

Municipal solid waste emissions and disposal in FY2013

The situation regarding emissions and disposal of municipal solid waste (solid waste and excrement) in FY2013 was surveyed and the results are published. Highlights of the results are as follows. Amount of disaster waste processed using state subsidy and the expenses are excluded since FY2011.

1. Waste emissions and disposal

(1) Waste emissions

Total waste emission declined and waste emission per person per day slightly declined.

- Total waste emissions: 44,870,000 tons (down 0.8% from 45,230,000 tons in previous year)
- Waste emissions/person/day: 958 grams (down 0.6% from 964 grams in previous year) (In case foreigner population is excluded from overall population 972 grams, down 0.6% from 979 grams in previous year)

(2) Waste disposal

The amount of waste disposed of by landfill declined by 2.4% from previous year, and the recycling rate increased marginally.

- Amount disposed of by landfill: 4,540,000 tons (down 2.4% from 4,650,000 tons in previous year)
- Waste reduction rate: 98.6% (98.7% in previous year)
- Direct landfill disposal rate: 1.4% (1.3% in previous year)
- Total amount of waste recycled: 9,270,000 tons (up 0.1% from 9,260,000 tons in previous year)
- Recycling rate: 20.6% (up 0.1point from 20.5% in previous year)

2. Waste incineration plants

- The number of waste incineration plants declined.
- Capacity per plant rose marginally.
- 28.0% of all plants were equipped with power generation facilities, and total power generating capacity increased.

As of March 31, 2014;

- Number of plants: 1,172 (down 1.4% from 1,189 in previous year)
- Capacity: 182,683 tons/day (184,426 tons/day in previous year)
- Capacity per plant: 156 tons/day (155 tons/day in previous year)
- Number of plants using residual heat: 778 (781 in previous year)
- Number of plants with power generation facilities: 328 (318 in previous year) (28.0% of total)
- Total power generating capacity: 1,770,000 kilowatts (up 0.9% from 1,754,000 kilowatts in previous year)

3. Landfill sites

- Available capacity has fallen for 15 years in a row since 1998 and, despite some fluctuation, the number of landfill sites has followed a downward trend since 1996. Securing landfill capacity consequently remains difficult.
- Owing to the decline in the volume of waste disposed of by landfill, the number of remaining sustainable years has increased slightly.
- Waste in areas such as Kanto and Chubu is being transported to other areas due to insufficient local landfill capacity. Landfill disposal operations are consequently becoming geographically broader in scope.

As of March 31, 2014;

- Available capacity: 107,410,000 cubic meters (down4.3% from 112,260,000 cubic meters in previous year)
- The number of remaining sustainable years: 19.3 years (19.7 years in previous year)

4. Waste disposal expenditure

Spending on waste disposal services increased slightly.

- Expenditure on waste disposal services: 1,851.0 billion yen (1788.5 billion yen in previous year)
- Main categories of expenditure:

Construction and improvement	257.5 billion yen (208.8 billion yen in previous year)
Disposal and running costs	1,473.8 billion yen (1,465.2 billion yen in previous year)