Fire Prevention Administration in Japan

International Fire Service Information Center

Introduction

We are pleased to announce the publication of the Japanese and English editions of "Fire Prevention Administration in Japan" (revised in 2024).

This document is a revised edition of "Fire Prevention Administration in Japan (Japanese/English)" published in March 2013, which provides an easy-to-understand overview of fire prevention administration in Japan.

Since the Fire Service Organization Act was enacted in 1948 and the local firefighting system was established based on the principle of municipal firefighting, firefighting in Japan has steadily developed through the efforts of all involved parties, and has played a major role in ensuring the safety and security of the people. Throughout the course of firefighting up to the present day, firefighting activities at the time of a disaster are, of course, very important, but it is also paramount that firefighting administrations, businesses, and citizens are each aware of their roles regarding and engage in fire prevention activities beforehand in order to prevent fires from occurring and minimize damages if they do occur. To that end, fire defense organizations have been given great legal authority to accomplish this.

In Japan, where population decline and the aging of society are expected to increase and worsen in the future, the field of fire prevention administration is expected to play a large role even as the socioeconomic conditions and people's lives change dramatically with the times.

The first chapter of this document overviews the history of repeated legal reforms triggered by fires involving large-scale fire prevention properties.

The second chapter overviews the organization responsible for firefighting administration, and the third chapter discusses the laws and ordinances relating to fire prevention administration.

Chapters four and five offer concrete discussion about the status of efforts by the fire prevention system based on various factors, including statistical data. Additionally, chapters six and seven discuss the systems for fire investigation and fire engineers.

With this document, it should be possible to understand the basics of the status of the fire prevention administration system and its operations in Japan.

We hope this document will be of use to a wide audience, not just by those involved in firefighting nationwide, but also internationally.

March 2024

President of the International Fire Service Information Center

TAKEI Takeji

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Chap. 1 History of Fire Prevention Administration

Following the second world war, the reorganization of the fire service in Japan was advanced through the direction of General Headquarters (GHQ). The Valentine Report and the Olander Report each strongly recommended that the fire service and the police service be separated. Additionally, Fire Service Administrator George Angel, appointed at the end of 1945, made this his focus, and shaped post-war fire service in Japan. First, the Volunteer Fire Corps Regulations was enacted April 30, 1947, replacing the "Civil Defense Unit" with the "Volunteer Fire Corps." In accordance with the Fire Service Organization Act enacted in December of the same year, fire service was separated from police service, and management of fire service was given to municipal authorities. In accordance with the Fire Service Act enacted in the following year of 1948, the importance of fire prevention was being defined, and fire departments were simultaneously being granted significant authority. Concretely, "taking necessary measures for fire prevention," "fire prevention consent on building confirmation," "regulations regarding hazardous materials," "fire protection equipment," "fire investigation," and more.

Afterwards, according to the change of societal conditions and the occurrence of various disasters, etc., a fire prevention management system was developed, a certification system for fire protection equipment was developed, a system for fire protection equipment engineers was established, and fire retardant regulations were implemented, while necessary regulations were simultaneously revised.

In the first half of the 1970s, a series of disastrous fires killing over 100 people broke out in large-scale fire prevention properties, therefore in June 1974 a drastic amendment of the Fire Service Act was made to apply the

(5/13/1972) Fire at the Sennichi Department Store Building in Osaka City (From the Fire and Disaster Prevention Museum)

latest act and regulations to specified high-risk fire prevention properties, including existing properties.

Starting in the 2000s, as fires with many deaths and injuries have frequently occurred in small scale establishments such as restaurants in multi-purpose buildings and social welfare facilities like group homes, laws have been amended to prevent the re-occurrence of such events. Additionally, with the aim of smoothly introducing new technology, performance-based regulations regarding the technical standards of fire protection equipment have been introduced by the amendment of the Fire Service Act in 2003. This amendment enabled the use of new special fire protection equipment in place of existing equipment.

Additionally, based on the increasing trend for the victims of residential fires to be the elderly that has accompanied the advancement of an aging society, it became required to equip residences with residential fire alarms in 2004. In recent years strengthening fire prevention measures in residences as well as in business establishments has become a priority of fire prevention administration.

Furthermore, as a response to the imminent threat of a Nankai Trough Earthquake or a Tokyo inland earthquake, the 2007 revision of the Fire Service Act introduced a disaster prevention management system that requires large-scale and high-rise buildings to prepare firefighting plans for disaster prevention in response to earthquakes, etc., to appoint a disaster prevention manager who is responsible for emergency response and evacuation drills in the event of an earthquake, and establish an in-house firefighting team to perform duties necessary to mitigate damage caused by disasters.

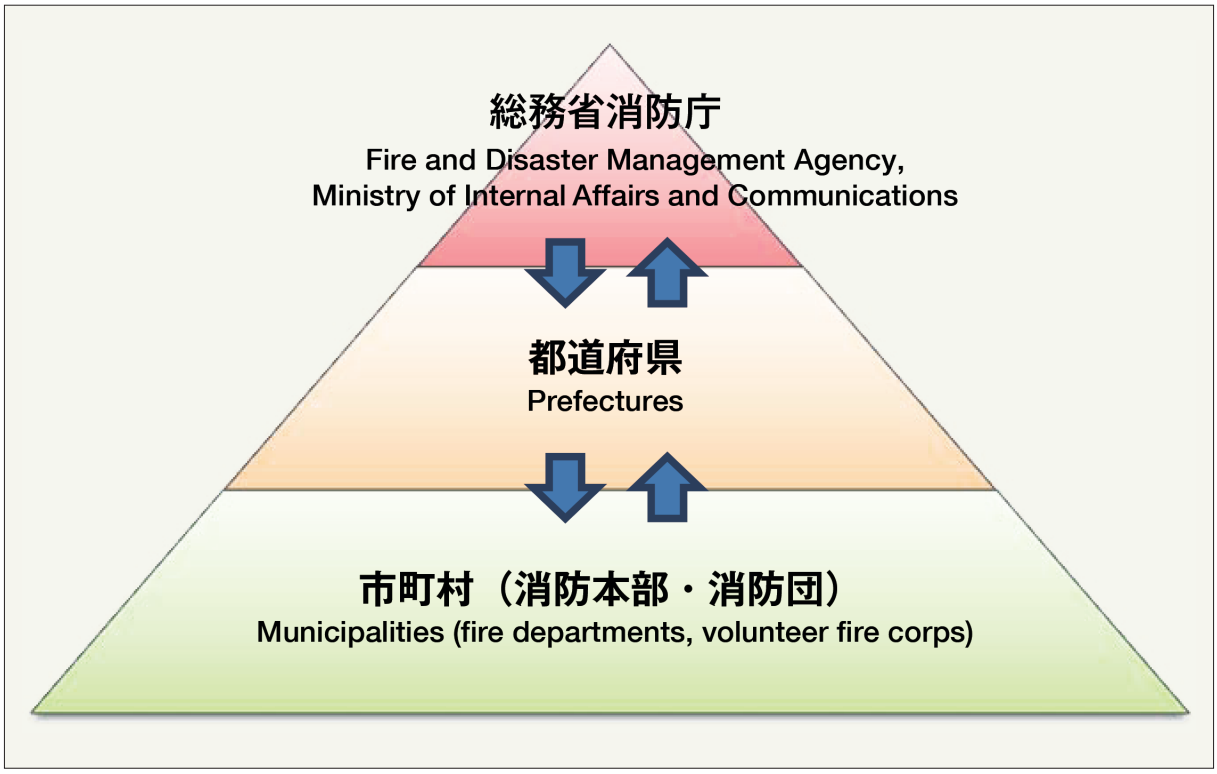
(9/1/2001) Fire at a multi-tenant building in Kabuki-cho, Shinjuku City (From the Fire and Disaster Prevention Museum)

(1/8/2006) Fire at a group home for elderly persons in Omura City, Nagasaki Prefecture (From the Fire and Disaster Prevention Museum)

Residential Fire (courtesy of Tokyo Fire Department)

Chap. 2 Organization

In Japan, direct responsibility for the fire service belongs to the municipality, but from the perspective of providing uniform fire service nationwide, organizations related to fire service have been established across the country and prefectures.



Visual organization chart

1. National Organization

As Japan's fire service organization, the FDMA was established as an external bureau of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications and the Commissioner of the FDMA was placed as the head. In order to strengthen municipal fire services, the FDMA is responsible for systems related to firefighting activities, rescue activities, ambulance services, fire prevention, and hazardous material regulation, etc., enhancement of firefighting facilities, training of firefighters, and nationwide assistance by dispatching national fire service teams, etc., as well as various measures against disasters such as earthquakes, storms, and floods, promotion of utilization of information technology in the fire and disaster prevention field, statistics and information about fire and disaster prevention, training and education for senior fire officers in the Fire and Disaster Management College, dispatch of international fire and rescue teams, and international cooperation. Regarding fire prevention administration, the FDMA also handles planning of fire prevention administration system such as fire safety inspection, fire prevention management etc., as well as investigation of the causes of fires and spills of hazardous materials etc..

2. Prefectural Organization

As for prefectures, as regional local governments encompassing municipalities, they are supposed to communicate with municipalities and coordinate among municipalities to ensure that municipal fire services are adequately carried out. In addition, as necessary, they are supposed to provide guidance and advice to municipalities on matters related to fire service. In particular, fire academies have been established in each prefecture to provide education and training for firefighters and volunteer fire corps members. Generally, a division in charge of fire service is placed in prefectural departments.

3. Municipal organization

The responsibility for fire service is considered to be that of the municipality, and the respective chiefs are to manage fire services. There are three types of fire service institutions: fire departments, fire stations, and volunteer fire corps, and all or some are to be established as needed by each municipality. The head of the fire department is to be the fire chief, the head of the fire station is to be the fire station chief, the head of the volunteer fire corps is to be the fire corps chief.

Additionally, in the area of the special wards of Tokyo (the 23 wards), the special wards shall take joint responsibility for fire services, and the governor of Tokyo manages the fire services.

Outward appearence of a fire station (courtesy of Chiba City Fire Bureau)

Chap. 3 Laws and Regulations

1. Laws and Regulations

(1) Fire Service Organization Act

The Fire Service Organization Act was enacted on December 23, 1947. The law determines the mission of the fire service in Japan; the administrative bodies related to fire service for municipalities, prefectures, and the nation; the integration of fire departments; and the relations of the various organizations. That is to say, it is the foundational law for fire service organization in Japan.

The mission of fire service is provided in chapter one. That mission is to protect the people's lives, health, and property from fires and to prevent other disasters and minimize damage.

Additionally, as organizations operating with the objective of protecting the lives, health, and property of the people already exist based on other laws, they must coordinate and cooperate in order to achieve the goal of protecting the people.

Chapters two and three designate fire service organizations in municipalities, prefectures, and the nation as previously described. Chapter four determines the integration of fire departments, and chapter five the relationships between the various organizations.

(2) Fire Service Act

The Fire Service Act was enacted on July 24th, 1948. The objective of the Act is to contribute to maintaining peace and order and contributing to the promotion of social and public welfare by preventing, guarding against, and suppressing fires and minimizing damage from disasters. The law's contents are comprised of fire prevention, hazardous materials, fire protection equipment, fire precautions, firefighting activities, fire investigation, ambulance services, rules, and punishments, etc.. Of these, the portion relating to fire prevention will be explained in detail.

Regarding fire prevention, the act contains regulations concerning the right of fire chiefs, fire station chiefs, and other firefighters to issue orders when playing with fire outdoors, open air fires, etc., are deemed to be dangerous to preventing fires; the right of firefighters to perform on-site inspections of business establishments, order the submission of documents, and collect reports; to order the suspension of use of fire prevention properties deemed to be dangerous to preventing fires; for the fire chiefs' or fire station chiefs' consent to building permits, fire prevention management systems, inspection of and reporting on fire prevention properties, in-house firefighting teams, and equipment that utilizes fire.

Regarding hazardous materials, the Fire Service Act prohibits the storage and handling of hazardous materials exceeding a certain amount in locations other than hazardous materials facilities (manufacturing facilities, storage facilities, handling facilities), and also designates the followings: procedures for applying for construction of hazardous materials facilities; permission, inspection, maintenance and revocation of permission; methods for testing and qualification of personnel required for hazardous materials facilities; and initial response in the event of an accident.

