visitors. In order to totally preserve natural parks, such measures as redevelopment of facilities to alleviate superfluous visitors, and educating the public with regard to nature preservation, have been employed. At the same time, procurement of privately-owned lands within parks has been encouraged.

Finally, in order to preserve the natural environment in Japan, districts such as

primeval natural environment preservation areas, natural environment preservation areas, wildlife sanctuaries, scenic beauty protection forests, health protection forests, and so on, are designated based on the Natural Environment Preservation Law and the Forestry Law, in addition to the natural parks designated according to the Natural Park Law.

[Salient Points of the Legend and Map Compilation]

This map shows the scope of national, quasi-national and prefectural natural parks as of March 31, 1988. Prefectural natural parks measuring less than 3,200 ha are shown with small symbols, regardless of their topographical shapes. Special protection areas in national and quasi-national natural parks are indicated by their actual geographic shape in the case of large areas, and with small symbols for smaller areas.

[Sources]

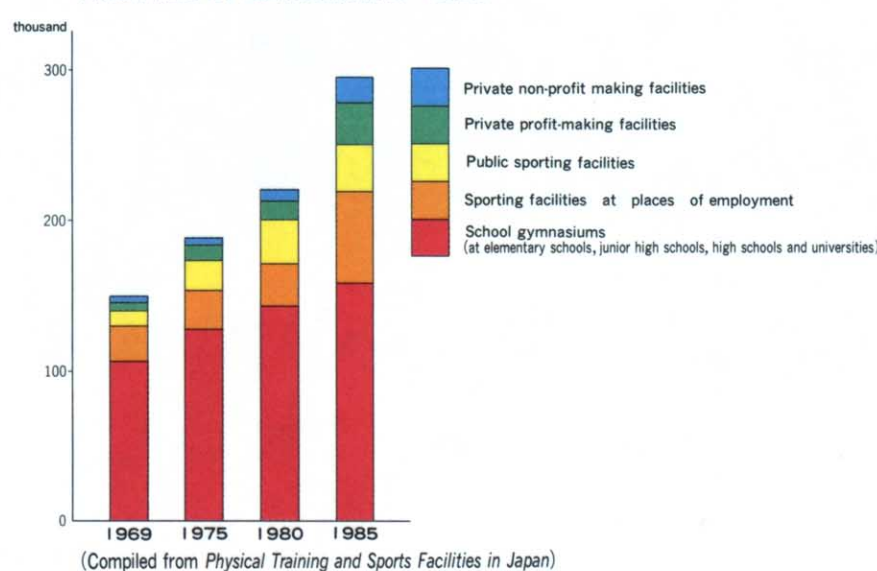
1. Ministry of Education, *Report on Social Education Survey*, 1984
2. Ministry of Education, *Physical Training and Sports Facility in Japan*, 1987
3. Data from various ministries and agencies
4. Data from Prefectural

LIST OF MAJOR PUBLIC TOURISM AND (OUTDOOR) RECREATION AREAS

Type	Authority concerned	Description	Number of areas (including those not yet in use)
National government parks	Ministry of Construction	Parks established by the nation on a large-sized without regard to prefectural boundaries, or as national memorial undertakings.	(12)
Tourism and recreation areas (A) Large-sized recreation areas (B) Family-trip villages	Ministry of Transport	Picnic grounds, camping grounds, accommodation and recreation facilities are provided so that people may easily enjoy sight-seeing and recreation in natural surroundings.	(A) 4 (B) (38)
Large-sized recreation bases for the insured and pensioners	Ministry of Health and Welfare	Cultural, educational, health facilities and accommodation are provided so that pensioners may enjoy themselves, and workers and young people may use their increased leisure time.	1 bases, 13 locations
Large-sized parks (C) regional parks (D) recreational cities	Ministry of Construction	A variety of facilities, such as those for accommodation and recreation, are provided comprehensively in order to meet the demand for recreation beyond the Si, Mati and Mura level, and to meet various demands from cities and their adjacent areas.	(C) 106 (D) 5
Youth travel villages	Ministry of Transport	Outdoor facilities, such as camping grounds, hiking tracks, etc., are provided in natural surroundings so that young people may enjoy exercise.	82
Youth houses	Ministry of Education	Educational facilities are provided for various types of study, to encourage interaction with others and give an opportunity to experience living in groups in natural surroundings.	282
Children's centers	Ministry of Education	Educational facilities are provided so that children may gain experiences which cannot be obtained from home or school life through group activities in natural surroundings.	(172)
(E) Model undertaking of environmental improvement for youth settlement in mountainous villages (F) Model undertaking of mountainous villages development by cooperation with mountainous villages and urban areas (G) Model undertaking of construction of new mountainous villages	National Land Agency	Accommodation, recreation and leisure facilities are provided through the cooperation of rural villages and cities to encourage interaction between young people.	(E) 32 (F) 7 (G) 10
(H) National vacation villages (I) People's outdoor recreation areas (J) People's recreational areas in prefectural natural parks	Environment Agency	Outdoor facilities, such as parks, camping areas, accommodation and recreation facilities, are provided in areas of scenic beauty in natural parks suitable for recreation.	(H) 30 (I) 31 (J) (15)
People's recreational hot spring areas	Environment Agency	Hot springs noted for beneficial effects, which may be utilized as recreational areas, are designated and hot spring areas created.	76
Workers' outdoor activity areas ("recreation villages")	Ministry of Labor	Sporting and recreation facilities, accommodation and facilities for relaxation are provided in areas of natural beauty to enable workers to use their leisure time.	32
(K) Recreation villages (L) Green villages (M) Natural activity villages	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	Tourist farms, hiking tracks, etc., are provided so that city dwellers may relax while enjoying agriculture, forestry and fishing.	(K) 200 (L) 25 (M) 102 Other 1
Recreation forests	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	Parks, tracks and rest facilities are provided for enjoying nature, mountain climbing and hiking.	92

(Compiled from data from various agencies)

THE NUMBER OF GYMNASIUMS AND SPORTING FACILITIES BY ESTABLISHING BODY



NATURAL PARKS

Type	Number	Area (ha)	Percent of national land area (%)	Details			Submarine park areas			
				Special areas		Ordinary areas	Number of parks	Number of areas	Number of places	Area (ha)
				Special protected areas (ha)	(ha)					
National parks	28	2,042,008	5.40	254,927	1,446,937	595,071	10	27	63	1,065.8
Quasi-national parks	54	1,291,044	3.42	64,457	1,204,264	86,780	13	30	65	1,332.4
Prefectural natural parks	300	1,985,342	5.25	—	675,939	1,309,403	—	—	—	—
Total	382	5,318,394	14.08	319,384	3,327,140	1,991,254	23	57	128	2,398.2

(Compiled from Environment Agency data)

