

IWATE

Moving toward Reconstruction

A record of the reconstruction from March 2011 to March 2019
after the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami



Sanriku Railway Rias Line



All parts of the Tohoku East-West Expressway, Kamaishi Akita Line are open.



Miyako-Muroran Ferry



August 2019

 Iwate

Kamaishi Unosumai Memorial Stadium

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About Iwate



Scan this QR code with your smartphone or other devices to be taken to the “Iwate Moving Toward Reconstruction” video page on Iwate’s website.

There is a message from the governor as well as videos of what the coastal areas look like today.



Introduction

When the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami struck the Tohoku region on the Pacific coast side on March 11, 2011, 5,140 lives were lost in Iwate, primarily on the coast. I would like to express my sincere condolences to those that lost their loved ones, in addition to the families of the 1,114 people that are still missing.

With the love and feelings the victims had towards their hometown firmly in our mind, it became our mission to ensure the livelihood as well as the ability to learn and work for those affected by the disaster. It also became essential for us to create a better Sanriku area in Iwate where lives are protected and people could coexist with nature in order to provide each individual a right to pursue happiness. Thus, we have formulated the Reconstruction Plan for the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami in Iwate to achieve a recovery as quickly as possible with an unprecedented system and scale from 2011-2018, a set effective period of 8 years.

Since then, we have steadily progressed towards a full reconstruction. We have completed the disposal of disaster waste and the maintenance of fishing boats and fishery facilities damaged in the disaster. We have also developed reconstruction roads, tsunami mitigation facilities, and post-disaster public housing for those that lost their homes in the disaster. Commercial and marine product facilities were all able to resume operations, and all prefectural hospitals and public schools have been restored. As part of restoring people’s daily lives, a ferry line connecting Miyako and Muroran in Hokkaido has been established, a first for the prefecture. Regular international flights between Iwate and Taipei, and also Shanghai, are now available. The Sanriku Railway Rias Line, reconstruction roads, and other parts of the transportation network have been expanded. All of our successful achievements have led to an increase in regional tourism and economic exchanges.

Under the new Iwate Prefecture Citizen’s Plan (2019–2028), reconstruction efforts will be the top priority for the prefectural government. We will now focus on the incomplete

infrastructures that we could not finish during the initial recovery period. We will also promote efforts to Build Back Better in the Sanriku area, by also taking into account its future, through supporting mental and emotional care of disaster survivors, providing assistance to form new communities, and revitalizing commercial activities in the forestry, marine, and agricultural sectors.

In addition, as a disaster-affected prefecture, we can contribute to the improvement of disaster risk reduction both in Japan and the entire world. We will pass along the truth and lessons learned from our experience during the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami. We will showcase to the world the state of Sanriku, a cutting-edge area in recovery with the initiatives in reconstruction, disaster mitigation, and risk reduction measures we have taken. Thank you for your continued understanding and cooperation.

Finally, we hope this booklet will give you a better understanding of the status of our recovery in Iwate Prefecture, and that it will be widely used throughout the world to assist in facing natural disasters and forming new recovery efforts.



May 11, 2019

Governor of Iwate

Takuya Tasso

達増拓也



From the Kamaishi Daikannon Statue looking over the Kamaishi Bay.

Disaster Damage and the Reconstruction Plan

The Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami

(Data provided by the Iwate Disaster Countermeasures Headquarters)

- ▶ Name (Date and time of occurrence) Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami (March 11, 2011 (Fri) 2:46pm)
*The national government calls it "the Great East Japan Earthquake" but Iwate has designated it "the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami."
Off the shore of Sanriku, roughly 130km east southeast of the Oshika Peninsula. (latitude 38°06.2', longitude 142°51.6')
- ▶ Epicenter 24km, magnitude 9.0 (moment magnitude)
- ▶ Epicenter depth and magnitude Intensity of 6 (lower): Ofunato City, Kamaishi City, Takizawa City, Yahaba Town, Hanamaki City, Ichinoseki City, Oshu City, and Fujisawa Town
- ▶ Maximum seismic intensity in Iwate [Miyako] 3/11 3:26 p.m.: over 8.5 meters [Kamaishi] 3/11 3:21 p.m.: over 4.2 meters [Ofunato] 3/11 3:18 p.m.: over 8 meters
- ▶ Largest wave of the tsunami [Kuji Harbor] 8.6 meters (estimate)

Hirono Town Highest tsunami height: Hirono, north coast of Kuji, 12 meters
Buildings destroyed: **26**

Kuji City Highest tsunami height: Kuji Bay, 13.7 meters
Deaths: **3** / Missing: **2**
Buildings destroyed: **278**

Iwaizumi Town Highest tsunami height: Iwaizumi Coast, 20.2 meters
Deaths: **10**
Buildings destroyed: **200**

Otsuchi Town Highest tsunami height: Otsuchi Bay 15.1 meters
Deaths: **855** / Missing: **419**
Buildings destroyed: **4,167**

Kamaishi City Highest tsunami height: Ryoishi Bay 22.6 meters
Deaths: **994** / Missing: **152**
Buildings destroyed: **3,656**

Inland areas
Deaths: **34**
Missing: **5**
Buildings destroyed: **1,846**

Iwate totals
Deaths: **5,140**
Missing: **1,114**
Buildings destroyed: **26,079**

* Deaths refer to those that died as a direct result of the disaster (data from Iwate Prefectural Police) and those that died from related causes (data from the Iwate Reconstruction Bureau).
* Number of buildings destroyed includes both buildings completely and partially destroyed.
* "Highest tsunami height" refers to the height of the highest mark left near an embankment (See the section on the height of coastal embankments along Iwate's coast).

Casualties and Damage in Iwate

Highest tsunami height – number of deaths and people missing – number of buildings destroyed
(As of March 31, 2019)

Noda Village Highest tsunami height: Noda Bay 21.4 meters
Deaths: **39**
Buildings destroyed: **479**

Fudai Village Highest tsunami height: Fudai Coast 18.4 meters
Missing: **1**

Tanohata Village Highest tsunami height: Tanohata Coast 23 meters
Deaths: **17** / Missing: **15**
Buildings destroyed: **270**

Miyako City Highest tsunami height: Omoe Coast, 21.8 meters
Deaths: **475** / Missing: **94**
Buildings destroyed: **4,005**

Yamada Town Highest tsunami height: Funakoshi Bay 19 meters
Deaths: **687** / Missing: **145**
Buildings destroyed: **3,167**

Ofunato City Highest tsunami height: Ryori Bay 23.8 meters
Deaths: **422** / Missing: **79**
Buildings destroyed: **3,938**

Rikuzentakata City Highest tsunami height: Hirota Bay 18.3 meters
Deaths: **1,604** / Missing: **202**
Buildings destroyed: **4,047**



○ Damage to industries (As of November 25, 2011)

- Agriculture and Forestry: 98.4 billion yen
- Fisheries, Fishing ports: 564.9 billion yen
- Commerce and Industry: 133.5 billion yen
- Tourism (lodging facilities): 32.6 billion yen
- Total: **829.4 billion yen**

○ Damage to public works facilities (As of July 25, 2011)

- Rivers, coasts, and roads: 172.3 billion yen
- Park facilities: 40.5 billion yen
- Port-related facilities: 44.5 billion yen
- Total: **257.3 billion yen**

○ Composition of land flooded by the tsunami

Rice fields	Other agricultural use	Forests	Building sites
17%	4%	9%	34%

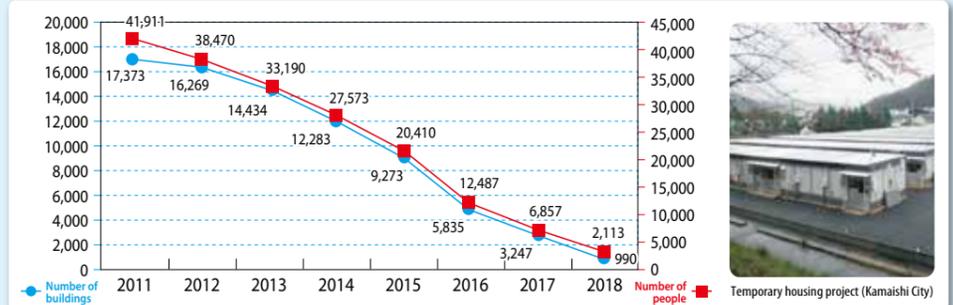
(Source: the Geographical Survey Institute's "Land Area by Usage in the Tsunami Inundation Area" report from April 18, 2011.)

○ Estimated value and rate of damage to capital stock

	Estimated value of capital stock A	Estimated value of damage to capital stock					Rate of damage B/A	GDP C	Value of damage as a percentage of GDP B/C
		Societal infrastructure	Residences	Manufacturing industry	Other	Total B			
Iwate	Inland areas 26,369	457	22	64	211	754	2.9%	4,255	1 year's worth
	Coastal areas 7,449	1,943	607	191	781	3,522	47.3%		
	Total 33,818	2,400	629	255	992	4,276	12.6%		

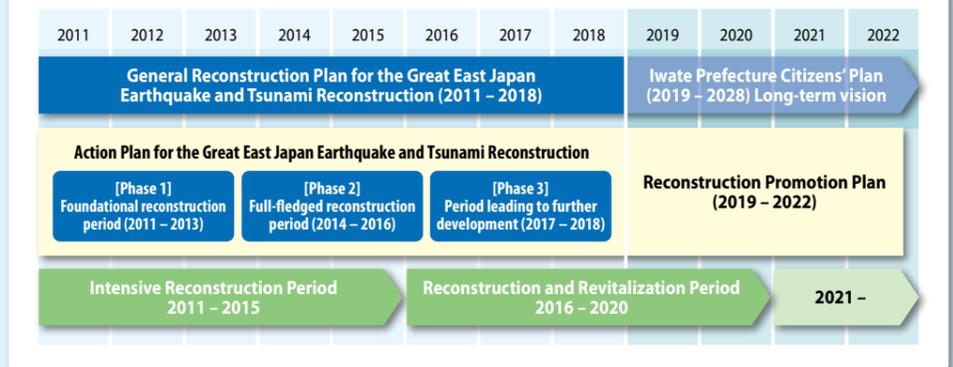
* Estimates of damage to capital stock and rates of damage are taken from data by the Development Bank of Japan (April 28, 2011)
* GDP value taken from the 2009 Prefectural Economic Calculation (Cabinet Office Economic and Social Research Institute System of National Accounts – February 29, 2012)

○ People living in temporary housing (As of March 31, 2017)