Regarding fire protection equipment, the act contains regulations regarding standards for fire protection equipment that must be installed according to the use, scale, construction, maximum occupancy, etc. of fire prevention properties, testing methods for fire protection equipment engineers who are qualified to carry out inspections, construction, and maintenance, etc., and certification methods.

The law also establishes strict penalties against violators of its regulations in order to achieve the purpose of the act.

2. Ordinances

Laws related to fire service apply to, and fire services are carried out in, the whole country. However, despite all being within Japan's borders, depending on the unique climate and features of an area, it would be difficult to adequately achieve fire prevention goals with a single standard for the entire nation. Therefore, it is possible for municipalities to enact ordinances.

Additionally, regarding some items (for example: equipment that utilizes fire, residential fire alarms, regulations of hazardous materials below specified quantities, etc.), the law shall be considered as it is stipulated in the municipal ordinance. Municipalities may enact ordinances in accordance with the standards stipulated by law, and using as reference the Fire Prevention Ordinance (example) which is a sample of the Fire Prevention Ordinance presented by the FDMA.

In this way, each region will have appropriate standards in the Fire Service Act to start with, and it also becomes necessary to conform to the fire prevention ordinances appropriate to the area.

Chap. 4 The Fire Prevention Administration Legal System

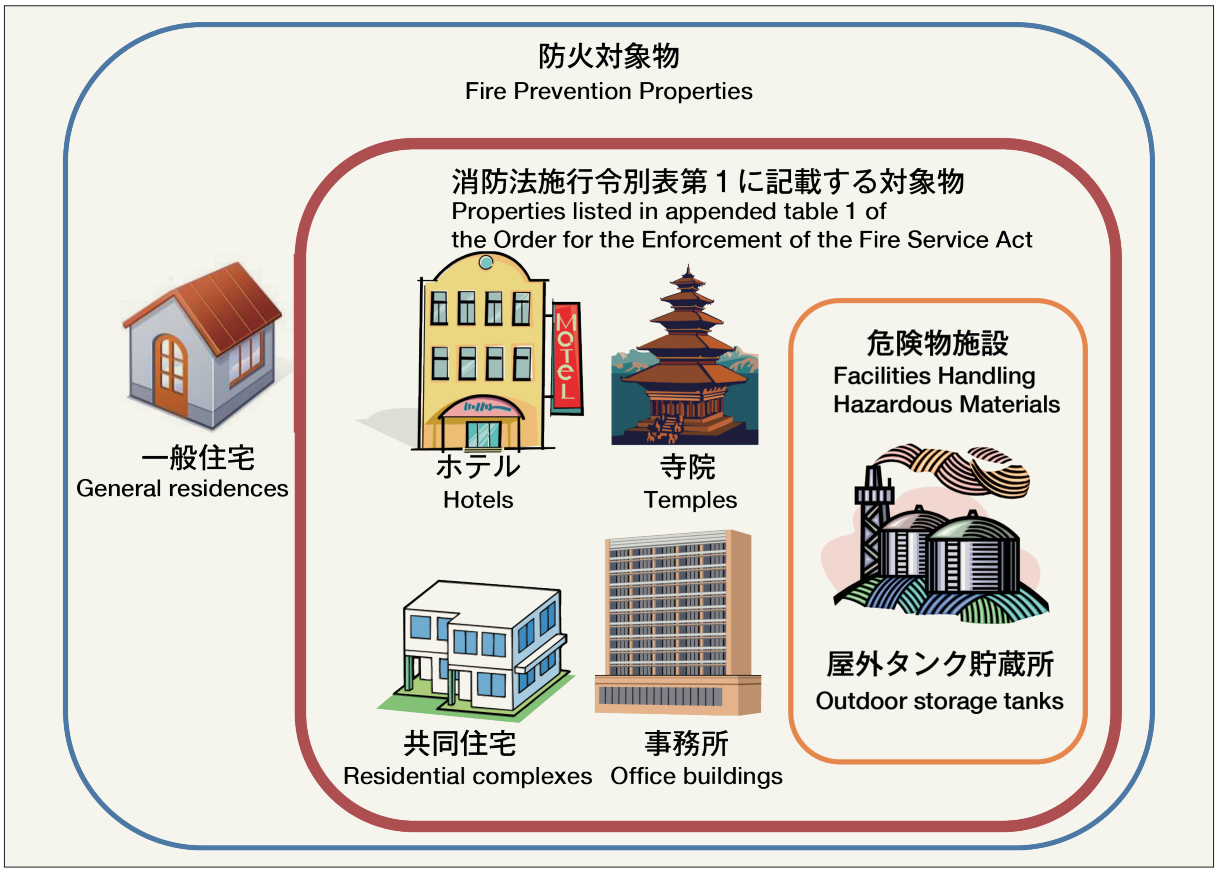
1. Fire Prevention Properties

In Japan, fire departments are involved in various ways in fire prevention for certain types of fire prevention properties(*) from the time they are planned until they are no longer in use.

Concretely, in the time from planning a fire prevention property until its use begins various standards such as the necessary fire protection equipment, fire prevention management (appointing a fire prevention manager, creation of a fire defense plan) are required to be met. Even afterwards, in order to ensure compliance with the standards set forth in the law, fire protection equipment must be inspected, on-site inspections must be carried out by fire departments, and violators must be handled.

Fire prevention properties, including general residences, hazardous materials facilities, etc., are regulated by the Fire Service Act. Among them, detached houses built exclusively for residential use and row houses that share only walls have classically been considered outside the scope of fire protection equipment regulations under the Fire Service Act. However, the installation of residential fire alarms has been mandatory for new houses since 2006. Subsequently, the requirement has been applied to existing residences since 2011.

The number of objects listed in Appended Table 1 of the Cabinet Order for the Enforcement of the Fire Service Act to which fire prevention related laws and regulations (fire protection equipment and fire prevention management, etc.) are to be applied is as follows.



Visual chart of fire prevention properties

* The term “fire prevention property” means a forest, or a vessel or vehicle, a ship moored at a dock or a pier, a building or other structure or property belonging thereto.

Number of Fire Prevention Properties (from the 2022 Report)

Class of Fire Prevention Properties			Nationwide	21 Major Cities	Ratio
(1)	A) Theaters, etc.		4,532	650	14.3
	B) Public Halls, etc.		64,311	6,253	9.7
(2)	A) Cabaret Clubs, etc.		1,379	126	9.1
	B) Entertainment Complexes, etc.		8,496	1,608	18.9
	C) Sex Services, etc.		174	97	55.7
	D) Karaoke Boxes, etc.		2,271	574	25.3
(3)	A) Eateries, etc.		2,426	431	17.8
	B) Restaurants, etc.		86,598	17,906	20.7
(4)	Department Stores, etc.		157,056	28,485	18.1
(5)	A) Inns, etc.		59,945	8,188	13.7
	B) Residential Complexes, etc.		1,387,512	538,917	38.8
(6)	A)	(1) Hospitals where patients requiring assistance for evacuation are admitted	5,722	1,053	18.4
		(2) Clinics with 19 beds or less where patients requiring assistance for evacuation are admitted.	2,875	576	20.0
		(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	9,278	2,323	25.0
		(4) Bed-less Clinics, Bed-less Maternity Homes	45,723	8,575	18.8
		Subtotal	63,598	12,527	19.7
	B)	(1) Short Term Care Facilities for the Elderly	45,708	8,854	19.4
		(2) Orphanages	221	36	16.3
		(3) Nurseries	133	31	23.3
		(4) Care Facilities for Disabled Children	530	76	14.3
		(5) Support Facilities for the Disabled, etc.	7,832	1,336	17.1
		Subtotal	54,424	10,333	19.0
	C)	(1) Disability Centers for the Elderly	23,012	4,029	17.5
		(2) Rehab Facilities	226	42	18.6
		(3) Nursery Schools, etc.	38,526	8,701	22.6
		(4) Child Development Support Centers, etc.	4,397	707	16.1
		(5) Welfare Centers for the Physically Handicapped, etc.	24,069	4,080	17.0
		Subtotal	90,230	17,559	19.5
	D) Kindergartens		15,433	3,857	25.0
(7)	Schools		124,538	28,213	22.7
(8)	Libraries, etc.		7,640	862	11.3
(9)	A) Special Bathhouses, etc.		1,732	626	36.1
	B) Generic Bathhouses, etc.		3,969	868	21.9
(10)	Railway Stations		3,989	1,423	35.7
(11)	Shrines and Temples, etc.		58,918	12,388	21.0
(12)	A) Factories, etc.		484,014	71,340	14.7
	B) Studios		407	148	36.4
(13)	A) Parking Lots, etc.		52,239	13,950	26.7
	B) Ship's Hangars		702	86	12.3
(14)	Storage Facilities		336,405	53,613	15.9
(15)	Offices, etc.		496,580	110,560	22.3
(16)	A) Specified Multipurpose Fire Prevention Properties		385,715	146,649	38.0
	B) Unspecified Multipurpose Fire Prevention Properties		281,620	128,925	45.8
(16-2)	Underground Shopping Centers		60	52	86.7
(16-3)	Partially Underground Shopping Centers		7	6	85.7
(17)	Cultural Heritage Properties		9,648	1,533	15.9
(18)	Arcades		1,260	470	37.3
(19)	Mountains and Forests		0	0	-
Total			4,247,828	1,219,223	28.7

(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).

(1) Fire Prevention Consent

When a building is to be constructed, in order to confirm that the building is in compliance with the relevant laws and regulations, the building owner must apply for the "building confirmation" with the necessary plans and documents to the government agencies related to construction (building officials, designated confirmation and inspection bodies). The application is forwarded to the competent fire chief or fire station chief, who examines them as necessary from the viewpoint of fire safety and firefighting activities, and returns them to the administrative agency approved if they are not in violation of any fire prevention measures, or disapproved if they are. Therefore, it is possible for the construction of a building to be halted at the planning stage due to problems relating to fire safety or firefighting activities.

Relevant Laws • *Fire Service Act Article 7*

Examination for fire prevention consent (courtesy of Tokyo Fire Department)

(2) Fire Protection Equipment

Fire protection equipment can be broadly classified into 3 categories: firefighting equipment, water source for firefighting, and facilities necessary for firefighting activities. Depending on the scale and use of fire prevention properties, necessary equipment and facilities of these are stipulated in regulations.

Among these categories, firefighting equipment can be divided into fire extinguishing equipment, alarm systems, and escape equipment. First, for fire extinguishing equipment there are fire extinguishers and simple fire extinguishing tools (water buckets, water tanks, dry sand, vermiculite, pearlite), indoor fire hydrant systems, automatic sprinkler systems, water spray extinguishing systems, foam extinguishing systems, inert gas extinguishing systems, halon extinguishing systems, dry chemical extinguishing systems, outdoor fire hydrant systems, power driven fire pumps. Next, for alarm systems there are automatic fire alarm systems, gas leakage alarm and indication systems, electric leakage fire alarm systems, fire alarm systems that notify fire departments, emergency alarm apparatuses, and emergency alarm systems. For escape equipment, there are emergency exit lights and signs.

In addition to these, the facilities necessary for firefighting activities are, primarily, facilities that support the firefighting activities of fire brigades, including smoke ventilation systems, sprinkler systems with hose connections, standpipe systems, emergency electrical outlets, and auxiliary radio communication systems.

Relevant Laws • *Fire Service Act Article 17*

Examples of fire protection equipment: fire extinguisher, emergency exit light

(3) Notification of The Start of Installation

When installing fire protection equipment in a fire prevention property, aside from some simple equipment, a Class A fire protection equipment engineer must submit the necessary plans and documents to the fire chief, or fire station chief. The fire department examines the report and makes changes to the plans and offers guidance as necessary.

Relevant Laws • *Fire Service Act Article 17-14*

(4) Notification of Beginning of Use

When installation is completed, the related parties notify the fire chief or fire station chief via a notification of the installation of fire protection equipment. Based on this, the fire department conducts an investigation confirming that there are no issues with the fire prevention property or fire protection equipment that would cause any issues for fire prevention and that installation was carried out according to the previously presented plans.

Additionally, when the fire prevention property is completed, a notification of beginning of use must be submitted in accordance with municipal ordinances, and based on this an inspection may be carried out.

Relevant Laws • *Fire Prevention Ordinance (Example) Article 43*

On-site Inspection (courtesy of Tokyo Fire Department)

(5) On-site Inspections

When necessary for fire prevention, fire departments may enter any place of business, factory, place with public access, etc., and examine the placement, construction, installation, and management of firefighting objects, and question relevant personnel. On-site inspection is not limited by timing, and fire departments may enter any place during its business hours or during operation, etc.. Additionally, prior notification is unnecessary. Finally, they may require relevant personnel to submit data or reports as needed.

