Extract of the 2025 White Paper on Fire Service

Materials created by the Fire and Disaster Management Agency were extracted and translated by the International Fire Service Information Center

The Fire and Disaster Management Agency (FDMA)

Extract of the 2025 White Paper on Fire Service
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Attachment 1-1-2 Extent of fire damage by prefecture */Japanese original P.5 (Attachment)* **40**

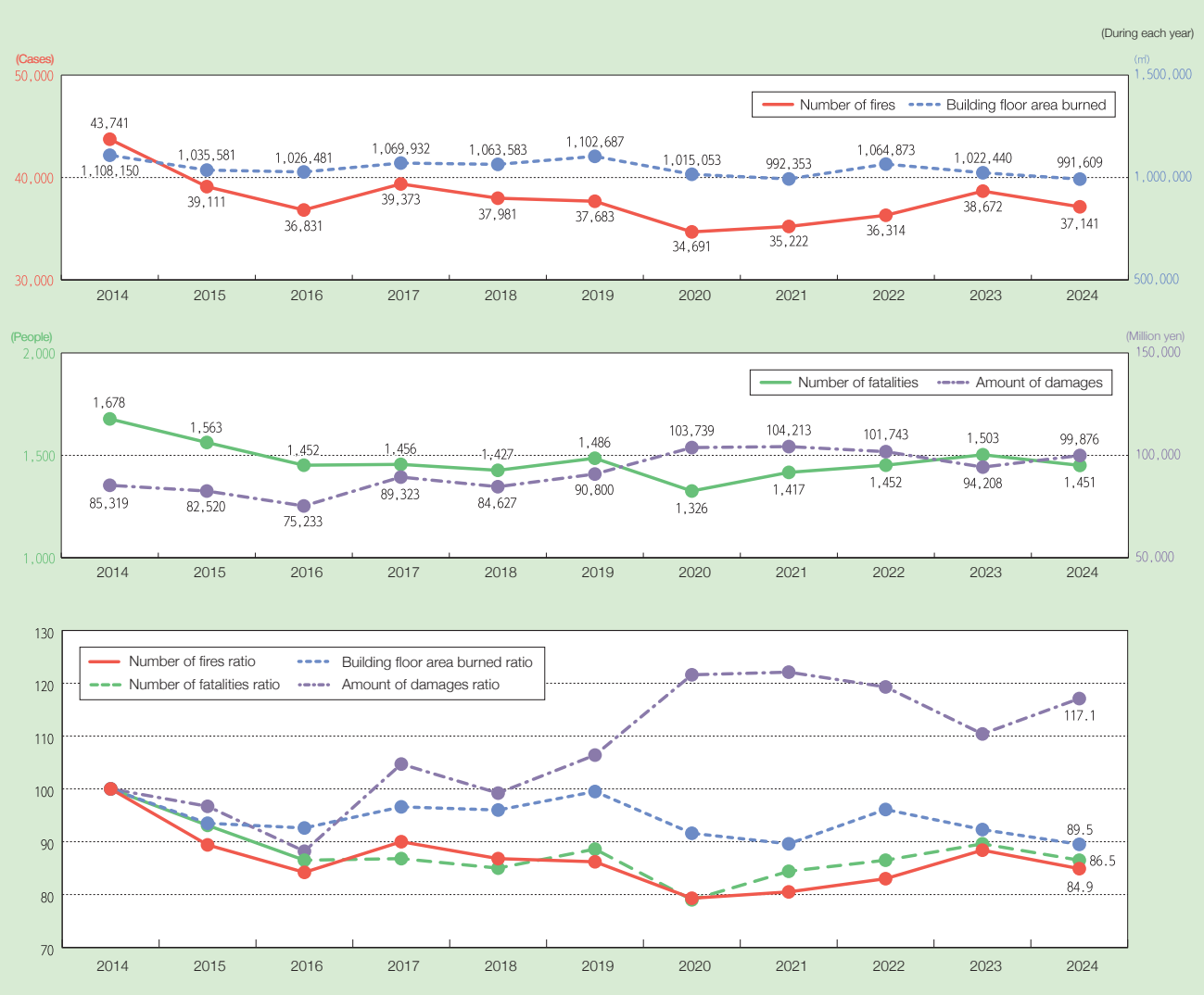
Section 1 Fire Prevention

☞ *Japanese Original P.3*

Current Status and Recent Trends with Fires

Looking at the number of fires nationwide each year, there has been a long-term downward trend, but in recent years it has generally remained flat. The number of fires that occurred in 2024 totaled 37,141 (a decrease of 1,531, or 4.0% year-on-year (YoY)), or 80.4% of the 48,095 fires that occurred ten years prior (2014). The number of fatalities from fires in 2024 was 1,451 (a decrease of 52, or 3.5% YoY), or 86.5% of the 1,678 fatalities of ten years ago (2014).(**Fig.1-1-1**, **Attachment 1-1-9**, untranslated)

Fig. 1-1-1 Changes in the number of fires and their trends



(Notes) 1 Prepared based on “Fire Reports”.
2 The figures for each year are calculated from fires that occurred between January and December. The same holds true in this section hereinafter unless otherwise noted.
3 See the left axis for the number of fires, number of fatalities, number of fires ratio, building floor area burned ratio, number of fatalities ratio, and amount of damages ratio, and the right axis for the building floor area burned and the amount of damages.
4 The number of fires ratio, building floor area burned ratio, number of fatalities ratio, and amount of damages ratio are ratios found by taking the values from 2014 to be 100.

–omitted–

☞ Japanese Original P.14

Current Status of Fire Prevention Administration

1 Current Status of Residential Fire Alarm Installation

The Fire Service Act (Act No. 186 of 1948) and municipal ordinances require the installation of residential fire alarms, and fire departments nationwide are working with volunteer fire corps, women's (female) firefighting clubs, voluntary disaster prevention organizations to ensure that they are installed and maintained. As of June 1, 2025, the nationwide installation rate*1 was 84.9% and the ordinance compliance rate*2 was 65.8%. When viewed by prefecture, Fukui Prefecture had the highest installation rate, and the highest ordinance compliance rate. (**Attachment 1-1-51**, untranslated)

2 Fire Prevention Properties

The Fire Service Act defines the primary properties that are subject to fire prevention administration, such as architectural structures, as "fire prevention properties." It also mandates the establishment of personnel structures for fire prevention, the installation of fire protection equipment, etc.*3 and the use of flame retardant materials at those fire prevention properties listed in Appended Table I of the Order of Enforcement for the Fire Service Act according to their purpose, size, and so forth.

As of March 31, 2025, the number of fire prevention properties throughout Japan totaled 4,300,869 (this number is from the Survey on the Actual Conditions of Fire Prevention Properties (targeting those fire prevention properties listed in Appended Table I of the Order of Enforcement for the Fire Service Act that are listed in (1) through (16-3) and have a total area of 150m^2 or larger, and those listed in (17) through (19)); the same hereinafter).

Moreover, the number of fire prevention properties in the 21 major cities (special wards of Tokyo and ordinance-designated cities) was 1,240,280, accounting for 28.8% of the total number of fire prevention properties throughout Japan. Those properties that are particularly concentrated in urban areas include underground malls (86.2% of the national total), semi-underground malls*4 (83.3% of the national total), stores engaged in sex-related businesses, etc. (61.6% of the national total). (**Table 1-1-1**)

3 Fire Prevention Management System

(1) Fire Prevention Managers

The Fire Service Act requires that people with management authority for fire prevention properties that contain large numbers of people (hereinafter referred to as "management officials" in this section) appoint fire prevention managers*5 who form the core of voluntary fire prevention management structures, and to have them perform operations necessary for fire prevention management that stipulate the implementation of firefighting, reporting, and evacuation drills.

As of March 31, 2025, the number of fire prevention properties that were legally required to establish fire prevention management structures and appoint fire prevention managers totaled 1,059,384 nationwide. Of these, 895,684 properties, which corresponds to 84.5%, have appointed fire prevention managers and notified firefighting agencies to this effect.

Additionally, the number of fire prevention properties where the fire prevention manager has prepared a fire prevention plan for fire prevention management*6 in order to carry out proper fire prevention management operations at their own office and notified firefighting agencies to this effect was 847,761, or 80.0% of the total number of properties. (**Attachment 1-1-52**, untranslated)

(2) Supervisors of Fire Prevention Management

For properties like high-rise buildings (buildings that are taller than 31m high), underground malls, semi-underground malls, and other specified properties subject to fire prevention measures*7 at or above a certain size where management authority has been divided up, the Fire Service Act stipulates that each management official must appoint a supervisors of fire prevention management through consultation to carry out fire safety management in an integrated manner, thereby establishing fire safety for the entire fire prevention property.

As of March 31, 2025, the number of fire prevention properties that were required to appoint supervisors of fire prevention management totaled 90,359 nationwide. Of these, 63,468, or 70.2%, have appointed supervisors of fire prevention management and notified firefighting agencies to this effect.

Furthermore, the number of fire prevention properties that have prepared overall fire prevention plans in order to carry out fire prevention management for the building as a whole in an integrated manner, and that have notified firefighting agencies to this effect was 61,718, or 68.3%

*1 The installation rate: The share of households that have installed residential fire alarms in at least one location of the sections of their home in which they are obligated to do so by municipal fire prevention ordinances (including households that are exempt from installing residential fire alarms on account of having installed fire alarm systems, etc.) out of the total number of households.

*2 The ordinance compliance rate: The share of households that have installed residential fire alarms in every section of their home in which they are obligated to do so by municipal fire prevention ordinances (including households that are exempt from installing residential fire alarms on account of having installed fire alarm systems, etc.) out of the total number of households.

*3 Fire protection equipment, etc.: Equipment for extinguishing fires, evacuation, and other fire prevention activities (fire extinguishers, sprinkler systems, automatic fire alarms, fire escape equipment, guide lamps, etc.)

*4 Semi-underground mall: A combination of an underground passage and shops established in the basement of a building that stand in a row facing this underground passage.

*5 Fire prevention managers: People who have been appointed from among those management officials who have certain qualifications, such as having completed a training course on fire prevention management for fire prevention properties, and who are in a managerial or supervisory position where they can appropriately carry out the operations necessary for fire prevention management at said properties.

*6 Fire prevention plan for fire prevention management: These are plans that establish matters which are necessary for fire prevention management.

*7 Specified properties subject to fire prevention measures: Certain properties under fire prevention measures that include department stores, restaurants, and other properties that can accommodate large numbers of people, as well as hospitals, nursing homes for the elderly, kindergartens, and other properties used by people who would require assistance during a disaster.

Table 1-1-1 Number of fire prevention properties

(As of March 31, 2025)

Classification of fire prevention properties			Nationwide	21 major cities	Percentage (%)
(1)	a	Theaters, etc.	4,503	630	14.0
	b	Public halls, etc.	62,617	6,279	10.0
(2)	a	Cabarets, etc.	700	143	20.4
	b	Game centers, etc.	7,332	1,307	17.8
	c	Stores engaged in sex-related businesses, etc.	151	93	61.6
	d	Karaoke box and stores, etc.	2,004	521	26.0
(3)	a	Restaurants, etc.	2,064	381	18.5
	b	Eating and drinking houses	84,340	17,746	21.0
(4)	Department stores, etc.		156,649	28,605	18.3
(5)	a	Hotels, etc.	59,807	8,539	14.3
	b	Apartment houses, etc.	1,420,193	556,783	39.2
(6)	a	(1) Hospitals where patients require assistance for evacuation	5,262	997	18.9
		(2) Clinics with 19 beds or less where patients require assistance for evacuation	2,394	467	19.5
		(3) Hospitals(not including those listed in (1)), Clinics with 19 beds or less(not including those listed in (2)) and maternity homes with beds	9,102	2,206	24.2
		(4) Clinics with no in-patient capacity, maternity homes without beds	47,664	9,268	19.4
		Subtotal	64,422	12,938	20.1
	b	(1) Short-term welfare facilities for the elderly	48,395	9,661	20.0
		(2) Shelters	235	42	17.9
		(3) Nurseries	132	29	22.0
		(4) Welfare facilities for disabled children	485	84	17.3
		(5) Support facilities for the disabled	9,204	1,641	17.8
		Subtotal	58,451	11,457	19.6
	c	(1) Elderly daycare centers, etc.	22,692	3,995	17.6
		(2) Rehabilitation facilities	240	41	17.1
(6)	c	(3) Nursery schools, etc.	39,661	8,992	22.7
		(4) Child development support centers, etc.	5,878	1,014	17.3
		(5) Welfare centers for disabled persons, etc.	27,591	4,950	17.9
		Subtotal	96,062	18,992	19.8
	d	Kindergartens, etc.	14,517	3,725	25.7
(7)	Schools		123,337	28,003	22.7
(8)	Libraries, etc.		7,640	884	11.6
(9)	a	Special bathhouses	1,396	635	45.5
	b	General bathhouses	3,486	730	20.9
(10)	Railroad depots		3,889	1,431	36.8
(11)	Temples and shrines, etc.		58,795	12,444	21.2
(12)	a	Factories, etc.	476,002	69,271	14.6
	b	Studios	422	138	32.7
(13)	a	Parking lots, etc.	52,717	13,590	25.8
	b	Aircraft hangars	1,010	89	8.8
(14)	Warehouses		342,917	53,045	15.5
(15)	Offices, etc.		509,697	112,398	22.1
(16)	a	Specified multipurpose fire prevention properties	389,530	149,348	38.3
	b	Unspecified multipurpose fire prevention properties	284,895	127,992	44.9
(16-2)	Underground malls		58	50	86.2
(16-3)	Semi-underground malls		6	5	83.3
(17)	Cultural properties		9,997	1,616	16.2
(18)	Arcades		1,263	472	37.4
(19)	Mountain forests		0	0	–
Total			4,300,869	1,240,280	28.8

(Notes) 1 Prepared based on the Survey on the Actual Conditions of Fire Prevention Properties (targeting those fire prevention properties listed in Appended Table I of the Ordinance of Enforcement for the Fire Service Act that are listed in (1) through (16-3) and have a total area of 150m² or larger, and those listed in (17) through (19); the same hereafter).

2 The 21 major cities refer to the 23 wards of Tokyo and 20 ordinance-designated cities (Sapporo City, Sendai City, Saitama City, Chiba City, Yokohama City, Kawasaki City, Sagamihara City, Niigata City, Shizuoka City, Hamamatsu City, Nagoya City, Kyoto City, Osaka City, Sakai City, Kobe City, Okayama City, Hiroshima City, Kitakyushu City, Fukuoka City, and Kumamoto City).

of the total number of properties. (**Attachment 1-1-53**, untranslated)

(3) Periodic Inspection and Reporting System for Fire Prevention Properties

The Fire Service Act mandates that management officials at fire prevention properties with certain purposes or structures have people with expertise in fire prevention (hereinafter referred to as "qualified inspectors of fire prevention properties" in this section) perform inspections and report the inspection results to firefighting agencies once a year.

These qualified inspectors of fire prevention properties consist of people with a certain level of fire prevention knowledge, such as fire protection equipment engineers*8 with three or more years of practical experience in construction work for fire protection equipment, etc., or people with three or more years of practical experience as fire prevention managers. They must also complete a training course offered by a corporation that has been registered by the Minister of Internal Affairs and Communications, and have been issued a certificate attesting that they have acquired the necessary knowledge and skills regarding inspections for fire prevention properties.

As of March 31, 2025, the number of such inspectors totaled 37,271.

In addition, fire prevention properties for which periodic

*8 Fire protection equipment engineer: A person with expert knowledge of fire protection equipment etc. who has been issued a fire protection equipment engineer certification.

inspection reports have been mandated and for which three years have passed since the start of management are exempted from the obligation of inspections and reports for three years if they are certified as being in good compliance with the standards of the Fire Service Act through an inspection conducted by a firefighting agency on the basis of an application from the management officials from said fire prevention property.

Fire prevention properties that have been acknowledged as being in compliance with the inspection standards by a qualified inspector of fire prevention properties may display a "Fire Prevention Standard Inspection Certificate of Completion." Those that have been acknowledged as having excellent compliance with the standards in fire prevention laws and ordinances by firefighting agencies may display a "Fire Prevention Certificate of Excellence."

4 Disaster Prevention Management System

(1) Disaster Prevention Managers

In order to handle imminent threats such as major earthquakes, the Fire Service Act mandates that those people with authority for the management of large-scale and high-rise buildings and the like are to prepare fire prevention plans for disaster prevention management[*9] suited to earthquakes and other disasters, appoint disaster prevention managers[*10] responsible for emergency preparedness and evacuation drills related to damage specific to earthquakes, and establish fire defense organizations for self-protection[*11] to carry out the necessary operations in order to mitigate damage from fires and other disasters.

As of March 31, 2025, the number of properties under disaster prevention measures that were legally required to establish disaster prevention management systems and appoint disaster prevention managers totaled 10,173 throughout Japan. Of these, 8,728, or 85.8%, have appointed disaster prevention managers and notified firefighting agencies to this effect.

Furthermore, the number of properties under disaster prevention measures at which the disaster prevention manager has prepared firefighting plans for disaster prevention management, in order to carry out the appropriate disaster prevention management operations at their own offices and other establishments, and notified firefighting agencies to this effect was 8,418, or 82.7% of the total. The number of said properties that have established fire defense organizations for self-protection came to 9,243, or 90.9% of the total. (**Attachment 1-1-54**, untranslated)

(2) Supervisors of Disaster Prevention Management

For those properties that require disaster prevention management where management authority has been divided up, the Fire Service Act stipulates that disaster prevention managers are to be appointed to carry out disaster prevention. At the same time, it also stipulates that each management official must appoint supervisors of disaster prevention management through consultation in order to carry out disaster prevention management in an integrated manner and to ensure fire and disaster safety for the disaster prevention property as a whole.

As of March 31, 2025, the number of fire prevention properties that were required to appoint supervisors of disaster prevention management totaled 3,226 nationwide. Of these, 2,743, or 85.0%, have appointed supervisors of disaster prevention management and notified firefighting agencies to this effect.

Furthermore, the number of disaster prevention properties that have prepared firefighting plans for the whole building in order to carry out disaster prevention management for the building as a whole in an integrated manner, and that have notified firefighting agencies to this effect, was 2,552, or 79.1% of the total. (**Attachment 1-1-55**, untranslated)

5 Onsite Inspections and Corrections of Violations

(1) Current Status of Onsite Inspections and Corrections of Violations

Firefighting agencies enter fire prevention properties to perform onsite inspections pursuant to the Fire Service Act when it is necessary to do so for the sake of fire prevention.

The number of times onsite inspections were carried out by firefighting agencies throughout Japan in FY2024 totaled 759,676. (**Attachment 1-1-56**, untranslated)

Fire chiefs or fire station chiefs may order measures that must be taken with respect to deficiencies in fire prevention management at fire prevention properties, such as failure to install fire protection equipment, or other problems brought to light through onsite inspections. Such measures include appointing fire prevention managers and installing fire protection equipment or special fire protection equipment, etc., pursuant to the Fire Service Act.

In addition, in cases where this is recognized as posing a hazard for fire prevention, necessary measures such as repairs, relocation, elimination, as well as prohibition or restriction of use of the relevant fire prevention property may be ordered pursuant to the Fire Service Act. The act also states that in the event that such an order is issued, public notice shall be given.

In cases where violations of fire prevention laws or ordinances are discovered as a result of such onsite inspections, the fire chief or fire station chief works to redress these violations to bring them back into legal compliance, such as by issuing warnings or other remedial instructions, orders, etc. (**Attachment 1-1-57, 58, 59, 60**, untranslated)

*9 Fire prevention plans for disaster prevention management: These are plans that establish matters which are necessary for disaster prevention management.

*10 Disaster prevention managers: People who have been appointed from among those management officials who have certain qualifications, such as having completed a training course on disaster prevention management, and who are in a managerial or supervisory position where they can appropriately carry out the operations necessary for disaster prevention management at disaster prevention properties.

*11 Fire defense organizations for self-protection: These are personal organizations comprised of people like employees at properties under fire prevention measures. They carry out the operations necessary in order to mitigate the damage from fires and other disasters when they occur based on the roles established in the firefighting plan.

Particularly for properties with serious violations,[*12] because of the high risk of fire, the fire chief or fire station chief provides focused corrective guidance based on the seriousness of the violation, and if the corrective guidance is not followed, implements measures such as warnings and orders to have the violation corrected as soon as possible. (**Attachment 1-1-61**, untranslated)

(2) Fire Safety Certification Mark System

This system provides users with information on a building's compliance with laws and ordinances related to fire prevention and construction and hotels, Japanese-style hotels, and other facilities that conform to the standards are allowed to display the mark (silver).

In addition, those hotels and other facilities that have been issued silver display marks for three years in a row and which meet the standards related to laws and ordinances on fire prevention and construction are allowed to display a gold display mark.

Visitors to the FDMA's website can check to confirm hotels that have been issued the Fire Safety Certification Mark throughout Japan (reference URL: https://www.fdma.go.jp/relocation/kasai_yobo/hyoujiseido/).

(3) Initiation of a System for Publicly Announcing Violating Properties

The System for Publicly Announcing Violating Properties is a system for announcing the details of legal violations on the websites of municipal governments based on the ordinances of said municipalities. This is aimed at specified properties under fire prevention measures that have not yet installed indoor fire hydrants, sprinkler systems, or fire alarm systems, despite being obligated to do so.

Information on things like the implementation status of the public announcement system and its scheduled implementation period for municipalities throughout Japan can be confirmed via the FDMA's website (reference URL: https://www.fdma.go.jp/relocation/publication/index.html).

6 Fire Protection Equipment, etc.

(1) Current Status of Fire Prevention Consent

Fire prevention consent is a system that was established with the goal of boosting the safety of buildings by having personnel from firefighting agencies get involved in fire prevention for buildings starting from the design stage in their capacity as experts on fire prevention.

The number of cases processed regarding fire prevention consent work throughout Japan in FY2024 totaled 192,946, with only 9 of these failing to receive consent. (**Attachment 1-1-62**, untranslated)

(2) Current Status of the Installation of Fire Protection Equipment, etc.

The Fire Service Act states that the relevant personnel from fire prevention properties must install and properly maintain the necessary fire protection equipment, etc. according to the purpose, size, structure, and capacity of the property in question.

A look at the installation status of primary fire protection equipment, etc. in specified fire prevention properties throughout Japan reveals that, as of March 31, 2025, the installation rate for sprinkler systems (number installed vs. number that need to be installed) was 99.9%, while the rate for automatic fire alarms was 99.7%. (**Attachment 1-1-63**, untranslated)

With respect to the technical standards pertaining to fire protection equipment, etc., regulations are being successively set in place in accordance with technological progress and societal demands.

Moreover, regarding properties that violate the Fire Service Act, such as a violation of the obligation to install fire protection equipment, etc., the government will proactively issue administrative orders and other measures based on the Fire Service Act to further promote prompt and effective handling of violations.

(3) Fire Protection Equipment Engineers and Fire Protection Equipment Inspectors

Efforts are made to ensure the performance of fire protection equipment, etc. via the inspector system for fire protection machinery and tools. However, if there are deficiencies or defects at the installation stage, then such equipment will be rendered incapable of performing properly when a fire does occur. To prevent such circumstances, the installation and maintenance of certain fire protection equipment, etc. can only be performed by fire protection equipment engineers.

Furthermore, fire protection equipment, etc. must be properly maintained on a daily basis to ensure that it is capable of performing at any time. As a result, it has been mandated that periodic inspections be performed and the inspection results be reported. These inspections, which are a prerequisite for maintenance, require knowledge and skills with regard to fire protection equipment, etc. Therefore, the relevant personnel from fire prevention properties must have fire protection equipment engineers or fire protection equipment inspectors (people who have completed certain training courses offered by corporations that have been registered by the Commissioner of the FDMA and been issued a fire protection equipment inspector certificate) perform the inspections on the fire protection equipment, etc.

Fire protection equipment engineers and fire protection equipment inspectors are mandated to undergo re-training at certain fixed intervals after they have received their license in order for them to acquire new knowledge and skills concerning the fire protection equipment, etc. Moreover, these people will be ordered to return their license or face a similar punishment in the event that they violate any of the fire prevention laws or ordinances.

As of March 31, 2025, the total number of fire protection equipment engineers came to 1,376,123 (**Attachment 1-1-64**, untranslated). In addition, the number of fire protection equipment inspectors totaled 831 special inspectors (for special fire protection equipment, etc.), 176,341 Class 1 inspectors (for mechanical systems) and 165,573 Class 2 inspectors (for electrical systems).

*12 Properties with serious violations: Buildings that are required to have indoor fire hydrant systems, sprinkler systems, or automatic fire alarm systems installed but do not have any such fire protection equipment installed or are in a state where the original function of such equipment is impaired.

(4) Flame Retardancy Regulations

A. Usage Status of Flame Retardant Materials

Fire prevention properties that must give forethought to fire prevention due to their structural features or configuration, such as high-rise buildings and underground malls, as well as fire prevention properties like theaters, hotels, and hospitals that are used by large unspecified numbers of people and people requiring special consideration have been designated as "flame retardancy and fire prevention properties." In these properties, the use of flame-retardant materials for various items that are likely to become ignition sources is very effective in preventing fires from starting and also in controlling the spread of fires in their initial stages. Therefore, the Fire Service Act mandates that these properties use materials with the prescribed flame retardant performance (hereinafter referred to as "flame retardant materials" in this section) for curtains, stage curtains, plywood display boards, carpets, and other goods used (hereinafter referred to as "goods under the flame retardancy requirement" in this section).

