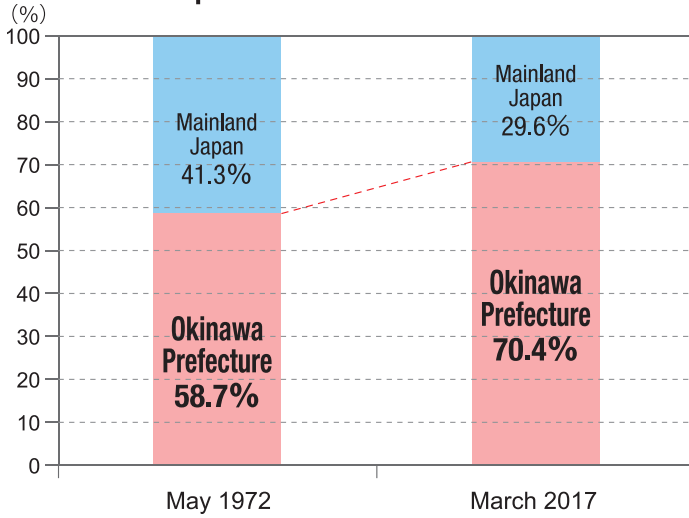
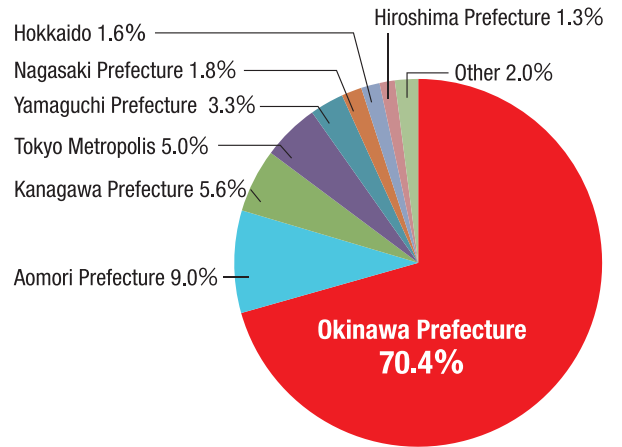


Change in percentage of area exclusively used by U.S. Forces Japan (before and after Okinawa's reversion to Japan)



Percentage of area exclusively used for U.S. military facilities

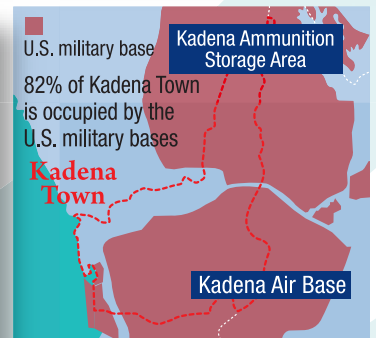


In 1972 when Okinawa Prefecture reverted to Japan, Okinawa was the location for 58.7% of the total area exclusively used for U.S. military facilities in Japan. Greater progress in consolidating and reducing the U.S. military presence has been made in mainland Japan than in Okinawa Prefecture, with the result that today 70.4% of the total area exclusively used for U.S. military facilities in Japan is concentrated in Okinawa Prefecture, which itself accounts for only 0.6% of Japan's total land area.

This has forced the 1.44 million residents of Okinawa Prefecture to live next to U.S. military bases.



Marine Corps Air Station Futenma is located in the center of Ginowan City, which is home to nearly 100,000 people, and occupies one fourth of the city's land area. It has also been called "the world's most dangerous base."



Kadena Air Base is the largest U.S. Air Force base in the Far East. The noise produced daily by aircraft at this base has had a tremendous impact on the surrounding environment of local residents.