However, regarding personal residences, entry is not permitted except when the consent of the person concerned has been received or in case of emergency.

Relevant Laws • *Fire Service Act Article 4*

On-site Inspection (courtesy of Tokyo Fire Department)

(6) Inspection Reporting

Personnel relevant to a fire prevention property are obligated to report to fire departments regarding the following issues, depending on the use and scale of the property they own or manage.

First, the functionality of fire protection equipment that has been installed in accordance with the Fire Service Act is required to be tested periodically and reported to the fire chief or fire station chief.

Of fire prevention properties that must be reported, high fire risk properties (for example specified properties(*) with a total area of 1,000㎡ or more, and aside from the specified properties, those properties with a total area of 1,000㎡ or more that have been designated for fire safety reason by a competent fire chief or fire station chief), are required to have an inspection on fire protection equipment by a qualified individual (fire protection equipment engineer or fire protection equipment inspector).

The reporting period for specified properties is once per year, and for properties aside from specified properties is once per three years.

Relevant Laws • *Fire Service Act Article 17-3-3*

* Specified fire prevention properties are properties used by an unspecified number of people or properties that are difficult to evacuate in the event of a fire and have a high risk of causing significant harm to human life.

Next, for fire prevention properties like shown in example 1, it is required that a qualified inspector of fire prevention properties perform an inspection once per year regarding the implementation of fire prevention management in conformity to fire related laws and regulations and to report those results to the fire chief or fire station chief.

Additionally, for fire prevention properties like shown in example 2, it is required that a qualified disaster management inspector perform an inspection once per year regarding the implementation of disaster management and to report those results to the fire chief or fire station chief.

Through these inspections, those related to the fire prevention property can confirm their own safety against fires, earthquakes, and other disasters. Additionally, by receiving the relevant reports, fire chiefs and fire station chiefs are able to grasp the state of fire prevention properties and make practical use of on-site inspections as necessary, enabling them to effectively confirm the safety of such properties.

Relevant Laws

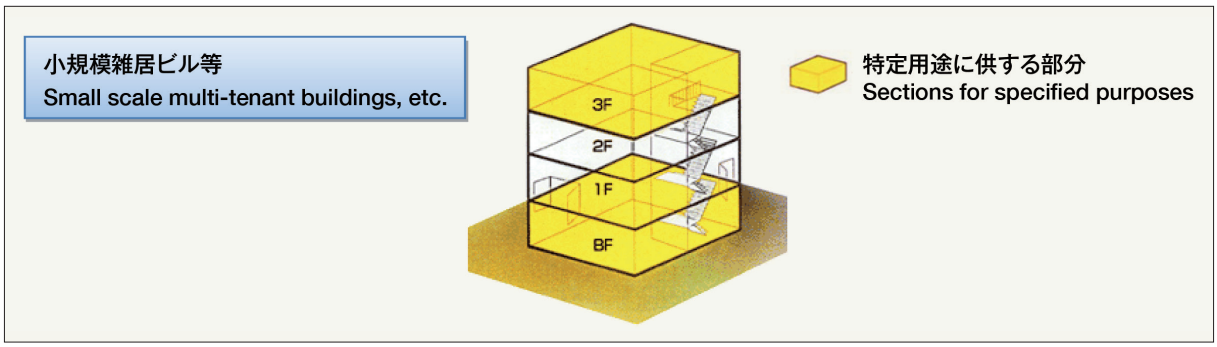
- ***Fire Service Act Article 8-2-2, as applied mutatis mutandis pursuant to Fire Service Act Article 36 Paragraph 1***

Example 1: Properties requiring fire prevention inspections

i) Buildings with a capacity of 10 or more (fire prevention properties listed in Paragraph (6)(b), (16)(a) and (16-2) of Appended Table 1 of the Cabinet Order for the Enforcement of the Fire Service Act (limited to those with a portion used as fire prevention property as listed in Paragraph (6)(b)), or buildings with a capacity of 30 or more people that meet the following requirements:

1. The portion of the building specified for use is located in the basement or on the third floor or higher (excluding the evacuation floor).
2. There is only a single staircase.

ii) Certain buildings (specified fire prevention properties) with a capacity of 300 or more people



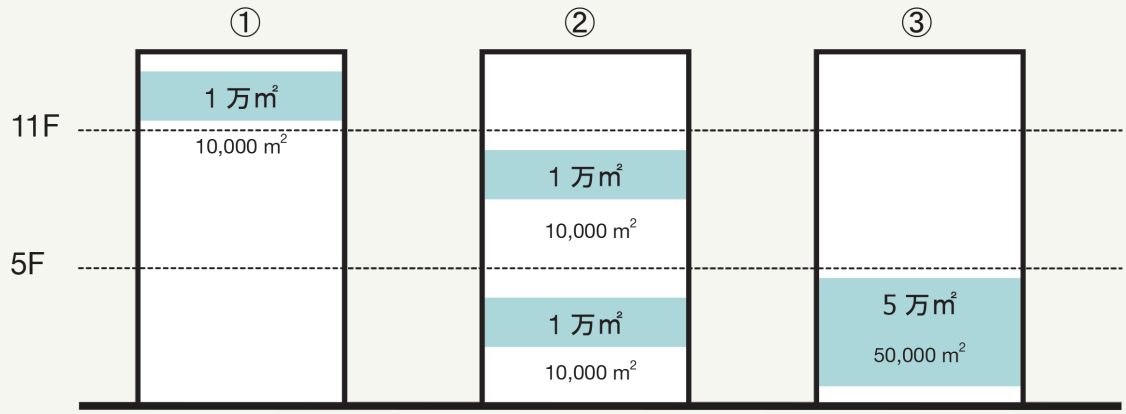
Example 2: Properties requiring disaster management inspections

対象用途 Purpose					規模 Scale	
劇場等（1 項）	Theaters, etc. (Par. 1)	風俗営業店舗等（2 項）	Sex industry establishments, etc. (Par. 2)			
飲食店等（3 項）	Restaurants, etc. (Par. 3)	百貨店等（4 項）	Department Stores, etc. (Par. 4)			
ホテル等（5 項イ）	Hotels, etc. (Par. 5)	病院・社会福祉施設等（6 項）	Hospitals, social welfare facilities, etc. (Par. 6)			
学校等（7 項）	Schools, etc. (Par. 7)	図書館・博物館等（8 項）	Libraries, museums, etc. (Par. 8)	＋		
公衆浴場等（9 項）	Public bathhouses, etc. (Par. 9)	車両の停車場等（10 項）	Vehicle stations, etc. (Par. 10)			
神社・寺院等（11 項）	Shrines and temples, etc. (Par. 11)	工場等（12 項）	Factories, etc. (Par. 12)			
駐車場等（13 項イ）	Parking lots, etc. (Par. 13 (a))	その他の事業場（15 項）	Other business establishments (Par. 15)			
文化財である建築物（17 項）	Properties at cultural heritage sites (Par. 17)					
					①階数が 11 以上の防火対象物 延べ面積 **1 万㎡以上**	1) Fire prevention property with at least 11 floors and a total area of 10,000m² or larger
					②階数が 5 以上 10 以下の防火対象物 延べ面積 **2 万㎡以上**	2) Fire prevention property with between 5 and 10 floors and a total area of 20,000m² or larger
					③階数が 4 以下の防火対象物 延べ面積 **5 万㎡以上**	3) Fire prevention property with 4 or less floors and a total area of 50,000m² or larger
					（階数は、地階を除く） (The basement is excluded from the number of floors)	
地下街（16 項の 2）			Underground shopping centers (Par. 16-2)	＋	**延べ面積 1,000 ㎡以上**	Total area of 1,000m² or larger

→共同住宅等（5 項ロ）、格納庫等（13 項ロ）、倉庫（14 項）は含まれない。
→ Apartment complexes, etc. (Par. 5 (b)), Aircraft hangars, etc. (Par. 13 (b)), and storehouses (Par. 14) not included

複合用途防火対象物（16 項）における規模の考え方
Conceptualization of multi-purpose fire prevention property scale (Par. 16)

対象用途に供する部分が．．． Section specified for use:	防火対象物全体の対象用途に供される部分の床面積の合計が．．． Total floor area of the section specified for use in the whole fire prevention property:
①11 階以上の階にある防火対象物 1) The 11th floor and higher of the fire prevention property	→ 1 万㎡以上 10,000m² or larger
②5 階以上 10 階以下の階にある防火対象物（＝11 階以上にはない） 2) Between the 5th and 10th floors of the fire prevention property	→ 2 万㎡以上 20,000m² or larger
③4 階以下の階にある防火対象物（＝5 階以上にはない） 3) The 4th floor or lower of the fire prevention property	→ 5 万㎡以上 50,000m² or larger



※防災管理対象物全体が防災管理業務実施の対象になります。
*The whole property under disaster prevention measures is subject to disaster prevention management.

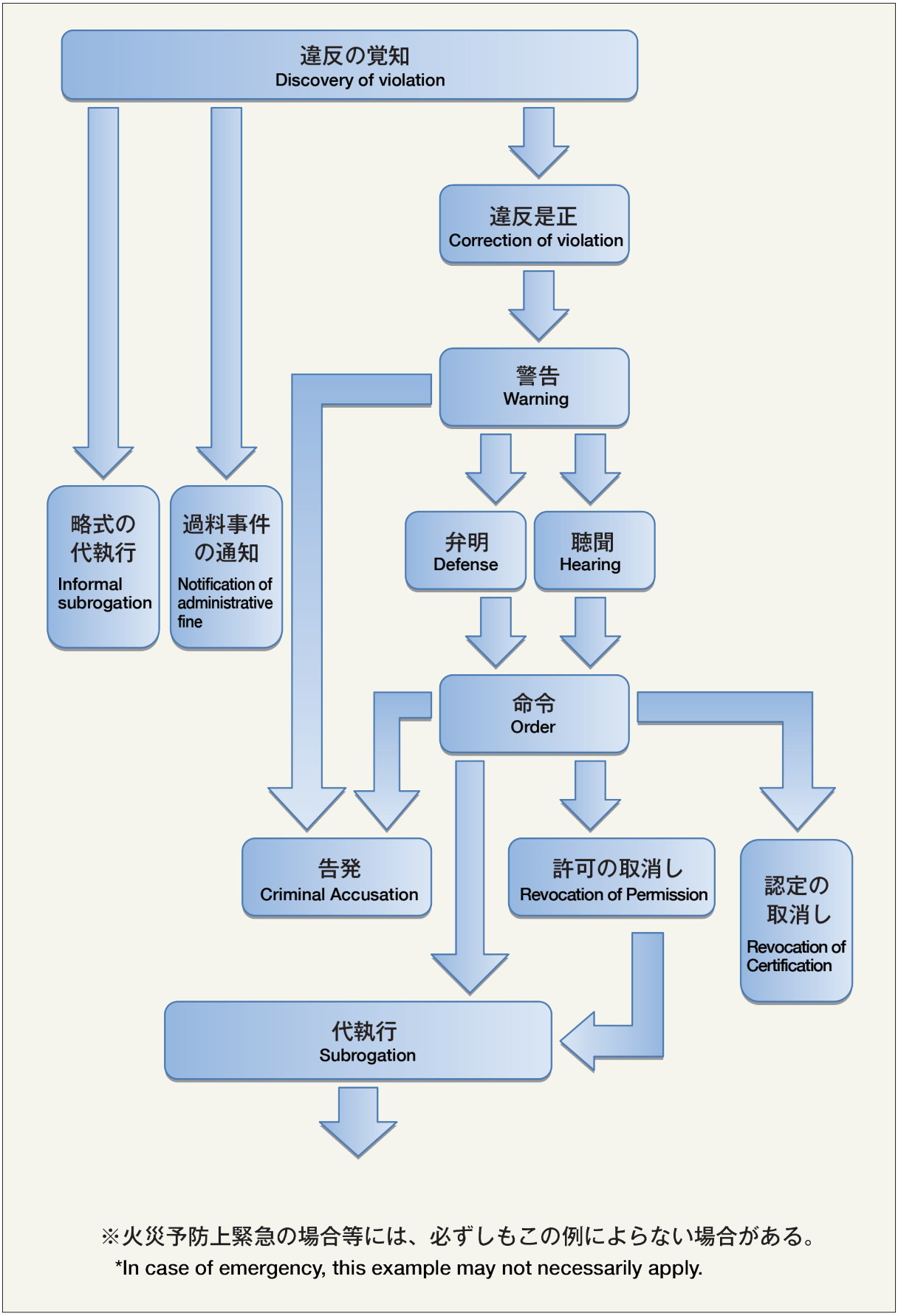
(7) Handling Violations

The fire chief or fire station chief will instruct management officials to quickly correct violations of fire related laws and regulations found by on-site inspections, etc., with an emphasis on human safety. In cases where it is deemed the risk to human life is high and improvement must be made immediately, or in cases where time has passed with no improvement, the procedures for handling violations will progress.

