

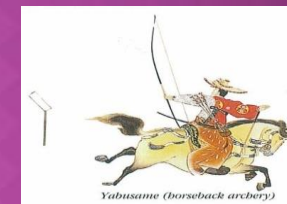
# Racing by Local Governments In Japan

2020



# INDEX

A brief history of horse racing in Japan .....	1
Races and racecourses .....	4
Promotion .....	10
The National Association of Racing (NAR) .....	16
Friendly international exchange .....	24
Ban-ei (Draft Horse Racing) .....	27
Attendance and Turnover in 2020 .....	28
The listed races by local governments in 2020 .....	29



# A brief history of horse racing in Japan

Presently, horse racing in Japan is classified into 2 categories: racing conducted by the Japan Racing Association (JRA), and racing conducted by local governments on the prefectural and municipal level. JRA racing provides revenue to the national treasury, and racing by local governments provides revenue to certain designated local governments.

## European-style horse racing introduced in Japan at the end of the Edo Period

It was in 1861, towards the end of the era of the Tokugawa Shogunate, that Western-style horse racing was introduced into Japan. The first race was conducted in Yokohama under the auspices of the Yokohama Race Club which was formed by a group of foreign residents of that city. This was followed by Western-style races in

Tokyo and Hakodate. In 1888, with Japan Race Club (formerly Yokohama Race Club) having put for the first time in Japan one-dollar betting tickets on sale for club-sponsored races in Yokohama, the popularity of Western-style racing grew throughout the country.

## Roots of racing by local governments

Racing by local governments developed mainly as a form of public entertainment, from the ceremonial horse racing which had been dedicated since ancient times to local temples and shrines at festivals around Japan.

The recorded history of racing in Japan can be traced as far back as 701 A.D., during the reign of the Emperor Mommu. As time passed, horse racing developed into such Imperial Court-sponsored forms as “*Kurabe-uma*” (“match races”) at *Butokuden* Pavilion, races for religious ceremonies at Kyoto’s *Kamo Jinja*, and other shrines, and road races sponsored by court nobles.



## HISTORY OF RACING IN JAPAN



### 19<sup>th</sup> century race before the emperor MEIJI at UENO Park in TOKYO

Toward the end of the Tokugawa Shogunate era in 1861, the first European –type horse race in Japan took place in Yokohama under the auspices of the Yokohama Race Club which was formed by a group of foreign residents in Yokohama. This was followed by races in Hakodate and Tokyo. In 1888, the Japan Race Club which was evolved from the Yokohama Race Club put one dollar pari-mutuel tickets on sale for club-sponsored races in Yokohama for the first time in Japan.



# Racing by Local Governments– An overview



### **Flourishing under a New Post-War System**

A new Horse Racing Law was promulgated after World War II, in 1948. With the dissolution of the Japan Racing Society, which had been established through the unification of a number of race clubs, and which had exclusively operated horse racing in Japan, horse racing which had thus far been officially approved was changed over to a nationally operated form of racing under the direct control of the national government. After that, in 1954, the government established JRA, a semi-governmental corporation, to conduct all aspects of horse racing. This has since developed into the horse racing which is conducted by JRA today. On the other hand, in accordance with the new Horse Racing Law promulgated in 1948, races conducted by private equine organizations at that time were placed under the direct jurisdiction of local governments. In other words, these races were what are referred to today as “racing by local governments”. The operation of horse racing has been changed from the control of private equine organization to that of local governments.

With the revision of the Horse Racing Law in 1962, the National Association of Racing (NAR) was established.

The operation of racing by local governments has been unified, and its foundation made more firm through the establishment of NAR.

## **Races and racecourses**

### **Structure of horseracing by local governments**

Racing by local governments consists of 14 local governments located throughout the country, which serve as organizers of the races held within their jurisdiction. These 14 local governments are comprised of 2 prefectural governments, 2 municipals, and 10 joint-organizations.

NAR is the racing authority that oversees this racing by local governments organized by 14 local governments.

### **Racecourses**

The map shows the location of racecourses in Japan. There are 15 racecourses used for racing by local governments. Of these, the 8 with 🌟 are racecourses that hold night races.

The lengths of racecourses of local governments range

from between 1,051 meters and 1,600 meters. Their track width range is from 16 meters to 27 meters and from the home turn to the finish line range is from 194 meters to 386 meters. The maximum number of horses which can run are from between 10 to 16. Thus, they are smaller than JRA courses and bends are comparatively sharp. All of racing by local governments courses have only dirt tracks, with the exception of the Morioka Racecourse.

### **Fixtures / Racing calendar**

There are differences in the schedules of racecourses in the metropolitan areas of Kanto, Tokai, Kansai and Hokkaido, and those of racecourses in other regions.

Racecourses in major urban areas and Hokkaido hold their races on weekdays in order to avoid competition with JRA which holds races on Saturdays and Sundays.

On the other hand, in regions that are largely unaffected by JRA meetings, our racecourses primarily race on Saturdays and Sundays, when it is easier to attract local fans.

When two or more racecourses are relatively close to each other, the areas they serve become a kind of shared commercial market area. In these cases, therefore, we

coordinate the race schedules to avoid races being held on the same day. We also attempt to boost betting sales by using racecourse on their off-days as off-track sales sites. We also do our best to arrange runners so that racehorses can run in all racecourses within the same market area. In winter, racecourses in Hokkaido and other parts of northern Japan cannot be used for racing due to heavy snowfall. Instead, these are used as off-track sales sites for racecourses in the metropolitan region and other areas. Racehorses belonging to these northern racecourses are also sent to run at racecourses where races are held. This gives local fans more incentive to bet on horses from their own region.



*Mizusawa Racecourse*

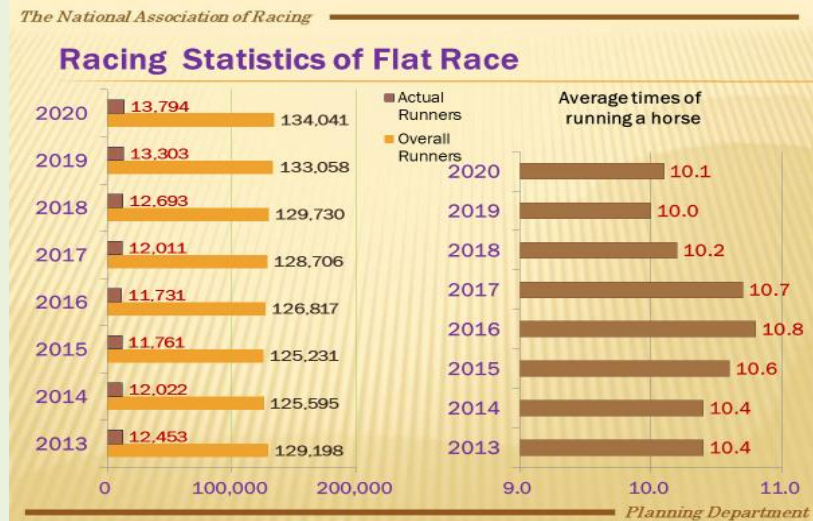
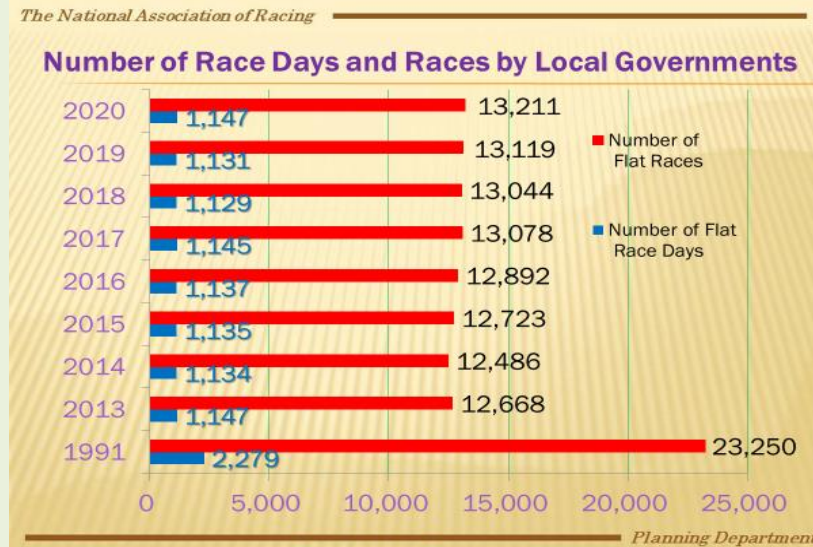
## Statistics of Flat Race