As of March 31, 2025, the number of flame retardancy and fire prevention properties totaled 1,091,482. The conformance rate (share of the flame retardancy and fire prevention properties where flame retardant materials are used for all of the goods under the flame retardancy requirements at said properties) at flame retardancy and fire prevention properties using curtains and stage curtains was 87.6%, while it was 88.1% at those using carpets, and 83.5% at those using plywood display boards. (**Attachment 1-1-65**, untranslated)

B. Public Awareness of Flame Retardant Materials for Bedding and Other Goods

Aside from those goods under the flame retardancy requirement stipulated in the Fire Service Act such as curtains and carpets, the use of fireproof materials for futons, pajamas, automobile and motorcycle body covers, etc. is also extremely effective at preventing fires. Therefore, the FDMA spreads public awareness of these by uploading videos detailing their effects to its website (reference URL: https://www.fdma.go.jp/relocation/html/life/yobou_contents/fire_retardant/).

(5) Regulations for Equipment and Tools that Use Fire

From the perspective of fire prevention, the location, construction, management, and handling of equipment and tools that use fire, including home gas burners, stoves, hot-water heaters, fireplaces, and kitchen equipment are regulated via the fire prevention ordinances established by each municipality. These are established pursuant to the Ministerial Ordinance Establishing Standards for Enacting Ordinances on the Location, Construction, and Management of Eligible Equipment that Uses Fire and the Handling of Eligible Tools that Use Fire.

7 Inspection System for Fire Protection Machinery and Tools, etc.

(1) Inspections

According to the Fire Service Act, fire protection machinery or tools that are subject to inspection (hereinafter referred to as "machinery and tools subject to inspection" in this section) are prohibited from being sold, displayed for commercial purposes, and so forth unless they pass inspections and include a label indicating this.

The machinery and tools subject to inspection include the 12 items stipulated in the Order for Enforcement of the Fire Service Act, including fire extinguishers and enclosed sprinkler heads.

These inspections consist of "model approvals" (approval by the Minister of Internal Affairs and Communications indicating that the shape and other factors of the machinery and tools conform with the technical specifications established in ministerial ordinances) and "model compliance inspections" (inspections conducted by Japan Fire Equipment Inspection Institute or registered certification body to confirm that the shape and other factors of the machinery and tools subject to inspection are identical to the shape, etc. for models of said equipment that have received model approval).

Moreover, for machinery and tools subject to inspection with regard to the development of new technologies, inspections can be carried out via the technical specifications established by the Minister of Internal Affairs and Communications for those items that conform to the technical standards established by said ministerial ordinance in terms of their shape, etc. or those acknowledged as having performance that meets or exceeds this level. Through this, the aim is to enhance the inspection system so as to promote technological innovation with machinery and tools subject to inspection.

Based on past cases of misconduct, the Fire Service Act stipulated collection orders by the Minister of Internal Affairs and Communications and penalties within the verification system for the distribution of nonconforming products or machinery and tools subject to verification without conformity marking in the market.

Type approvals in FY2024 included 5 fire extinguishers, 3 fire extinguishing agent for fire extinguishers, 1 fire-extinguishing foam, 36 detectors or transmitters for fire alarm systems, 9 repeaters, 13 receivers, 2 residential fire smoke detectors, 3 enclosed-type sprinkler heads, 10 water flow detecting devices, 1 deluge valve, 3 metallic escape ladder, and 0 descending devices. The total number of products that have passed compliance inspection is 22,497,892. (**Attachment 1-1-66**, untranslated)

(2) Self-labeling

According to the Fire Service Act, manufacturers of machinery and tools that are subject to self-labeling (hereinafter referred to as "machinery and tools subject to self-labeling" in this section) are the responsibility of manufacturers to confirm their compliance with the specifications on their own. The system also gives approval for labeling that have been reported to the Minister of Internal Affairs and Communications in advance. And they are prohibited from being sold, displayed for commercial purposes, and so forth unless they include a label.

Similar to machinery and tools subject to inspection, the Fire Service Act stipulates collection orders via the Minister of Internal Affairs and Communications and penal provisions for machinery and tools subject to self-labeling which are not in compliance with the standards, or which lack labels indicating their compliance.

The machinery and tools subject to self-labeling are six items specified in the Order for Enforcement of the Fire Service Act, including power fire pumps and fire hoses.

The number of reports from manufacturers in FY2024 totaled 6 for power fire pumps, 21 for fire hoses, 0 for fire suction hoses, 8 for couplers, 2 for disposable aerosol fire extinguishers, and 0 for electric leak alarms.

8 Performance Inspections of Technical Standards for Fire Protection Equipment, etc.

When it comes to the technical standards for fire protection equipment, etc., technical development in the fields of fire and other disaster prevention is promoted, and performance regulations are adopted to ensure that even more effective fire prevention and safety measures can be established.

The basic philosophy behind this is to judge whether equipment offers performance that is at or above the level of performance of the installed fire protection equipment, etc. based on the conventional technical standards. Equipment that has been confirmed to be at or above the conventional performance level is approved for installation in place of existing fire protection equipment, etc.

The performance demanded of fire protection equipment, etc. is divided up into three categories. These are "initial spread inhibition performance," which is performance for inhibiting the spread of fires during their initial stages, "evacuation safety support performance," which is performance that supports safe evacuating during fires, and "firefighting activity support performance," which is performance that supports the activities of firefighting teams. For those for which a certain level of knowledge has been obtained, equivalence will be assessed by objective verification methods (methods of objectively and impartially verifying newly developed technologies and technical innovations).

At the same time, a certification system via the Minister of Internal Affairs and Communications has been established aimed at equipment for which evaluations of its equivalence cannot be performed solely through the existing objective verification methods (such as special fire protection equipment, etc.). Under this system, applications are made for each property under fire prevention measures regarding special fire protection equipment, etc. for which general inspection standards have not have established. The Minister of Internal Affairs and Communications will then perform an examination based on the evaluation results from a performance evaluation agency (the Japan Fire Equipment Inspection Institute or a registered inspection body), and equipment that has been acknowledged as having the necessary level of performance can be installed. As of March 31, 2025, 80 cases of special fire protection equipment, etc. have been approved. (**Attachment 1-1-67,** untranslated)

9 Current Status of Investigations into the Causes of Fires

Investigating the causes of fires is unequivocally the role of local governments, but it is the duty of the national government to complement them in this. In cases where there has been a request from a firefighting agency, or the Commissioner of the FDMA has deemed that there is a particular necessity in doing so, an investigation into the causes of a fire can be carried out by the Commissioner of the FDMA.

Investigation teams formed from personnel from the FDMA according to the type of fire carry out the investigations into the causes of the fire through this system in coordination with firefighting agencies. The knowledge and data obtained from the investigations is

Table 1-1-2 Outlines of fire prevention measures based on investigations into the causes of fires conducted by the Commissioner of the FDMA over the past five years

No.	Date of fire	Location	Building purpose, etc.	Outline of fire prevention measures
1	July 5, 2020	Yoshida Town, Haibara District, Shizuoka Prefecture	Factory (9 casualties)	Fire departments nationwide were provided with technical advice to re-examine their safety management systems and re-implement their safety management manuals.
2	December 17, 2021	Osaka City, Osaka Prefecture	Multipurpose building (28 casualties)	Guidelines for evacuation measures for buildings with a single direct staircase (issued by Fire Prevention Division, the FDMA, in December 2022) were developed. The Standard Manual for On-Site Inspections (issued by Fire Prevention Division, the FDMA, on August 30, 2002, and last revised on March 16, 2023) and the Standard Manual for Handling Violations (issued by Fire Prevention Division, the FDMA, on August 30, 2002, and last revised on October 16, 2025) were revised by designating fire prevention objects with a single direct staircase as objects with a high need for fire prevention action.
3	February 11, 2022	Murakami City, Niigata Prefecture	Factory (7 casualties)	Guidelines for training courses on fire prevention and disaster prevention management (issued by Fire Prevention Division, the FDMA, on August 29, 2022, and last revised on January 23, 2023), including thorough safety management of fire equipment, were revised. The Standard Manual for On-Site Inspections (issued by Fire Prevention Division, the FDMA, on August 30, 2002, and last revised on March 16, 2023) and the Standard Manual for Handling Violations (issued by Fire Prevention Division, the FDMA, on August 30, 2002, and last revised on October 16, 2025) were revised to further promote thoroughness in correcting violations, etc.
4	January 1, 2024	Wajima City, Ishikawa Prefecture	Urban area (Number of buildings burned: approx. 240 buildings Burnt area: approx. 49,000 ㎡)	To prevent and mitigate damage from post-earthquake fires, the basic plan for disaster prevention includes propagating the use of seismic breakers, and notices were issued on the promotion of measures for post-earthquake fire prevention.
5	February 26, 2025	Ofunato city, Iwate Prefecture	Forests (Number of buildings burned: 226 Burnt area: approx. 3,370 ha)	To enhance wildfire prevention, a system of wildfire warnings and advisories was established, with an emphasis on issuing accurate notifications. Additionally, it was specified that individuals must report intentions to make a bonfire in advance. Furthermore, the FDMA revised its Disaster Management Operation Plan (originally issued in December 1963 and most recently updated in August 2025). The "Wildfire Prevention and Fire Fighting Operations (Notice)" (Fire and Disaster Prevention No. 206, issued on October 29, 2003, and last revised on August 29, 2025) was also updated.

reflected in policies for fire prevention administration as necessary. A summary of fire prevention measures based on the results of investigations into the causes of fires by the Commissioner of the FDMA in recent years is shown in **Table 1-1-2**.

10 Promoting Countermeasures to Product Fires

In recent years, as the causes of fires have grown extremely diverse, products close to the general public in their daily lives have begun causing fires as well, including electronic appliances, burning appliances, and automobiles and other vehicles. Given strong demand to ensure consumer safety and peace of mind, the FDMA has been strengthening its initiatives to combat fires caused by malfunctioning electrical appliances, burning appliances, and automobiles (hereinafter referred to as "product fires" in this section).

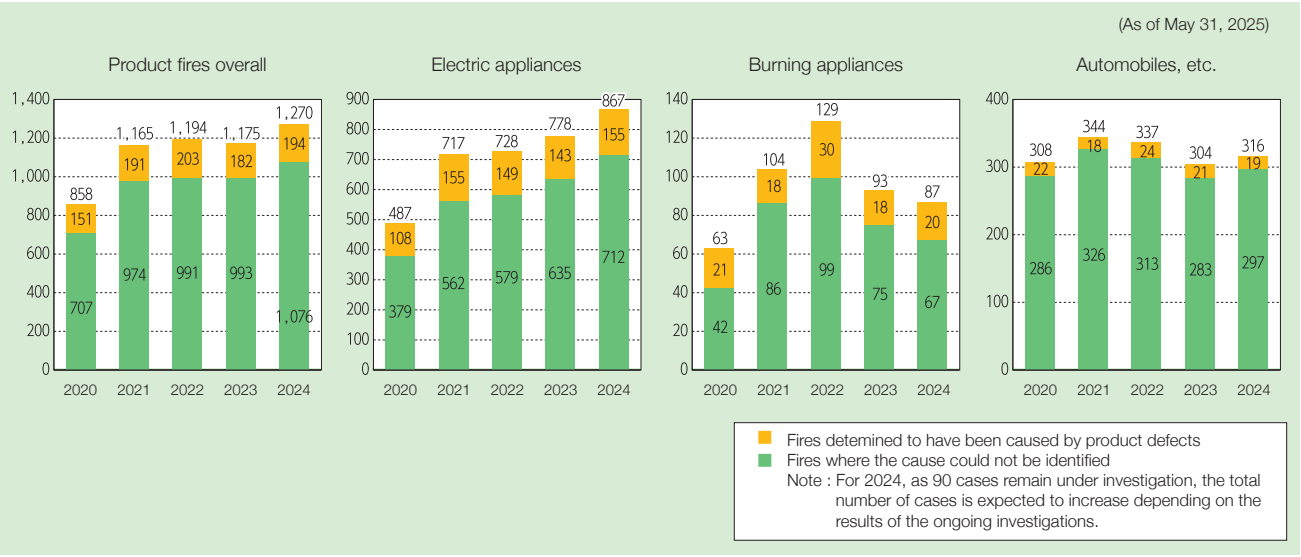
For such fires, the FDMA has established a structure whereby it collects fire information from firefighting agencies in a comprehensive manner and aggregates the number of fires for each type of product which serves as an ignition source. It then provides the public with warnings and alerts quickly and effectively.

Fires caused by electrical appliances, burning appliances, and automobiles during FY2024, which were deemed to have been caused by defects in these products, as well as fires where the cause could not be identified, were aggregated. From this, it was discovered that of the total of 1,270 product fires, 194 were fires deemed to have been caused by product defects, 1,076 were fires that could not be determined to have occurred from a defect in a specified product as the direct cause. (**Fig. 1-1-19**)

The results of these investigations are disseminated to firefighting agencies throughout Japan. Furthermore, the collected fire information is shared between the Consumer Affairs Agency, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, and the National Institute of Technology and Evaluation (NITE), which work together to promote countermeasures to product fires.

With respect to investigations into the causes of fires carried out by firefighting agencies throughout Japan, efforts are also being made to improve the investigation skills of firefighting agencies. Examples of this include providing them with technical support such as scientific investigation based on the expert knowledge, equipment, and materials of the National Research Institute of Fire and Disaster, etc. In addition to working to enhance investigations into the causes of fires and the structures for this, the FDMA also strives to proactively collect information on product fires and strengthen collaborations with relevant agencies. Through this, it is moving forward with ensuring consumer safety and peace of mind, while preventing fire accidents caused by products.

Fig. 1-1-19 Trends in the survey results on product fires over the past five years



(Note) See the FDMA website for details (URL : https://www.fdma.go.jp/mission/prevention/cause/34530.html).

–omitted–

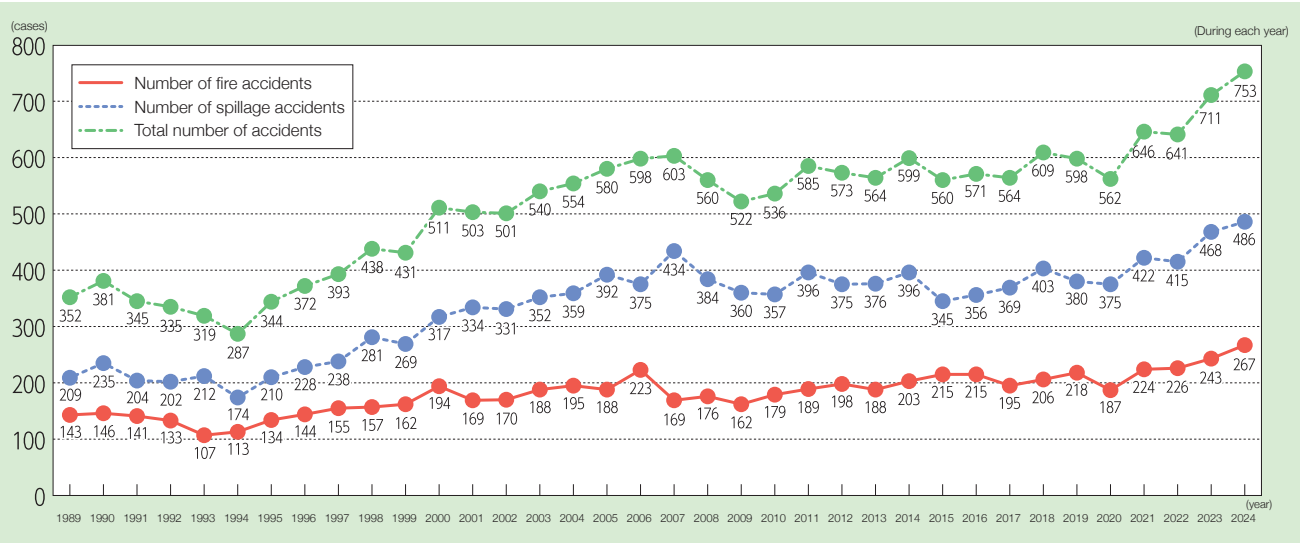
Section 2 Countermeasures to Disasters at Facilities for Hazardous Materials

☞ Japanese Original P.22

Current Status and Recent Trends in Disasters at Facilities for Hazardous Materials

Accidents at facilities for hazardous materials are broadly classified into fires (including explosions) and spills of hazardous materials. In 2024, there were 267 fires and 486 spills for a total of 753 accidents. (**Fig. 1-2-1**)

Fig. 1-2-1 Trends in the number of fire and spillage accidents at facilities for hazardous materials



(Notes) 1 Prepared based on "Overview of the Accident Reports on Hazardous Materials".
2 In order to get a grasp of trends regarding the number of accidents that occur in each year, the number of accidents caused by earthquakes with a seismic intensity of six-lower or greater (since September 1996 this was changed to a seismic intensity of six or greater) is excluded.

1 Fire Accidents

The number of fire accidents that occurred at facilities for hazardous materials in 2024 was 267 (an increase of 24 YoY). Accidents attributable to human factors such as inadequate maintenance and inadequate operating checks account for the majority of the primary causes for these fires. (**Attachment 1-2-1, 2, 3, 4, 5**, untranslated)

2 Spillage Accidents

The number of spillage accidents involving hazardous materials that occurred at facilities for hazardous materials in 2024 was 486 (an increase of 18 YoY). Accidents attributable to physical factors such as corrosion fatigue and other deterioration account for the majority of the causes for these fires. (**Attachment 1-2-6**, **7**, **8**, **9**, untranslated)

☞ Japanese Original P.22

Current Status of Hazardous Materials Administration

1 Regulations on Hazardous Materials

(1) Regulatory Structure for Hazardous Materials

The Fire Service Act (Act No. 186 of 1948) designates substances with properties such as: (1) Carrying a significant risk of causing a fire, (2) Carrying a significant risk of spreading a fire once one starts, and (3) Being difficult to extinguish when a fire does break out, as "hazardous materials." Enacting safety regulations for the storage, handling and transportation of these hazardous materials has been posited as a move that will prevent fires, protect the lives, health, and property of the public from fires, and mitigate the damage from fires. (**Attachment 1-2-10**, **11**, **12**, untranslated)

An overview of the regulations on hazardous materials is shown below.

− Hazardous materials of volumes at or above the designated quantities (the quantity at which authorization is necessary to store or handle a material as designated by the Fire Service Act) cannot be stored or handled at locations other than facilities for hazardous materials.

Persons attempting to establish a facility for hazardous materials must ensure it is in compliance with the standards regarding its location, structure, and equipment specified by law, and receive authorization from the municipal mayor for this.
- The transportation of hazardous materials must be carried out in accordance with the standards for ensuring safety specified by law, regardless of how large or small the quantity is.
- Standards for the storage and handling of hazardous materials in volumes less than the designated quantities are to be established via municipal ordinances.

(2) Hazardous Material Engineers

Hazardous material engineers are classified into three types: Class A, Class B, and Class C. Each class differs in the types of hazardous materials they can handle. When hazardous material engineers or someone else handles hazardous materials at facilities for hazardous materials, a Class A or Class B hazardous material engineer must be present to ensure safety.

As of March 31 2025, the (cumulative) total number of people who have passed the hazardous material engineer test since the hazardous material engineer system was launched came to 10,406,300 people. They play a significant role in ensuring safety at facilities for hazardous materials.

A. Hazardous Material Engineer Tests

Hazardous material engineer tests were held 4,185 times throughout Japan in FY2024 (a decrease of 83 YoY). They were taken by 316,301 people (an increase of 386 YoY), with 122,102 people passing (a decrease of 840 YoY) for an average pass rate of roughly 38.6% (a decrease of 0.3% YoY). (**Fig. 1-2-2**)

When broken down by test type, Class B (category 4) has the largest number of test takers, followed by Class A and Class C, with these three types accounting for approximately 80% of the total.

B. Safety Training Courses

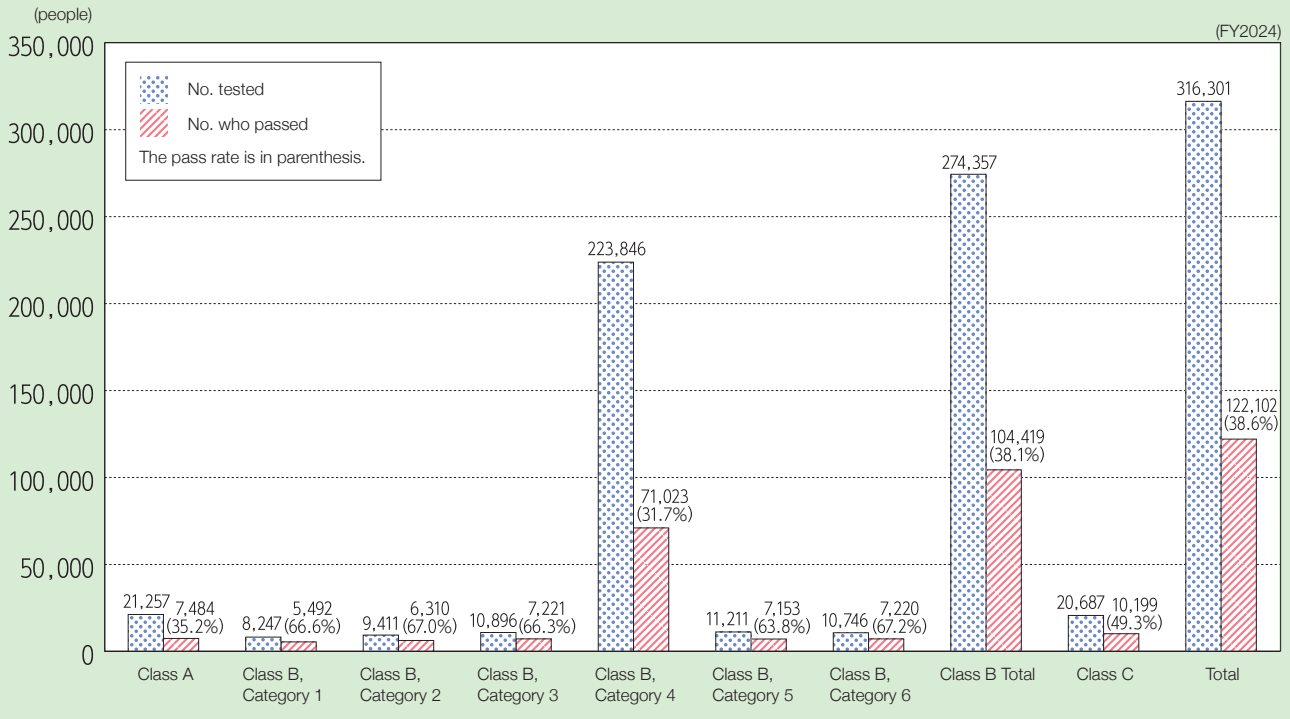
As a general rule, the hazardous material engineers engaged in handling hazardous materials at facilities for hazardous materials must take a safety training course on handling hazardous materials offered by prefectural governors (hereinafter referred to as “safety training course” in this section) every three years.

In FY2024, safety training courses were held a total of 1,479 times throughout Japan (a decrease of 62 YoY), and were attended by 184,998 people (an increase of 3,794 YoY). (**Attachment 1-2-13**, untranslated)

(3) Safety Systems at Offices

In an effort to establish safety systems at business establishments, it has been mandated that the owners of facilities for hazardous materials that store or handle hazardous materials at or above certain quantities must carry out certain obligations. These include the appointment of hazardous materials security superintendents, and the selection of safety officers for facilities for hazardous materials, and the preparation of fire and disaster prevention rules. Moreover, it has been mandated that said business establishments that own certain facilities for hazardous materials and that store or handle hazardous materials at or above certain quantities must establish fire defense organizations for self-protection and appoint hazardous material safety supervising managers.

Fig. 1-2-2 Status of tests for hazardous material engineers



(Note) Prepared based on “The Statistical Table for the Testing and Certification of Hazardous Material Engineer” and “The Fire Protection Engineers by the Japan Fire Engineering Qualification Center”.

(4) Safety Inspections

It has been mandated that the owners of outdoor storage tanks and transfer handling facilities at or over a certain size must undergo inspections regarding the safety of facilities for hazardous materials performed by municipal mayors and similar officials (safety inspections) at regular fixed intervals according to factors like the facility's size.

(5) Onsite Inspections and Orders

Municipal mayors and similar officials can perform onsite inspections of facilities for hazardous materials and other such facilities to ensure that their installation, construction, and establishment of equipment, as well as their storage or handling of hazardous materials, are in compliance with the standards established in the Fire Service Act. These can be carried out when said official deems it necessary to prevent fires caused by the storage or handling of hazardous materials.

In cases where violations of the Fire Service Act are discovered as a result of onsite inspections, municipal mayors and other officials can issue a variety of different orders to the owners of said facilities for hazardous materials. These include orders to comply with regulations on storage and handling, orders to take measures relating to standards for installing, constructing, or establishing equipment, and more. (**Attachment 1-2-14**, untranslated)

2 Securing Petroleum Pipelines

(1) Safety Regulations for the Petroleum Pipeline Business

Regarding those petroleum pipelines which are used to transport petroleum in response to general demand, project licensing, construction plan approval, and safety inspections are conducted to ensure the safety of the pipeline under the Petroleum Pipeline Business Act (Act No. 105 of 1972).