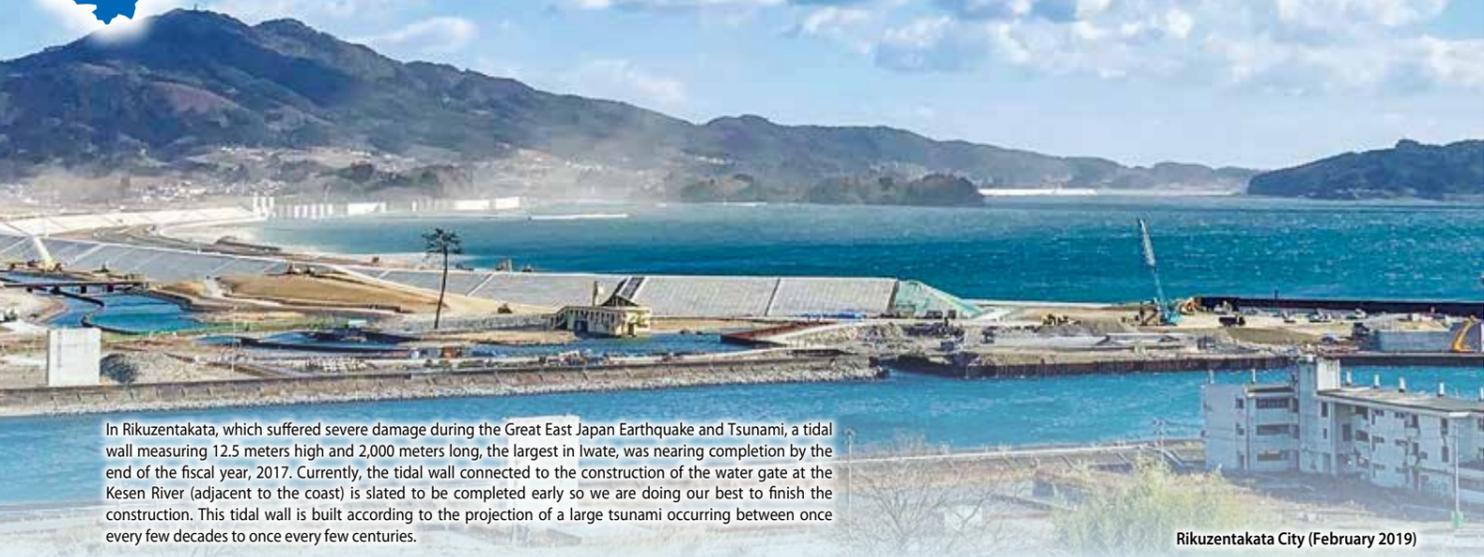
Basic direction for promotion of the reconstruction in the Iwate Prefecture Citizens' Plan (2019 – 2028)

In Iwate, on August 11, 2011, a reconstruction plan to take place over the following 8 years was formulated as a blueprint for the future of the area to overcome the disaster it suffered. We have since then endeavored towards a full recovery according to this plan. There are mid-and long-term issues that still need to be addressed in the disaster-affected areas, so after 2019 as well, the comprehensive Iwate Prefecture Citizens' Plan (2019 – 2028) has set the reconstruction as the prefectural government's top priority. We are engaged in completing all the necessary actions in order to fully realize the recovery for each and every person affected by the disaster.



Contact: Reconstruction Promotion Division, Bureau of Reconstruction TEL: 019-629-6945

Status of the Reconstruction



In Rikuzentakata, which suffered severe damage during the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami, a tidal wall measuring 12.5 meters high and 2,000 meters long, the largest in Iwate, was nearing completion by the end of the fiscal year, 2017. Currently, the tidal wall connected to the construction of the water gate at the Kesen River (adjacent to the coast) is slated to be completed early so we are doing our best to finish the construction. This tidal wall is built according to the projection of a large tsunami occurring between once every few decades to once every few centuries.

Rikuzentakata City (February 2019)

*All progress is as of March 31, 2019 unless otherwise stated.

Rebuilding Lives

People living in temporary housing (including subsidized housing)

Peak period: (October 2011) 43,738 people Still in residence: 2,113 people



Public housing for disaster survivors

Planned units: 5,550

Completed: 5,540



*Excludes the 283 housing units to be built inland

Support systems for rebuilding the lives of the survivors

Initial monetary support payments: 23,164



Temporary housing in Rikuzentakata City (January 2015)



Kamaishi Hamacho Reconstruction Housing Unit (completed in December of 2018)



Rikuzentakata Kesen Elementary School (completed in December of 2018)

Medical facilities (coastal area)

240 facilities before the disaster (March 2011)



*These are institutions providing medical services in their own building or in temporary facilities (hospitals, medical clinics, dental clinics).

Restoration of public school facilities (coastal area)

Schools affected by the disaster: 86 schools



Restoration of public cultural facilities and gymnasiums

Facilities planned: 58 facilities



Ensuring Safety

Processing disaster waste

Estimated 5.253 million tons of disaster waste



Sorting through disaster waste in Kamaishi (October 2013)



Restoration work at the Kuki fishing port in Kuji (September 2013)

Restoring and developing coastal protection facilities

Planned number of locations: 134

Completed: 83



Extensions to Reconstruction Roads

Planned extension: 359km



Photo provided by: Minami-Sanriku Office of National Highways

Opening ceremony of the Sanriku Coastal Road (Kamaishi-minami – Kamaishi-Ryoishi) and the Kamaishi-Akita Line (Kamaishi – Kamaishi Sennin-toge Pass) of the Tohoku East-West Expressway (March 2019)

Land sites being prepared for usage

Number of locations: 158

Completed: 145



Lots allocated for housing

Planned number of housing lots: 7,477

Completed: 7,143



Group Relocated Public Housing for Disaster Mitigation of the Otsuchi-Akahama District (completed in March 2019)

Regenerating Industries

Catch levels at local fish markets

Three-year average prior to the disaster (2008-2010): 169,627 tons



Catch levels of farm-raised fish and other marine life

Three-year average prior to the disaster (2008-2010): 47,478 tons



Recovered farmland

Target area to be recovered: 542ha



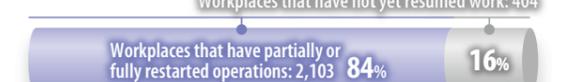
A shared retail space "All" in Yamada (November 2016)



Rice planting with reconstruction grant for the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami (May 2018)

Disaster-affected workplaces that have restarted operations (estimate)

Workplaces: 2,507



Performance (sales) in disaster-affected workplaces

Workplaces: 1,186

The same level or better than before the disaster: 540 workplaces
Workplaces that either have not resumed operations or have less sales than before the disaster: 646



Visits to main tourist destinations

Prior to the disaster (2010): 4.703 million visits



*14 major tourist destinations in Iwate were surveyed



Tsukuehama Fishermen's Workshops in Tanohata (September 2015)



Michi no Eki (roadside rest stop) Taro (May 2018)

Support from Abroad



Foreign volunteer groups

Thank you, TOMODACHI

Many disaster relief teams came from overseas to the disaster-affected areas.

In Iwate, a 144-person team from the USA (including 12 rescue dogs), a 69-person team from the UK (with 2 rescue dogs), and a 15-person team from China came for support. They conducted rescue operations in Ofunato and Kamaishi.

Additionally, right after the disaster, the US military conducted rescue operations in disaster-affected areas, naming it “Operation Tomodachi (Japanese word for friend).” At its peak, there were 24,500 personnel, 24 ships, and 189 planes involved. Their help in the disaster-affected area cannot be overstated.



Foreign aid groups (Ofunato City – March 2011)

Teams of aid workers and specialists from foreign countries, regions, and international organizations			
Country or region	Team composition	Arrival date	Area active
United States	Rescue team: 144 Fairfax (USAR) team Los Angeles (USAR) team Rescue dogs from both teams: 12	March 13	Ofunato City Kamaishi City
China	Rescue personnel: 15	March 13	Ofunato City
United Kingdom	Rescue workers: 69 Rescue dogs: 2	March 13	Ofunato City Kamaishi City
United Nations World Food Programme (WFP)	Logistical support personnel: 25	March 15	Within Iwate Prefecture, etc.
Philippines	Medical aid team: 3	June 28	Within Iwate Prefecture, etc.

(Source: Ministry of Foreign Affairs website as of January 30, 2012)

Supporting the restoration of the Sanriku Railway

All lines reopened with the support of Kuwait

In 2011, the government of Kuwait donated 5 million barrels of crude oil to support the reconstruction of the affected areas in the wake of the disaster. It resulted in another donation of 8.4 billion yen aid money to Iwate through the Japanese Red Cross.

In Iwate, this aid money was used to fund new cars and station buildings for the Sanriku Railway to reopen all lines in the disaster-affected areas by April of 2014.

The Sanriku Railway plays an important role as basic transportation in the coastal area of Iwate, and also forms a foundation for tourism and local development.



Commemorating a special memorial train for the reopening of all routes on the South Rias line of the Sanriku Railway (Ofunato City, April 2014)

Relief supplies delivered from abroad

Support from the international community to evacuation centers on the coast

It started in France: just 6 days after the disaster they sent 8,000 blankets to Iwate. Countries all over the world started sending food and beverages, toilet paper, face masks, portable toilets, and other supplies needed for daily life in evacuation shelters.



Relief supplies delivered to the disaster-affected area. (Noda Village, March 2011)

Supporting children in the disaster-affected area

For their hopes, dreams, and future

Tsunami-devastated daycare centers and kindergartens in Yamada Town and Otsuchi Town were able to rebuild thanks to funds provided by the Taiwanese Red Cross and the German state of Rhineland-Palatinate, which Iwate has maintained friendly ties with since 1999.

International relief funds are building a future for children in the disaster-affected areas. Projects have included Poland’s “Solidarity Bridge Project,” and the Kuwaiti government’s funding of the restoration of private schools and the Iwate Children’s Care Center.



Kindergarten built with foreign aid money in Otsuchi (October 2014)

Preparing public facilities

Supporting the improvement of welfare and daily life on the coast

Support from the Singapore Red Cross funded the Taro Support Center in Miyako City, where elderly residents of temporary housing receive care and health checkups. Also, a new community hall was built in Rikuzentakata City to help with revitalizing the local area.

The “Berlin Haus” public hall was also built in Rikuzentakata City with support from the Japanese-German Center in Berlin. The facility is being used as a center for cultural exchange towards reconstruction. Through foreign support, which helped fund the reconstruction of public facilities, it improved the lives and welfare of the people in disaster-affected areas.



Rikuzentakata Community Hall (March 2015)

Support through culture and art

Exchange with the Louvre

In 2012, the Louvre Museum brought 23 art pieces in a traveling exhibition called “Message from the Louvre: Encounter”, which marked the beginning of a relationship between Iwate and the museum. We have received continuous support for the “Art Caravan,” a mobile exhibition that travels throughout Iwate led by museum curators in hopes to reach out to local residents.

As part of the reconstruction support from Japan and overseas, the oldest active violinist, Ivory Gitlis, held a concert called the “Bonds of Reconstruction.” Other events and opportunities were made to appreciate cultural arts, as well as, creating new cultural exchanges.



A speech from the curator of the Louvre (Kamaishi City, August 2014)

Main Initiatives So Far



All sections of the Sanriku Railway Rias Line were opened (March 2019)

1

Disaster Management for Communities

Disposal of disaster waste (rubble)

About 6.18 million tons (about 14 years worth of domestic waste in Iwate) were processed.

The devastation from the tsunami generated about 6.18 million tons of disaster waste in Iwate. With the cooperation and support of municipalities in Iwate and throughout Japan, including numerous individuals and residents, we were able to complete the disposal of this waste by March 2014.



Akamae district of Miyako, Miyako Sports Park (photo taken in May 2011)



Akamae district of Miyako, Miyako Sports Park (photo taken in August 2013)

Disaster waste disposal destinations

Aomori	61,003 tons
Miyagi	4,326 tons
Akita	37,539 tons
Yamagata	77,687 tons
Fukushima	12,131 tons
Gunma	7,673 tons
Saitama	1,147 tons
Tokyo	106,051 tons
Kanagawa	159 tons
Niigata	291 tons
Toyama	1,256 tons
Ishikawa	1,953 tons
Fukui	6 tons
Shizuoka	3,176 tons
Osaka	15,299 tons
Total	329,697 tons (15 prefectures)

Measurement of radiation dosage in living spaces

Results of the measurement are published online

We measured the radioactivity in a variety of places including living areas, dust in the air, precipitation (rain and snow), tap water, and agricultural products. The results are all posted online. The radiation levels in living spaces fell below the national decontamination standards in all locations as of August 2013, and have been basically stable since then.

