

Panel Discussion Theme 1: Challenges in Recruiting and Training Railway Accident Investigators of JTTSB

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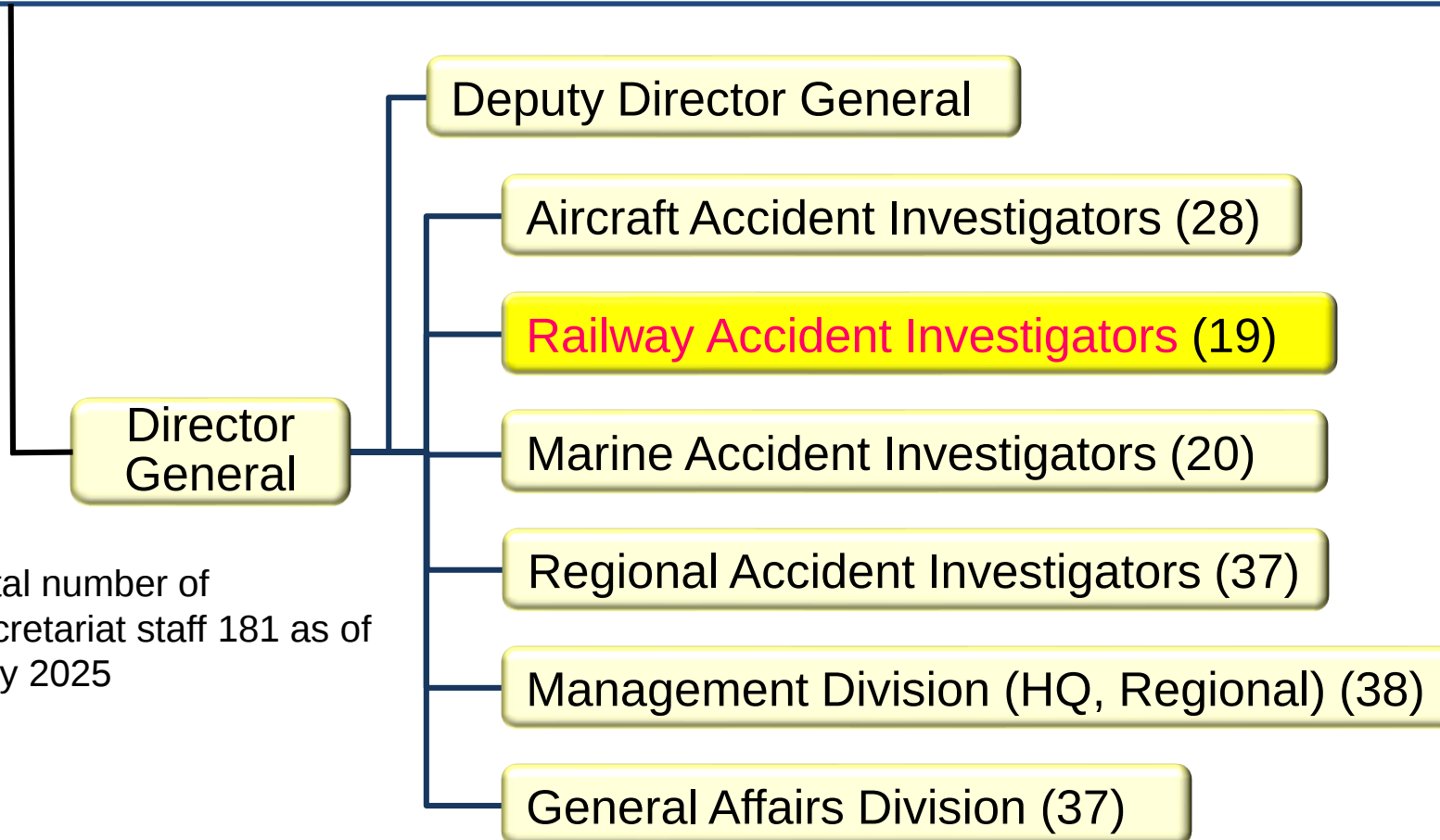
Organizational Structure of the Japan Transport Safety Board



Japan Transport Safety Board

Chairperson

12 Board Members (Full-time 7)



Total number of
secretariat staff 181 as of
July 2025

There are 19 Railway Accident Investigators.

