

Chapter 1

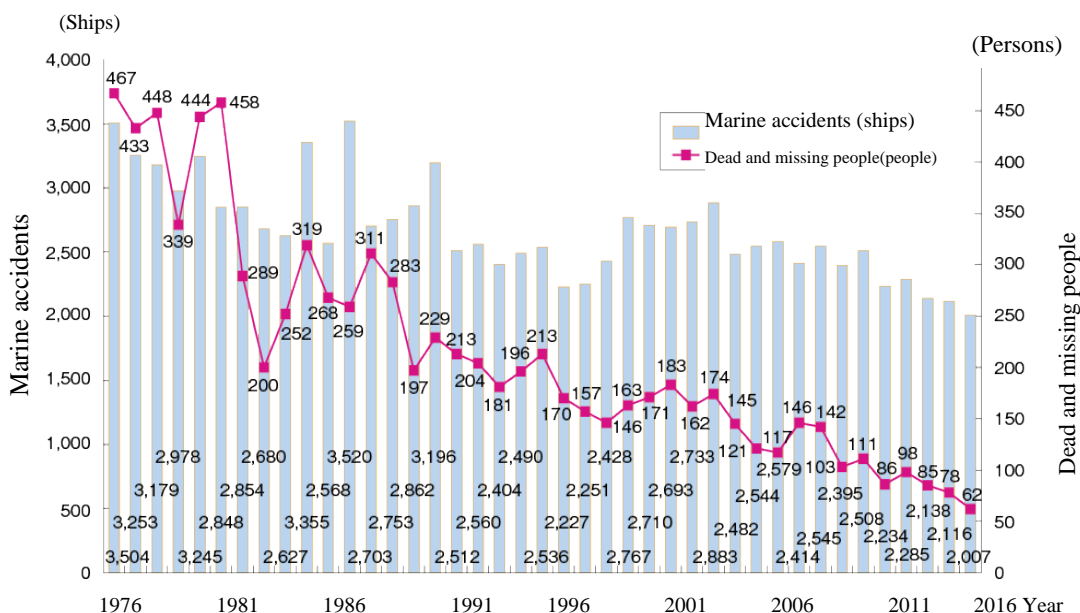
Maritime Accident Trends

1 Current Situation of Maritime Accidents

Looking at the trends in the number of ships in maritime accidents subject to the Fundamental Traffic Safety Program in the surrounding seas of our country, the annual average was 3,232 in the period of the Second Fundamental Traffic Safety Program (FY 1976-1980) and became 2,007 in FY 2016 thus showing a reduction by approximately 40%.

The number of dead and missing people in maritime accidents was 426 in an annual average in the Second Fundamental Traffic Safety Program but dropped to 62 in 2016, which is down by approximately 80% over the former.

▶ Chart 2-1 Changes in the number of ships in maritime accidents and dead and missing people caused by them



Note: 1.Source: Japan Coast Guard
2.Death and missing people include crew on board who lost their lives while going adrift because of illness and others.

2 Major Constituents of Maritime Accidents and Marine Rescue during 2016

①The number of ships which encountered maritime accidents in 2016 was 2,007 excluding 623 ships which entered the port on their own, amongst the remaining 1,384 ships, 1,238 ships were rescued, and the rescue rate (percentage of rescued ships over the number of ships which encountered maritime accidents except ships which could make to the port on their own) was 89%. The Japan Coast guard rescued a total of 512 ships which encountered maritime accidents by sending total 1,898 patrol boats, a total of 314 aircrafts and a total 228 numbers of special rescue team.

②Most of dead and missing people in maritime accidents and most of dead and missing people due to falling into the sea occurred in fishing boats, which accounted for 63% and 48% over the total number, respectively.

③The number of small ships involved in the accidents was 1,569 with a decrease of 59 ships over the previous year. Here, the number of dead and missing people involved was 43 with a decrease of 4 people from the previous year.

④The number of ships such as pleasure boats which encountered maritime accidents was 943 and of 793 ships, except 150

ships which could make port on their own, 737 ships were rescued, and the rescue rate was 93%.

