Weekly Cat Report

Review of Global Catastrophe Activity

August 21, 2026



Executive Summary



Event	Affected Region(s)	Fatalities	Economic Loss Estimate ($)	Page
Hurricane Lala	Hawaii	3	100s of millions	3
Earthquake	Indonesia	71	10s of millions	6
Flooding	Japan	10	Millions	8
Wildfire	Croatia	1	Millions	8
Wildfire	Belgium	0	Millions	8
Flooding & Landslide	China	10	Unknown	8
Flooding	Uruguay	0	Unknown	8
SCS & Flooding (Update)	United States	5	Billions	8
Earthquake	Peru	0	Unknown	9

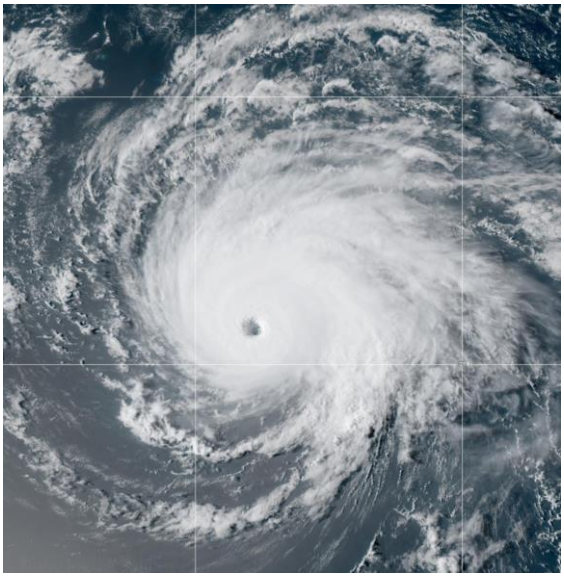
Explore the supplementary graphics in the Appendices. See Additional Report Details for more about loss estimates and data collecting. Explore more or sign up to receive Cat Reports here.

Hawaii: Hurricane Lala

Overview

This past week, Hurricane Lala became the first named storm of the 2026 Central Pacific hurricane season. Lala passed close to Hawaii Island's southern coast, bringing heavy rain and strong winds. Damage was concentrated in the Kaʻū District, mainly from flash flooding and landslides. One fatality has been confirmed, and total economic and insured losses will likely reach the hundreds of millions USD.

Meteorological Recap



Location	Total Rainfall (in/mm)
Laupahoehoe	43.55 / 1,106
Nahuku	37.27 / 947
Nene cabin	37.20 / 945
Hakalau	35.31 / 897
Silver sword	35.19 / 894

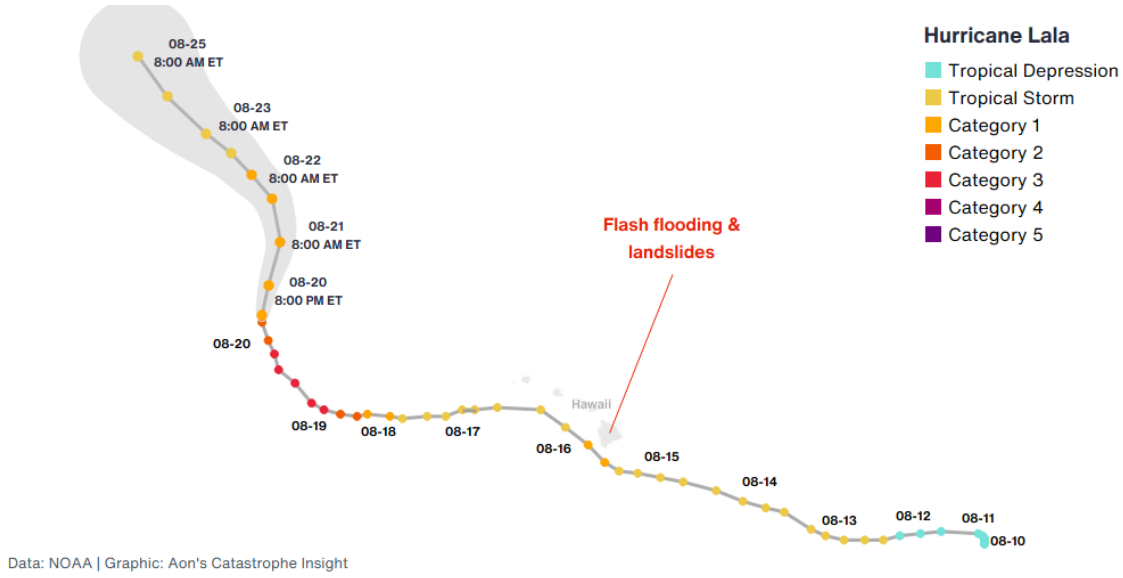
Location	Max Wind Gust (mph/kph)
Mauna Kea Summit	140 / 225
Hawaii	91 / 146
Kula	88 / 142
Olowalu	85 / 137
Kohala Ranch	84 / 135