Violations are handled through warnings, orders, revocation of certification, criminal accusations, fines, administrative subrogation, and informal administrative subrogation, and are determined taking the specifics of the violation, the danger to human life, the probability of a disaster occurring, etc. into account.

How Violations are Handled

Warnings	A declaration that informs the parties relevant to the fire prevention property and urges them to correct said violations or eliminate said fire hazards, and notifies that legal action such as an order or criminal accusation will be taken should they not comply. In principle, warnings are given as a preliminary measure prior to issuing an order, and serve as administrative guidance in nature.
Orders	A declaration to a relevant party requiring the elimination of specific fire hazards or the correction of specific violations of the Fire Service Act and related regulations issued by an authority such as a mayor, fire chief, or fire station chief as an administrative body that utilizes civil authority based on the stipulations of the Act. Usually, enforced indirectly via the threat of punishment.
Revocation of Certification	Penalties such as the revocation of certifications based on facts falling under the provisions of Article 8-2-3, Paragraph 6 of the Fire Service Act with respect to fire prevention properties that have received special certification under Article 8-2-3, Paragraph 1 of the Fire Service Act.
Criminal Accusation	A declaration of intent to punish a violator through prosecution by reporting them to an investigative agency in order to correct their violations when penal provisions are designated in cases where an order has been violated or a provision has been directly violated.
Administrative Subrogation	Administrative subrogation refers to cases where a responsible party does not perform, is delayed in performing, or is unlikely to perform, their obligation to perform an act that can be performed by another person on their behalf under a law or administrative disposition, where it is deemed extremely contrary to the public interest to leave the obligation to the original responsible party, and where it is difficult to achieve performance other than by another person performing the act on their behalf. In these cases, the administrative agency itself or a third party shall perform the act that the responsible party is obligated to perform and collect the cost of the act from that party.



Flowchart of the Handling of Violations

2. Hazardous Materials Facilities

Hazardous materials are indispensable to people's lives and energy source for electric power, traffic, and transportation, as well as raw materials for plastics, chemical fibers, and more. On the other hand, they have the following characteristics which results in them causing more serious damage than ordinary fires: (1) high risk of starting fires, (2) high risk of spreading fires (rapid burning speed), and (3) difficult to extinguish fires. The Fire Service Act defines hazardous materials as those having certain properties in terms of fire hazard, prohibits the storage or handling of hazardous materials above a certain quantity at locations other than hazardous materials facilities (manufacturing, handling, or storage facilities), and requires a permit or completion inspection by the mayor of the municipality, etc. when establishing such facilities.

Additionally, standards for the location, structure, and equipment of hazardous material facilities, as well as for the storage and handling of hazardous materials, have been established from the perspective of ensuring safety, and a system for the involvement of municipal mayors and others, such as on-site inspections, has been developed to ensure the safety of such facilities. In addition, as a system for the purpose of having an independent safety measures, the regulations stipulate the appointment of a hazardous materials safety supervising manager, safety supervisor, and facility safety staff; the establishment of fire prevention regulations; the implementation of periodic inspections; the establishment of in-house firefighting teams; and matters related to the Hazardous Materials Safety Techniques Association.

(1) Application for Permit to Establish

An individual who intends to establish a hazardous materials facility or to change the location, structure, or equipment of such a facility shall obtain permission from the mayor of the municipality, etc.

Upon receiving an application for a permit to establish or modify a hazardous materials facility, the mayor of the municipality, etc. shall examine the application for the permit and grant the permit if the following two conditions are met:

- The location, structure, and equipment used in the hazardous materials facility conforms to technical standards.
- The storage or handling of hazardous materials at the hazardous materials facility does not interfere with the preservation of public safety or the prevention of disasters.

(2) Completion Inspections

Following the establishment or modification of a hazardous materials facility, the mayor of the municipality, etc., shall conduct a completion inspection based on the application.

Relevant Laws • *Fire Service Act Article 11 Paragraph 1*

When a completion inspection shows that a hazardous materials facility complies with the technical standards of Article 10, Paragraph 4 of the Fire Service Act, a completion inspection certificate is issued, and only then can the facility be used as a hazardous materials facility.

Relevant Laws • *Fire Service Act Article 11 Paragraph 2*

Completion Inspection (courtesy of Chiba City Fire Bureau)

(3) On-site Inspections

Similar to on-site inspections of fire prevention properties, on-site inspections by fire officials are allowed for hazardous materials facilities and other facilities (all locations where hazardous materials in excess of the designated quantity are, or might be, stored or handled). The major difference from on-site inspections of fire prevention properties is that appropriate items can be expropriated (taken without compensation) only to the extent necessary to analyze whether the items stored, handled, or manufactured fall under the category of hazardous materials as specified in the Fire Service Act.

If, as a result of the on-site inspection, it is found that the Fire Service Act has been violated, the mayor of the municipality, etc., may issue an order to the relevant personnel at the hazardous materials facility requiring compliance with the standards for storage or handling, or an order to comply with the standards for the location, structure and equipment of the facility, etc.

Relevant Laws • *Fire Service Act Article 16-5*

On-site Inspection (courtesy of Tokyo Fire Department)

(4) Notification of Change to the Items, Quantities, or Multiple

In the event of a change in the item, quantity, or multiple of a hazardous material to be stored or handled without changing the location, structure, or equipment of the hazardous material facility, notification must be made to the mayor of the municipality, etc. at least 10 days prior to the intended date of the change.

Relevant Laws • *Fire Service Act Article 11-4*

(5) Maintenance Management

Imposes on the relevant parties of a hazardous materials facility the obligation to maintain standards for the location, structure, and equipment of said facilities in accordance with Article 12, Paragraph 1 of the Fire Service Act. Additionally, to ensure that this obligation is fulfilled by the parties concerned, an independent inspection system by the relevant parties and a government inspection system have been established.

The independent inspection system by the relevant parties includes the periodic inspection system and the voluntary inspection system based on fire prevention rules and the inspection system by the government includes the on-site inspection system and the safety inspection system.

i) Periodic Inspections

Persons involved in certain hazardous materials facilities are required to have a hazardous material engineer or a safety officer for hazardous materials facility periodically inspect the facility, at least once a year, prepare an inspection record, and keep this record.

Relevant Laws • *Fire Service Act Article14-3-2*

ii) Safety Inspections

Considering the severity of the damage a disaster would cause, the Fire Service Act requires the relevant parties of certain hazardous materials facilities with large scale outdoor storage tanks with volume of 10,000 kiloliters or more to undergo safety inspections conducted by the mayor of the municipality, etc..

Relevant Laws • *Fire Service Act Article 14-3*

(6) Notification of Discontinuation of Use

When a hazardous materials facility is no longer used for any reason, the relevant parties must notify the municipality, etc., immediately.

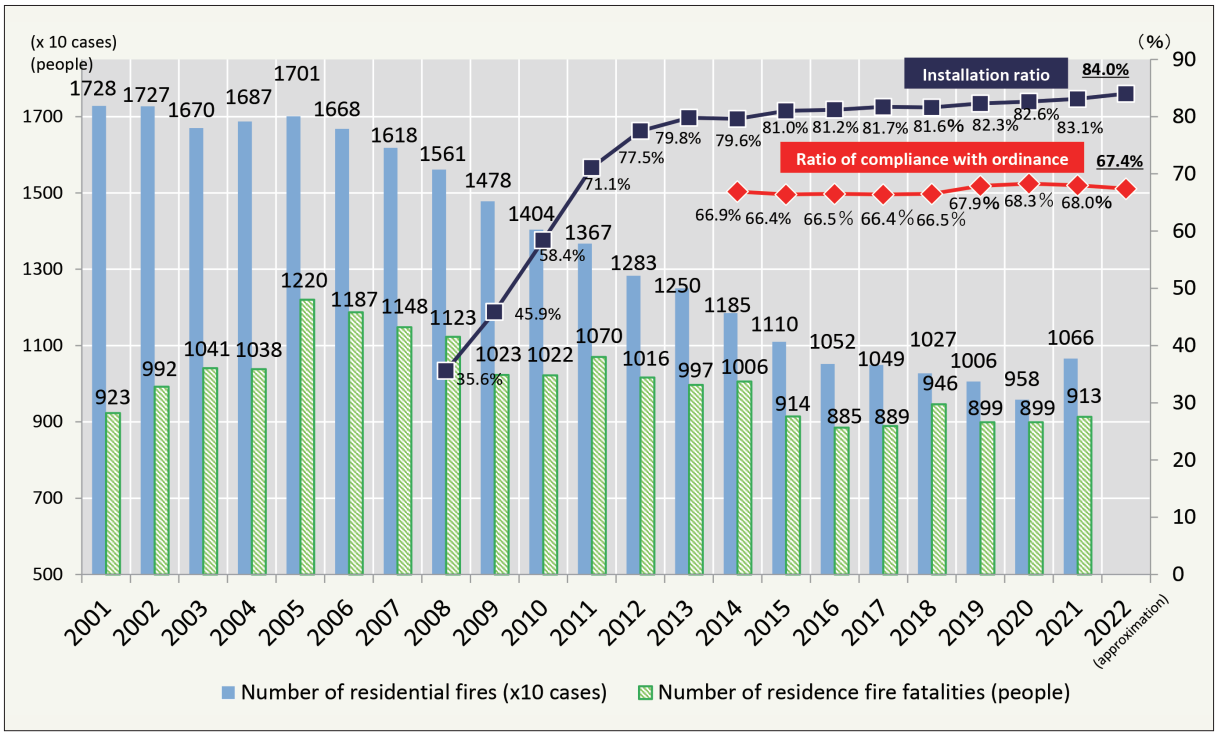
Relevant Laws • *Fire Service Act Article 12-6*

1. Fire Prevention Properties

(1) Fire Prevention in General Residences

Due to the increase in life expectancy and the declining birth rate, the proportion of elderly people in the population has been increasing, and the proportion of deaths due to fire among the elderly has also been increasing. Therefore, as a result of making it mandatory to install residential fire alarms and actively conducting PR activities from the perspective of human safety, the nationwide residential fire alarm installation rate is believed to have reached around 84.3% (as of June 1, 2023).

Spread of residential fire alarms and state of residential fires (from the FDMA, Firefighting Trends 2022.10)



Additionally, the following points are being emphasized to promote residential fire prevention.

i) The thorough promotion of the installation of residential fire alarms, proper maintenance and management methods, specific information on the need for such alarms, and the replacement of old and deteriorating residential fire alarms.
ii) The promotion of the spread of residential fire extinguishers and other residential disaster prevention devices.
iii) PR campaigns warning about the risk of fires caused by cigarettes.
iv) The publication and promotion of flame retardant goods.
v) Promoting PR and awareness-raising activities in cooperation with volunteer fire corps, women's firefighting clubs, and voluntary disaster prevention groups.
vi) Advancing PR campaigns based on local conditions.
vii The promotion of measures to prevent fatalities, with emphasis on identifying the elderly and other persons requiring special considerations.
viii) The promotion of fire prevention measures during natural disasters such earthquakes and typhoons.

In order to realize these points, the following PR activities for residential fire prevention are being implemented.

i) **Promoting the Replacement of Old and Deteriorating Residential Fire Alarms**

Since the installation of residential fire alarms became mandatory in all residences in June 2011, and 10 years have passed since then, it is important to promote proper maintenance and management, such as periodic inspections and the replacement of aging equipment. The FDMA is campaigning for the replacement of such devices for devices with additional functions such as wireless interconnected fire alarms, alarms that also detect and alert for abnormalities other than fires, and devices with auxiliary alarms that create sound and light.

