

○ **Monitoring is conducted once a week or so based on the "Concepts of Inspection Planning and Establishment and Cancellation of Items and Areas to which Restriction of Distribution and/or Consumption of Foods Concerned Applies"**

- The fish species in which radioactive cesium exceeding 50 Bq/kg has been detected and major fishery products are intensively inspected.
- Inspection results of neighboring prefectures are taken into account.

Coastal fish (e.g., Japanese sand lance, seabass, flounders, etc.)	Sea areas off prefectures are divided into zones in consideration of catch landing, fishery management and seasons, etc. and samples are collected at major ports.
Migratory fish (e.g., Skipjack tuna, sardines and mackerels, Pacific saury, etc.)	Fishing grounds are divided into zones off each prefecture from Chiba to Aomori (by lines extending along the prefectural borders to the east) in consideration of migration of fish, etc., and samples are collected at major ports of each zone.
Inland water fish (e.g., YAMAME (land-locked cherry salmon), Japanese smelt, Ayu sweetfish, etc.)	Prefectural areas are divided into zones appropriately in consideration of fishery rights, and samples are collected in major zones.

Prepared based on the "Responses at Farmland" by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF)

MAFF

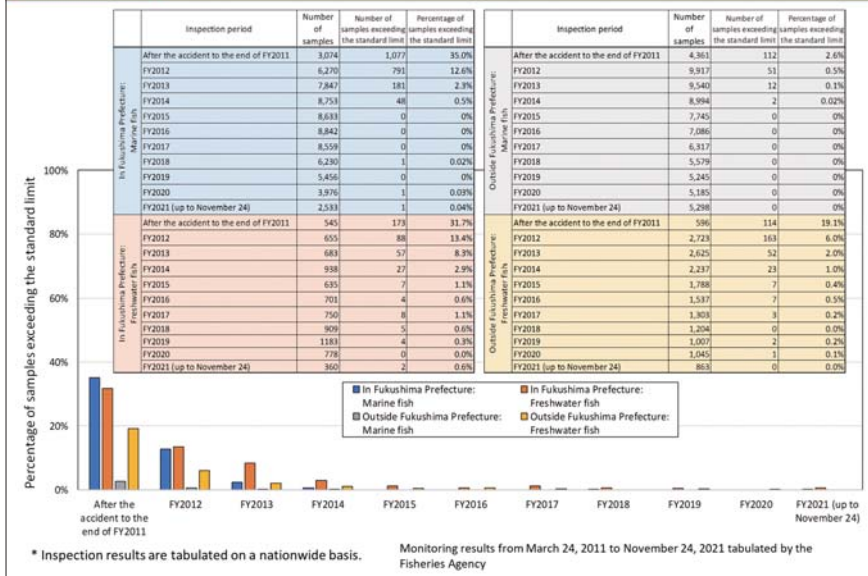
Monitoring of radioactivity in fishery products covers major fish species and fishing grounds, and species in which radioactive cesium concentration exceeding 50 Bq/kg has been detected, based on the "Concepts of Inspection Planning and Establishment and Cancellation of Items and Areas to which Restriction of Distribution and/or Consumption of Foods Concerned Applies (Guideline)."

At present, inspections are conducted by classifying the fish species based on their habitats and fishing seasons, while also taking into account inspection results of neighboring prefectures, as shown in the table. Regarding migratory fish, such as bonito and Pacific saury, which migrates over a wide area in the ocean, monitoring is conducted broadly by multiple prefectures based on their migratory routes.

Included in this reference material on March 31, 2013

Updated on March 31, 2021

Chronological Changes in Inspection Results for Fishery Products



Monitoring of fishery products has been conducted in particular focusing on fish and shellfish which exceeded a radioactive cesium concentration of 50 Bq/kg or are the major products of the relevant prefectures. Monitoring is conducted once a week or so in principle. The number of fishery products exceeding the standard limit has been gradually decreasing.

Shortly after the Tokyo Electric Power Company (TEPCO)'s Fukushima Daiichi NPS Accident, approx. 30% of the fishery samples collected in (the sea neighboring) Fukushima Prefecture exceeded the standard limit. Such samples decreased afterwards, and there have been only three samples exceeding the standard limit since April 2015. Since September 2014, there have been no samples collected in prefectures other than Fukushima Prefecture that contained radioactive cesium exceeding the standard limit.

Some freshwater fish caught in and outside Fukushima Prefecture still show radioactive cesium concentrations exceeding the standard limit even in FY2020, but the number of such fish is decreasing year by year.

The standard limit refers to 100 Bq/kg, which has been applied since April 2012 (in FY2011, provisional regulation values were applied, but tabulation is based on the current standard for the purpose of comparison with the results in and after 2012).

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Provision of Information on Place of Product Origin to Consumers

○ Since October 2011, it has been recommended to display places of origin of fresh fishery products, mainly those caught on the Pacific side of eastern Japan, by dividing the sea areas into 7 zones and clarifying these zone names.

Zones for migratory fish

[Migratory fish species]
Salmon shark, blue shark, shortfin mako shark, sardines, salmon and trout, Pacific saury, Japanese amberjack, Japanese jack mackerel, marlins, mackerels, bonito and tunas, Japanese flying squid, spear squid, and neon flying squid

Line of 200 nautical miles off the coast of Honshu

(i) Pacific Ocean off the coast of Hokkaido and Aomori

(ii) Off the coast of Sanriku (northern part)

(iii) Off the coast of Sanriku (southern part)

(iv) Off the coast of Fukushima

(v) Off the coast of Hitachi and Kashima

(vi) Off the coast of Boso

(vii) Northern part in the Pacific Ocean (in Japanese waters) off the coast of Japan

Due east line extending to the east from Nojimizaki, Chiba

Display example

Indicate the water zone of catch on a label

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Since October 2011, the national government has been encouraging producers to display places of origin of fresh fishery products, mainly those caught on the Pacific side of eastern Japan so that consumers can easily understand where the relevant fishery product was caught.

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