The facilities to which the Petroleum Pipeline Business Act apply currently only include the pipelines transporting airplane fuel to Narita International Airport.

(2) Ensuring the Safety of Petroleum Pipelines

Safety inspections are carried out periodically on the pipelines transporting airplane fuel to Narita International Airport pursuant to the Petroleum Pipeline Business Act. In addition, the business operators must do everything they possibly can to ensure safety, such as having maintenance and inspections carried out in accordance with the technical standards established by law.

–omitted–

Section 3 Countermeasures to Disasters at Petroleum Industrial Complexes

☞ *Japanese Original P.26*

Current Status and Recent Trends in Disasters at Petroleum Industrial Complexes

1 Number of Accidents and Damage

The total number of accidents that occurred at specified business establishments*1 in petroleum industrial complexes and other special disaster prevention areas (hereinafter referred to as "special disaster prevention areas" in this section) in 2024 came to 443, of which 417 were accidents other than caused by earthquakes and tsunamis (hereinafter referred to as "general accidents" in this section), and 26 were accidents caused by earthquakes and tsunamis (hereinafter referred to as "earthquake-induced accidents" in this section).

Looking at trends in the general accidents, the number has been increasing, and in 2024 the total reached 417 (an increase of 22 YoY), the highest on record. (**Fig.1-3-1**)

In 2024 there were 33 general accidents (a decrease of 12 YoY) that resulted in casualties, with 2 deaths (same as the previous year), and 72 injuries (an increase of 47 YoY). No casualties have been reported as a result of earthquake-induced accidents. (**Attachment 1-3-1**, untranslated)

2 Characteristics of Accidents

(1) Number of General Accidents by Type of Accident

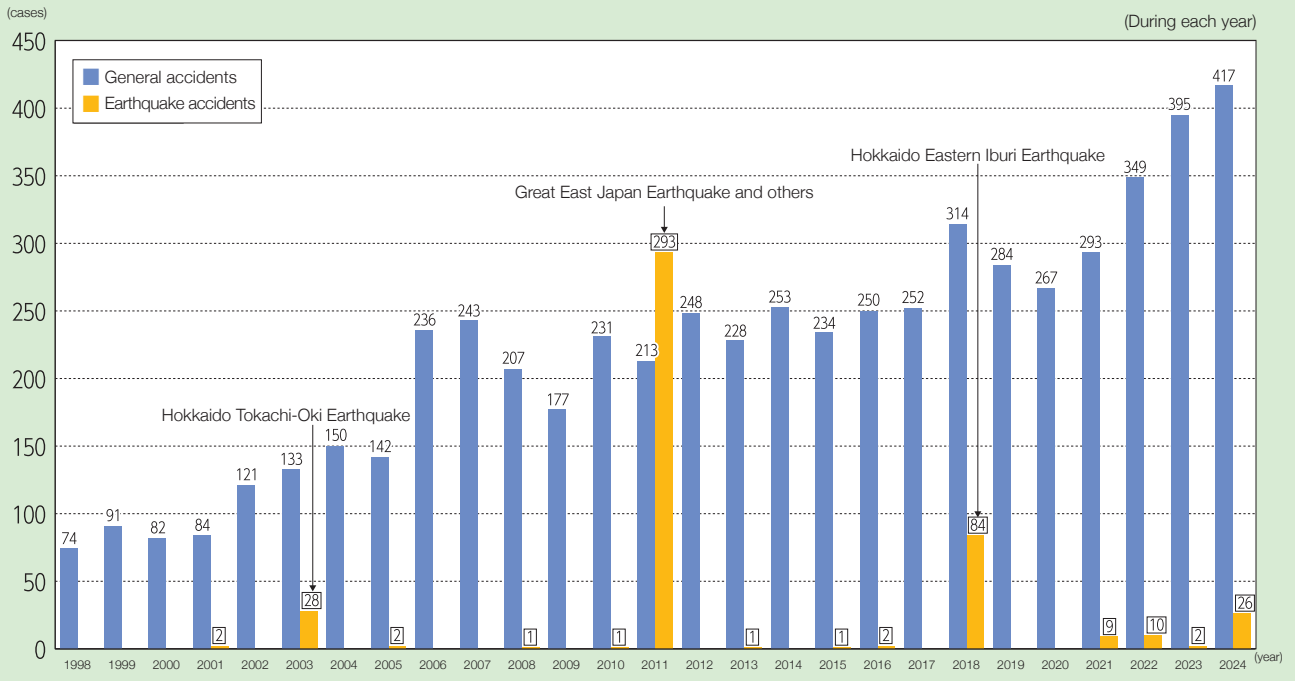
Looking at the number of general accidents by type of accident, it reveals that 138 fires (an increase of 18 YoY), 2 explosions (a decrease of 2 YoY), 270 leaks (an increase of 4 YoY), and 7 other accidents (an increase of 2 YoY). (**Attachment 1-3-2**, untranslated)

(2) Number of General Accidents by Cause of Accident

Looking at the number of general accidents by cause, it reveals that 160 accidents were caused by human factors (an increase of 41 YoY), 233 by physical factors (a decrease of 13 YoY), and 24 by other factors (a decrease of 6 YoY).

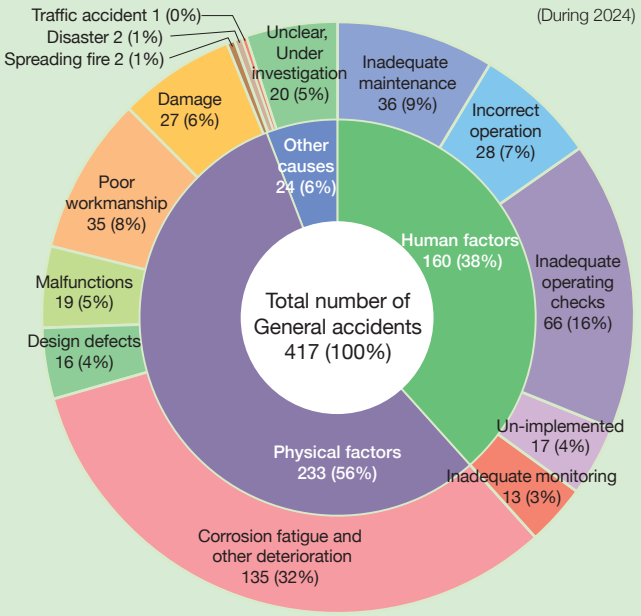
The main causes were 135 cases of corrosion fatigue and other deterioration (a decrease of 10 YoY), 66 cases of inadequate operating checks (an increase of 23 YoY), 36 cases of inadequate maintenance (an increase of 9), and 35 cases of poor workmanship (a decrease of 6 YoY). (**Fig. 1-3-2**)

Fig. 1-3-1 Trends in the number of accidents that occurred at petrochemical complexes



*1 Specified business establishments: These refer to Class 1 business establishments (business establishments where 10,000 kiloliters of petroleum or more are stored or handled, or where 2 million cubic meters of high-pressure gas or more are processed) and Class 2 business establishments (business establishments where 1,000 kiloliters of petroleum or more are stored or handled, or where 200,000 cubic meters of high-pressure gas or more are processed).

Fig. 1-3-2 Number of General Accidents by Cause of Accident



(Note) Digits in the first decimal place were rounded off, so in some cases the totals may not be consistent.

(3) Number of General Accidents by Type of Specified Business Establishment

Looking at the number of general accidents by cause, it reveals that 340 accidents, or 81.5%, were occurred at Class 1 business establishments (303 of which layout business establishments*2).(**Attachment 1-3-3**, untranslated)

(4) Number of General Accidents at Specified Business Establishment by Type of Business Category

As for the number of general accidents by cause, there were 180 petroleum and coal product manufacturing industry-related accidents (an increase of 4 YoY), 128 chemical industry-related accidents (an increase of 7 YoY), 47 steel industry-related accidents (an increase of 12 YoY), and 19 warehouse industry-related accidents (an increase of 7 YoY). (**Attachment 1-3-4**, untranslated)

☞ *Japanese Original P.27*

Current Status of Countermeasures to Disasters at Petroleum Industrial Complexes

In order to prevent disasters from occurring and spreading at special disaster prevention areas, where large quantities of petroleum and high-pressure gasses are concentrated, a comprehensive disaster prevention system has been established by applying the various regulations from the Fire Service Act (Act No. 186 of 1948), the High-pressure Gas Safety Act (Act No. 204 of 1951), the Industrial Safety and Health Act (Act No. 57 of 1972), the Act on Prevention of Marine Pollution and Maritime Disasters (Act No. 136 of 1970), etc., as well as by applying the regulations from the Act on the Prevention of Disasters in Petroleum Industrial Complexes and Other Petroleum Facilities (Act No. 84 of 1975), which stipulates the layout of each facility section, disaster prevention equipment, etc.

1 Current Status of Special Disaster Prevention Areas

As of April 1, 2025, 76 areas in which large quantities of petroleum or high-pressure gas at or above certain quantities have been designated as special disaster prevention areas in 96 municipalities in 32 prefectures based on the Act on the Prevention of Disaster in Petroleum Industrial Complexes and Other Petroleum Facilities. (**Fig. 1-3-3**) These special disaster prevention areas are under the jurisdiction of 85 fire departments.

Furthermore, 632 business establishments serve as specified business establishments subject to the regulations of the Act on the Prevention of Disaster in Petroleum Industrial Complexes and Other Petroleum Facilities. Of these, 309 are Class 1 business establishments (including 141 layout business establishments) and 323 are Class 2 business establishments.

2 Disaster Prevention Systems in Prefectures and at Firefighting Agencies

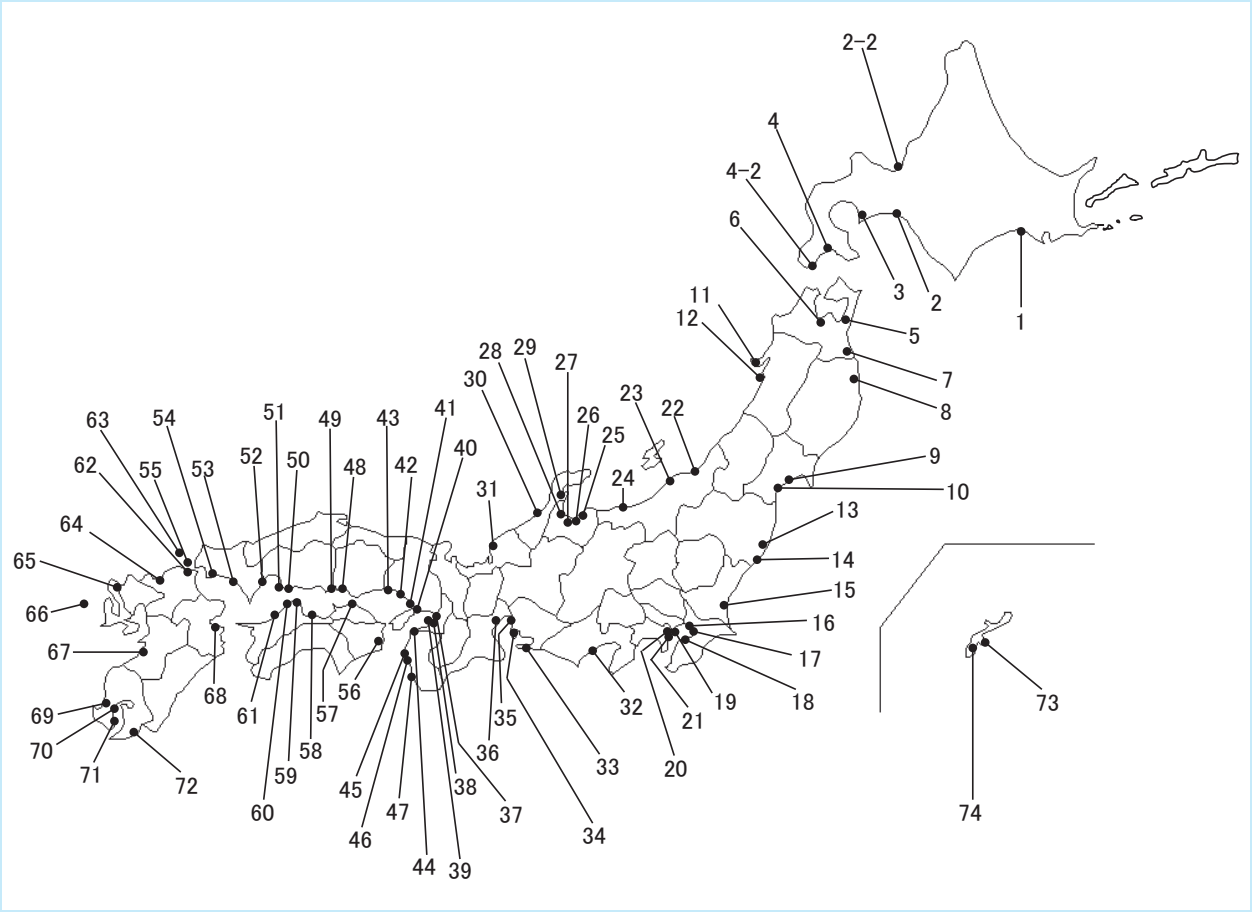
(1) Establishing Disaster Prevention Schemes

The prefectures that contain special disaster prevention areas are establishing disaster prevention systems in a comprehensive and systematic manner based on the Act on the Prevention of Disaster in Petroleum Industrial

*2 Layout business establishments: Business establishments from among Class 1 business establishments that handle both petroleum and high-pressure gases. Said business establishments are subject to layout regulations (see "Current Status of Countermeasures to Disasters at Petroleum Industrial Complexes" 4. Layout Regulations for Business Establishments) stipulating that their sites must be segmented off into six types of sections according to their purpose, with these including manufacturing facility sections and storage facility sections.

Fig. 1-3-3 Designation Status for Special Disaster Prevention Areas

(As of April 1, 2025)



No.	Special disaster prevention areas	No.	Special disaster prevention areas	No.	Special disaster prevention areas	No.	Special disaster prevention areas	No.	Special disaster prevention areas
1	Kushiro	15	Kashima coast	31	Fukui coast	47	Gobo	63	Shirashima
2	Tomakomai	16	North Keiyo coast	32	Shimizu	48	Mizushima coast	64	Fukuoka
2-2	Ishikari	17	Central Keiyo coast	33	Tahara	49	Fukuyama/ Sasaoka	65	Fukushima
3	Muroran	18	South Keiyo coast	34	Kinuura	50	Etajima	66	Kamigoto
4	Hokuto	19	Tokyo International Airport	35	Port of Nagoya coast	51	Nomi	67	Yatsushiro
4-2	Shiriuchi	20	Keihin coast	36	Yokkaichi coast	52	Iwakuni/Otake	68	Oita
5	Mutsuogawara	21	Negishi coast	37	Osaka North Port	53	Shunan	69	Kushikino
6	Aomori	22	Port of Niigata (East)	38	Sakai Senboku coast	54	Ube/Onoda	70	Kagoshima
7	Hachinohe	23	Port of Niigata (West)	39	Kansai International Airport	55	Mutsurejima	71	Kiire
8	Kuji	24	Naoetsu	40	Kobe	56	Anan	72	Shibushi
9	Shiogama	25	Toyama	41	Higashiharima	57	Bannosu	73	Henza
10	Sendai	26	Fuchu	42	Himeji coast	58	Niihama	74	Onaha
11	Oga	27	Shinminato	43	Ako	59	Namikata		
12	Akita	28	Fushiki	44	Northern coast in north Wakayama	60	Kikuma		
13	Hirono	29	Port of Nanao,Mimuro	45	Central coast in north Wakayama	61	Matsuyama		
14	Iwaki	30	Kanazawa Port north	46	Southern coast in north Wakayama	62	Kitakyushu		

*76areas

Complexes and Other Petroleum Facilities. This is being done through concerted efforts together with relevant agencies centering primarily on disaster prevention headquarters at petroleum industrial complexes and other locations (hereinafter referred to as "disaster prevention headquarters" in this section).

The disaster prevention headquarters carry out operations such as the preparation of disaster prevention plans for petroleum industrial complexes and other locations (hereinafter referred to as "disaster prevention plans" in this section), coordination with relevant agencies when disasters strike, and the promotion of research studies on disaster prevention.

(2) Emergency Responses when Disasters Occur

When disasters occur in special disaster prevention areas, emergency response is carried out in a concerted manner by the prefecture, municipality, related agencies, specified business operators (those who have established specified business establishments located in the special disaster prevention areas), etc. under the leadership of the disaster prevention headquarters, as stipulated by the disaster prevention plan.

The fire department plays an important role in this process by conducting defensive activities and giving instructions to disaster prevention organizations for self-defense.

(3) Maintaining the Firefighting Capabilities of Municipalities Containing Special Disaster Prevention Areas

As of April 1, 2025, 63 large chemical firetrucks, 46 large elevated water trucks, 79 foam solution transport vehicles, 33 large elevated chemical water trucks, 3,125kL of 3% fire-extinguishing foam, 216kL of 6% fire-extinguishing foam, 32 fireboats, and other such equipment had been allocated to firefighting agencies in municipalities containing special disaster prevention areas. Likewise, 17 foam solution storage facilities, 1 portable foam cannon, and other such equipment has been allocated to prefectures containing special disaster prevention areas.

The FDMA has deployed the Emergency Response Unit for Energy/Industrial Disasters ("Dragon Hyper Command Unit"), which specializes in special disasters, to 12 areas under Emergency Fire Response Teams, as well as firefighting robots (Scrum Force), in order to support the development of firefighting capabilities for municipalities located in special disaster prevention areas.

3 Disaster Prevention Systems at Specified Business Establishments

(1) Establishing Disaster Prevention Organizations for Self-defense

The Act on the Prevention of Disaster in Petroleum Industrial Complexes and Other Petroleum Facilities mandates that specified business operators must set up disaster prevention organizations for self-defense, prepare fire protection equipment, appoint disaster prevention managers, formulate disaster prevention regulations, and so forth. It also stipulates that they are to establish joint disaster prevention associations,*3 wide-area joint disaster prevention associations,*4 and special disaster prevention area councils for petroleum industrial complexes (hereinafter referred to as "area councils" in this section)*5.

As of April 1, 2025, disaster prevention organizations for self-defense had been established at every specified business establishment (632 business establishments). In addition, 66 joint disaster prevention associations, 11 wide-area joint disaster prevention associations, and 55 area councils had been established. These disaster prevention organizations for self-defense, joint disaster prevention associations, and wide-area joint disaster prevention associations are deployed with disaster prevention personnel, and are equipped with 72 large chemical fire trucks, 31 large elevated water trucks, 120 foam solution transport vehicles, 116 large elevated chemical water trucks, 24 high capacity foam cannons, 20 oil recovery vessels, and more. (**Attachment 1-3-5**, untranslated)

(2) Installation of High Capacity Foam Systems

High capacity foam systems are a type of firefighting equipment that consist of high capacity foam cannons, feed pumps, foam mixers, and hoses, in order to respond to fires that fully envelop floating roof outdoor storage tanks. They have the capacity to spray more than 10,000 liters of foam per minute. A single high capacity foam cannon is capable of spraying up to ten times as much

The high capacity foam system

*3 Joint disaster prevention associations: Disaster prevention associations jointly established by the specified business operators involved with specified business establishments containing a single special disaster prevention area in order to carry out some of the tasks of the disaster prevention organization for self-defense.

*4 Wide-area joint disaster prevention associations: Joint disaster prevention associations covering a wide area jointly established by specified business operators involved with specified business establishments containing areas in which there are two or more special disaster prevention areas to carry out tasks related to disaster prevention activities by using high capacity foam cannons and other equipment.

*5 Special disaster prevention area councils for petroleum industrial complexes: These are councils established with the objective of having specified business operators related to specified business establishments located in a single special disaster prevention area come together to jointly draft independent standards related to disaster prevention and to carry out joint disaster prevention drills.

foam as a conventional three-piece set (consisting of a large chemical firetruck, a large elevated water truck, and a foam solution transport vehicle).

At present, high capacity foam systems with the capacity to spray anywhere from 10,000 to 40,000 liters per minute are stationed at 12 wide-area joint disaster prevention associations throughout Japan.

(3) Enhancing Disaster Prevention Systems for Self-defense

The FDMA has issued standardized and visually easy to understand educational textbooks for disaster management personnel education and training, and has proposed a training model that can be used by both new and experienced personnel to acquire the knowledge and skills necessary for disaster management, such as initial response in the event of a disaster and cooperation with public firefighters, in order to strengthen disaster management structures.

4 Layout Regulations for Business Establishments

(1) Layout Regulations

The Act on the Prevention of Disaster in Petroleum Industrial Complexes and Other Petroleum Facilities mandates certain standards for layout establishments regarding the layout of facility areas and the securing of passageways within the premises. It also mandates that in cases where business establishments are newly established or change their facility area layouts, they must provide notification of their plans, and after completion, they must undergo confirmation to determine whether or not the work is consistent with the relevant plans.

(2) Status of New Establishment Notifications, etc.

The total number of notifications for new establishments of or changes to layout business establishments in FY2024 came to 9 (an increase of 1 YoY), while the number of confirmations in the same year was 11 (an increase of 4 YoY). (**Attachment 1-3-6**, untranslated)

5 Other Disaster Countermeasures

(1) Establishing Disaster Response Systems

The Act on the Prevention of Disaster in Petroleum Industrial Complexes and Other Petroleum Facilities states that specified business operators must report to firefighting agencies or locations specified by municipal mayors immediately when any abnormal phenomena*6 occur. It also mandates that disaster prevention organizations for self-defense, joint disaster prevention associations, and wide-area joint disaster prevention associations must take the necessary measures in order to prevent disasters from occurring and spreading.

(2) Establishing Green Buffer Zones for Disaster Prevention

In order to prevent damage in special disaster prevention areas from spreading to surrounding regions, the Act on the Prevention of Disaster in Petroleum Industrial Complexes and Other Petroleum Facilities has provisions relating to the drafting of installation plans, the share of costs to borne by business operators, and special financial measures for the establishment of green buffer zones for disaster prevention by local governments in the vicinities around said areas.

6 Recent Disaster Countermeasures at Petroleum Industrial Complexes

(1) Liaison Conferences of the FDMA and Related Ministries to Examine Disaster Prevention Measures at Petroleum Industrial Complexes, etc.

The FDMA, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, and the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, which are the ministries and agency responsible for safety at petroleum industrial complexes, have held regular liaison conferences (liaison conferences of the three ministries for petroleum complex disaster prevention).

The purpose of these liaison conferences is to exchange information on incidents, share policy trends, promote efforts by business operators to prevent disasters, and work together to take action in the event of a disaster. The ministries and agency work together to prevent disasters at petroleum industrial complexes by promoting accident prevention efforts and publishing and sharing incident-related information on the Internet.

(Fire and Disaster Management for Petroleum Industrial

The poster for Skill Contest for Self-defense Disaster Prevention Organizations at Petroleum Industrial Complexes, etc.

*6 Abnormal phenomena: Fires, explosions, spills of oil and other substances, and other such abnormal phenomena at specified business establishments.

Complexes, etc.; Liaison Conference of FDMA, MHLW, and METI; Website run jointly by the three organizations: https://www.fdma.go.jp/relocation/neuter/topics/fieldList4_16.html)

(2) Earthquake and Tsunami Measures for Petroleum Industrial Complexes, etc.

As there is concern about damage occurring due to the Nankai Trough Earthquake or Tokyo in Land Earthquake, based on the state of the damage done by the Great East Japan Earthquake, work is being done to enhance and strengthen disaster prevention systems at petroleum industrial complexes, etc., such as revising "Disaster Prevention Assessment Guidelines for Petroleum Industrial complexes" (the FDMA, March 1994) and "Handbooks for Disaster Prevention Efforts of Self-defense Disaster Prevention Organizations".

(3) Skill Contest for Self-defense Disaster Prevention Organizations at Petroleum Industrial Complexes, etc.

The FDMA holds a "Skill Contest for Self-Defense Disaster Prevention Organizations at Petroleum Industrial Complexes, etc." with the aim of improving the skills and morale of disaster prevention personnel such as those of self-defense disaster prevention organizations at specified business establishments.

During the contest, which will be around the time of "World Tsunami Awareness Day" on November 5, the Minister of Internal Affairs and Communications and the Commissioner of the FDMA will commend self-defense disaster prevention organizations, etc. that achieve excellent results in safety, reliability, and promptness in a training exercise to extinguish a large-scale tank fire utilizing fire-extinguishing foam agents.

(4) Holding Investigative Committee Meetings on the Disaster Prevention Systems of Petroleum Industrial Complexes, etc.

The FDMA has been holding the "Investigative Committee Meeting on Disaster Prevention Systems of Petroleum Industrial Complexes" in order to strengthen the disaster prevention system in special disaster prevention zones.

Since the number of accidents at petroleum industrial complexes has been on the increase in recent years, accident data were analyzed and effective countermeasures were investigated from FY2023 to FY2024, and measures to prevent accidents and mitigate damage were studied. As materials that can be utilized by specified business operators, the "Guide for Accident Prevention Based on Analysis of Accidents at Petroleum Industrial Complexes" on measures to prevent accidents was newly prepared, and the "Introduction to Disaster Prevention Activities for Disaster Prevention Organizations for Self-defense" and "Standard Education for Personnel of Disaster Prevention Organizations for Self-defense" on measures to mitigate damage were revised.

Commendation Ceremony for Skill Contest for Disaster Prevention Organizations for Self-defense at Petroleum Industrial Complexes, etc.

