



Earthquake Hazards

20 Largest Earthquakes in the World

A list of the 20 largest earthquakes in the world.

Status -
Active

[View 20 Largest Earthquakes in the World on Map](#)

	Mag	Location	Alt
1.	9.5	Bio-Bio, Chile	Val
2.	9.2	Southern Alaska	196
3.	9.1	Off the West Coast of Northern Sumatra	Su
4.	9.1	Near the East Coast of Honshu, Japan	Toh
5.	9.0	Off the East Coast of the Kamchatka Peninsula, Russia	Ka
6.	8.8	Offshore Bio-Bio, Chile	Ma
7.	8.8	Near the Coast of Ecuador	190
8.	8.7	Rat Islands, Aleutian Islands, Alaska	Ra
9.	8.6	Eastern Xizang-India border region	Ass
10.	8.6	Off the West Coast of Northern Sumatra	
11.	8.6	Northern Sumatra, Indonesia	Nia
12.	8.6	Andrean of Islands, Aleutian Islands, Alaska	
13.	8.6	South of Alaska	Uni
14.	8.5	Banda Sea	
15.	8.5	Atacama, Chile	Chi

Explore
More
Science

[Earthquake Hazards](#)
[Earthquakes](#)
[Natural Hazards](#)

	Mag	Location	Alt
16.	8.5	Kuril Islands	
17.	8.4	Near the East Coast of Kamchatka Peninsula, Russia	Ka
18.	8.4	Southern Sumatra, Indonesia	
19.	8.4	Near the Coast of Southern Peru	Are
20.	8.4	Off the East Coast of Honshu, Japan	Sa

References

- Duputel, Z., Rivera, L., Kanamori, H., & Hayes, G. (2012). W phase source inversion for moderate to large earthquakes (1990–2010). *GJI*, 189(2), 1125-1147.
- Johnson, J. M., Tanioka, Y., Ruff, L. J., Satake, K., Kanamori, H., & Sykes, L. R. (1994). The 1957 great Aleutian earthquake. *Pure and Applied Geophysics*, 142(1), 3-28.
- Kanamori, H. (1971). Seismological evidence for a lithospheric normal faulting—The Sanriku earthquake of 1933. *Physics of the Earth and Planetary Interiors*, 4(4), 289-300.
- Kanamori, H. (1976). Re-examination of the earth's free oscillations excited by the Kamchatka earthquake of November 4, 1952. *Physics of the Earth and Planetary Interiors*, 11(3), 216-226.
- Kanamori, H. (1977). The energy release in great earthquakes. *Journal of geophysical research*, 82(20), 2981-2987.
- Kanamori, H., & Anderson, D. L. (1975). Theoretical basis of some empirical relations in seismology. *BSSA*, 65(5), 1073-1095.
- López, A. M., & Okal, E. A. (2006). A seismological reassessment of the source of the 1946 Aleutian 'tsunami' earthquake. *Geophysical Journal International*, 165(3), 835-849.
- Okal, E. A. (1992). Use of the mantle magnitude M_m for the reassessment of the moment of historical earthquakes. *Pure and Applied Geophysics*, 139(1), 17-57.
- Okal, E. A., & Reymond, D. (2003). The mechanism of great Banda Sea earthquake of 1 February 1938: applying the method of preliminary determination of focal mechanism to a historical event. *earth and planetary science letters*, 216(1), 1-15.