

## ***Chapter 6. Accident Compensation***

### **Section 1. Revision of the Accident Compensation System**

#### **1. Revision of NPA Rules in Accordance with Amendment of the Compensation Law**

The NPA revised the related NPA Rules, etc., in accordance with the amendment of the Compensation Law (published on March 31, 2006). The revision took effect on April 1, 2006.

##### **(1) Establishment of NPA Rules in Accordance with Revision of the Commuting Range**

The NPA established necessary rules related to “travel by those with multiple employments from the place of employment to one’s public workplace” and “travel by employees who are transferred away from their family between the residence for their new post and their home residence” which were added to the commuting range upon the amendment of the Compensation Law.

A. In response to the addition of “travel by those with multiple employments from the place of employment to one’s public workplace,” the NPA stipulated travel, etc., from the place of employment covered by the workers’ compensation insurance to one’s public workplace. In addition, the NPA decided to exclude travel to and from one’s public workplace in the case of taking a side job in violation of Article

103, Paragraph 1 and Article 104, etc., of the National Public Service Act, which restricts dual employment of public employees. (Partial amendment of Rule 16-0 [Accident Compensation])

B. The NPA decided to apply the same requirements to “travel by employees who are transferred away from their family between the residence for their new post and their home residence” as applied to the travel of employees who receive the Family-Unattended- Transfer Allowance. (Partial amendment of Rule 16-0 and other rules)

**(2) Establishment of NPA Rules in Accordance with Revision of Provisions related to the Grade of Disability**

In accordance with the amendment of the Compensation Law, which stipulates that disabilities of each grade of disability shall be defined by the NPA Rules, the NPA specified provisions on disabilities of each grade of disability and established necessary provisions. (Partial amendment of Rule 16-0 and other rules)

**2. Revision of Benefit Levels**

The NPA revised the following matters related to compensation and welfare benefit levels, etc., which took effect on April 1, 2006.

**(1) Nursing Care Compensation**

The NPA revised the maximum and the minimum nursing care compensation benefits as follows (Partial amendment of Rule 16-0):

(unit: yen)

Category		Before revision	After revision
Full-time nursing care	Maximum benefits	104,970	104,590
	Guaranteed minimum benefits	56,950	56,710
Part-time nursing care	Maximum benefits	52,490	52,300
	Guaranteed minimum benefits	28,480	28,360

## **(2) Supportive Grants for House Remodeling for Home Nursing Care and Purchasing a Vehicle**

In light of the trend of the compensation insurance system for workers in private sector, the NPA abolished the supportive grant systems for remodeling a house for home nursing care and purchasing a vehicle. (Partial amendment of Rule 16-3 [Welfare for Employees Involved in Accidents] and other rules.)

## **(3) Supportive Scholarships**

The NPA revised the monthly amount of supportive scholarship for university/college students, etc., from 38,000 to 39,000 yen. (Partial amendment of Rule 16-3)

## **(4) Survivors' Special Support**

The NPA made necessary revisions, such as the revision of the maximum benefits of the survivors' special support provided to the bereaved of employees who died from an accident while commuting from 12 million yen to 11.3 million yen. (Partial amendment of Rule 16-3 and other rules)

## **(5) Guaranteed Minimum of Average Remuneration**

The NPA revised the followings in response to changes, etc., of the remuneration levels of regular service national public employees.

A. Guaranteed minimum of the average remuneration (Partial amendment of the NPA Notice No. 11 in 1996)

B. Revision rate of the average remuneration used for calculation of guaranteed amount of compensation pensions, etc., for FY 2006. (Partial amendment of the NPA Notice No. 8 in 1990)

C. The maximum and the minimum amount of the average remuneration related to compensation pension, etc., for FY 2006. (Partial amendment of the NPA Notice No. 6 in 1992)

D. Reassessment rate of the amount, which has already been paid, in calculation of the survivors' compensation lump-sum payment, etc., for FY 2006 (Partial amendment of the NPA Notice No. 7 in 1992)

