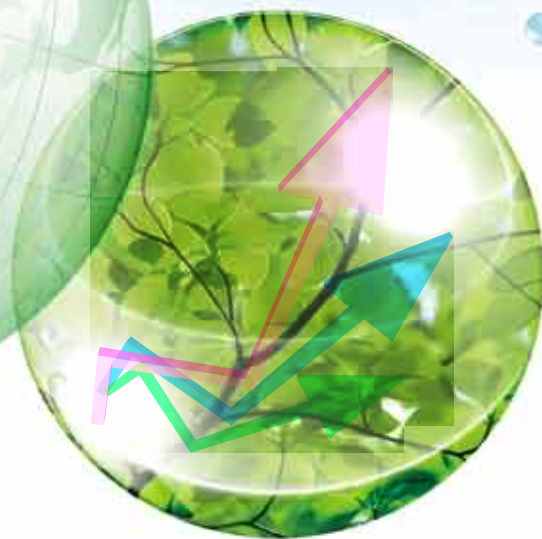


FY2011 Settlement  
**White Paper on  
Local Public Finance, 2013**  
–Illustrated–



Ministry of Internal Affairs  
and Communications

# Contents

<b>The Role of Local Public Finance</b> .....	<b>1</b>
<b>FY2011 Settlement Overview</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>Revenues</b> .....	<b>6</b>
1. Revenue Breakdown .....	<b>6</b>
2. Revenues in Regular Portion and Great East Japan Earthquake Portion .....	<b>7</b>
3. Revenue Trends .....	<b>8</b>
4. Local Taxes .....	<b>9</b>
5. Local Allocation Tax .....	<b>12</b>
<b>Expenditures</b> .....	<b>13</b>
1. Expenses Classified by Function .....	<b>13</b>
2. Expenses Classified by Type .....	<b>17</b>
<b>Flexibility of the Financial Structure</b> .....	<b>21</b>
1. Ordinary Balance Ratio .....	<b>21</b>
2. Real Debt Service Ratio and Debt Service Payment Ratio .....	<b>22</b>
<b>Outstanding Local Government Borrowing</b> .....	<b>23</b>
1. Trends in Outstanding Local Government Borrowing .....	<b>23</b>
2. Outstanding Local Finance Borrowing .....	<b>23</b>
<b>Local Public Enterprises</b> .....	<b>24</b>
1. Ratio of Local Public Enterprises .....	<b>24</b>
2. Number of Businesses Operated by Local Public Enterprises .....	<b>25</b>
3. Scale of Financial Settlement .....	<b>25</b>
4. Financial Status .....	<b>26</b>
<b>Impact of Great East Japan Earthquake</b> .....	<b>27</b>
1. Settlement of Disaster-Struck Organizations .....	<b>27</b>
2. Financial Status of Businesses of Local Public Enterprises of Disaster-Struck Organizations .....	<b>29</b>
<b>Promotion of the Soundness of Local Public Finance</b> .....	<b>30</b>
1. Overview of the Act on Assurance of Sound Financial Status of Local Governments .....	<b>30</b>
2. Status of the Ratios for Determining Financial Soundness .....	<b>31</b>

Figures for each item that are less than the given unit are rounded off. Therefore, they do not necessarily add up exactly to the total.

# The Role of Local Public Finance

Prefectures and municipalities (cities, towns, and villages) are the central actors in various areas of public services, including school education, public welfare and health, police and fire services, and public works such as roads and sewage systems, thereby fulfilling a major role in the lives of the citizens of the nation. This brochure describes the status of local public finance (which comprises collectively the finances of individual local governments), the state of settlements for FY2011, and the status of the ratios for determining the financial soundness of local governments, with particular attention given to ordinary accounts (Public enterprises, such as water supply, transportation, and hospitals are described in the section on Local Public Enterprises).

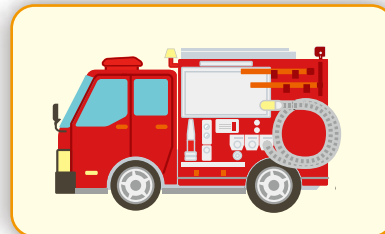
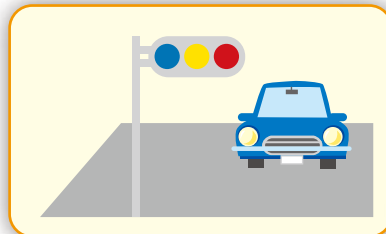
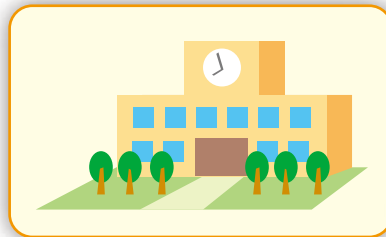
## Classification of the Accounts of Local Governments Applied in the Settlement Account Statistics

The accounts of local governments are divided into the general accounts and the special accounts, which vary in scope between local governments. Therefore, to secure standardization in the tabulation of local finance, the accounts are classified as ordinary accounts, which cover the general administrative sector, and other accounts (public business accounts). This makes it possible to clarify the financial condition of local governments as a whole and to make a statistical comparison between local governments.

### Local Government Accounts

Ordinary accounts

#### General administrative sector accounts



Other accounts  
(Public business accounts)

#### Public enterprise accounts

Water supply, transportation, electrical power, gas, hospitals,  
sewer systems, residential land development, etc.

National health  
insurance  
accounts

Latter-stage  
elderly medical  
care accounts

Nursing care  
insurance  
accounts

Etc.

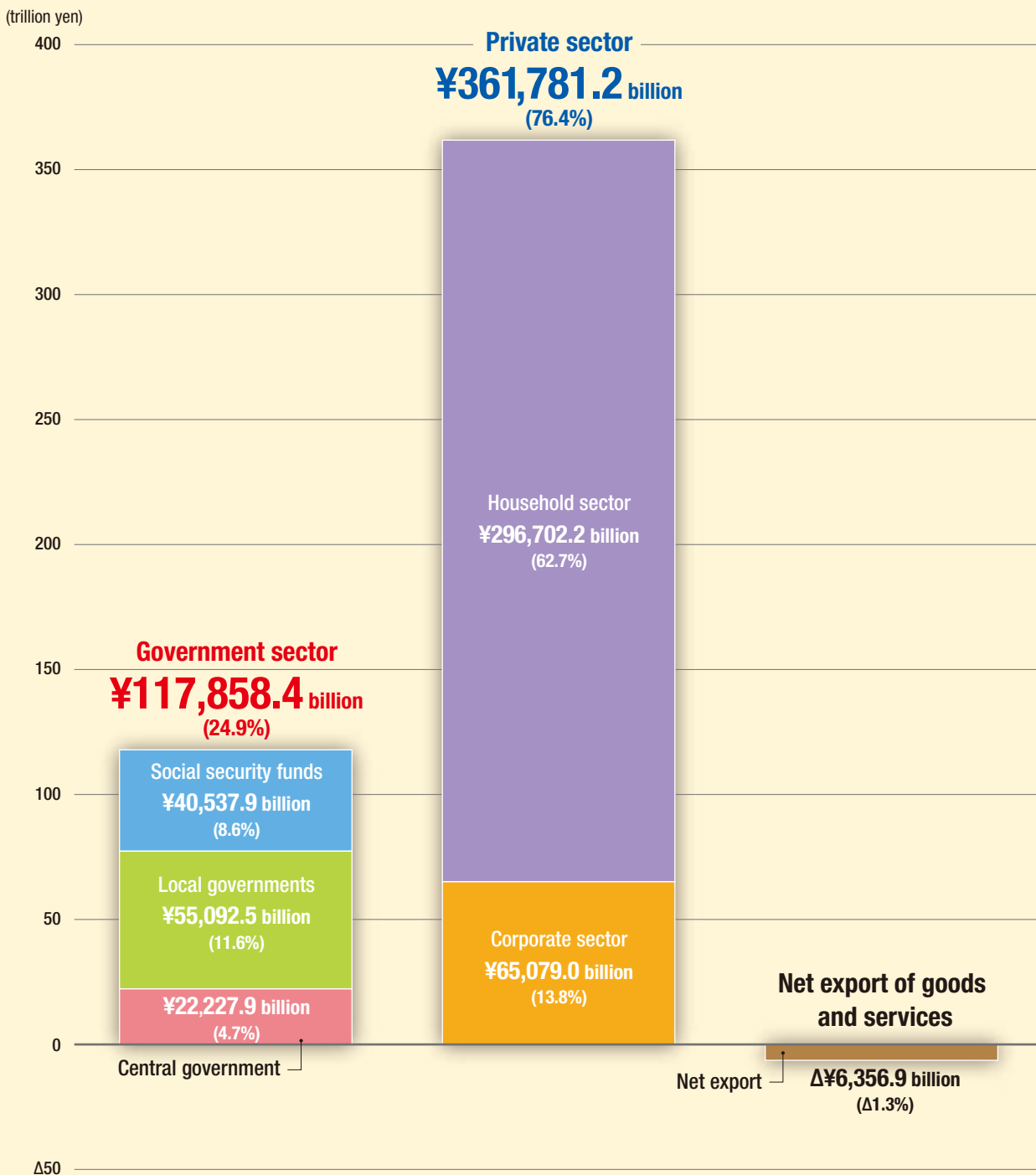
## How large is local public finance compared with central government finance?

The ratio of gross domestic product (expenditure) consisting of local public finance is 11.6%, about 2.5 times that of the central government.

### Gross Domestic Product (Expenditure) and Local Public Finance (FY2011)

#### Gross Domestic Product (expenditure, nominal)

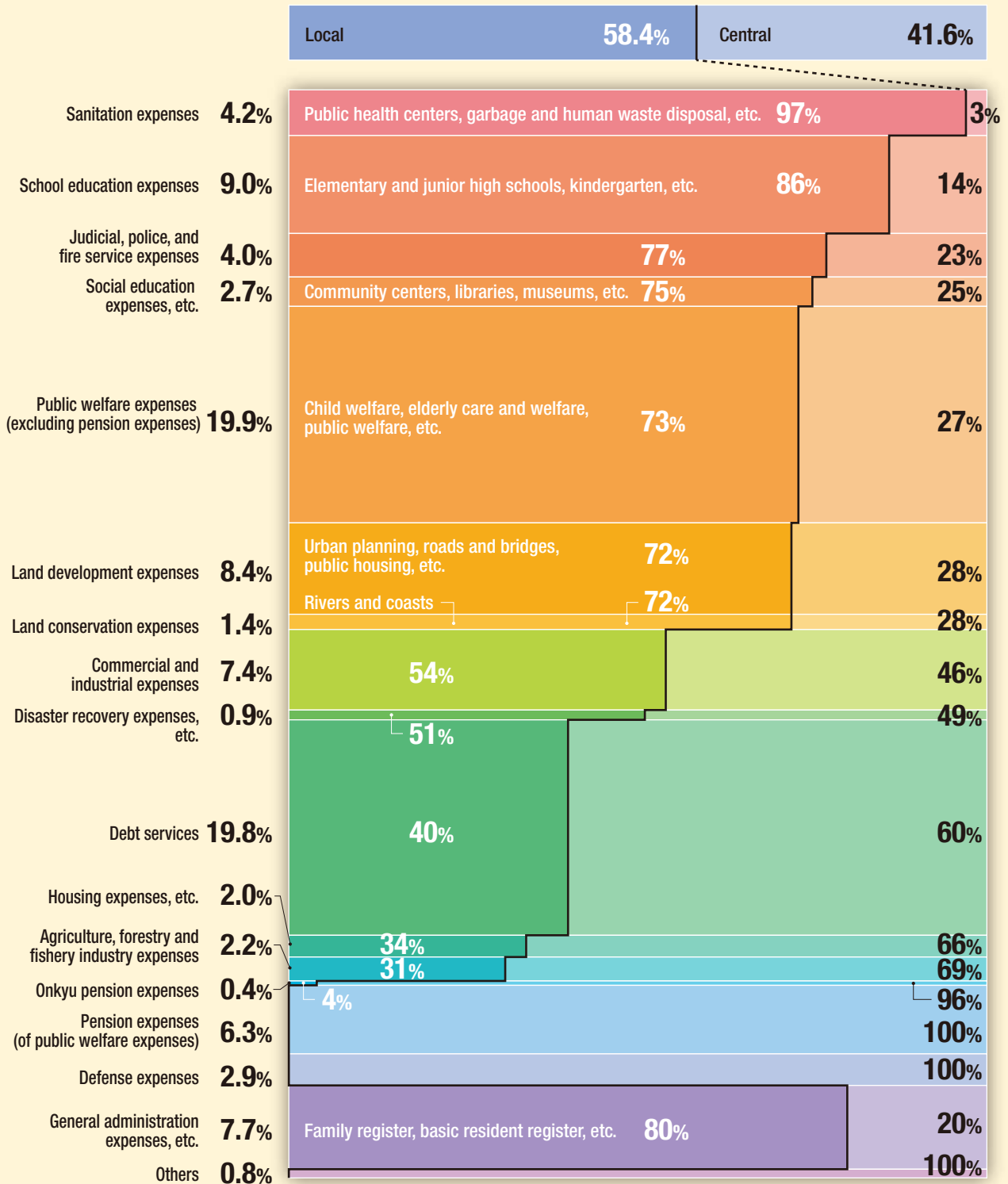
**¥473,282.6 billion (100%)**



## In which areas is the share of local expenditures high?

The share of local governments' expenditures is higher in areas that are deeply related to daily life, such as public health and sanitation, school education, police and fire services, and social education.

### Share of Expenditures by Function of Central and Local Governments (final expenditure basis)



# FY2011 Settlement Overview

Revenues and expenditures increased from the previous fiscal year.\*

## 1 Revenues

**¥100,069.6 billion (up ¥2,558.1 billion, 2.6% year on year)**

Regular portion: **¥95,035.1 billion (down ¥2,476.4 billion, 2.5% year on year)**

Great East Japan Earthquake portion: **¥5,034.5 billion**

While the revenues in the regular portion from local tax, municipal bonds, and national treasury disbursements decreased, the revenues in the Great East Japan Earthquake portion, from special allocation tax, Great East Japan Earthquake special allocation tax, and national treasury disbursements increased, resulting in total revenue increase by ¥2,558.1 billion from the previous fiscal year.

## 2 Expenditures

**¥97,002.6 billion (up ¥2,227.6 billion, 2.4% year on year)**

Regular portion: **¥92,511.7 billion (down ¥2,263.3 billion, 2.4% year on year)**

Great East Japan Earthquake portion: **¥4,491.0 billion**

Breaking down expenditures, in the regular portion, the expenses for construction of public facilities declined, while the expenses for public assistance increased. Moreover, construction expenses, disaster restoration expenses, reserves and other expenses were disbursed in the Great East Japan Earthquake portion, resulting in total expenditures increasing by ¥2,227.6 billion from the previous fiscal year.

## 3 Revenue and Expenditure Settlement

The real single year balance showed a surplus for the fourth consecutive year, while the single year balance showed a surplus for the third consecutive year.

Category	Settlement Period		No. of local governments with a deficit	
	FY2011	FY2010	FY2011	FY2010
Real balance	¥1,795.3 billion	¥1,670.2 billion	2(3)	8(8)
Single year balance	¥125.5 billion	¥225.8 billion	841(1,542)	567(1,278)
Real single year balance	¥437.2 billion	¥1,039.5 billion	459(1,129)	237(917)

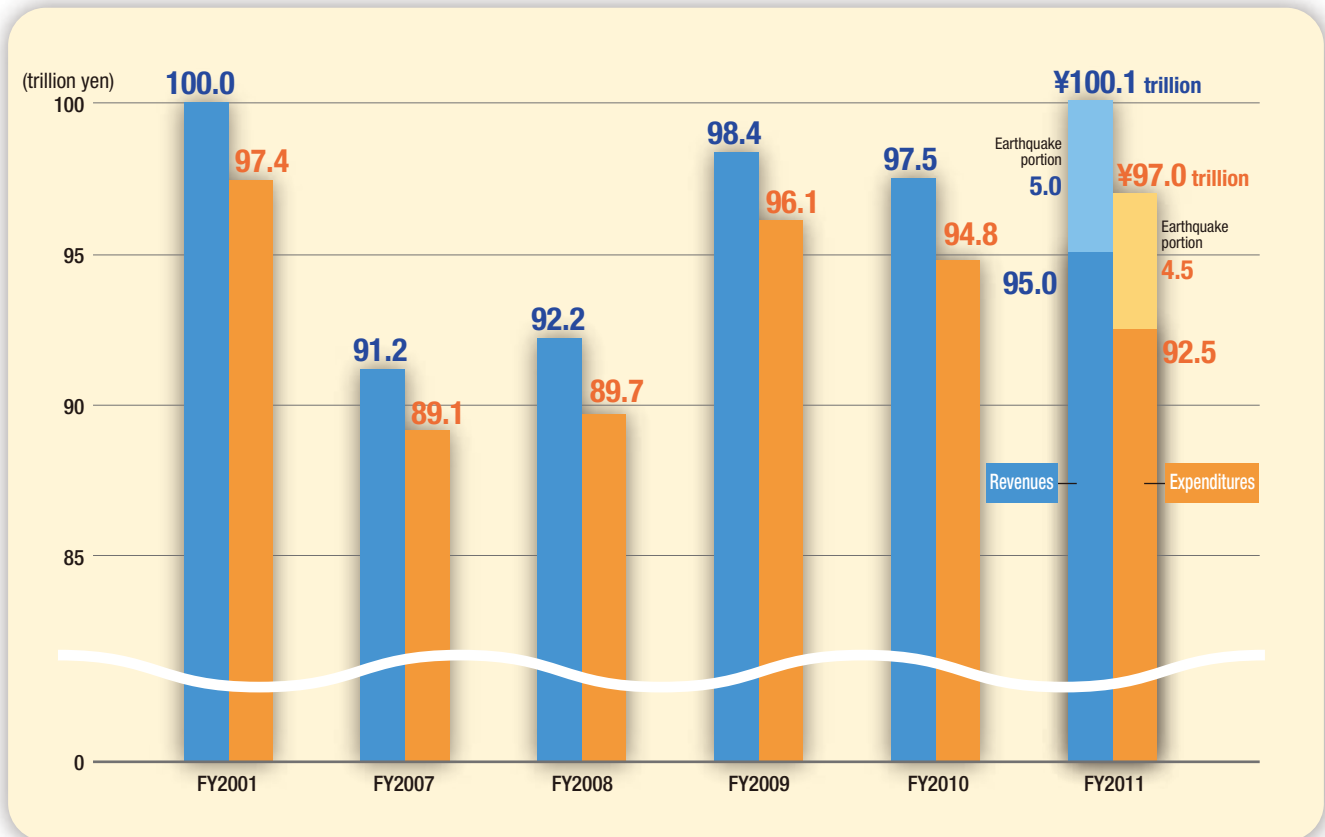
Notes: 1. Real balance refers to the amount calculated by subtracting the revenue resources that should be carried over to the next fiscal year from the income expenditure balance. Single year balance refers to the amount calculated by subtracting the real balance of the previous fiscal year from the real balance of the relevant fiscal year. Real single year balance refers to the amount calculated by adding reserves and advanced redemption of local loans for the public finance adjustment fund to the single year balance and subtracting public finance adjustment fund reversals.

2. The number of local governments with a deficit does not include that of special districts or inter-municipal/prefectural joint authorities. Figures in parentheses indicate the number of local governments including special districts and inter-municipal/prefectural joint authorities.

\* In FY2011, the revenues and expenditures of the ordinary accounts are divided into the regular portion (Overall settlement figures less Great East Japan Earthquake portion) and the Great East Japan Earthquake portion (Covering the revenues and expenditures related to recovery and reconstruction work and emergency relief and disaster mitigation work).

## 4 Trend in Scale of Account Settlement

Considering revenues and expenditures of the regular portion, both of them have decreased for the last two consecutive years.



## 5 Major Financial Indices

Ordinary balance ratio rose 2.1 percentage points year on year, to 92.6%.

Real debt service ratio declined 0.2 percentage point, to 11.8%.

Category	FY2011	FY2010	Change
Ordinary balance ratio	92.6%	90.5%	2.1
Real debt service ratio	11.8%	12.0%	Δ 0.2

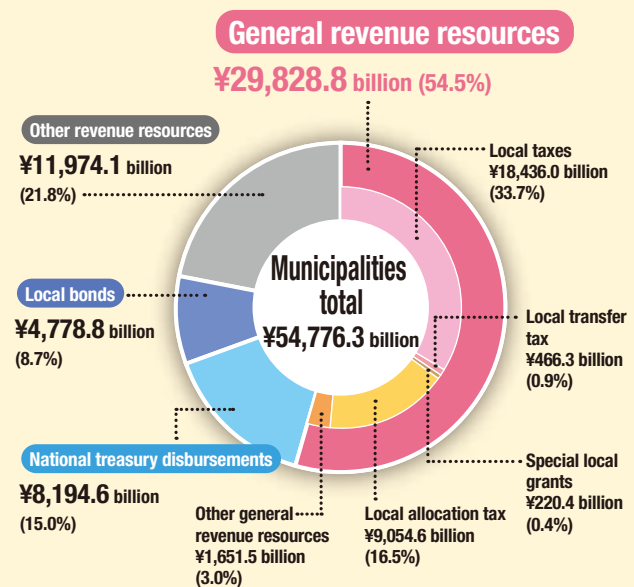
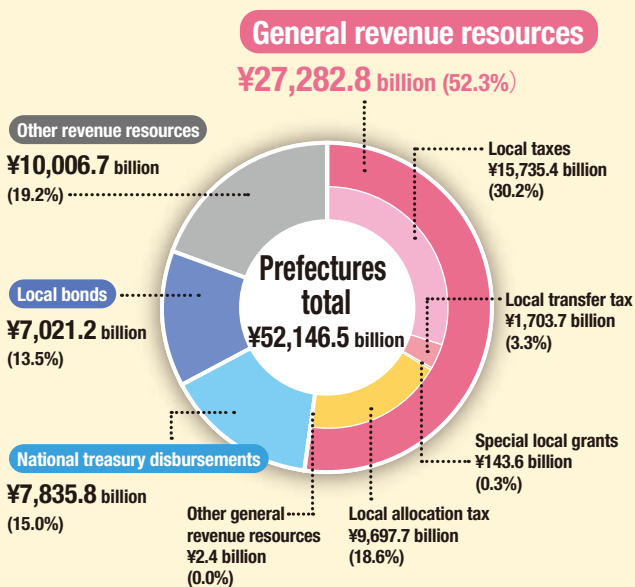
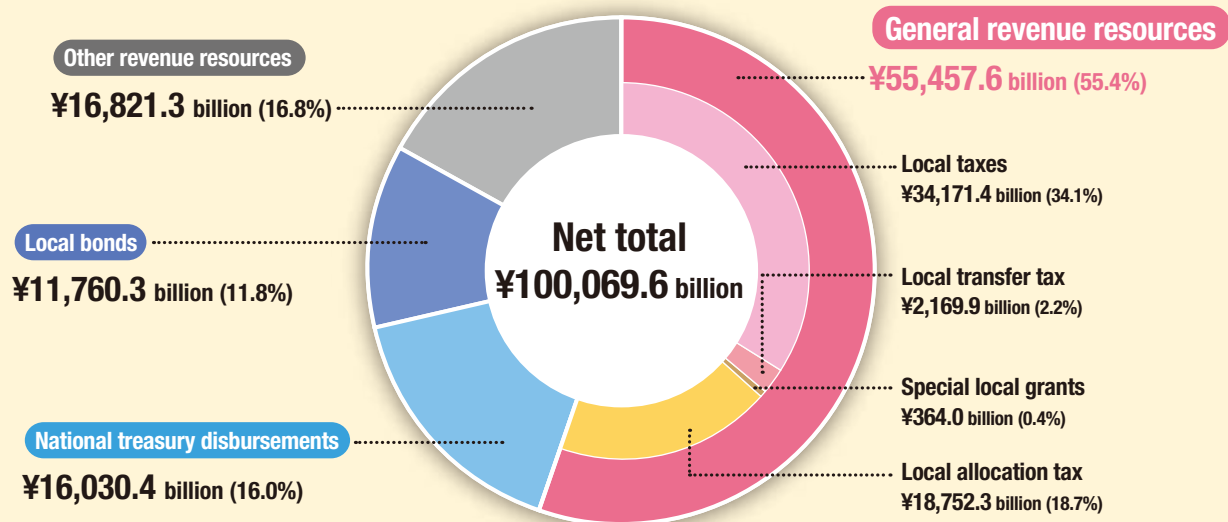
# Revenues

## What are the revenue sources for local governments' activities?

### 1 Revenue Breakdown

The revenue of local governments consists mainly of local taxes, local allocation tax, national treasury disbursements, and local bonds, in order of share size. Among them, revenue resources which can be spent for any purpose, such as local taxes and local allocation tax, are called general revenue resources. It is important for local governments to ensure sufficient general revenue resources in order to handle various administrative needs properly. In FY2011, general revenue resources accounted for 55.4%.

