

Results of Airborne Monitoring in Fukushima and Neighboring Prefectures in 2025

4 March, 2026

Nuclear Regulation Authority, Japan

1. Objective

Monitoring of air dose rates has been conducted by the Nuclear Regulation Authority (NRA) based on the “Comprehensive Radiation Monitoring Plan

(<http://radioactivity.nra.go.jp/en/contents/8000/7758/view.html>)” using manned and unmanned helicopters after the accident at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant to figure out the distribution of air dose rates.

2. Method

(a) Monitored area

Monitored areas are Fukushima Prefecture, Miyagi Prefecture, the southern part of Iwate Prefecture, the eastern part of Yamagata Prefecture, Ibaraki Prefecture, Gunma Prefecture, Tochigi Prefecture, the northern part of Chiba Prefecture and the eastern part of Saitama Prefecture.

(b) Monitoring period

- Within 80 km from Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant
 - Within 3 km to 5 km (unmanned helicopter): May 8 – September 1, 2025
 - Within 5 km to 80 km (manned helicopter): October 23 – November 29, 2025
 - Hamadori area (unmanned helicopter): September 22- December 5, 2025
- Outside 80 km from Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant
 - All areas outside 80 km (manned helicopter): August 29 – October 23, 2025

(c) Measurement

- Gamma rays were systematically detected at one-second intervals utilizing NaI(Tl) scintillators installed in manned helicopters flying at an altitude of approximately 300 m above the ground surface.
- In the case of unmanned helicopter, LaBr₃(Ce) scintillators were employed, and the helicopter operated at a flying altitude of 80 m above ground level.
- The recorded values were then converted into air dose rates at a height of 1 meter from the ground surface.

3. Results

- Attachment 1 presents the distribution map of air dose rates at a height of 1 m from the ground surface in Fukushima Prefecture and neighboring prefectures on December 5, 2025 (177 months post the accident). Attachment 2 illustrates the distribution map of air dose rates at 1 m above the ground within the 80 km zone surrounding the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant. In the creation of this map, the survey results were adjusted for decay up to December 5, 2025, the concluding day of the survey.
- 7 months post-accident, the region with air dose rates exceeding 0.2 $\mu\text{Sv/h}$ within the 80 km radius comprised approximately 96%. However, this percentage dwindled to about 18% at 177

months after the incident (approximately 21% the previous year).

