Estimated of sea ice extent in September 2023

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Variations of sea ice extent from JMA sea ice data are shown in Fig. 1. The deviation from the regression line for 2021-2022 in the yearly minimum data (approximately 0.6) may be the effect of reducing greenhouse gases due to behavioral restrictions during COVID-19 (Corona Effect).

In 2023, the corona restrictions are loosened, so this Corona Effect is expected to be halved, and we added 0.3 to the regression prediction value of 3.97 and estimated as 4.27.

Fig. 1 Variation of sea ice extent from JMA sea ice data (maximum, annual mean, minimum).