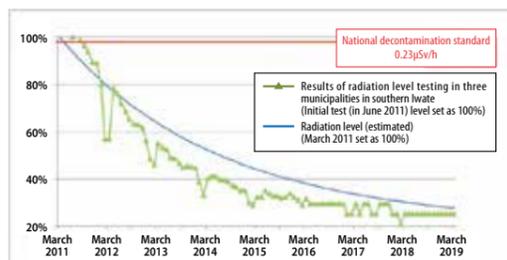


Figure: Changes in contaminated levels taken in priority survey areas
*Results are lower when there is snow on the ground due to a shielding effect.

Information about radiation
<https://www.pref.iwate.jp/houshasen/index.html>



Measurements by survey meters

Rebuilding communities

Building safe and disaster-resilient communities

As of late March 2019, among the 7,477 sectors that were planned for development, construction has started in all areas, and 7,143 of them (96%) have been completed. Community development in disaster-affected areas is progressing at a steadfast rate.



Current state (as of September 2018) of the central urban area in southern Takata in Rikuzentakata, including projects related to building a tsunami reconstruction base.



Eastpia Miyako, completed as of September 2018.

Project name	Municipalities, locations, and sections engaged in these projects	City planning decision	Business authorization (Ministerial Approval of Group Relocation Promotion Project for Disaster Prevention included)	Construction areas where construction has started	Areas where construction is complete
Land readjustment projects	7 municipalities, 19 locations, 4,911 sections	19 locations	19 locations	19 locations	15 locations / 4,577 sections
Tsunami Reconstruction Base Maintenance Project	6 municipalities, 10 locations	10 locations	10 locations	10 locations	6 locations
Disaster Mitigation Group Relocation Project	7 municipalities, 88 locations, 2,101 sections		88 locations	88 locations	88 locations / 2,101 sections
Fishery Village Disaster Mitigation and Reinforcement project	11 municipalities, 41 locations, 465 sections			41 locations	36 locations / 465 sections
Total	12 municipalities, 158 locations, 7,477 sections			158 locations	145 locations / 7,143 sections

(As of March 31, 2019)

Restoration and maintenance of coastal protection facilities

Reviving communities through the reconstruction and maintenance of the tidal walls and water gates

Temporary tidal walls were built as a substitute in areas that were projected to be at risk of high flood tides during the reconstruction and maintenance of the coastal safety facilities, including tidal walls that were damaged by the tsunami. Additionally, an Iwate Tsunami Management Specialist Committee, made up of specialists in tsunami, city planning, and earthquakes, was established. While surveying each municipality about the direction of their community revival development, they proceeded to examine the layout and height of tidal walls based on their scientific and technical knowledge. The coastal area of Iwate was divided up into 24 areas by October 2011 and the necessary height of tidal walls and related facilities was announced.

In order to acquire land to set up these coastal protection facilities in the early term, voluntary negotiations were conducted in parallel with the land expropriation process. We also proceeded with projects using manufactured products to respond to any lack of resources and shorten the construction time.

As a result, by March 2019 the reconstruction and maintenance of 134 locations had begun and 83 of them were already completed.

Setting the height of the tidal walls:

<https://www.pref.iwate.jp/kendozukuri/kasensabou/kasen/fukkyuu/settei/index.html>

State of the reconstruction on the coast of the Takata district



Before the tsunami (March 2010)



Right after the tsunami



Late March, 2017

Installation of an automatic opening and closing system for the water and floodwall gates

Doors automatically close in the case of a Tsunami or other warning

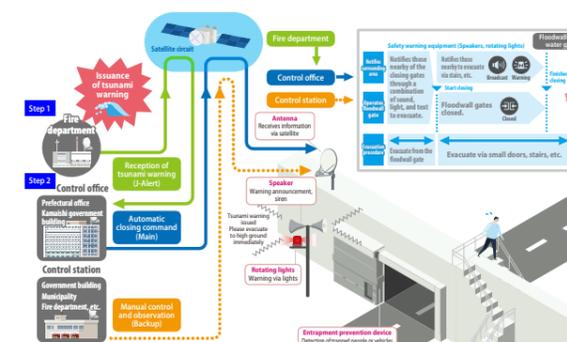
Many fire brigade members that were responsible for closing the water gates and floodwall gates during the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami lost their lives. So, in order to prevent the same tragedy and to further protect people's lives, an automatic closing system for the water and floodwall gate that can be controlled via a satellite was installed.

With this system, the satellite receives a signal from the national tsunami alert system (J-Alert), which in turn signals the water and floodwall gates in the prefecture to automatically start closing once the warning is issued.

A portion of the system began its operation in July 2017, and is expected to be implemented for all 220 water and floodwall gates in the prefecture.



Attari agricultural coast area of Ofunato (April 27, 2017)



Automatic closing system mechanism

*Floodwall gate: A gate to travel between the ocean and coastal side of a tidal wall

② Transportation Network

■ Provision of Reconstruction Roads

All areas of the Tohoku East-West Expressway on the Kamaishi-Akita Line have opened

We have progressively worked on the construction of the Sanriku Reconstruction Roads. They are major roads built to high standards, connecting the coastal areas to the inland areas and to further connecting the Sanriku coast by building a road network that is highly resistant to disasters.

All sections of the Tohoku East-West Expressway, Kamaishi-Akita Line have opened as of March 9, 2019, making it the first time that the coastal and inland areas of Iwate have been linked by a high-speed transportation system. On the 21st of the same month, a highway connecting Kamaishi with Kesennuma in Miyagi was completed, further connecting the Sanriku coastal roads and completing the highway network.



Sanriku Coastal Road connected to Miyagi (March 21, 2019)



Prefectural work of the Miyako-Morioka East-West Road and Miyako-nishi Road (March 30, 2019)

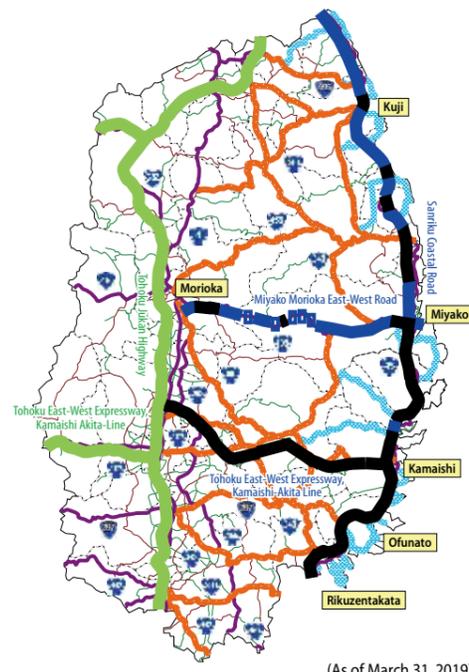


All parts of the Tohoku East-West Expressway Kamaishi-Iwate Line have opened (March 9, 2019)

Planned route for the Reconstruction Roads in Iwate

Effect of the construction of the Reconstruction Roads

Time savings	
Reduction of time required to travel between coastal cities and between the coast and inland.	
Accomplished the construction of disaster-resilient roads	
Allowing for safe and secure travel even during a disaster.	
Reduced traffic congestion (traffic distribution)	
With an effective distribution of traffic, traffic congestion is expected to be reduced.	
Other impacts	
Reduction of travel costs, fewer traffic accidents, improvement of driving comfort, etc.	



Reconstruction support roads and reconstruction-related roads open one after another

We have been working on the construction of reconstruction support roads, which connect coastal cities with inland cities. Roads that serve as bases for disaster mitigation on the coast are called reconstruction-related roads.

In 2018, the reconstruction of the Sanriku area progressed once the Murone Bypass on National Route 284, the Tatsumaru-toge Pass on National Route 340, and the Noda section of the Noda-Yamagata Line became accessible.



The Murone Bypass on National Route 284 opened (April 21, 2018)



All parts of the Tatsumaru-toge Pass on National Route 340 opened (November 29, 2018)



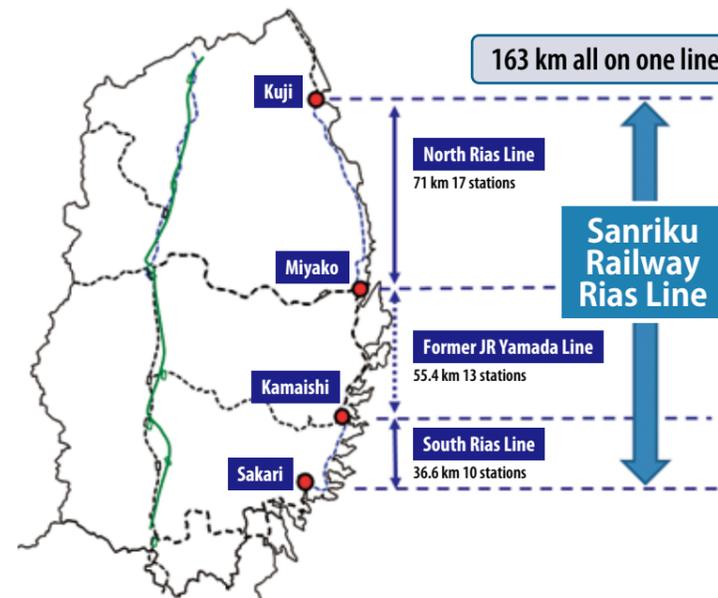
The Noda section of the Noda Yamagata Line opened (December 25, 2018)

■ The birth of the Sanriku Railway Rias Line

In March 2019, the north and the south sections of the Sanriku Railway Rias Line joined to become one unbroken rail line

The Sanriku Railway suffered extensive damage during the disaster, and all lines were rendered unusable. During the reconstruction, the government of Kuwait provided relief funds that were used for new trains, station building, and more, while disaster aid from numerous companies, groups, and individuals was also donated to the railway's reconstruction. As a result, all lines on the north and south Rias Line were reopened in April 2014.

Afterward, the former JR Yamada Line (between Miyako and Kamaishi), which was also unusable during the disaster, transferred its operation to the Sanriku Railway on March 23, 2019. This reshaped the Sanriku Railway as the longest public-private railway in Japan at 163 km (from Sakari Station to Kuji Station) with its new unbroken Sanriku Rias Line, and made it more convenient for residents to travel along the coast.



Commemorative Train Departure Ceremony of the Rias Line (March 23, 2019)



Commemorative Train

■ Reconstruction of Ports and Harbors

On June 22, 2018, a ferry line between Miyako and Muroran was established

Harbor and port facilities that were damaged in the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami were rebuilt, a gantry crane was installed at the Port of Kamaishi and a regular foreign-trade route for shipping containers was newly established. Several improvements have been made with expanded functions to meet the needs of those that use the ports and harbors.

On June 22, 2018, the first ferry line that connects Iwate (departing from Miyako) to Muroran in Hokkaido began operation.

With the increased use of the ferry, it is expected that it will stimulate growth in the area and expand the number of visitors while promoting industrial sectors.