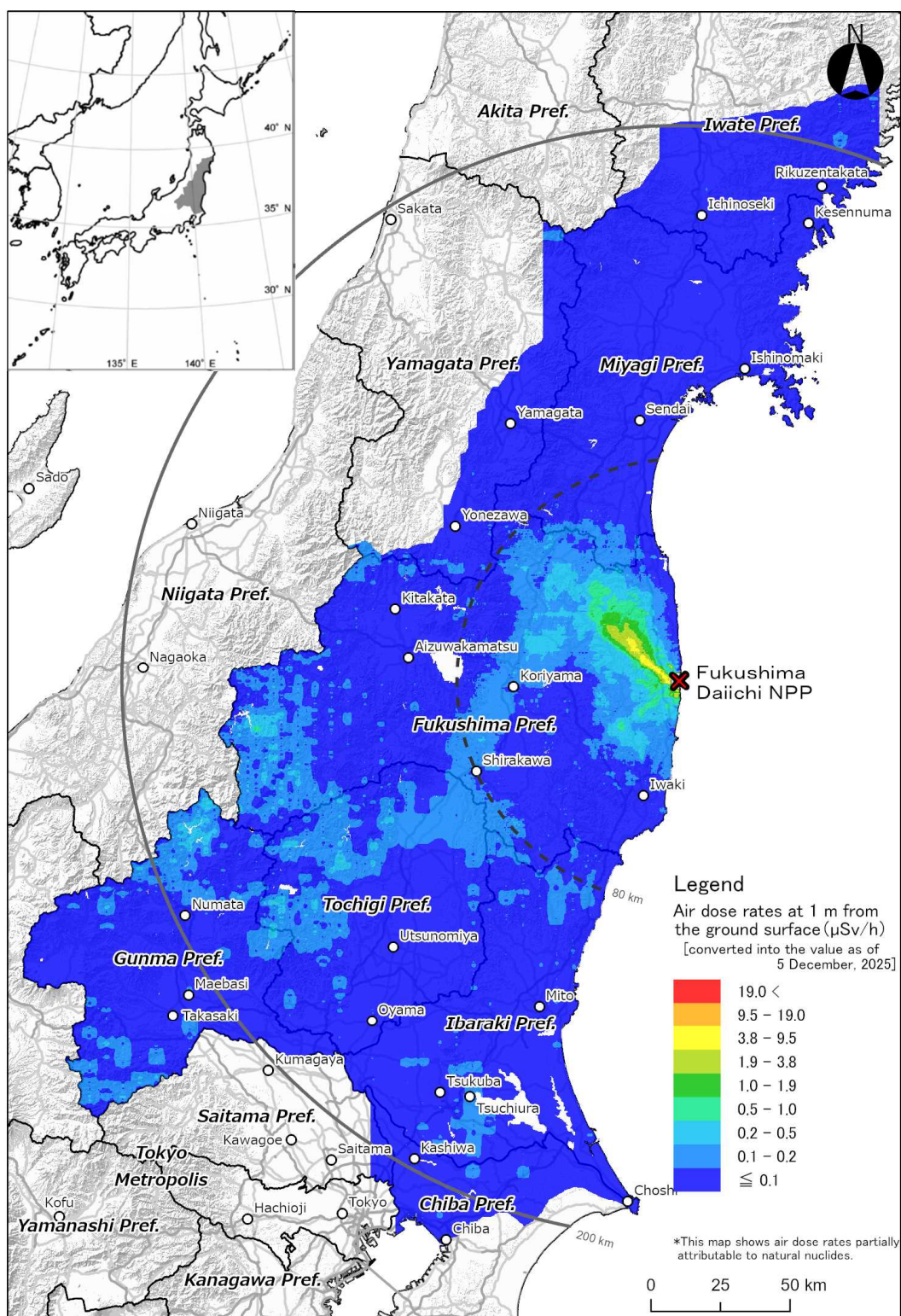
(References)

- Attachment 3 illustrates the evolving distribution of air dose rates at a height of 1 m above the ground surface within the 80 km zone surrounding the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant.
- The relevant information can be accessed on the following website:

