

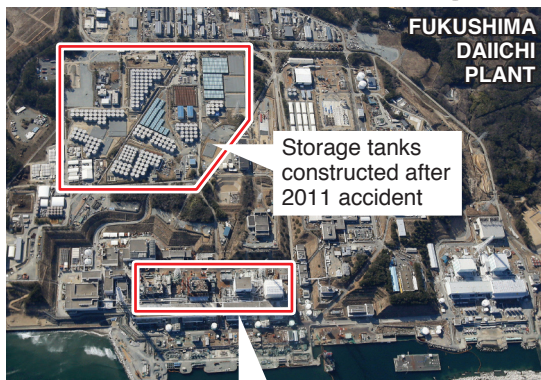
Fukushima radiation leak reaches new high

Radiation readings from highly toxic water stored at Japan's crippled Fukushima nuclear plant have risen to a level strong enough to kill an unprotected person within hours

Plant operator says readings near one set of storage tanks stood at **2,200 millisieverts** on September 3

RADIATION DOSES

Millisieverts (mSv)



Four reactors damaged by earthquake and tsunami

10,000

Acute radiation poisoning – death within weeks

6,000

Typical dose received by Chernobyl nuclear plant workers who died within one month of accident

3,000

Survival rate approximately 50 percent

2,200

Reading found near tanks used to store radioactive water at Fukushima plant, Sep 3, 2013

1,000

Causes radiation sickness and nausea, but not death. Likely to cause fatal cancer many years later in about 5 of every 100 persons exposed

700

Vomiting, hair loss within 2-3 weeks

500

Allowable short-term dose for emergency workers taking life-saving actions

400 per hour

Peak radiation level recorded inside Fukushima plant four days after accident

350 per lifetime

Exposure level used as criterion for relocating residents after Chernobyl accident

250

Allowable short-term dose for workers controlling 2011 Fukushima accident

100

Lowest level linked to increased cancer risk

20 per year

Average limit for nuclear industry workers

10

Full-body CT scan

2.4 per year

Person's typical exposure to background radiation

0.01

Dental x-ray