

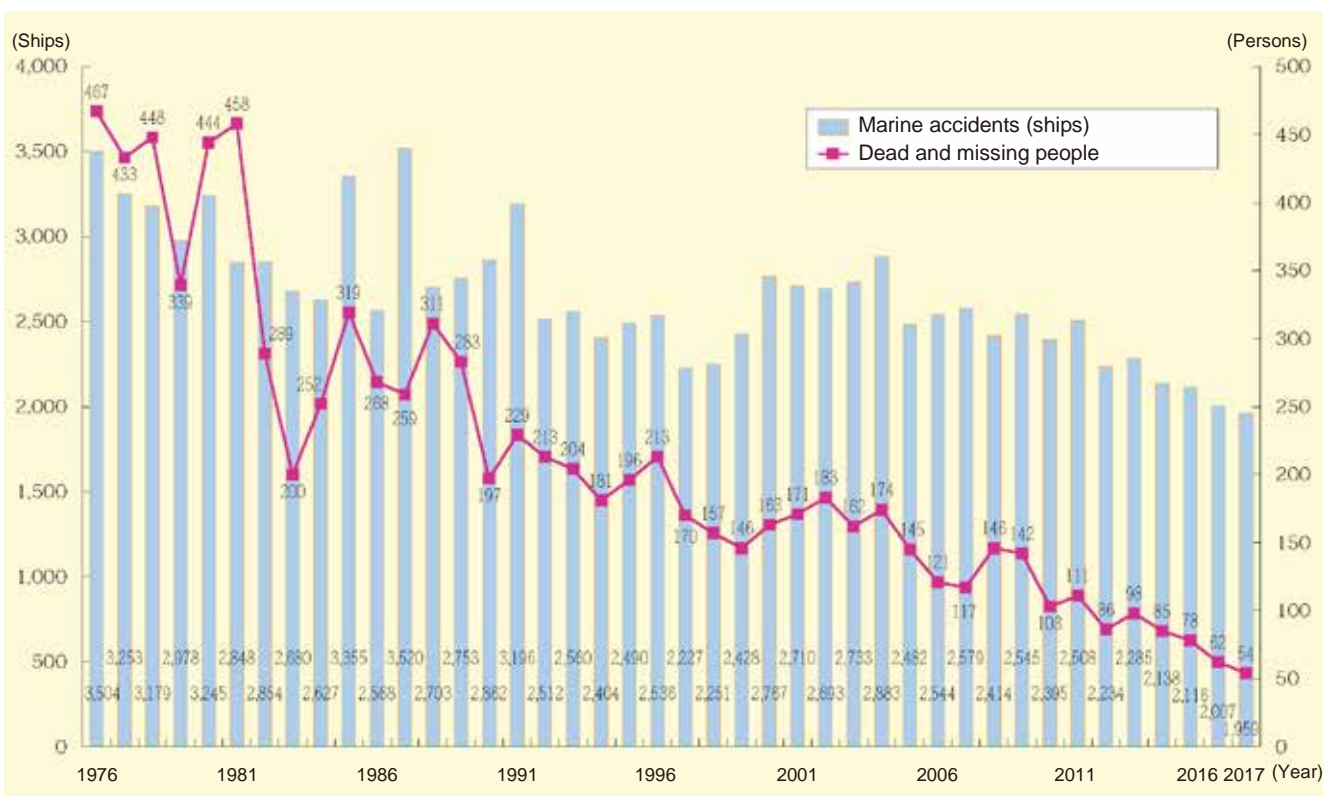
Chapter 1 Maritime Accident Trends

1. Current status of maritime accidents

If we look at the changes in the number of ship accidents subject to the Fundamental Traffic Safety Program in the seas around Japan, there were a total of 3,232 ship accidents as an average during the 2nd Fundamental Traffic Safety Program (FY1976 to FY1980). However, the number of ship accidents was 1,959 in 2017, a decrease of about 40%.

The number of fatalities and missing people in maritime accidents was 426 people as an average during the 2nd Fundamental Traffic Safety Program. However, there were a total of 54 accidents in 2017, a decrease of over 80%.

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. Dead and missing people include crew on board who lost their lives while going adrift because of illness and others.