–omitted–

Section 1 Fire Service Structure

☞ *Japanese Original P.55*

1 Fire Defense Organizations

(1) Standing Firefighting Agencies

Standing firefighting agencies refers to the fire departments and fire stations established in municipalities that are staffed by full-time personnel.

As of April 1, 2025, there were 720 fire departments and 1,716 fire stations throughout Japan. (**Attachment 2-1-1**, **2**, **3**, untranslated)

There were 169,730 firefighters (including 6,993 female firefighters). Of these, 168,230 (including 6,386 female firefighters) were in charge of responding to fires and emergencies, conducting inspections, etc. 24,121 (14.3%) of them are between the ages of 36 and 40, which is the largest proportion of these firefighters. (**Fig. 2-1-1**, **Attachment 2-1-1**, **2**, **3**, **4**, untranslated)

The current fire service structures found in municipalities can largely be categorized into: [1] Municipalities with both fire departments and fire stations (so-called standing fire defense) and volunteer fire corps (so-called non-standing fire defense) coexist (hereinafter referred to as "municipalities with standing fire service structures" in this chapter), and [2] Towns and villages with only volunteer fire corps (hereinafter referred to as "municipalities without standing fire service structures").

As of April 1, 2025, 1,690 municipalities had switched over to a standing fire defense structure, whereas 29 towns and villages (Tokyo and six other prefectures) had not done so. Many of these 29 towns and villages are without standing fire service structures due to geographical factors. 21 towns and villages in Tokyo and three other prefectures (72.4% of all towns and villages without standing fire service structures) are located on islands. (**Attachment 2-1-5**, untranslated)

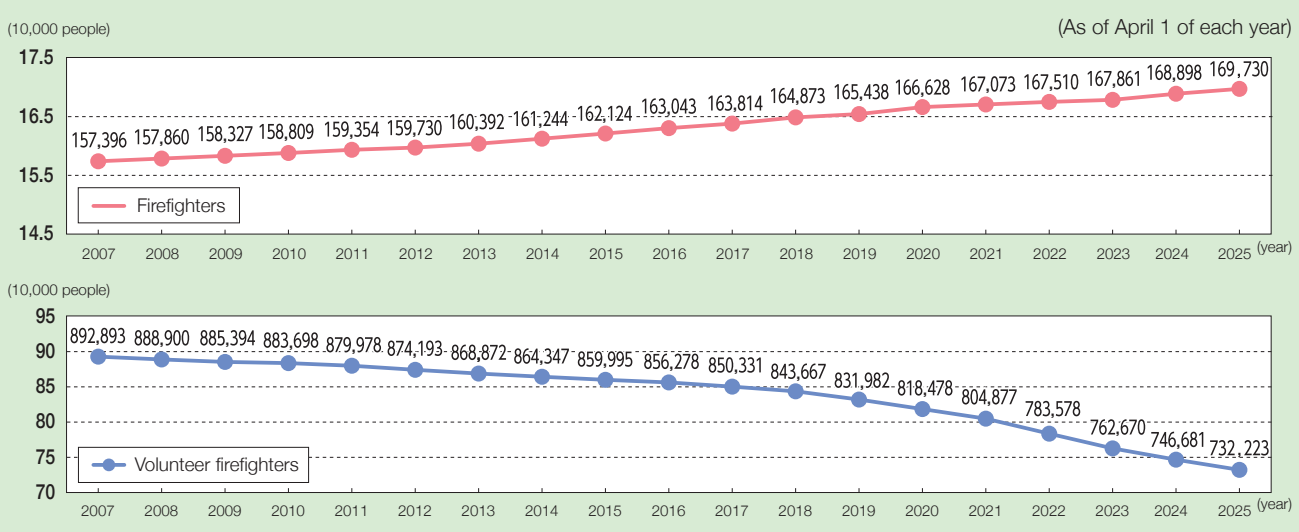
288 fire departments were established by special district authorities or extended associations (22 of which were established by extended associations). The 1,114 municipalities that have organized these (372 cities, 601 towns, and 141 villages) correspond to 65.9% of the total number of municipalities that have switched to a standing fire defense structure. Furthermore, the number of municipalities outsourcing this work comes to 144 (39 cities, 86 towns, and 19 villages), which corresponds to 8.5% of the total number of municipalities that have switched to a standing fire service structure. (**Fig. 2-1-2**)

(2) Volunteer Fire Corps

As of April 1, 2025, the number of volunteer fire corps throughout Japan came to 2,169, while their volunteer members numbered 732,223. They have been established in every municipality. (**Fig. 2-1-1**, **Attachment 2-1-1**, **2**, **3**, untranslated)

Volunteer fire corps are municipal, non-standing firefighting agencies. The volunteer firefighters that comprise their members have other main occupations, and engage in fire and disaster defense activities based on their love for their hometown and a desire to protect it thinking that they should be the ones to protect their own

Fig. 2-1-1 Trends in the number of Firefighters and Volunteer Firefighters



(Notes) 1 Prepared based on "The Survey of the Current Status of Fire Prevention and Earthquake Countermeasures".
2 Number of volunteer firefighters is based on "The Survey of the Current Status of Fire Prevention and Earthquake Countermeasures" and the Survey on the Organization of Fire Volunteer Corps.
3 Due to the effects of the Great East Japan Earthquake, the number of firefighters and volunteer firefighters in Iwate Prefecture, Miyagi Prefecture, and Fukushima Prefecture in 2011 were tabulated using the numbers from the previous year (as of April 1, 2010).
4 Due to the effects of the Great East Japan Earthquake, the numbers for Onagawa Town, Oshika District, Miyagi Prefecture in 2012 were tabulated using the numbers from 2010 (as of April 1, 2010).

Fig. 2-1-2 Breakdown of the establishment method for fire departments

(As of April 1, 2025)

No. of fire departments			Municipalities				Standing/non-standing	
				Cities	Towns	Villages		
	720	1,690 municipalities	1,690	793	736	161	Municipalities with standing structures	
Individual	432	432 municipalities	432	382	49	1	Individual	Establishment method
Special district authorities, etc.	288	1,114 municipalities	1,114	372	601	141	Comprised of special district authorities, etc.	
		144 municipalities	144	39	86	19	Outsourced	
			29	—	7	22	Municipalities with non-standing structures	
			1,719	793	743	183	Total	

(Notes) 1 Prepared based on "The Report on Personnel Changes concerning Fire Departments and Volunteer Fire Corps".
2 The 23 wards of Tokyo were tabulated as a single city for individual fire defense departments.
3 Extended associations are included under "Special district authorities."

communities themselves. They do this as local government employees in special part-time positions vested with authority and responsibility (For the organizational structure of Volunteer fire corps, see Special Feature 5).

2 Fire and Disaster Defense Facilities, etc.

(1) Maintenance of Fire Trucks and Other Vehicles

Fire departments and fire stations maintain fire pumpers, ladder-equipped vehicles (including vehicles with folding ladders), chemical fire trucks, ambulances, rescue vehicles, and other equipment that they need for their firefighting activities.

In addition, volunteer fire corps maintain vehicles such as fire pumpers, small power pump transport vehicles, and transport vehicles for rescue supplies. (**Attachment 2-1-6**, untranslated)

(2) Fire Defense Communication Equipment

In order to minimize the damage from fires and other disasters, it is important to quickly become aware of said fires and disasters and have firefighting agencies rapidly arrive at the scene. Fire defense communication equipment plays an enormous role in such contexts.

A. Calls to 119

The number of incidents reported to 119 throughout 2024 came to 10,141,584. A breakdown of the reported details shows that the number of reported cases related to medical emergencies and rescues accounted for 72.4% of the total. (**Attachment 2-1-7**, untranslated)

In recent years, the number of reports to 119 from cell phones and IP phones has risen, with cell phones comprising 57.8% and IP phone comprising 23.0% of the overall number of reports. (**Attachment 2-1-8**, untranslated)

(A) Location Information Notifications for Emergency Reports to 119

When a 119 call is received, the fire department is notified of the caller's location. When a call is made from a landline phone, the user's address is provided, and when a call is made from a cell phone, its location is determined based on GPS positioning and cell tower information.

(B) Nonverbal Reports

The FDMA is working to create an environment in which people with hearing and speech impairments can make emergency calls from anywhere in the entire country at any time.

As a means for people with hearing or speech impairments to use telephones, there is a "telephone relay service" in which operators provide an immediate two-way connection between people with hearing or speech impairments and non-hearing or speech impaired people by interpreting "sign language" or "text" to "voice." This was launched nationwide in July 2021 as a public infrastructure based on the Act on Facilitation of the Use of Telephones for the Persons with Hearing Impairments, etc (Act No. 53 of 2020). The service is also compatible with 119 calls, allowing people with hearing or speech impairments to call the fire department from anywhere in the country using the telephone relay service. Moreover, in January 2025, "Yometel," a telephone relay service that provides text display, was launched, enabling callers to confirm call content by reading the text displayed on a device, even in situations where it is difficult to hear the voice.

In addition, the "NET119 Emergency Report System," which allows people with hearing or speech impairments to make an emergency call to 119 without using voice by tapping buttons on the screen of their smartphones or entering text. As of May 1, 2025, 659 out of the 720 fire departments (91.5%) have already installed the system. (**Fig. 2-1-3**)

(C) Report from Foreign Nationals

The 119 multi-language service using 3-Way Telephone Interpretation will be available 24/7 in major languages to respond promptly and accurately to 119 calls by foreign nationals, or from an emergency site where a foreign national is present. The goal is to have this system installed in all fire departments. (**Fig. 2-1-4**)

B. Fire Command System

The fire command system is a system to support a series of fire command operations at the fire command center, such as receiving 119 calls, identifying the location of disasters, organizing dispatch teams, and issuing dispatch orders to fire stations.

In recent years, the ICT environment surrounding firefighting has changed dramatically with the rapid development of information and communications technology. In response to these changes, the FDMA has established standard specifications for data entry/exit (interface) between the fire command system and external

Fig. 2-1-3 Flow of NET119 Emergency Report System

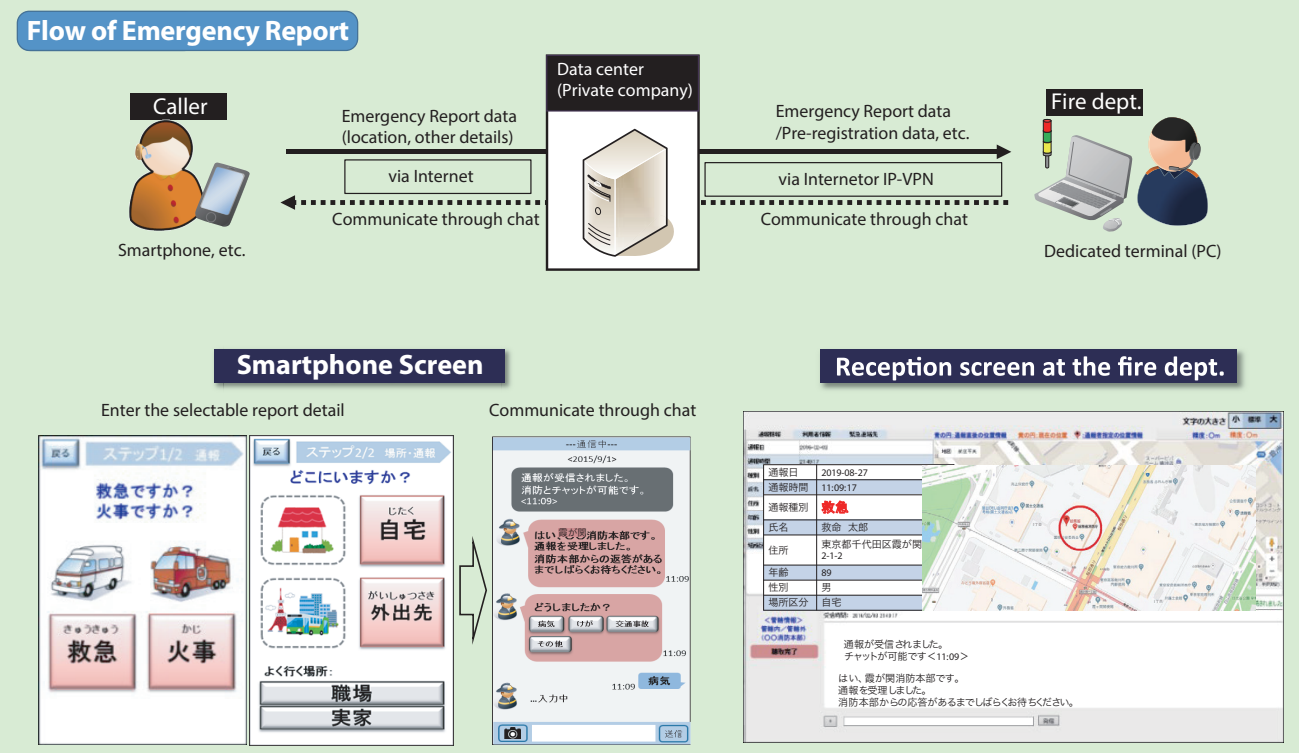
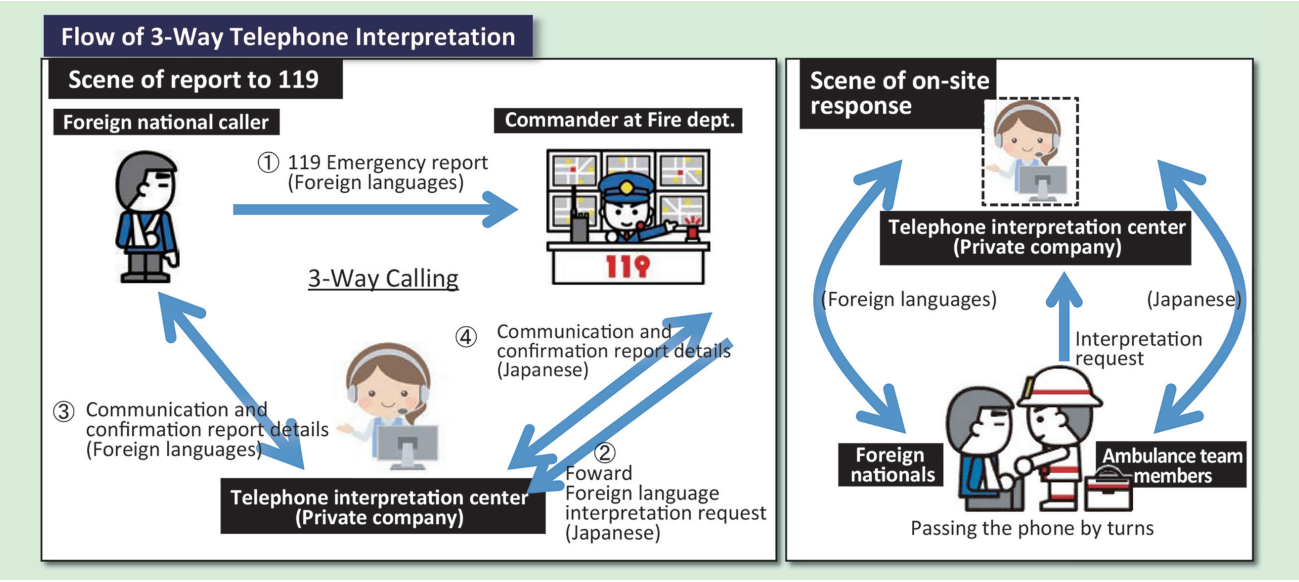


Fig. 2-1-4 Flow of 3-Way Telephone Interpretation



systems.

(3) Water Sources for Firefighting

Water sources for firefighting are an absolutely crucial component, together with fire trucks and other equipment, when it comes to carrying out firefighting activities. Generally speaking, these are categorized into artificial sources like fire hydrants and fire cisterns, as well as natural sources like rivers, ponds, oceans, and lakes.

The total number of water sources for firefighting installed in Japan is 2,585,799, of which 2,014,237 are fire hydrants and 552,081 are fire prevention tanks. (**Attachment 2-1-9**, untranslated)

Since the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake, fire hydrants with earthquake resistance have been installed, and in recent years, in anticipation of the aging of fire hydrants and the demand for fire hydrants in areas with dense wooden buildings, each municipality has set a numerical target to gradually improve the fire hydrant system.

–omitted–

Section 4 Education and Training Structure

☞ Japanese Original P.74

1 Education and Training for Firefighters

It is essential to improve the knowledge and skills of firefighters to enable them to appropriately handle the increasingly diverse disaster and emergency services and the increasing sophistication of fire prevention services. As such, education and training for firefighters is incredibly important.

Education and training for firefighters is offered by all fire departments, fire stations, and volunteer fire corps, as well as by the national government through the Fire and Disaster Management College and the fire academies in the various prefectures. In addition to these, there are also emergency medical technician (EMT) training institutes that offer education designed to have rescue workers from around the country acquire national qualifications as EMTs.

As this indicates, the national government, prefectures, municipalities, and others each undertake their own respective functions as they work together in a cooperative manner to provide education and training for firefighters.

2 On-the-job Training

Every firefighting agency carries out systematic education and training (on-the-job training) based on their respective regional characteristics on a routine basis. In particular, those firefighters who are required to perform rigorous team activities based on instructions and orders at the scenes of dangerous disasters require a sense of duty and abundance of energy and vigor in order to carry out their professional duties. Therefore, fire departments work to improve their knowledge and skills and lift their morale through various types of education and training.

The FDMA has established "Standards for Fire Drill Etiquette (FDMA Bulletin No. 1, 1965)," "Standards for Firefighting Maneuvers (FDMA Bulletin No. 2, 1972)," and "Standards for Firefighting Rescue Maneuvers (FDMA Bulletin No. 4, 1978)" as standards for on-the-job training, as well as safety management manuals both for during drills and during firefighting activities.

3 Education and Training at Fire Academies

(1) Establishment of Fire Academies

The provisions of Article 51 of the Fire Defense Organization Act (Act No. 226 of 1947), mandate that prefectures must establish fire academies independently or jointly, except in cases where financial circumstances or other special circumstances prevent them from doing so. In addition, the provisions stipulate that ordinance-designated cities can also establish fire academies independently or jointly together with the prefectures.

As of April 1, 2025, fire academies had been established in all 47 prefectures, seven ordinance-designated cities (Sapporo, Chiba, Yokohama, Nagoya, Kyoto, Kobe, and Fukuoka), and in the Tokyo Fire Department for a total of 55 such academies throughout Japan (in the Tokyo Metropolitan Region, there are two schools that have been jointly established: The Tokyo Metropolitan Fire Defense Training Center and the Tokyo Fire Department's Fire Academy).

With the objective of establishing and operating fire academies, the FDMA established the Standards for the Establishment, Staffing, and Operation of Fire Academies (FDMA Bulletin No. 1, 1971), and works to maintain and advance the level of education and training available at fire academies.

(2) Types of Education and Training

The FDMA established the "Education and Training Standards for Fire Academies (FDMA Bulletin No. 3, 2003)" to serve as standards for the education and training offered at fire academies. The fire academies formulate specific curricula out of respect for the "achievement goals" stipulated in the standards and by using the "Standard subjects and class hours" found therein as reference guidelines.

In addition, the increasing severe and frequent occurrence of disasters require advanced firefighting activities, and prevention work is becoming more sophisticated and specialized in accordance with revisions to fire laws and regulations. In order to enhance and strengthen education and training at fire academies, the FDMA is improving the equipment to be provided as standard and reviewing educational subjects and time allocations. Types of education and training include initial, specialized, leadership, and special courses for firefighters, and basic, specialized, leadership, and special courses for volunteer firefighters.

4 Education and Training and Technical Assistance at the Fire and Disaster Management College

The Fire and Disaster Management College provides the advanced education and training needed for management to the personnel engaged in firefighting operations at the national and prefectural level, as well as to municipal volunteer firefighters. In addition, it also provides the necessary technical assistance related to education and training for fire academies at the prefectural level.

(1) Enrollment in Education and Training

In FY2024, a total of 32 sessions were held: 20 sessions across 12 theoretical courses and 12 sessions across 9 practical training courses, resulting in 1,427 graduates.

As of FY2024, a total of 70,842 students have graduated from these courses since their establishment.

In FY2025, capacity was set at 1,596, down approximately 16.7% from the number before the COVID-19 pandemic, in order to implement facility zoning (described in point b. below) and other measures to prevent COVID-19 and other diseases, as in FY2024. (**Attachment 2-4-1**, untranslated)

Training that simulates the experience of being in an actual fire (hot fire training)

Training that simulates the experience of being in an actual fire (hazardous material fire)

A. Enhancement of education and training content in response to changes in social conditions

Regarding the education and training contents of each course, the following subjects have been incorporated in response to new issues arising from changes in social conditions and in accordance with the objectives of each department: harassment prevention, mental health, traumatic stress management, CRM (Crew Resource Management), crisis management, public relations, litigation response, and issues facing the fire department, such as LGBTQ and raising the retirement age.

Furthermore, efforts are being made to round-out the contents of the curriculum, such as by adding in training that simulates commanding during a fire, simulation training for receiving assistance during a large-scale earthquake, and other such drills that make using of information systems, the implementation of firefighting drills (hot training) in environments similar to real fires utilizing the real fire training facilities and landslide response training using a mock house buried under soil and sand, as well as lectures on firefighting drones.

The curricula offer students opportunities to present research on relevant issues, helping them develop essential leadership skills such as problem recognition, logical thinking, and effective communication. Students also have the opportunity to independently plan and conduct training, enhancing their skills in training design, safety management, evaluation, and leadership.

Moreover, in order to expand training opportunities for female firefighters, 5% of the capacity of each department has been set as a priority quota for women, and a Women's Activity Promotion Course, which is a practical training course designed to support the career development of female firefighters, is available.

As a means of education, some programs incorporate on-demand e-learning for advance study and remote classes in a live format to shorten the duration of dormitory stays and to provide efficient education and training in consideration of the impact on on-site activities and other factors.

Drill on responding to mass casualties

B. Countermeasures against COVID-19 at the Fire and Disaster Management College

During the dormitory stay period, infection prevention measures are implemented depending on the infection situation, including temperature checks and health condition monitoring for faculty, staff, and students, mask wearing, disinfection, and ventilation, as well as maintaining distance between instructors and students during classroom-based lectures, using partitions, and zoning dormitory life by department to prevent the spread of infection across departments.

In FY2025, the aforementioned infection prevention measures will remain in effect, while restrictions on cafeteria seating and bathing hours will be relaxed.

(2) Facilities and Equipment

As a facility for advanced education and training, the Fire and Disaster Management College is equipped with a disaster response training room that simulates various disaster scenes to improve command skills, a real fire training facility to experience environmental changes similar to those at the scene of a fire, and a town-formed housing complex-type unit to simulate areas where activities are difficult, such as those with a high concentration of wooden houses.

Moreover, in order to provide practical training, the Fire and Disaster Management College possess training vehicles such as command vehicles, pump trucks, rescue vehicles, special disaster vehicles, and high standard emergency vehicles.

To accommodate female participants, women-only areas are established in the dormitory as needed based on the number of participants, including living quarters, bathrooms, restrooms, changing rooms, and common rooms.

(3) Technical Assistance for Fire Academies

In addition to providing training for educators such as new fire chiefs, academy directors, and new and current instructors to acquire educational techniques, the Fire and Disaster Management College dispatches lecturers upon request in order to enhance the educational content of fire academies. In FY2024, a total of 126 lecturers were dispatched to 42 fire academies.

The Fire and Disaster Management College also provides a list of graduates and information on lecturers to help edit textbooks for new firefighters to be used at fire academies and to secure lecturers and other personnel with guaranteed knowledge and skills in specialized fields.

Section 5 Ambulance Service System

☞ *Japanese Original P.77*

1 Implementation of Ambulance Services

(1) Ambulance Service Dispatch

Ambulance services were dispatched a total of 7,718,380 times in 2024 (an increase of 79,822, or 1.0% YoY). Looking at the daily average, ambulance services were dispatched an average of approximately 21,088 times per day (an increase of approximately 160 YoY), meaning that ambulance service teams were dispatched at a rate of once every 4.1 seconds or so (same as the previous year).

Furthermore, the number of people transported by ambulance totaled 6,769,172 people (an increase of 127,752 people, or 1.9% YoY).

Looking at this by the type of incident that led people to be transported by an ambulance reveals that 4,557,993 people (67.3%) were transported due to sudden illness, 1,101,897 people (16.3%) suffered a general injury, 355,772 people (5.3%) suffered a traffic accident, and so on. (**Attachment 2-5-1**, **2**, **3**, **4**, untranslated)

The number of times fire and disaster prevention helicopters were dispatched came to 2,360 (a decrease of 69 YoY), and 2,021 people were transported by them (an increase of 62 YoY).