Lala originated from a tropical wave over the open eastern Pacific Ocean and organized into Tropical Storm Lala on August 12. Soon after, the National Hurricane Center (NHC) issued tropical storm and hurricane watches and warnings for every island statewide ahead of landfall. Lala steadily intensified through August 15, reaching Category 1 hurricane strength on the Saffir-Simpson Scale. Upon its approach to the Big Island of Hawaii, the storm contained maximum sustained winds near 75 mph (120 kph) and a minimum central pressure of 988 mb.

On August 15-16, Lala made its closest approach to Hawaii Island, with the storm's eyewall brushing the south side of the Big Island. Interaction with the island's terrain and a nearby, separate low-pressure system disrupted the circulation, weakening Lala back to tropical storm strength by August 16. Through August 17, the storm continued towards the west-northwest, spreading tropical storm–force conditions across Maui County, Oʻahu, and Kauaʻi. As Lala passed just south of the island chain, a Flash Flood Emergency, the National Weather Service's (NWS) highest flood alert, was issued for parts of southern Hawaii Island. Rainfall rates locally reached 3–5 in/hr (75–130 mm/hr) due to winds pushing up against the island's mountainous terrain, resulting in torrential rain. Storm total rainfall peaked at 43.55 in (1,106 mm) at Laupāhoehoe on the island's north coast, according to the Weather Prediction Center (WPC). Several other locations on the island recorded well-over 30 in (762 mm) of precipitation, while higher elevations near the summits of Mauna Kea and Mauna Loa saw heavy snow and blizzard conditions. A peak wind gust of 140 mph (225 kph) was recorded at

the Mauna Kea summit. Some lower-elevation gusts recorded included 88 mph (142 kph) near Kula (Maui) and 84 mph (135 kph) at Kohala Ranch (Hawaii).

Afterward, Lala continued west while reintensifying over open water, reaching its peak strength as a Category 4 storm on August 19. As of this writing, Lala continues to slowly weaken while moving northward, with no immediate threats to land expected in the coming days.



Data: NOAA | Graphic: Aon's Catastrophe Insight

Historical Context

Close or direct hurricane landfalls in Hawaii are historically rare. Aside from the small spatial footprint of the islands, cooler sea-surface temperatures and strong vertical wind shear typically weaken tropical cyclones in this region of the Central Pacific. However, recent sea surface temperatures ahead of Lala were running roughly 3°F above average amid a strengthening El Niño. This pattern is generally associated with a more active central Pacific hurricane season and elevated odds of tropical systems tracking toward Hawaii from the east.

Since reliable record-keeping began around 1950, only two hurricanes have made direct landfall anywhere in the state: Hurricane Dot (August 1959) as a Category 1 and Hurricane Iniki (September 1992) as a Category 4. No hurricane has ever made a confirmed direct landfall on Hawaii Island (the Big Island) in modern record. The closest historical analog is an unnamed 1871 hurricane believed to have affected the islands of Hawaii and Maui. More recently, Tropical Storm Iselle (2014) made landfall on the island's eastern shore as the strongest tropical storm on record to do so. According to historical NOAA data, Lala is only the fifth hurricane since 1957 to track within 70 miles (113 km) of the island, with the others being Kanoa (1957), Iselle (2014), Douglas (2020), and Hone (2024).

Event Details

A state of emergency was declared statewide on August 13 ahead of Lala's landfall. Across all islands, roughly 217,000 customers lost power. Hawaiian Electric reported that restoration in rural, access-restricted parts of Hawaii Island could extend for months given the extent of transmission and distribution damage. A statewide Brown Water Advisory was also issued due to sediment and possible contamination in streams and coastal waters. At least three fatalities were confirmed.