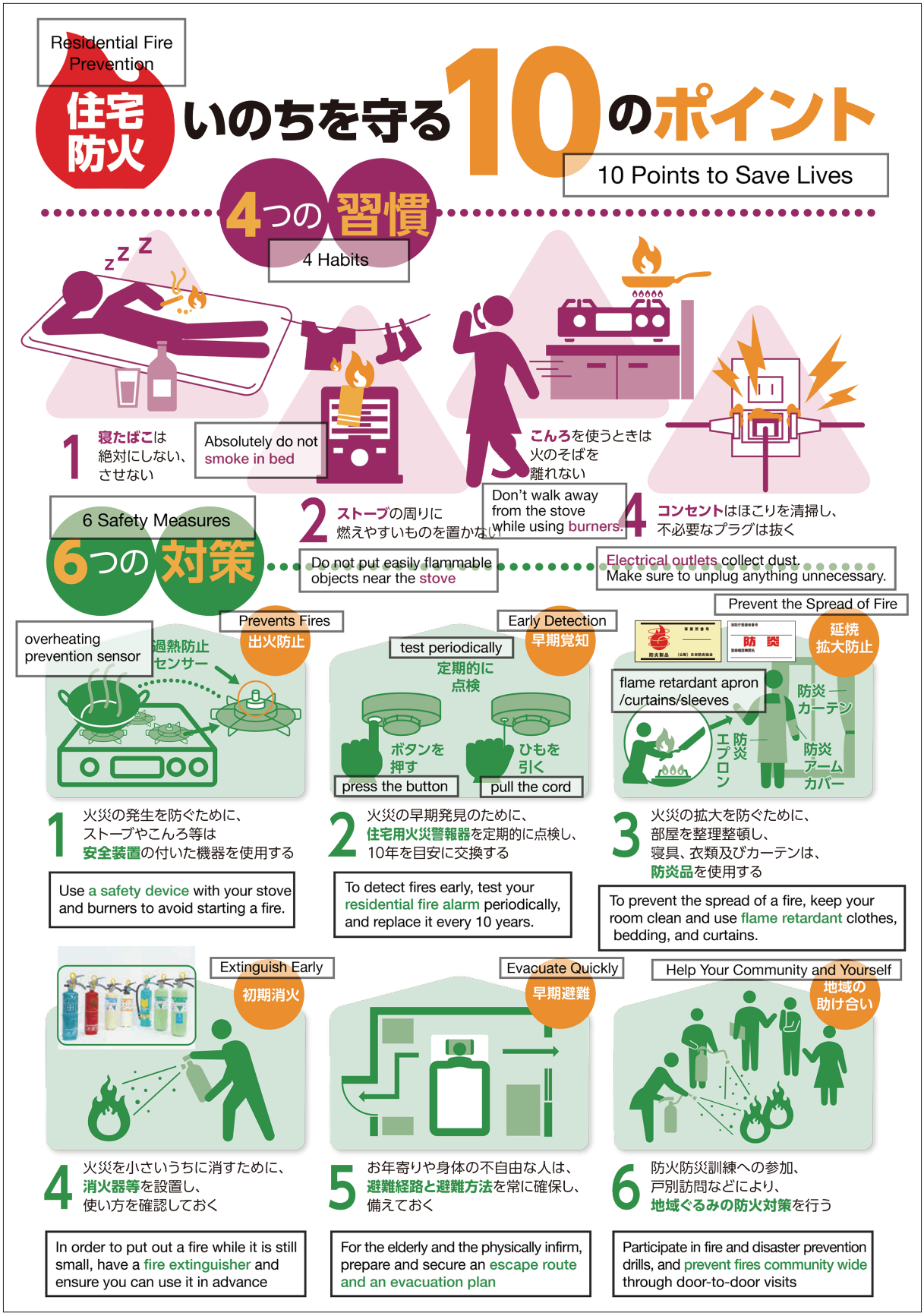
Residential Fire Alarms (courtesy of the Japan Fire Equipment Inspection Institute)

ii) Residential Fire and Disaster Prevention Campaign

With the aging of the population, the elderly account for an increasing proportion of deaths due to residential fires. Using the catchphrase "Give the gift of 'Guarding Against Fire' on Respect for the Aged Day", the "Residential Fire and Disaster Prevention Campaign" (campaign period: September 1 to 21) is being conducted (1) to remind the elderly to take precautions against fires and (2) to present elderly persons with residential fire alarms and other residential disaster prevention equipment.

iii) Creation of the "10 Residential Fire Prevention Points to Save Lives"

In light of recent changes in the fire situation and the living conditions of the elderly, we have established the "10 Residential Fire Prevention Points to Save Lives" and created leaflets and PSA videos that outline the points.



10 Residential Fire Prevention Points to Save Lives

(2) Public Relations

i) Firefighting Public Relations

Since the autumn of 1953, a nationwide fire prevention campaign has been held in the spring and fall of each year, with the aim of preventing fires, reducing the number of deaths, especially among the elderly, and preventing loss of property by further spreading the concept of fire prevention during the fire-prone season.

Additionally, in order to establish an independent safety system at each business site through raising awareness and promoting hazardous material safety, A "Hazardous Material Safety Week" has been established in June every year to raise awareness, promote hazardous material safety, and to conduct educational activities for the public at large.

ii) Firefighter Band

Firefighting bands have now been established in many fire departments, starting with the Tokyo Fire Department Band, which was established as the first firefighter band in Japan on July 16, 1949. Firefighter bands perform at various concerts, including firefighting events, to raise awareness and encourage cooperation in fire and disaster prevention.

Performance of a firefighter band (courtesy of Chiba City Fire Bureau)

(3) Amount of Fire Prevention Consent

The fire prevention consent system is designed to improve building safety by involving fire departments, in their capacity as fire prevention experts, in the fire prevention of buildings from the design stage.

There were 207,611 cases processed for fire prevention consent nationwide in the fiscal year of 2021, of which 13 cases were disapproved.

Year-long Amount of Fire Prevention Consent (from the 2022 White Paper on Fire Service) (Unit: cases)

Breakdown	Approved		Rejected		Total	
	FY2020	FY2021	FY2020	FY2021	FY2020	FY2021
New	187,643	186,796	9	12	187,652	186,808
Added	15,890	15,876	4	1	15,894	15,877
Revised	517	438	0	0	517	438
Relocated	93	83	0	0	93	83
Repaired	112	114	0	0	112	114
Modified	77	109	0	0	77	109
Change of Purpose	1,790	1,651	1	0	1,791	1,651
Other	2,333	2,531	0	0	2,333	2,531
Total	208,455	207,598	14	13	208,469	207,611

(Notes) Prepared based on the "Survey of Fire Prevention Properties"

(4) Implementation Status of On-site Inspections

In accordance with Article 4 of the Fire Service Act, fire departments will conduct on-site inspections of fire prevention properties together with questioning relevant personnel and checking documents to ascertain fire prevention problems, the state of installation of fire protection equipment, and problems in fire and disaster prevention management. Should any problems be found, the agency will notify the property in writing regarding implementing improvements, and follow up on the status of those improvements.

On-site inspections are usually carried out systematically by fire departments, once every few months or years, based on their assessment of the condition of a fire prevention property. This system of intervention by fire departments contributes greatly to ensuring the fire safety of such properties.

The status of on-site inspections of major fire prevention properties is as follows.

Implementation Status of On-site Inspections (from the 2022 White Paper on Fire Service)

Class of Fire Prevention Properties	(1)		(2)				(3)		(4)
	A) Theaters, etc.	B) Public Halls, etc.	A) Cabaret Clubs, etc.	B) Entertainment Complexes, etc.	C) Sex Services, etc.	D) Karaoke Boxes, etc.	A) Eateries, etc.	B) Restaurants, etc.	Department Stores, etc.
Number of On-site Inspections	1,997	16,136	251	2,847	121	786	641	29,069	41,731

Class of Fire Prevention Properties	(5)		(6)				(7)	(8)	(9)
	A) Inns, etc.	B) Residential Complexes, etc.	A) Hospitals, etc.	B) Intensive Care Old Folk's Homes, etc.	C) Disability Centers for the Elderly	D) Kindergartens	Schools	Libraries, etc.	A) Special Bathhouses, etc.
Number of On-site Inspections	27,767	119,013	14,114	17,413	25,969	3,947	24,132	1,880	914

Class of Fire Prevention Properties	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)		(13)		(14)	(15)
	B) Generic Bathhouses, etc.	Railway Stations	Shrines and Temples, etc.	A) Factories, etc.	B) Studios	A) Parking Lots, etc.	B) Ship's Hangars	Storage Facilities	Offices, etc.
Number of On-site Inspections	961	753	10,564	66,967	116	10,144	285	54,306	77,328

Class of Fire Prevention Properties	(16)		(16-2)	(16-3)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)	Total
	A) Specified Multipurpose Fire Prevention Properties	B) Unspecified Multipurpose Fire Prevention Properties	Underground Shopping Centers	Partially Underground Shopping Centers	Cultural Heritage Properties	Arcades	Mountains and Forests	Vehicles	
Number of On-site Inspections	94,912	34,249	190	0	4,210	216	0	98	684,027

(Notes) Prepared based on the "Survey of Fire Prevention Properties"

On-site Inspection (courtesy of Chiba City Fire Bureau)

Additionally, if, as a result of on-site inspections, violations of the Fire Service Act and related regulations are found, the fire chief or fire station chief issues warnings or orders requiring improvements, and makes efforts to correct the violations so that the facility will be in compliance with the law and regulations.

Status of the Issuance of Orders (from the 2022 White Paper on Fire Service) (FY2021)

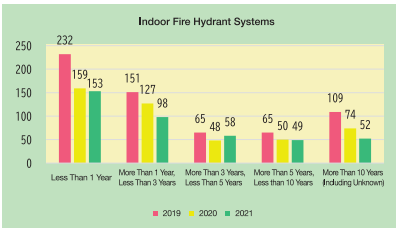
Cases / Type of orders	Number of Orders	Number of Cases Corrected
Orders Relating to Fire Prevention Properties (Fire Service Act Article 5, Article 5-2, and Article 5-3)	227	225
Orders Relating to Fire Prevention Management (Fire Service Act Article 8 and Article 8-2)	4	2
Orders Relating to Fire Protection Equipment (Fire Service Act Article 17-4)	215	93
Total	446	320

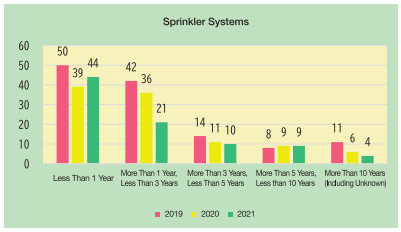
(Notes) 1) Prepared based on the "Survey of Fire Prevention Properties"
2) The "number of cases corrected" is the number of cases corrected by March 31, 2022 based on orders issued between April 1, 2021 and March 31, 2022 (including cases where plans have been submitted and corrective measures are being implemented as of March 31, 2022).

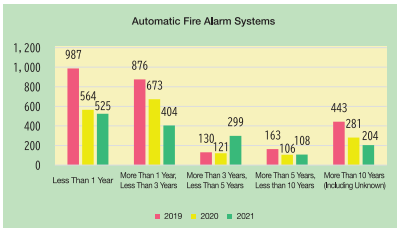
In particular, for fire prevention properties that are in serious violation (buildings that are required to have indoor fire hydrant systems, sprinkler systems, or automatic fire alarm systems installed but are missing any of said equipment, or that have systems that are not functioning properly), fire hazards are high, and therefore, based on the seriousness of the violation, intensive instructions on how to improve are provided and, in cases where said instructions are not followed, measures such as warnings and orders are implemented to ensure early correction of the problems.

