

United States General Accounting Office Washington, D.C. 20548

General Government Division

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May 7, 1992

The Honorable Robert C. Byrd Chairman, Committee on Appropriations United States Senate



146561

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This letter responds to your recent request for information on the extent that federal agencies support federal fitness facilities with appropriated funds. The enclosed information was derived from audit work we performed in connection with our recently issued report to Congressman Scott Klug entitled FEDERAL WORKFORCE: Agencies' Procurements of Private Health Club Services (GAO/GGD-92-66, Apr. 7, 1992). See enclosure 1. In the context of this letter, the term "federal fitness facilities" refers to federally owned or federally sponsored physical fitness facilities, excluding the procurements of private health club services reported to Congressman Klug. Federal fitness facilities provide equipment and services beyond just lockers and showers.

As part of our work for Congressman Klug, we sent a questionnaire to 80 federal departments and agencies asking them a variety of questions regarding the use of private and federal health club facilities. Enclosure 2 lists these 80 departments and agencies. Overall, 77 departments and agencies, 96 percent, responded to our questionnaire. Of these, 40 departments and agencies reported that they support federal fitness facilities with federal appropriations. 40 departments and agencies employed about 1.25 million federal civilian employees and reported supporting 653 federal fitness facilities. Enclosure 3 lists the agencies that said they support federal fitness facilities along with information they reported on (1) the total number of agency employees, (2) an estimated percentage of employees who use federal fitness facilities, and (3) the number of federal fitness facilities that each agency reported supporting. Although, we did not verify the accuracy of the questionnaire responses provided by the departments and agencies, we reconciled any apparent inconsistencies in the reported data.

GAO/GGD-92-10R Federal Fitness Facilities

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Twenty-five of the 40 departments and agencies reported the following operating cost information associated with supporting federal fitness facilities:

- -- Seven agencies required employees to pay the total cost.
- -- Nine agencies paid the total cost.
- -- Nine agencies shared the cost with the employees.

Enclosure 4 identifies on a per employee basis the membership costs paid either by the agency or the employee at the agency's main or largest federal fitness facility. The membership costs reflect the facility's normal operating costs and do not include any capital startup or improvement costs. We are unable to provide the total cost information (agency cost per employee multiplied by the number of participating employees) because we asked agencies to report only the costs associated with the agencies' primary fitness facility. Conceivably, agency costs per employee at other facilities could be more or less expensive.

If I can be of further assistance or if you have any questions, I can be reached at (202) 275-5074.

Sincerely yours,

Bernard L. Ungar

Director, Federal Human Resource

Management Issues

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Enclosures - 4

ENCLOSURE 2 ENCLOSURE 2

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES SURVEYED

Civilian Departments

Agriculture
Commerce
Education
Energy
Health and Human Services
Housing and Urban Development
Interior
Justice
Labor
State
Transportation
Treasury
Veterans Affairs

Defense Departments

Air Force Army Navy

Defense Agencies

Defense Contract Audit Agency
Defense Information Systems
Defense Investigative Service
Defense Logistics Agency
Defense Mapping Agency
Defense Nuclear Agency
Office of the Secretary of
Defense
National Security Agency

Independent Civilian Agencies

Workforce of 6,000 or more employees

ACTION
Central Intelligence Agency
Consumer Product Safety Commission
Environmental Protection Agency
Farm Credit Administration
Federal Communications Commission
Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation
Federal Reserve System
General Services Administration
U.S. Information Agency
National Aeronautics and Space
Administration

Workforce under 6,000 employees

Agency for International Development Arms Control and Disarmament Commodities Futures Trading Commission Equal Employment Opportunity Commission Executive Office of the President Export Import Bank Federal Election Commission Federal Emergency Management Agency Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Federal Labor Relations Authority Federal Maritime Commission Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service Federal Trade Commission International Trade Commission Interstate Commerce Commission Merit Systems Protection Board National Archives and Records Administration National Credit Union Administration National Endowment for the Arts National Endowment for the Humanities National Gallery of Art National Labor Relations Board Nuclear Regulatory Commission National Science Foundation National Transportation Safety Board Office of the Federal Inspector, Alaska Natural Gas Transportation Office of Personnel Management Peace Corps Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation Railroad Retirement Board Securities and Exchange Commission Selective Service System Small Business Administration Smithsonian Institution U.S. Soldiers and Airmens Home Tennessee Valley Authority Voice of America

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ENCLOSURE 2 ENCLOSURE 2

Independent Civilian Agencies

Workforce under 100 employees

Commission on Civil Rights
Federal Retirement Thrift
Investment Board
National Mediation Board
Occupational Safety and Health Review
Commission
Office of Government Ethics
Office of Special Counsel
Overseas Private Investment
Corporation
Postal Rate Commission