There are many races which attract a lot of attention including listed races with high prize money conducted at various racecourses.

Flat races by local governments were held a total of 1,131 race days with about 13,211 races at 14 racecourses in 2020.

In addition, horse racing was resumed at Himeji Racecourse for the first time in eight years.

The number of different horses having run, the overall starts, and the average times of running per year are listed. A total of 134,041 horses ran and the average times of running were 10.1 a horse in 2020.

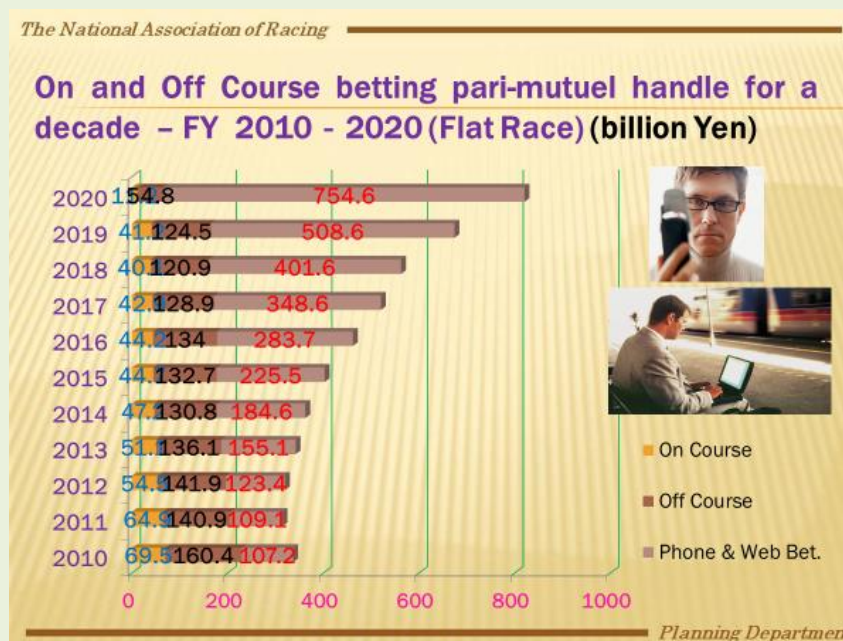




## Attendance & Turnover (Flat Race)

The turnover of these races in 2020 was approximately 820.5 billion yen.

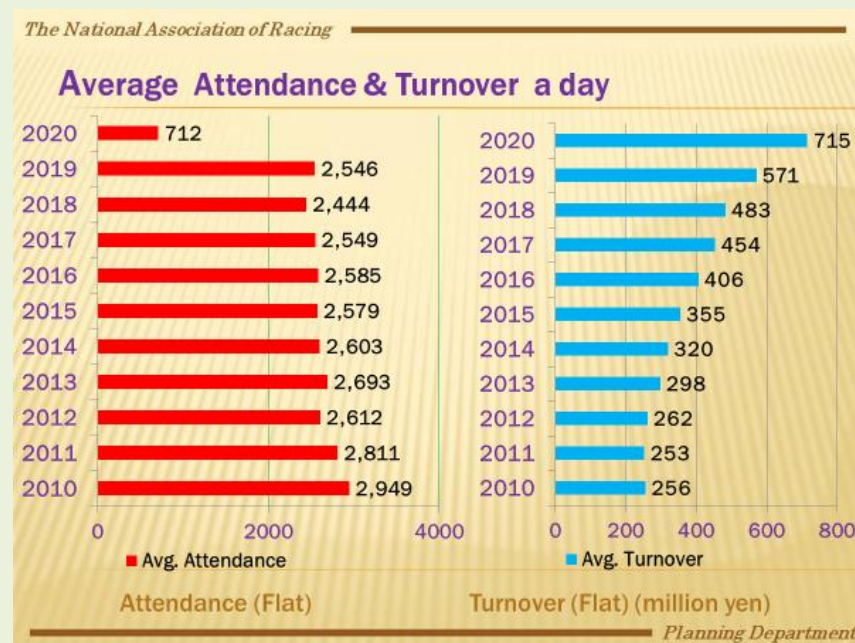
As for the breakdown of the turnover in 2019, 1.4% is from on-course, 6.6% is from off-course, and 92.0% is from telephone and internet betting. The turnover of online betting amounted to about 754 billion yen and it is a big factor of increasing. In other words, it shows that the on-course turnover has been decreasing over recent years. Another major factor was the fact that no audience horse racing was held due to the spread of COVID-19 infection. The NAR developed a new integrated totalizator system and this system has been connected with JRA's general totalizator center system, so it has been possible to bet on the local government races through a membership of JRA's internet betting system since October 3, 2012.



The average attendance for all flat racing by local governments courses per race day was 712 (28.0%), with average turnover of 715 million yen (125.2%).

The turnover seems to increase, however, 2020 compared to 1991 fell to about 84%. Gross turnover by racing by local governments as a whole peaked in 1991, when a figure of 982 billion yen was recorded.

10 local governments withdrew from the horseracing business during the 13-year period from 2001 to 2013. After that Japanese economy changed for the better and the financial situation of the racing organizer is gradually recovering every year. In 2020 turnover per day of whole racing organizer amounted to 715 million yen, which is higher than the peak of 302 million yen in 1991.

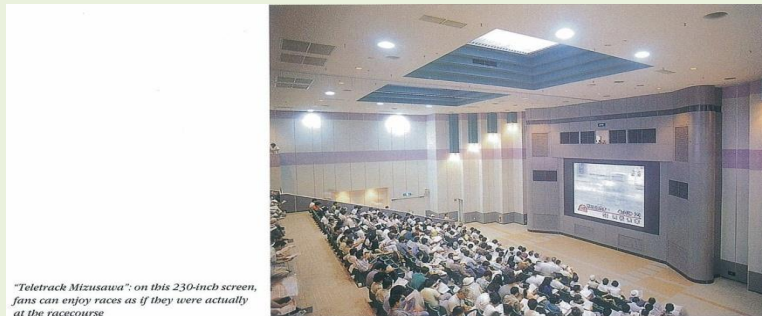


## Off-track sales

Sales at racecourses are decreasing year by year, but off-track sales including internet betting are conversely in an upward trend. The ratio between racecourse sales and off-track sales stood at 50:50 in 2001, the ratio of off-track sales has increased greatly year by year since then, in 2020 it was 1:99.

