

Historic Tsunami Calendar

The purpose of this tsunami calendar is to make National Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Program partners aware of the dates of historic tsunamis, particularly those that directly impacted the United States. These dates provide good opportunities to promote tsunami awareness and preparedness. While the U.S. events below are limited to those that caused at least one death (direct or indirect) or \$1 million in reported damage (December 2017 dollars) in the United States, individual states and territories may also be interested in tracking other tsunamis that affected their coasts. To learn about these events, visit the Global Tsunami Historical Database at <https://www.ngdc.noaa.gov/hazard/tsu.shtml>.

Tsunamis (reported) that affected U.S. states and territories and caused at least one death (direct or indirect) or \$1 million in damage (December 2017 dollars) in the United States and other significant tsunamis.¹

Date ²	Year	Source Type ³	Source Location	States/Territories Affected ⁴	U.S. Deaths ⁵	U.S. Damage ⁵
Jan 25	1849	7.5 Earthquake	Guam	Guam	1	Yes
Jan 27	1700	9.0 Earthquake	Cascadia Subduction Zone	Little is known about the impacts of this event, but geological evidence suggests a similar event in the future is likely and is the United States' greatest tsunami threat		
Feb 3	1923	8.3 Earthquake	Kamchatka, Russia	Hawaii	1	\$22 million
Feb 27	2010	8.8 Earthquake	Central Chile	California (<i>Hawaii, American Samoa, Alaska, Oregon</i>)	0	\$3 million
Mar 9	1957	8.6 Earthquake	Andreanof Islands, Alaska	Hawaii, California, Alaska (<i>American Samoa</i>)	2	\$44 million
Mar 11	2011	9.1 Earthquake	Honshu, Japan	California, Hawaii, Oregon (<i>Alaska, Northern Mariana Islands, Washington, American Samoa</i>)	1	\$94 million
		Most expensive tsunami (and natural disaster) in world; \$243 billion in damage and 18,453 deaths ⁶				
Mar 28	1964	9.2 Earthquake and Submarine Landslides	Alaska	Alaska, California, Oregon, Washington, Hawaii	124	\$851 million
		Most expensive U.S. tsunami; impetus for the National Tsunami Warning Center				
Apr 1	1946	8.6 Earthquake and Landslide	Unimak Island, Alaska	Hawaii, Alaska, California, American Samoa, Oregon, Washington	164	\$352 million
		Deadliest U.S. tsunami; impetus for the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center				
Apr 3	1868	7.9 Earthquake	Southeast of Hawaii	Hawaii	47	Yes
May 10	1877	8.3 Earthquake	Chile, Off Northeast Coast	Hawaii (<i>California</i>)	5	Yes
May 22	1960	9.5 Earthquake	Valdivia, Chile	Hawaii, California, American Samoa, Alaska, Oregon (<i>Washington</i>)	63	\$212 million
Jul 10	1958	7.8 Earthquake and Landslide	Southeast Alaska	Alaska	5	\$1 million
		Highest tsunami: maximum height of 1,720 feet				
Jul 21	1788	8.0 Earthquake	Alaska Peninsula	Alaska	Yes	Yes

Date ²	Year	Source Type ³	Source Location	States/Territories Affected ⁴	U.S. Deaths ⁵	U.S. Damage ⁵
Aug 11	1900	Earthquake and Landslide (ice fall)	Southeast Alaska	Alaska	5	Yes
Aug 13	1868	8.5 Earthquake	Northern Chile	Hawaii (<i>Alaska, California</i>)	0	Yes
Aug 16	1917	Landslide (glacial activity)	Taku Inlet, Juneau, Alaska	Alaska	1	Yes
Aug 27	1883	Volcano	Krakatau, Indonesia	Deadliest volcano-generated tsunami: 34,417 deaths and extensive damage		
Aug 31	1930	5.2 Earthquake and Submarine Landslide	Southern California	California	1	--
Sep 29	2009	8.1 Earthquake	Samoa Islands	American Samoa (<i>California, Hawaii</i>)	34	\$143 million
Oct 11	1918	7.3 Earthquake and Submarine Landslide	Mona Passage, Puerto Rico	Puerto Rico (<i>U.S. Virgin Islands</i>)	140	\$62 million
Oct 28	2012	7.7 Earthquake	Haida Gwaii, Canada	Hawaii (<i>California</i>)	1	--
Nov 1	1755	8.5 Earthquake	Lisbon, Portugal	Deadliest Atlantic tsunami: 50,000 deaths and extensive damage ⁶		
Nov 4	1952	9.0 Earthquake	Kamchatka, Russia	Hawaii, California (<i>Alaska, American Samoa, Guam</i>)	0	\$9 million
Nov 4	1994	Landslide ⁷	Skagway, Alaska	Alaska	1	\$41 million
Nov 7	1837	8.5 Earthquake	Valdivia, Chile	Hawaii (<i>American Samoa</i>)	16	Yes
Nov 15	2006	8.3 Earthquake	Kuril Islands, Russia	California (<i>Hawaii, Alaska, Oregon</i>)	0	\$1 million
Nov 18	1867	7.5 Earthquake	Virgin Islands	U.S. Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico	24	Yes
Nov 22	1878	Submarine Landslide	Southern California	California	1	Yes
Nov 28	1894	Submarine Landslide	Tacoma, Washington	Washington	1	Yes
Nov 29	1975	7.7 Earthquake and Submarine Landslide	Hawaii	Hawaii, California	2	\$7 million
Dec 26	2004	9.1 Earthquake	Indonesia, Off West Coast of Sumatra	Deadliest tsunami: 227,899 deaths and \$13 billion in damage spanning 17 countries ⁶		
--	1820	Landslide (bluff collapse)	Camano Island, Washington	Washington	Yes	--
--	1845	Landslide (icefall)	Southeast Alaska	Alaska	100	--
--	1853	Landslide (rockslide)	Lituya Bay, Alaska	Alaska	Yes	--

Source: NOAA National Centers for Environmental Information, Global Historical Tsunami Database (as of January 2018)

¹ Significant tsunamis for which there are no recorded direct impacts to the United States are shaded in gray.

² Dates are based on Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), the local date may be one day different.

³ Earthquake magnitudes are instrumental (from U.S. Geological Survey) or estimated based on intensity prior to 1896.

⁴ No deaths or damage were reported for the states and territories in parentheses/*italics*, but runups greater than 0.3 meter (11.8 inches), which is the threshold for a tsunami advisory, were observed.

⁵ Number of deaths and dollar figures are not available for all events and may not be inclusive of all losses.

⁶ May include earthquake losses.

⁷ There are conflicting reports as to whether this was submarine or subaerial. See the database for references.