ENCLOSURE 3 ENCLOSURE 3

Employee Use of Federal Fitness Facilities

Federal department/agency	Total number of agency employees	Total estimated percentage who use federal fitness facilities	Total number of federal fitness facilities
Civilian departments			
Agriculture	111,632	9.4	7
Commerce b	3,300	21.2	1
Education (Exclusive of the OIG)	4,933	3.5	1
Education: OIG	300	40.0	1
Energy	18,056	14.0	23
Health and Human Services	123,000	4.8	19
Housing and Urban Development	13,838	6.7	2
Interior	68,800	a	15
Justice	90,000	34.8	214
Labor	18,206	13.6	14
State	10,159	7.0	2
Transportation	10,000b	20.0	2 ^b
Treasury	157,256	7.0	80
Veterans Affairs	256,145	3.3	77
Subtotal	885,625		458
Defense departments			
Army	205,553	a	117
Subtotal	205,553		117
Defense agencies			
Defense Contract Audit Agency	6,000		1
Defense Investigative Service ^c	3,793	1.9	1
Defense Logistics Agency	56,000	17.0	10

ENCLOSURE 3 ENCLOSURE 3

· Federal department/agency	Total number of agency employees	Total estimated percentage who use federal fitness facilities	Total number of federal fitness facilities
Defense Mapping Agency	8,072	12.0	4
National Security Agency	•	4	2
Subtotal	73,865		18
Independent civilian agencies			
Consumer Product Safety Commission	500		1
Environmental Protection Agency	19,055		10
Executive Office of the President	1,748	33.0	1
Farm Credit Administration	553	10.0	1 ^b
Federal Emergency Management Agency		4	1
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission	1,377 ^b	8	1 ^b
Federal Labor Relations Authority	257	3.5	1
Federal Reserve System	1,500	60.0	1
General Services Administration	21,125	10.0	16
U.S. Information Agency	4	ā	1 ^b
Interstate Commerce Commission	624		1
Merit Systems Protection Board	310	9.0	3
National Aeronautics and Space Administration	24,566	14.0	11
National Science Foundation	1293	10.0	1
Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission	84	19.0	1
Office of Personnel Management	6,063	5.1	3

ENCLOSURE 3 ENCLOSURE 3

Federal department/agency	Total number of agency employees	Total estimated percentage who use federal fitness facilities	Total number of federal fitness facilities
Overseas Private Investment Corporation	155	35.0	1
Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	550	35.0	1
Railroad Retirement Board	1,768	4	3
Smithsonian Institution	6,800	a	1
Subtotal	88,328		60
Total	1,253,371		653

^{*}The agency did not report or was unable to provide an estimate.

SOURCE: Agency responses to GAO questionnaire.

bThe agency reported data for Washington, D.C., metropolitan area only.

^cThe agency reported data only for facilities and employees outside the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area.

ENCLOSURE 4 ENCLOSURE 4

Annual Membership Costs Reported by Federal Departments and Agencies for Their Main or Largest Federal Fitness Facility

	Share of the total annual membership costs of agency's main or largest federal physical fitness facility	
Federal department/agency	Paid by the Employees	Paid by the agency, per capita
Costs paid by the employee		
Commerce	\$156.00	
Energy	150.00	
Executive Office of the President	208.00	
Housing and Urban Development	104.00 to 208.00 a	
Justice	182.00	
National Science Foundation	25.00	
Overseas Private Investment Corporation	60.00	
Costs paid by the agency		
Defense Mapping Agency		\$5.00
Federal Reserve System		34.10
General Services Administration		55.00
National Aeronautics and Space Administration		56.00
National Security Agency		89.09
Merit Systems Protection Board		40.00
Railroad Retirement Board		715.00
Transportation		b
Treasury		70.00

ENCLOSURE 4 ENCLOSURE 4

·	Share of the total annual membership costs of agency's main or largest federal physical fitness facility			
Federal department/agency	Paid by the Employees	Paid by the agency, per capita		
Costs paid by the employee and the agency, per capita				
Federal Emergency Management Agency	\$96.00	\$429.00		
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission	63.07	23.89		
Federal Labor Relations Authority	190.00	335.00		
Education (Exclusive of the OIG)	180.00	345.00		
Health and Human Services	96.00	429.00		
Interior	180.00	180.00		
Labor	100.00	132.84		
State	200.00	307.00		
Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	104.00	556.00		

^{*}Housing and Urban Development reported a range of costs paid by their Headquarters' employees according to their salary level

SOURCE: Agency responses to GAO questionnaire.

bTransportation does not collect information centrally about fitness centers in field locations. It reported 2 federal fitness facilities within Washington, D.C. and has a total annual membership cost of \$25,000.