#### Composition of Revenues (FY2011 settlement)



**Local transfer tax:** Collected as a national tax and transferred to local governments. Includes local gasoline transfer tax, etc.

**Special local grants:** Includes the special grants for the child support allowance and child allowance in response to the increased local burden as a result of the expansion of the child support allowance system in FY2006 and FY2007 and the establishment of the child allowance in FY2010.

**Local allocation tax:** An intrinsic revenue source of local governments in order to adjust imbalances in tax revenue among local governments and to guarantee revenue sources so that all the local governments across the country can provide a consistent level of public services. (See pg.12, "5. Local Allocation Tax.")

**National treasury disbursements:** A collective term for the national obligatory share, commissioning expenses, incentives for specific policies, or financial assistance, disbursed from the central government to local governments.

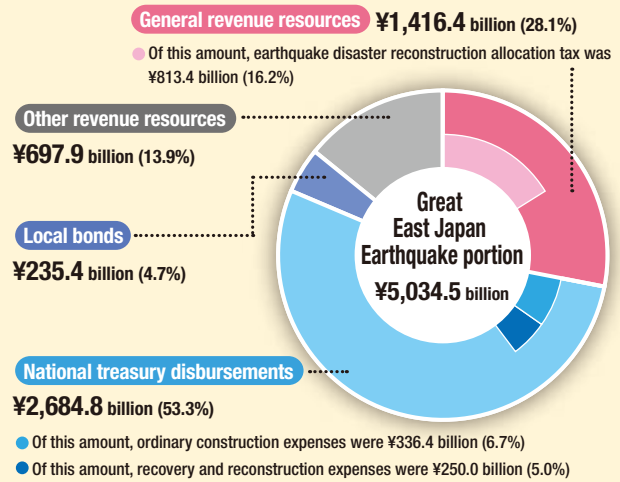
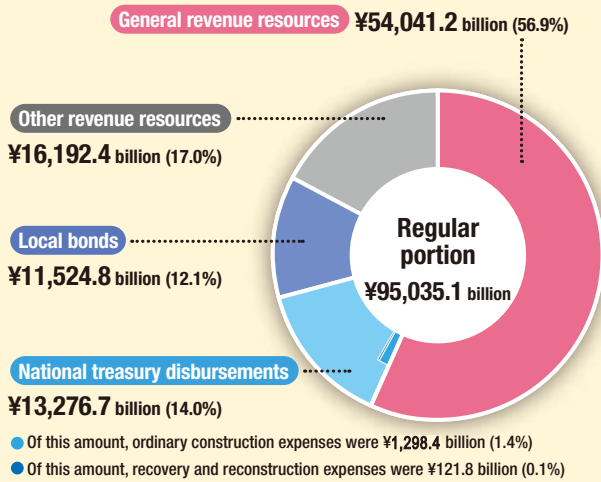
**Local bonds:** The debts of local governments to be repaid over a period of time in excess of one fiscal year for which redemption continues for more than one fiscal year.

Note: "National treasury disbursements" includes "special grants to measures for traffic safety" and "grants to cities, towns and villages where national institutions are located."

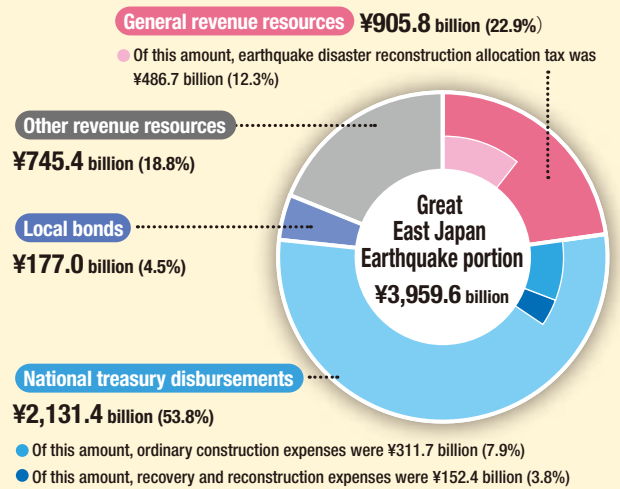
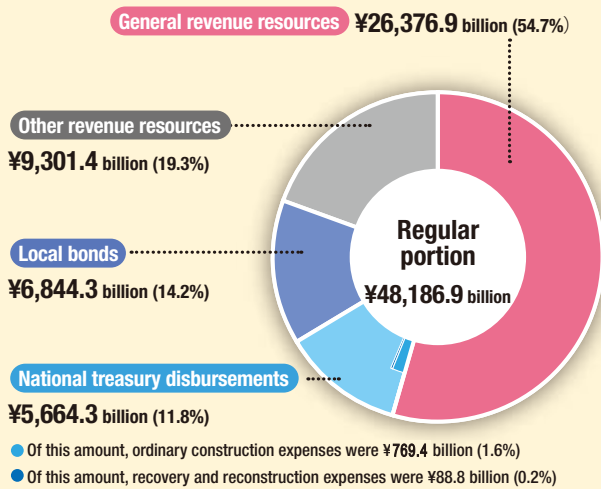


## 2 Revenues in Regular Portion and Great East Japan Earthquake Portion

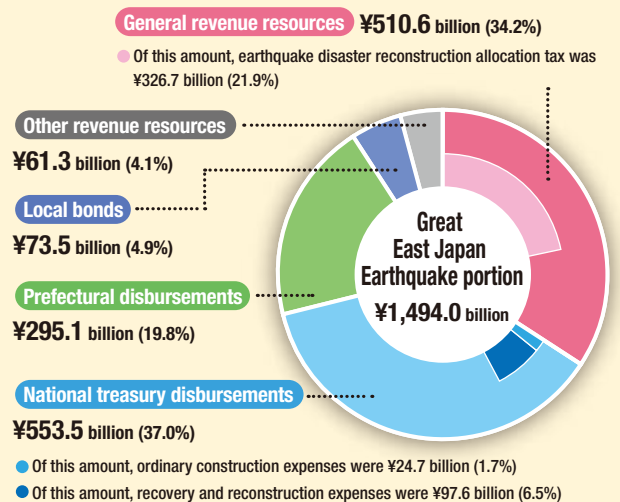
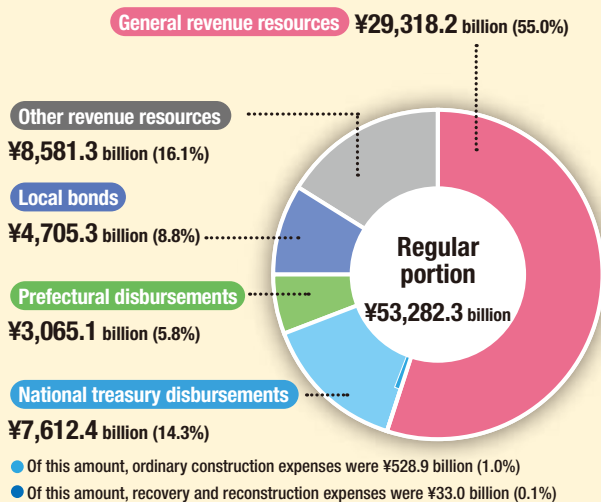
### Net Total



### Prefectures



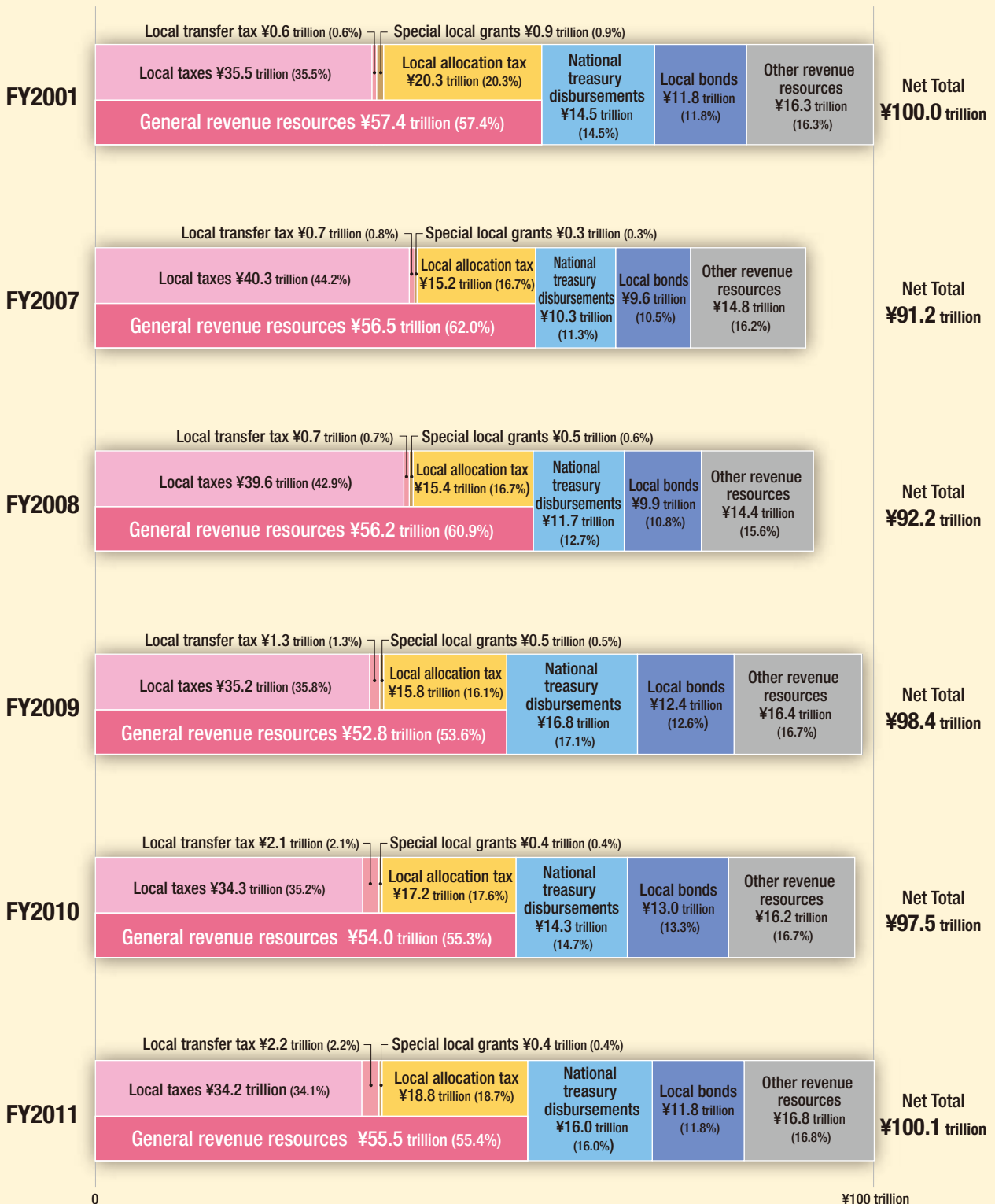
### Municipalities



## 3 Revenue Trends

General revenue resources, which account for more than half of the total revenues, fell substantially in FY2009, but have grown year on year in FY2010 and FY2011.

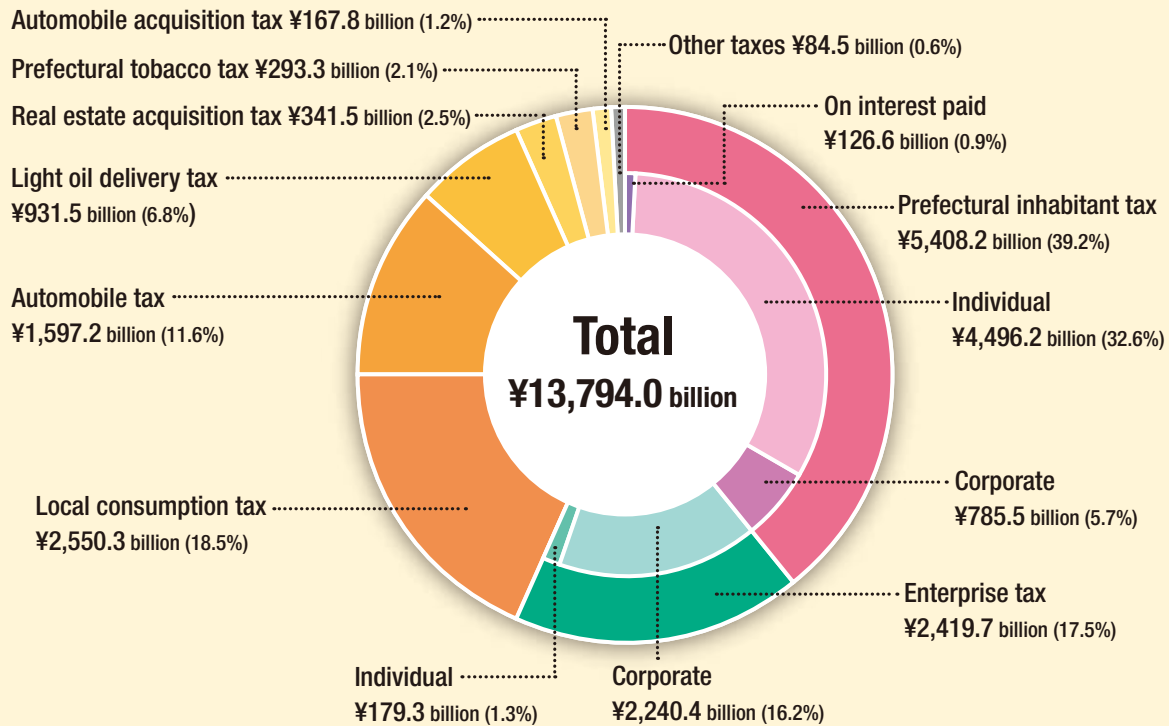
### Net Total



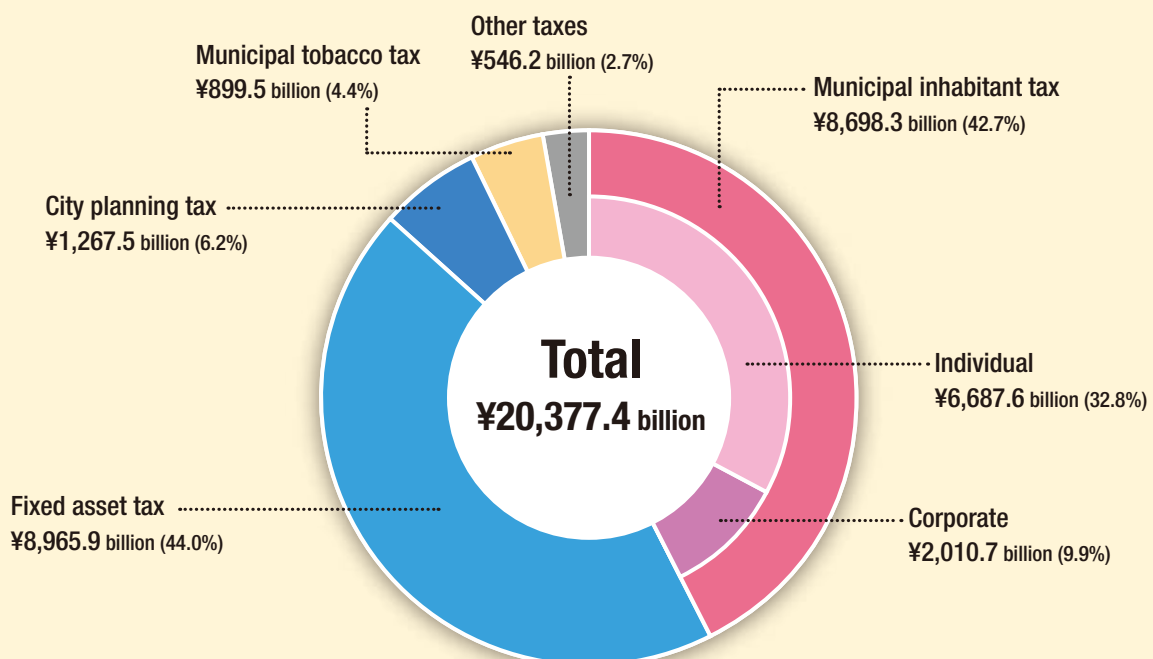
## 4 Local Taxes

Local taxes consist of prefectural taxes and municipal taxes.

### Composition of Revenue from Prefectural Taxes (FY2011 settlement)



### Composition of Revenue from Municipal Taxes (FY2011 settlement)

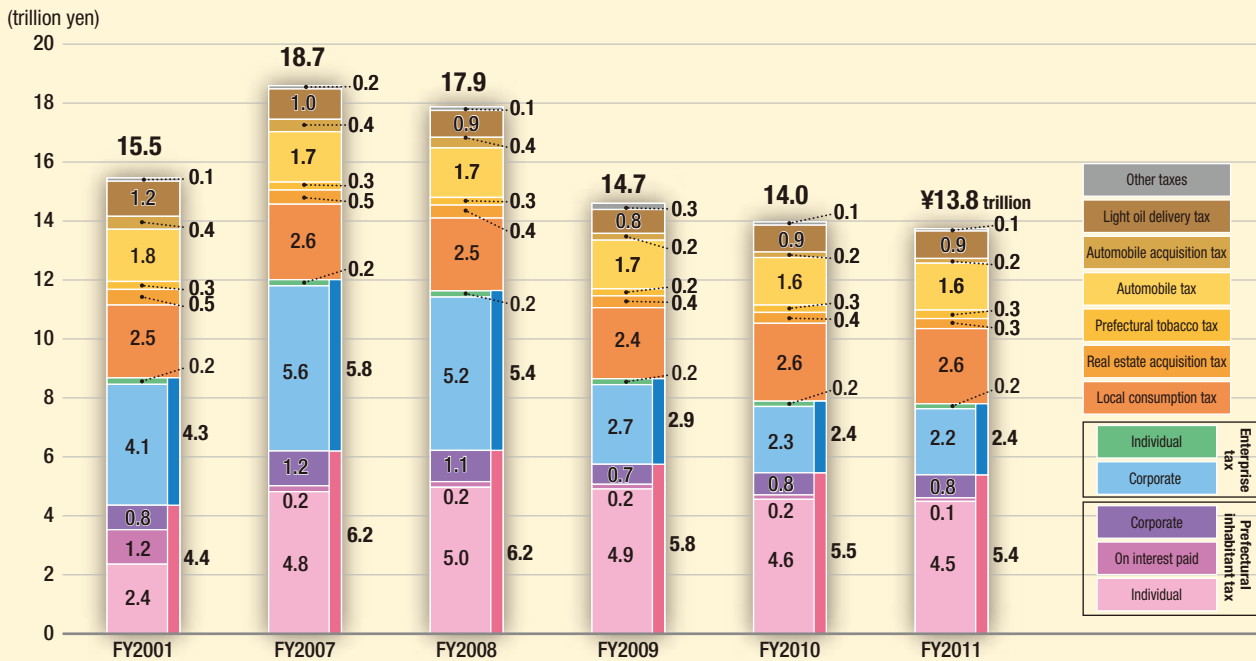


Note: In the case of the special wards of Tokyo, the Tokyo Metropolitan Government collects a portion of the municipal taxes. Municipal tax revenue figures include municipal taxes collected by the Tokyo Metropolitan Government.