Of these, three are permanent JTSCB (Japan Transport Safety Board) staff (known as proper), while the other investigators rotate out every two to three years.

The investigators are seconded from various organizations, including the Railway Bureau (of MLIT), railway operating companies, rolling stock manufacturers, signal manufacturers, and research institutions.

Approximately one-third of the total number of investigators are trained and replaced each year.

<< Excerpt >> Qualifications for Railway Accident Investigators

Article 2: A person who qualifies as a Railway Accident Investigator shall fall under any of the following categories:

Graduate School (Completed a master's program or equivalent in mechanical, civil engineering, electrical, telecommunications, or other railway technology-related fields)

Must have 3 years or more of practical experience in railway technology.

University (Same as above)

Must have 5 years or more of practical experience in railway technology.

Junior College or College of Technology (KOSEN) (same as above)

Must have 7 years or more of practical experience in railway technology.

High School (Graduated from a department in mechanical, civil engineering, electrical, telecommunications, or other railway technology-related fields):

Must have 9 years or more of practical experience in railway technology.

A person with 12 years or more of practical experience in railway technology.

Other: Exceptions apply to those with qualifications like Professional Engineer (Gijutsushi) or Design Engineer.

A person with experience as a Locomotive Driver (Doryokusha Sōjūsha) for 10 years or more.

Training Schedule 1



Day Time Location Topic Lecturer/Coordinator

Day 1

11:00 Conference Room B Lecture by the Board member

13:30 Conference Room B Chief's Instruction Chief Railway Accident Investigator

15:00 Conference Room B

- ① Overview of the Organization;
- ② Relationship with External Organizations (Railway Bureau, Police, etc.);
- ③ Accident/Incident Investigation (From Notification to On-site Arrival);
- ④ Accident/Incident Investigation (Oral Statements, On-site Media Response, etc.);
- ⑤ Reference Knowledge (Railway Business Act, Reporting Regulations) Vice Chief Railway Accident Investigator

Day 2

10:30 Conference Room B Accident/Incident Investigation (Track and Structure Investigation Method)

Coordinator Nishimoto

13:30 Conference Room B Accident/Incident Investigation (Signal Safety and Electrical Investigation Method)

Investigator Kikuchi

15:00 Conference Room B

- ① Accident/Incident Investigation (Operations Handling Investigation Method);
- ② Safety Work

Investigator Ozawa

Day 3

10:30 Committee Room Attendance at Railway Subcommittee Meeting Vice Chief Takahashi (H.)

13:30 Conference Room B Handling of Investigation Equipment and Points to Note Investigator Koyama

15:00 Conference Room B

- ① On-site Photography;
- ② Report (Structure/Preparation);
- ③ Points to Note During Investigation

Coordinator Adachi

Day 4

10:30 Conference Room B General Knowledge (Meteorology) Investigator Haraguchi

13:30 Conference Room B Guideline for Investigation and Report Preparation
(The Investigator's "Secret Manual") Investigator Yokotobi

Training Schedule 3



Day 5

10:30 Conference Room B Accident/Incident Investigation (Rolling Stock Investigation Method)
Investigator Toyooka

13:30 Conference Room B Points to Note Regarding Media Response
(Interview Scrums During Initial Investigation) Investigator Hasegawa & Investigator Takahashi
(M.)

15:00 Conference Room B Q&A Session (General Training) Vice Chief Takahashi (H.)

Day 6

10:30 Conference Room B (Reserve)

13:30 Conference Room B (Reserve)

At individual convenience Business Explanation by General Affairs Division / Counsellor,
Secretariat

Basically, since the investigators recruited are already railway specialists, their training primarily focuses on the aspects related to accident investigation through a program lasting about one month.

Subsequently, they develop their skills through on-the-site accident investigations and by drafting accident investigation reports.

Thank you for your attention.