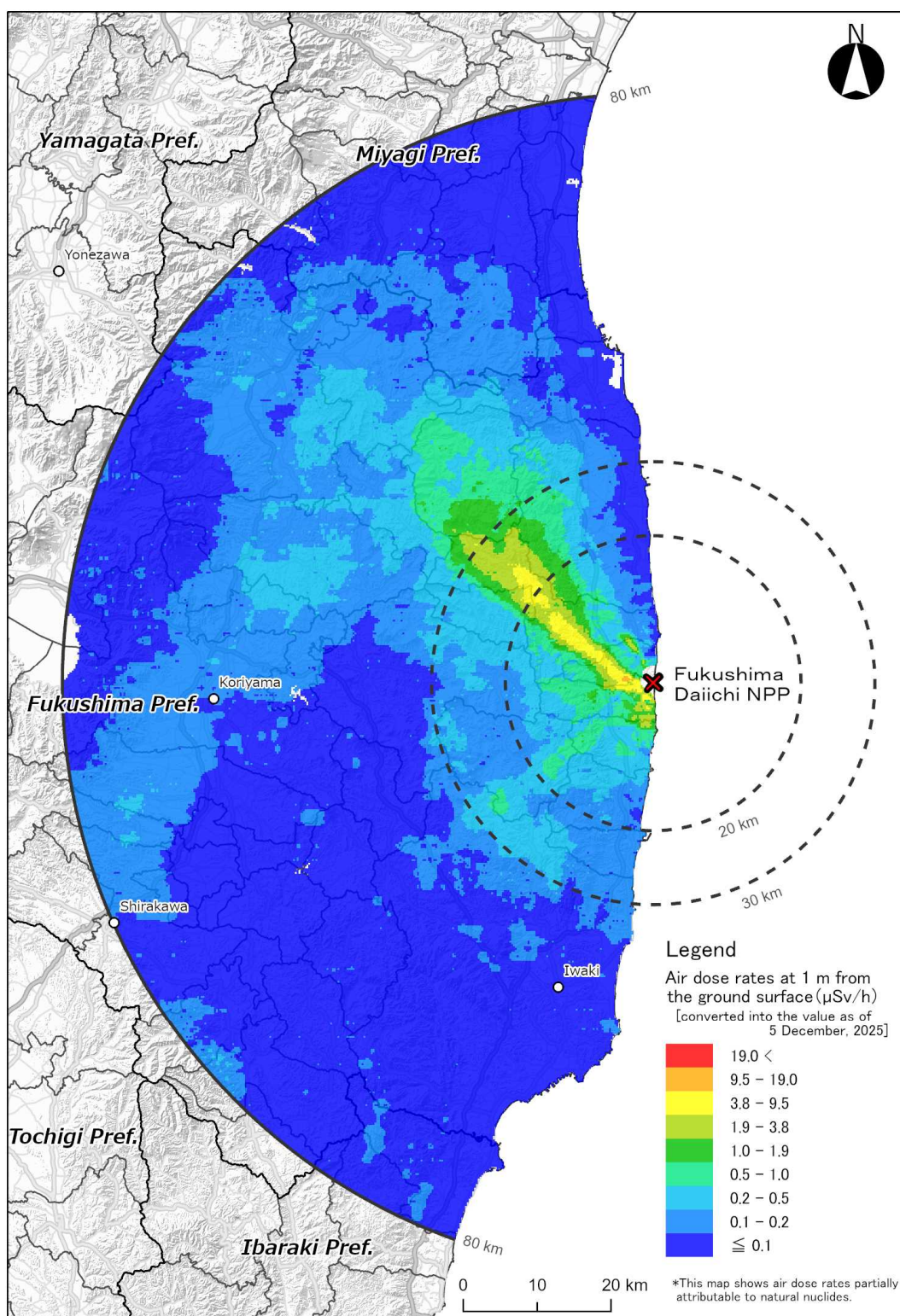
<https://emdb.jaea.go.jp/emdb/top>

(Database for Radioactive Substance Monitoring Data)