# Revenues

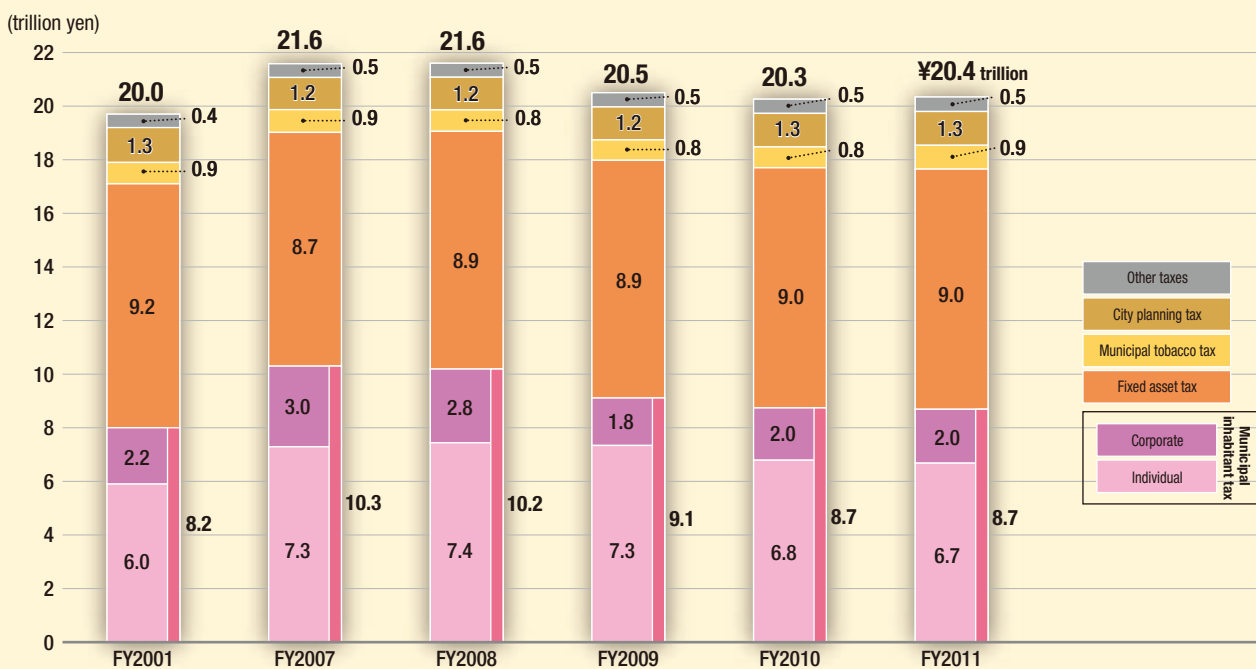
Prefectural tax revenues have dropped lately due to a decrease in prefectural inhabitant taxes revenues and a decline in enterprise tax revenues (corporate) which is caused by the introduction of a special tax on local corporations, etc.

## Trends in Prefectural Tax Revenues



Municipal tax revenues fell sharply in FY2009 mainly because of a decline in municipal inhabitant tax and have remained almost at the same level since then.

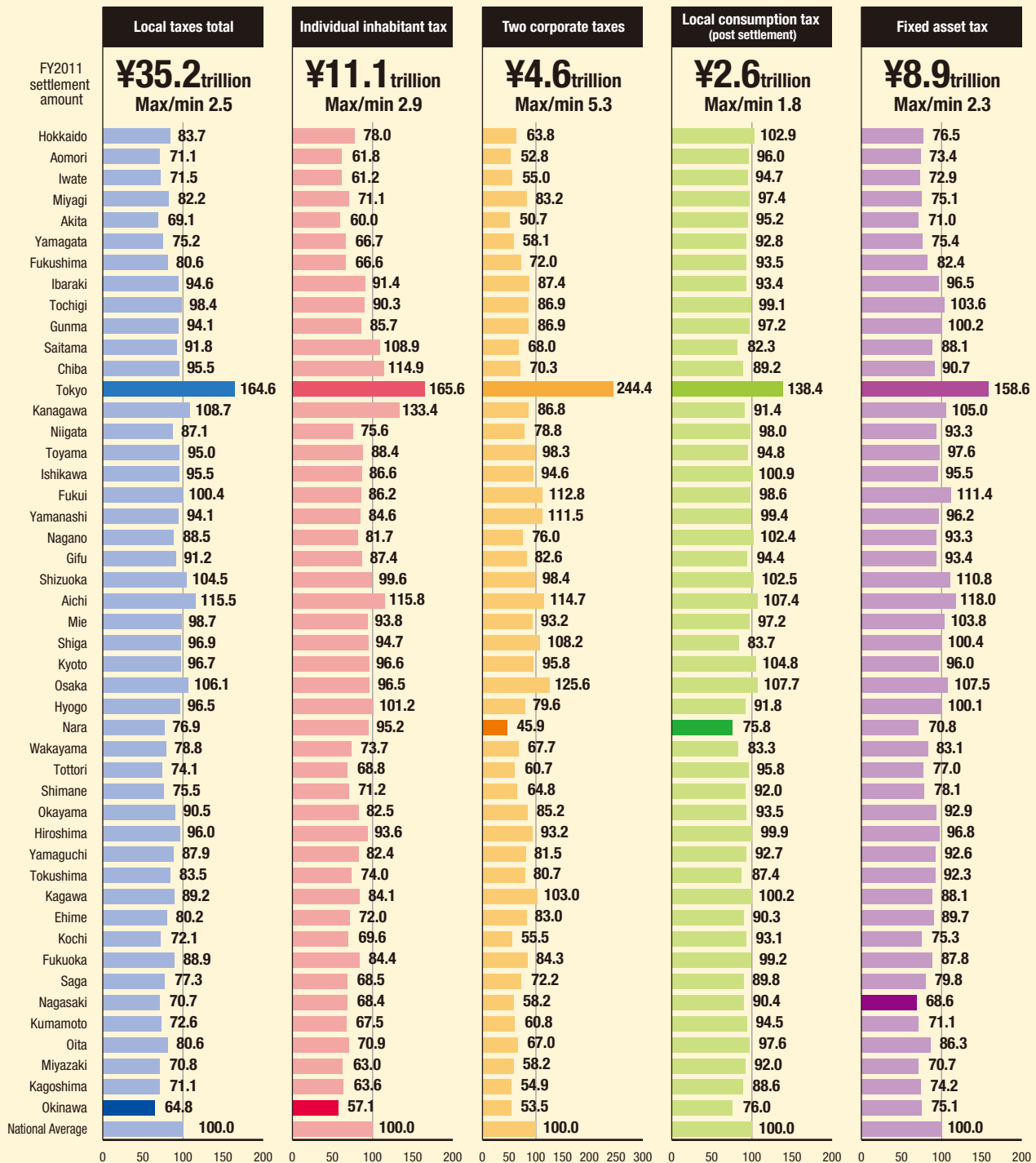
## Trends in Municipal Tax Revenues



Note: Municipal tax revenue figures include municipal taxes collected by the Tokyo Metropolitan Government.

In order for local governments to provide public services in response to local needs on their own responsibility and at their own discretion, it is necessary to build a less imbalanced and stable local tax system. Comparing local tax revenue amounts, with the national average set at 100, Tokyo, the highest, was approximately 2.5 times the amount for Okinawa Prefecture, which was the lowest.

## Index of Per Capita Revenue in Local Tax Revenue (with national average as 100)



Notes: 1. "Max/min" indicates the value obtained by dividing the maximum value of per-capita tax revenue for each prefecture by the minimum value.

2. Local tax revenue amounts include local corporation special transfer tax, but do not include overassessment or discretionary tax.

3. Individual inhabitant tax revenue is the total of the prefectural individual inhabitant tax (on a per-capita basis and on an income basis) and the municipal individual inhabitant tax (on a per-capita basis and on an income basis), and excludes overassessment.

4. Revenue from the two corporate taxes is the total of the corporate prefectural inhabitant tax, the corporate municipal inhabitant tax, and the corporate business tax, and excludes overassessment.

5. Fixed asset tax revenues include prefectural amounts, and exclude overassessment.

6. Calculations were made in accordance with the basic resident register population as of March 31, 2012.

## 5 Local Allocation Tax

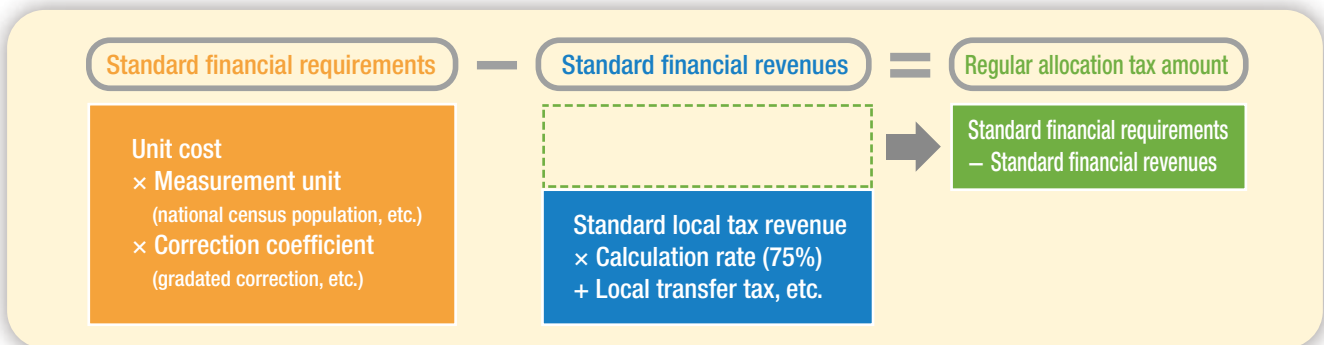
From the perspective of local autonomy, it would be the ideal for each local government to ensure the revenue sources necessary for their activities through local tax revenue collected from their residents. However, there are regional imbalances in tax sources, and many local governments are unable to acquire the necessary tax revenue. Accordingly, the central government collects revenue resources that would essentially be attributable to local tax revenue and reallocates them as local allocation tax to local governments that have weaker financial capabilities.

### 1. Determining the total amount of local allocation tax

The total amount of the local allocation tax is determined in accordance with estimates of standard revenue and expenditures in local public finance as a whole, based on a fixed percentage for national taxes (32% for income tax and liquor tax, 34% for corporate tax, 29.5% for consumption tax, and 25% for tobacco tax). The total amount of the local allocation tax in FY2011 was ¥18,752.3 billion, up 9.1% year on year.

### 2. How regular local allocation taxes are calculated for each local government

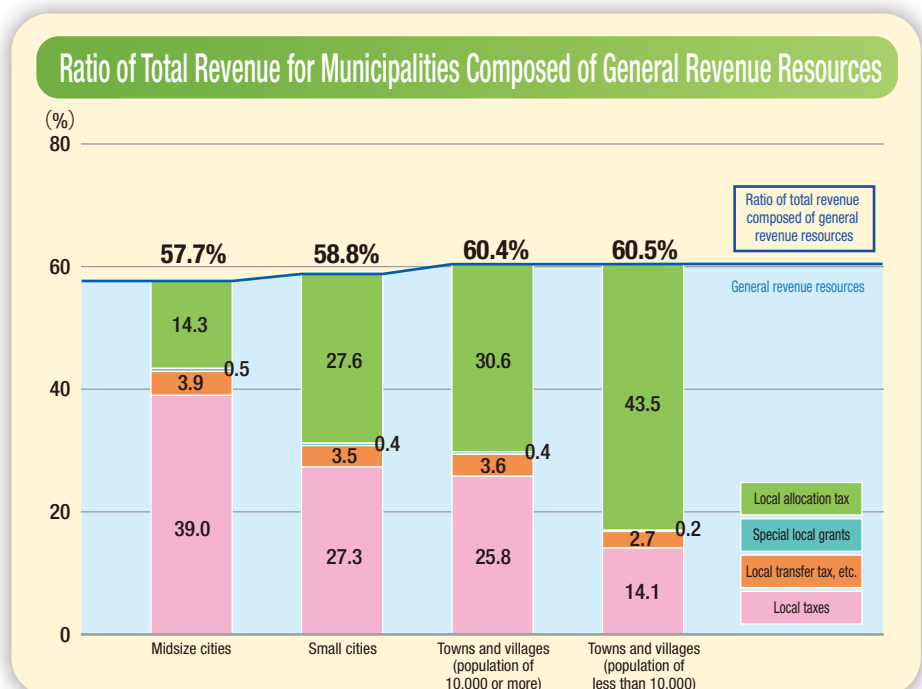
The regular local allocation tax for each local government is calculated through the following mechanism.



Notes: 1. Standard financial requirements are figured out based on the rational and appropriate service standards for each local government. For this reason, the local share of the services, such as compulsory education, benefits for livelihood protection, and public works which are subject to national obligatory share, is mandatorily included. Beginning in FY2001, part of the standard financial requirements is being transferred to special local bonds (bond for temporary substitution for local allocation tax) as an exception to Article 5 of the Local Finance Law.  
2. Normal local tax revenue does not include Non-Act-based Tax or “over-taxation” that sets tax rates above the standard tax rate stipulated in the Local Tax Act.

### 3. Function of the local allocation tax

The function of the local allocation tax is to adjust imbalances in revenue resources between local governments and to ensure their financial capacity to provide standard public services and basic infrastructure to residents across the country. The adjustment of revenue resources through local allocation tax makes the ratios of general revenue resources to the total revenues between local governments practically flat regardless of the size of population.



Note: A “midsize city” refers to a city with a population of 100,000 or more excluding government ordinance-designed cities, core cities, and special cities, and a “small city” refers to a city with a population of less than 100,000.

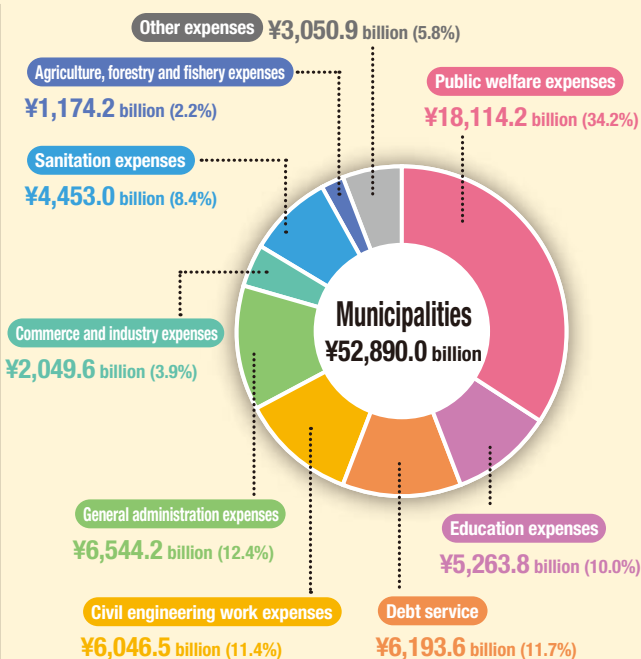
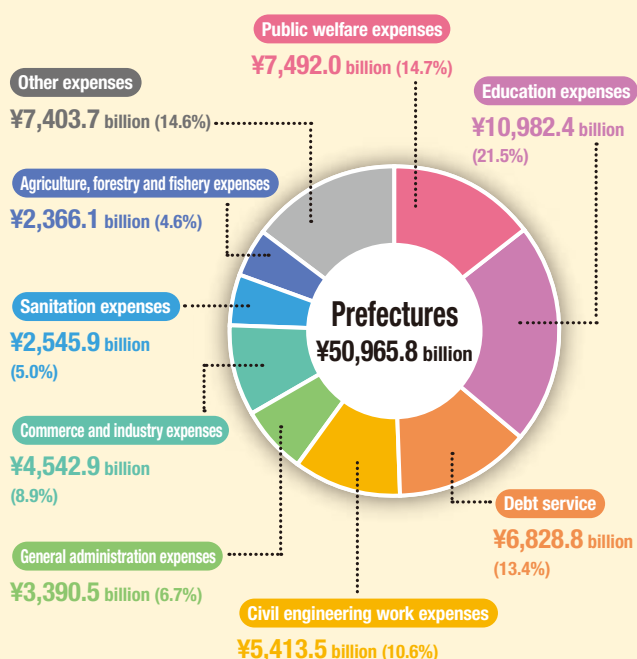
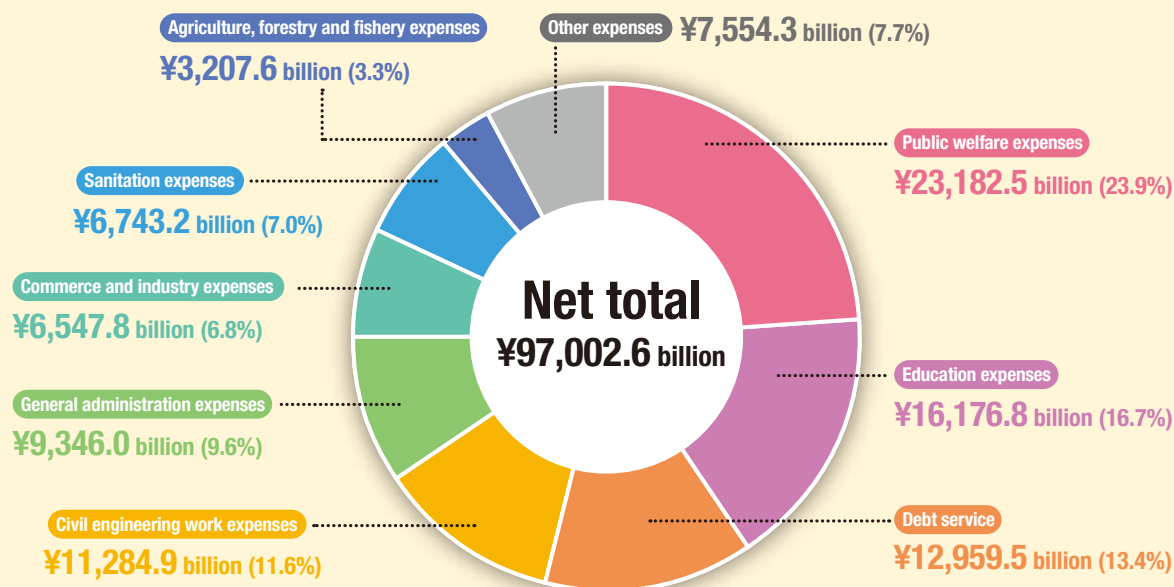
# Expenditures

## What are taxes spent on?

### 1 Expenses Classified by Function

Classifying the expenses by function demonstrates that much of public money is appropriated for public welfare expenses, education expenses, and debt service. In prefectures, education expenses, public welfare expenses, and debt service have the highest shares in that order. In municipalities, public welfare expenses, general administration expenses, and debt service account for the largest amounts in that order.

#### Composition of Expenditure Classified by Function (FY2011 settlement)



**Public welfare expenses:**

Expenses for the construction and operation of welfare facilities for children, the elderly, the mentally and physically disabled, etc., and for the implementation of public assistance, etc.

**Education expenses:**

Expenses for school education, social education, etc.

**Civil engineering work expenses:**

Expenses for the construction and maintenance of public facilities, such as roads, rivers, housing, and parks.

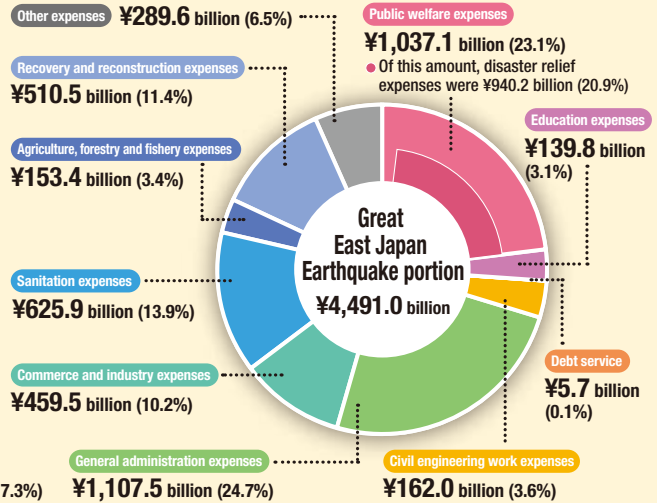
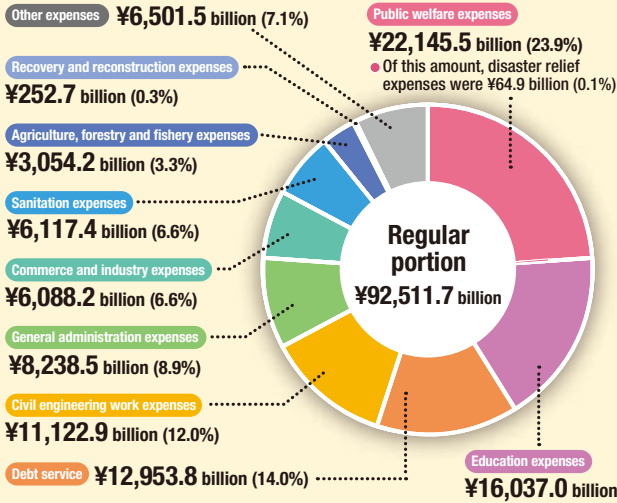
**Debt service:**

Expenses for the payment of principal, interest, etc., on debts.

