

Municipal solid waste emissions and disposal in FY2014

The situation regarding emissions and disposal of municipal solid waste (solid waste and excrement) in FY2014 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: 44,320,000 tons (down 1.2% from 44,870,000 tons in previous year)
- Waste emissions/person/day: 947 grams (down 1.1% from 958 grams in previous year) (In case foreigner population is excluded from overall population 963 grams, down 0.9% from 972 grams in previous year)

(2) Waste disposal

The amount of waste disposed of by landfill declined by 5.3% from previous year, and the recycling rate didn't change.

- Amount disposed of by landfill: 4,300,000 tons (down 5.3% from 4,540,000 tons in previous year)
- Waste reduction rate: 98.7% (98.6% in previous year)
- Direct landfill disposal rate: 1.2% (1.4% in previous year)
- Total amount of waste recycled: 9,130,000 tons (down 1.5% from 9,270,000 tons in previous year)
- Recycling rate: 20.6% (equal to 20.6% in previous year)

2. Waste incineration plants

- The number of waste incineration plants declined.
- Capacity per plant rose marginally.
- 29.1% of all plants were equipped with power generation facilities, and total power generating capacity increased.

As of March 31, 2015;

- Number of plants: 1,162 (down 0.9% from 1,172 in previous year)
- Capacity: 183,511 tons/day (182,683 tons/day in previous year)
- Capacity per plant: 158 tons/day (156 tons/day in previous year)
- Number of plants using residual heat: 764 (778 in previous year)
- Number of plants with power generation facilities: 338 (328 in previous year) (29.1% of total)
- Total power generating capacity: 1,907,000 kilowatts (up 7.7% from 1,770,000 kilowatts in previous year)

3. Landfill sites

- Available capacity has fallen for 16 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, 2015;

- Available capacity: 105,820,000 cubic meters (down 1.5% from 107,410,000 cubic meters in previous year)
- The number of remaining sustainable years: 20.1 years (19.3 years in previous year)

4. Waste disposal expenditure

Spending on waste disposal services increased slightly.

- Expenditure on waste disposal services: 1,943.1 billion yen (1,851.0 billion yen in previous year)

- Main categories of expenditure:

Construction and improvement	312.1 billion yen (257.5 billion yen in previous year)
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Disposal and running costs	1,512.4 billion yen (1,473.8 billion yen in previous year)
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