(2) People Transported by the Severity of Their Injury or Illness

Of the 6,769,172 people transported by ambulances in 2024, 46.9% were people with minor injuries or illnesses that did not require hospitalization (outpatient care) or other cases (cases where a doctor did not provide a diagnosis, etc.). (**Attachment 2-5-5**, untranslated)

(3) People Transported by Ambulance by Age Group and Type of Incident

Viewing a breakdown of the 6,769,172 people transported by ambulance in 2024 by age group reveals that 12,294 of them were newborn infants (0.2%), 275,562 were young children (4.1%), 226,932 were youths (3.4%), 1,969,431 were adults (29.1%), and 4,284,953 were elderly people (63.3%). As the low birthrate and aging of society advances, the share accounted for by elderly people tends to be high. (**Attachment 2-5-6**, **7**, untranslated)

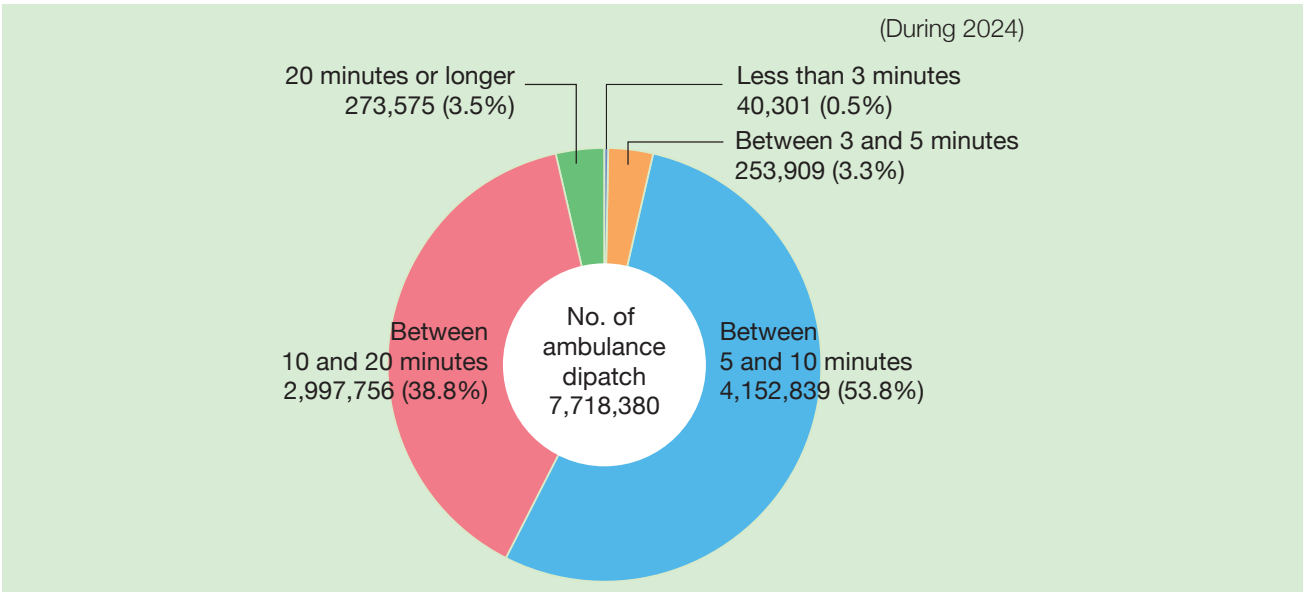
Furthermore, elderly people accounted for the largest percentage of the people transported by ambulance for sudden illnesses (2,947,083 people, or 64.7%), while the largest percentage transported for traffic accidents consisted of adults (208,576 people, or 58.6%) and the largest percentage for general injuries consisted of elderly people (803,484 people, or 72.9%). (**Attachment 2-5-7**, untranslated)

(4) Time Required to Arrive at the Scene

Looking at a breakdown of the 7,718,380 cases in which ambulances were dispatched in 2024 by the time required to arrive at the scene (time it took to arrive at the scene after the 119 report was received) reveals that in the majority of cases it took between 5 and 10 minutes (4,152,839, or 53.8% of the total). (**Fig. 2-5-1**)

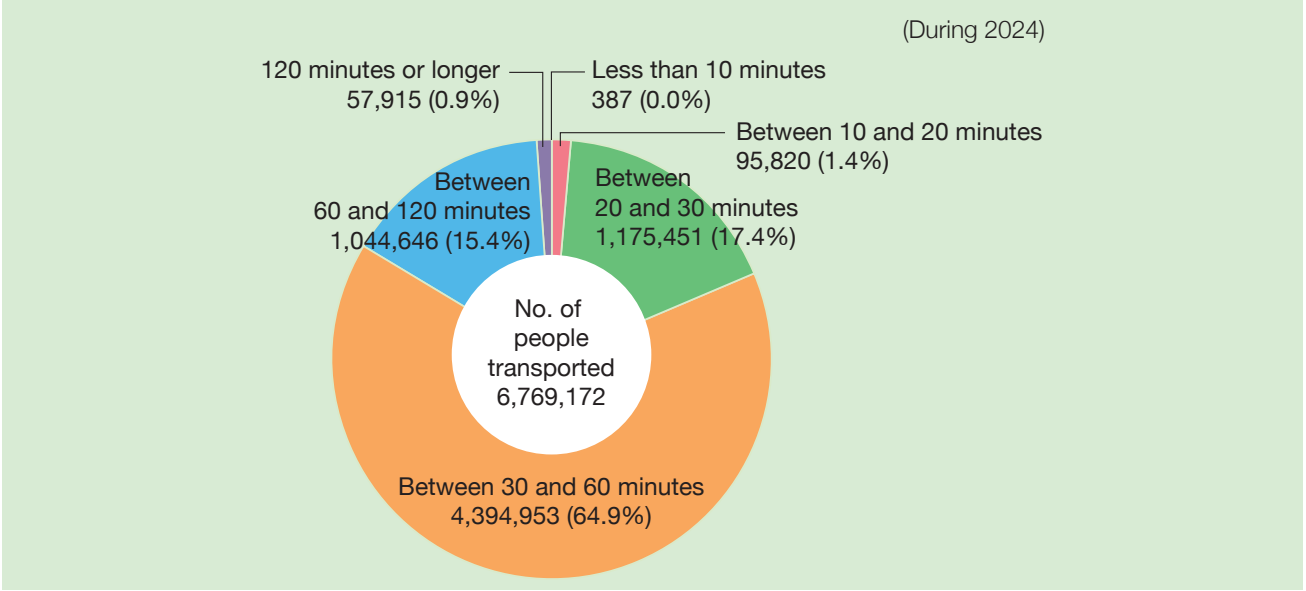
Additionally, the average time required to arrive at the scene came to approximately 9.8 minutes (approximately 10.0 minutes, the previous year), an increase of approximately 1.1 minutes from 2019, the year before the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic (hereinafter referred to as "COVID pandemic" in this section). (**Fig. 2-5-3**)

Fig. 2-5-1 No. of dispatch by time required for the ambulance to arrive at the scene



(Notes) 1 Prepared based on "The Annual Report on Ambulance Service".
2 Digits in the second decimal place were rounded off, so in some cases the totals may not be consistent.

Fig. 2-5-2 No. of people transported by ambulance by time it took to check them into a hospital



(Notes) 1 Prepared based on "The Annual Report on Ambulance Service".
2 Digits in the second decimal place were rounded off, so in some cases the totals may not be consistent.

(5) Time Required to Check the Patient into a Hospital

Looking at a breakdown of the 6,769,172 people transported by ambulance in 2024 by the time required to check the patient into a hospital (time required to check the patient into a hospital after the 119 report was received) reveals that the majority of people were checked in between 30 and 60 minutes at 4,394,953 people (64.9%). (**Fig. 2-5-2**)

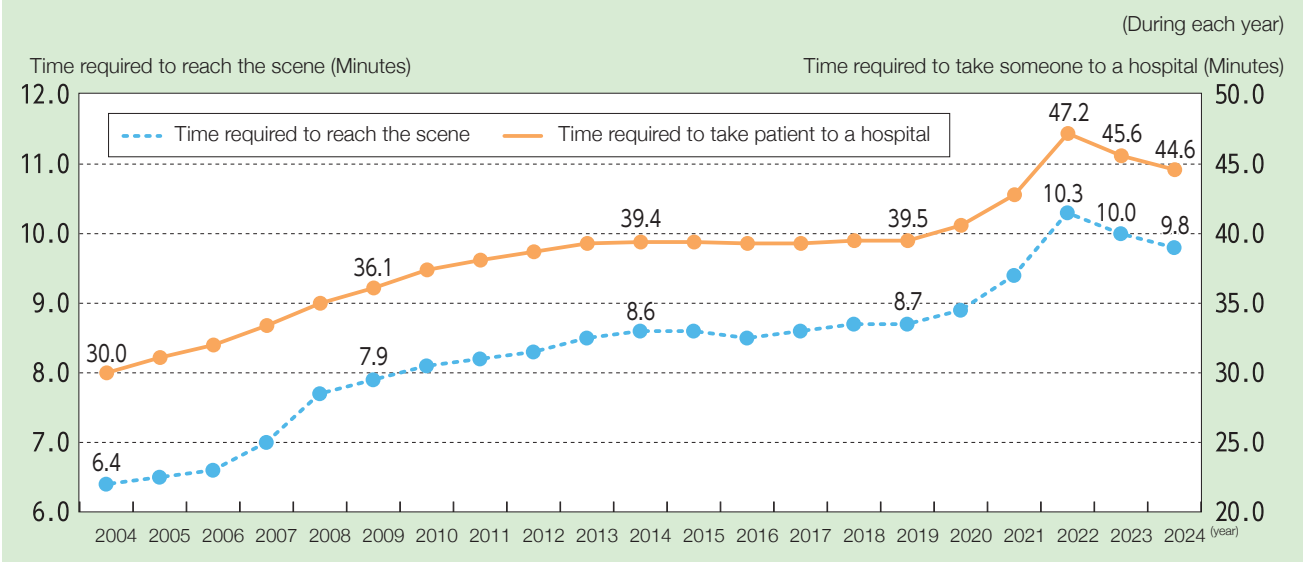
In addition, the average time required to check the patient into a hospital came to approximately 44.6 minutes (approximately 45.6 minutes, the previous year), an increase of 5.1 minutes from 2019, the year before the COVID pandemic. (**Fig. 2-5-3**)

(6) First-aid Treatment Administered by Ambulance Team Members

Of the 6,769,172 people transported by ambulances in 2024, ambulance team members administered first-aid treatment to 6,674,368 patients (98.6%). This brings the total number of cases in which ambulance crew members administered first-aid treatment to 26,747,114. (**Attachment 2-5-8**, untranslated)

Furthermore, the total number of cases in which first-aid treatment was administered by ambulance crew members since their expansion in 1991 (items with * symbol in **Attachment 2-5-8**) came to 19,032,139 (a 3.3% increase YoY).

Fig. 2-5-3 Trends in the amount of time it takes ambulances to arrive at the scene and the time it takes to check the patient into a hospital



(Notes) 1 Prepared based on "The Annual Report on Ambulance Service".
2 Due to the effects of the Great East Japan Earthquake, the figures were totaled by excluding data from the Kamaishi Ootsuchi District Administrative Office Fire Department and the Rikuzentakata City Fire Department from 2010 and 2011.

2 Implementation Structure for Ambulance Services

(1) Number of Municipalities Offering Ambulance Services

The number of municipalities offering ambulance services as of April 1, 2025 totaled 1,690 municipalities (793 cities, 736 towns, and 161 villages) (the special wards of Tokyo were counted as one city; the same hereinafter in this section).

Ambulance services are offered in 98.3% of municipalities (same as the previous year), and cover 99.9% of the total population (same as the previous year; the population used is from the 2020 national census; the same hereinafter in this section), which means that ambulance services can be received in virtually every region. (**Attachment 2-5-9**, **10**, untranslated)

When viewed by the configuration through which said ambulance services were offered, 432 municipalities offered them independently, 144 did so by outsourcing them, and 1,114 did so through special district authorities and extended associations.

(2) Number of Ambulance Teams, Ambulance Team Members and Associate Ambulance Team Members

As of April 1, 2025, 5,485 ambulance teams (an increase of 70 YoY) had been established. (**Fig. 2-5-4**)

Since ambulance team members are engaged in the important duty of saving people's lives, they must complete at least 135 hours' worth of training courses on ambulance services (the former Ambulance I Course).

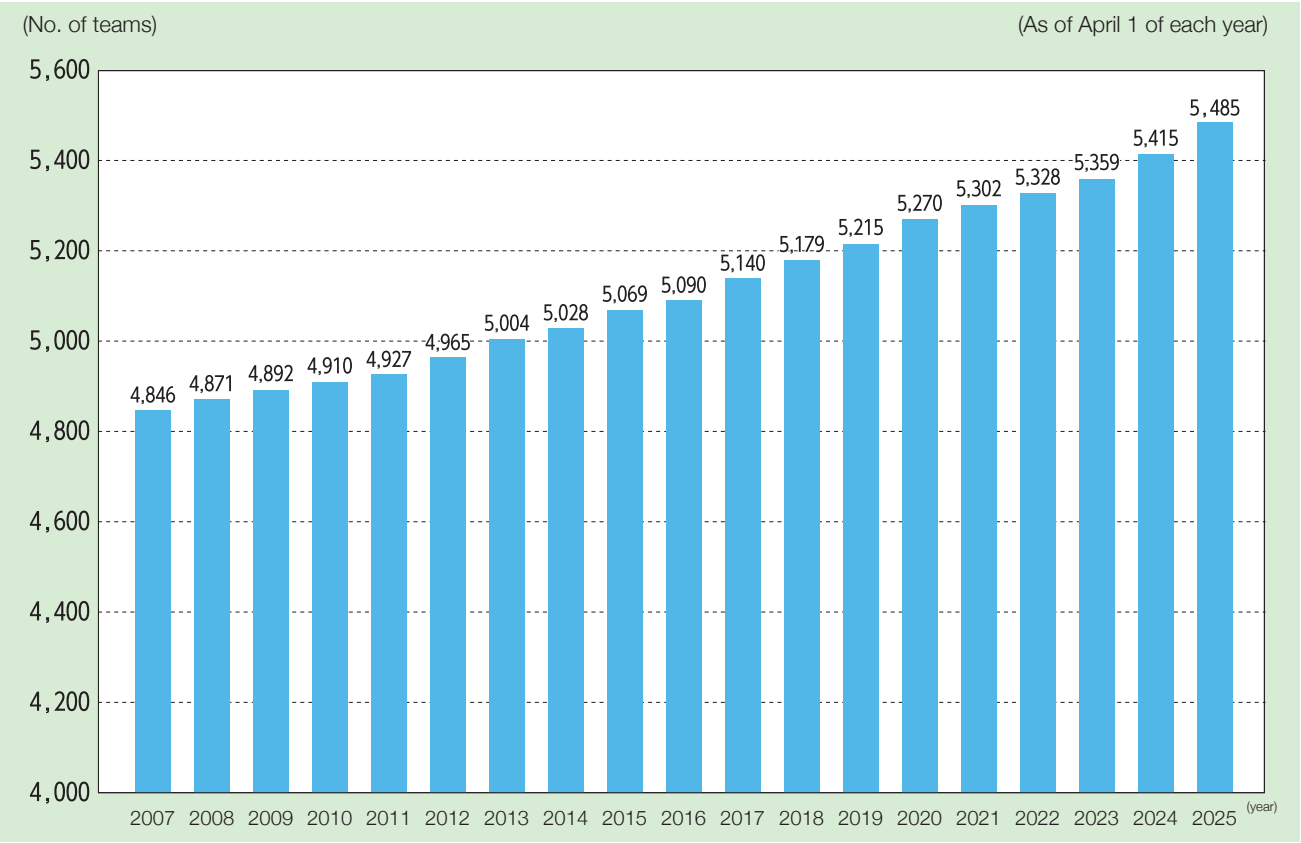
As of April 1, 2025, the number of firefighters who fulfilled this eligibility requirement came to 139,045 (an increase of 5,022 YoY). Of these, 67,688 were engaged in ambulance services as ambulance team members (including not only full-time ambulance team members, but also ambulance team members who have been appointed as such and who concurrently serve on firefighting vehicles such as pump vehicles by riding along with them). (**Fig. 2-5-5**)

Furthermore, of the firefighters who fulfilled the eligibility requirements to be ambulance team members, the number who had completed 250 hours' worth of ambulance courses to enable them to provide even more advanced first-aid treatment (including the former Ambulance Standard Course and former Ambulance II Course) totaled 91,621 people (an increase of 4,244 YoY) nationwide as of April 1, 2025. Of these, 33,433 are engaged in ambulance services as ambulance team members. As of April 1, 2025, 16 associate ambulance team member*1 are engaged in ambulance services nationwide.

(3) Trends in the Number of EMTs and Ambulance Teams with EMTs

As a result of the increasing sophistication of ambulance

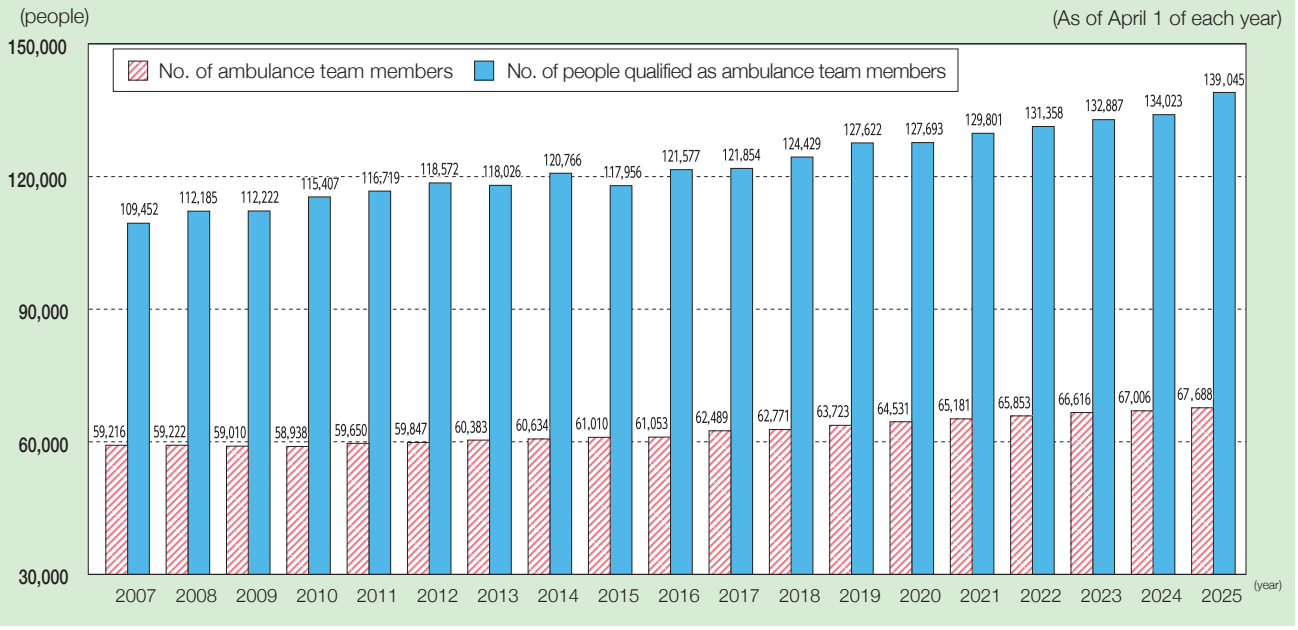
Fig. 2-5-4 Trends in the number of ambulance teams



(Note) Prepared based on "The Annual Report on Ambulance Service".

*1 Associate ambulance team member: Based on the Order for Enforcement of the Fire Services Act, in depopulated areas and remote islands, when a municipality has established an implementation plan as a measure to ensure appropriate ambulance services, it is possible to organize an ambulance team consisting of two ambulance team members and one associate ambulance team member. Associate ambulance team members are full-time firefighters, etc., who have completed a basic training course on ambulance services.

Fig. 2-5-5 Trends in the number of ambulance team members



(Note) Prepared based on "The Annual Report on Ambulance Service".

services, the FDMA is promoting the training of EMTs and the development of an operational system where the objective is to have at least one EMT stationed with every ambulance team.

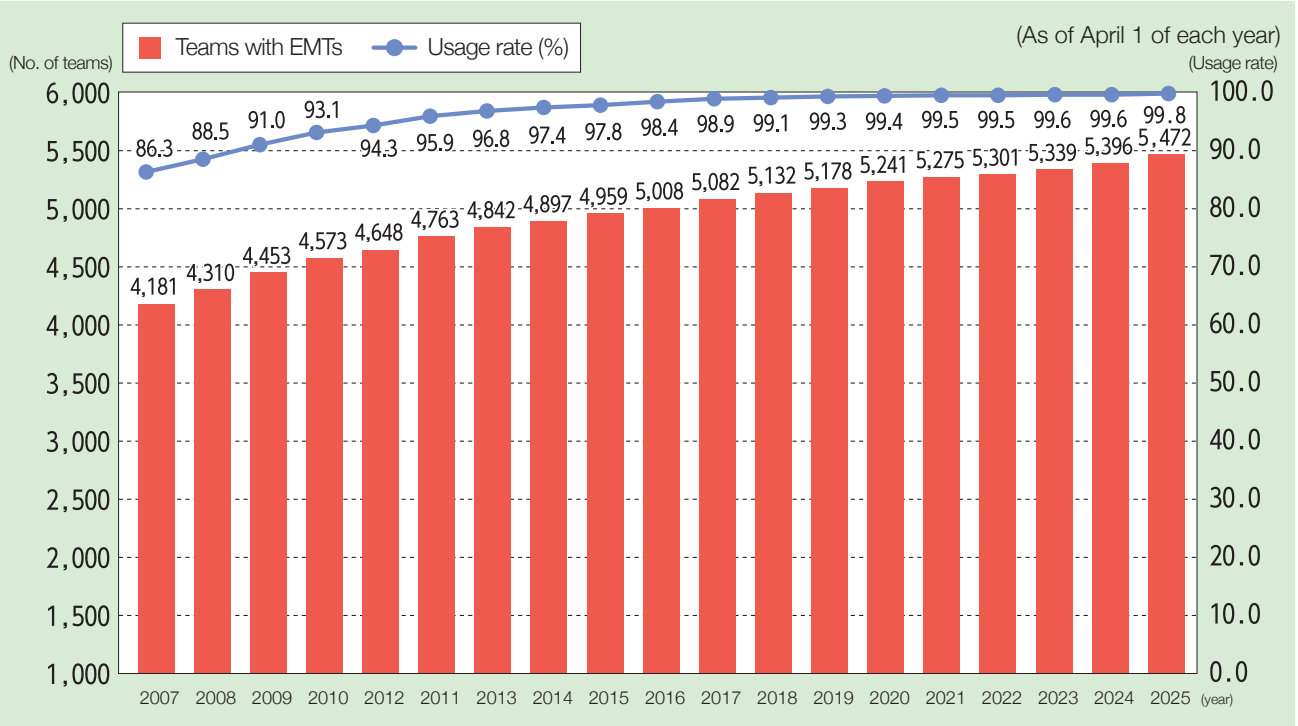
As of April 1, 2025, all fire departments in Japan are making use of EMTs.

The number of ambulance teams with EMTs came to 5,472 (an increase of 76 YoY), which corresponds to 99.8% of the 5,485 ambulance teams throughout Japan (a 0.2-point increase YoY), with this rising year by year. Furthermore, there were 46,126 fire departments personnel with EMT qualifications (an increase of 1,207 people YoY). Of these, 31,753 had been put to use as EMTs (an increase of 739 people YoY), with this number steadily increasing year by year. (**Fig. 2-5-6, 7**)

(4) Number of Ambulances

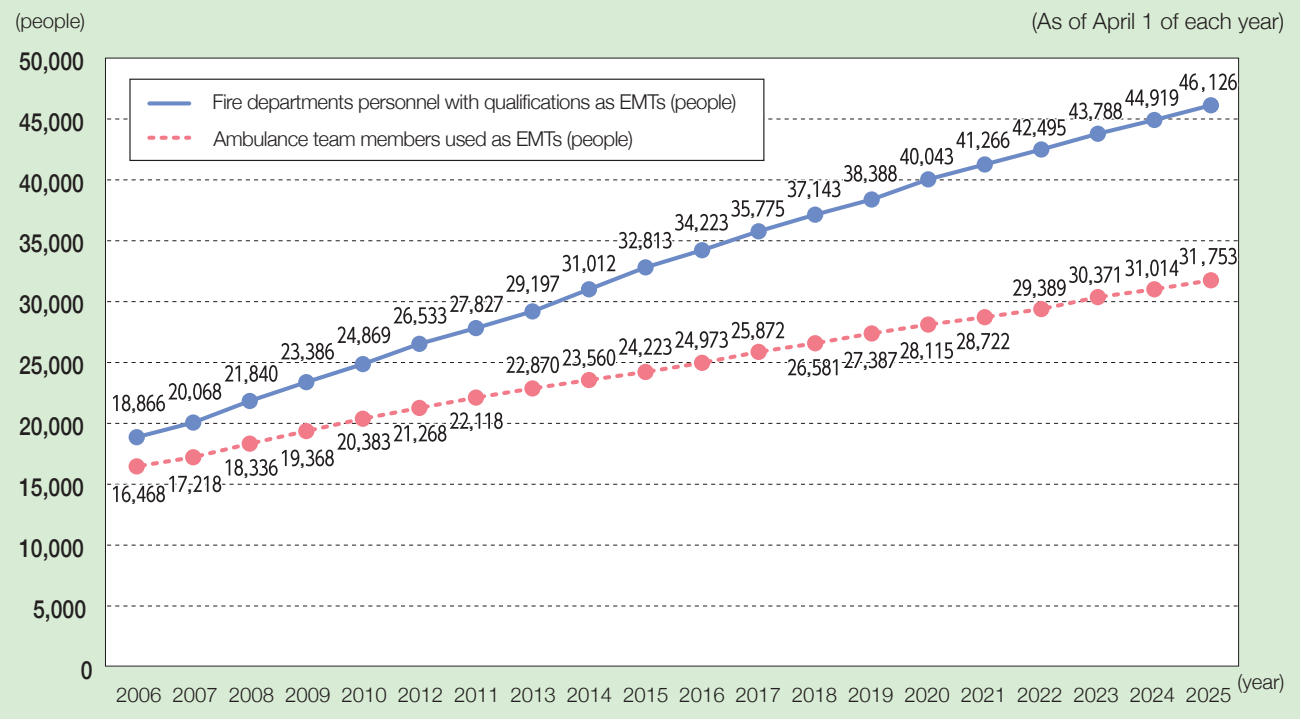
The number of ambulances owned by fire departments throughout Japan as of April 1, 2025 totaled 6,727 (an increase of 87 YoY), including those for emergency use.