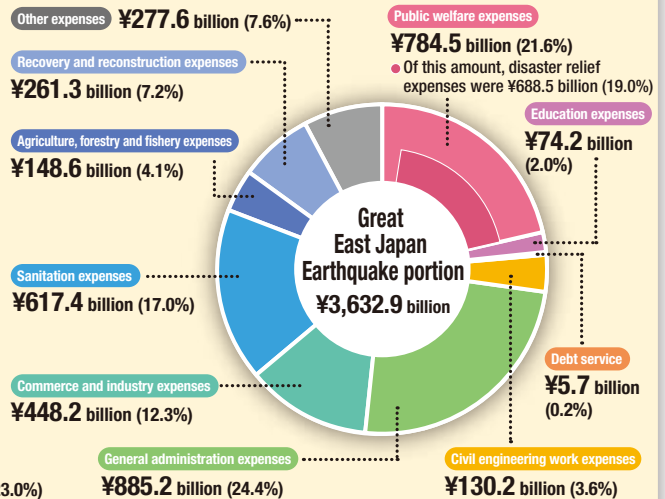
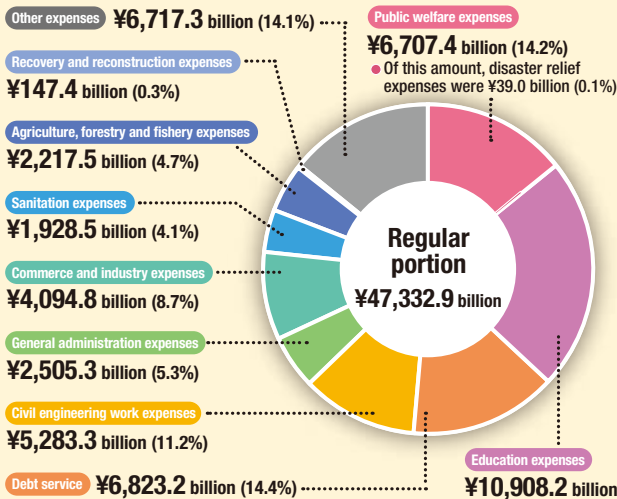
# Expenditures

## Expenditures in Regular Portion and Great East Japan Earthquake Portion (Expenses Classified by Function)

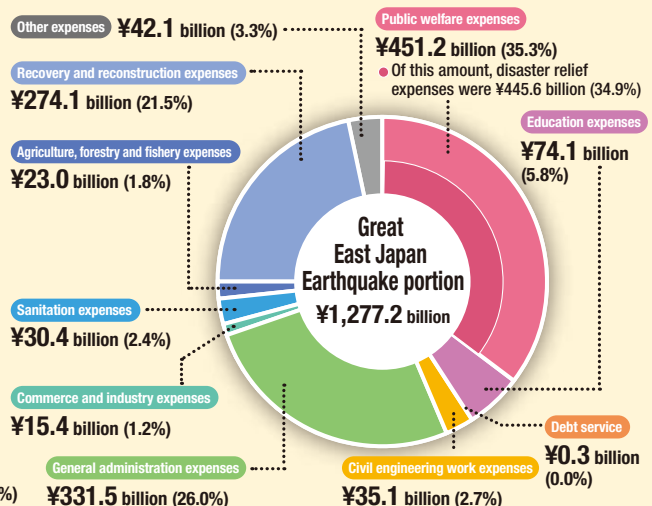
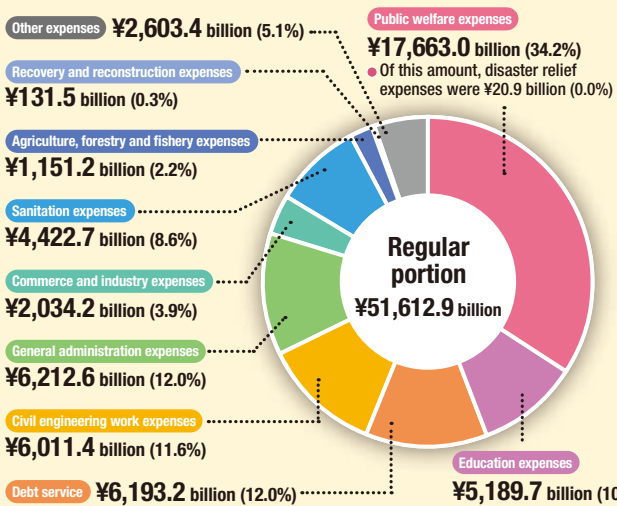
### Net Total



### Prefectures

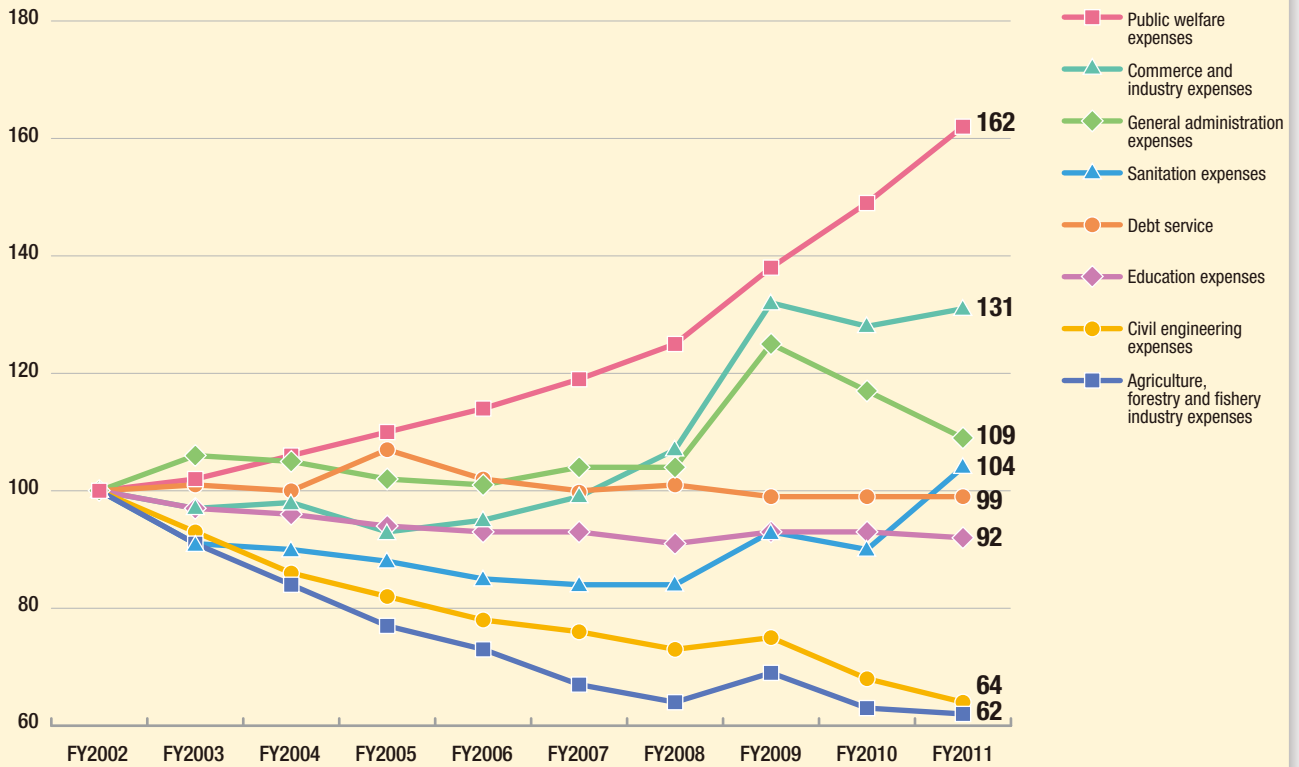


### Municipalities



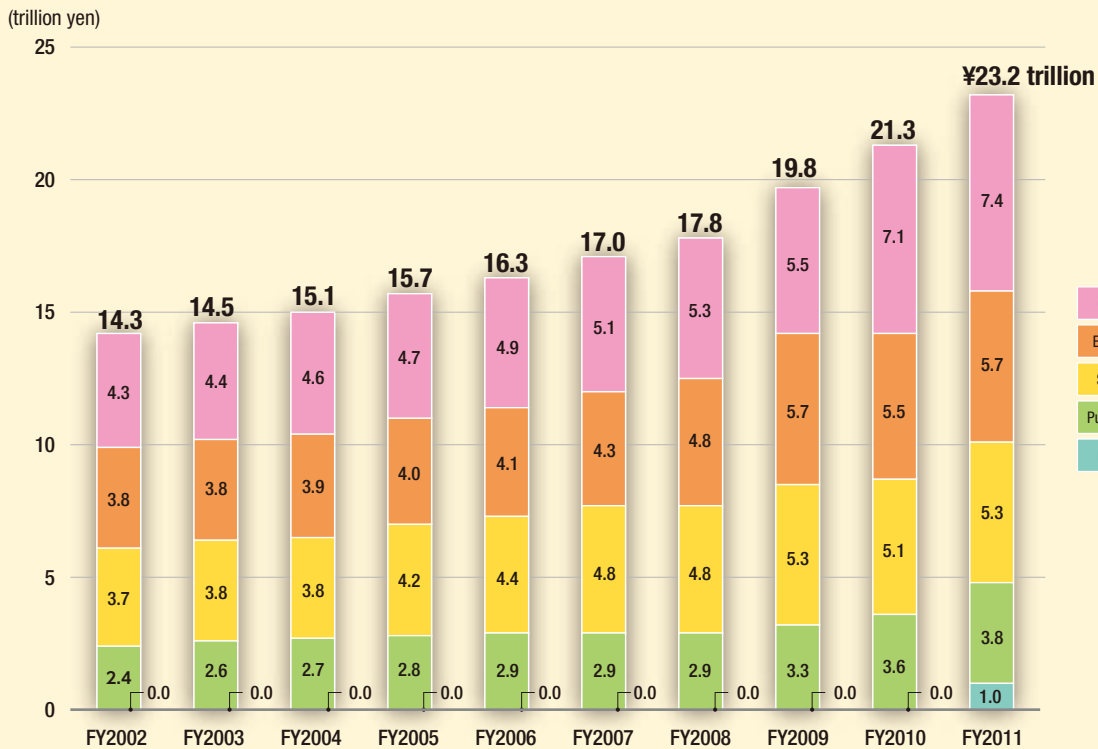


## Trends in Expenditures Classified by Function (Ordinary account net totals)

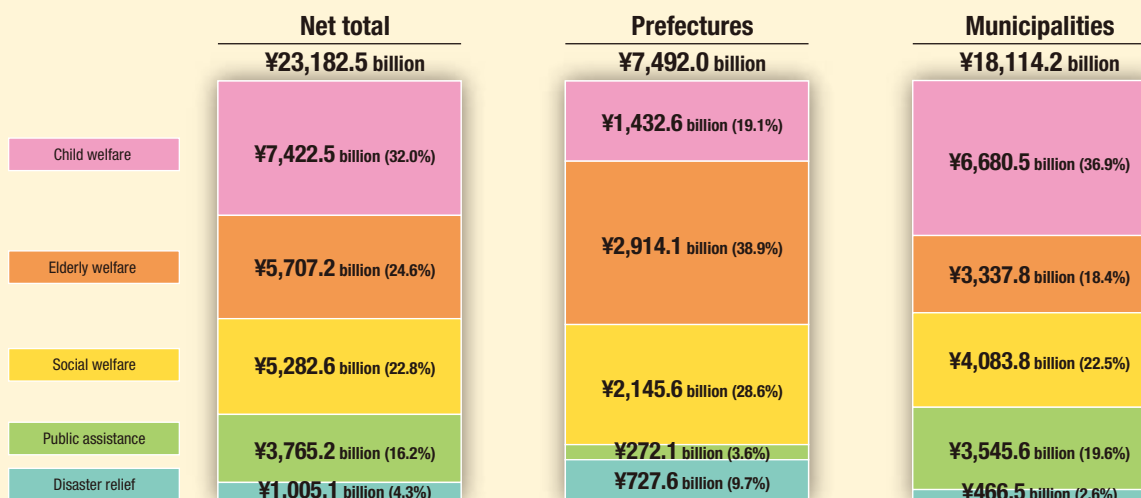


\* Indices use FY2002 as base year of 100

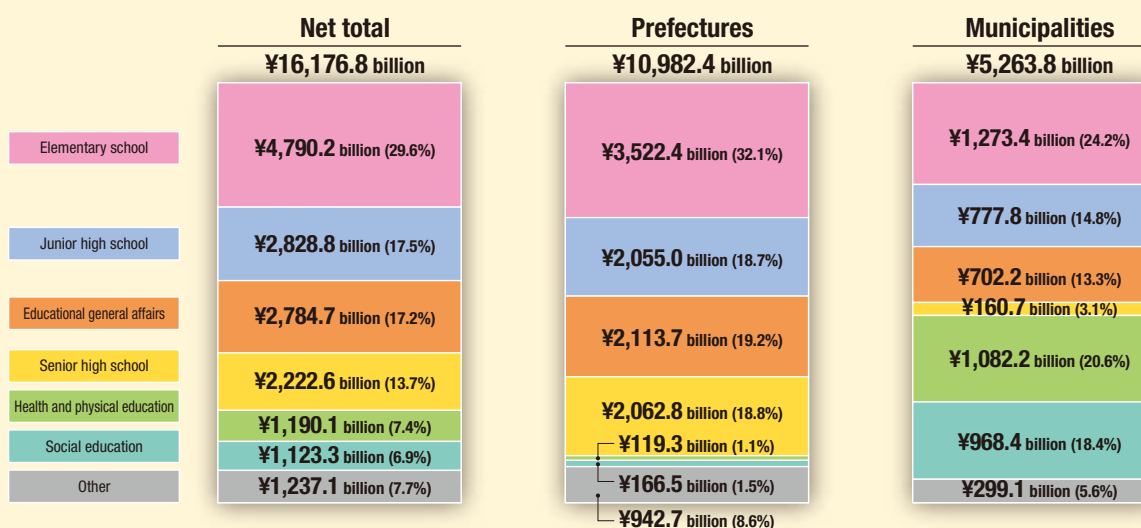
## Trends in Breakdown of Public Welfare Expenses by Purpose



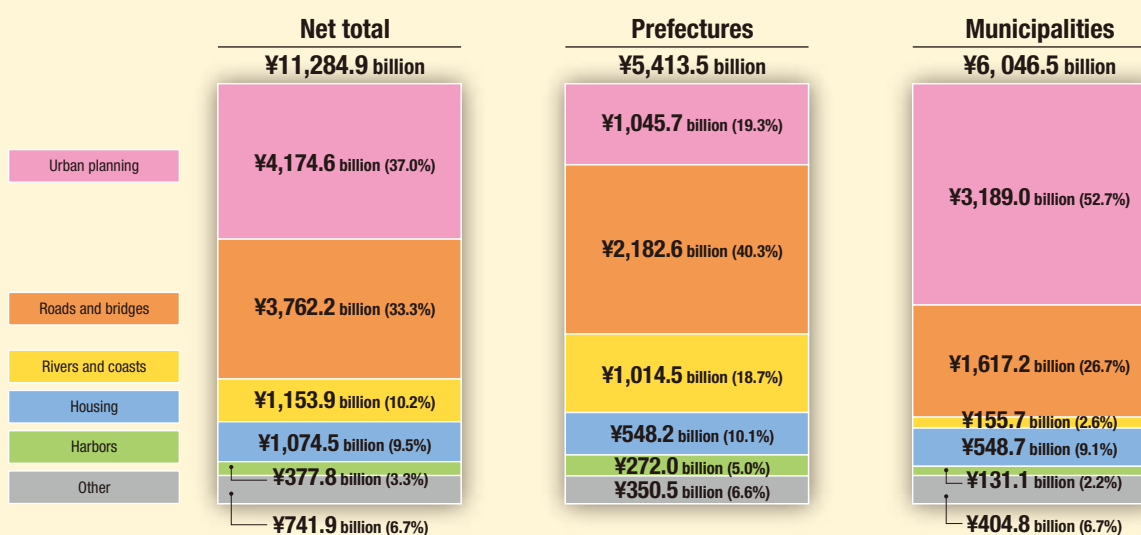
## Breakdown of Public Welfare Expenses by Purpose



## Breakdown of Educational Expenses by Purpose



## Breakdown of Civil Engineering Work Expenses by Purpose

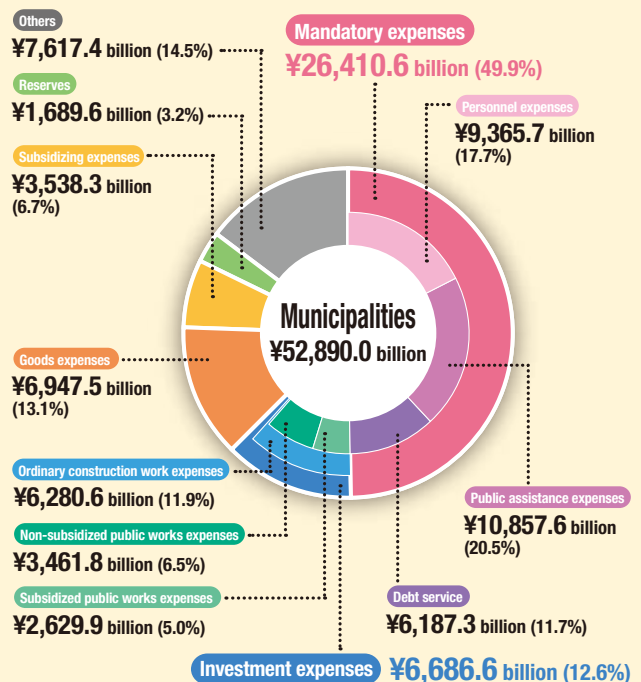
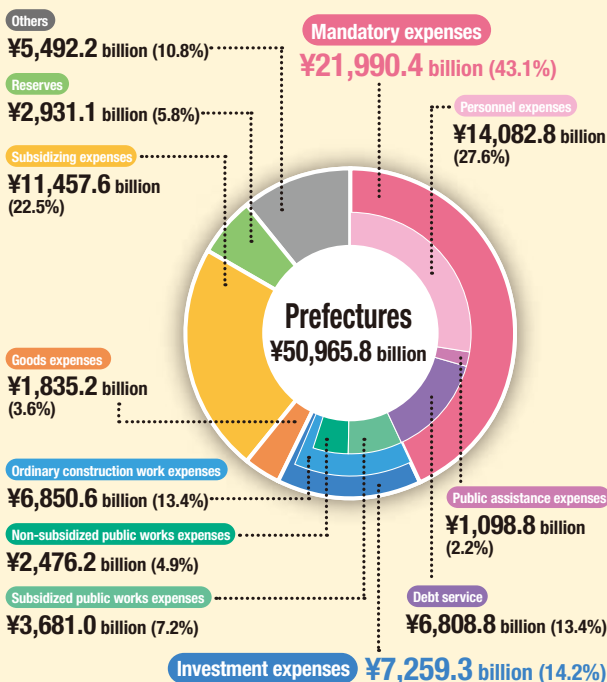
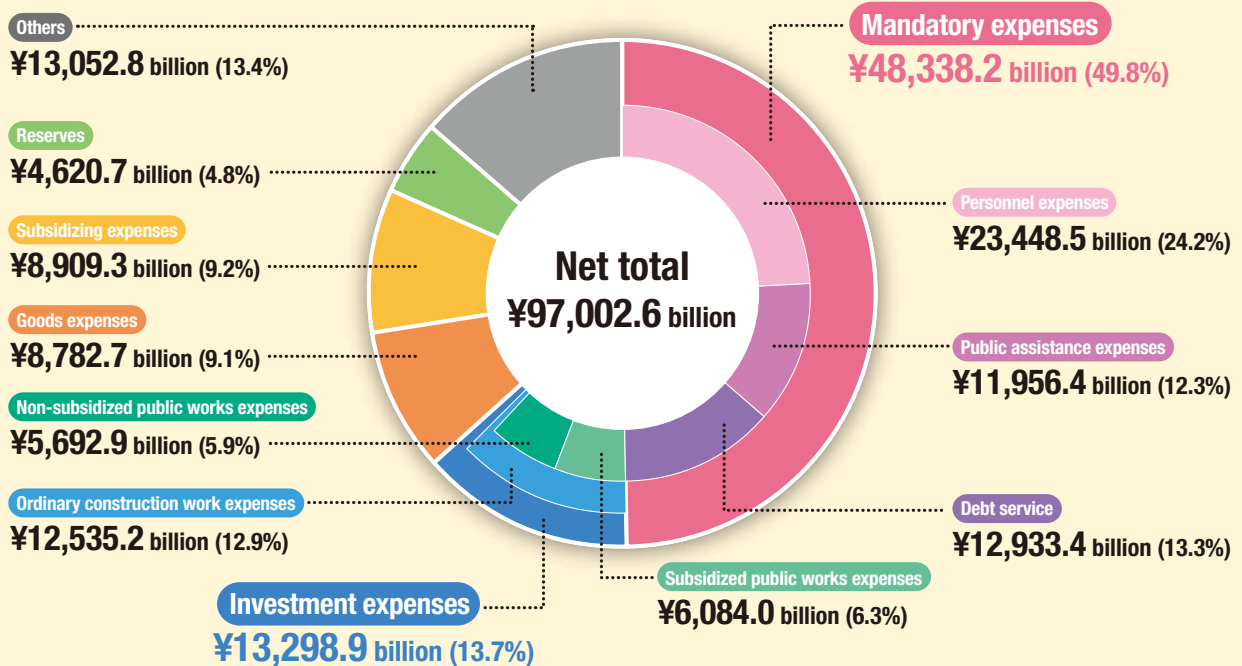


# What are expenses used for?

## 2 Expenses Classified by Type

Expenses are also classified, according to their economic nature, into "mandatory expenses" (consisting of personnel expenses, public assistance expenses, and debt service), the payment of which is mandatory and the amount of which is difficult to reduce at the discretion of individual local governments, "investment expenses" including ordinary construction work expenses, and "other expenses," such as goods expenses, subsidizing expenses, and reserves).