On Hawaii Island, the southern Kaʻū District sustained the most severe damage. Intense rains induced flash floods and landslides, which carried water, mud, and other debris through several communities. At least 100 homes were damaged, along with numerous roads and water systems. Several areas were cut off by landslides, resulting in several water and aerial rescues. Across the

Big Island, hundreds of trees were downed, causing property damage and blocked roads. Water services were damaged or disrupted for multiple communities, including Pāhala, Nāʻālehu, and Punaluʻu. Hawaii County also temporarily closed all state and county offices, courts, and public schools during the height of the storm.

Other, lesser impacted islands included Maui, Oʻahu, and Kauaʻi. Downed trees and landslides closed multiple roads. At least 12 people were rescued from floodwaters, and heavy rain and power failures triggered sewage releases near Honolulu.

In the coming days, additional rainfall-related damage is possible due to the forecasted passage of Tropical Depression Two-C, soon to be Tropical Storm Moke. While the center of the storm is likely to remain further south of Hawaii compared to Lala, the storm's outer rainbands will likely still produce rainfall over Hawaii Island. Any additional impacts will be covered in the next Weekly Cat Report.



Flash flooding and landslide damage in Hawaii County

Source: Governor Josh Green (left); Hawaii Dept. of Transportation (right)

Financial Loss Estimate

Total economic and insured losses will likely reach the hundreds of millions USD. Flash flooding and landslide impacts are expected to dominate the loss total attributed to Hurricane Lala, rather than wind-related damage. Notably, a small portion of the total loss figure is likely to be covered by insurance. National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) penetration in Hawaii is low, including in the hardest hit areas of Hawaii Island.

Indonesia: Earthquake

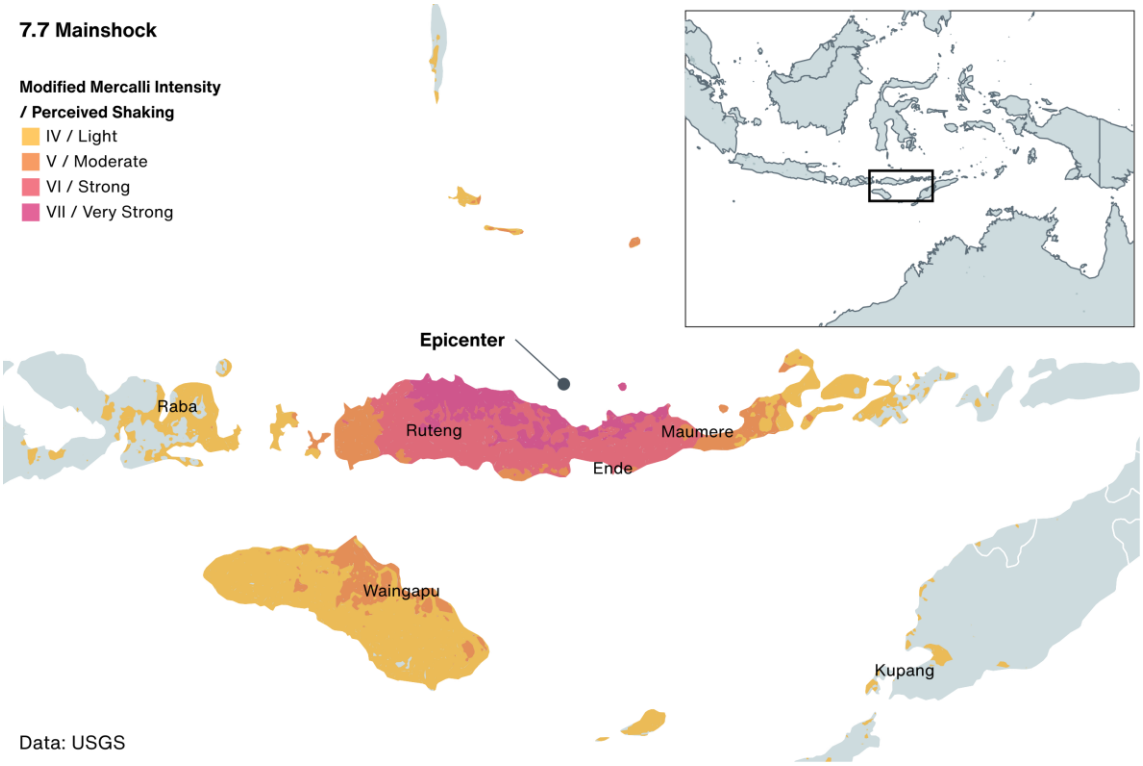
Overview

On August 15, a strong magnitude 7.7 earthquake struck central Indonesia, most heavily affecting East Nusa Tenggara. Early reports indicate significant structural damage, building collapses, power outages, and widespread disruption across the affected area. As of this writing, local disaster authorities have reported at least 71 fatalities and more than 1,100 injuries. Although total economic losses remain uncertain, impacts are likely to reach the tens of millions of USD. Given the limited insurance penetration across affected properties, the impact on re/insurance is expected to be materially lower.