2. Maritime Accidents and Rescues during 2017

- The number of ships which encountered maritime accidents in 2017 was 1,959, and of 1,392 ships, except 567 ships which could make port on their own, 1,182 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 port on their own) was 85%. The Japan Coast Guard rescued a total of 506 ships which encountered maritime accidents by sending out a total of 1,992 patrol boats, a total of 369 aircrafts and a total of 191 members of special rescue team.
- Most 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 50% and 55% over the total number, respectively.
- f The number of accidents of small ships was 1,519, a decrease by 50 ships compared to the previous year. The number of fatalities and missing people as a result of these accidents was 32 people, a decrease by 11 people compared to the previous year.
- „ The number of ships such as pleasure boats* which encountered maritime accidents was 986 and of 835 ships,

* Pleasure boats

Small boats used for personal leisure, such as motor boats, yachts, and wet bikes. A collective term for yachts and boats to be used for sports or recreation.

except 151 ships which could make port on their own, 741 ships were rescued, and the rescue rate was 89%.

Chapter 2 Current Maritime Traffic Safety Measures

1. Improvement of Maritime Traffic Environment

1 Improvement of Traffic Safety Facilities

In order to secure safety of vessel traffic and improve the operational efficiency, the development of beacons 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 5,251 units of beacons are under management as at the end of FY2017.

In addition, in order to prevent destruction and/or extinction of beacon lights caused by natural disasters such as earthquakes and typhoons and ensure maritime traffic safety of disaster stricken-areas even at the time of a disaster, we promoted disaster prevention measures, such as anti-earthquake reinforcement of beacons, reinforcement against high waves, provision of high-wave resistance of LED lights, etc.

2. Dissemination of Knowledge Regarding Maritime Transport Safety

● Raising Awareness of the Prevention of Maritime Accidents

To prevent maritime accidents, it is important for each of us to raise our awareness of maritime accident prevention.

For this reason, in cooperation with relevant ministries and agencies as well as groups and organizations, we took every opportunity including marine accident prevention seminars, provision of guidance and counseling by visiting ships, etc., to remind not only people involved in maritime matters, but also general public of the importance of compliance with laws and regulations and thoroughly securing own life-saving measures such as wearing a life-jacket at all times, etc., and tried to diffuse and enhance the idea of maritime accident prevention as well as acquire and improve knowledge on maritime accident prevention.

In particular, during the period from July 16 to 31, 2017, we conducted the “Campaign for Zero Sea Accident” across Japan with participation of the government and people as one focused on “thorough watch-keeping and promotion of inter-ship communication” and “securing own life-saving measures such as wearing a life-jacket at all times.” We also conducted local-level activities in consideration of regional characteristics including weather conditions, such as fogs, occurrence trend of maritime accidents, as well as characteristics of various ships.

3. Ensuring Safe Operation of Boats and Ships

● Prevention of human errors

Many ship accidents are caused by human errors such as insufficient watch-keeping and inappropriate ship manipulation. Therefore, in cooperation with related organizations, we took every opportunity including various campaigns, marine accident prevention seminars, provision of guidance and counseling by visiting ships, etc., to enhance safety awareness of operators, pilots, etc., and to keep all people concerned informed by presenting cases of ship accident investigations for collision accident prevention carried out by the Transportation Safety Committee and with the information magazine that performed analysis in the guidance and counseling by visiting ships.

● Strengthening of Supervision for Passenger Ship Operators

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.

In addition, in response to a ferry fire accident occurred in July 2015, we wrapped up and published a handbook in March 2016 in which effective fire extinguishing procedures, characteristics of fire extinguishing equipment, methods of training, etc., are summarized for strengthening provisions for fire-fighting activities by ferry operators. We continued to provide guidance to ferry operators across Japan in FY2017.

● Promotion of Transport Safety Management Assessment

In accordance with “The Transport Safety Management system” which was introduced in October 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 2015, the government implemented this assessment on 253 companies.

4. Enhancing Safety Measures for Small Boats

- **Promote safety measures for pleasure boats**

The Japan Coast Guard, in view of the importance of raising safety awareness of marine leisure enthusiasts, did not only promote and diffuse the concept of maritime accident prevention by taking every opportunity including marine accident prevention seminars, provision of guidance and counseling by visiting ships, etc., in cooperation with related organization, but also developed safety activities closely tied to local communities in cooperation with private organizations such as small ship safety associations, maritime safety instructors, volunteers such as local lifesavers.

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.

The police ensured maritime traffic safety, not only by patrolling sea areas focused on harbors, other ship congestion areas, bathing beaches with many swimmers, water areas where water sports are actively practiced, etc., but also by providing safety guidance to people related to marine leisure sports in cooperation with related organizations and groups.