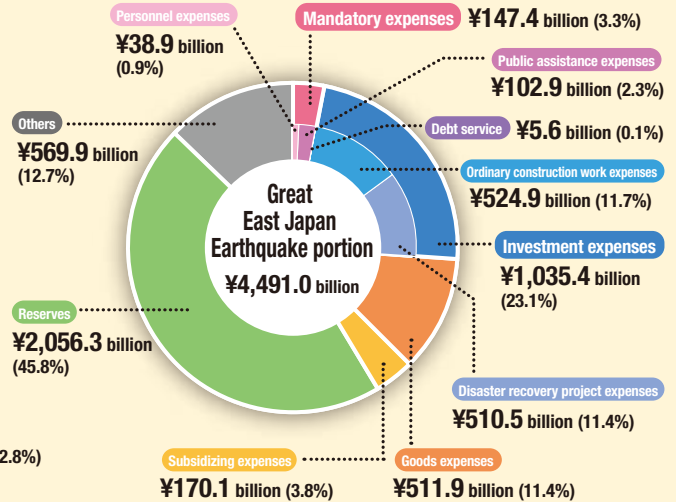
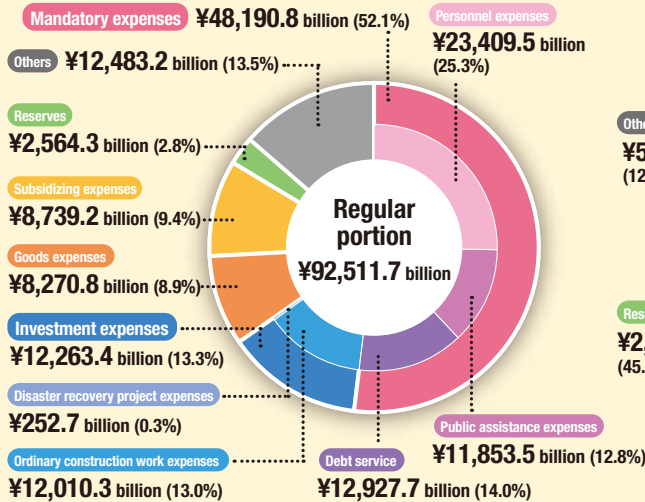
Composition of Expenditures Classified by Type (FY2011 settlement)



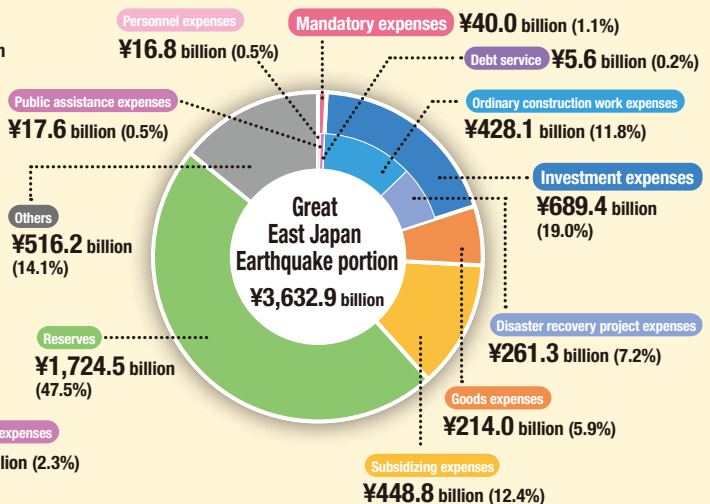
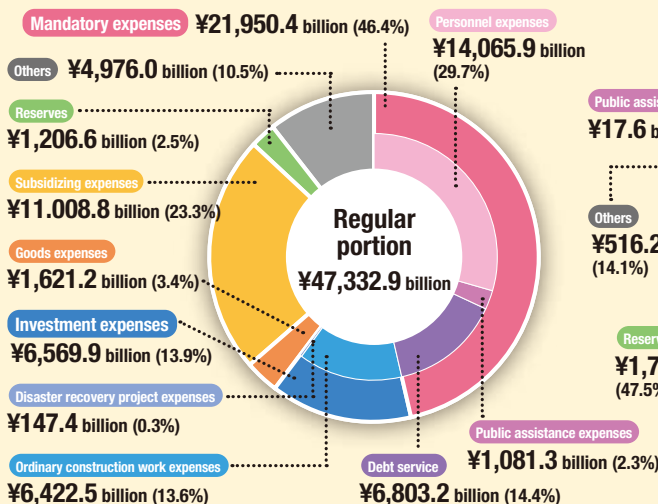
# Expenditures

## Expenditures in Regular Portion and Great East Japan Earthquake Portion (Expenses by Type)

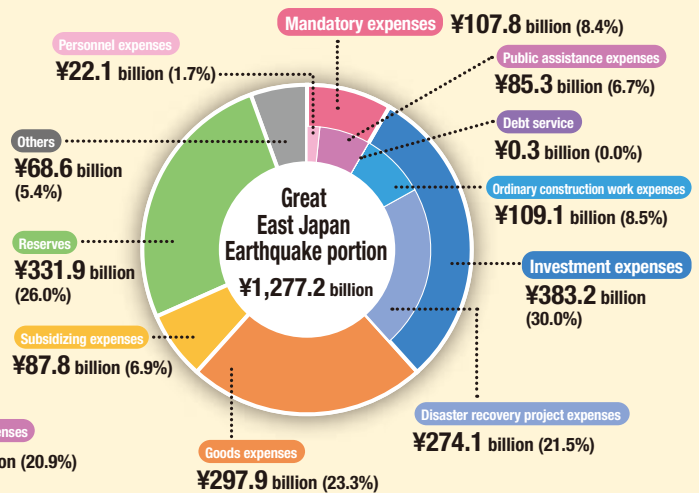
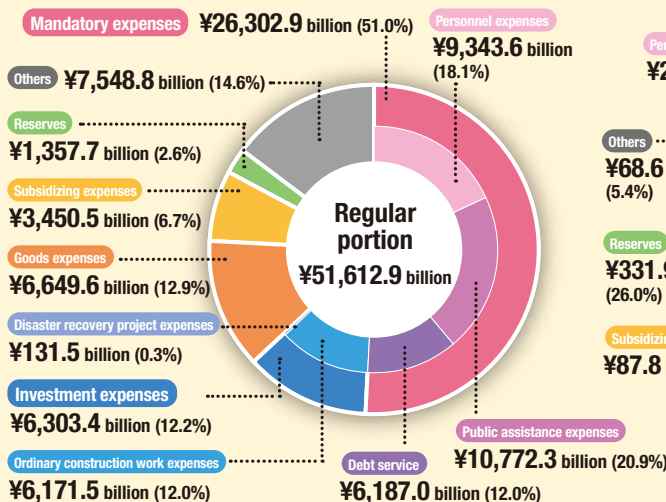
### Net Total



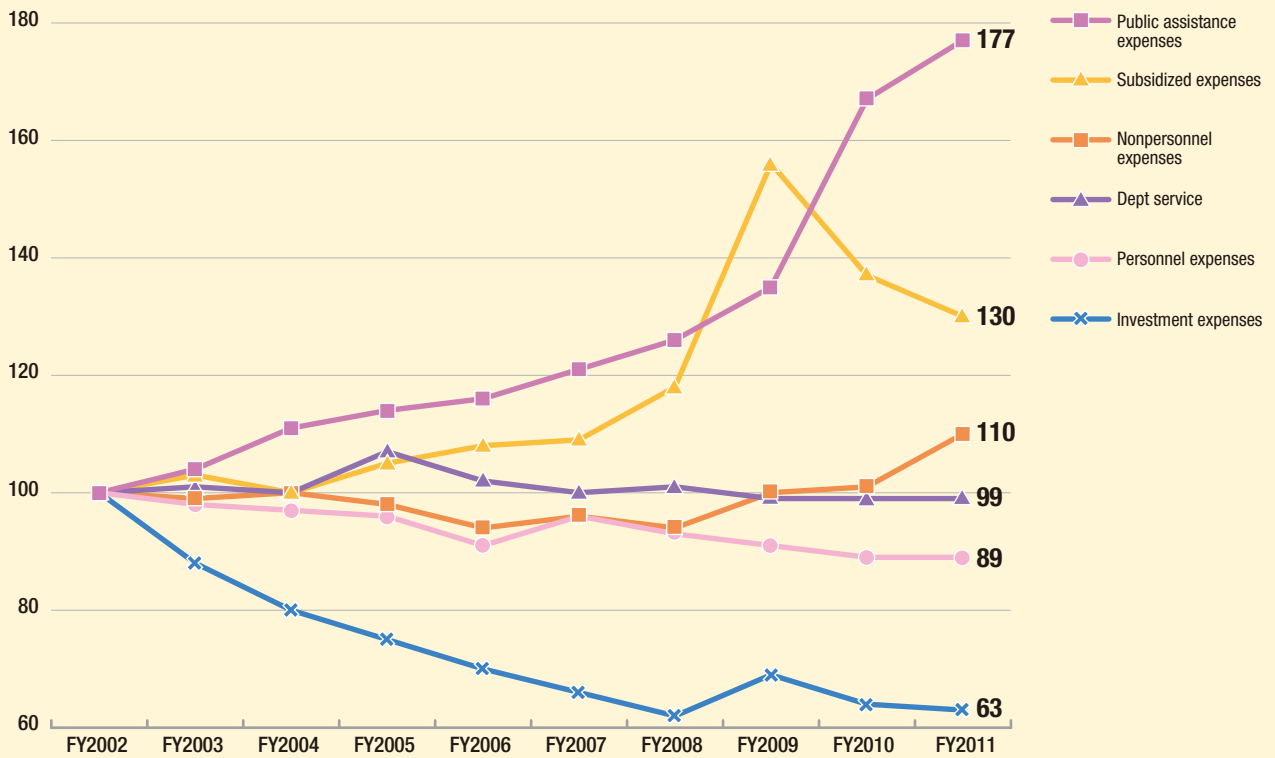
### Prefectures



### Municipalities

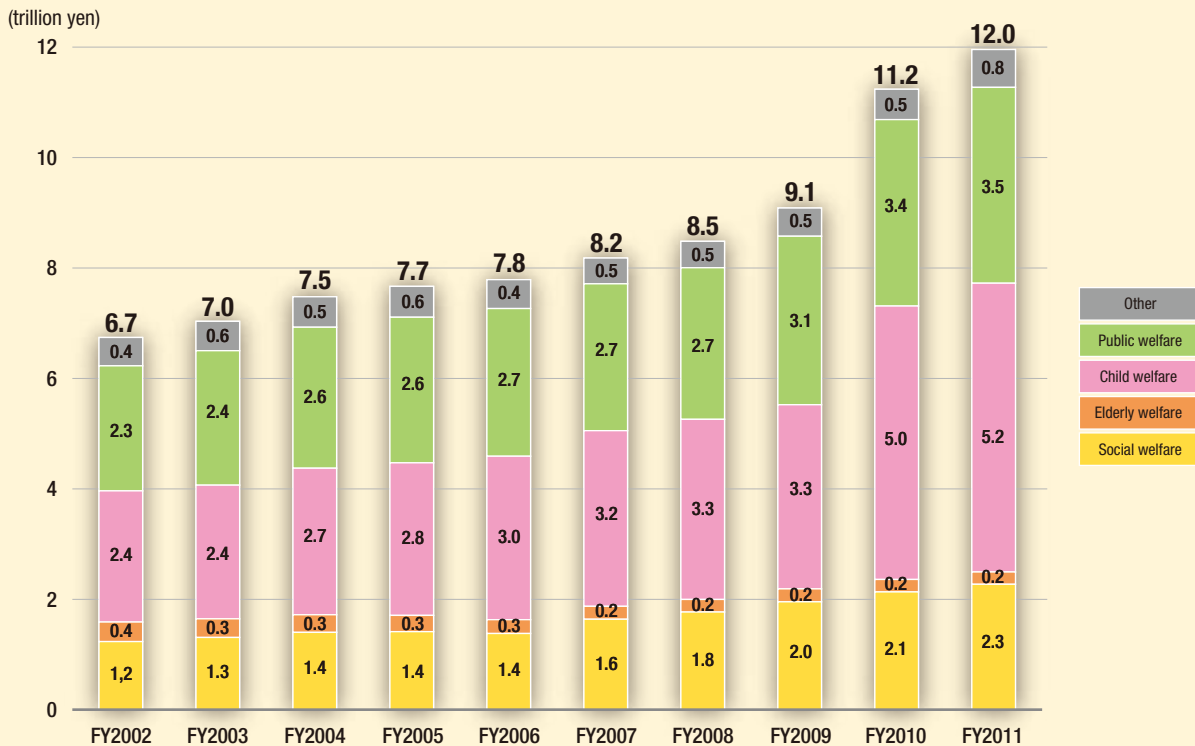


## Trends in Expenditures Classified by Type (Ordinary account net totals)

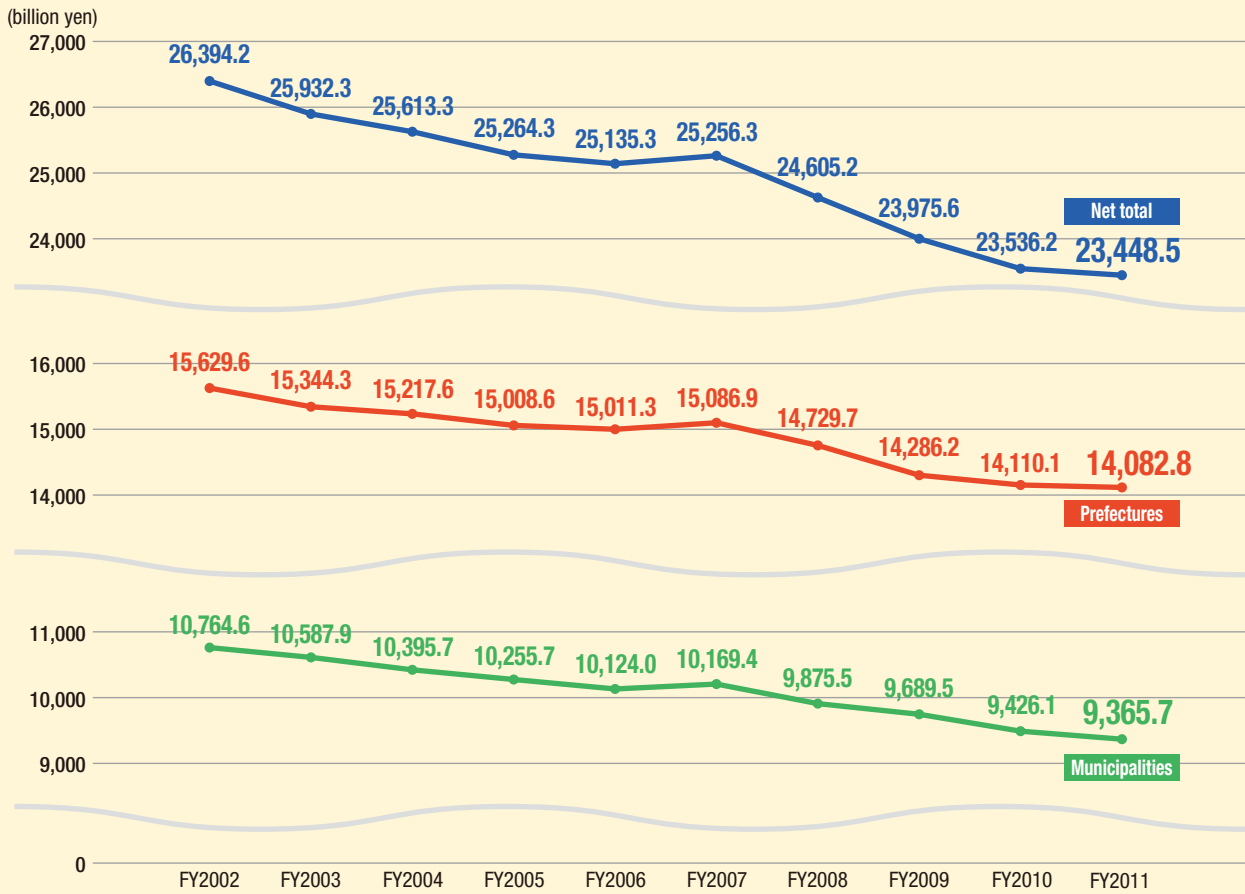


\* Indices use FY2002 as base year of 100

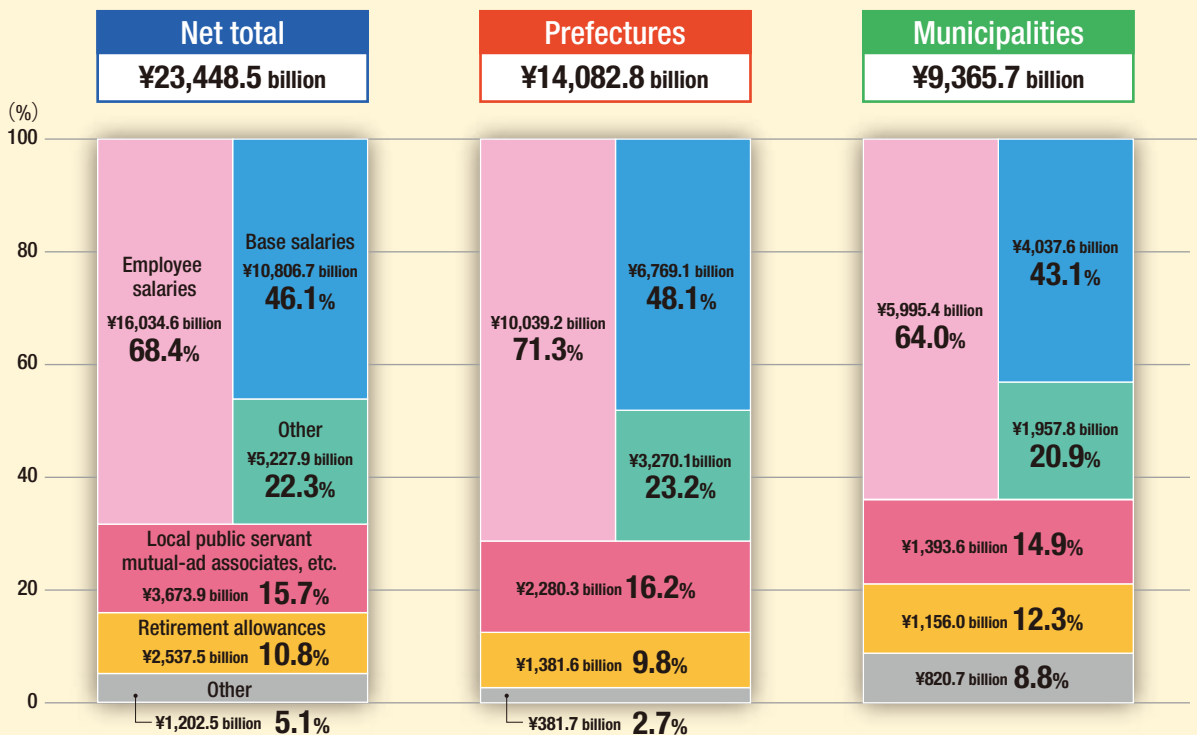
## Trends in Breakdown of Public Assistance Expenses by Purpose



## Trends in Personnel Expenses



## Breakdown of Personnel Expenses by Item



# Flexibility of the Financial Structure

## How financially capable are local governments to respond to local demands ?

It is necessary that local governments have financial resources for not only the mandatory expenses but also projects to address properly challenges caused by changes in the social economy and administrative needs so that they can meet adequately the needs of their residents. The extent which the resources for such purposes are secured is called the "flexibility of the financial structure."

### 1 Ordinary Balance Ratio

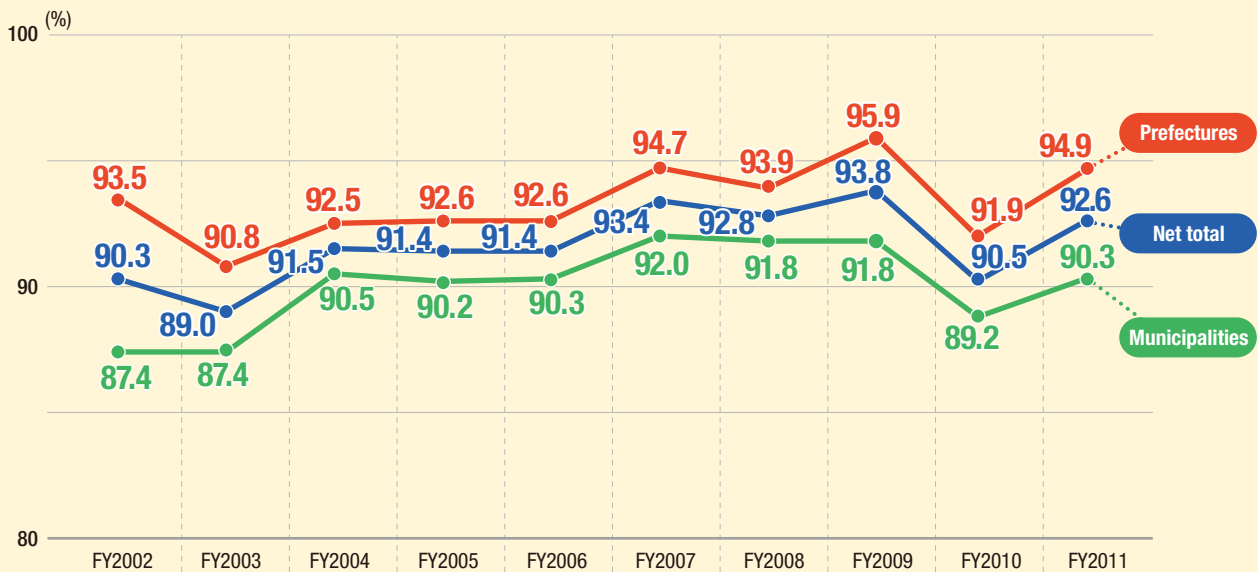
The FY2011 ordinary balance ratio rose 2.1 percentage points year-on-year, to 92.6%, staying above 90% for the eighth consecutive year.

General revenue resources allotted to personnel expenses, public assistance expenses, debt service, etc.

$$\text{Ordinary balance ratio} = \frac{\text{General revenue resources allotted to personnel expenses, public assistance expenses, debt service, etc.}}{\text{Ordinary general revenue resources, etc. (local tax + regular local allocation tax, etc.) + special exception portion of loans for covering decreases in local tax revenues + bonds for temporary substitution of local allocation tax}} \times 100$$

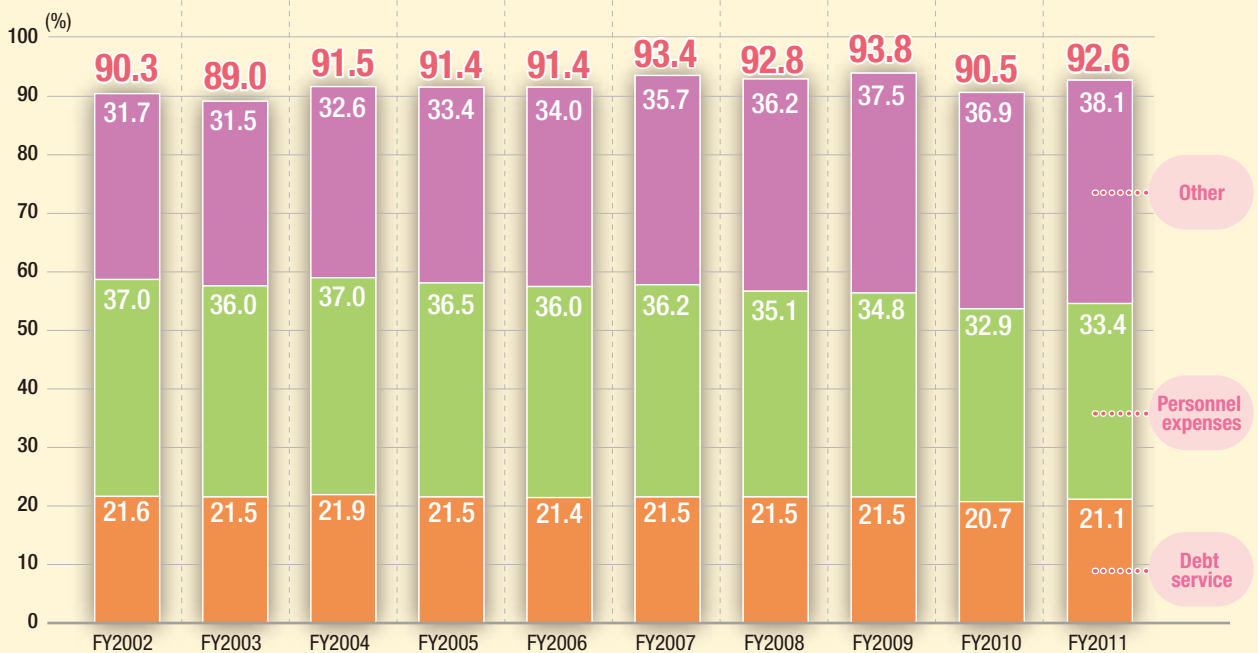
The ordinary balance ratio is the proportion of general revenue resources allotted to ordinary expenses such as personnel expenses, public assistance expenses, debt service and other annually disbursed expenses with regularity to ordinary general revenue resources primarily consisting of local tax and regular local allocation tax.

### Shifts in the ordinary balance ratio



\* Special wards and special districts, etc., are not included in net total and municipalities.