Fig. 2-5-6 Trends in the number of ambulance teams with EMTs



(Note) Prepared based on "The Annual Report on Ambulance Service".

Fig. 2-5-7 Trends in the number of EMTs



(Note) Prepared based on "The Annual Report on Ambulance Service".

Of these, the number of high-standard ambulances was 6,651 (an increase of 90 YoY), which corresponds to 98.9% of the total.

(5) Ambulance Services along National and Other Expressways

According to the final report of the Research and Study Committee on Highway Ambulance Services (March 20, 1974), the East Nippon Expressway Company, Central Nippon Expressway Company, West Nippon Expressway Company, and Honshu-Shikoku Bridge Expressway Company (hereinafter referred to as "expressway companies" in this section) are responsible for handling ambulance services on national expressways, the Seto-Chuo Expressway, and the Kobe-Awaji-Naruto Expressway (hereinafter referred to as "national and other expressways" in this section) as a voluntary ambulance service in an integrated manner with road traffic management services. Moreover, the municipalities along said expressways are responsible for handling ambulance services as per the provisions of the Fire Service Act (Act No. 186 of 1948). So it has been stipulated that both parties are to work together to properly and efficiently safeguard human life.

As of April 1, 2025, ambulance services along national and other expressway were provided by municipal firefighting agencies over every section of the 9,346 km of the length of expressway currently in use. The expressway companies bear a certain extent of the financial burden that is placed on the municipalities providing ambulance services.

3 Promoting Coordination between Firefighting and Medical Care

(1) Standards on Patient Transport and Their Acceptance

In order to ensure the smooth implementation of the transportation and reception of injured and sick persons, the Fire Service Act stipulates that prefectures shall formulate the Standards on Patient Transport and Their Acceptance (hereinafter referred to as the "acceptance standards" in this section) and establish a council on the Implementation Standards (hereinafter referred to as "Legal Council" in this section). The hope is that through the legally-mandated committees, the prefectures will survey and verify the transport of patients and their acceptance status based on the acceptance standards. Then, based on this, it is hoped that they will tie the results of this in with making improvements to the acceptance standards and so forth.

For its part, the FDMA works to follow up by working to understand the efforts and challenges faced by each prefecture, as well as by introducing examples of efforts that are operating effectively in certain regions.

In addition, in light of the fact that emergency transport is carried out based upon the acceptance standards, measures are being taken through special tax grants with respect to the costs entailed by the assistance rendered to private secondary ambulance institutions*2 by local public bodies in an effort to enhance ambulance medical care structures in local regions.

*2 Private secondary ambulance institution: Among secondary medical institutions, ambulance service notice institutions (excluding national and public medical institutions and public institutions).

(2) Acceptance of People Using Ambulance Transport at Medical Institutions

The FDMA performed surveys on the actual state of acceptance for patients with severe conditions or worse, pregnant or perinatal patients, young patients, and patients transported to emergency medical care centers.

According to the "Survey on the Actual Status of Acceptance by Medical Institutions for Emergency Transportation Services in 2024," revealed that both the number and percentage of cases involving four or more inquiries and cases with on-site response times of 30 minutes or more decreased across all categories, compared to the same survey conducted in 2023. (**Attachment 2-5-11**, **12**, untranslated)

4 Promotion of More Sophisticated Ambulance Services

(1) Promotion of Education for Ambulance Service Personnel

In 1991, the Emergency Medical Technicians Act (Act No. 36 of 1991) was enforced and a new qualification system was set up to make EMTs who are responsible for performing certain first-aid treatment under the direction of physicians until the ambulance team members arrive at the hospital or clinic after having arrived at the scene.

In the case of firefighters, the EMT qualification can be obtained by completing an ambulance services course, engaging in ambulance services for 5 years or at least 2,000 hours, and then completing an EMT training course for at least 6 months before passing a national examination. After obtaining the qualification, EMTs assigned to a fire service agency are required to take at least 160 hours of hospital training before engaging in ambulance services, and at least 128 hours of further training every two years (of which, hospital training should be at least 48 hours) thereafter.

Because of the advanced and specialized nature of the content and the need to consider the efficiency of education and training, the training of EMTs for fire service agencies is conducted by the Foundation for Ambulance Service Development established in 1991 with investment from 47 prefectures nationwide following the enactment of the Emergency Medical Technicians Act, as well as by the EMT training centers in the designated cities, and EMT training course at the Fire Management College. In FY2024, 763 EMTs at the EMT Training Center of the Foundation for Ambulance Service Development and 410 EMTs at the EMT training centers in the designated cities or EMT training course at the Fire Management College completed the training course and took the national examination.

In addition, ambulance team members, including EMTs, are required to receive education for their respective roles as new ambulance team members, current ambulance team members, and ambulance team leaders in accordance with the "Guidelines for Continuing Education for Personnel Engaged in Ambulance Services Ver. 1" (the FDMA, March 2014). In order to establish such an educational system, EMTs in leadership positions, who are responsible for providing education and guidance to their personnel and coordinating with related organizations regarding the educational system, are positioned as "instructor EMTs," and as of April 1, 2025, 3,620 instructor EMTs have been certified nationwide.

Furthermore, the promotion of national exchanges among ambulance team members and the improvement of their knowledge and skills necessary for emergency activities are being done through training and research opportunities such as the National Ambulance-Crew Symposium and the Japanese Society for Emergency Medicine.

(2) Increase in the Treatment Scope of EMTs

At the time of the system's establishment in 1991, the only life-saving procedures (specified acts) performed by EMTs under specific instructions from physicians were defibrillation using a semiautomatic defibrillator, infusion of lactated Ringer's solution to establish an IV line, and airway management using an esophageal obturator airway or laryngeal mask, but these were gradually expanded by the Ministry of Health, Labor, and Welfare.

As of April 1, 2025, 17,103 ambulance team members qualified as EMTs were able to perform tracheal intubation (of which 10,126 were able to use a video laryngoscope for rigid intubation), 31,484 were able to administer drugs (adrenaline), 30,775 were able to establish an IV line and administer fluids to severely injured patients before cardiopulmonary arrest, and 30,630 were able to measure blood sugar and administer glucose solution to patients suffering from hypoglycemic attacks.

(3) Enhancement of Medical Control System

The medical control system in ambulance services is a system that ensures the quality of first aid, etc. performed by ambulance team members, including EMTs, from a medical point of view. Specifically, it is a system that, in collaboration with fire departments and medical institutions, (1) creates various protocols according to the characteristics of the region based on medical grounds, (2) enables emergency personnel to promptly request instruction, guidance, or advice from physicians at any time from a scene of an emergency, (3) has physicians conduct a medical and objective post-verification of emergency efforts, and feeds back the results of said post-verification, as well as (4) conducting further education, etc. The Medical Control Council, which is a forum for discussions between fire departments and medical institutions, is established at the prefectural and regional levels. As of August 1, 2025, there are 47 prefectural Medical Control Councils and 251 regional Medical Control Councils in Japan. The role of the medical control system in ambulance services has expanded from that of observing EMTs and guaranteeing their treatment from a medical perspective, which is the basis and foundation of the system, to one of ensuring the appropriate operation of local ambulance transportation and emergency medical resources through the formulation of standards for the transport and acceptance of injured and sick patients. It has evolved into something more diverse and tailored to the actual conditions of each region, with a view toward a cooperative role for fire, rescue, and emergency medical services in the coordination of medicine and nursing as part of comprehensive community care.

Based on the result of "the FY2020 Study Group on the State of Ambulance Services," which examined the current issues facing the medical control system and their solutions, the FDMA issued a notice on March 26, 2021 titled "Further Enhancement and Strengthening of Medical Control System in Emergency Services" (Notice

No. 97 from the Ambulance Service Planning Office, dated March 26, 2021), which indicated that related organizations should work closely together to further enhance the medical control system, and that the system should be built and improved continuously through the PDCA cycle using objective performance indicators. In addition, in the "FY2021 Study Group on the State of Ambulance Services" we have just conducted a further study regarding the continued promotion of the PDCA cycle initiative and the enhancement of performance indicators through understanding the utilization of performance indicators as well as the advanced example initiatives of each region following notification.

The recent diversification of roles required of medical control councils can also be viewed in terms of "CPR at the scene of an emergency in accordance with the wishes of the injured or sick person." As the number of elderly people requesting ambulance services is increasing, there are cases in which ambulance services are requested by the families of patients to stop performing cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) because they are told that the patient does not want CPR. Based on this background, at a subcommittee of the "2018 Investigative Committee on the State of Ambulance Services", experts indicated a basic awareness that 'the person's choices' should be respected' in cases where the patient's family communicates at the scene of an emergency that the patient does not want CPR treatment. At scenes of emergencies, which consist of all kinds of scenarios and are urgent situations, and in many cases, there is no physician present, usually, the ambulance team has time and information-related restrictions such as the wishes of the injured or sick person are not shared with them beforehand. Therefore, the committee concluded that it is necessary to clarify the actual situation of the cases and through verification in each place, to increase knowledge about the response of the ambulance team by accumulating all cases.

Based on the results of these surveys, the FDMA issued a notice titled "Report of the Investigative Subcommittee on the Implementation of CPR at the Scene of an Emergency in Line with the Wishes of the Sick or Injured Person at the FY2018 Investigative Committee on the State of Emergency Services" (Notice No. 205 from the Ambulance Service Planning Office, dated November 8, 2019) to the heads of fire and disaster management departments in each prefecture. This notice states that firefighting agencies will be required to (1) make efforts to appropriately participate in community discussions on the Community-based Integrated Care System*3 and ACP (Advance Care Planning, also known as Jinsei Kaigi)*4 together with those involved in home medical and nursing care, and proactively exchange opinions, etc., (2) make efforts to, when considering the response of ambulance teams and in addition to (1) above, seek participation from those involved in home medical and nursing care in medical control committees, etc., and hold sufficient discussions while taking into account the status of end-of-life medical care and care initiatives at the community level, as well as the status of home medical care and elderly care facilities, and (3) consider making this subject to subsequent verification at medical control councils.

(4) Use of Emergency Resuscitation Statistics (Utstein data)

In Japan, the Utstein Style*5 has been introduced across all fire departments nationwide since January 2005. The FDMA also operates an online system for collecting and analyzing the results of research done via the Utstein Style, and has accumulated 20 years' worth of data from 2005 to 2024. On an application basis, the data is provided to related academic societies so that the accumulation of this data can be used appropriately and effectively. The data is also used for constructing measures and systems for improving the lifesaving rate.

–omitted–

*3 Community-based Integrated Care System: A system that comprehensively ensures medical care, long-term care, long-term care prevention (prevention of a state requiring nursing care or support, or reduction/prevention of the worsening of a state requiring nursing care or support), housing, and support for independent living in accordance with local conditions, so that elderly people can lead independent lives within their own communities for as long as possible according to their abilities.

*4 ACP (Advance Care Planning): A process in which the individual repeatedly discusses end-of-life medical treatment and care in advance with family members and their medical care teams.

*5 Utstein Style: This is a survey and statistical approach for classifying cases of cardiopulmonary arrest according to the cause, whether it was witnessed or not, whether bystanders performed CPR or not, etc., and recording the prognosis (survival rate after one month, etc.) of the injured or sick in each category. It was proposed at an international conference held at Utstein Monastery in Norway in 1990 and is recommended worldwide.

Section 6 Rescue System

☞ *Japanese Original P.88*

1 Implementation Status for Rescue Activities

(1) Number of Rescue Activities and Number of People Rescued

The life-saving rescues performed by firefighting agencies refer to activities whereby human or machine-power is used to extricate people from dangerous situations and transport the victims to safe locations. Examples of such dangerous situations include fires, traffic accidents, water accidents, natural disasters, and accidents due to machines.

As for the implementation status for rescue activities throughout Japan in 2024, 72,017 rescue activities were carried out (an increase of 310, or 0.4% YoY) and 67,894 people were rescued (this refers to the number of people rescued through rescue activities; an increase of 1,079, or 1.6% YoY). (**Attachment 2-6-1**, **2**, untranslated)

The main reason for the increase in the number of rescue activities and people rescued was the increase in "accidents due to buildings."*1 (**Fig. 2-6-1**, **2**)

(2) Implementation Status of Rescue Activities by Type of Incident

Looking at the status of rescue activities by type of incident, "accidents due to buildings" and "traffic accidents" accounted for a large percentage of both the number of rescue activities and the number of rescued people. In particular, the number of "accidents due to buildings" continues to increase.

The number of rescue workers dispatched (which refers to the total number of people dispatched in order to carry out rescue activities) came to 1,734,656 in total. Of these, the largest number of firefighters were dispatched for rescue activities in response to "Accidents due to buildings," followed by "Traffic accidents." At the same time, volunteer firefighters were mostly dispatched for fires.

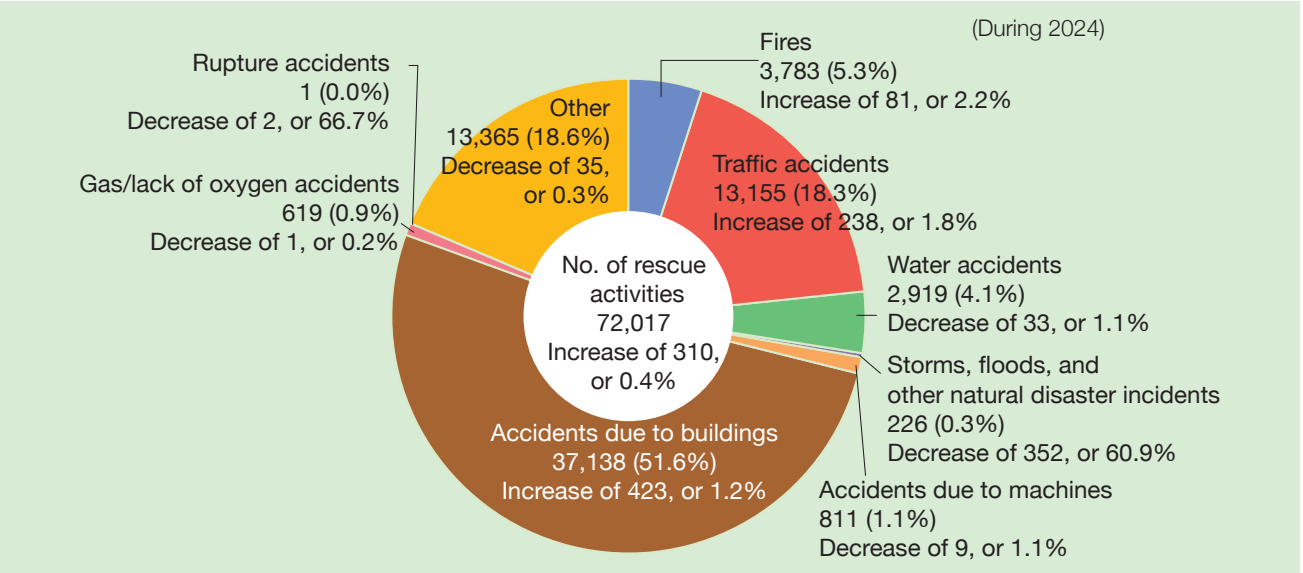
The number of people who engaged in rescue activities (this refers to the number of people who actually engaged in rescue activities out of the number dispatched) totaled 659,178. In terms of the number of people engaged in each individual rescue activity by type of incident, "fires" was the most common type of accident, followed by "water accidents." (**Attachment 2-6-3**, untranslated)

2 Implementation Structure for Rescue Activities

(1) Number of Rescue Crews and Number of Rescue Crew Members

Rescue crews are established in municipalities that have fire departments and fire stations pursuant to the Ministerial Ordinance Establishing Standards for the

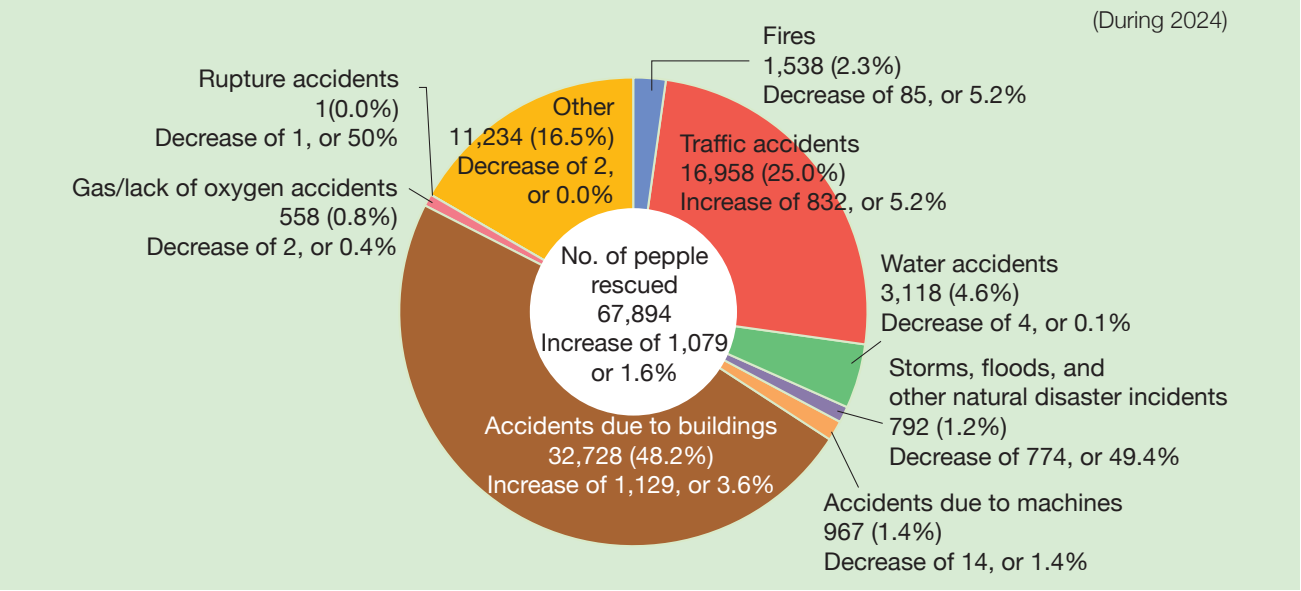
Fig.2-6-1 Number of rescue activities by type of incident



(Notes) 1 Prepared based on "The Survey on the Implementation Status of Rescue Activities".
2 The indicated percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

*1 Accidents due to buildings: Accidents caused by the collapse of buildings, gates, fences, walls, other facilities attached to buildings, or similar structures, accidents in which people are trapped inside buildings, etc., and accidents in which people are caught under buildings, etc. (including accidents in which people are unable to move inside a building due to unconsciousness, etc., or are unable to enter a room because the door is locked).

Fig.2-6-2 Number of people rescued by type of incident



(Notes) 1 Prepared based on "The Survey on the Implementation Status of Rescue Activities".
2 The indicated percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

Organization, Outfitting, and Establishment of Rescue Crews (Ordinance of the Ministry Home Affairs No. 22 of 1986). They consist of members who have received specialized education related to lifesaving (140 hours' worth), as well as rescue and relief supplies and the rescue vehicles equipped with these needed for rescue activities. They are categorized into four classifications: rescue crews, special rescue crews, advanced rescue crews, and special advanced rescue crews.*2

As of April 2025, 1,414 crews had been established at 703 fire departments, and the number of rescue crew members came to 24,616 people (an increase of 209 YoY).

(2) Possession Status of Rescue Equipment for Rescue Activities

Rescue equipment for rescue activities includes equipment for removing heavy objects such as hydraulic spreaders, cutting equipment like hydraulic cutters, detection and measurement equipment such as inflammable gas measuring instruments, and more. Since more advanced, specialized equipment has been deemed necessary for them to guard against the large-scale earthquake disasters and NBC disasters*3 that could potentially occur, the establishment and maintenance of rescue work vehicles and rescue equipment is being promoted through subsidies for equipping Emergency Fire Response Teams and local taxation measures. (**Attachment 2-6-4**, untranslated)

3 National Firefighting and Rescue Skills Meets

The National Firefighting and Rescue Skills Meet has been held every year (sponsored by the Japan Firefighters Association, with the backing of the FDMA and others). Its goal is to foster the physical strength, mental toughness, and technical capabilities needed for rescue activities, as well as to gather rescue crew members from throughout Japan together to cultivate crew members who can serve as examples to others through competition and learning.

This competition is divided up into a land division and a water division. For each division, there is "Basic training" where individual crew members practice basic skills, "Coordinated training" where crew members practice their individual skills together by cooperating with other crew members, and "Skills training" where participating crew members demonstrate everything from training assumptions to rescue methods using creativity and ingenuity.

The 53rd in 2025 was held in Miki City, Hyogo Prefecture, on August 30. Here 684 crew members took part in the land division and 231 took part in the water division. In 2026, the meet is scheduled to be held in Niigata City, Niigata Prefecture.

–omitted–

*2 Special rescue crews, advanced rescue crews, and special advanced rescue crews: The Rescue Ordinance stipulates that municipalities with a population of 100,000 people or more and a standing fire defense structure must establish a special rescue crew. Core cities and the like must have one or more special rescue crews that serve as advanced rescue crews, and the Tokyo Fire Department and ordinance-designated cities must have one or more advanced fire crews that serve as special advanced rescue crews.
*3 NBC disasters: Disasters caused by Nuclear, Biological, or Chemical substances.

Section 8 Integrated Fire Service Support and Emergency Fire Response Team for Disaster Response

☞ *Japanese Original P.96*

1 Integrated Support System for Fire Service

(1) Mutual Support Agreement for Fire Services

As municipalities are obliged to make efforts to support each other as and when necessary regarding firefighting efforts by concluding agreements on mutual firefighting support, it is now possible to respond appropriately to large-scale disasters and special disasters.

Currently, in all prefectures, there are firefighting mutual support agreements (including agreements for only municipalities where firefighting services are on hand) in which all municipalities under each prefecture and firefighting administrative associations and so on participate.

(2) Establishment of Integrated Support System for Fire Service

To respond to large-scale disasters and special disasters, it is necessary for firefighting capabilities to operate extensively beyond the districts of municipalities or prefectures. For this reason, the FDMA has both enhanced and strengthened the Emergency Fire Response Teams described in section 2, as well as formulated the "Guidelines for the Implementation of Wide-Area Aerial Firefighting Support Teams in the Event of a Large Scale Special Disaster" in 1986 in order to efficiently implement the use of helicopters as, in the event of a wildfire or other large scale disaster, helicopters excel in all areas of firefighting and disaster prevention, such as aerial firefighting, rescue activities, emergency operations, information gathering, and emergency transportation. The guidelines clarify the procedures for requesting support and promote the active use of firefighting helicopters owned by firefighting agencies and prefectures for wide-area support (**Attachment 2-8-1**, untranslated).

2 Emergency Fire Response Teams for Disaster Response

(1) Creation of Emergency Fire Response Teams for Disaster Response and Their Enshrinement in Law via Revisions to the Fire Defense Organization Act

A. Creation of Emergency Fire Response Teams

Emergency Fire Response Teams were created in June 1995 through the cooperation of fire departments from throughout Japan in order to create an assistance structure through the mutual cooperation of firefighting agencies from around the country. This was based on the lessons from the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake on January 17, 1995, and designed to make it possible to carry out lifesaving rescue activities when large-scale disasters such as earthquakes occur within Japan in a faster, more effective manner.

The system is structured so that during times of normalcy, Emergency Fire Response Teams focus all of their energies on carrying out firefighting duties in their respective local regions. However, in the event of a large-scale disaster occurs somewhere in Japan, firefighting teams dispatch in a concentrated manner to the afflicted region from throughout the country to respond to said disaster at the request or instructions of the Commissioner of the FDMA. There they engage in firefighting activities, including lifesaving and rescue activities.

When they were first launched, Emergency Fire Response Teams consisted of 376 teams registered with the FDMA to provide domestic assistance for firefighting. They were comprised of rescue crews, ambulance crews, and more. There were also 891 out-of-prefecture assistance teams that engaged in activities between neighboring prefectures, which consisted of firefighting teams and others. This brought the total to 1,267 teams. In January 2001, a registration system for fire teams was introduced in order to enhance the dispatch structure for Emergency Fire Response Teams and response capabilities for various disasters.

In addition, a number of new types of teams were established in order to handle increasingly complicated and diverse disasters. These included special disaster teams with the capacity to respond to special disasters such as oil and chemical disasters, as well as those involving toxic or hazardous substances, or radioactive materials, as well as air teams that use fire and disaster prevention helicopters and water teams that use firefighting boats. This brought the number of teams to 1,785.