Chapter 2

Current Maritime Traffic Safety Measures

1 Improvement of Maritime Traffic Environment

●Improvement of Traffic Safety Facilities

In order to secure safety of vessel traffic and improve the operational efficiency, the development of AtoN (Aids to Navigation) was implemented in response to changes in maritime transport environment, such as the development and progress of ports and harbors as well as routes, and the increase in size of ships. A total of 5,284 units of AtoN are under management as at the end of FY 2016.

In addition, disaster-related measures including the reinforcement of AtoN against earthquakes and waves and installation of off-grid power equipment (utilization of photovoltaic power) were promoted in order to prevent collapse and power loss of AtoN due to natural disasters such as earthquakes and typhoons and to ensure safe maritime traffic in disaster areas even after a disaster strikes.

2 Dissemination of Knowledge Regarding Maritime Transport Safety

●Raising Awareness of the Prevention of Maritime Accidents

It is important to raise awareness of the prevention of maritime accidents in all of us in order to prevent maritime accidents.

To this end, all opportunities such as seminars on maritime accident prevention and visits to ships for guidance, etc were used to call for the prevention of maritime accidents not only to persons related to maritime affairs but also to all people in general, in addition to the dissemination and raising of awareness to prevent maritime accidents as well as learning and improvement of knowledge for their prevention.

In particular in the period between July 16 and July 31, 2016, the "prevention of marine accident of small ships", "thorough vigilance and promotion of communication between ships" and "securing of self-rescue measures such as wearing a life jacket at all times" were especially promoted across Japan as a "Nationwide maritime prevention emphasis campaign - zero marine accidents campaign" between the public and the private sector. In addition, the "Regional Campaign for Preventing Marine Accidents" was developed at regional levels by taking into consideration the characteristics of that region and various ships, such as weather condition like fogs and occurrence tendency of marine accidents.

3 Ensuring Safe Operation of Boats and Ships

●Prevention of Human Errors

Since many of the ship accidents occurred due to the human errors such as insufficient watch out and inappropriate vessel manipulation, by means of cooperation between related organizations, various campaigns, shipping accident prevention workshops and visiting ship guidance for the safety of business owners and navigators were taken up aiming at improving safety awareness of related companies and manipulators. In addition, at the visit guidance, the Transportation Safety Committee attempted to inform dissemination by the information magazine which introduced and analyzed cases of ship accident investigation related to collision accident prevention.

● **Strengthening of Supervision for Passenger Ship Operators, etc.**

In addition to carrying out audits focused on the compliance status of safety management rules to passenger ship operators, etc, The system of safety management was improved through the audit in response to the causes of accidents and incidents.

Moreover, a manual including effective firefighting procedures, the features of firefighting equipment and training methods to enhance preparations for ferry operators to engage in firefighting was compiled and publicly released in response to a fire on board a ferry in July 2015. In FY2016, briefings were held for ferry operators nationwide and the manual was used to provide guidance to them.

● **Promotion of Transport Safety Management Assessment**

In accordance with “The Transport Safety Management system” which was introduced in October of 2006, the transportation companies build and improve the safety management system company-wide, and the government implement “The Transport Safety Management Assessment” which is the system that the government checks the implementation status of The Transport Safety Management system of transportation companies.

In 2016, the government implemented this assessment on 242 companies.

4 Augmentation of Safety Measures for Small Vessels, etc.

● **Promotion of Safety Measures for Pleasure Boats**

Since it is important to raise safety awareness in enthusiasts of marine leisure for the prevention of maritime accidents, the Coast Guard used all kinds of opportunities such as seminars on maritime accident prevention and visits to ships for guidance to disseminate the idea for accident prevention and provided support to private bodies such as the Small Boat Safety Association as well as safety instructors conducting volunteer activities.

In the meantime, the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, in coordination with the Japan Craft Inspection Organization, made known the need to undergo ship inspection at appropriate intervals to people concerned through leaflets, etc.

In the meantime, the police provided safety instructions from the police ships in a wide range of areas including harbors, other areas with heavy maritime traffic, beaches with many visitors, water areas with active marine leisure sports and others.

The police also pursued several other efforts to secure marine safety by patrol with police mobility equipment such as boats and aircrafts, instructions and warnings to marine leisure operators and other people playing marine sports in cooperation and coordination with related organizations mainly in the water areas congested with many ships and boats or crowded beaches and other popular areas for marine sports activities.