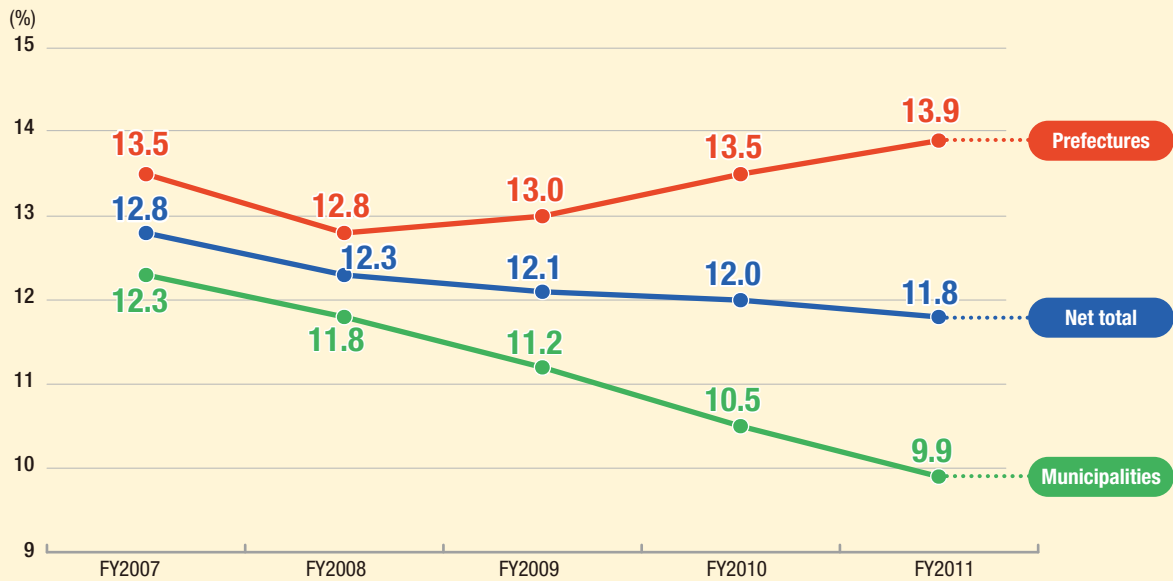
### Breakdown of the ordinary balance ratio (Net total)



## 2 Real Debt Service Ratio and Debt Service Payment Ratio

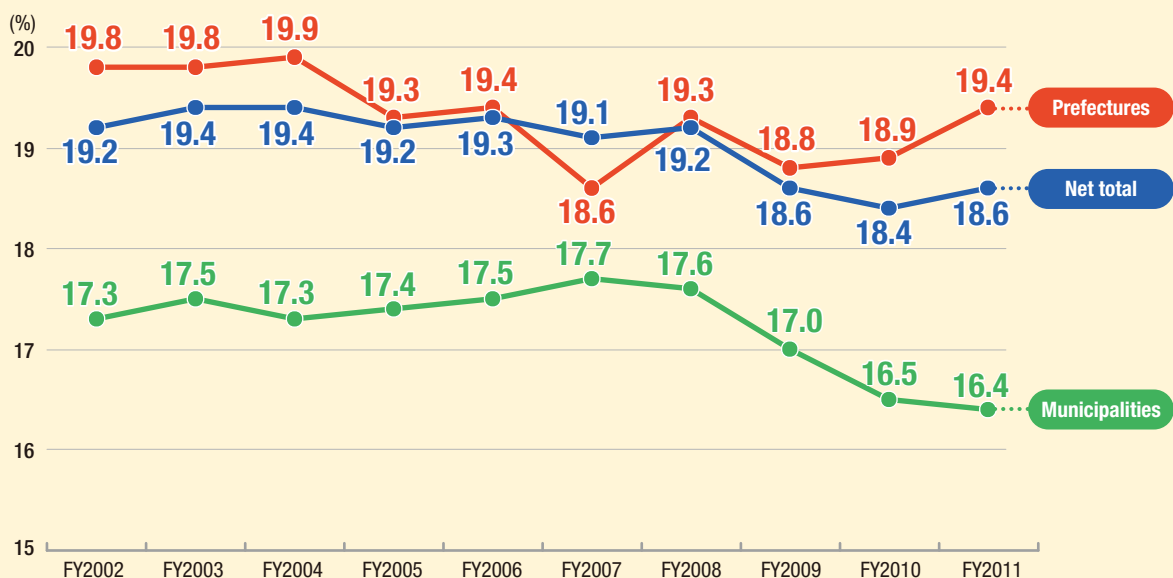
Close attention should be paid to the trend of the debt service, which is the expense required to repay the principal and interest of the debts of local governments and has an especially negative impact on financial flexibility. The real debt service ratio and the debt service payment ratio are indices that determine the extent of the burden of the debt service.

### Trends in the Real Debt Service Ratio



For more detailed information please refer to page 32.

### Trends in the Debt Service Payment Ratio



\* Debt service payment ratio: The debt service payment ratio indicates the ratio of general revenue resources allocated for debt service (amount of repayment of the principal and interest on local bonds) in the total amount of general revenue resources. This index is used to determine the flexibility of the financial structure by assessing the degree to which debt service restricts the freedom of use of general revenue resources.

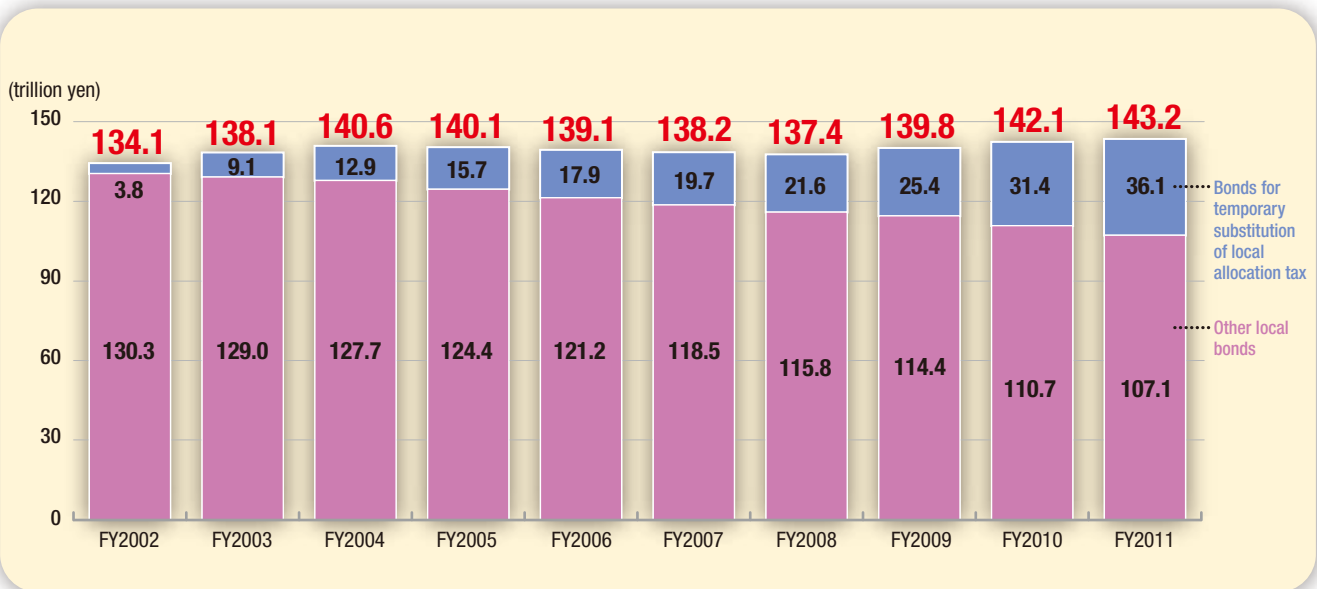


# Outstanding Local Government Borrowing

What is the status of debt in local public finance?

## 1 Trends in Outstanding Local Government Borrowing

Outstanding local government borrowing amounted to approximately ¥143 trillion at the end of FY2011, and has been increasing in recent years with the growing issue of bonds for temporary substitution of local allocation tax. The figure is 1.43 times larger than the total revenue and about 2.58 times larger than the total general revenue resources.

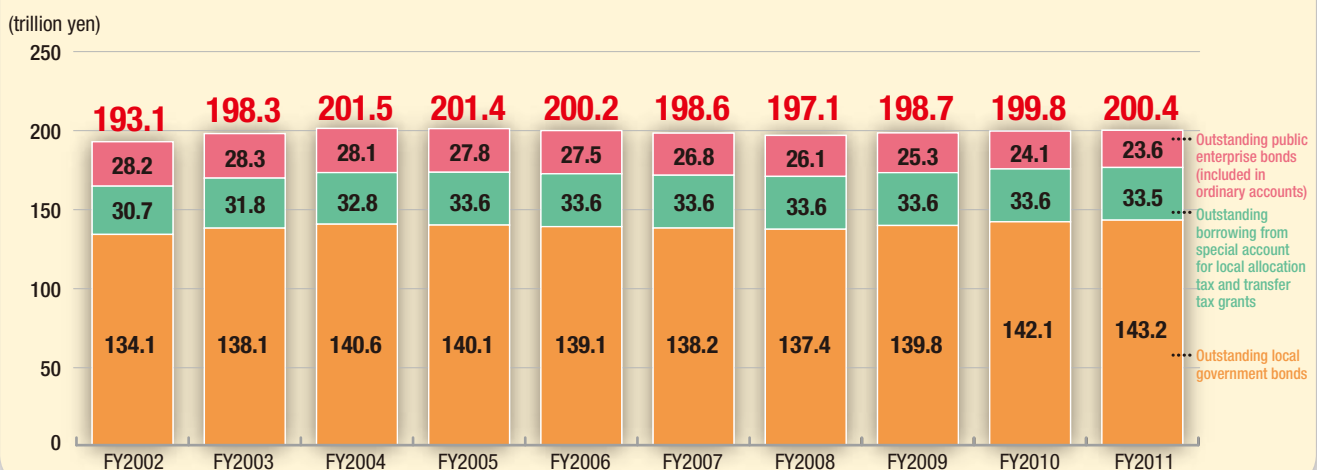


Note: Outstanding local government borrowing excludes special fund public investment bonds.

## 2 Outstanding Local Finance Borrowing

Outstanding local public finance borrowing—which includes borrowing in the special account for local allocation tax and transfer tax for addressing revenue resource shortages, as well as the redemption of public enterprise bonds borne by the ordinary accounts, remains at a high level, amounting to approximately ¥200 trillion at the end of FY2011.

### Trends in Outstanding Borrowing Borne by the Ordinary Accounts



Notes: 1. Outstanding local government borrowing excludes special fund public investment bonds.

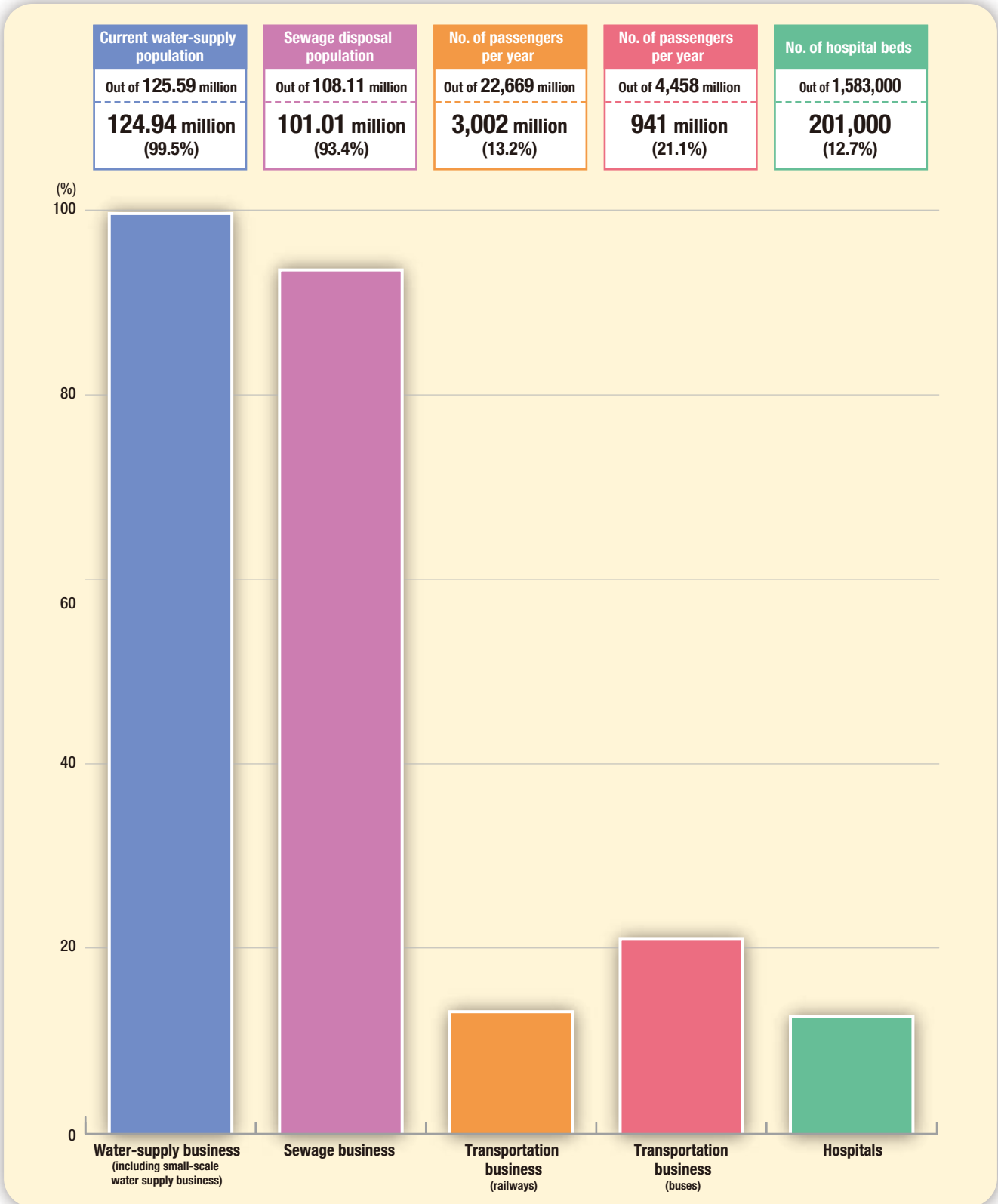
2. Outstanding public enterprise bonds (borne by the ordinary accounts) are estimates based on settlement account statistics.

# Local Public Enterprises

## What is the status of local public enterprises?

### 1 Ratio of Local Public Enterprises

Local public enterprises play a major role in improving the standard of living of residents.

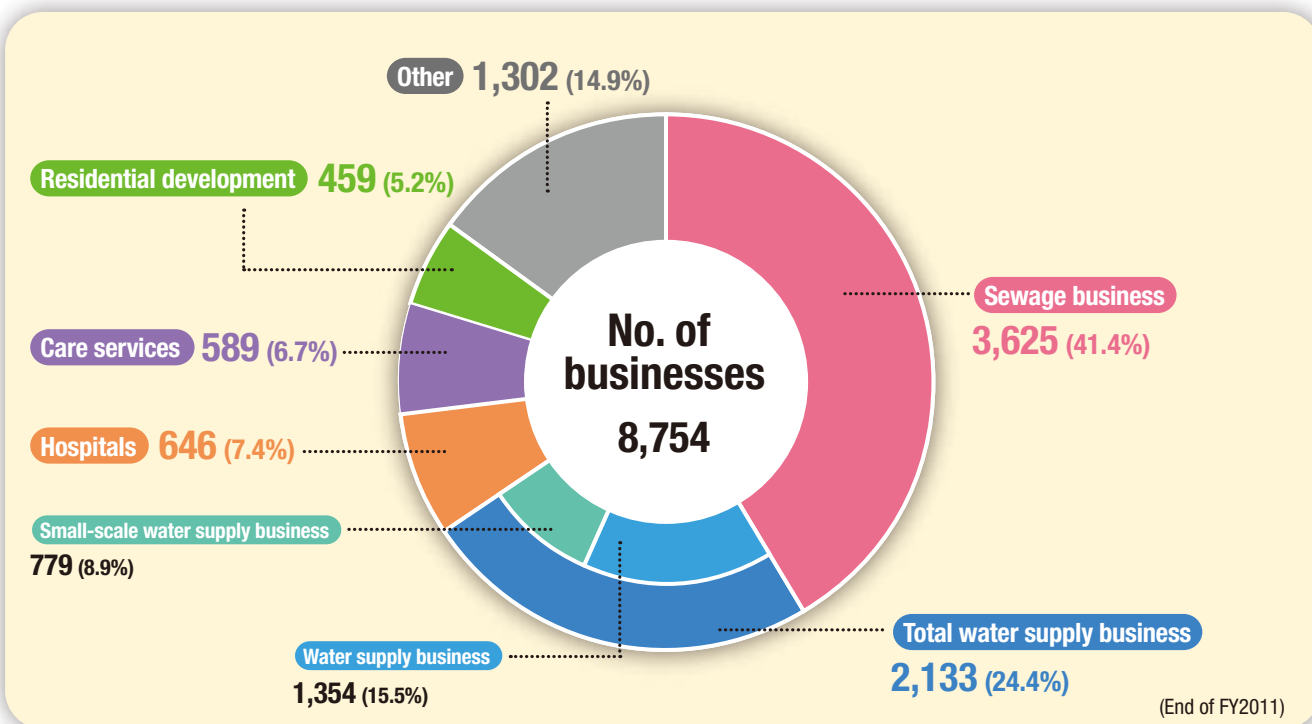


Notes: 1. The graph shows the ratio of local public enterprises when the total number of business entities nationwide is set at 100.

2. Figures for the total number of enterprises nationwide have been compiled from statistical materials of related organizations. Figures for local public enterprises have been compiled from figures for the total number of enterprises and settlements for the same fiscal year.

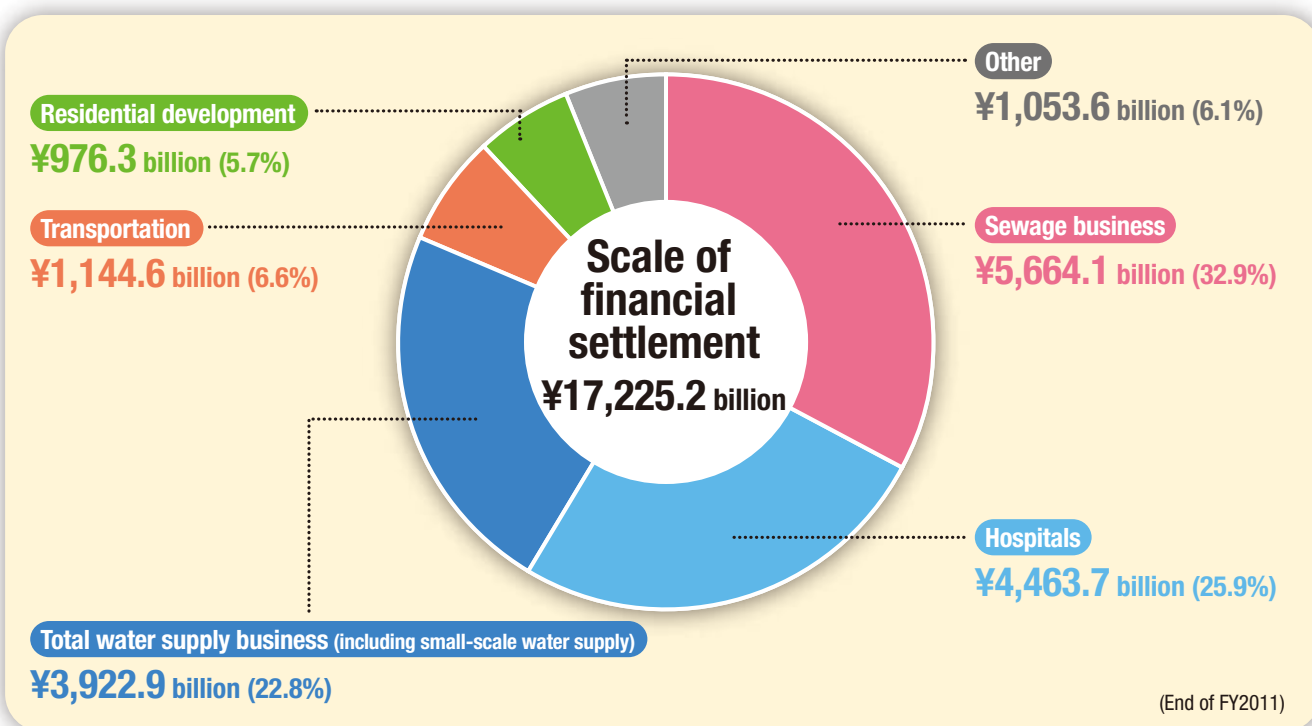
## 2 Number of Businesses Operated by Local Public Enterprises

There are 8,754 businesses that are operated by local public enterprises. By type of business, sewage accounts for the largest ratio, followed, in order, by water supply, hospitals, care services, and residential development.