Investigation Results Regarding the Status of Measures Taken Against Fire Prevention Properties in Serious Violation of Fire Prevention Laws and Regulations (from the 2022 White Paper on Fire Service 1-1-64)

Fire Protection Equipment	Investigation Reference Date	Number of Obligated Properties	Number of Properties in Serious Violation							Ratio of Serious Violations	Number of Properties in the Process of Corrective Guidance / Corrective Action					
				Years Past From Notification of Violation								Number of Properties Currently Receiving Administrative Guidance Before Warning		Number of Properties Warned	Number of Properties Ordered	Number of Properties Criminally Accused
				Less Than 1 Year	More Than 1 Year, Less Than 3 Years	More Than 3 Years, Less Than 5 Years	More Than 5 Years, Less Than 10 Years	More Than 10 Years	Unknown				Number of Properties Given Time Limit for Improvements			
		A	B(B/B)	C(C/B)	D(D/B)	E(E/B)	F(F/B)	G(G/B)	H(H/B)	I(B/A)	J(J/B)	K(K/J)	L(L/K)	M(M/J)	N(N/J)	O(O/J)
Indoor Fire Hydrants	FY2021	94,559	410	153	98	58	49	52	0	0.43%	410	310	309	72	24	4
			100.0%	37.3%	23.9%	14.1%	12.0%	12.7%	0.0%		100.0%	75.6%	99.7%	17.6%	5.9%	1.0%
	FY2020	96,576	458	159	127	48	50	74	0	0.47%	458	360	284	65	30	3
			100.0%	34.7%	27.7%	10.5%	10.9%	16.2%	0.0%		100.0%	78.6%	78.9%	14.2%	6.6%	0.7%
	FY2019	95,019	622	232	151	65	65	108	1	0.65%	622	467	359	116	36	3
			100.0%	37.3%	24.3%	10.5%	10.5%	17.4%	0.2%		100.0%	75.1%	76.9%	18.6%	5.8%	0.5%
Sprinkler Systems	FY2021	99,586	88	44	21	10	9	4	0	0.09%	88	57	56	22	9	0
			100.0%	50.0%	23.9%	11.4%	10.2%	4.5%	0.0%		100.0%	64.8%	98.2%	25.0%	10.2%	0.0%
	FY2020	98,894	101	39	36	11	9	5	1	0.10%	101	67	52	20	14	0
			100.0%	38.6%	35.6%	10.9%	8.9%	5.0%	1.0%		100.0%	66.3%	77.6%	19.8%	13.9%	0.0%
	FY2019	96,689	125	50	42	14	8	11	0	0.13%	125	84	60	29	11	1
			100.0%	40.0%	33.6%	11.2%	6.4%	8.8%	0.0%		100.0%	67.2%	71.4%	23.2%	8.8%	0.8%
Automatic Fire Alarm Systems	FY2021	687,021	1,540	525	404	299	108	203	1	0.22%	1,540	1,297	1,289	173	62	8
			100.0%	34.1%	26.2%	19.4%	7.0%	13.2%	0.1%		100.0%	84.2%	99.4%	11.2%	4.0%	0.5%
	FY2020	682,345	1,745	564	673	121	106	280	1	0.26%	1,745	1,482	1,185	192	65	6
			100.0%	32.3%	38.6%	6.9%	6.1%	16.0%	0.1%		100.0%	84.9%	80.0%	11.0%	3.7%	0.3%
	FY2019	673,493	2,599	987	876	130	163	441	2	0.39%	2,599	2,225	1,726	287	84	3
			100.0%	38.0%	33.7%	5.0%	6.3%	17.0%	0.1%		100.0%	85.6%	77.6%	11.0%	3.2%	0.1%







(Notes) Prepared based on the "Investigation Results Regarding the Status of Measures Taken Against Fire Prevention Properties in Serious Violation of Fire Prevention Laws and Regulations"

(5) State of Fire Prevention Management

In recent years, the increasing scale of fire prevention properties and the diversification of their uses has made fire protection management for such properties even more complex and difficult.

An individual with authority over the management of a fire prevention property that is used by many people must appoint a fire prevention manager from among those with certain qualifications, have them prepare a "firefighting plan for fire protection management", and have them perform the necessary tasks for fire prevention management in accordance with this plan.

In addition, in the case of fire prevention properties with split management authority, the parties with management authority must consult on matters related to tasks necessary for fire prevention management and jointly conduct said management.

The status of fire prevention management is as follows.

Status of Fire Prevention Management (from the 2022 White Paper on Fire Service 1-1-55)

Items / Class of Fire Prevention Properties			Number of Properties Obligated to Manage Fire Prevention	Number of Properties That Have Appointed a Fire Prevention Manager		Number of Properties That Have Created a Firefighting Plan for Fire Prevention Management	
					Ratio of Appointments (%)		Ratio of Creations (%)
(1)	A)	Theaters, etc.	3,274	3,059	93.4	2,973	90.8
	B)	Public Halls, etc.	60,398	50,874	84.2	48,354	80.1
(2)	A)	Cabaret Clubs, etc.	677	425	62.8	371	54.8
	B)	Entertainment Complexes, etc.	7,410	7,046	95.1	6,858	92.6
	C)	Sex Services, etc.	117	93	79.5	85	72.6
	D)	Karaoke Boxes, etc.	2,120	2,002	94.4	1,939	91.5
(3)	A)	Eateries, etc.	1,880	1,659	88.2	1,569	83.5
	B)	Restaurants, etc.	75,371	61,697	81.9	58,170	77.2
(4)		Department Stores, etc.	107,469	91,556	85.2	87,498	81.4
(5)	A)	Inns, etc.	33,773	31,276	92.6	30,267	89.6
	B)	Residential Complexes, etc.	176,419	141,234	80.1	131,325	74.4
(6)	A)	Hospitals, etc.	21,590	19,840	91.9	19,296	89.4
	B)	Intensive Care Old Folk's Homes, etc.	43,225	41,349	95.7	40,557	93.8
	C)	Disability Centers for the Elderly	51,267	48,741	95.1	47,710	93.1
	D)	Kindergartens	9,263	9,015	97.3	8,815	95.2
(7)		Schools	41,770	40,146	96.1	39,154	93.7
(8)		Libraries, etc.	4,910	4,632	94.3	4,492	91.5
(9)	A)	Special Bathhouses, etc.	1,170	1,071	91.5	1,044	89.2
	B)	Generic Bathhouses, etc.	2,318	2,163	93.3	2,070	89.3
(10)		Railway Stations	495	420	84.8	388	78.4
(11)		Shrines and Temples, etc.	24,364	20,482	84.1	19,006	78.0
(12)	A)	Factories, etc.	38,223	33,423	87.4	31,543	82.5
	B)	Studios	181	156	86.2	149	82.3
(13)	A)	Parking Lots, etc.	1,293	1,009	78.0	938	72.5
	B)	Ship's Hangars	75	41	54.7	37	49.3
(14)		Storage Facilities	10,972	8,452	77.0	7,954	72.5
(15)		Offices, etc.	99,766	83,518	83.7	78,927	79.1
(16)	A)	Specified Multipurpose Fire Prevention Properties	216,703	159,044 (29,366)	73.4 (13.6)	146,432 (26,686)	67.6 (12.3)
	B)	Unspecified Multipurpose Fire Prevention Properties	41,286	30,810 (5,120)	74.6 (12.4)	28,283 (4,655)	68.5 (11.3)
(16-2)		Underground Shopping Centers	60	36	60.0	34	56.7
(17)		Cultural Heritage Properties	1,449	1,328	91.6	1,269	87.6
Total			1,079,288	896,597	83.1	847,507	78.5

(Notes) 1 Prepared based on the "Survey of Fire Prevention Properties"
2 When more than one individual with the authority to manage a property, only recorded if all have appointed a fire prevention manager or prepared a firefighting plan for fire prevention management.
Figures in parentheses are for partially appointed managers or partially created plans.

(6) Fire Management

Among facilities and appliances that use fire and those that do not use fire but may cause fires, certain items (equipment and tools that utilize fire , etc.(*)) are to be specified by fire prevention ordinances in each municipality in accordance with the standards specified by government ordinances regarding their location, structure, management or handling, and other matters necessary for fire prevention.

Additionally, regarding regulations concerning the use of fire in fire prevention properties, the use of fire itself is regulated by the fire prevention ordinances of municipalities, in addition to standards for equipment and tools that utilize fire. Article 23 of the Fire Prevention Ordinance (Example) issued by the FDMA stipulates that "smoking," "open flames," and "bringing in hazardous materials" are restricted in places designated by the fire chief (fire station chief), among those places where an unspecified number of people may enter and exit and there is risk to human life in the event of fire, and buildings such as important cultural properties, which are irreplaceable assets for the public.

2. Status of Hazardous Material Facilities

The status of hazardous materials facilities is as follows.

Trend in the Number of Hazardous Materials Facilities (from the 2022 White Paper on Fire Service)

(As of March 31 Each Year)

Institution \ Year		2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Manufacturing Facility		5,093	5,098	5,077	5,045	5,051
Storage Facility	Indoor Storage	49,811	49,717	49,613	49,590	49,502
	Outdoor Storage Tank	60,360	59,699	59,035	58,225	57,525
	Indoor Storage Tank	10,386	10,170	9,988	9,837	9,687
	Underground Storage Tank	79,723	77,988	76,425	74,938	73,554
	Simple Storage Tank	961	940	933	908	893
	Mobile Storage Tank	65,806	65,425	65,124	64,965	64,679
	Outdoor Storage	9,832	9,702	9,604	9,611	9,493
	Subtotal	276,879	273,641	270,722	268,074	265,333
Handling Facility	Gasoline Service Station	59,715	58,865	58,124	57,497	56,807
	Class-One Sales Office	1,107	1,078	1,050	1,028	999
	Class-Two Sales Office	493	482	474	469	462
	Transfer Station	1,084	1,077	1,062	1,048	1,035
	General Handling	60,867	60,398	59,948	59,458	58,889
	Subtotal	123,266	121,900	120,658	119,500	118,192
Total		405,238	400,639	396,457	392,619	388,576

(Notes) Prepared based on the "Hazardous Materials Regulatory Affairs Investigation"

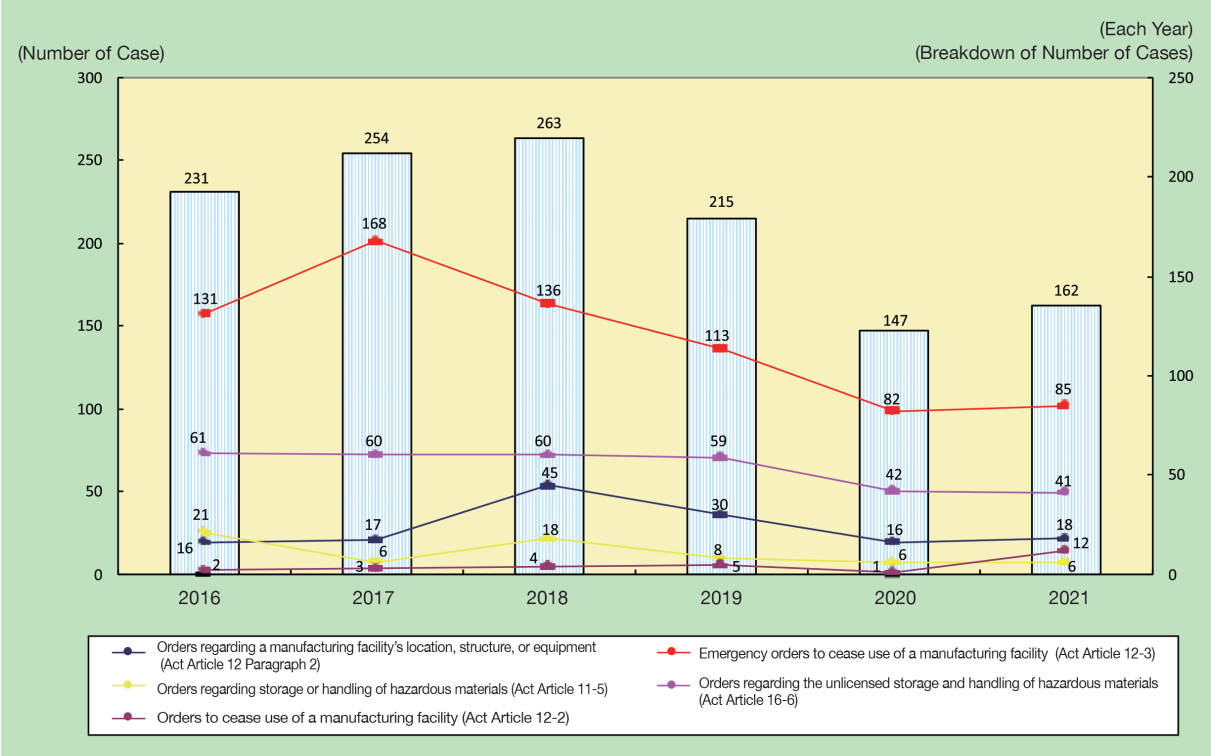
* Furnaces, bathtubs, cooking equipment, boilers, sauna equipment, electrical transformer equipment, storage battery equipment, etc.