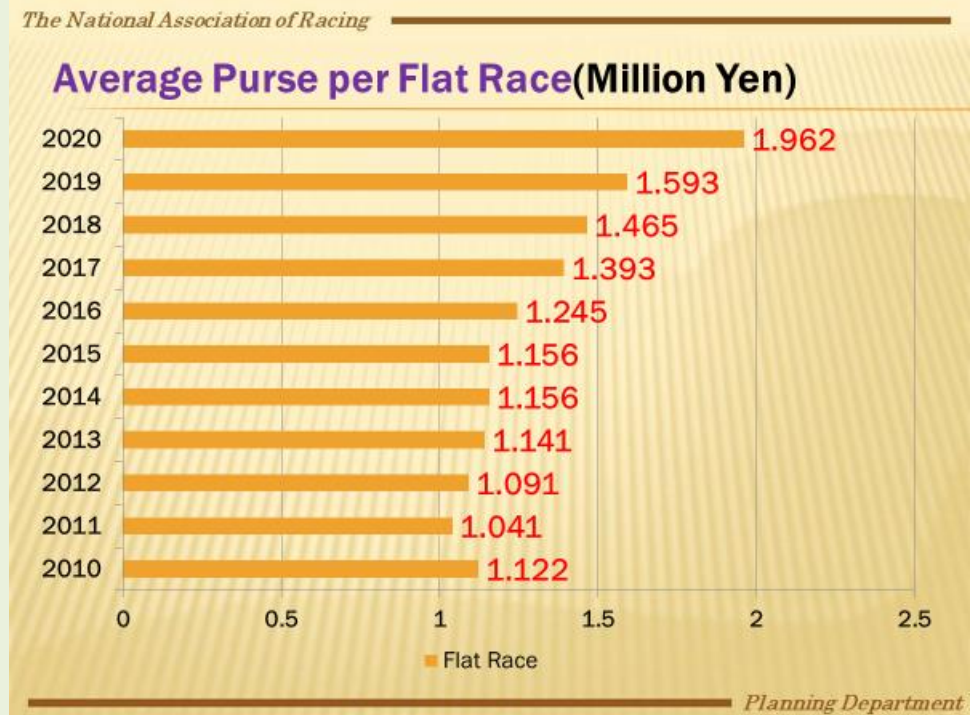
One of the reasons for this is that off-track sales days and

races are on the increase between racecourses. Another is that a nationwide system of sales for listed races featuring high-quality racing has been established. A third reason is that telephone and web betting have grown dramatically with the development of systems for providing online race video, odds and other information. Another factor was the fact that no audience horse racing was held due to the spread of COVID-19 infection.



## Prize money

It shows the average prize money per race for a flat race. The average prize money per race for flat race is 1.962 million yen. Along with the recovery of turnover, the amount of prize money has been also recovered little by little.



## The Development of race systems

Traditionally, JRA and racing by local governments held races separately within their circles. However, in more recent years, both sides have begun collaborating and coordinating their efforts to implement exchange race that is intended to promote all areas of horseracing in



Japan. And in 1973, Oi Racecourse held its first invitational race that allows JRA horses to run. Since then, the number of these races has increased.

Furthermore, amid growing momentum toward the establishment of a race system, the Dirt Race Grading Committee was set up in 1996 to make appropriate selections of excellent dirt horses without distinction between JRA and racing by local governments.

As a result, major dirt races throughout the country were ranked and “Graded Dirt Races” came to be implemented. After that, the Japanese Graded Race Committee was set up in 2008, and now both turf and dirt races in Japan are graded by this committee.

In 2020, there were 40 dirt races by local governments which were graded by this committee. And these races are also noted in the International Cataloguing Standards. Ratings of each runner were prepared as a foundation for ranking for Graded Dirt Races and from 1998, each runner was assigned a certain number of pounds in the JPN Thoroughbred Rankings.

## Promotion

### **Collaboration and coordination among racing organizers**

#### **—Expansion of commercial market areas—**

In the past, organizers of racing by local governments used to take care of betting sales within narrow local areas based on the prefecture when the racecourse was located, as prescribed by the Horse Racing Law. However, the legal requirements and other regulations were eased, since there are limits to sales within an area with a limited population. Now it is the norm for organizers of racing by local governments in neighboring areas to collaborate in mutual off-track sales, as a way of boosting sales.

Meanwhile, with the introduction “listed races” mentioned just now, more and more racing by local governments organizers have been joining forces in promoting off-track sales nationwide.

This has given rise to a system of nationwide off-track sales for principal races, with particular focus on listed races.





## Attractive racing programs

### —JBC races(LR)

### (JBC Classic, JBC Sprint, JBC Ladies' Classic)—

Financially troubled organizers of racing by local governments got support by breeders. The 1<sup>st</sup> JBC (Japan Breeding Farms' Cup) races were held at Oi Racecourse on October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2001.

These races, based on the model of the Breeders' Cup in United States and created from an initiative by breeders, consist of four races, namely the JBC Classic, JBC Sprint, JBC Ladies' Classic and JBC Nisai Yushun.

In principle, JBC races are held in turn by organizer of local governments, but currently JBC Nisai Yushun is held only at Mombetsu Racetrack.



As total prize money, the Classic offers 136 million yen (≒US\$1,260,000). It is the highest amount in racing by local governments. The Sprint offers 102 million yen (≒US\$940,000), Ladies' Classic offers 69.7 million yen (≒US\$640,000), JBC Nisai Yushun offers 51 million yen (≒US\$470,000)

JBC races were held for the first time at Urawa Racecourse on November 4, 2019, and recorded the highest sales ever.



### — Derby Series and other racing series —

JRA's Tokyo Yushun (Japanese Derby) is a very popular race among racing fans, as the pinnacle of racing for 3-year-olds in spring. As well as this, several different Derby races for 3-year-olds are held in racing by local governments. With the exception of some fans, however, interest in these is not very high, partly because the prize money is low compared to JRA Derby and nationwide recognition is also low.

Therefore, racing by local governments across Japan has been divided into 6 districts, and steps have been taken to adjust schedules so that “Derby races” for 3-year-olds are held over a continuous 6-day period at six racecourses. Since 2007, this event has been turned into “Series of Derby Week” to raise its profile, and we are striving to expand nationwide off-track sales.

Derby Week has been renewed to “Derby Series” with 8 races in 2019.