## 3 Scale of Financial Settlement

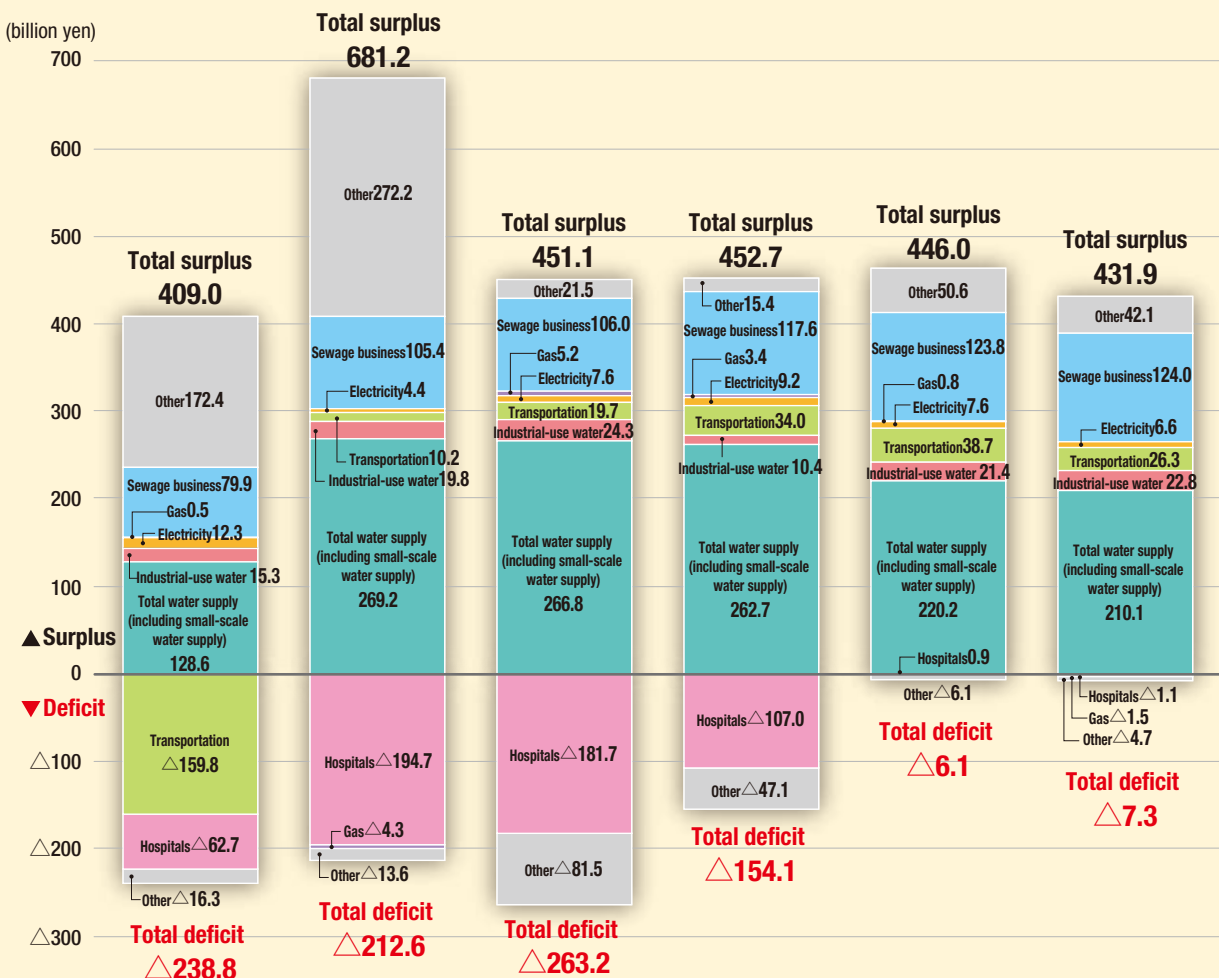
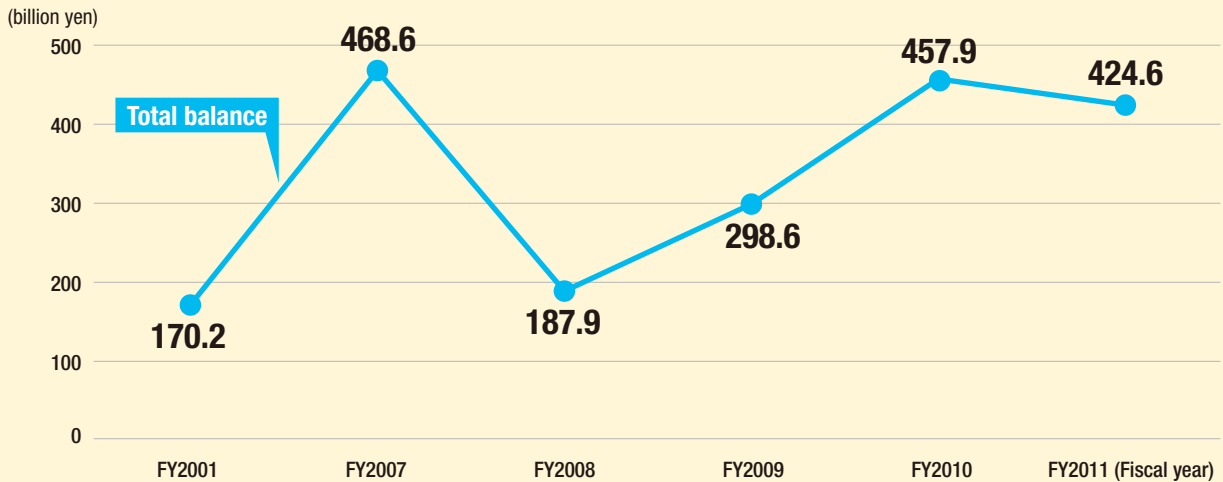
The scale of total financial settlement is ¥17,225.2 billion. By type of business, sewage accounts for the largest ratio, followed, in order, by hospitals, total water supply, transportation, and residential development.



## 4 Financial Status

Local public enterprises had a surplus of ¥424.6 billion. By type of business, total water supply, electricity, and sewage showed a surplus.

### Trends in the Financial Status of Local Public Enterprises



# Impact of Great East Japan Earthquake

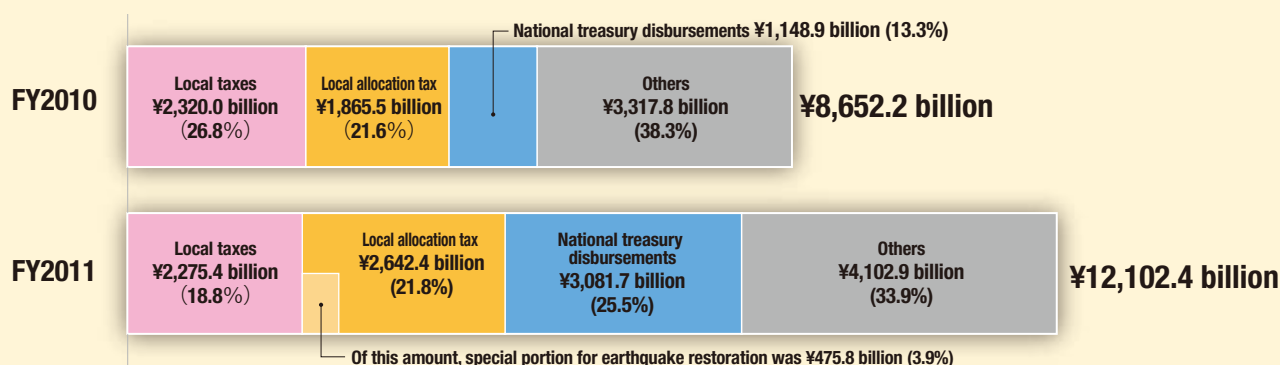
## 1 Settlement of Disaster-Struck Organizations

### 1. Specified Disaster-Struck Prefectures

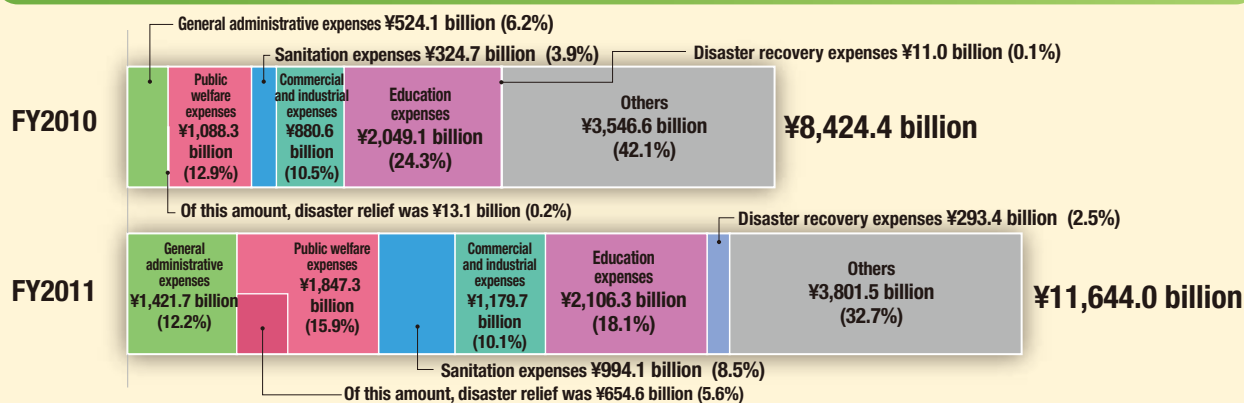
In FY2011, the total revenues of the nine specified disaster-struck prefectures amounted to ¥12,102.4 billion, increasing by ¥3,450.2 billion year on year, or 39.9% (4.2% increase on national basis). Total expenditures for the entities amounted to ¥11,644.0 billion, rising by ¥3,219.6 billion year on year, or 38.2% (3.9% increase on a national basis).

\* Specified disaster-struck prefectures: Prefectures stipulated in Article 2, Paragraph 2 of the act on special public finance support and assistance to deal with the Great East Japan Earthquake (Act No. 40 of 2011). These prefectures are Aomori, Iwate, Miyagi, Fukushima, Ibaraki, Tochigi, Chiba, Niigata, and Nagano prefectures.

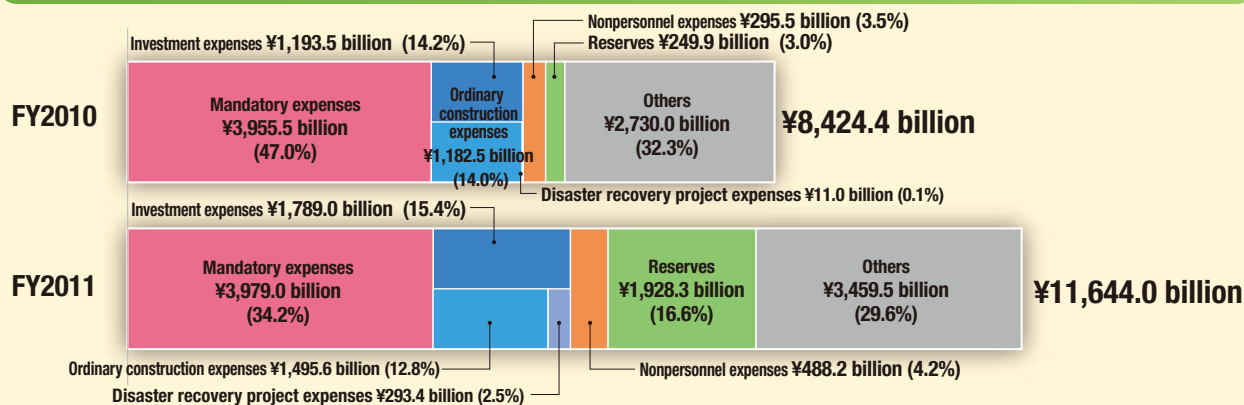
#### Revenues



#### Expenditures Classified by Purpose



#### Expenditures Classified by Type

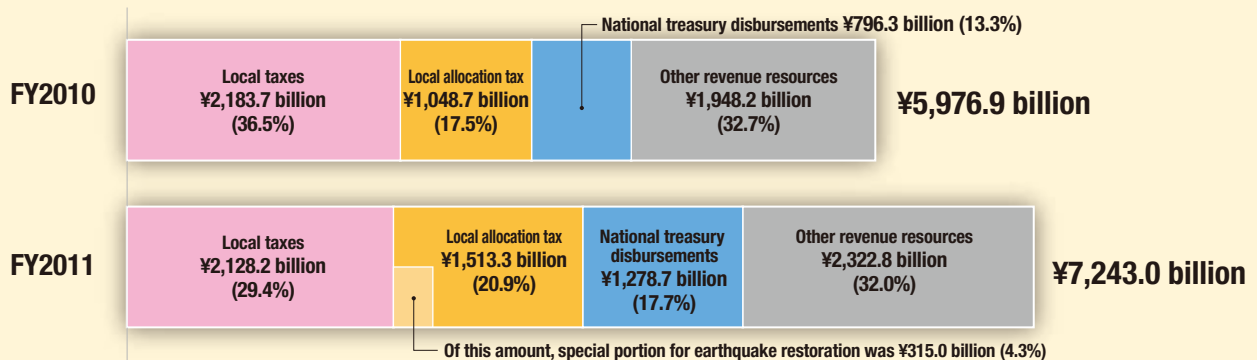


## 2. Specified Disaster-Struck Municipalities

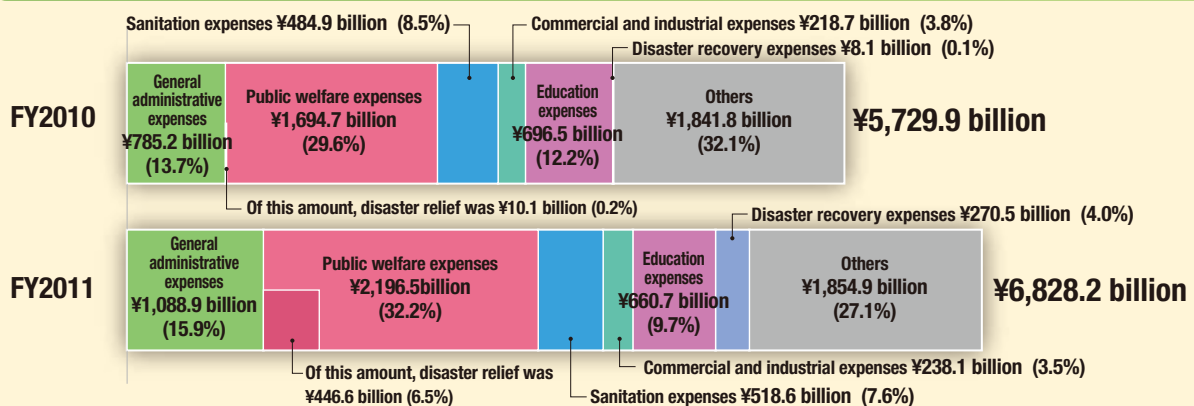
In FY2011, the total revenues of the 227 municipalities designated as specified disaster-struck municipalities amounted to ¥7,243.0 billion, increasing by ¥1,266.1 billion year on year, or 21.2% (1.7% increase on national basis). Total expenditures for the entities amounted to ¥6,828.2 billion, rising by ¥1,098.3 billion year on year, or 19.2% (1.5% increase on a national basis).

\* Specified disaster-struck municipalities: Municipalities designated in Appended Table 1 and those designated in Appended Tables 2 and 3 that are other than specified disaster-struck local public bodies of the Japanese government ordinance (No. 127, 2011) concerning Article 2, Paragraphs 2 and 3 of the act on special public finance support and assistance to deal with the Great East Japan Earthquake. (A total of 227 organizations in 11 prefectures, including, 33 organizations within Iwate Prefecture, 35 organizations within Miyagi prefecture, and 59 organizations within Fukushima prefecture.)

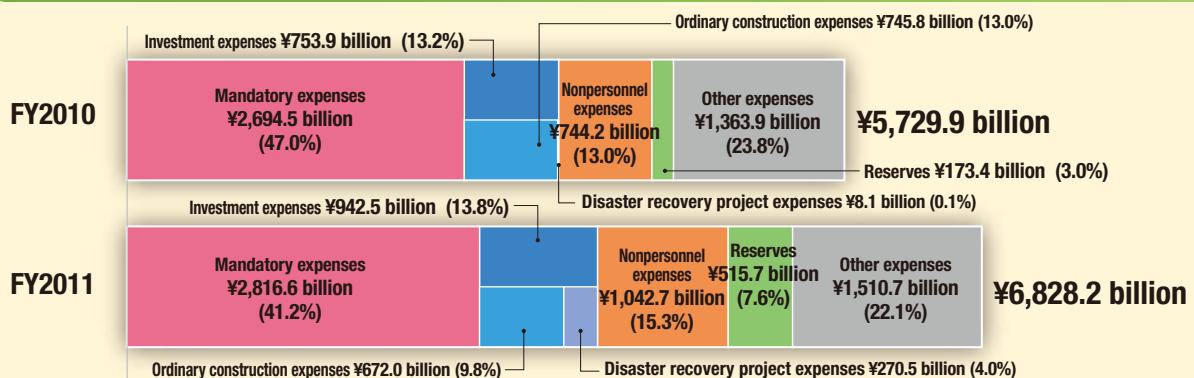
### Revenues



### Expenditures Classified by Purpose



### Expenditures Classified by Type

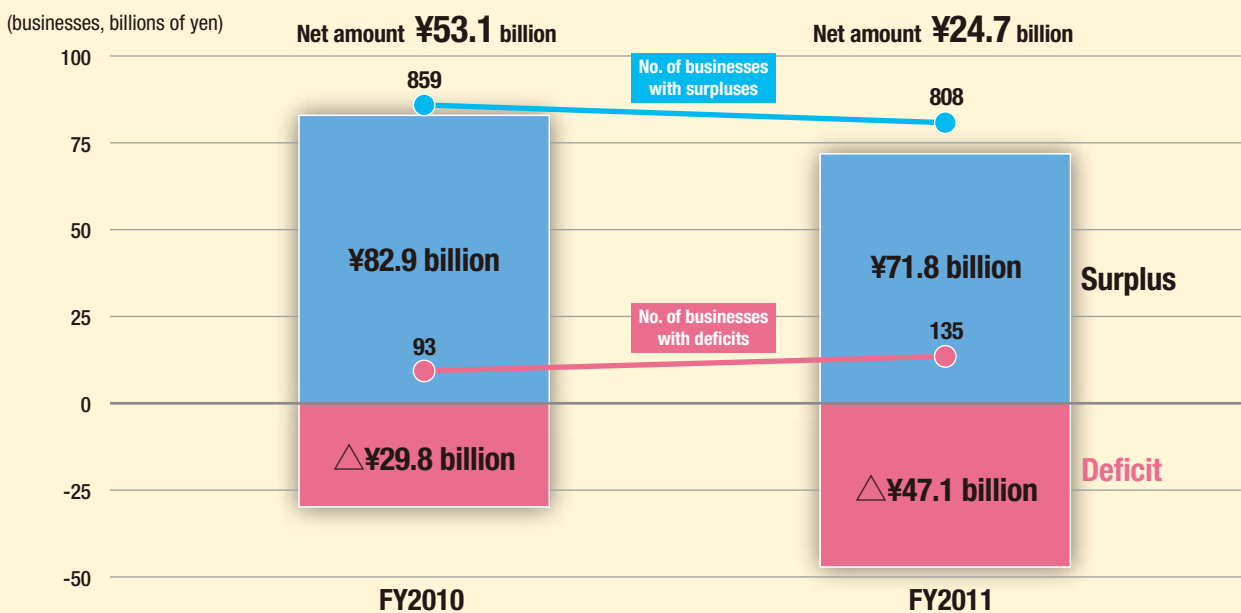


## 2 Financial Status of Businesses of Local Public Enterprises of Disaster-Struck Organizations

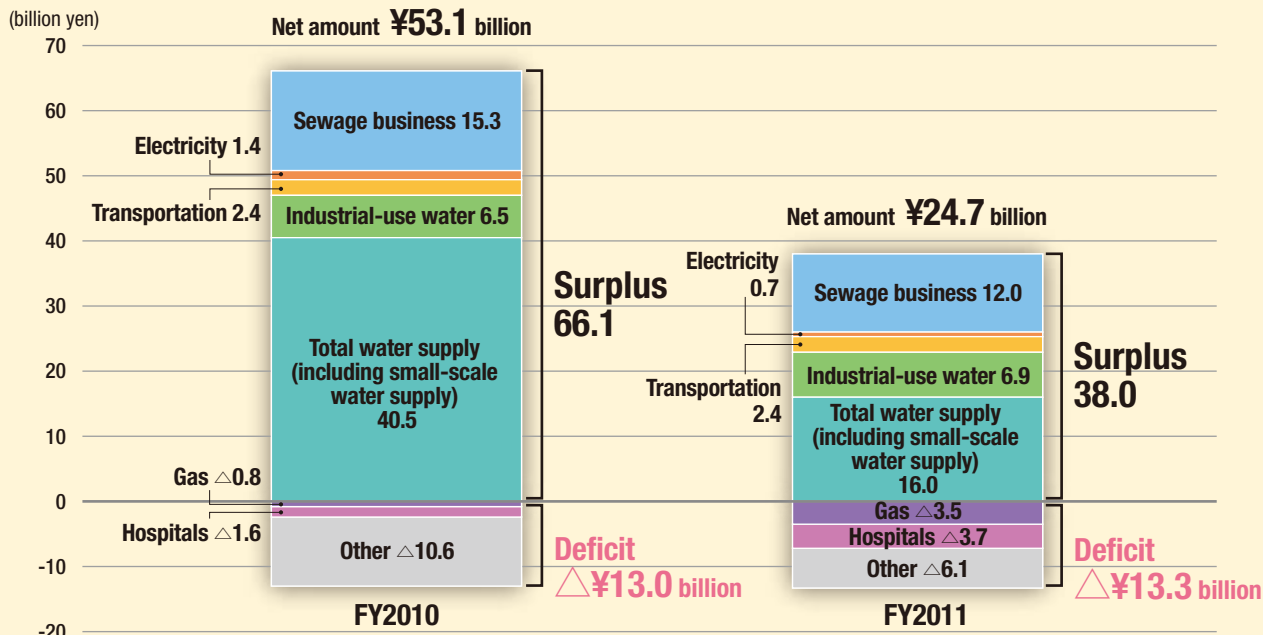
Total revenues and expenditures of local public enterprises of disaster-struck organizations amounted to a surplus of ¥24.7 billion, declining ¥28.4 billion year on year, or 53.4%. There were 808 businesses with surpluses, or 85.7% of all businesses, while 135 businesses had deficits, or 14.3%.

The ¥28.4 billion decline in the total revenues and expenditures of local public enterprises of disaster-struck organizations amounted to 85.3% of the ¥33.3 billion decrease in the total revenues and expenditures of local public enterprises, have large impact on all businesses.