## **Section 2. Implementation of Accident Compensation**

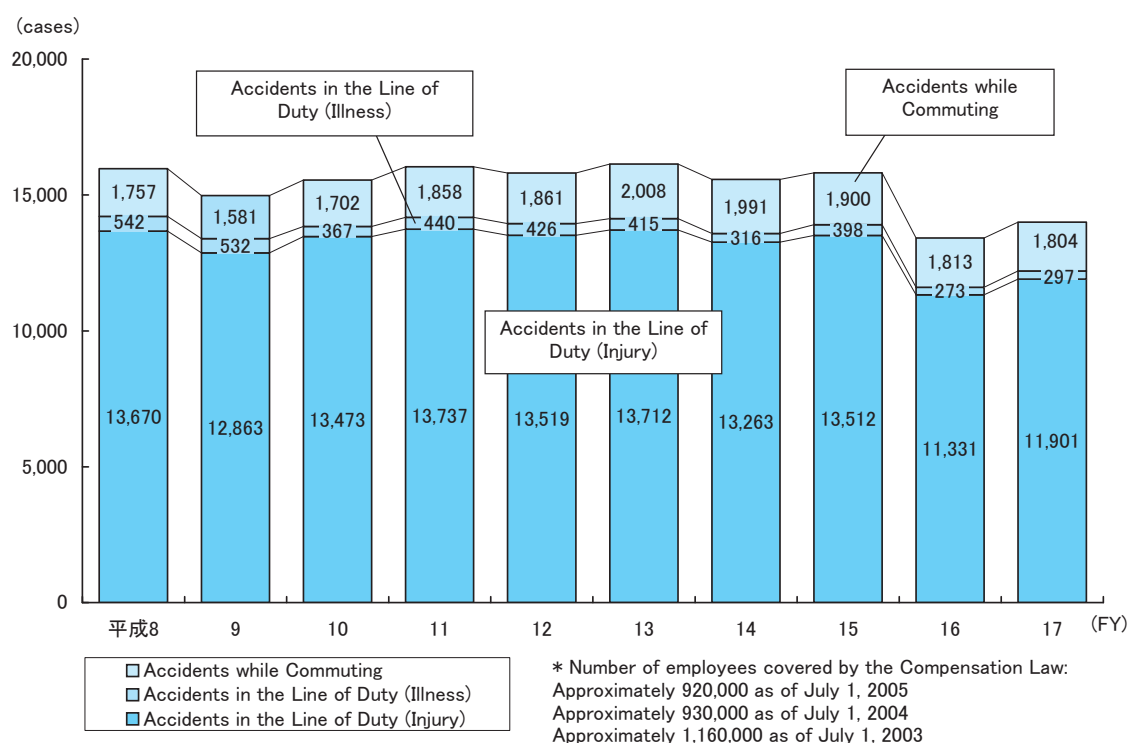
The Accident Compensation System is designed to cover (compensate for) damage

and to provide necessary welfare services to promote rehabilitation of employees and provide support for employees or their survivors if public employees are involved in accidents in the line of duty or while commuting.

The number of regular service national public employees subject to the National Public Employees' Accident Compensation Law is currently approximately 920,000 (including National Forest employees, employees of Specified Independent Administrative Institutions, employees of the Japan Post, and part-time employees in addition to national public employees at the Cabinet Office and Ministries who are subject to the Remuneration Law) (as of July 2005). A total of 10 types of compensations and 19 types of welfare services are stipulated.

A total of 14,002 cases were recognized as accidents in the line of duty or accidents while commuting (12,198 accidents in the line of duty and 1,804 accidents while commuting) recognized by implementing organizations (28 Office and Ministries and others, 11 Specified Independent Administrative Institutions, and the Japan Post as of April 2006) in FY 2005. (Figure 6-1)

[Figure 6-1] Trends in the Number of Compensation Cases

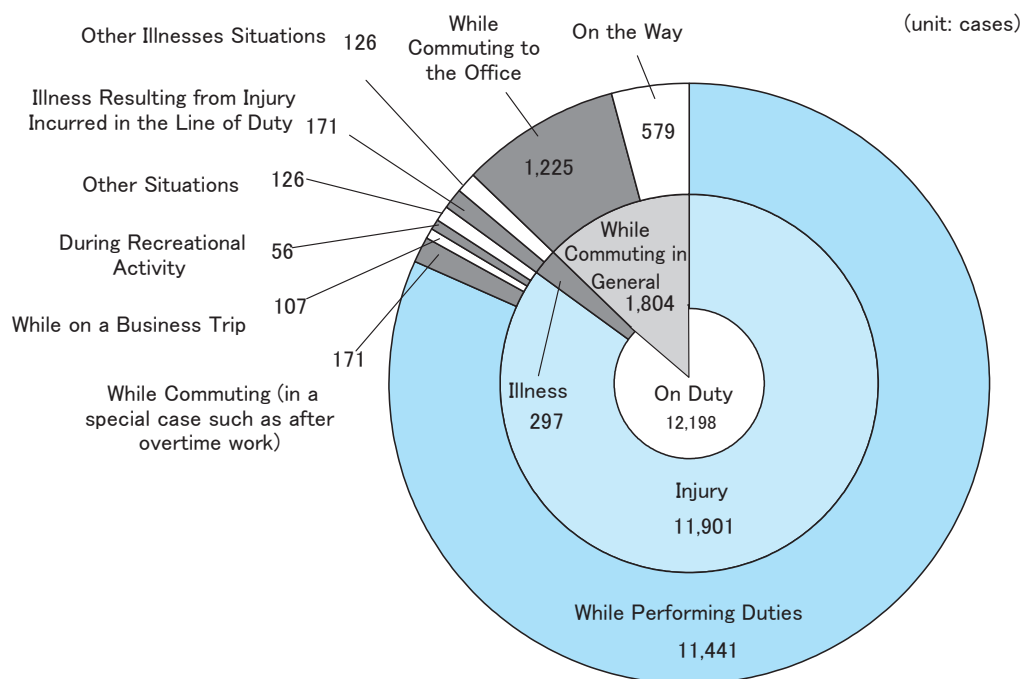


Of accidents in the line of duty, 11,901 cases (97.6%) were due to injuries and 297 cases (2.4%) were due to illness.