B. Enshrinement in Law through the 2003 Revisions to the Fire Organization Act

It has been pointed out that potential earthquakes like a Tokai Earthquake, Tonankai/Nankai Earthquake, or Tokyo in Land Earthquake are imminent, and the dangers of NBC terrorism disasters. As such, scenarios can be envisioned where it would be difficult to respond to such disasters promptly and precisely solely through the firefighting capabilities of the municipalities in the afflicted region or those found in the afflicted prefecture. Therefore, the Commissioner of the FDMA has been vested with the necessary authority to work to enhance and strengthen emergency response structures from an Emergency perspective. In conjunction with this, the Act for the Partial Revision of the Fire Organization Act was drafted in 2003 and entered into force in 2004. This act included provisions for national financial measures, etc.

(a) Main Content of the Revised Law

The main content of the revised law consists of staking out a clear legal position for Emergency Fire Response Teams, establishing the authority of the Commissioner of the FDMA to order dispatches, formulating basic plans relating to the organization of Emergency Fire Response Teams and the development of facilities (hereinafter in this section referred to as the "Basic Plan"), and the financial measures of the national government.

(b) Legal Position and Dispatch Orders by the Commissioner of the FDMA

Emergency Fire Response Teams, which have been put to use based on certain guiding principles since they were established, were given a clear legal position within the Fire Defense Organization Act through the revisions to this law. In addition, in the event that a Tokai Earthquake or other large-scale disaster extends over two or more prefectures or an NBC disaster were to occur, the Commissioner of the FDMA shall be able to issue the orders to take the necessary measures to dispatch Emergency Fire Response Teams. This authority to order dispatches was established based on the thinking that the national government bears responsibility for deploying firefighting capabilities to afflicted regions in the form of ordering the dispatch of Emergency Fire Response Teams for large-scale disasters that should be handled from a truly nationwide perspective. The Great East Japan Earthquake was the first time this authority was exercised since it was established.

(c) Enactment of the Basic Plan Pertaining to Emergency Fire Response Teams

By law it has been mandated that the Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications is to enact the Basic Plan.

This Basic Plan, enacted in February 2004, established matters such as standards for equipping and organizing the crews that comprise Emergency Fire Response Teams, dispatch plans, and targets for setting in place the necessary facilities. When initially enacted, it set a target of registering 3,000 Emergency Fire Response Teams by FY2008.

(d) Financial Measures by the National Government for Emergency Fire Response Teams

The dispatch of Emergency Fire Response Teams has been legally mandated in cases where they have been ordered to dispatch by the Commissioner of the FDMA. Therefore, the expenses that are newly required as a result of said dispatches are to be borne by the national government as treasury expenses as per Article 10 of the Local Government Finance Act (Act No. 109 of 1948).

Furthermore, the establishment of facilities pursuant to the Basic Plan were clarified in the Fire Defense Organization Act as constituting "expenses to be subsidized by the national government." In addition, the eligible facilities and the subsidy rate (one-half) have been established through government ordinance.

(e) Free Use of Equipment for Emergency Fire Response Teams

Regarding the equipment and materials deemed necessary for the activities of the Emergency Fire Response Team, it would be difficult to expect progress in the maintenance of vehicles and equipment, even with government subsidies, if the maintenance and possessions of such equipment is not efficient in terms of cost-effectiveness. There is some equipment that needs to be provided quickly in order to fulfill the national government's responsibilities when it comes to large-scale and specialized disasters. As such, it was stipulated that this equipment is to be set in place by the national government, but provided for use free of charge to the prefectures or municipalities to which the personnel who are active as Emergency Fire Response Team members belong.

C. Enhancing Mobility through the 2008 Revisions to the Fire Defense Organization Act

In 2008 the Act for the Partial Revision of the Fire Defense Organization Act was drafted and entered into force. This included content such as enhancing the mobility of Emergency Fire Response Teams in an effort to further strengthen fire and disaster defense structures for large-scale earthquakes such as a Tokai Earthquake, Tonankai/Nankai Earthquake, or Tokyo in Land Earthquake.

(a) Main Content of the Revised Law

The main content of the revised law consists of establishing the authority for prefectural governors to order the dispatch of Emergency Fire Response Teams that are already active in municipalities where disasters have occurred, the establishment of coordination headquarters for firefighting support activities, and revisions to the requirements for the orders to dispatch Emergency Fire Response Teams by the Commissioner of the FDMA.

(b) Establishment of the Authority for Prefectural Governors to Order Dispatches

This stipulated that prefectural governors can order the dispatch of Emergency Fire Response Teams active in municipalities where they normally operate. This can be done in cases where a disaster has occurred in two or more municipalities within a prefecture, and where it is deemed necessary for the sake of urgently providing firefighting support for municipalities where a disaster has occurred that lie outside of the municipalities in which said Emergency Fire Response Teams normally operate. This structure was set in place based on the fact that teams spanning across municipal borders within the same prefecture were mobilized for the 2004 torrential rain disasters in Niigata and Fukushima, as well as the Mid Niigata Prefecture Earthquake in 2004. In cases spanning across prefectural borders, it has been stipulated that the Commissioner of the FDMA shall coordinate this, since said coordination will span across two or more prefectures.

(c) Establishment of Coordination Headquarters for Firefighting Support Activities

To ensure that the prefectural governor's orders from (b) are carried out smoothly, the prefectural governors are to establish coordination headquarters for firefighting support activities (hereinafter in this section referred to as "coordination headquarters") in order to carry out the general coordination for measures like lending support for firefighting when Emergency Fire Response Teams are dispatched for this purpose. The coordination headquarters are tasked with handling tasks related to coordinating with the Japan Self-Defense Forces, police, and other relevant organizations. This is done in an effort to ensure that tasks related to general coordination over measures designed to support the firefighting activities carried out by the prefecture and municipalities within the prefecture in question are carried out smoothly.

(d) Revisions to the Requirements for the Commissioner of the FDMA to Order the Dispatch of Emergency Fire Response Teams

It was stipulated that the Commissioner of the FDMA can order the governors of prefectures aside from the prefecture where the municipality in which the disaster occurred is located or the mayors of municipalities within the prefecture in question to take the necessary measures to dispatch their Emergency Fire Response Teams. Where this was previously limited to cases where the disaster was regarded as a large-scale disaster spanning more than one prefecture or NBC disasters, now it can be done when it has been acknowledged that there is a special need to respond to the disaster in question, even when it is a large-scale disaster that has occurred solely within a single prefecture.

In addition, in March 2019, the Basic Plan was revised to stipulate that the factors for determining a large-scale disaster to be a subject to instructions shall be the situation surrounding the disaster, the establishment of a disaster response headquarters or emergency disaster response headquarters, and the need for support.

(2) Organization of and Dispatch Plans for Emergency Fire Response Teams

Issues like the organization of and dispatch plans for Emergency Fire Response Teams are established within the Basic Plan. An overview of these issues is provided below. (**Fig. 2-8-1**)

A. Organization of Emergency Fire Response Teams

(A) Command Support Battalion

The Command Support Battalion is tasked with the duty of urgently heading to afflicted regions via helicopter or the like when large-scale disasters or special disasters occur to gather information related to the disaster and convey this to the Commissioner of the FDMA, the governors of the relevant prefectures, and others. In addition, it has also been tasked with the duty of carrying out support activities to ensure that commands pertaining to Emergency Fire Response Teams by the mayor of the afflicted municipality or fire chief delegated by the said mayor are carried out smoothly within the afflicted region. The Command Support Battalion is comprised of Integrated Command Support unit, Information Management Support unit, Command Support unit, and Air Command Support unit.

(B) Prefectural Battalions

The Prefectural Battalion is a group of basic companies which are comprised of the teams required to aid with firefighting undertaken in afflicted regions from among a number of different companies. These include the Prefectural Battalion Command Unit, Firefighting company, Rescue company, Ambulance company, Logistic company, Communication company, Air company, Water company, Special Disaster company, and Special Equipment company established in the prefecture or municipalities within said prefecture.

Fig 2-8-1 Organization of teams comprising Emergency Fire Response Teams

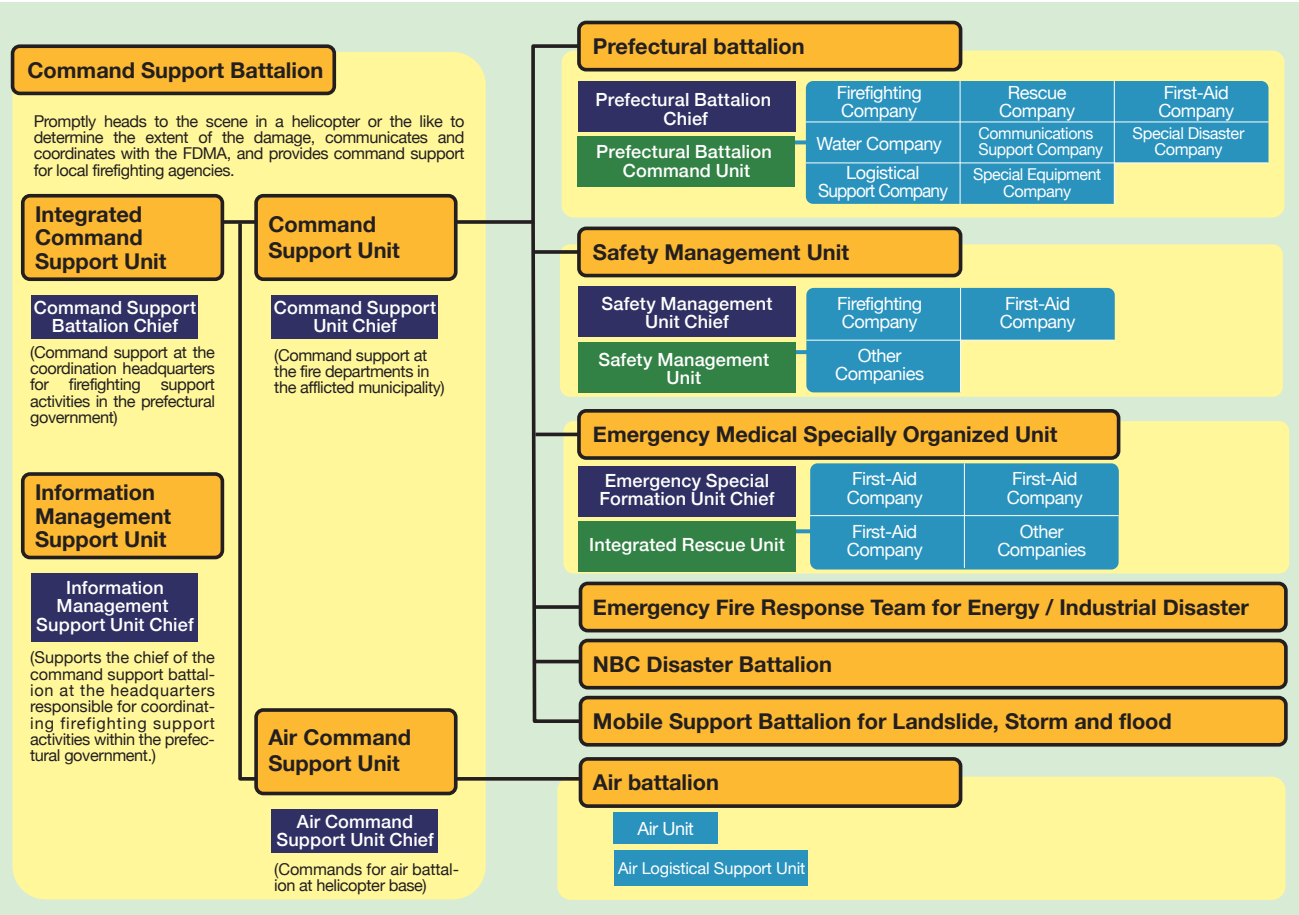


Table 2-8-1 Tasks and organizations of special battalions

Name	Objective	Mission	Comprising unit
Integrated Mobile Unit	Established at the time of the 3rd Basic Plan to create a more rapid unit deployment system.	After a request or instruction by the Director-General to mobilize, to mobilize promptly, to conduct firefighting activities urgently in the disaster area, and to collect and provide information that contributes to the smooth activities of the prefectural battalion in the case that the prefectural battalion follows.	Integrated Mobile Command Unit, Firefighting Units, Rescue Units, First-aid Units, Logistical Support Unit, and Communication Support Unit take the lead, respond with flexible organization and operation according to the type of disaster being responded to and the objective of the rapid dispatch and information collection.
Emergency Fire Response Team for Energy/Industrial Disaster	Established at the time of the 3rd Basic Plan to strengthen emergency response capabilities for petroleum complex disasters, etc., based on lessons learned from the Great East Japan Earthquake.	To conduct advanced and specialized firefighting activities quickly and accurately in response to special disasters in areas where energy and industrial infrastructure such as petroleum complexes and chemical plants are located.	Command Unit of Emergency Fire Response Team for Energy/Industrial Disaster, Special Disaster Company (equipped with large elevated water truck, hose extension vehicle with a large water cannon, chemical fire truck, large elevated water truck, and foam solution transport vehicle), Firefighting Company (equipped with chemical fire truck) In addition to the above Special Equipment Unit, Logistical Support Unit, Communications Support Unit, and Water Unit are added depending on local conditions.
NBC Disaster Battalion	Established at the time of the 4th Basic Plan to establish a system to promptly dispatch the NBC Disaster Battalion in the event of an NBC terrorist disaster, in light of the occurrence of terrorist attacks in other countries and the scheduled Olympic and Paralympic Games.	To conduct advanced and specialized firefighting activities against NBC disasters in a prompt and accurate manner.	NBC Disaster Command Unit, Toxic and Hazardous Unit In addition to the above, Logistical Support Units etc. are added depending on local conditions.
Mobile Support Battalion for Landslide, Storm and flood	Established at the time of the 4th Basic Plan as a mobile unit to be deployed to disaster areas in order to strengthen the rescue system in the event of wind and flood damage, which has become more frequent and severe in recent years.	In response to landslides or wind and flood disasters, conduct firefighting activities using heavy equipment, etc., in cooperation with other prefectural battalions, etc., in a prompt and accurate manner.	Mobile Support Command Unit for Landslide, Storm and flood, Rescue unit (equipped with response vehicle for handling tsunamis and large-scale storm and flood damage and rescue work vehicle), Special Equipment Unit (equipped with heavy machinery and heavy machinery transport vehicle, amphibian motor vehicle and amphibian motor vehicle transport vehicle), Logistical Support Unit In addition to the above, necessary units are added depending on local conditions.
Safety Management Unit	Established under the 5th Basic Plan to strengthen the safety management system for the Emergency Fire Response Team's increasingly complex and diverse activities.	To strengthen the safety management system within the Emergency Fire Response Team, responsibility for safety management activities previously managed by prefectural battalion command units will be transferred to this unit, which will serve as a dedicated entity.	The safety management and command unit, fire-fighting platoon, and emergency platoon shall play a leading role, with additional platoons as necessary, depending on the actual conditions of the area.
Emergency Medical Specially Organized Unit	Established under the 5th Basic Plan as a unit to be formed when a temporary increase in first-aid units is necessary due to loss of hospital functions, etc.	It provides prompt, accurate relief for disasters that require particularly intensive relief efforts due to a large number of injured or sick people or other circumstances.	The emergency medical specially organized unit is established from the first-aid company, or a designated segment thereof, and may concurrently serve as both an emergency management unit and the Emergency Fire Response Team. Additional platoons are incorporated as required based on the specific conditions of the area.

(C) Air Battalion

The Air battalion is tasked to conduct aviation-related firefighting activities in the disaster area. It is composed of air units and, if necessary, air logistics support units.

(D) Special Battalions

Besides the prefectural battalions, there are special task forces: Integrated Mobile Unit, Emergency Fire Response Team for Energy/Industrial Disaster, NBC Disaster Battalion, Mobile Support Battalion for Landslide, Storm and flood. Beginning in FY2025, Safety Management Unit and Emergency Medical Specially Organized Unit were newly added. (**Table 2-8-1**)

B. Dispatch Plans

(A) Basic Dispatch Plans

When large-scale disasters occur, the Commissioner of the FDMA makes efforts to gather information and closely coordinate with the prefectural governor of the afflicted prefecture and other officials. They also decide on whether or not it is necessary to dispatch Emergency Fire Response Teams, and take the measures to request or order their dispatch based on Article 44 of the Fire Defense Organization Act. Dispatch plans are to be established ahead of time to enable their precise and prompt dispatch in such cases.

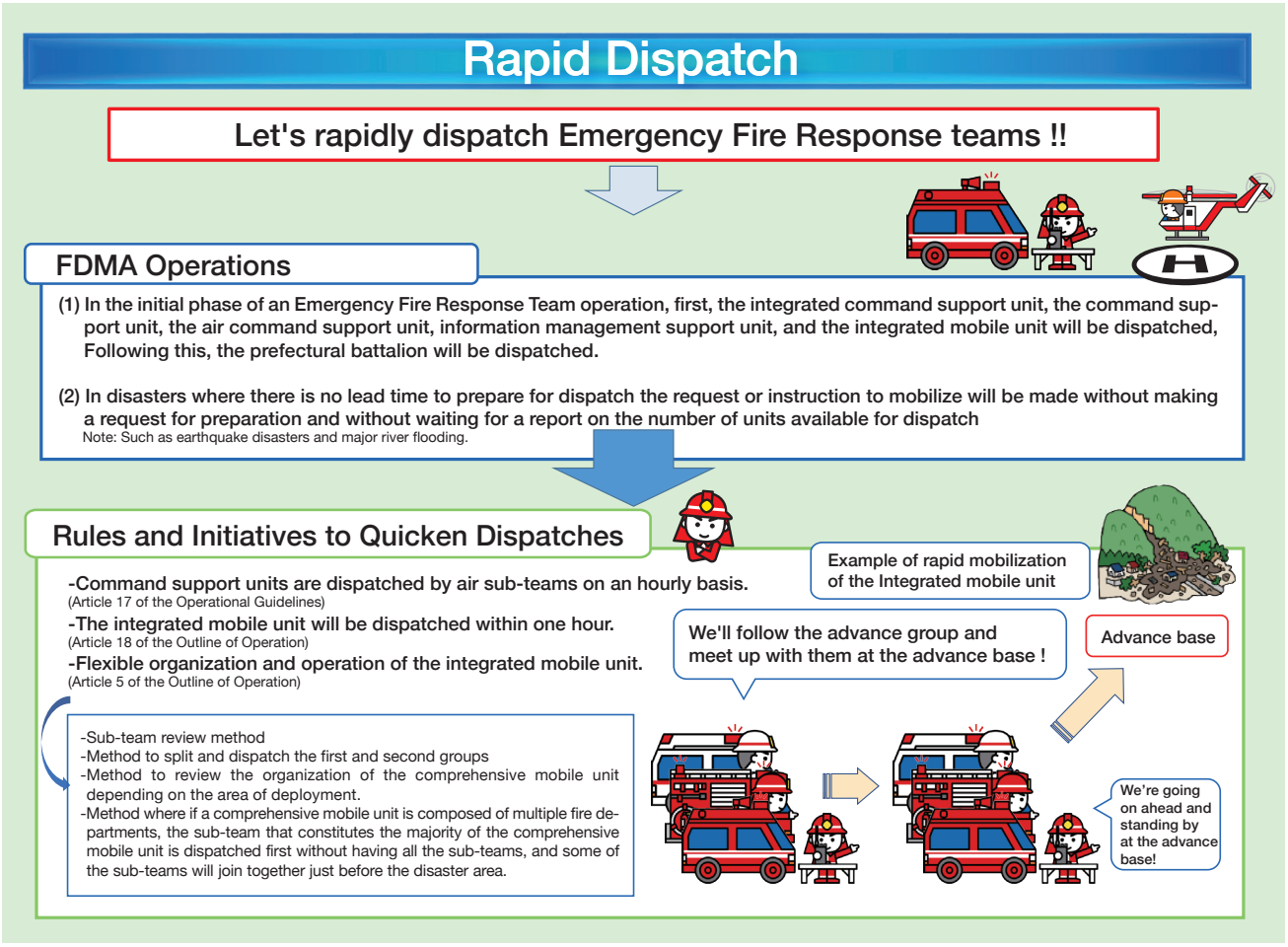
Specifically, for each prefecture affected by a disaster, the first battalion dispatched for support is designated as the "prefectural battalion for primary dispatch." Another battalion, designated in advance as the "prefectural battalion preparing for dispatch," promptly dispatches upon receiving notice of a large-scale disaster. However, depending on the circumstances of the disaster, a prefectural battalion other than the "prefectural battalion preparing for dispatch" may prepare for dispatch to provide support, taking into account the distance to the prefecture where the disaster occurred and other circumstances.

Furthermore, if a prefectural battalion is already dispatched to a disaster area and additional support is required in other affected regions, a new prefectural battalion may be constituted from existing companies or platoons and dispatched to the additional disaster area.

(B) Rapid Dispatch of the Emergency Fire Response Team

In principle, following a disaster, the Commissioner of the FDMA typically contacts the governors of prefectures other than the affected area by telephone or other means

Fig 2-8-2 Rapid dispatch



to request the dispatch of the Emergency Fire Response Team. In the case of a large-scale earthquake, disruptions to communication infrastructure may impede the dispatch of the Emergency Fire Response Team. Accordingly, the Commissioner of the FDMA has preemptively issued a request for the dispatch of the Emergency Fire Response Teams, pursuant to Article 44 of the Fire and Disaster Management Organization Act, to prefectural governors and municipal mayors nationwide. This request becomes effective when a large-scale earthquake of a specified intensity or higher occurs, with the specific requirements varying according to the earthquake's intensity. The FDMA has established a system to ensure prompt dispatch of the Emergency Fire Response Teams following a major earthquake, thereby enhancing the effectiveness of firefighting, rescue, relief, and other lifesaving operations.

- When disasters such as windstorms or floods are likely, the FDMA may ask prefectures and fire departments to prepare for dispatch and report the number of available units. In sudden emergencies, such as river flooding or landslides, the Commissioner of the FDMA will promptly instruct the Emergency Fire Response Teams to dispatch without a prior preparation request.
- Additionally, an action plan will be developed for the Emergency Fire Response Teams in response to each earthquake. All available teams will be dispatched nationwide, with consideration given to the extent of regional damage.

When a Emergency Fire Response team is dispatched, the command support battalion and the integrated mobile unit are to be dispatched immediately ahead to collect information and facilitate the activities of subsequent units. (**Fig. 2-8-2**)

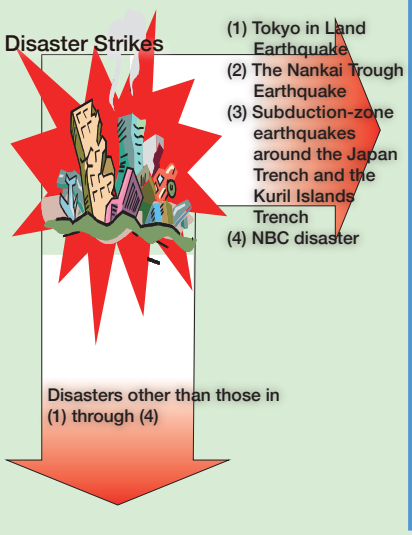
(C) Dispatch Plans for the Nankai Trough Earthquake and Other Potential Earthquakes

It is envisioned that the Nankai Trough Earthquake, Tokyo in Land Earthquake, Subduction-zone Earthquakes around the Japan Trench and the Kuril Islands Trench and other large-scale earthquakes would produce considerable damage that would extend over multiple prefectures. The thinking is that the firefighting capabilities of just the first response prefectural battalions and reserve response prefectural battalions alone would be insufficient for this. Therefore, the action plans for Emergency Fire Response Teams is established for each such earthquake. Based on the damage situation in each region, all Emergency Fire Response Teams capable of providing support on a nationwide scale are dispatched. (**Fig. 2-8-3**)

(D) Dispatch Plan for NBC Dispatch

When a large number of people are injured due to an NBC disaster, the firefighting capability of the firefighting organization with jurisdiction over the disaster area and the firefighting organization in the prefecture to which the disaster area belongs alone is considered to be insufficient, and it is necessary to implement advanced and specialized firefighting activities quickly and accurately. For this reason, a special operation plan has been established and NBC disaster response units will be dispatched promptly.

Fig 2-8-3 Basic dispatch and action plans for Emergency Fire Response Teams



Responses based on the respective action plans

Application standards

(1) Tokyo in Land Earthquake
1. Cases where an earthquake with a seismic intensity of six-upper or greater is detected within the limits of the 23 wards of Tokyo
2. Aside from cases where an earthquake that fulfills the conditions for 1 above occurs, cases where the damage is expected to be commensurate with that from Tokyo in Land Earthquake or where the Commissioner of the FDMA deems that it is possible to mount a prompt and appropriate response by utilizing the Emergency Fire Response Teams based on the action plan

(2) The Nankai Trough Earthquake
1. When the epicenter of the earthquake corresponds to one of the names of places that overlap with the hypothetical epicentral fault zone of the Nankai Trough Earthquake, and one of the following conditions is fulfilled
(1) When a seismic intensity of 6-upper or greater is detected in the Chubu, Kinki, Shikoku, or Kyushu regions, or when a major tsunami warning is issued
(2) When an earthquake of magnitude 8.0 or greater occurs (when there is a possibility that the Nankai Trough Earthquake Temporary Information (Mega Earthquake Warning) will be issued)
2. Aside from when an earthquake that fulfills the requirements in 1 above occurs, when the Commissioner of the FDMA deems that it is possible to mount a prompt and appropriate response by utilizing the Emergency Fire Response Teams based on the action plan

(3) Subduction-zone earthquakes around the Japan Trench and the Kuril Islands Trench
1. Applicable when one of the following conditions is met.
(1) The epicenter of the earthquake is located in an area that coincides with the presumed source fault of the Japan Trench or Kuril Islands Trench earthquake. A seismic intensity greater than lower 6 is recorded in any of the Aomori, Iwate, or Miyagi prefectures, and a major tsunami warning is issued in any of the six prefectures. (Hokkaido, Aomori, Miyagi, Fukushima, Ibaraki, and Chiba prefectures the same shall apply hereinafter.)
(2) The earthquake epicenter is located in an area that coincides with the presumed source fault of the Japan Trench or Kuril Islands Trench earthquake. A seismic intensity exceeding upper 6 is observed in Hokkaido, and a major tsunami warning is issued in any of the six prefectures within the region.
2. In addition to earthquakes that satisfy the conditions specified in section 1, this action plan applies when the Commissioner of the FDMA determines that operating the Emergency Fire Response Teams in accordance with this plan will enable a rapid and appropriate response.