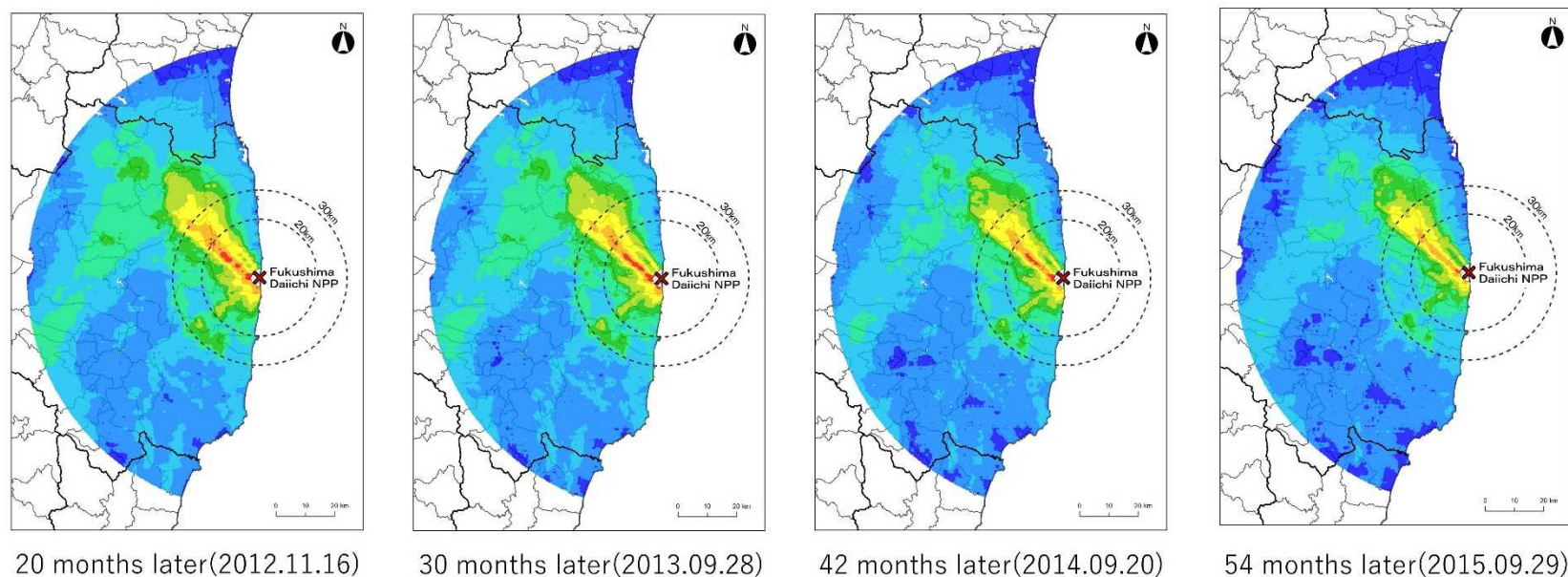
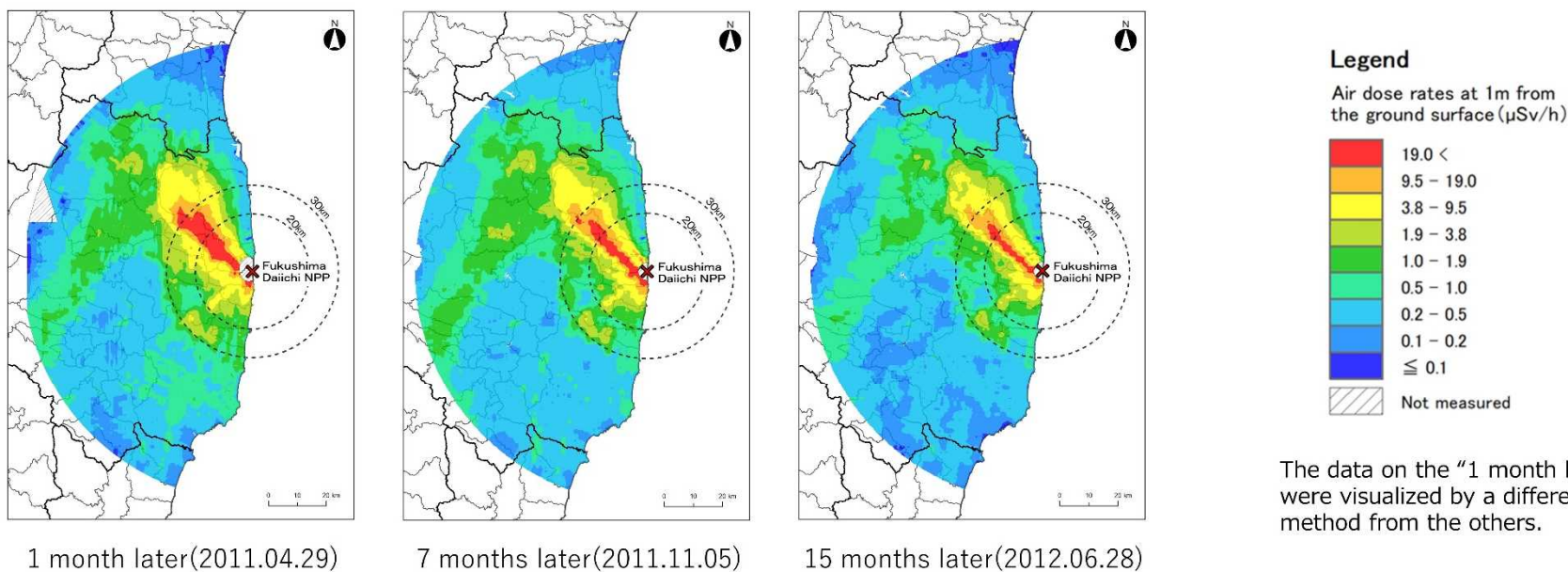
Air dose rate map in Fukushima Prefecture and neighboring prefectures
– 177 months after the accident (as of 5 December 2025)