Gantry Crane at the Port of Kamaishi



The first ferry departing from the Port of Miyako (June 22, 2018)

■ The first regular international flights from Iwate have been established

Hanamaki Airport is the gateway to Iwate from the rest of the world

On August 1, 2018, the first regular international flight service between Taipei and Hanamaki Airport was opened, followed by regular flight services to Shanghai on January 30, 2019.

With direct flight connections to Taipei and Shanghai now available, it will be easier to connect to other locations all over China, Southeast Asia, Europe, and more from Iwate.

In addition, with Hanamaki Airport being the international gateway to Iwate, we expect the number of inbound tourists to increase in this prefecture, which will bring economic benefits, increased mutual travel from both residents and tourists, and generate more opportunities for business and cultural exchange.



New regular flights to Taipei



New regular flights to Shanghai

3

Health, Medical Care, and Welfare



Health check at a meeting hall in a temporary housing building

Health services in disaster-affected areas

Preventative medicine for people living long-term in temporary housing

The prefectural government, local municipalities, and related organizations have cooperated to arrange a regular dispatch service of nursing staff to the temporary housing units. The nurses check residents' blood pressure, and provide everything from general health checkups, consultations on daily health, and health education.

Additionally, with the cooperation of the Prefectural Dental Association and the Prefectural Association of Dental Hygienists, dentists and dental hygienists were sent out to disaster-affected areas. They provided dental exams, consultations, instruction on brushing teeth, and other services.

Mental care initiatives

Providing individual mental health care to each survivor

The Iwate Mental Health Center

A team made up of people from Iwate and other areas engaged in a mental healthcare initiative to ease the psychological burden on survivors. Thirty teams provided 9,800 instances of mental health care until March 2012.

In February 2012, the Iwate Mental Health Center was established within Iwate Medical University to continue these activities. In March, local mental health care centers were established in four locations on the coast (Kuji City, Miyako City, Kamaishi City, and Ofunato City). These centers provide individualized mental health care to any survivor who needs it.



Home Visits by Staff Members from the Iwate Mental Health Center

The Iwate Children's Care Center

In June 2011, the Children's Mental Health Care Center opened in Miyako to address the mental health of children experiencing major traumatic stress from the disaster. Soon after, more of these centers opened in the Kesen area and then in Kamaishi.

With support from the Japanese Red Cross and Kuwait, in May 2013, the Iwate Children's Care Center opened in Yahaba to continue support on a long-term basis. The center provides outpatient psychiatric treatment for children, sends staff to coastal areas, and holds training workshops for those in the community who want to help.



Iwate Children's Care Center

Medical support in disaster-affected areas

So people can live in peace and good health in their own communities

Rebuilding the prefectural hospitals damaged by the tsunami

As for prefectural hospitals that were destroyed by the disaster, the Otsuchi Hospital reopened in May of 2016, followed by the Yamada Hospital in September of the same year. In March of 2018, the Takata Hospital reopened, finalizing the reconstruction of all three disaster-affected prefectural hospitals.



Yamada Prefectural Hospital



Takata Prefectural Hospital

Reaching out to the elderly in the disaster areas

So people can live in peace and good health in their own communities

Reaching out to elderly in the disaster areas

We hold social exercise classes that anyone can join so that survivors can meet other people living in temporary housing and nearby residences, and to promote an active healthy life to our senior citizens.

We also hold workshops and followup sessions to train supporters to eventually hold these classes on their own.



Social exercise class

Supporting volunteers that are proactive in disaster preparedness

Training efficient disaster-preparedness volunteers through public-private cooperation

Volunteer activities aren't just a way to supplement the lack of manpower in areas affected by the disaster. They also support many survivors with well-tuned, flexible support activities.

The Iwate Disaster Preparedness Volunteer Network was set up by a public-private partnership to further promote these activities and to set up a system for smoothly accepting volunteers during emergencies. This network was based on the Guidelines for Iwate Disaster Management Volunteer Activities that were established in March 2014.



Disaster Preparedness Volunteer Support Network Workshop

Guidelines for Iwate Disaster Management Volunteer Activity Promotion (JPN only): <https://www.pref.iwate.jp/kurashikankyou/fukushi/chiiki/fukushisuishin/1020242.html>

4

Lifestyle and Employment

Provision of public housing and rebuilding houses for disaster survivors

In order to provide permanent housing

We formulated the Basic Policy for Housing Reconstruction in Iwate in October 2011 as a measure to provide permanent housing to those that lost their homes in the disaster. We are also proceeding with initiatives to provide public housing for survivors, as well as providing assistance to individuals rebuilding their own homes and rental properties.

By the end of March 2019, 5,672 units of the planned 5,833 have been completed.

Municipality	Public housing units provided by municipality	
	Housing units planned	Housing units completed
Hirono Town	4	4
Kuji City	11	11
Noda Village	100	100
Tanohata Village	63	63
Iwaizumi Town	51	51
Miyako City	766	766
Yamada Town	640	640
Otsuchi Town	876	866
Kamaishi City	1,316	1,316
Ofunato City	801	801
Rikuzentakata City	895	895
Other municipalities	310	159
Total	5,833	5,672

(As of March 31, 2019)



Public housing in the Ando area of Otsuchi (completed in December of 2018)



Morioka No. 1 (Building No.9) post-disaster public housing (completed in October 2018)

Current state of public housing for disaster survivors: <https://www.pref.iwate.jp/kurashikankyou/kenchiku/saigai/kouei/1010345.html>

Renovating and rebuilding of residences: <https://www.pref.iwate.jp/kurashikankyou/kenchiku/saigai/saiken/index.html>

Survivor Consultation and Assistance Centers and Inland Iwate Evacuee Support Center established

Responding to various inquiries in order to restore the livelihood of the survivors

In July of 2011 we established Disaster Survivor Consultation and Assistance Centers in four coastal areas. These centers handle various consultations including how to use support systems related to reestablishing livelihoods and addressing anxiety toward the future. Professional consultations with lawyers and other specialists are also available.

In May of 2016, we established an inland evacuee support center to deal with consultations from people that have evacuated inland or to other prefectures.



First center established in the Kamaishi area

Disaster Survivor Consultation and Assistance center

Kuji area TEL: 0194-53-4981 / Miyako area TEL: 0120-935-750
Kamaishi area TEL: 0120-836-730 / Ofunato area TEL: 0120-937-700

Iwate Inland Evacuee Assistance Center

TEL: 019-601-7640

■ Securing local employment

Aiming to restore stability to the lives of job seekers and supporting the construction of the areas affected by the disaster

In order to stabilize disaster survivors' lives and their recovery by ensuring job security and securing employment for revitalizing core local industries and the local economy, we are supporting the full recovery of the survivors with financial assistance of up to 1.2 million yen over 3 years per person for job-seeking expenses and up to 2.4 million yen per year (for up to 3 years) for housing-related expenses.

Number of workers eligible for support as of 2016	
Year	Number
2011	139 people
2012	5,332 people
2013	7,900 people
2014	4,270 people
2015	240 people
2016	105 people
2017	87 people
2018	0 people
Total	18,073 people

5

Fisheries and Agriculture



Matching assistance for those seeking employment in the fishing industry and companies looking for new hires at a fishing industry employment fair (securing new workers)



One lot of fishing boats were provided to the fisherman's cooperative in order to facilitate an early recovery around them (Otobe Fishing Port)

■ Reconstruction and provision of hatcheries, shared facilities, and fishing vessels

Supporting the prompt resumption of fishing operations

Regarding the early reconstruction and restoration of the marine industries in Iwate that suffered catastrophic damage, we engaged in projects to restore and rebuild the fishing boats and aquaculture facilities of the fisherman's cooperative, as well as to restore the shared facilities for collecting and shipping marine products and processing them.

As of now, we have mostly completed the restoration of fishing boats, aquaculture facilities, hatcheries, and more. The bases for fishing and aquaculture production have also been restored to pre-disaster levels.

From this point forward, in order to restore fishing and aquaculture production output, we are securing new workers for the industry, providing training to ambitious fishermen, continuing to release baby salmon, and working at optimizing wakame and scallop production among other initiatives.

Provision of fishing boats / production supply to hatcheries and other facilities			
Area	Goal	Actual number	Percent accomplished
Fishing boats (total)	6,693 boats	6,485 boats *	96.9%
Aquaculture facilities (total)	17,480	17,428 *	99.7%
Number of young salmon released (2017)	400 million	369 million	92.3%
Number of young abalone released (2018)	8.9 million	7.84 million	88.1%
Number of young flounder released (2018)	1.1 million	1.16 million	105.5%

* completed project (project period: 2011- 2015)

(As of March 31, 2019)

■ Establishment of a distribution and processing system centered on the fish production market

Promotion of fisheries rooted in the area

In order to restore integral fishery distribution and processing industries, we have promoted the establishment of a processing and distribution system centered on the fish production market by restoring facilities in Iwate including loading facilities, ice-production, ice storage facilities, freezers, refrigeration facilities, and fishery processing facilities.

As a result, all of the fishing markets in Iwate that were affected by the disaster have been reopened, ice production and refrigeration facilities have been mostly restored to pre-disaster levels, and 90% of fish processing industrial facilities damaged in the disaster have been restored.

From now on, having established a consistent system of high-quality hygiene management from fishing to distribution and processing, we will improve the competitiveness of our production areas and aim to expand and restore our sales channels, and further improve marine products in Iwate by upgrading processing technology that will promote further added value.



Fukko Seafood Show held in Iwate (Expansion and reconstruction of sales channels)



Ofunato Fish Market Advanced hygiene management system established at the fish market (completed in April 2014)

State of restoration of ice production and refrigeration capabilities in 4 main ports (Kuji, Miyako, Kamaishi, Ofunato)			
Area	Prior to disaster (1)	State of the restoration (2)	(2) / (1)
Ice production	535 tons/day	702 tons/day	131.1%
Ice storage	13,160 tons	11,350 tons	86.2%
Freezer storage	1,691 tons/day	1,771 tons/day	105.0%
Refrigeration	136,912 tons	144,064 tons	105.1%

(As of March 31, 2019)

■ Publicizing the safety and security of Iwate's agricultural, forestry, and fishery products

Measures against misinformation, and expansion and restoration of sales channels

We are spreading information about the appeal and safety of Iwate's agricultural, forestry, and fishery products to counteract the damage done to their reputation as a result of misinformation regarding the nuclear power plant accident. We are engaged in promotion projects to restore and expand sales channels that were reduced by this misinformation. We share information with consumers and chefs throughout Japan and with others online, through newsletters, and by holding business meetings, restaurant fairs, and reconstruction receptions in large cities, as well as inviting chefs from big cities to local demonstrations and events in Iwate.

However, since there is still hesitation among consumers to buy Iwate's food products due to this misinformation, we will be continuing our efforts to regain consumer trust while restoring and expanding sales channels for Iwate's agricultural, forestry, and fishery products.



Iwate Reconstruction Thank You Reception held

6

Commerce and Tourism

■ Support for entrepreneurship and new business activities in the area affected by the disaster

Creating appealing industries and facilitating entrepreneurship in the Sanriku area

With the aim of restoring occupations that complement community revival development, the Sanriku Future Industry Entrepreneurship Promotion Project and the Sanriku Challenge Promotion Project have been held since 2013 and 2016, respectively, as a means to support people in the areas affected by the disaster that are trying to start businesses, young people and women in particular.

By the end of 2018, a total of 141 people started businesses as a result of these projects.