その競馬、想像以上。  
地方競馬

**ダービーシリーズ2020**  
協賛：日本スプリントステーション ジャパンブリーダーズカップ協会

日本を沸かせる8つのダービー。3歳ダートの頂点をかけた戦いが、列島を熱くする。

5.31 (日) 九州ダービー・紫城賞 (佐賀)	6.2 (木) 石川ダービー (金沢)	6.3 (金) 東京ダービー (大井)	6.7 (日) 東北優勝 (岩手ダービー) (盛岡)
6.9 (火) 東海ダービー (名古屋)	6.11 (木) 兵庫ダービー (豊田)	6.14 (日) 高知優勝 (高知)	6.18 (木) 北海優勝 (ダービー) (門司)

●地方競馬の収益金は、畜産振興及び地方財政の改善に活用されています  
 ●馬券は20歳以上から ほどよく楽しむ大人の遊び

特設サイトはここ！「その競馬、想像以上」  
[www.keiba.go.jp/special-2020/](http://www.keiba.go.jp/special-2020/)

Generally speaking, the price of fillies is not higher than that of the price of the colts in the market. Because the prize money for racing by local governments is smaller than that of JRA, in theory, the local circuit is more likely to attract fillies (rather than colts) as its racing resource. We have focused on this characteristic of local racing, and in an effort to attract and produce high-quality fillies, we have initiated the “GRANDAME-JAPAN” series since 2010. This is a coined word with the meaning "Future Grande (Great) + Dam (Mother)". In this series, NAR selects the most outstanding performing filly/mare from each age group, and to provide incentive prize money for that filly/mare.

Also, another characteristic of NAR racing is that the majority of racecourses are shorter than 1,200 meters per lap. Hence, a race with around only one time of corner is usually on 1,000 meters. With this feature of NAR racing, we have initiated a nationwide series is called “Super Sprint Series” since 2011.





その競馬、想像以上。  
地方競馬

**グランドム・ジャパン**  
2020 古馬シーズン

世代別牝馬重賞シリーズ

積み重ねた経験は、ここで花開く。円熟期を迎えた4歳以上牝馬たちによる、美しき激闘。

5.24 (日) 佐賀ヴィーナスカップ (佐賀)	7.15 (木) スパーキングレディーカップ (川崎)	7.16 (金) ノースクイーンカップ (門司)	7.24 (木・金) 兵庫サマークイーン賞 (阪神)
8.13 (水) ブリーダーズゴールドカップ (門司)	8.18 (水) 読売レディス杯 (金沢)	8.30 (日) ビューチフルドリーマーカップ (水沢)	9.17 (水) 秋桜賞 (名古屋)
			10.8 (水) レディスプレリュード (大井)

● 地方競馬の収益金は、畜産振興及び地方財政の改善に活用されています  
● 馬券は20歳になってから ほどよく楽しむ大人の遊び

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Besides these, we are taking steps to develop other plans unique to racing by local governments. The “Mirai Yushun”, in which specially selected races for 2-year-olds had been combined in a series. With these and other measures, we are striving to provide attractive horseracing programs and expand nationwide off-track sales.





## The variety of betting methods—

At present, there are eight standard types of betting available for racing by local governments. There are Win, Show, bracket number Quinella, horse number Quinxella, Exacta, Quinella Place, Trio and Trifecta.

Due to differences in the functions of the totalizator system, however, there is some variance among organizers in the systems of betting available.

We introduced a new type of betting which can be purchased on the internet, Pick 5 in January 2010.



## The National Association of Racing (NAR)

NAR was established on August 1, 1962, as a special government-affiliated corporation under the Horse Racing Act. On January 1, 2008, a revision of the Horse Racing Act led to NAR's becoming a public regional joint corporation that executes projects for the mutual benefit of regional race organizers. NAR continues to “promote the fair and equitable operation of regional racing, and to contribute to the improvement and breeding of horses and otherwise help promote the livestock industry.”

### 1. Registration of racehorses and owners

NAR registers horses that run in regional races and their owners.

### 2. Licensing of jockeys and trainers

NAR licenses trainers and jockeys in regional racing. It also conducts research and provides support for organizers' certification of grooms.

### 3. Dispatch and training of racing officials

NAR dispatches employees possessing specialized

knowledge and skills in the holding of races—namely, stewards, judges, and starters—to racecourses to ensure racing fairness. It also provides training to racing officials to help them improve their expertise.

#### 4. Promotion of racing fairness and operational improvement

The NAR assists in efforts by organizers and racing organizations to promote racing fairness and improve their operations.

#### 5. Recognition of racing personnel

The NAR holds a “NAR Grand Prix” to recognize racehorses, trainers, jockeys, and others who have achieved noteworthy success in regional racing as well as people and horses that have made outstanding contributions to regional racing. It also presents a President’s Award to racing personnel who won major prizes or otherwise performed at an exceptionally high level.

#### 6. Promotion of planning, public relations, and measures to advance racing

The NAR engages in planning and research on the ideal forms of inter-regional cooperation in regional racing as well as for projects that invigorate regional racing. It also executes necessary measures relating to racing schedules and programs while serving to coordinate organizers and others involved.

At the same time, NAR serves to develop regional racing infrastructure. This involves (1) developing systems to consolidate the totalizer systems used in regional racing and for mutual sales with Japan Racing Association; (2) developing and operating information systems that collectively manage information on racing results and sales at racecourses throughout Japan; and (3) building a network system that integrates network systems for distributing this information and regional racing videos, and promoting sales growth, quick information supply, and the streamlining of race administration.

Moreover, NAR engages in public relations that include providing racing-related materials and topics to the mass media and posting real-time information on races at each racecourse on its website.

#### 7. Projects to invigorate racing

NAR assists with racing invigoration projects that organizers execute to improve their revenue and expenditures through better mutual cooperation and actions to strengthen regional racing.

#### 8. Support for projects promoting the livestock industry

NAR uses grants from organizers to support various initiatives to promote the livestock industry, including projects to improve and breed horses.

#### 9. Support for projects promoting racehorse breeding

NAR supports projects to breed and improve light breed horses, sanitation projects, and distribution projects to facilitate racing with a stable supply of light breed horses.

#### 10. Training of trainers, jockeys, and racing professionals

NAR established the Regional Racing Education Center to train jockeys and others who will bear the future of regional racing.

In addition to training and developing trainers, jockeys, and other personnel, the center provides training for

employees of organizers on the holding of races and assists in horse-related training and practice.

#### Regional Racing and Daily Life

Regional racing is about more than just promoting horse improvement and breeding and supporting other areas of the livestock industry through races and their sales. It also contributes to local finances by generating revenue for local governments.

Of the total sales (proceeds) from purchased betting tickets, a percentage set by the organizer of total sales is paid to winners. The remaining amount is first applied to cover prize money and other expenses necessary to hold the race and then to grants to NAR (National Association of Racing grants), contributions to the Japan Finance Organization for Municipalities (contributions from the proceeds of public racing), and other expenses. The remainder becomes the organizers' earnings.

