



July 10 2020

Statistics on Scrambles through the First Quarter of FY2020

1. Overall

Japan Air Self-Defense Force (JASDF) fighter aircraft were scrambled 194 times during the first quarter of FY2020, a decrease of 52 times compared to the same period of the previous fiscal year.

The breakdown of scrambles by country and region was about 68% against Chinese aircraft, about 31% against Russian aircraft, and about 1% against other aircraft although the countries and regions include estimation.

2. Breakdown of Scrambles by Regional Air Defense Force

In the first quarter of FY2020, fighter aircraft of the Northern Air Defense Force were scrambled 55 times, those of the Central Air Defense Force 4 times, those of the Western Air Defense Force 33 times, and those of the Southwestern Air Defense Force 102 times.

Compared to the previous fiscal year, the number of scrambles by the Northern Air Defense Force increased, while the number of scrambles by the Central Air Defense, Southwestern Air Defense Force decreased. The Western Air Defense Force is same as the last year.

3. Characteristics of Responses through the First Quarter of FY2020

JASDF fighter aircraft were scrambled 131 times against Chinese aircraft, decrease of 48 times compared to the same period of the previous fiscal year. JASDF fighter aircraft were scrambled 60 times against Russian aircraft, a decrease of 5 times compared to the same period of the previous fiscal year.

During the first quarter of FY2020, 4 cases were made public as unusual flights.

It is inferred that a large number of scrambles were conducted against Chinese and Russian intelligence aircraft.

The data above was collected between April 1 and June 30, 2020.

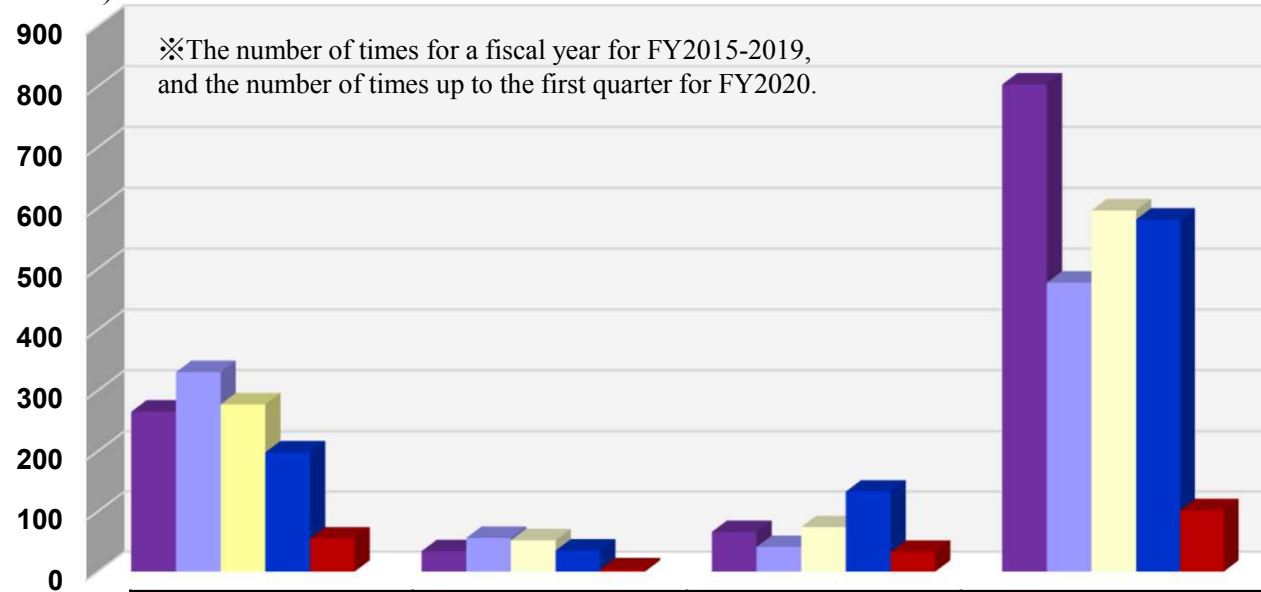
Reference

1. Number of Scrambles by Regional Air Defense Force (Past Five Years)
2. Number of Scrambles by Country and Region (Past Five Years)
3. Flight Pattern Examples of Russian and Chinese Aircraft Subject to Scrambles
4. List of Unusual Flight Cases Made Public (First Quarter)
5. Number of Scrambles by Fiscal Year

Number of Scrambles by Regional Air Defense Force (Past Five Years)

(As of June 30, 2020)

(Number of times)



	Northern Air Defense Force		Central Air Defense Force		Western Air Defense Force		Southwestern Air Defense Force		Total	
	FY	Up to Q1	FY	Up to Q1	FY	Up to Q1	FY	Up to Q1	FY	Up to Q1
FY2016	265	72	34	5	66	11	803	193	1168	281
FY2017	330	94	56	26	41	6	477	103	904	229
FY2018	277	65	52	24	74	12	596	170	999	271
FY2019	198	41	35	10	133	33	581	162	947	246
FY2020	—	55	—	4	—	33	—	102	—	194