Examples of businesses started as a result of these projects

- The opening of a healthy (low in sugar and calorie) sweets shop
- New market development done for products manufactured in-house (Texas bluebell and shiitake mushrooms)
- Ofunato's first full-scale apparel design brand development project
- Opening of a guest house and tourist information office



Contact: Reconstruction Office of Town Development Business Revitalization Division TEL: 019-629-6931

■ Support for restoring small and medium sized enterprises and provision of commercial facilities

Early restoration of local economies, toward full-scale provision of shopping areas

In order to support the restoration of and provisions for small and medium sized enterprises and shared facilities that were damaged in the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami, the Iwate Small and Medium Sized Enterprise Restoration and Reconstruction Aid Project (group subsidy) was established. By 2018, a total of 191 groups and 1,525 businesses were being restored.

Additionally, based on the Town Revitalization Plan, commercial facilities were built and town development in the surrounding area is progressing. In April 2017, large-scale commercial facilities were opened in Rikuzentakata and Ofunato. In the Unosumai area of Kamaishi, commercial relocation is proceeding, and Rikuzentakata is designing modified plans for opening a new commercial facility in the Imaizumi district.



Abasse Takata (Open in April 27, 2017)

Tourism promotion linked with reconstruction activities

The number of inbound tourists has mostly returned to pre-disaster levels

Iwate is home to two World Heritage Sites, the Hiraizumi Cultural Heritage and Japan's Meiji Industrial Revolution Heritage (Hashino Iron Mining and Smelting Site), as well as two national parks, the Towada-Hachimantai National Park and the Sanriku Fukko National Park. Here you will also find great tourist destinations including the Goshono Site and the Sanriku Geopark. In addition to using these resources to promote tourism and stays in the area, municipal DMOs are working together with the Sanriku DMO Center to promote activities, to develop human resources in the tourism sector, and to develop more tourism resources.

The amount of tourist traffic throughout the prefecture in 2018 has returned to pre-disaster levels as a result of these endeavors (the coastal area is about 70% of pre-disaster levels). In particular, the number of foreign tourists has risen steadily, with the rate surpassing the national average and reaching a new high.



Welcoming ceremony of the regular flight from Shanghai to Hanamaki Airport

Tourist traffic numbers				
Area		2010	2017	Compared to 2010
Central Iwate	Morioka City, Hachimantai City, Takizawa City, Shizukuishi Town, Iwate Town, Kuzumaki Town, Shiwa Town, Yahaba Town	8.87 million visits	9.50 million visits	107.1%
Southern Iwate	Hanamaki City, Kitakami City, Tono City, Ichinoseki City, Oshu City, Nishiwaga Town, Kanegasaki Town, Hiraizumi Town	11.40 million visits	11.47 million visits	100.7%
Coastal Iwate	Miyako City, Ofunato City, Kamaishi City, Rikuzentakata City, Sumita Town, Otsuchi Town, Yamada Town, Iwazumi Town, Tanohata Village	5.82 million visits	3.89 million visits	66.8%
Northern Iwate	Kuji City, Ninohe City, Fudai Village, Noda Village, Karumai Town, Kunohe Village, Hirono Town, Ichinohe Town	2.87 million visits	2.72 million visits	95.0%
Total		28.96 million visits	27.59 million visits	95.3%

Foreign tourist levels				
		2010	2018	Compared to 2010
Total number of foreigners lodging here		83,440 nights	234,750 nights	281.3%

Electricity fees discount from "Iwate Fukko Power"

Support for disaster reconstruction and local promotion using electricity from the Enterprise Bureau

In order to financially support disaster reconstruction and local promotion related measures by utilizing power generated by the Enterprise Bureau, Iwate Reconstruction (Fukko) Power, jointly created by the Enterprise Bureau and Tohoku Electric Power Co. offers discounts on electricity rates to companies in the affected areas.

In 2018, rates were reduced at about 560 offices and about 180 million yen in discounts were given.

7 Education, Culture, and Sports



"Iwate Reconstruction Education" Child student practice presentation

Iwate Reconstruction Education

The three educational values that were learned from the lessons of the disaster: live, get involved, prepare.

At all of the public elementary, junior high and other compulsory educational institutions, as well as high schools and special education schools in Iwate, we are teaching the three educational values we learned from the disaster based on the Iwate Reconstruction Education program, in order to nurture individuals that love their hometowns, and support the reconstruction.

We are developing initiatives to meet the real needs of each school using the Iwate Earthquake and Tsunami Archive of Hope and other supplementary readings based on the experiences and lessons learned from the earthquake and tsunami.

Iwate Reconstruction Education: <https://www.pref.iwate.jp/kyouikubunka/kyouiku/gakkou/fukkou/1006326.html>

Contact: Iwate Reconstruction Education Board of Education Secretariat School Coordination Section
TEL: 019-629-6206

Iwate Earthquake and Tsunami Archive of Hope Reconstruction Bureau Reconstruction Promotion Section
TEL: 019-629-6945

New and reconstructed school facilities

Maintenance and improvement of educational environment

The restoration of school facilities affected by the disaster is proceeding. By December of 2018, Rikuzentakata Kesen elementary school was completed, and all 86 public schools on the coast had been restored.



Rikuzentakata Kesen elementary school (restoration complete in December 2018)

Iwate Learning and Hope Fund

For the lives and education of the children

In Iwate, we have established the Iwate Learning and Hope Fund and have been accepting goodwill donations from all over the world as well as within Japan to support the lives and educations of children in the areas affected by the disaster.

As of March 2019, we have received 23,080 donations for a total of 9.7 billion yen. These funds have been used for scholarships for children that have been orphaned, to pay for textbooks for high school students, and to fund field trips and activities for school children. These children in the disaster-affected areas will continue to receive support for many years to come.

Contact: Reconstruction Bureau Reconstruction Promotion Section TEL: 019-629-6922

Initiative to host the 2019 Rugby World Cup™

Promotion of the initiative for Kamaishi, Iwate as a venue

August 19, 2018 was the opening day of the Kamaishi Unosumai Memorial Stadium. A total of 7,000 people came to watch the public viewing and opening day events, which included a memorial match, singing performance by Kamaishi-Higashi Junior High School students, a kickoff speech, kid's rugby, and a legend match.

As for the 2019 Rugby World Cup™ Japan Games held at 12 host cities throughout the country, including Kamaishi in Iwate, various efforts are being carried out in an attempt to express appreciation for the support received from all over the world during the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami, and to use the event as a great opportunity to show how far the reconstruction efforts have come.



Kickoff speech by a student from Kamaishi High School



Memorial Match (Kamaishi Sea Waves RFC VS Yamaha Motor Company's Jubilo)

Iwate Kamaishi Rugby Information Website: <https://www.rugby-iwate.kamaishi.pref.iwate.jp/index.html>

Contact: Culture and Sports Department Rugby World Cup 2019 Promotion Office TEL: 019-629-6796

Promoting international exchange

International cultural exchange

In fostering the momentum behind holding the 2019 Rugby World Cup™, from September 27 - October 5, 2018, the New Zealand Christ's College Secondary School Rugby Team was invited to participate in an exchange with the hopes of promoting international exchange and improving the competitive abilities of prefectural rugby players. The exchange featured school visits, including Kamaishi High School, as well as rugby games and joint practices, and intercultural experiences that provided disaster prevention training at the affected area, homestay, and more.



Christ's College secondary school rugby team (October 4, 2018)

Preservation and succession of traditional culture

Reconstruction of local performing arts

We are supporting the reformation of local performing arts groups that were affected by the disaster. As of March 2019, 70 of 74 groups that were affected by the disaster have received support.



Shirahama Toramai (Tiger Dance)

Local Communities

NPO support for reconstruction activities

Reinforcing the management power of those supporting the reconstruction

NPOs play a major role in resolving local issues including reconstruction support activities by making use of their mobility, networks, and specialties.

The “NPO Support Project” was initiated in Iwate in 2013. NPOs have since supported and improved the management bases of local groups, and assisted with reconstruction and disaster victim support activities. As of 2018, 21 groups are receiving this support.



Example of assistance ①

Community building through sports

The NPO visits community public halls and stimulates conversation and community activities through physical activity programs. This was a community-building initiative for the people living in homes built for them after the disaster. The project also helps people keep healthy by holding various sports classes.

Example of assistance ②

Community revival development via the cooperation of 8 fishing communities



An NPO connected 8 different fishing communities and established cooperation between them, while utilizing local resources for town development and setting up experience tours to share the charm of fisheries. In order to maintain the community, they engaged in activities to prevent the elderly from being isolated including gardening classes and emotional support activities.

Contact: Department of Environment and Residential Life, Office of Youth Affairs, Gender Equality and NPOs TEL: 019-629-5198

Supporting forming new communities

Supporting the creation of municipal communities

Even after moving to permanent housing, those affected by the disaster are still seeking stable living environments to live full lives.

Since 2017, municipalities are engaged in support projects that dispatch coordinators to help NGOs support municipalities affected by the disaster in order to support the formation of new communities in the housing that those who lost their homes were moved to.



Community Workshop held during the transition phase to permanent housing (February 2019)

The role of women and youth in planning the reconstruction

Each resident is vital to the reconstruction

Various viewpoints including that of women, young people, the elderly, and disabled are vital for reconstruction projects.

We are currently proceeding with projects in the disaster affected areas led by women and youths that address local problems and town development related to the reconstruction.

Example Case

Talks among various constituents “Kamaishi XX Council”

We promote citizen-led town development, including having citizens of different generations and positions discuss the charm of the area, and making new plans to make living in the area more enjoyable.



Participants talking about plans they'd like to put into practice



The Wonderful Walk Team plan that was realized



Kamaishi XX Council group photo

Passing down lessons for the future

The Disaster Memorial Museum for the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami

(Nicknamed the Iwate Tsunami Memorial Museum) Open: 09/22/2019

Disaster management education and passing down information to later generations



▲ Bird's eye view of the exhibition

The Disaster Memorial Museum for the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami was built inside the Takatamatsubara Memorial Park for TSUNAMI Disaster in Rikuzentakata with the goal of spreading information to people throughout Japan and the world at large about the state of the reconstruction, while also passing down to later generations the lessons learned from the disaster so that a tragedy like the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami doesn't happen again.

In the museum there are also video displays that teach the lessons learned from the reality of the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami, the history of the damage caused by the Sanriku Tsunami, and exhibits with the theme of protecting life and living together with the ocean and the earth.

The “Iwate Reconstruction for Tomorrow Seminar” and “Iwate Sanriku Reconstruction Forum”

Explaining the present state of the reconstruction and promoting participation

Individuals and groups responsible for the reconstruction repeatedly hold “Iwate Reconstruction for Tomorrow” to broadly learn about the reconstruction and plan how to promote the reconstruction while working together and conducting exchange with each other.

“The Iwate Sanriku Reconstruction Forum” is held both within Iwate and in other locations to spread information about the current status of the reconstruction initiatives in the areas affected by the disaster and to promote continuous support and understanding for reconstruction initiatives.



Iwate Sanriku Reconstruction Forum in Saitama



July 2018, the first Iwate Reconstruction for Tomorrow Seminar

Production of the reconstruction film, “A New Generation of Reconstruction from Iwate”

Sharing information on the state of reconstruction initiatives in Iwate

The section of the JR Yamada Line between Miyako and Kamaishi that was rendered unusable by the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami changed ownership and in March became the Rias Line on the Sanriku Railway. The combined elementary and junior high school in Otsuchi, Kirikiri Gakuen, added a “local history course” in 2015 that teaches folk performing arts, local industries, and reconstruction education, to pass the lessons learned from the disaster on to the future.