### Distribution of Turnover in 2019 (million yen)

#### The use of proceeds from betting

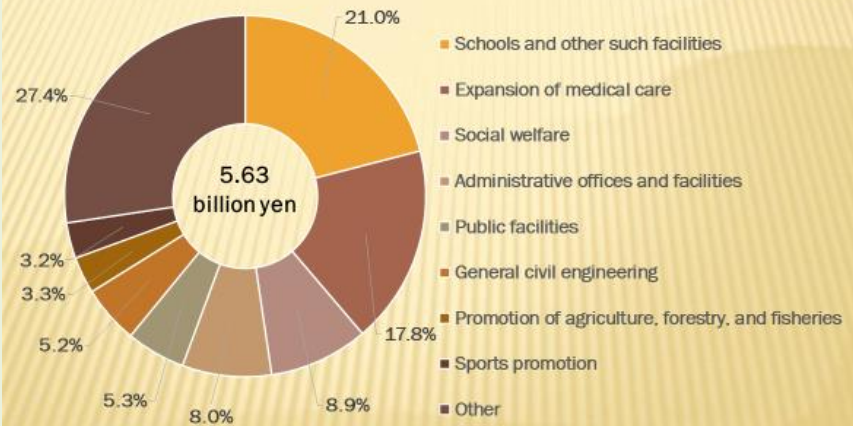


- Payoff money 73.8%
- Cost of conducting races 23.0%
- Local governments' share 1.2%
- NAR's share 1.8%
- JFM's share 0.2%

### How Organizers' Earnings Contribute to the Community

In 2019, organizers' earnings amounted to approximately 5.63 billion yen. These proceeds are used to develop regional education and culture, enhance social welfare, expand medical care, promote sports, and develop urban plans and public facilities.

### Organizers' earnings





### **Projects to Help Promote the Livestock Industry**

Organizers grant a portion of their proceeds to NAR (amount in 2019: approximately 9.30 billion yen). These grants are divided into two categories depending on how they are used. The first category consists of grants used in projects to promote the improvement and breeding of horses and other areas of the livestock industry. And the second category consists of grants used in projects to promote the fair and equitable operation of regional racing by, for example, registering horses and their owners, licensing trainers and jockeys, and training jockeys.

NAR supports projects to promote the livestock industry using grants in the first category. Projects eligible for this support include projects concerning livestock production measures for dairy farming, beef cattle, poultry and swine, and the like; projects to improve the distribution of produced livestock and livestock products; and projects to improve livestock breeding environments.

Moreover, since 2005, NAR has been combining grants from JRA with its own grants to support the introduction of stallions, the introduction of broodmares, and

registration of breeding as projects to promote racehorse breeding.

NAR subsidies to projects promoting the livestock industry and projects to promote racehorse breeding amounted to 1.25 billion yen in 2019. Since NAR's founding, the total amount of such subsidies has surpassed 200 billion yen (as of the end of 2019).

### **The “Contributions from the Proceeds of Public Racing” System**

Under this system, a portion of the earnings from government-controlled gambling sports is paid to the Japan Finance Organization for Municipalities. In 2019, the total amount paid by regional race organizers nationwide reached approximately 1.2 billion yen. A total of 3.6 billion yen was paid during the five years between 2015 and 2019. Payments from government-controlled gambling sports are used to reduce the interest on public enterprise bonds and ordinary account bonds for water supply and sewerage, electricity, gas, and other local government utilities.

In other words, regional racing earnings contribute to a broad spectrum of society, as they are returned in various

ways to not only the local governments that hold races but other local governments as well.

\*Japan Finance Organization for Municipalities: A public body that helps promote the sound management of local government finances as well as citizens' welfare by providing long-term, low-interest financing to local government projects throughout Japan.

Regional racing earnings help make life better for everyone, not only members of racecourse communities.

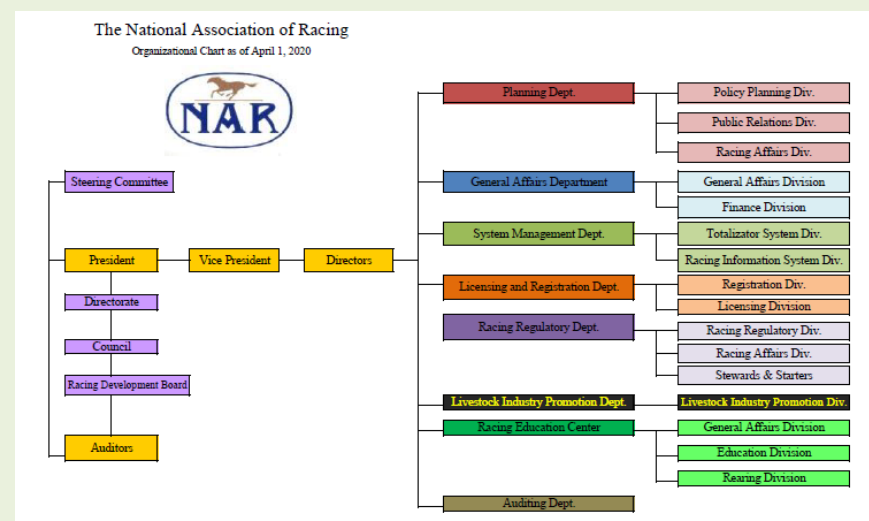
### About the organizational structure of NAR

NAR currently consists of eight departments. Aside from those departments, there is an executive committee and other external board committees that discuss and decide on a variety of measures regarding the agreements with the local public authorities that host racing by local governments mainly to ensure fairness and transparency of its business.

When it receives an application of owner registration for racing by local governments, NAR examines the owner's qualifications, obtains an evaluation from the Owner's Registration Screening Committee and then makes a

decision on whether or not to license the ownership.

Although NAR currently has approximately 4,600 registered owners, the number of new registered owners has not increased recently. It is an important task that NAR gets more new owners.



Horses and Persons concerned for Local Government Racing (Flat)

	Registered Horse	Owner	Trainer	Assistant Trainer	Jockey	Groom
2020	12,126	4,848	410	49	256	2,129
2019	11,444	4,686	419	50	255	2,008
2018	10,931	4,557	426	46	258	1,935
2017	10,379	4,512	426	46	258	1,935
2016	9,996	4,530	430	44	261	1,948
2015	9,929	4,545	437	40	261	1,998
2014	10,041	4,559	441	37	271	2,053
2013	10,551	4,613	440	40	267	2,097
2012	11,057	4,720	461	45	275	2,179
2011	11,292	4,851	483	49	288	2,274
2010	11,576	5,041	492	50	300	2,359

Planning Department

Currently, NAR has received registrations for approximately 11,000 racehorses for flat racing. The Horse Racing Law provides that only trainers and jockeys that have received NAR licenses can engage training or riding for racing by local governments.

NAR dispatches specialist advisors that include stewards, starters and other experts to each racing by local government's racecourses with the cooperation of local organizers. At the same time, NAR works to implement fair racing to integrate racing rules.



### —Racing Education Center—

Furthermore, we have the Racing Education Center in Nasu, Tochigi Prefecture to educate jockey candidates for racing by local governments.

Every spring and autumn, the center accepts some 10 people that have passed testing from applicants ranging from 15-years old junior high school graduates to 20-years-old adults. The training period lasts two years and includes a five-month practical training period under the guidance of a trainer with whom the candidate will become affiliated.


Center has a track of 1100 meters in circumference with four riding grounds and a riding hall. There are uphill training track, stables where 160 horses can be stabled, a veterinary clinic, a farriery and facilities for communal

living, accommodations for various activities and so on.