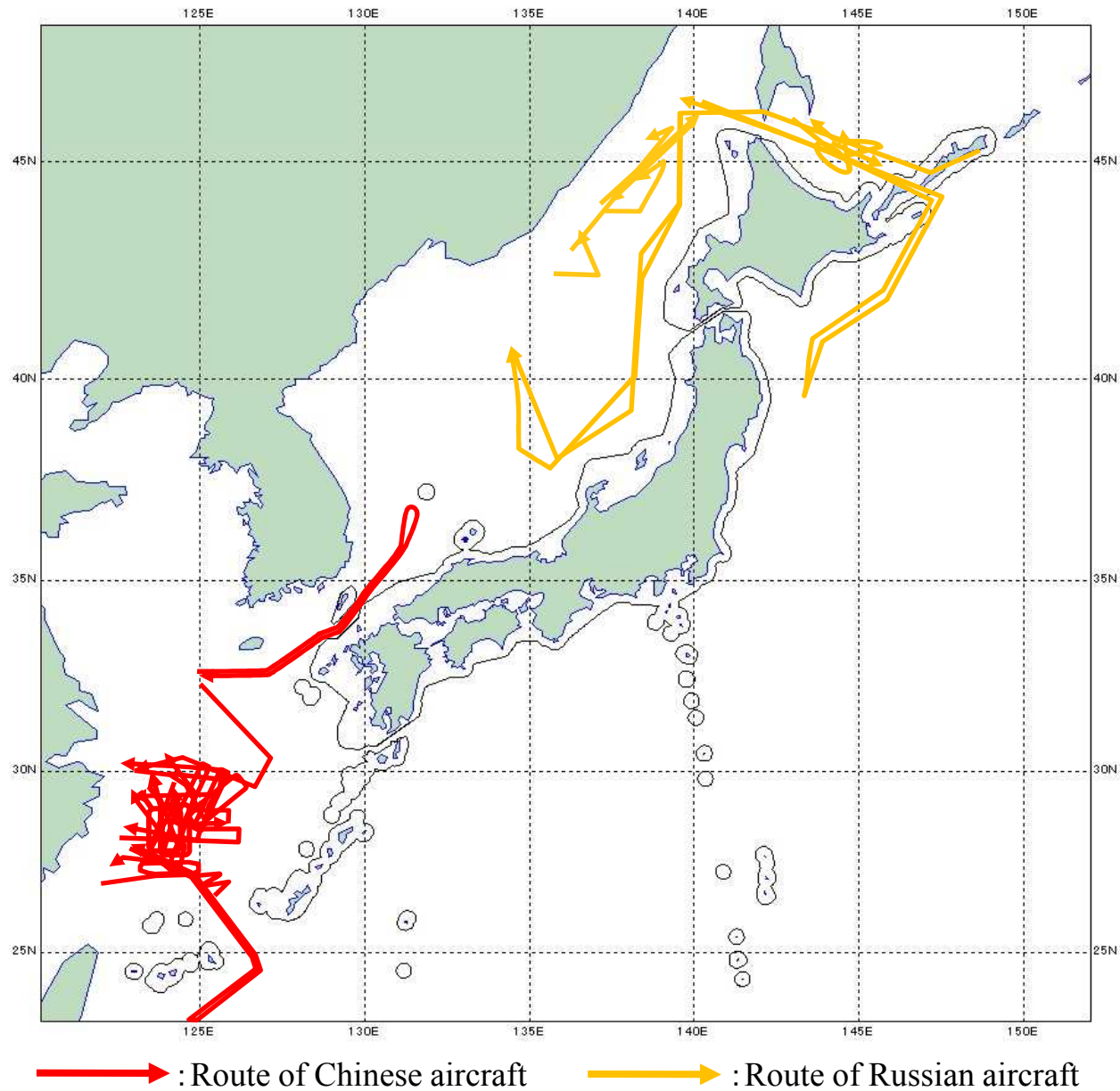
Number of Scrambles by Country and Region (Past Five Years)

(As of June 30, 2020)

Country/ Region FY	Russia		China		Taiwan		North Korea		Other Countries		Total	
	FY	Up to Q1	FY	Up to Q1	FY	Up to Q1	FY	Up to Q1	FY	Up to Q1	FY	Up to Q1
2016	301	78	851	199	8	3	0	0	8	1	1168	281
2017	390	125	500	101	3	0	0	0	11	3	904	229
2018	343	95	638	173	0	0	0	0	18	3	999	271
2019	268	65	675	179	0	0	0	0	4	2	947	246
2020	—	60	—	131	—	0	—	0	—	3	—	194

※ The number of times of scrambles by country/region includes some unconfirmed cases.

Flight Pattern Examples of Russian and Chinese Aircraft Subject to Scrambles



List of Unusual Flight Cases Made Public (First Quarter)

	Date	Nationality of Aircraft, etc.	Behavior Description	Photo
1	Thursday, April 9, 2020	Russia IL-38 Two aircraft	Round-trip from the Sea of Okhotsk to the Sea of Japan	
2	Wednesday, June 10, 2020	Russia IL-20 One aircraft	Long-range flight over the Sea of Japan	
3	Monday, June 22, 2020	China Y-9 One aircraft	Round-trip flight from the East China Sea to the Sea of Japan through Tsushima Strait	
4	Sunday, June 28, 2020	China H-6 Two aircraft	Round-trip from the East China Sea to the Pacific	

Number of Scrambles by Fiscal Year

(As of March 31, 2020)

(Number of times)