Many of accidents while commuting took place on the way to work, accounting for

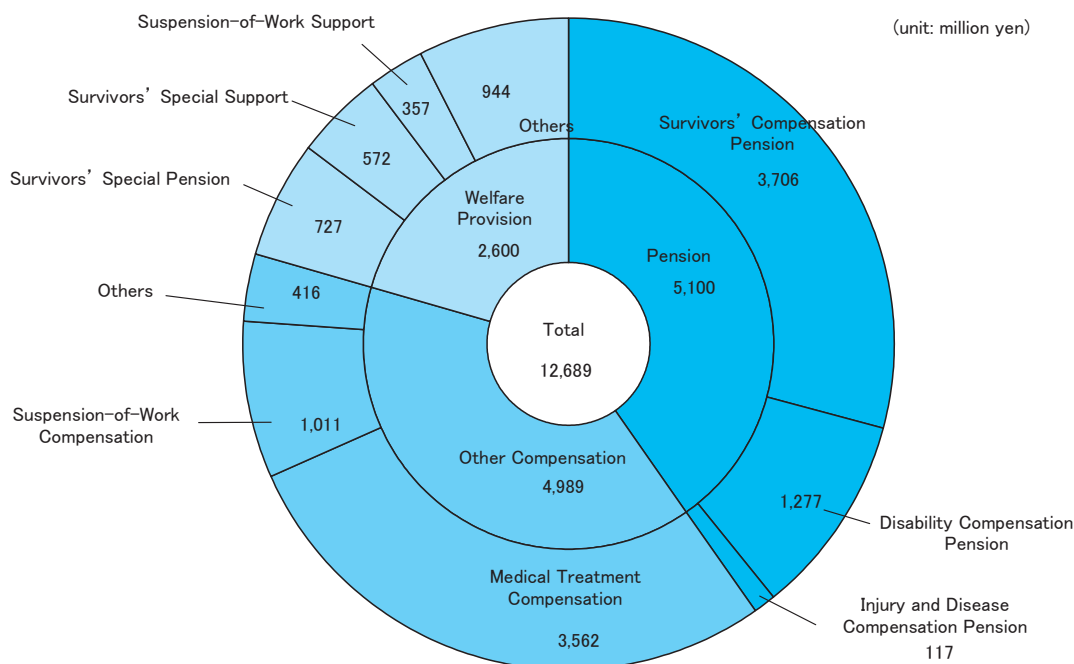
1,225 cases (67.9%). (Figure 6-2)

**[Figure 6-2] Accident Compensation Cases by Cause or Situation**



The number of compensations and welfare services provided by implementing organizations in FY 2005 was 34,411 (26,466 compensations and 7,945 welfare services) with an amount of approximately 12.7 billion yen (approximately 10.1 billion yen for compensations and approximately 2.6 billion yen for welfare services). (Figure 6-3)

**[Figure 6-3] Amount of Compensation and Welfare Provision**



### **Section 3. Management of the Accident Compensation System**

#### **1. Consideration on the Implementation System of Accident Compensation Procedures**

In February 2006, the NPA set up the “Study Group on the Accident Compensation System” (Chair: Takashi Nishio, Professor of College of Liberal Arts, International Christian University) comprised of experts from various fields to give consideration on the implementation system of accident compensation procedures in the future. This is an effort to respond to rapid changes of the situations surrounding the implementation system such as sophisticated recognition judgments related to illness cases, etc., and difficulty in securing personnel with expertise. The study group had six discussions on the appropriate implementation system of accident compensation procedures to contribute to prompt and fair compensations, and decided to produce a report on future implementation of accident compensation procedures.

The NPA plans to discuss a concrete implementation system, etc., with implementing organizations, based on the report.

#### **2. Appropriate Management of the Compensation System**

Compensations and welfare services are basically provided by each implementing organization. The NPA establishes standards, etc., for perfect implementation. The NPA also provides consultation for each implementing organization in regard to the recognition of accidents in the line of duty and accidents while commuting and decisions on the grade of disability, when needed. When medical judgments are required for difficult cases which are specified to be discussed with the NPA, the NPA seeks for opinions of Health Specialist Committee members, specializing in internal medicine, cardiovascular diseases, psychiatry, orthopedic surgery and other areas, and responds to each implementing organization.