*The National Association of Racing*

## Racing Education Center


Outlook of Training for NAR Jockey



Entrance Examination  
Orientation and familiarization with horse

1st	Training for horseback riding	6 months	Basic training including riding on a saddle with British style and jumping the hurdle
2nd	Training for racing	11 months	Training of 'monkey crouch' with short stirrups
3rd	Training to improve racing technique at Race Track	5 months	Improve race technique at racecourse by the instruction of the trainer
4th	Training to simulated racing	2 months	Simulated race training and license examination

Graduation



*Planning Department*

### —Project for the improvement and multiplication of horses, and for the promotion of the livestock industry—

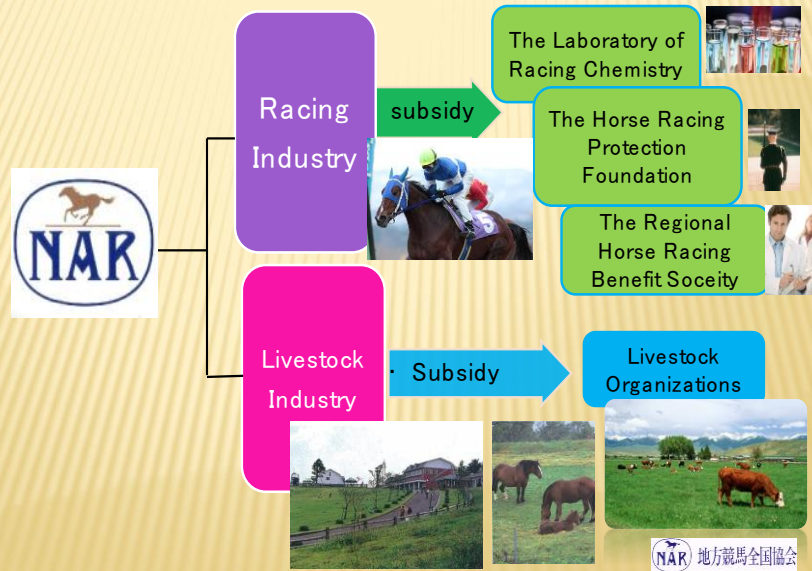
NAR implements support projects aimed at livestock organizations located throughout the country in order to contribute to the improvement of breeding of horses and other livestock improvements which is one objective of racing by local governments. In 2018, NAR granted as subsidies 808 million yen in total to these 104 projects.

And recently we are addressing to promote the care of Thoroughbred horses during their lifetime.

In addition NAR provides subsidies to the Laboratory of Racing Chemistry which conducts doping control of race horses. NAR provides subsidies to the Horse Racing Protection Foundation of Japan which conducts investigations of crimes committed by horserace personnel. NAR provides subsidies to the Regional Horse Racing Benefit Society which operates mutual aid programs for trainers, jockeys and groom. Moreover, since 2005, support projects have been available for various measures designed to boost sales by racing by local governments. Specifically, we support the creation of nationwide data management systems, race video network systems and so on as well as the installation of new facilities enabling evening races to be held.



## Promotion for Racing and Livestock Industry



## — NAR GRAND PRIX —

Each year, NAR holds the “NAR GRAND PRIX”, which give horses, trainers, jockeys and so on a special award.



NAR GRAND PRIX 2019

## Friendly international exchange

### — International races —

The first international invitation race conducted by the local government was held in 1978. Mary Bacon who is a lady jockey of The United States rode at Oi Racecourse. Steve Cauthen jockeyed there in the following year. The international invitation races known as the “Ladies Cup” were held for four consecutive years in the first half of the 1980’s, with female jockeys from Europe, the United States, Canada and Japan competing with one another at Mizusawa, Kaminoyama and Niigata Racecourses.

During the five-year period from 1989 to 1993 at racecourses located in different regions in Japan, NAR conducted “International Queen Jockey Series”, for which Japanese female jockeys rode together with female jockeys invited from the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, France, Australia and New Zealand, for the purpose of promoting technical exchange among female jockeys and international friendship.

During the 16 year period from 1982 to 1997, Niigata Racecourse invited jockeys from the Republic of Korea to

hold the Japan-Korea Challenge Cup races, and held exchange races, cooperating with the Republic of Korea to alternately invite jockeys from the two nations each year. In 1995, Oi Racecourse formed a relationship of friendship and cooperation with Santa Anita Park of the United States. Tokyo Metropolitan Racing Association (Oi Racecourse) invited jockeys who usually ride on the California circuit. The friendship Jockey Series has raced for several years.

In recent years, foreign jockeys who are issued short-term licenses by NAR or JRA have been increasing. They have opportunities to ride in the exchange race between JRA racing and racing by local governments including the graded dirt races and other races at local government racecourses in Japan.



Tokyo Metropolitan Racing Association (TCK) and Korea Racing Authority had been continued an international exchange race to promote development and a friendly relationship of each other's horseracing business.

In 2014, not only Japanese horses but also the Singaporean horses were invited to a race in Seoul, and was named "Asian challenge cup". The race was held at Seoul Horse Park on August, Choegang Schiller (USA) (Korean horse) won a clear-cut victory. The next race was held at Oi racecourse on October, Satono Tiger (JPN) (Japanese horse) gained speed at the inside of good position on the home straight and won.

International exchange races had been held once a year at each racetrack from 2013 to 2016.

### Seoul Horse Park



### Oi Racecourse



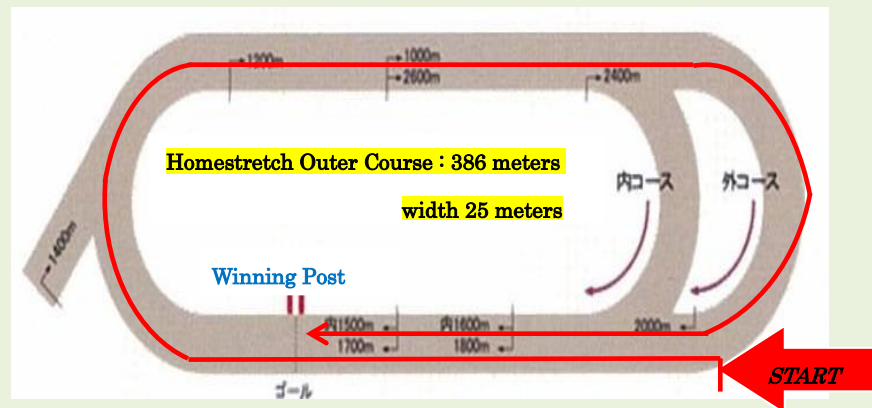


— **TOKYO DAISHOTEN (G1)** —  
(International race)

The TOKYO DAISHOTEN (Total Purse: 136 million yen Right Handed, 2,000 meters Dirt/ about 10 furlongs, 3yo & up) to be held at Oi Racecourse was approved as a Grade 1 race by the Japanese Graded Race Committee in 2010.

“Omega Perfume (JRA)” has won the race, following last year. JRA’s horses were strong and occupied a high rank. This race was delivered to overseas two countries (Australia and New Zealand), and accepted bets in separate pool.