We produced movies that show “the current state of disaster-struck areas”, and that follow Iwate as it was engaged in reconstruction.



Official Iwate Prefecture YouTube Channel URL: <https://www.youtube.com/user/prefiwate>

The governor of Iwate, Takuya Tasso presents! Iwate Official Internet show, “Iwate Hope Channel”

Iwate Governor Takuya Tasso appears as the star of a monthly internet show called Iwate Hope Channel broadcast on NicoNico Live (a Japanese video streaming website) in order to make more and more people interested in Iwate and to prevent people from forgetting about the disaster.

Iwate Hope Channel URL: <https://ch.nicovideo.jp/iwate-kibou>

Iwate Hope Channel Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/prefiwatewebtv>

Previous episodes here: <https://www.pref.iwate.jp/kensei/kouchoukouhou/1001386/1001388.html>



Support from all over Japan



Searching for missing persons in Ofunato

Self Defense Force Activities

Developing versatile support activities over 138 days

An unprecedented 107,000 Self Defense Force members were dispatched during the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami. It was the first time that a general task force consisting of the infantry, navy, and air force had all worked together outside of training.

In addition to rescuing people in the disaster area and searching for missing persons, the Self Defense Forces engaged in a variety of activities including clearing rubble, delivering relief supplies, providing water, and female Self Defense Force officers visited evacuation centers in an initiative to listen to the needs of the people.



A concert held by the music corps in Tanohata

Fire prevention activities

Activities of local fire brigades and aid groups from around Japan

Emergency fire rescue teams were dispatched from all over Japan in response to Iwate's call. In total, 2,279 teams and 7,633 people were dispatched. The Nagoya Fire Department supervised all fire department activities in Iwate during this time, and there were many other activities carried out by teams from various municipalities all over Japan.

There were also many local fire corps members who were affected by the disaster themselves. In addition to rescuing disaster victims, supporting the operation of evacuation centers, and searching for missing people, support activities were conducted by more than 1,400 fire corps members from neighboring municipalities.



Emergency fire rescue brigade in Ofunato



Fire engines arriving in Rikuzentakata from outside Iwate

Civil servants dispatched to the municipalities affected by the disaster

More than 4,300 people from local governments were sent from all over Japan

A total of 108 civil servants from 5 municipalities along the coast were victims of this disaster. At the end of March just after the disaster, Nagoya proposed dispatching public workers, and soon after other municipalities made similar propositions to dispatch public workers to the coast. In 2011, 171 people were dispatched, and by March of 2019, that number had reached 4,300. We are still requesting the help of various municipalities throughout Japan.



Workplace where public workers were dispatched. (2018, Otsuchi Town Hall)

	Public workers dispatched from 2011 to 2018 (Unit: people)							
	Number of people necessary	Number of people secured for dispatch	General office work	Land related	Civil engineering	Architecture	Public health nurses	Other
2011 (As of 3/1/2012)	—	171	97	0	42	10	12	10
2012 (As of 3/1/2013)	366	321	145	21	127	21	16	12
2013 (As of 3/1/2014)	628	596	294	68	204	38	21	39
2014 (As of 3/1/2015)	737	697	397	83	204	44	15	37
2015 (As of 3/1/2016)	777	715	418	65	211	43	8	35
2016 (As of 3/1/2017)	760	695	420	46	188	42	8	37
2017 (As of 3/1/2018)	671	615	373	48	161	29	12	40
2018 (As of 3/1/2019)	575	524	347	33	120	23	11	23

*Besides the above: mechanical engineers, electrical engineers, nurses, social workers, childcare workers, physical therapists, court stenographers, etc.

Public workers dispatched to municipalities affected by the disaster in 2018 (Unit: people)									
Noda Village	Tanohata Village	Iwaizumi Town	Miyako City	Yamada Town	Otsuchi Town	Kamaishi City	Ofunato City	Rikuzentakata City	Total
11	20	5	34	50	101	119	48	136	524

(As of March 1, 2019)

226 police officers were specially dispatched to Iwate from all over Japan

To establish safety and security in the areas affected by the disaster

From 2011 to 2016, 226 police officers were specially dispatched to Iwate from 16 different prefectures. They worked on reducing crime, ensuring traffic safety, patrolling the emergency housing, and generally establishing security in the areas affected by the disaster.

In Ofunato, Kamaishi, and Miyako, special hero skit events were held for children on the coast as crime prevention activities.



Arrival ceremony for specially dispatched police officers



Hero skit performed by police officers

Number of police officers specially dispatched to Iwate	
Dispatched from	Total dispatched
Aomori	15
Metropolitan Police Department	31
Saitama	8
Kanagawa	10
Yamanashi	11
Nagano	23
Mie	15
Okayama	17
Hiroshima	32
Tokushima	5
Kagawa	7
Kochi	5
Kumamoto	18
Oita	9
Miyazaki	9
Okinawa	11
Total	226

Medical team dispatch

Doctors from all over Japan provided medical support in the areas affected by the disaster

Right after the disaster, Disaster Medical Assistance Teams from all over Japan were called by the national government to help. 29 prefectures sent 128 teams that conducted triage, emergency treatments, and hospital aid.

An Emergency Local Medical Assistance Office at Iwate Medical University acted as a contact point, and had dispatched 88 teams from outside the prefecture, a total of 4,463 personnel, by the end of December 2011.

Additionally, the Iwate Medical Association (Japan Medical Association Team Iwate), received aid from two inland prefectural hospitals for medical treatment activities in the coastal areas.



A concert held by the music corps in Tanohata

The support we have received

We would like to express our heartfelt thanks for the great support and encouragement in following the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami from people all over the world.

Furusato Iwate Aid Donation ("benefit-your-locality" tax scheme) 1.1 billion yen (As of the end of February 2019)

We are utilizing these funds to realize programs in Iwate including the Sanriku Coast Promotion, establishing a base for bringing more tourists using the opportunity of the 2019 Rugby World Cup, and the International Linear Collider.

Contact: General Affairs Department Tax Division TEL: 019-629-5144

Donations for reconstruction projects: 19.7 billion yen (As of the end of March 2019)

These donations support the lives of people affected by the disaster, rebuild homes, secure employment, and restore industry.

Contact: Health and Welfare Department Health and Welfare Planning Office TEL: 019-629-5408

Donations for survivors: 54.1 billion yen (As of the end of March 2019)

We are utilizing these funds to rebuild the lives of people affected by the disaster.

Contact: Reconstruction Bureau Reconstruction Division TEL: 019-629-6917

Iwate Learning and Hope Fund 9.7 billion yen (As of the end of March 2019)

These funds are used for the lives and learning of children in the areas affected by the disaster, paying for scholarships for their education, textbooks, school uniforms, school excursions, and club activities. *A part of the Iwate Learning and Hope Fund is also supplied by the benefit-your-locality tax scheme.

Contact: Reconstruction Bureau Reconstruction Promotion Division TEL: 019-629-6922

Total number of volunteers accepted: 563,001 people (As of the end of March 2019)

We request your continued your continued support for the areas and people affected by the disaster.

Contact: Iwate Social Welfare Council Volunteer and Citizen Activity Center TEL: 019-637-9711

We are doing our best to ensure that the reconstruction proceeds steadily, and look forward to your continued understanding and cooperation.

Past initiatives for reconstruction

March 2011 – March 2019

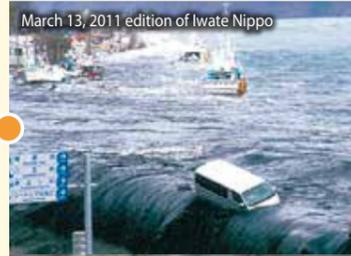
► 2011

- March 11** Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami
Iwate Disaster Countermeasures Headquarters is established
- 13** Evacuees reach peak of 54,429 people (including those in residences)
- 15** Kamaishi Port is secured as the first port for sending and receiving supplies after shipping lanes are cleared
- 16** First ship loaded with relief supplies arrived in Kamaishi Port
The North Rias Line of Sanriku Railway reopens from Rikuchu-Noda to Kuji station
(By April 1, two other sections also reopen)
- 19** Construction starts on temporary housing (Rikuzentakata City, Kamaishi City)
- April 9** First temporary housing units in Iwate open to residents (Rikuzentakata City)
- 11** "Ganbaro! Iwate" slogan is unveiled. "Roughly translated to "We're in this together, Iwate."
Iwate Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami Reconstruction Committee is established
- 29** All lines reopen on the Tohoku Shinkansen
- May 6** The Emperor and Empress visit the disaster area (Kamaishi City, Miyako City)
- 25** Prince and Princess Akishino visit the disaster area (until the 26th, Otsuchi Town, Yamada Town)
- June 2** Children's Mental Care Center opens in Miyako City
- 6** Princess Hitachi visits the evacuation shelters (Shizukuishi Town)
- 20** "Basic Act on Reconstruction in Response to the Great East Japan Earthquake" passes
- 29** Hiraizumi is registered as a UNESCO World Heritage Site
- July 3** The "Hiraizumi Declaration on the Tohoku Restoration" is unveiled
- 13** Miyako port becomes the first location in Iwate to resume handling container freight
- 15** All lines scheduled to be reopened on the Sanriku Railway by April 2014
- 26** Self Defense Force operations in Iwate completed. A ceremony thanking them is held in front of the Prefectural Office
- August 5** Crown Prince and Princess visit the disaster area (Ofunato City)
- 11** All temporary housing in Iwate is completed
Iwate's "Basic Plan for the Reconstruction of Iwate in Response to the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami" is established
- 31** All evacuation shelters in Iwate are closed
- September 16** Princess Takamado visits the disaster-affected area (Sumita Town, Rikuzentakata City)
- 28** Tokyo announces that it will accept debris from Iwate, the first such region thus far
- October 3** Iwate Industrial Reconstruction Center opens
- November 20** Work starts on Reconstruction Roads (Sanriku Coast Road (Okanyo Section)) (Tanohata Village)
- December 7** Law on the Special Great East Japan Earthquake Reconstruction Areas passes
- 26** Iwate forms the Reconstruction Special Zone Project Team

► 2012

- February 15** Iwate Mental Health Care Center opens at Iwate Medical University
- 10** The national government establishes the Reconstruction Agency; the Iwate Reconstruction Bureau opens in Morioka City with branches in Miyako City and Kamaishi City
- 26** Restoration begins on the breakwaters at the mouth of Kamaishi Port (Kamaishi City)
- March 8** Restoration begins on sea walls throughout Iwate (Miyako City, Kanahama coast)
- 11** Memorial services held throughout Iwate on the one year anniversary of the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami
- 28** Local mental health care centers are established in four locations on the coast
- April 1** Iwate DC (Destination Campaign) held (until June 30)
- May 26** Tohoku Rikkonsai Festival is held in Morioka, with more than 240,000 visitors in two days
- June 11** Iwate unveils "Roadmap of Restoration and Reconstruction"
- 14** Construction starts on the first public housing project for survivors in Iwate (Heita, Kamaishi City)
- September 12** The Miraculous Lone Pine Tree of Rikuzentakata felled for preservation
- October 10** Land renovation starts in Iwate so residences can be moved to higher ground (Tanohata Village)
- November 25** The first Reconstruction Road after the disaster in Iwate opens
(Tohoku East-West Expressway, Kamaishi Akita Line (Miyamori – Towa)) (Tono City and Hanamaki City)
- December 10** First residents in Iwate move into public housing (Sakari, Ofunato City)
- 13** Lighthouse at Horajima in Otsuchi Town is relit
- 19** Prince and Princess Akishino visit the disaster-affected area
(Until the 20th, Rikuzentakata City, Ofunato City, Tono City, and Morioka City)