### Financial Status of Businesses of Local Public Enterprises of Disaster-Struck Organizations



### Settlements by Businesses of Local Public Enterprises of Disaster-Struck Organizations

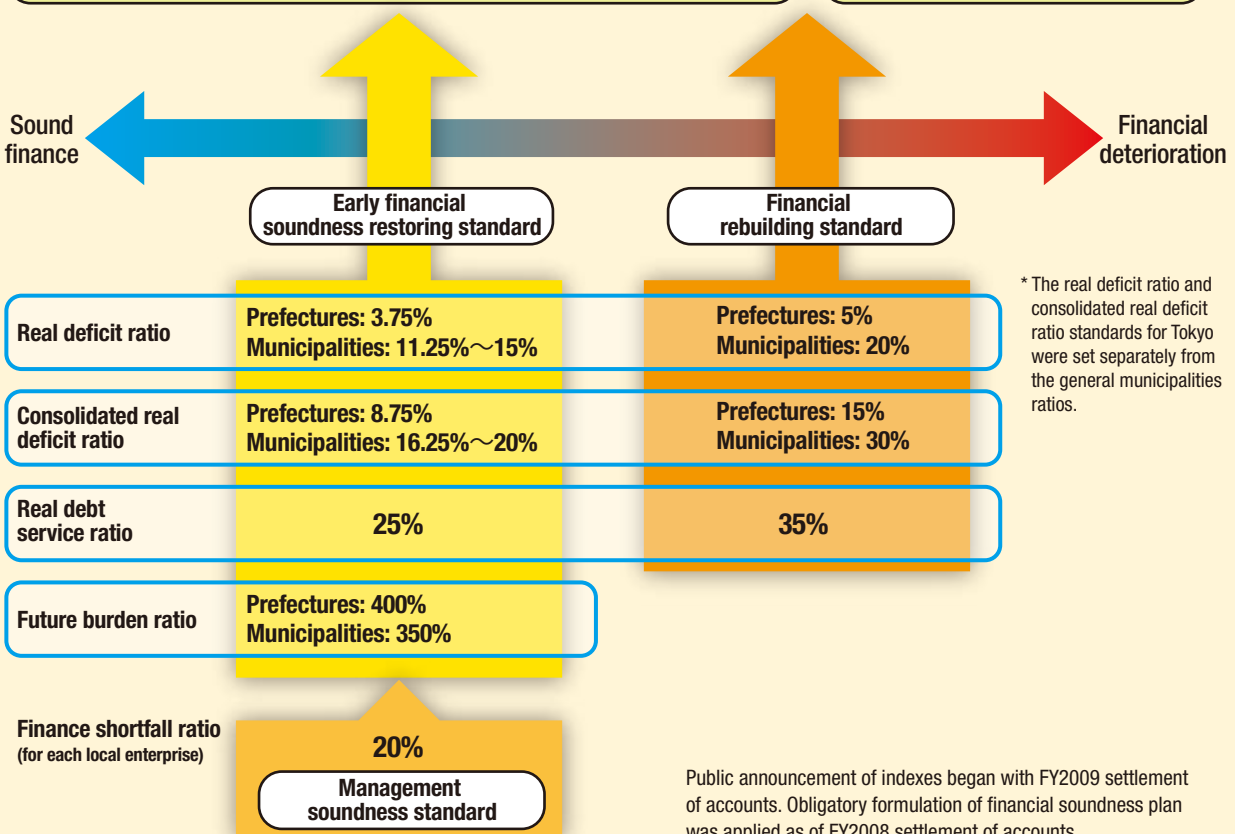
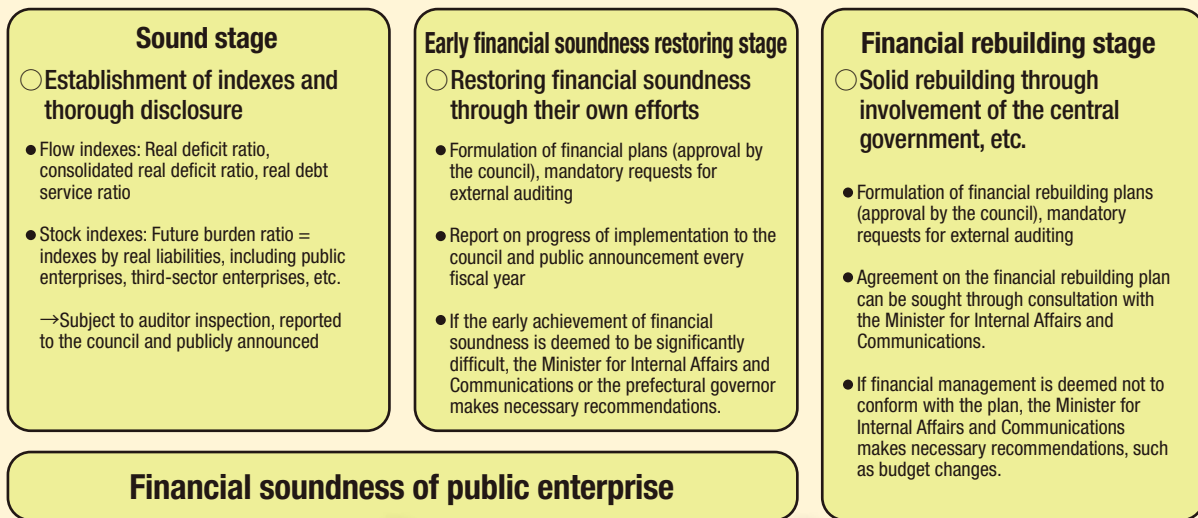


# Promotion of the Soundness of Local Public Finance

## 1 Overview of the Act on Assurance of Sound Financial Status of Local Governments

A number of drawbacks were pointed out with the conventional system of financial reconstruction of local governments, including the lack of a legal obligation to disclose comprehensible financial information and of rules for early warning. In response, the Act on Assurance of Sound Financial Status of Local Governments was enacted and has been in force since April 2009. The act establishes new indexes and requires local governments to disclose them thoroughly, aiming to quickly achieve financial soundness or rebuild.

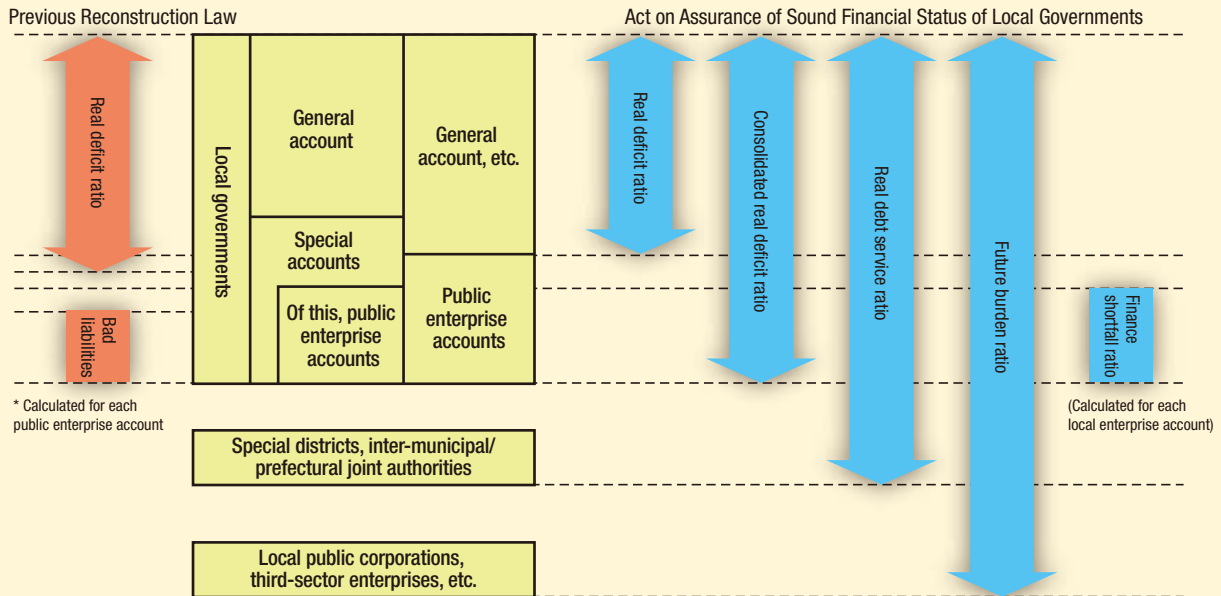
### Outline of the Act on Assurance of Sound Financial Status of Local Governments



Public announcement of indexes began with FY2009 settlement of accounts. Obligatory formulation of financial soundness plan was applied as of FY2008 settlement of accounts.



## Targets of the Ratio for Determining Financial Soundness



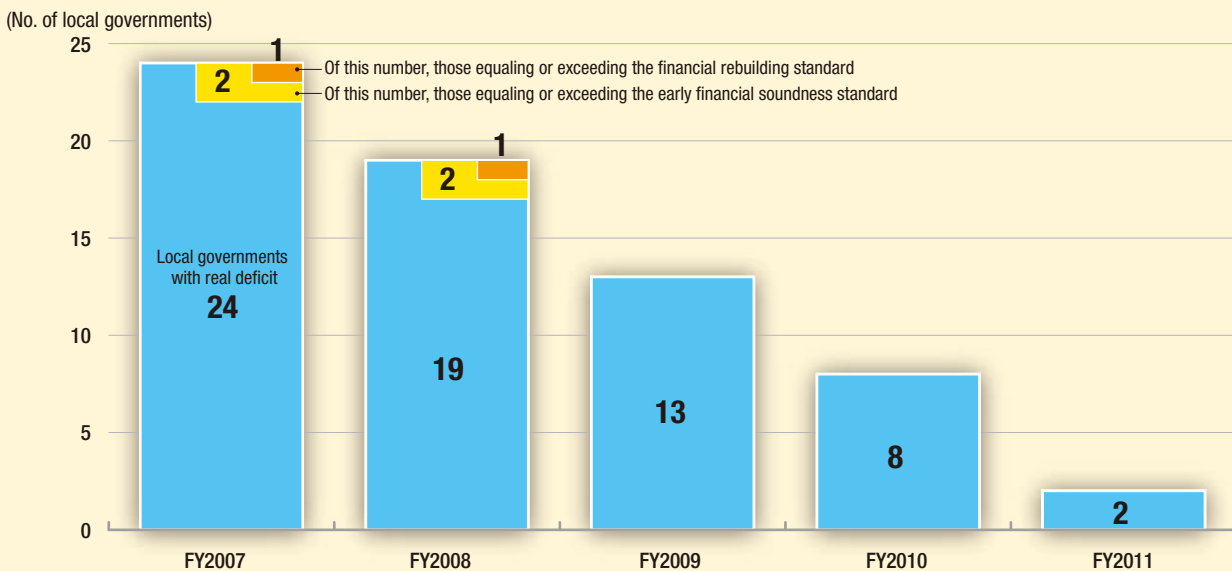
## 2 Status of the Ratios for Determining Financial Soundness

### Real Deficit Ratio

The following graph shows the trend in the number of local governments with a real deficit. Based on FY2011 account settlements, there were two local governments with a real deficit (i.e., with a real deficit ratio that exceeds 0%) among municipalities. Of those local governments, none had a real deficit ratio that equals or exceeds the early financial soundness restoring standard.

$$\text{Real deficit ratio} = \frac{\text{Real deficit amount of real account, etc.}}{\text{Standard financial scale}}$$

The real deficit ratio is an index of the deficit level of the general account, etc. of local governments offering welfare, education, community-building, and other services, and represents the extent to which financial administration has worsened.



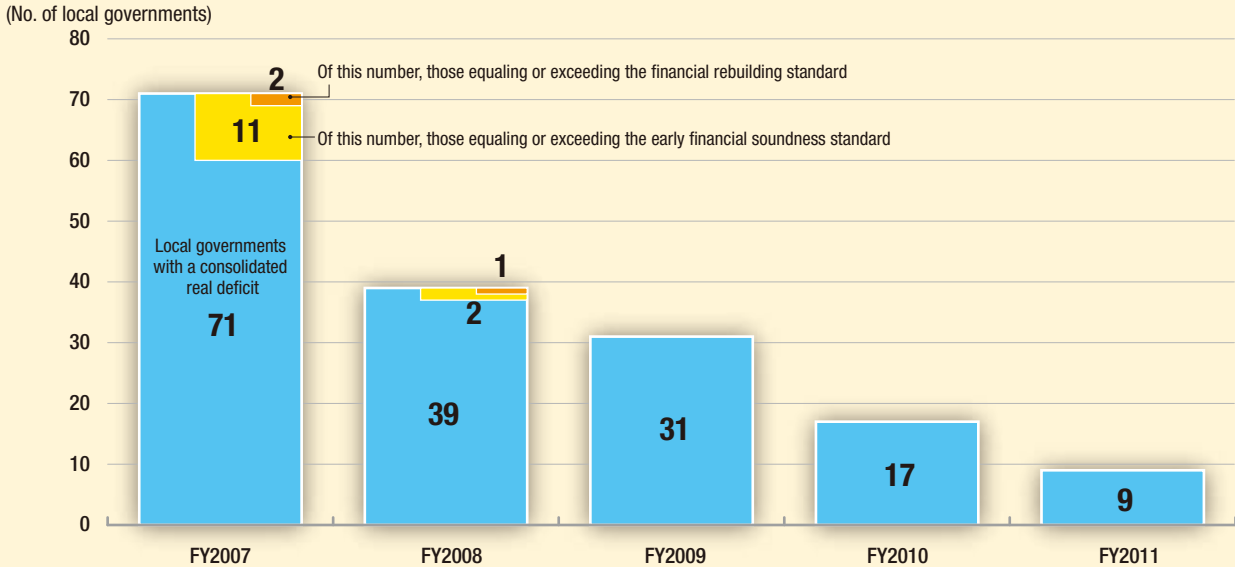
## Consolidated Real Deficit Ratio

The following graph shows the trend in the number of local governments with a consolidated real deficit.

Based on FY2011 account settlements, there were nine local governments with a consolidated real deficit (i.e., with a consolidated real deficit ratio that exceeds 0%) among municipalities. Of those local governments, none had a consolidated real deficit ratio that equals or exceeds the early financial soundness restoring standard.

$$\text{Consolidated real deficit ratio} = \frac{\text{Consolidated real deficit}}{\text{Standard financial scale}}$$

The consolidated real deficit ratio is an index of the deficit level for all local governments by taking the sum of the deficits and surpluses of all accounts, and represents the extent to which financial administration has worsened for local governments as a whole.



## Real Debt Service Ratio

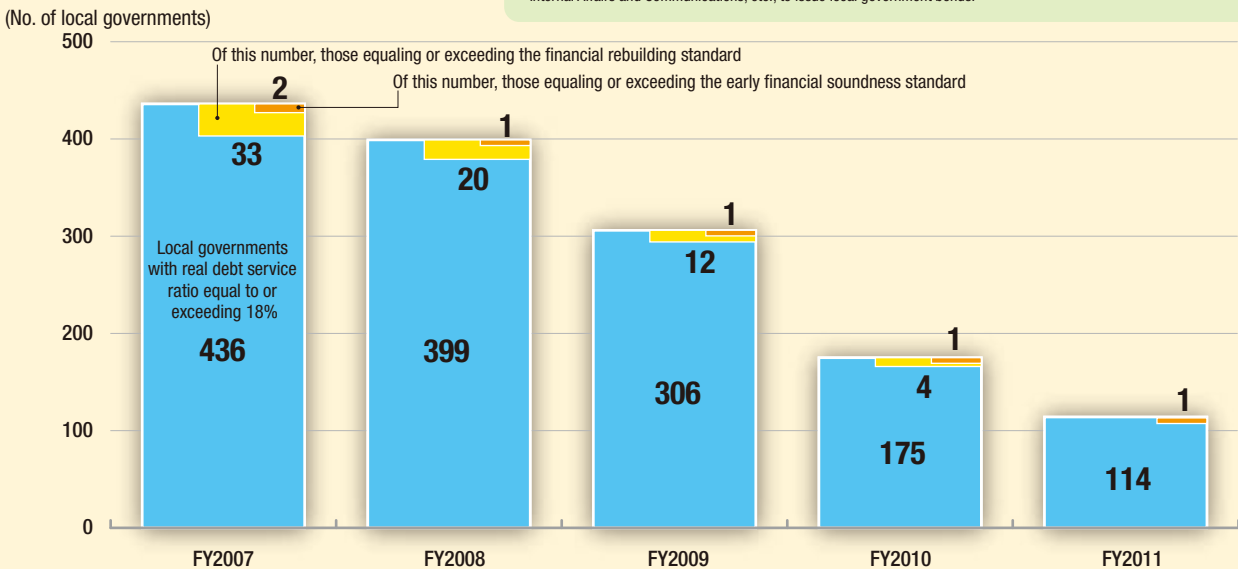
The following graph shows the trend in the number of local governments with a real debt service ratio equal to or exceeding 18%.

Based on FY2011 account settlements, there was one local government with a real debt service ratio equal to or exceeding the financial rebuilding standard.

$$\text{Real debt service ratio} = \frac{(\text{Redemption of principal and interest of local bonds} + \text{quasi-redemption of principal and interest}) - (\text{special revenue resources} + \text{amount included in standard financial requirements pertaining to redemption and quasi-redemption of principal and interest})}{\text{Standard financial scale} - (\text{amount included in standard financial requirements pertaining to redemption and quasi-redemption of principal and payments})}$$

The real debt service ratio is an index of the size of the redemption amount of debts (local bonds) and similar expenditure, and represents the cash-flow level.

\* Local governments with a real debt service ratio equal to or exceeding 18% require the approval of the Minister of Internal Affairs and Communications, etc., to issue local government bonds.



## Future Burden Ratio

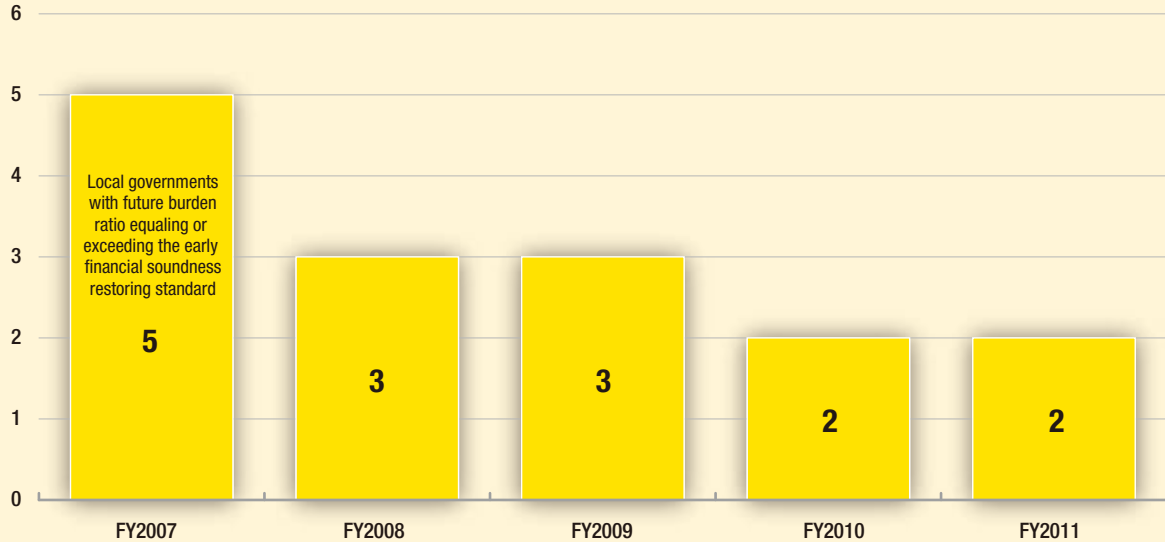
The following graph shows the trend in the number of local governments with a future burden ratio equal to or exceeding the early financial soundness restoring standard.

Based on FY2011 account settlements, there were two local governments with a future burden ratio equal to or exceeding the early financial soundness restoring standard.

$$\text{Future burden ratio} = \frac{\text{Future burden amount} - (\text{amount of appropriable funds} + \text{estimated amount of special revenue sources} + \text{amount expected to be included in standard financial requirements pertaining to outstanding local government bonds, etc.})}{\text{Standard financial scale} - (\text{amount included in standard financial requirements pertaining to redemption of principal and interest and quasi-redemption of principal and interest})}$$

The future burden ratio is an index of the current outstanding balance of burden, including that of debts (local bonds) of the general account, etc. as well as other likely future payments, and represents the extent to which finances may be squeezed in the future. No financial rebuilding standard is established for the future burden ratio.

(No. of local governments)



## Financial Shortfall Ratio

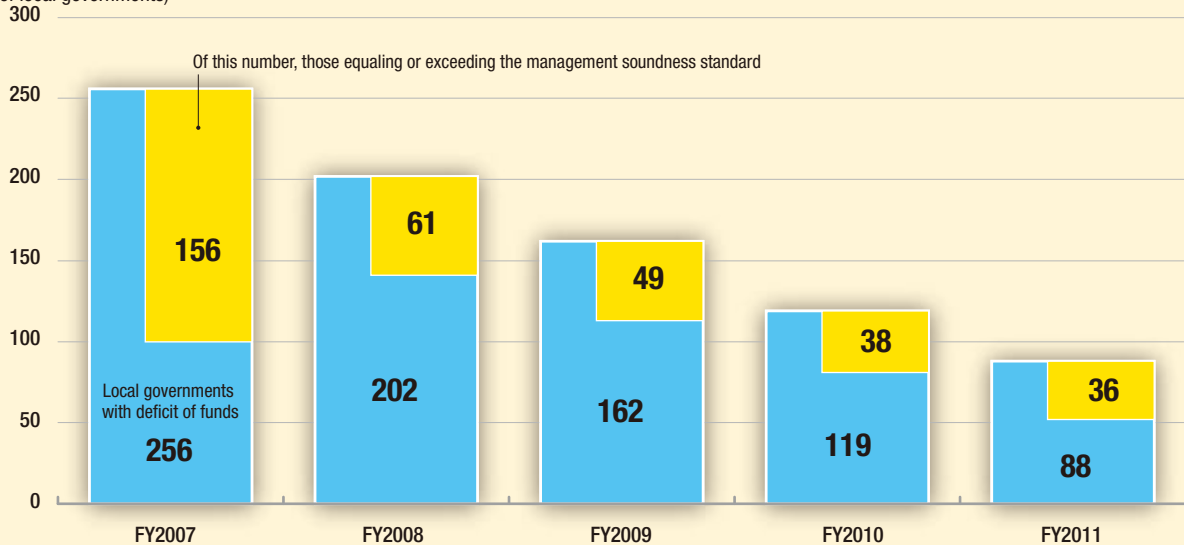
The following graph shows the trend in the number of local governments with a financial shortfall.

Based on FY2011 account settlements, there were 88 local governments with a financial shortfall (i.e., with a financial shortfall ratio that exceeds 0%) among municipalities. Of these, 36 local governments had a financial shortfall ratio that equals or exceeds the management soundness standard.

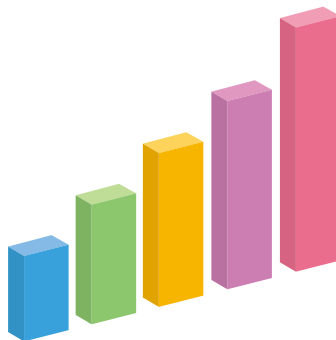
$$\text{Future burden ratio} = \frac{\text{Deficit of funds}}{\text{Size of business}}$$

The financial shortfall ratio is an index of the deficit of funds of public enterprises compared to the size of their profit (size of business of public enterprises), and represents the extent to which financial health has worsened.

(No. of local governments)



FY2011 Settlement  
**White Paper on  
Local Public Finance, 2013**  
–Illustrated–



**Financial Management Division,  
Local Public Finance Bureau,  
Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications**

Address: 2-1-2 Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8926,  
Japan

Tel.: +81-(0)3-5253-5111 (ext. 5649)

<http://www.soumu.go.jp>

All Rights Reserved