**Oi Racecourse**



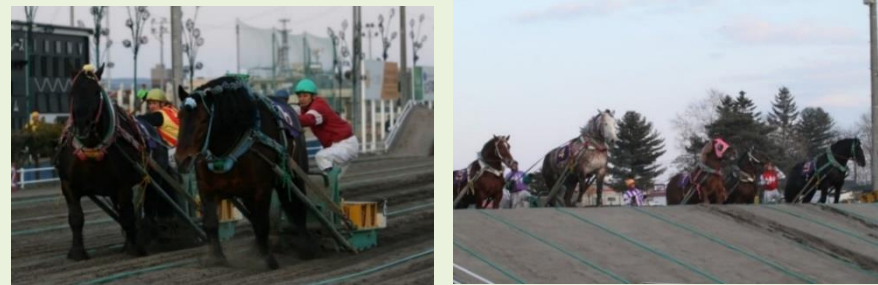
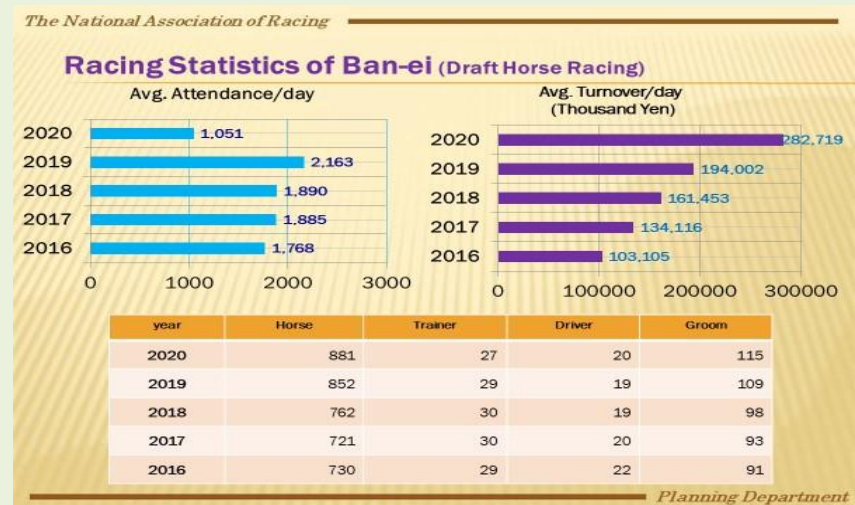
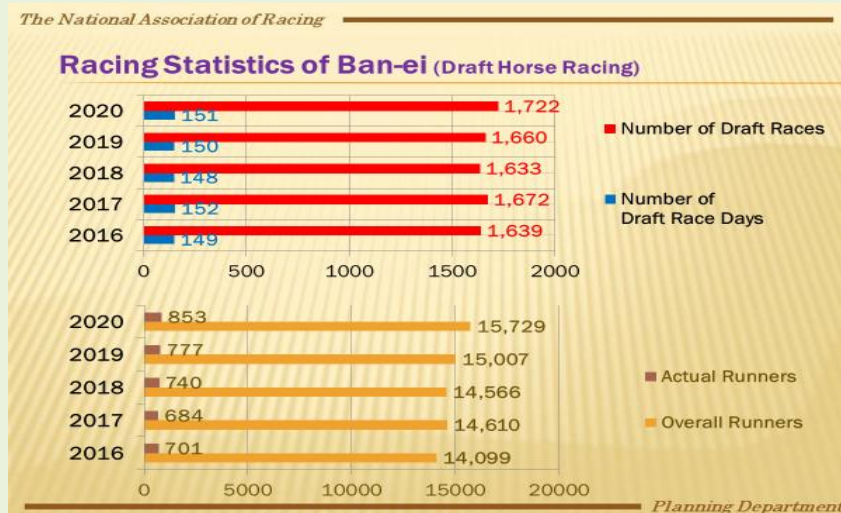
**Omega Perfume (JPN)**





## Ban-ei (Draft Horse Racing)

In addition to flat races are unique draft races, called Ban-ei races, which are held only in Obihiro-City, Hokkaido region. These races are run by such heavy horses as the sturdy Percherons, Bretons and Belgians, which pull a sleigh weighing from about half a ton to one ton, along a 200-meter separated straight track with two humps. The dynamic Ban-ei races, which enjoy a large following, originated as a popular game among local people in horse-breeding areas in Hokkaido and Tohoku.



Draft horses registered by NAR are on the decrease year by year because of a decline in breeding. The Hokkaido government authorizes Ban-ei horse racing as the Hokkaido inheritance as the one which it should keep in the coming ages. The Ban-ei horse racing is a style of the only horse racing in the world.

**Attendance and Turnover in 2020**  
**Local Government Racing**

Racecourse		Race Days 2020	Attendance (on-course)			Turnover (on and off-course)				Turnover (off-course only)			
			Total	Daily Avg	Comparison with 2019/day (%)	Total (thousand yen)	Comparison with 2019 (%)	Daily Avg. (thousand yen)	Comparison with 2019/day (%)	Including phone and web betting (thousand yen)	Comparison with 2019/day (%)	Phone and web betting only (thousand yen)	Comparison with 2019/day (%)
Banei	Obihiro*	151	158,769	1,051	48.6	42,690,646.0	146.7	282,719.5	145.7	41,839,754.2	150.2	39,174,761.8	162.4
Hokkaido	Mombetsu	82	541	7	0.9	51,475,811.70	156.0	627,753.8	152.2	51,469,346.60	154.2	49,345,962.10	170.3
Iwate	Morioka	66	70,418	1,067	55.3	31,970,966.0	144.9	484,408.6	142.7	31,212,465.0	146.1	27,783,271.6	168.2
	Mizusawa	60	37,627	627	31.7	20,188,528.1	147.7	336,475.5	123.1	19,776,779.0	129.6	17,937,323.4	160.0
Iwate Total		126	108,045	858	44.0	52,159,494.1	146.0	413,964.2	133.3	50,989,244.0	137.8	45,720,595.0	162.9
Urawa		54	36,018	667	17.7	56,539,398.40	101.7	1,047,025.9	105.4	55,785,785.10	111.2	50,116,888.30	134.3
Funabashi		54	39,486	731	20.5	69,400,856.15	110.4	1,285,201.0	114.5	68,869,601.15	118.8	63,415,478.35	144.8
Oi		99	60,294	609	9.4	168,101,715.81	116.2	1,697,997.1	112.7	166,636,376.31	121.0	153,195,591.31	148.3
Kawasaki		63	97,701	1,551	26.0	86,934,742.22	116.4	1,379,916.5	118.2	85,531,865.42	124.3	78,158,099.92	150.8
Kanazawa		87	44,407	510	20.7	26,819,995.7	132.1	308,275.8	127.5	26,201,286.0	142.7	25,733,572.6	158.3
Kasamatsu		93	33,546	361	37.3	35,005,160.9	135.8	376,399.6	132.9	34,554,538.2	137.0	31,996,956.8	154.8
Nagoya		109	86,004	789	58.6	54,574,543.2	143.3	500,683.9	142.0	53,479,099.6	146.8	50,251,412.8	166.1
Hyogo	Sonoda	151	123,005	815	36.1	99,302,220.2	132.8	657,630.6	143.3	97,375,214.1	152.1	92,430,437.6	171.4
	Himeji	12	22,384	1,865	—	5,387,585.5	—	—	—	5,131,649.1	—	4,313,728.3	—
Hyogo Total		163	145,389	892	39.5	104,689,805.7	140.0	642,268.7	140.0	102,506,863.2	148.4	96,744,165.9	166.2
Kochi		109	33,745	310	42.8	71,327,467.7	143.7	654,380.4	142.4	70,795,679.9	144.6	69,359,263.3	149.6
Saga		108	131,214	1,215	45.2	43,505,805.6	145.2	402,831.5	146.6	42,549,784.6	157.1	40,569,145.8	172.1
Grand Total		1,298	975,159	751	30.0	863,225,443.18	128.0	665,042.7	126.2	851,209,224.28	132.6	793,781,893.98	153.9