Additionally, as with fire prevention properties, based on Article 16-5 of the Fire Service Act, in order to prevent fires caused by the storage and handling of hazardous materials, the mayor of a municipality, etc. may order the submission of materials and request reports from all relevant personnel at all locations where hazardous materials in excess of the designated quantity are considered to be stored or handled. Furthermore, fire officials are allowed to enter these locations to inspect, question, and take away hazardous materials or other materials suspected of being hazardous materials. If, as a result of the on-site inspection, it is found that the Fire Service Act is being violated, the mayor of the municipality will issue a compliance order to the owner of the hazardous materials facility regarding storage or handling.

From April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022, a total of 156,713 on-site inspections were conducted at 144,116 hazardous material facilities.

The status of recent order issuance concerning hazardous material facilities is as follows.

Trend in the Number of Orders Concerning Hazardous material facilities(from the 2022 White Paper on Fire Service)



(Notes) Prepared based on the "Hazardous Materials Regulatory Affairs Investigation"

Chap. 6 Fire Investigation

The Fire Service Act stipulates that the fire chief or fire station chief is responsible for investigating the cause of fire and fire damage. When a fire breaks out, the fire chief or fire station chief is to start an investigation at the same time as firefighting activities, and may question the parties concerned and request that the necessary matters be reported to the relevant public agencies. Additionally, in order to investigate the cause of the fire and fire damage, they may investigate property damaged or destroyed by the fire, order the submission of necessary materials, request reports, and conduct on-site inspections through firefighters.

Fire Investigation (courtesy of Tokyo Fire Department)

Relevant Laws

- *Fire Service Act Article 31 (Investigation of the cause of a fire)*
- *Fire Service Act Article 32 (Questioning of relevant individuals and requests for reporting to public authorities)*
- *Fire Service Act Article 33 (Inspection of property damaged by fire)*
- *Fire Service Act Article 34 (Orders to submit materials, collection of reports, and on-site inspections by firefighters)*

The Fire Service Act states that the primary responsibility and authority for investigating the cause of a fire rests with the fire chief or fire station chief, even if the cause of the fire is suspected to be arson or negligence. In cases where the cause of fire is recognized as arson or negligence, there may be a conflict between the fire department's and the police's authority to investigate the fire. However, the Fire Service Act stipulates that in such cases fire departments and the police are to cooperate, and in actual fire investigation sites, both agency's investigations are to be carried out in cooperation with each other.

On-site Investigation (courtesy of Chiba City Fire Bureau)

Relevant Laws

- *Fire Service Act Article 35 (Investigation of the cause of fire and cooperation in criminal investigations in cases of suspected arson or negligence)*
- *Fire Service Act Article 35-2 (Questioning of suspects and examination of evidence)*

Additionally, the Commissioner of the FDMA may conduct fire investigations of their own initiative if requested to do so by the fire chief or if they deem it particularly necessary.

Relevant Laws

- *Fire Service Act Article 35-3-2 (the Commissioner of the FDMA investigating the cause of a fire)*

Aside from this, from the viewpoint of product safety measures, there is a need to effectively utilize information related to product fires and the results of fire investigations, especially through information sharing with related organizations.

The causes of fires investigated in this way are used to prevent the recurrence of similar fires through the revision of various standards, and are of great significance in fire prevention administration.

Forensics (courtesy of Chiba City Fire Bureau)

Regarding spills of hazardous materials that occurred at a hazardous materials facility, the mayor of the municipality may investigate the cause of said accident if there was a risk of a fire. In such cases, the mayor of the municipality is authorized to order the owner to submit materials or to request a report, and to grant firefighters the authority to enter, inspect, and question the owner. Additionally, as with the investigation of the cause of a fire, the Commissioner of the FDMA may conduct an investigation on his own initiative if requested to do so by the mayor of a municipality.

Relevant Laws

- ***Fire Service Act Article 16-3-2 (Investigation of the cause of accidents such as hazardous material spills, etc.)***

Chap. 7 Fire Engineers

1. Fire Prevention Managers

Fire prevention properties above a certain size are required to have a fire prevention manager who is responsible for the fire safety of said property.

The main duties of a fire prevention manager are to prepare firefighting plans, conduct drills for firefighting, reporting, and evacuation, inspect and maintain fire protection equipment, supervise the use and handling of fire, maintain and manage structures and facilities necessary for evacuation or fire prevention, manage the number of people accommodated, and perform any other duties necessary for fire prevention management. A fire prevention manager is a person with certain qualifications, such as completing a course on fire prevention, is in a position to properly perform duties necessary for fire prevention in a fire prevention property, and who is appointed by the management officials of said property.

When a fire prevention manager is appointed, they are required to notify the fire chief or fire station chief immediately. In doing so, the fire department and the fire prevention manager cooperate with one another to enhance the effectiveness of fire prevention in the property.

The fire prevention manager is the person who plays a central role in ensuring fire safety in a fire prevention property. Therefore, when a fire prevention manager has not been appointed, the fire chief or fire station chief may order management officials to appoint a fire prevention manager. Additionally, they may also order the implementation of appropriate fire prevention management when such management has not been appropriately implemented.

Relevant Laws • *Related to the Fire Service Act Article 8*

2. Disaster Prevention Managers

Large-scale and high-rise fire prevention properties above a certain size, such as buildings with a total floor area of 50,000㎡ or more, are required to have a disaster prevention manager in charge of safety against disasters other than fire (earthquakes, terrorist attacks, etc.) in said property.

The main duties of a disaster prevention manager are to prepare firefighting plans related to disaster prevention management, conduct evacuation drills, and perform other duties necessary for disaster prevention management. A disaster prevention manager is a person with certain qualifications, such as completing a course on disaster

prevention, is in a position to properly perform duties necessary for disaster prevention in a fire prevention property, and who is appointed by a management official of said property.

When a disaster prevention manager is appointed, they are required to notify the fire chief or fire station chief immediately. In doing so, the firefighting agency and the disaster prevention manager cooperate with one another to enhance the effectiveness of disaster prevention in the property.

The disaster prevention manager is the person who plays a central role in the disaster prevention management operations of the fire prevention property. Therefore, when a disaster prevention manager has not been appointed, the fire chief or fire station chief may order management officials to appoint a disaster prevention manager. Additionally, they may also order the implementation of appropriate disaster prevention management when such management has not been appropriately implemented.

Although fire prevention managers and disaster prevention managers are different qualifications based on different systems, since they are very closely related to each other in individual fire prevention properties, it is stipulated that one person should obtain both qualifications and be appointed to both positions.

Relevant Laws

- *The relevant portions of Fire Service Act Article 8 as applied mutatis mutandis pursuant to Fire Service Act Article 36 Paragraph 1*
- *Fire Service Act Article 36 Paragraph 2*

3. Fire Protection Equipment Engineers

In order for fire protection equipment to operate properly in the event of a fire, proper installation based on standards is first necessary. Therefore, in Japan, in principle, only individuals possessing certain qualifications are allowed to install and maintain fire protection equipment. These qualified individuals are called fire protection equipment engineers.

There are two main types of fire protection equipment engineers: Class A fire protection equipment engineers, who can perform all installation and maintenance, and Class B fire protection equipment engineers, who can only perform maintenance and inspections.

Additionally, Class A is divided into Special Class, Class 1 through Class 5, and Class B is split into Special Class, Class 1 through Class 7 according to the types of fire protection equipment that they are able to handle.

To qualify, one must pass an examination administered by the prefectural governor for each category and receive a license. Fire protection equipment engineer who have been issued a license are required to take the equipment engineer training course within two years, and every five years thereafter.

Relevant Laws

- *Fire Service Act Article 17-5*

4. Fire Protection Equipment Inspectors

Parties relevant (owner, manager, or occupant) to a fire prevention property of certain structure and size are required to inspect whether fire protection equipment installed in said property are properly working and whether they will function effectively in the event of disaster, and to report to the fire chief or fire station chief.

In particular, for specified fire prevention properties with a total area of 1,000㎡ or more, such properties with total flooding carbon dioxide fire extinguishing systems installed, non-specified fire prevention properties with a total area of 1,000㎡ or more designated by a competent fire chief or fire station chief, and specified properties with a single interior staircase (escape route), a qualified person (fire protection equipment engineer, fire protection equipment inspector) is to conduct an inspection as required by laws and regulations. Inspections are divided into equipment inspections and comprehensive inspections. Equipment inspections are to be conducted once every six months, and comprehensive inspections are to be conducted once a year. The results are to be reported to the fire chief or fire station chief once a year in the case of specified fire prevention properties, and once every three years in the case of non-specified properties. The inspection items, inspection methods, and criteria for determining suitability are stipulated in the laws and regulations. The qualification to conduct these inspections of fire protection equipment is the fire protection equipment inspector qualification, which is a

national qualification stipulated by the Fire Service Act. In order to obtain this qualification, an individual must complete a training course conducted by a training organization registered with the Commissioner of the FDMA, and receive a license issued by said registered training organization. In order to take the course, a certain amount of work experience is needed. The license is valid for a certain period of time, but the license can be maintained by taking a refresher course within five years that focuses on revisions to laws and regulations, new technologies, and accident cases to receive a new license.

Relevant Laws • *Fire Service Act Article 17-3-3*

5. Qualified Inspectors of Fire Prevention Properties

Management officials of fire prevention properties of a certain structure and size are required to have a qualified inspector of fire prevention properties check whether fire prevention management is being properly implemented, and to report the results to the fire chief or fire station chief once a year.

The inspection items, inspection methods, and criteria for determining suitability are stipulated in the laws and regulations.

The qualification to conduct this inspection of fire prevention properties is the fire prevention properties inspection qualification, which is a national qualification stipulated by the Fire Service Act. In order to obtain this qualification, an individual must complete a training course conducted by a training organization registered with the Minister of Internal Affairs and Communications, and receive a license issued by said registered training organization. In order to take the course, a certain amount of work experience is needed. The license is valid for a certain period of time, but the license can be maintained by taking a refresher course within five years that focuses on revisions to laws and regulations, new technologies, and accident cases to receive a new license.

Relevant Laws • *Fire Service Act Article 8-2-2*

6. Qualified Inspector for Disaster Prevention Management

Management officials of fire prevention properties of a certain structure and size are required to have a qualified inspector for disaster prevention management check whether disaster prevention management is being properly implemented, and to report the results to the fire chief or fire station chief once a year. The targets for the inspection are to be accidents such as earthquakes and terrorist attacks.

The inspection items, inspection methods, and criteria for determining suitability are stipulated in the laws and regulations.

The qualification to conduct this inspection for disaster prevention management is the disaster prevention management inspection qualification, which is a national qualification stipulated by the Fire Service Act in the same fashion as the fire prevention properties inspection qualification.

Relevant Laws • *Fire Service Act Article 8-2-2 as applied mutatis mutandis pursuant to Fire Service Act Article 36 Paragraph 1*

7. Chief Supervisor (in-house firefighting team)

In order to direct employees working in a fire prevention property in the event of an actual fire or earthquake and to mitigate damage, such properties above a certain size are required to have an individual qualified in self-defense firefighting (such as an individual who has completed a course on self-defense firefighting services) as a chief supervisor.

Relevant Laws • *Fire Service Act Article 8-2-5*

8. Hazardous Materials Engineers

In order to handle hazardous materials in a hazardous materials facility, they must be handled by an individual with certain qualifications or in the presence of such a qualified individual. These qualified individuals are called hazardous material engineers.

Hazardous material engineers are broadly classified into three categories: Class A, Class B, and Class C. Class A hazardous materials engineers are allowed to handle and supervise for all hazardous materials. Class B hazardous material engineers may handle and supervise for hazardous materials in each of the categories from Class 1 to Class 6. Class C hazardous material engineers may handle some designated Class 4 hazardous materials, such as gasoline, but may not supervise to allow unqualified personnel to handle them. The Class C certification is specifically institutionalized for employees of commercial gasoline stations and other such businesses.

To be certified, a person must pass an examination administered by the prefectural governor for each category and receive a license. Hazardous materials engineers who have been issued a license are obligated to take a safety course within three years, and every five years thereafter. However, if they are not actually engaged in the handling of hazardous materials, they are not obligated to take the course.

Relevant Laws • *Fire Service Act Article 13, Fire Service Act Article 13-2*

9. Qualified Preventive Technology Specialist

In recent years, fire prevention properties and hazardous material facilities have become more diversified, complex, and larger in scale, and fire regulations have become more specialized and sophisticated with the introduction of performance-based standards for fire protection equipment and hazardous material facilities, the promotion of handling violations, and the introduction of a periodic fire prevention property inspection and reporting system.