March 13, 2011 edition of Iwate Nippo



► 2013

- January 26** Iwate Sanriku Reconstruction Forum is held in Osaka
- February 1** Bus stops set up within 500 meters of all temporary housing units in Iwate
- 6** Tohoku Reconstruction Cooperation Forum is held in Tokyo
- 9** Bridge to Reconstruction Forum is held in Miyako
- March 2** BRT begins operation on the JR Ofunato Line between Kesennuma and Sakari
- 10** Reconstruction Road "Miyako-Morioka Crossing Road (Yanagawa Road)" opens (Morioka)
- 23** The reconstruction road called the Sanriku Coastal Road "Miyako Road (Miyako-chuo IC Line)" started service (Miyako)
- 25** Renovation of the first residential lands for relocation in Iwate completed (Oigiri and Uranosawa, Miyako City)
- April 1** "Amachan" NHK serial drama set in Kuji begins its broadcast
- 3** The South Rias Line between Sakari and Yoshihama stations reopens on the Sanriku Railway
- May 8** Iwate Children's Care Center opens in Yahaba Town
- 24** Creation of the Sanriku Fukko National Park
- July 3** Miraculous Lone Pine preservation completion ceremony is held
- 4** Emperor and Empress visit the disaster-affected areas
(until the 5th, Tono City, Sumita Town, Ofunato City, Rikuzentakata City, and Ichinoseki City)
- 25** Iwate is officially selected as the location of the 2016 National Sports Festival
- August 5** Prince and Princess Hitachi visit the disaster-affected areas (until the 6th, Iwaizumi Town, Tanohata Village, Noda Village, and Kuji City)
- 23** The ILC Site Evaluation Committee chooses the site in the Kitakami Mountains as the best domestic candidate site for the International Linear Collider
- 27** "Thank you TOMODACHI" Disaster Reconstruction Report is held in New York City
- September 24** The Sanriku Geopark on Iwate's coast is certified as a Japanese Geopark
- October 13** Reconstruction Road "Sanriku Coast Road (Fudai Road)" opens
- November 1** Crown Prince and Princess visit the disaster-affected area (until the 2nd, Kamaishi City)
- 2** Iwate Sanriku Reconstruction Forum held in Ofunato City
- December 19** Iwate Sanriku Reconstruction Forum in Nagoya is held in Aichi Prefecture

► 2014

- February 6** The "Building Momentum for Autonomy in the Reconstruction" Symposium is held (until the 7th)
- 13** "Tohoku's Four Prefectures' Great East Japan Earthquake Reconstruction Forum" is held in Tokyo
- March 2** Reconstruction Road "Sanriku Coastal Road (Okanyo Road)" opens (Tanohata Village)
- 23** All areas on the Reconstruction Road "Sanriku Coastal Road (Takata Road)" opened (Rikuzentakata City)
"Bridge to Hope" begins operations removing earth in Rikuzentakata City
- 31** Disposal of disaster waste finishes in Iwate
The "Iwate Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami Reconstruction Action Plan" enters its second phase.
- April 5** The South Rias Line of the Sanriku Railway resumes operations with the reopening of the section from Yoshihama to Kamaishi
Classes start at the newly built and relocated Funakoshi Public Elementary School in Yamada, the first school to be rebuilt in Fukushima, Miyagi, and Iwate.
- 6** The North Rias Line resumes full operations with the reopening of the section from Omoto to Tanohata
- 12** SL Ginga starts operation between Hanamaki and Kamaishi on the Kamaishi Line
- 23** Ceremony is held to celebrate the completion of the new fish market in Ofunato City
A new law is passed to revise the "Law on the Special Great East Japan Earthquake Reconstruction Areas" to speed the acquisition of land
- May 29** Restoration of Rias Harbor Miyako is completed and the harbor is reopened
- June 23** Iwate Aquaculture Association ships abalone eggs for the first time since the disaster
- 26** A basic schematic is decided for the "Takata-Matsubara Tsunami Reconstruction Memorial Park" by Rikuzentakata City, Iwate Prefecture, and the national government
- August 24** Construction starts on Reconstruction Road "Miyako-Morioka Connecting Road (Hiratsuto-Matsukusa/Kuzakai Sections).
Construction has now started on all Reconstruction Roads in Iwate
- 30** "Tohoku Fukkousai 'WA' in PARIS" is held in France (until the 31st)
- November 7** "Gratitude for Solidarity" Disaster Reconstruction Conference is held in Paris, France
- December 18** Police substation in Hirata, Kamaishi opens, the first police facility to be opened in Iwate since the disaster recovery began

► 2015

- January 8** Iwate Sanriku Reconstruction Forum" in Kobe is held in Hyogo Prefecture
- 15** "Iwate Sanriku Reconstruction Forum and Symposium" titled "Evolution of Autonomy in the Reconstruction of Iwate" is held (until the 16th) in Morioka City and Otsuchi Town
- 28** Temporary housing units on the grounds of Taro #3 elementary school in Miyako are dismantled, the first such complete removal from a schoolyard in Iwate
- February 12** "Tohoku's Four Prefectures' Great East Japan Earthquake Reconstruction Forum" is held in Tokyo
- March 2** Kamaishi, Iwate is confirmed as a venue for the 2019 Rugby World Cup™
- 14** "Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction" is held in Sendai as the main location
Iwate shares its "Recommendations from Iwate on disaster management and reconstruction" with the world (until the 18th)
"3/11 Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami Tono Logistical Support Archive" opens (Tono City)
- 19** New Takata prefectural high school building is completed (Rikuzentakata City)
- 31** Decontamination work is completed on pasture land in Iwate

March 3, 2013 edition of Iwate Nippo



▶ 2015

- April 26** Rebuilt Kosode Ama Center opens (Kuji City)
- May 30** 1st "Iwate Reconstruction for Tomorrow Seminar" is held (Morioka City)
- July 8** The Hashino Iron Mining and Smelting Site in Kamaishi is registered as a UNESCO World Heritage Site as part of "Sites of Japan's Meiji Industrial Revolution"
- 12** For the first time in Iwate, a temporary shopping area is moved to a new permanent location. (Ofunato City)
- November 10** "Gratitude for Solidarity" Disaster Reconstruction Report is held in Taipei, Taiwan
- 22** The "Taro Town Opening Commemorative Ceremony" is held in the Taro district where construction for residential relocation to higher ground is mostly completed (Miyako City)
- 29** Reconstruction Road "Sanriku Coastal Road (Yoshihama Road)" opens (Ofunato City)
- December 5** Reconstruction Road "Tohoku East-West Expressway Kamaishi-Akita Line (Tono - Miyamori)" opened (Tono City)
- 18** Iwate Sanriku Reconstruction Forum in Shizuoka is held in Shizuoka Prefecture
- 23** "Omoto Disaster Management Center" is completed and integrated into Iwaizumi-Omoto Station

▶ 2016

- January 22** Iwate Sanriku Reconstruction Forum is held in Morioka City and Otsuchi Town (until the 23rd)
- 27** 71st "The Land of Hope, Iwate" National Sports Festival Winter Tournament is held (until the 31st, and from February 20th to 23rd)
- February 10** "Tohoku Four Prefectures' Great East Japan Earthquake Reconstruction Forum" in Tokyo held
- March 12** Reconstruction Road "Miyako-Morioka Crossing Road (Tonan - Kawame Road (Kawame - Tanosawa))" opens (Morioka City)
- 13** First Town Opening is held for the district around Ofunato Station
- April 11** New "Ganbaro! Iwate" slogan is unveiled
- 17** Namiita Coast Village opens on the Namiita coast in Otsuchi Town
- 23** Moguranpia underground aquarium reopens in Kuji City
- Renovation festival is held for the Taro baseball field (nickname: Kitto, Sakura Saku Field (lit. "Surely the Cherry Trees Will Blossom" Field))
- 27** Otsuchi Prefectural Hospital is rebuilt, and an inauguration ceremony is held
- May 20** Iwate Inland Evacuee Support Center opens
- June 20** Crown Prince and Princess visit the disaster-affected area (until the 21st, Iwaizumi Town and Miyako City)
- August 19** Yamada Prefectural Hospital is rebuilt, and an inauguration ceremony is held
- 30** Typhoon No. 10 hits Iwate
- September 26** Classes start at the new Otsuchi Gakuen, which is the prefecture's first combined elementary and junior high school, which integrates 5 elementary and middle schools that were damaged in the disaster
- 28** Emperor and Empress visit the disaster-affected areas (until October 2nd, Hanamaki City, Tono City, Kamaishi City, Otsuchi Town, Yamada Town, Kitakami City, and Morioka City)
- October 1** The 71st "The Land of Hope, Iwate" National Sports Festival is held (until the 11th), and the Emperor and Empress attend the opening ceremony
- 3** Princess Akiko of Mikasa visits the disaster-affected areas (until the 5th, Kamaishi City, Otsuchi Town, Oshu City, and Hanamaki City)
- 5** Princess Hitachi visits the disaster-affected areas (until the 7th, Oshu City, Hanamaki City, Kitakami City, and Rikuzentakata City)
- Princess Takamado visits the disaster-affected areas (until the 7th, Takizawa City, Morioka City, Oshu City, and Kamaishi City)
- Princess Tomohito of Mikasa visits the disaster-affected areas (until the 7th, Ofunato City, Kamaishi City, Hanamaki City, and Oshu City)
- 7** Princess Mako of Akishino visits the disaster-affected areas (until the 9th, Morioka City, Shiwa Town, Miyako City, Iwaizumi Town, and Tanohata Village)
- 8** Princess Yoko of Mikasa visits the disaster-affected areas (until the 10th, Hirono Town, Noda Village, Fudai Village, Kuji City, Takizawa City, Morioka City, and Ninohe City)
- 9** Prince and Princess Akishino visit the disaster-affected areas (until the 11th, Kuji City, Iwate Town, Shizukuishi Town, Yahaba Town, Morioka City, and Kitakami City)
- 11** Prince and Princess Akishino attend the closing ceremony of "the Land of Hope, Iwate" National Sports Festival
- 21** The Crown Prince visits the disaster-affected areas (until the 23rd, Morioka City, Hanamaki City, Kitakami City, Oshu City, Ichinoseki City, and Hiraizumi Town)
- 22** The 16th "The Land of Hope, Iwate" National Sports Festival for People with Disabilities held (until the 24th), and the opening ceremony is attended by the Crown Prince
- 23** Princess Takamado and Princess Ayako of Takamado visits the disaster-affected areas (until the 24th, Morioka City, Hanamaki City, Kanegasaki Town, and Kitakami City)
- 24** Princess Takamado and Princess Ayako of Takamado attends the closing ceremony of "The Land of Hope, Iwate" National Sports Festival for People with Disabilities
- November 10** Shared-retail space "All" opens in Yamada Town
- December 3** "Iwate Sanriku Reconstruction Forum in Nagano" held in Nagano Prefecture

▶ 2017

- January 20** "Iwate Sanriku Reconstruction Forum" held in Morioka City and Kamaishi City
- March 3** "Tohoku Four Prefectures' Great East Japan Earthquake Reconstruction Forum" in Tokyo and the 2017 Tokyo Reconstruction Support Encouragement from Tokyo event is held
- 5** Work starts on the Takata-Matsubara Tsunami Memorial Park
- 30** "Iwate Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami Reconstruction Action Plan" enters its third Phase
- Iwate Earthquake & Tsunami Archive - Kibou (Hope) - is unveiled
- April 19** Ofunato Port bay entrance seawall completed



▶ 2017

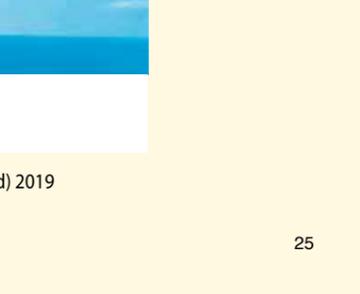
- April 27** "Abasse Takata" commercial center and library combined facility opened
- 29** "Kyassen Ofunato" commercial facility opened
- July 27** National Governors' Association meeting held in Morioka, Iwate Declaration adopted (until the 28th)
- September 23** A gantry crane provided free of charge to Iwate by Osaka started use
- November 19** Reconstruction Road "Sanriku Coastal Road, Yamada-Miyako Road (Yamada - Miyako-minami)" opened (Yamada, Miyako)
- December 8** Kamaishi Civic Hall "TETTO" commemorative opening ceremony held
- 9** "Iwate Sanriku Reconstruction Forum in Tokyo" held.