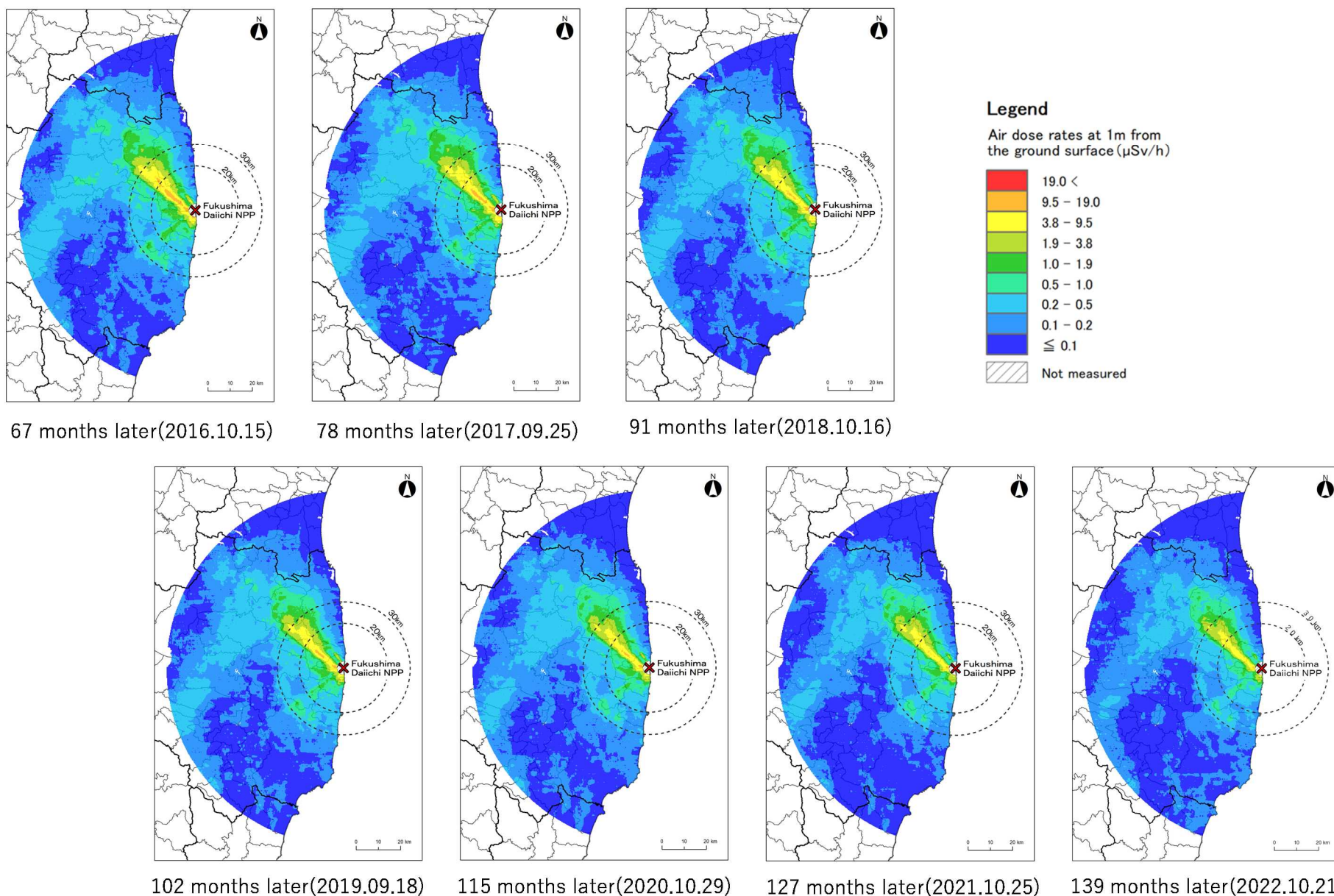
Air dose rate map in the 80 km zone from the Fukushima Daiichi NPP
– 177 months after the accident (as of 5 December, 2025)



The changes in air dose rates in the maps of the 80 km zone from the Fukushima Daiichi NPP.



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