Due to this, firefighters are now required to have highly specialized knowledge and skills regarding fire prevention.

For this reason, a qualification system for specialists in the field of fire prevention was established by the Commissioner of the FDMA, and the National Fire Service Code, which set forth the level of development of public fire protection capacity that should be targeted, stipulated that personnel with this qualification should be assigned to each fire department.

Fire service personnel who have completed a certain course of training, or who have received a certain level of specialized education at a university, etc., and who have passed a qualification examination (Fire Preventive

Technology Examination) administered by the Commissioner of the FDMA, and who have acquired a certain level of work experience as fire service personnel, are certified by the fire chief as fire prevention technical specialists. Fire prevention technical specialists are expected to contribute to ensuring the safety of fire prevention properties and hazardous material facilities by acting as key personnel in charge of fire prevention administration.

Relevant Laws • *National Fire Service Code (FDMA Bulletin No. 1, Year 2000) Article 32, Paragraph 3*

Types of qualified fire prevention specialists

Reference data (Statistical)

Status of Municipal Fire Departments (from the 2022 White Paper on Fire Service) **(Each year as of April 1)**

Class				2021	2022	Comparison	
						Numerical Increase/ Decrease	Ratio Increase/ Decrease
Fire Departments	Fire Departments			724	723	△ 1	△ 0.1
	Breakdown	Single	City	385	384	△ 1	△ 0.3
			Town/village	51	51	0	0.0
		Municipal Administrative Association		288	288	0	0.0
	Substations			1,718	1,714	△ 4	△ 0.2
	Branch stations			3,099	3,095	△ 4	△ 0.1
	Number of Professional Firefighters			167,073	167,510	437	0.3
		Of those, Number of Female Firefighters		5,885	6,148	263	4.5
Volunteer Fire Corps	Volunteer Fire Corps			2,198	2,196	△ 2	△ 0.1
	Firefighting Squads			22,237	22,152	△ 85	△ 0.4
	Number of Volunteer Firefighters			804,877	783,578	△ 21,299	△ 2.6
		Of those, Number of Female Volunteers		27,317	27,603	286	1.0

(Notes) Prepared based on the "Survey on the Current Status of Fire and Disaster Prevention" and the "Report on Changes Related to Fire Departments and Volunteer Fire Corps"

Trend in the Number of Firefighters (from the 2022 White Paper on Fire Service)

(Notes) 1 Prepared based on the "Survey of the Current Status of Fire Prevention and Earthquake Countermeasures"
2 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).
3 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 the previous year (as of April 1, 2010).

Number of Fire Protection Equipment Engineers (from the 2022 White Paper on Fire Service)

By Type / By Class	Special Class	Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Class 4	Class 5	Class 6	Class 7	Total
	Special Fire Protection Equipment	Inside Fire Hydrant Equipment and Sprinkler Systems	Foam Extinguishing Systems	Carbon Dioxide Extinguishing Systems	Automated Fire Alarm Systems	Metal Evacuation Ladders	Fire Extinguishers	Electric Leakage Alarm Systems	
Class A (Person) (Construction / Maintenance)	4,568	152,158	48,423	43,048	313,088	39,386	-	-	600,671
Class B (Person) (Maintenance)	-	40,959	12,855	12,001	105,581	19,740	293,139	203,918	688,193

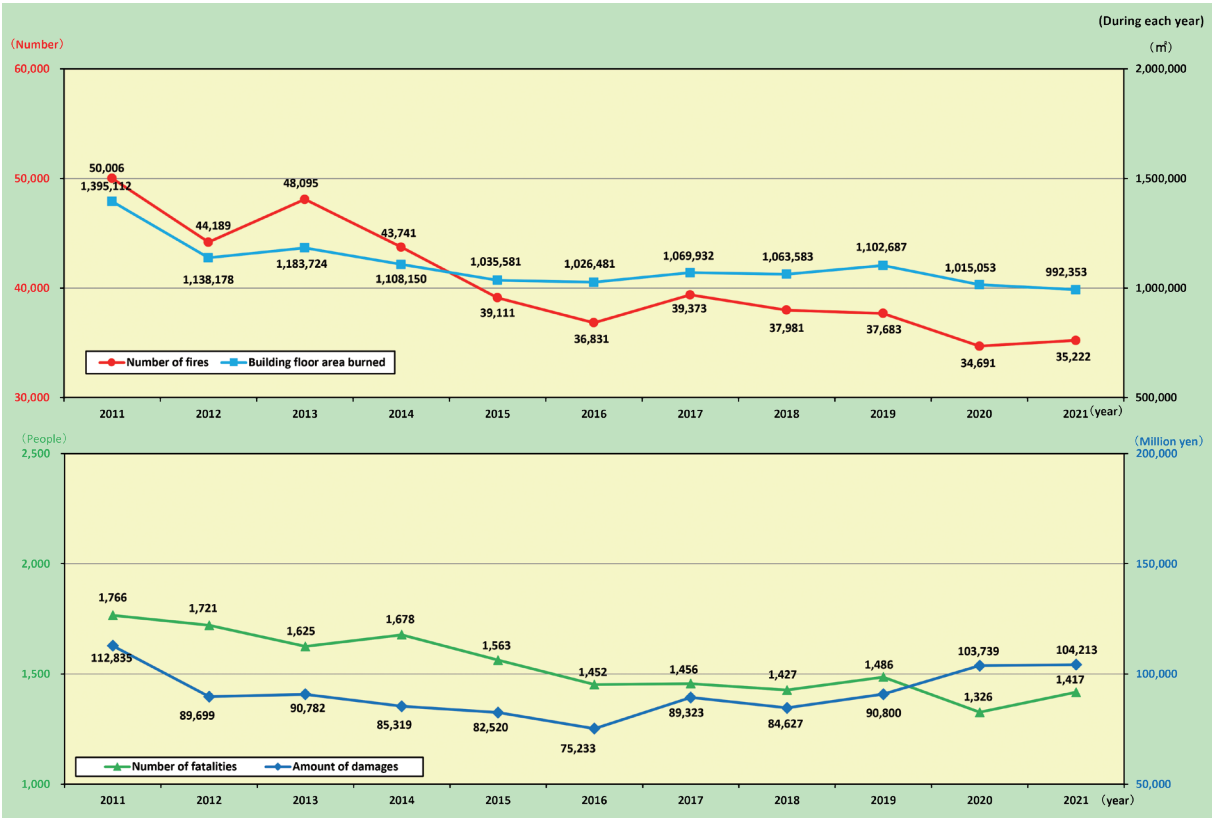
(Notes) 1 Prepared based on the "Hazardous Materials Handling Fire Protection Equipment Exam and Certificate Statistics Chart"
2 The number of equipment engineers is the accumulated number of licenses created.

Breakdown by Class of Participants in Hazardous Material Engineer Safety Courses and Hazardous Material Engineer Licenses (from the 2022 White Paper on Fire Service)

Class / FY	Number of Participants	Class A	Class B							Class C	Combined Total	Number of Courses
			Type 1	Type 2	Type 3	Type 4	Type 5	Type 6	Subtotal			
2017	170,287	14,219	10,536	11,511	9,739	142,322	11,125	11,664	196,897	23,815	234,931	1,460
2018	182,800	14,813	11,215	11,721	10,106	153,670	11,526	12,444	210,682	24,402	249,897	1,452
2019	182,537	14,809	11,539	12,558	10,358	155,943	12,078	12,197	214,673	25,452	254,934	1,463
2020	170,774	13,740	10,667	11,769	9,969	143,669	11,261	11,458	198,793	23,242	235,775	1,811
2021	187,837	15,572	11,961	13,188	11,256	159,195	13,081	13,217	221,898	25,423	262,893	1,853

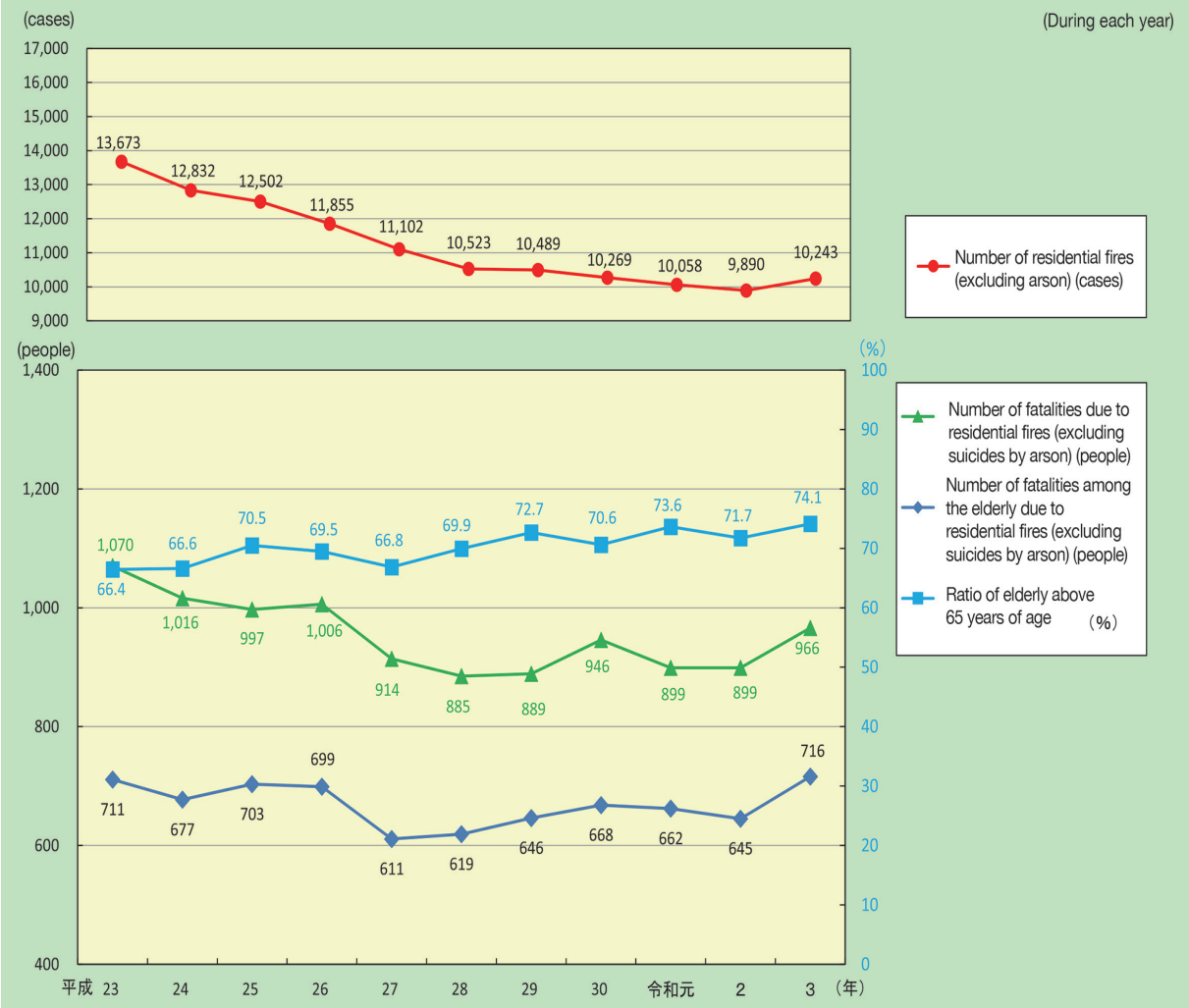
(Note) Prepared based on the "Hazardous Materials Regulatory Affairs Investigation"

Fire Trends (from the 2022 White Paper on Fire Service)



(Notes) 1 Prepared based on the "Fire Report"
2 The figures for each year are based on the fires that occurred between January and December of that year
3 See left axis for "number of fires" and "number of fatalities," and right axis for "floor area of buildings destroyed" and "amount of damages."

Number of Residential Fires and Fatalities (excluding suicides by arson) (from the 2022 White Paper on Fire Service)



(Notes) 1 Prepared based on the “Fire Report”
2 See left axis for “Number of residential fires (excluding arson),” “Number of fatalities due to residential fires (excluding suicides by arson),” and “Number of fatalities among the elderly due to residential fires (excluding suicides by arson),” and right axis for “Percentage of elderly persons above 65 years of age.”