▶ 2018

- January 26** "Iwate Sanriku Reconstruction Forum" held in Morioka, Ofunato, and Rikuzentakata (until the 27th)
- February 16** Inauguration ceremony held for newly rebuilt Rikuzentakata Prefectural Hospital
- 17** Reconstruction Support / Reconstruction Forum 2018 in Tokyo held
- March 21** Reconstruction Road "Sanriku Coastal Road, Miyako Taro Road / Taro Iwaizumi Road (Taro Masaki Coast - Iwaizumi Ryusendo Cave)" opened (Miyako, Iwaizumi)
- 30** Kamaishi Port bay entrance seawall completed
- June 2** Tohoku Kizuna Matsuri 2018 Morioka held (until the 3rd)
- 10** Otsuchi Cultural Exchange Center "Oshacchi" opened
- 22** First ferry line in Iwate Prefecture "Miyako Muroran Ferry" departed from Miyako Port
- July 17** Held the "1st Iwate Reconstruction for Tomorrow Seminar 2019" of the fiscal year as an open program for the general public of as part of the "International Disaster Prevention/Crisis Management Research IWATE Conference"
- 28** Reconstruction Road "Sanriku Coastal Road, Karakuwa-Takata Road (Rikuzentakata-Osabe - Rikuzentakata)" opened (Rikuzentakata)
- August 11** Reconstruction Road "Sanriku Coastal Road, Yoshihama - Kamaishi Road (Yoshihama - Kamaishi-minami)" opened (Ofunato/Kamaishi)
- 19** Kamaishi Unosumai Memorial Stadium completed, opening ceremony held
- October 1** "Eastpia Miyako", a civic center in the central urban area opened
- November 17** Iwate Sanriku Reconstruction Forum held in Saitama held
- December 14** Rikuzentakata public elementary school rebuilt
- All 86 public schools damaged by the disaster have been completely rebuilt
- 16** Iwate Sanriku Reconstruction Forum held in Morioka and Miyako (until the 17th)

▶ 2019

- January 12** Reconstruction Road "Sanriku Coastal Road Kamaishi - Yamada Road (Otsuchi - Yamada-minami)" opened (Otsuchi, Yamada)
- February 10** Reconstruction Support / Reconstruction Forum 2018 in Tokyo held
- March 3** Reconstruction Road "Tohoku East-West Expressway, Kamaishi-Akita Line, Tono Road (Tono-sumita - Tono)" opened (Tono)
- 9** Reconstruction Road "Sanriku Coastal Road, Yoshihama Kamaishi Road / Kamaishi Yamada Road (Kamaishi-minami - Kamaishi-Ryoishi)", "Tohoku East-West Expressway, Kamaishi-Akita Line, Kamaishi Road (Kamaishi - Kamaishi-sennintoge)" opened (Kamaishi)
- All sections of the Tohoku East-West Expressway Kamaishi-Akita Line opened
- 21** Reconstruction Road "Sanriku Coastal Road Karakuwa-Takata Road (Karukawa-Koharagi - Rikuzentakata - Osabe)" opened (Kessenuma, Miyagi / Rikuzentakata)
- 23** All sections of the Sanriku Railways Rias Line opened
- 30** Reconstruction Road "Miyako Morioka, East-West Road Miyako-nishi Road (Miyako-chuo - Miyako-Neichi)" opened (Miyako)



2019年 6/1(土)~8/7(水)

Sanriku Disaster Risk Reduction & Reconstruction Project Period held: June 1 (Sat) - August 7 (Wed) 2019

**Population/
Number of households**

1,235,559 people / 526,248 households (As of March 1, 2019)

Location/Area

Iwate is an oval-shaped prefecture located in northern Honshu. It measures 122km east to west, and 189km north to south. Iwate is second only to Hokkaido in size (at 15,275.01 km²), and occupies 4% of the total area of Japan.

Prefectural Flag/Symbol

The prefectural flag has a greenish grey background with the prefectural symbol in white positioned in the center. It was established on March 6, 1965.

Prefectural Bird

The Japanese Pheasant: These birds live throughout all of Iwate. Males have shiny, dark green feathers and a long tail, while females are a less flashy tan color with dark spots dotting their feathers. The Japanese pheasant is an elegant, humble, and friendly bird whose character is said to resemble the people of the region.

Prefectural Tree

Nanbu Japanese Red Pine: The Nanbu Japanese red pine can be found throughout Iwate, and is Iwate's most famous native tree. Many grow in the hilly, mountainous regions with Paleozoic strata, and are a quickly growing species. The red pine has a high oil content that gives it a nice gloss factor as you polish the wood. We're proud to say that the red pine is the most popular wood used in high-quality Japanese wooden products.

Prefectural Flower

Paulownia: Iwate's paulownia is a gorgeous flower, with a glossy sheen and a delicate light purple color. It is known as the Nanbu purple paulownia.

Prefectural Fish

Nanbu Salmon: The Nanbu salmon sports a spindle-shaped body with a length of 90 cm, and can be found swimming up the river in autumn every year to lay its eggs in the fertile sandy bottom upstream. Iwate catches the largest amount of Nanbu salmon in all of Honshu (the largest island of the Japan archipelago), and has long been a favorite of the Iwate people.



Prefectural Flag/Symbol



The Japanese Pheasant



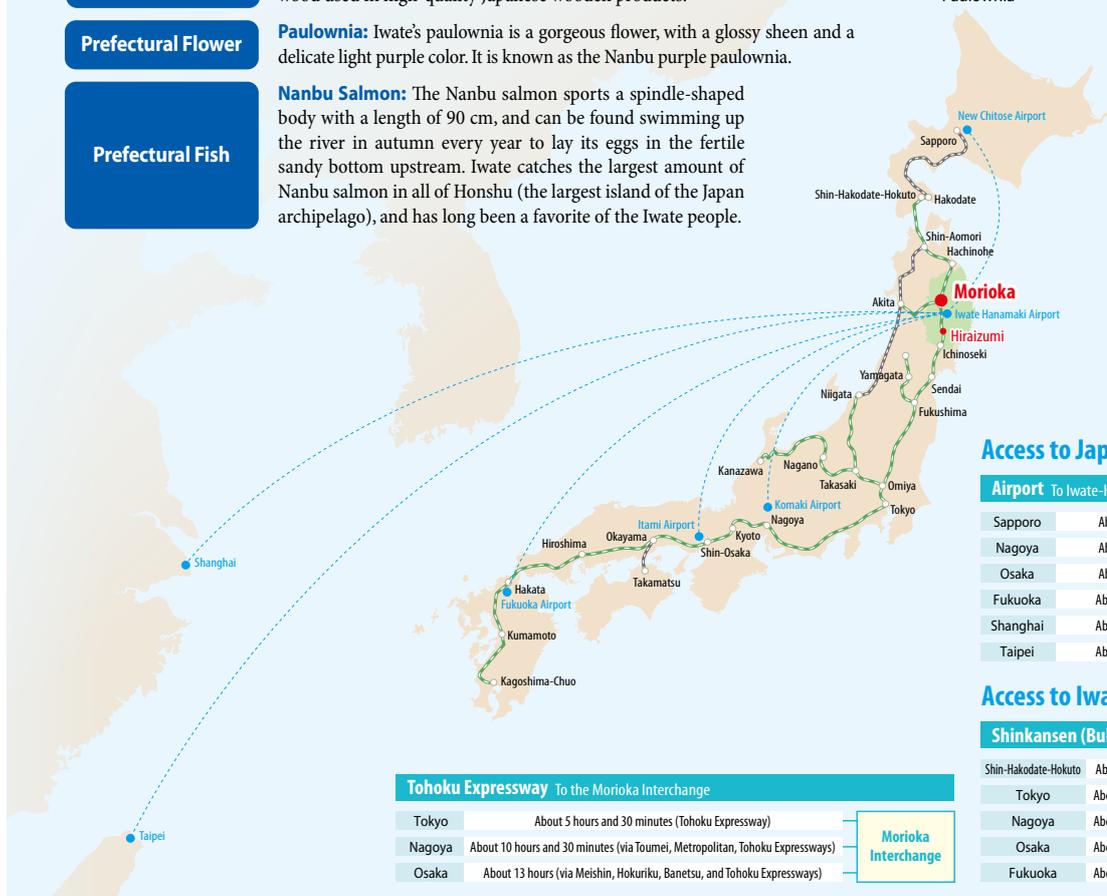
Nanbu Japanese Red Pine



Paulownia



Nanbu Salmon



Access to Japan

Airport To Iwate-Hanamaki Airport

Sapporo	About 55 minutes	Hanamaki
Nagoya	About 70 minutes	
Osaka	About 80 minutes	
Fukuoka	About 120 minutes	
Shanghai	About 180 minutes	
Taipei	About 200 minutes	

Access to Iwate

Shinkansen (Bullet Train) To Morioka Station

Shin-Hakodate-Hokuto	About 1 hour and 55 minutes	Morioka Station
Tokyo	About 2 hours and 10 minutes	
Nagoya	About 4 hours and 10 minutes	
Osaka	About 5 hours and 10 minutes	
Fukuoka	About 7 hours and 45 minutes	

Over 200,000 documents available on the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami.



<http://iwate-archive.pref.iwate.jp/>

Check it out!

via PC, tablet, or smartphone

Access it today



In March 2017, the Iwate Earthquake & Tsunami Archive – Kibou (Hope) – was published on the internet where you can search and view roughly 240,000 articles of disaster materials online in order to utilize the lessons learned in disaster mitigation in Japan and overseas. The archive also aims to share the true progress of our recovery and restoration in the wake of the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami with future generations.

A lot of useful content, some specifically for children, and digital copies of local newspaper articles immediately after the disaster can be found in the archive so that they can be used in teaching and conducting local interactive exercises in disaster mitigation.