

Section 1 U.S. Military Bases in Okinawa

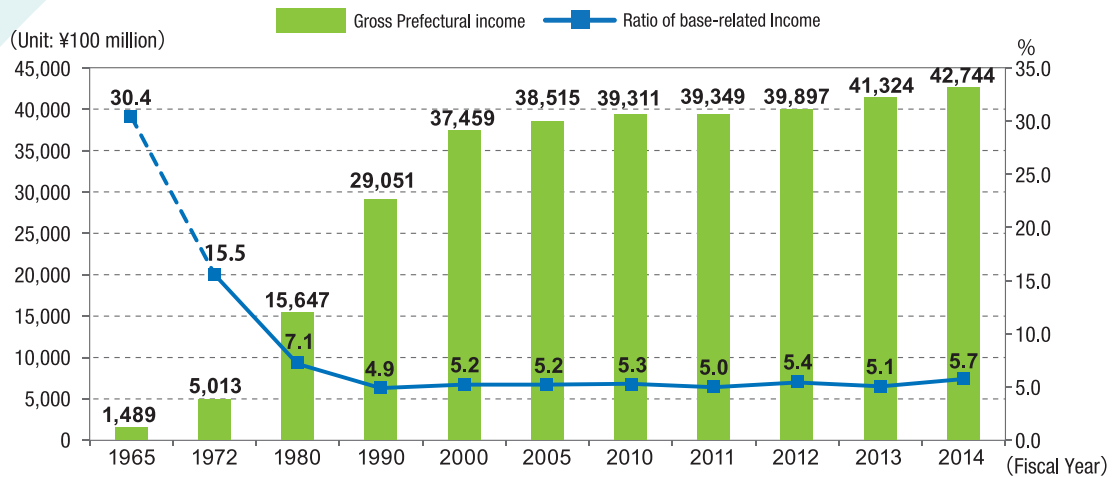
(4) The Relationship between U.S. Military Bases and the Economy in Okinawa Prefecture

The U.S. military bases are not ordinary economic units like a company. As Okinawa's economy has expanded, the ratio of base-related income to the overall prefectural economy has significantly declined. Any economy dependent on a military base is limited in its ability to grow.

Significant economic development has been achieved in returned areas where U.S. Military bases were once located. Even greater economic development is anticipated with the early return of lands occupied by U.S. Military bases and already agreed upon by the governments of Japan and the United States.

The U.S. Military bases are the greatest impediment to Okinawa's economic development. To say that the Okinawan economy is dependent upon the U.S. Military bases is a completely wrong.

■ Base-related income percentage of gross prefectural income



Sources: For 1965, Okinawa Prefecture's "Statistical Report of Prefectural Income (1973)"; for 1972 and later years, Okinawa Prefecture's "Annual Report on Prefectural Accounts"

① Naha Shintoshin district



Courtesy of the Okinawa Times



Direct economic impact ¥5.2 billion/year
 Number of people employed 168

▶ ¥163.4 billion/year (32 times greater)
 ▶ 15,560 (93 times greater)

② Kuwae & Kitamae districts



Courtesy of the Okinawa Times



Direct economic impact ¥300 million/year
 Number of people employed 0

▶ ¥33.6 billion/year (108 times greater)
 ▶ 3,368 (new jobs created)