| Outline of the Accident Scale(INES) | | |
|--|--|---|
| | Level | Accident examples |
| Below scale Abnormal incident Accident | 7 Major accident | Former Soviet Union: Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant accident (1986) Japan: Tokyo Electric Power Company (TEPCO)'s Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station (NPS) accident (2011) |
| | 6 Serious accident | Provisionally evaluated as Level 7 on April 12, 2011 |
| | 5 Accident with wider consequences | UK: Windscale Nuclear Power Plant fire accident (1557) US: Three Mile Island Nuclear Power Plant accident (1979) |
| | 4 Accident with local consequences | Japan: JCO criticality accident (1999) France: Saint-Laurent Nuclear Power Plant accident (1980) |
| | 3 Serious incident | Spain: Fire at Vandellos Nuclear Power Plant (1989) |
| | 2 Incident | Japan: Damage to steam generator heat exchanger tube at Unit 2, Mihama NPS (1991) Japan: Workers' radiation exposure due to an accident of scattering nuclear fuel materials at the Fuel Research Building, Oarai Research & Development Institute (2017) |
| | 1 Anomaly | Japan: Sodium leak accident at Monju (1995) Japan: Primary coolant leak at Unit 2, Tsuruga NPS (1999) Japan: Pipe rupture in the residual heat removal system at Unit 1, Hamaoka NPS (2001) Japan: Pipe failure in the secondary system at Unit 3, Mihama NPS (2004) |
| | 0 Below scale | (No safety significance) |
| 3 | Not covered | (Events unrelated to safety) |

The International Nuclear and Radiological Event Scale (INES) is the international indicator to show the level of the seriousness in terms of safety of accidents or trouble at nuclear power plants.

The accident at TEPCO's Fukushima Daiichi NPS was evaluated as Level 7 (radiation impact converted to the amount of I-131 exceeds several tens of thousands TBq (10^{16} Bq)), equivalent to the level of the Chernobyl NPS Accident.

(Related to p.28 of Vol. 1, "International Nuclear and Radiological Event Scale")

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6.2 Outline of the Accident

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