(4) NBC disaster
When an NBC disaster or a disaster in which a release of NBC substances is suspected occurs, a large number of injured people are expected, and the Commissioner of the FDMA deems it necessary to dispatch an NBC disaster response team from the viewpoint of NBC disaster response capability and speed.

Basic dispatch plan

[Command support units]
1. Designate 1 Integrated Command Support Unit, 5 Command Support Units for each prefecture envisioned to suffer the damage.
2. Request the dispatch of the necessary command support units out of consideration for the region where the disaster occurred, the extent of the damage, etc.

[First response prefectural battalions]
1. Designate the four neighboring prefectures to send first response battalions to the prefecture envisioned to suffer the damage.
2. Request the dispatch of the necessary prefectural battalions out of consideration for the region where the disaster occurred, the extent of the damage, etc.

[Reserve response prefectural battalions]
1. Designate 12 neighboring prefectures for the prefecture envisioned to suffer the damage.
2. Request the dispatch of the reserve battalions as necessary when the first response prefectural battalions are not enough.

[First response air units]
1. Designate the 10 air units to send first response squads to the prefecture envisioned to suffer the damage.
2. Request the dispatch of the necessary air units out of consideration for the region where the disaster occurred, the operable aircraft, etc.

[Reserve response air units]
1. Designate 12 air units for the prefecture envisioned to suffer the damage.
2. Request the dispatch of the reserve units as necessary when the first response air units are not enough.

(E) Assistance Plans by the Prefectures, etc.

Each prefecture formulates its own Implementation Plans for Assistance from Emergency Fire Response Teams based on the registration status of Emergency Fire Response Teams within the prefecture in question. These plans are based on consultations with the firefighting agencies of each prefecture in question with regard to the organization of prefectural battalions and other teams, meeting locations, information communication structures, and other necessary items concerning the prompt assemble and dispatch of Emergency Fire Response Teams to afflicted regions.

C. Plans for Receiving Assistance

Each prefecture shall formulate Plans for Receiving Assistance from Emergency Fire Response Teams by hypothesizing situations in municipalities within said prefecture are affected by a disaster. This is done through consultations with the firefighting agencies within the prefecture over necessary matters regarding the acceptance of Emergency Fire Response Teams, which includes the management method of the Coordination Headquarters for Firefighting Support Activities and the Air Operations Coordination Team, liaison and coordination with relevant agencies for early acceptance, advance bases, camping sites, fuel supply bases, material supply, and other logistical support systems.

In the same way, each fire department is required to formulate its own plan for receiving the support from the prefectural firefighting support units and Emergency Fire Response Teams in its own area, while ensuring consistency with the prefectural support and disaster prevention plans.

(3) Number of Emergency Fire Response Teams Registered and Their Equipment

A. Number of Teams Registered

The stipulations of the Fire Defense Organization Act states that the Commissioner of the FDMA must register Emergency Fire Response Teams based on applications to do so from the prefectural governors or municipal mayors.

In March 2025, the basic plan was revised and a target for the number of teams registered was set for the end of FY2028 that would substantially increase the number of teams from its current level of roughly about 6,600 to roughly 7,200 teams. This is to be done because it is crucial to set in place a structure for deploying teams quickly and at a large scale in preparation for large-scale disasters such as the Nankai Trough Earthquake or Tokyo in Land Earthquake, for which damage that is worse than that from the Great East Japan Earthquake is envisioned.

Since the launch of the 1,267 Emergency Fire Response Teams in September 1995, there has been a growing recognition of the importance of their activities during disasters. As a result, the number of teams registered has been on the rise, and as of April 1, 2025, 6,731 teams have been registered from 718 fire departments nationwide (roughly 99% of the fire departments nationwide). This is almost 5 times more than its launch. (**Attachment 2-8-1, 2**, untranslated)

B. Equipment

Since they were first launched, the FDMA has formulated standards for the equipment for Emergency Fire Response Teams. Moreover, since their enshrinement into law in 2003, it has included provisions for this in its basic plan as it has worked to round-out their line-up of equipment.

Since 2006, the development and procurement of equipment for the Emergency Fire Response Teams have been promoted through the Emergency Fire Response Team Equipment Development Subsidy, including special disaster-response fire pump vehicles, rescue vehicles, and special disaster-response ambulances, as well as support vehicles necessary for operational units to operate self-sufficiently in affected areas and support equipment such as high-performance air tents.

Moreover, the emergency and disaster prevention and reduction business debentures (100% allocations, 70% tax grant rate) were expanded in FY2013 to newly encompass "Equipment for vehicles for the functional enhancement of Emergency Fire Response Teams" and "Facilities to serve as bases for rescue and other activities for Emergency Fire Response Teams."

Furthermore, under the system for the free use of national government property and other assets, equipment necessary for the operations of Emergency Fire Response Teams is allocated to fire departments and other sites throughout Japan. Such equipment includes systems for water sources for firefighting capable of handling disasters at energy and industrial infrastructure, response vehicles for handling tsunamis and large-scale storm and flood damage. In recent year, in order to establish a logistical support system in each prefecture and to strengthen the system for prompt information collection and sharing among related organizations, operation base vehicles, high-spec drones, and video transmission equipment have also been deployed, and are systematically updating aging free-of-charge vehicles. (**Attachment 2-8-3**, untranslated)

The FDMA will continue working to round-out and enhance the equipment of Emergency Fire Response Teams in a systematic manner to ensure that they can effectively carry out their activities.

–omitted–

☞ *Japanese Original P.5 (Attachment)*

Attachment 1-1-2 Extent of fire damage by prefecture

(During 2024)

Classification / Prefecture	No. of fires							No. of buildings burned				
	Total	Buildings	Forests	Vehicles	Ships	Aircrafts	Other	Total	Totally destroyed	Half destroyed	Partially destroyed	Minor fire
Hokkaido	1,674	1,050	11	271	6	0	336	1,329	307	91	387	544
Aomori	558	252	21	47	2	0	236	449	149	19	135	146
Iwate	375	194	34	41	0	0	106	416	205	20	123	68
Miyagi	631	343	22	75	1	0	190	528	136	18	124	250
Akita	349	178	25	31	1	0	114	326	119	11	121	75
Yamagata	297	148	28	33	0	0	88	242	88	17	66	71
Fukushima	627	292	51	76	0	0	208	498	171	27	142	158
Ibaraki	1,357	585	24	159	1	0	588	958	337	48	258	315
Tochigi	725	380	31	77	0	0	237	611	216	43	152	200
Gunma	691	350	15	79	0	0	247	541	168	25	152	196
Saitama	1,928	1,090	9	186	0	0	643	1,642	351	64	425	802
Chiba	2,040	977	65	151	2	1	844	1,438	395	74	350	619
Tokyo	4,548	3,302	6	230	2	1	1,007	3,706	128	73	565	2,940
Kanagawa	1,950	1,241	6	184	1	0	518	1,579	197	60	333	989
Niigata	509	322	16	48	0	0	123	545	141	32	138	234
Toyama	192	148	0	24	1	0	19	219	49	15	60	95
Ishikawa	245	149	7	28	0	0	61	497	303	20	80	94
Fukui	159	94	3	28	2	0	32	135	27	10	45	53
Yamanashi	344	148	11	33	0	0	152	224	81	5	60	78
Nagano	691	365	16	61	0	0	249	576	211	39	159	167
Gifu	677	369	12	68	1	0	227	544	129	31	165	219
Shizuoka	973	502	11	134	0	0	326	741	183	30	196	332
Aichi	1,929	1,063	17	196	0	0	653	1,377	244	56	384	693
Mie	659	300	17	73	0	0	269	438	126	18	128	166
Shiga	390	212	4	54	2	0	118	299	57	12	65	165
Kyoto	573	382	7	53	1	0	130	547	97	27	132	291
Osaka	1,965	1,443	6	163	1	0	352	1,791	134	103	502	1,052
Hyogo	1,432	790	31	141	3	0	467	1,027	172	57	242	556
Nara	360	179	3	32	0	0	146	283	86	10	84	103
Wakayama	296	154	7	17	0	0	118	214	54	13	51	96
Tottori	165	75	3	12	0	0	75	127	38	8	44	37
Shimane	252	108	27	12	1	0	104	175	69	11	27	68
Okayama	657	352	35	56	2	0	212	523	154	36	119	214
Hiroshima	780	414	30	72	4	0	260	596	137	21	153	285
Yamaguchi	454	198	13	46	1	0	196	324	110	11	94	109
Tokushima	236	110	9	25	0	0	92	161	51	12	55	43
Kagawa	384	178	16	31	5	0	154	269	68	18	84	99
Ehime	371	218	6	38	2	0	107	404	122	36	101	145
Kochi	266	129	8	25	2	0	102	193	51	11	64	67
Fukuoka	1,232	720	11	132	4	1	364	1,038	218	42	270	508
Saga	248	115	5	28	0	0	100	188	55	10	55	68
Nagasaki	375	178	5	28	6	0	158	305	100	11	85	109
Kumamoto	627	296	42	74	1	0	214	418	104	22	98	194
Oita	458	169	43	36	2	0	208	259	90	10	70	89
Miyazaki	421	188	25	35	0	0	173	289	103	13	95	78
Kagoshima	591	298	23	51	1	0	218	463	164	22	98	179
Okinawa	480	224	14	52	4	0	186	240	26	22	57	135
Prefectural total	37,141	20,972	831	3,546	62	3	11,727	29,692	6,721	1,384	7,393	14,194
Sapporo City	420	308	0	54	0	0	58	336	17	17	95	207
Sendai City	247	158	1	23	0	0	65	217	26	6	45	140
Saitama City	354	219	0	31	0	0	104	289	30	6	81	172
Chiba City	259	155	5	26	0	0	73	191	35	10	56	90
Special wards	3,339	2,561	0	144	1	1	632	2,833	53	50	424	2,306
Yokohama City	678	457	0	59	0	0	162	565	49	24	128	364
Kawasaki City	398	282	0	21	1	0	94	345	22	10	74	239
Sagamihara City	153	92	2	18	0	0	41	127	25	5	21	76
Niigata City	143	91	0	14	0	0	38	141	30	12	27	72
Shizuoka City	131	88	0	16	0	0	27	129	26	5	37	61
Hamamatsu City	210	110	3	23	0	0	74	161	41	6	40	74
Nagoya City	510	328	0	45	0	0	137	368	24	12	98	234
Kyoto City	267	210	5	18	0	0	34	267	22	17	67	161
Osaka City	721	578	0	47	1	0	95	649	15	27	202	405
Sakai City	181	137	1	21	0	0	22	174	13	6	50	105
Kobe City	386	236	8	44	0	0	98	299	33	15	60	191
Okayama City	173	106	5	15	1	0	46	152	30	9	33	80
Hiroshima City	242	155	3	26	0	0	58	222	27	11	57	127
Kitakyushu City	220	140	1	20	0	0	59	245	69	7	56	113
Fukuoka City	279	187	0	23	0	0	69	234	19	7	53	155
Kumamoto City	167	100	2	19	0	0	46	144	23	8	30	83
21 city total	9,478	6,698	36	707	4	1	2,032	8,088	629	270	1,734	5,455

(Note) The “21 city total” is found within the prefectural total.

Attachment 1-1-2 Extent of fire damage by prefecture (continued)

(During 2024)

Classification / Prefecture	Area burned			No. of casualties		No. of households affected				No. of people affected
	Building floor area (㎡)	Building surface area(㎡)	Forests (a)	Fatalities	Injured	Total	Totally destroyed	Half destroyed	Minor destruction	
Hokkaido	52,192	7,636	1,108	75	247	713	139	65	509	1,312
Aomori	20,371	2,106	1,146	28	73	261	77	15	169	537
Iwate	36,069	1,593	19,999	24	63	179	82	7	90	366
Miyagi	14,188	1,493	302	20	117	299	67	8	224	624
Akita	20,632	2,229	2,317	28	72	182	66	10	106	434
Yamagata	12,943	954	18,853	17	50	108	38	6	64	269
Fukushima	30,021	1,854	2,160	29	102	255	95	14	146	577
Ibaraki	40,138	2,565	1,232	46	146	462	153	30	279	1,040
Tochigi	24,010	1,743	1,118	29	70	335	82	25	228	745
Gunma	19,148	1,625	6,366	22	107	278	80	14	184	597
Saitama	40,062	5,837	173	65	308	1,217	233	77	907	2,571
Chiba	44,774	6,706	615	70	293	942	242	62	638	1,916
Tokyo	26,995	7,621	7,335	96	797	2,613	259	136	2,218	4,942
Kanagawa	30,962	5,496	54	72	332	1,202	184	59	959	2,454
Niigata	34,788	2,426	718	32	99	318	87	21	210	735
Toyama	10,447	1,831	0	18	51	110	27	10	73	264
Ishikawa	42,590	1,150	41	32	44	292	171	8	113	644
Fukui	4,621	434	126	10	22	70	15	6	49	156
Yamanashi	8,984	579	2,323	15	37	113	41	7	65	219
Nagano	33,465	2,066	2,165	44	136	322	96	20	206	731
Gifu	21,070	1,617	101	37	128	333	88	18	227	758
Shizuoka	25,022	2,367	70	28	132	449	106	25	318	986
Aichi	36,902	5,947	80	76	318	861	185	55	621	1,863
Mie	18,603	1,305	188	20	65	213	68	11	134	437
Shiga	9,280	895	22	4	60	180	37	7	136	395
Kyoto	14,232	1,913	67	16	122	355	61	24	270	700
Osaka	34,842	5,832	345	80	445	1,635	216	105	1,314	3,135
Hyogo	24,808	2,292	226	39	206	656	103	44	509	1,413
Nara	11,815	2,193	95	16	45	187	48	6	133	358
Wakayama	12,610	440	585	13	44	126	33	7	86	239
Tottori	5,418	347	168	6	25	69	20	7	42	162
Shimane	9,151	885	154	21	41	95	41	2	52	187
Okayama	24,870	1,158	457	30	105	284	83	17	184	602
Hiroshima	17,169	1,413	25,538	35	110	330	64	20	246	690
Yamaguchi	14,850	1,115	3,724	26	47	198	62	7	129	372
Tokushima	8,345	777	26	7	44	99	35	8	56	185
Kagawa	12,009	1,063	110	19	51	141	29	8	104	277
Ehime	18,322	1,401	373	14	67	264	71	20	173	538
Kochi	4,236	1,213	281	7	27	105	26	7	72	196
Fukuoka	29,376	5,023	83	53	176	643	125	31	487	1,400
Saga	9,550	779	227	13	33	98	32	9	57	247
Nagasaki	13,749	1,273	19	22	63	189	65	8	116	414
Kumamoto	13,947	678	1,383	21	71	224	67	8	149	514
Oita	11,339	805	954	18	50	125	47	4	74	267
Miyazaki	12,475	1,729	381	11	39	150	55	3	92	295
Kagoshima	24,848	631	3,399	35	77	256	91	6	159	521
Okinawa	5,371	528	139	12	48	130	21	15	94	271
Prefectural total	991,609	103,563	107,346	1,451	5,805	18,666	4,113	1,082	13,471	38,555
Sapporo City	4,449	1,402	0	19	86	237	9	15	213	402
Sendai City	2,177	587	29	9	50	152	16	3	133	285
Saitama City	3,844	981	0	18	46	219	33	8	178	485
Chiba City	4,785	526	7	13	60	161	33	10	118	277
Special wards	12,703	5,566	0	66	586	1,886	181	93	1,612	3,564
Yokohama City	6,846	2,018	0	25	108	451	57	26	368	868
Kawasaki City	4,236	1,200	0	14	72	276	42	9	225	562
Sagamihara City	3,050	246	6	4	32	88	12	3	73	179
Niigata City	8,257	391	1	6	38	88	22	7	59	207
Shizuoka City	3,824	420	4	4	21	99	21	4	74	178
Hamamatsu City	5,432	619	18	7	28	91	23	1	67	200
Nagoya City	4,287	1,315	0	10	105	287	29	22	236	553
Kyoto City	3,469	578	29	8	55	191	19	15	157	353
Osaka City	5,194	2,440	0	26	162	669	61	44	564	1,135
Sakai City	1,768	929	1	11	35	130	14	3	113	249
Kobe City	5,489	481	41	8	49	181	22	11	148	346
Okayama City	6,920	235	41	8	27	96	20	7	69	189
Hiroshima City	2,974	797	8	15	46	153	23	12	118	317
Kitakyushu City	8,380	2,126	2	17	33	133	30	5	98	274
Fukuoka City	1,616	869	0	8	52	165	13	9	143	337
Kumamoto City	2,760	146	2	7	24	99	23	3	73	226
21 city total	102,460	23,872	189	303	1,715	5,852	703	310	4,839	11,186

(Note) The “21 city total” is found within the prefectural total.

Attachment 1-1-2 Extent of fire damage by prefecture (continued)

(During 2024) (Unit: 1,000 yen)

Classification / Prefecture	Amount of damages									
	Total	Buildings			Forests	Vehicles	Ships	Aircraft	Other	Explosions
		Subtotal	Buildings	Contents						
Hokkaido	3,332,053	2,900,025	1,937,159	962,866	0	196,909	6,507	0	217,459	11,153
Aomori	999,253	864,672	640,652	224,020	2,066	49,085	6,015	0	76,970	445
Iwate	2,156,205	1,731,134	996,550	734,584	360,078	43,016	0	0	21,977	0
Miyagi	866,391	770,085	575,002	195,083	19,073	54,881	198	0	21,659	495
Akita	1,055,492	990,335	656,643	333,692	1,607	28,613	0	0	34,937	0
Yamagata	1,279,859	970,569	859,158	111,411	261,608	25,055	0	0	14,640	7,987
Fukushima	1,556,498	1,441,974	1,129,721	312,253	4,558	62,950	0	0	46,856	160
Ibaraki	3,390,627	3,119,474	2,092,112	1,027,362	2,258	73,193	171	0	190,866	4,665
Tochigi	1,777,441	1,647,843	1,262,716	385,127	23,663	78,308	0	0	25,207	2,420
Gunma	1,414,673	1,300,177	1,028,302	271,875	11,464	65,218	0	0	34,437	3,377
Saitama	4,249,432	3,907,072	2,906,644	1,000,428	2,362	215,264	9	0	98,442	26,283
Chiba	6,108,069	5,585,754	3,883,083	1,702,671	1,085	117,114	5,453	194,350	203,686	627
Tokyo	18,121,174	5,239,093	3,615,758	1,623,335	375	156,704	53	12,654,681	59,425	10,843
Kanagawa	3,086,029	2,977,874	1,991,661	986,213	51	61,019	7,000	0	31,405	8,680
Niigata	2,399,107	2,257,361	1,861,026	396,335	80	31,450	50	0	107,236	2,930
Toyama	755,824	729,092	585,794	143,298	0	7,928	3,105	0	15,599	100
Ishikawa	2,535,550	2,518,493	1,111,236	1,407,257	104	9,765	0	0	7,188	0
Fukui	375,345	251,253	223,024	28,229	136	61,147	1,633	0	14,492	46,684
Yamanashi	613,920	447,451	370,570	76,881	1,171	35,178	0	0	120,586	9,534
Nagano	1,484,164	1,294,195	936,270	357,925	6,282	122,615	0	0	61,000	72
Gifu	1,980,276	1,867,937	1,379,635	488,302	68	36,260	150	0	67,760	8,101
Shizuoka	3,238,056	2,813,929	1,637,161	1,176,768	0	221,343	0	0	202,393	391
Aichi	6,927,595	3,689,503	2,780,550	908,953	16	180,163	70	0	2,273,944	783,899
Mie	1,307,798	1,141,149	808,943	332,206	86	76,634	0	0	89,929	0
Shiga	1,483,798	1,422,786	485,025	937,761	0	30,584	13,750	0	16,640	38
Kyoto	945,769	916,180	756,697	159,483	634	11,425	1,030	0	16,368	132
Osaka	4,319,116	4,156,541	2,732,653	1,423,888	95	103,031	10	0	52,308	7,131
Hyogo	2,986,807	2,791,427	2,130,216	661,211	76	116,706	1,205	0	76,108	1,285
Nara	1,126,060	1,057,036	621,677	435,359	0	29,941	0	0	38,956	127
Wakayama	666,797	581,923	472,546	109,377	0	15,661	0	0	69,152	61
Tottori	252,196	238,675	182,882	55,793	453	10,834	0	0	2,234	0
Shimane	366,210	345,103	278,261	66,842	152	17,487	1	0	3,449	18
Okayama	2,086,759	1,986,955	856,538	1,130,417	532	39,651	2,570	0	43,951	13,100
Hiroshima	1,377,310	1,293,728	679,129	614,599	0	32,055	3,571	0	47,798	158
Yamaguchi	674,620	567,743	461,111	106,632	3	87,377	430	0	16,529	2,538
Tokushima	774,479	732,231	549,745	182,486	6	13,850	0	0	28,392	0
Kagawa	1,184,129	1,152,236	747,763	404,473	0	23,189	1,942	0	6,759	3
Ehime	959,727	868,184	619,097	249,087	164	17,483	1,123	0	72,773	0
Kochi	245,735	224,722	196,547	28,175	0	16,777	2,576	0	1,660	0
Fukuoka	3,189,751	2,415,269	1,581,587	833,682	55	83,879	544,323	4,000	139,390	2,835
Saga	519,655	483,115	365,846	117,269	0	15,768	0	0	20,772	0
Nagasaki	602,175	575,668	459,001	116,667	0	12,317	10,342	0	3,814	34
Kumamoto	1,035,033	896,967	485,439	411,528	4,065	47,318	1	0	75,035	11,647
Oita	590,825	452,231	345,932	106,299	7,378	28,050	2,891	0	100,275	0
Miyazaki	804,167	725,815	549,044	176,771	2,267	25,863	0	0	50,030	192
Kagoshima	2,240,372	2,125,529	772,661	1,352,868	22,460	34,503	36,000	0	21,783	97
Okinawa	434,014	408,702	286,383	122,319	0	16,855	100	0	7,697	660
Prefectural total	99,876,335	76,875,210	51,885,150	24,990,060	736,531	2,840,416	652,279	12,853,031	4,949,966	968,902
Sapporo City	517,370	496,353	411,373	84,980	0	15,523	0	0	5,040	454
Sendai City	228,072	196,333	123,549	72,784	0	25,931	0	0	5,796	12
Saitama City	334,765	310,029	241,150	68,879	0	16,473	9	0	8,254	0
Chiba City	481,745	450,181	378,750	71,431	36	10,642	0	0	20,286	600
Special wards	16,024,815	3,210,397	2,189,312	1,021,085	0	100,384	53	12,654,681	48,868	10,432
Yokohama City	623,132	603,921	477,649	126,272	0	14,169	0	0	5,035	7
Kawasaki City	348,194	327,724	154,808	172,916	0	8,471	7,000	0	4,999	0
Sagamihara City	313,888	295,327	236,626	58,701	0	10,812	0	0	7,692	57
Niigata City	459,521	452,096	307,511	144,585	0	5,919	0	0	1,506	0
Shizuoka City	382,518	350,372	230,661	119,711	0	19,954	0	0	12,192	0
Hamamatsu City	455,022	441,301	375,258	66,043	0	9,720	0	0	4,001	0
Nagoya City	408,998	396,651	253,533	143,118	0	10,770	0	0	426	1,151
Kyoto City	306,616	301,754	223,560	78,194	631	3,975	0	0	124	132
Osaka City	599,239	556,935	435,443	121,492	0	41,048	10	0	1,048	198
Sakai City	170,926	155,662	116,254	39,408	15	10,555	0	0	4,694	0
Kobe City	1,127,159	1,043,496	745,120	298,376	0	62,024	0	0	21,639	0
Okayama City	1,113,836	1,100,895	203,973	896,922	0	10,030	570	0	2,341	0
Hiroshima City	302,493	294,598	179,166	115,432	0	6,947	0	0	797	151
Kitakyushu City	829,026	705,087	418,400	286,687	0	36,264	0	0	87,675	0
Fukuoka City	148,460	136,995	58,627	78,368	0	6,775	0	0	1,898	2,792
Kumamoto City	384,723	374,989	109,384	265,605	0	7,443	0	0	2,270	21
21 city total	25,560,518	12,201,096	7,870,107	4,330,989	682	433,829	7,642	12,654,681	246,581	16,007

(Note) The "21 city total" is found within the prefectural total.

–omitted–