An asterisk (\*) indicates that a racecourse conducts Ban-ei draft races

## Graded Race by Local Governments in 2020

No.	Race name	Racecourse	Date	Age/Sex	Surface & Distance(m)	Assigning Weights	1st purse	Total purse	Winner	Turnover
							(yen)	(yen)		(yen)
1	Tokyo Daishoten (G1)	Oi	Dec. 29	3up	D2000	Weight for Age	80,000,000	136,000,000	Omega Perfume*	6,074,447,400
total							80,000,000	136,000,000		6,074,447,400

## Listed Races by Local Governments in 2020

No.	Race name	Racecourse	Date	Age/Sex	Surface & Distance(m)	Assigning Weights	1st purse	Total purse	Winner	Turnover
							(yen)	(yen)		(yen)
1	TCK Jo-o Hai	Oi	Jan. 22	4up f/m	D1800	Special Weight	22,000,000	37,400,000	Madras Check*	730,746,800
2	Kawasaki Kinen	Kawasaki	Jan. 29	4up	D2100	Weight for Age	60,000,000	102,000,000	Chuha Wizard*	1,354,491,000
3	Saga Kinen	Saga	Feb. 11	4up	D2000	Special Weight	23,000,000	34,500,000	Namura Kametaro*	640,753,500
4	Empress Hai	Kawasaki	Mar. 5	4up f/m	D2100	Special Weight	35,000,000	59,500,000	Andes Queen*	576,739,100
5	Kurofune Sho	Kochi	Mar. 10	4up	D1400	Special Weight	21,000,000	31,500,000	Raptus*	430,625,200
6	Diolite Kinen	Funabashi	Mar. 11	4up	D2400	Weight for Age	32,000,000	54,400,000	Another Truth*	720,669,200
7	Nagoya Daishoten	Nagoya	Mar. 12	4up	D1900	Special Weight	21,000,000	33,600,000	Lord Golazo*	500,374,000
8	Marine Cup	Funabashi	Apr. 2	3up f/m	D1600	Special Weight	25,000,000	42,500,000	Salsa Dione	649,910,200
9	Tokyo Sprint	Oi	Apr. 8	4up	D1200	Special Weight	27,000,000	45,900,000	Justin*	985,092,500
10	Kakitsubata Kinen	Nagoya	May 4	4up	D1400	Handicap	22,000,000	37,400,000	Raptus*	629,379,300
11	Kashiwa Kinen	Funabashi	May 5	4up	D1600	Weight for Age	60,000,000	102,000,000	Wide Pharaoh*	1,896,721,600
12	Hyogo Championship	Sonoda	May 6	3yo	D1870	Weight for Age	30,000,000	48,000,000	Barnard Loop*	736,223,700
13	Sakitama Hai	Urawa	May 27	4up	D1400	Special Weight	31,000,000	52,700,000	Nobo Baccara*	687,646,500
14	Hokkaido Sprint Cup	Mombetsu	June 4	3up	D1200	Special Weight	22,000,000	37,400,000	Meisho Iron	540,964,400
15	Kanto Oaks	Kawasaki	June 10	3yo f	D2100	Weight for Age	32,000,000	54,400,000	Reine Blanche*	1,020,625,100
16	Teio Sho	Oi	June 24	4up	D2000	Weight for Age	60,000,000	102,000,000	Chrysoberyl*	2,929,958,400
17	Japan Dirt Derby	Oi	July 8	3yo	D2000	Weight for Age	45,000,000	76,500,000	Danon Pharaoh*	2,330,330,900
18	Sparkling Lady Cup	Kawasaki	July 15	3up f/m	D1600	Special Weight	25,000,000	42,500,000	Fashionista*	1,083,375,100
19	Mercury Cup	Morioka	July 21	3up	D2000	Special Weight	23,000,000	36,800,000	Master Fencer*	576,038,000
20	Cluster Cup	Morioka	Aug. 10	3up	D1200	Special Weight	23,000,000	36,800,000	Matera Sky*	946,923,400
21	Summer Champion	Saga	Aug. 12	3up	D1400	Handicap	23,000,000	34,500,000	Savvy*	523,435,600
22	Breeders' Gold Cup	Mombetsu	Aug. 13	3up f/m	D2000	Special Weight	31,000,000	52,700,000	Princia Cometa*	728,364,700
23	Tele Tama Hai Oval Sprint	Urawa	Sep. 22	3up	D1400	Special Weight	21,000,000	35,700,000	Success Energy*	676,169,200
24	Hakusan Daishoten	Kanazawa	Sep. 29	3up	D2100	Special Weight	21,000,000	31,500,000	Master Fencer*	502,734,500
25	Nippon TV Hai	Funabashi	Sep. 30	3up	D1800	Special Weight	32,000,000	54,400,000	Lord Bless*	974,368,200
26	Tokyo Hai	Oi	Oct. 7	3up	D1200	Special Weight	35,000,000	59,500,000	Justin*	796,433,400
27	Ladies' Prelude	Oi	Oct. 8	3up f/m	D1800	Special Weight	31,000,000	52,700,000	Marche Lorraine*	642,452,200
28	Mile Championship Nambu Hai	Morioka	Oct. 12	3up	D1600	Weight for Age	50,000,000	80,000,000	Arctos*	1,774,919,400
29	Edelweiss Sho	Mombetsu	Oct. 15	2yo f	D1200	Weight for Age	20,000,000	34,000,000	Solo Unit	451,493,900
30	JBC Classic	Oi	Nov. 3	3up	D2000	Weight for Age	80,000,000	136,000,000	Chrysoberyl*	2,991,791,200
31	JBC Sprint	Oi	Nov. 3	3up	D1200	Weight for Age	60,000,000	102,000,000	Sabuno Junior	2,047,129,900
32	JBC Ladies' Classic	Oi	Nov. 3	3up f/m	D1800	Weight for Age	41,000,000	69,700,000	Fashionista*	1,296,549,200
33	JBC Nisai Yushun	Mombetsu	Nov. 3	2yo	D1800	Weight for Age	30,000,000	51,000,000	Lucky Dream	974,898,000
34	Urawa Kinen	Urawa	Nov. 25	3up	D2000	Special Weight	35,000,000	59,500,000	Danon Pharaoh*	585,818,200
35	Hyogo Junior Grand Prix	Sonoda	Dec. 2	2yo	D1400	Weight for Age	25,000,000	40,000,000	Dualist*	467,663,500
36	Queen Sho	Funabashi	Dec. 3	3up f/m	D1800	Handicap	21,000,000	35,700,000	Salsa Dione	810,403,600
37	Nagoya Grand Prix	Nagoya	Dec. 10	3up	D2500	Special Weight	32,000,000	54,400,000	Master Fencer*	550,456,700
38	Zen-Nippon Nisai Yushun	Kawasaki	Dec. 16	2yo	D1600	Weight for Age	42,000,000	71,400,000	Alain Barows	1,243,499,500
39	Hyogo Gold Trophy	Sonoda	Dec. 23	3up	D1400	Handicap	25,000,000	40,000,000	Success Energy*	537,039,000
Total							1,294,000,000	2,162,500,000		38,543,207,800

An asterisk (\*) indicates that the horse is registered with JRA.



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