Seismological Recap

The earthquake struck on August 15 at 05:58 WITA (August 14, 21:58 UTC) at a depth of 10 km (6.2 mi). Its epicenter was in the Flores Sea off the northern coast of East Nusa Tenggara, about 68 km (42 mi) north-northwest of Ende. According to the USGS, the M7.7 event resulted from shallow reverse faulting in a seismically active area shaped by convergence between the Australia and Sunda plates.

Earthquakes are frequent in this region. Since 1950, at least 37 M6.0+ events have occurred within 250 km (155 mi) of the August 14, 2026 earthquake, including five M7.0+ events. A nearby M7.8 earthquake in 1992, located about 63 km (39 mi) east-southeast of this event, generated a tsunami that destroyed tens of thousands of homes and caused at least 2,500 fatalities.



Event Details

As of August 19, national and regional disaster authorities (NTT BNPB) reported at least 71 fatalities and 1,182 injuries, mainly in Manggarai and East Manggarai regencies. Nearly 12,000 houses were damaged or destroyed across the affected area, including 5,516 severely damaged, 1,916 moderately damaged, and 4,493 lightly damaged homes. More than 60,000 people were displaced. USGS PAGER estimates that over 21.7 million people experienced at least weak shaking. Population exposure by Modified Mercalli Intensity (MMI) level is summarized below.



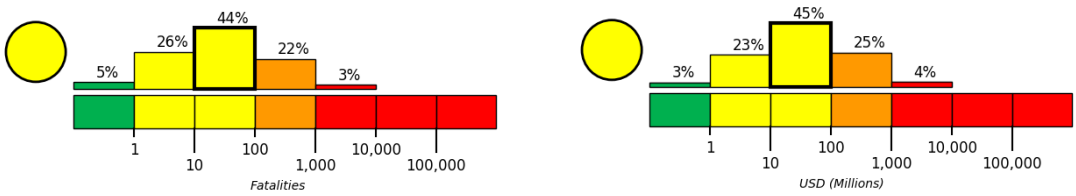
Collapsed buildings in East Manggarai Regency
Source: Regional Disaster Management Agency

Modified Mercalli Intensity (MMI)	Perceived Shaking	Exposed Population
II-III	Weak	6,946,000
IV	Light	12,104,000
V	Moderate	916,000
VI	Strong	901,000
VII	Very strong	812,000
VIII	Severe	40,000
Total		**21,719,000**

Source: USGS

Financial Loss Estimate

Total economic losses remain uncertain, but USGS PAGER estimates a 45 percent probability that losses will be in the tens of millions of USD. Given the limited insurance penetration across affected properties, the impact on re/insurance is expected to be materially lower.



Estimates of fatalities and economic damage based on USGS PAGER methodology
Source: USGS

Global Disasters: In Brief

Japan: Flooding

On August 13–14, record rainfall triggered severe flooding across Japan's Chiba Prefecture, leaving ten people dead, at least 46 injured, and thousands displaced, according to FDMA. Chiba City recorded 351 mm (13.8 in) of rain in one day, the highest daily total since records began in 1966. The rainfall overwhelmed rivers and drainage systems, causing widespread road closures, landslides, and flooding of homes and vehicles. Around 20,000 customers lost power, services were notably disrupted, and 43 houses were partially damaged.

Croatia: Wildfire

On the evening of August 13, a fast-moving wildfire ignited near Lokva Rogoznica in Croatia's Split-Dalmatia County and spread overnight toward the coastal town of Omiš. The blaze burned around 1,000 hectares (2,500 acres), reached residential areas, destroyed several homes, vehicles, and boats, and prompted the evacuation of about 2,500 people. Fire brigade reports (HVZ) indicated at least 43 injuries and one fatality.

Belgium: Wildfire

From August 14 to 16, a major wildfire burned nearly 3,000 hectares (7,400 acres) in the Hautes Fagnes nature reserve in eastern Belgium, ranking among the largest fires in the country's history. The fire expanded from 80 hectares (200 acres) on the first day to more than 2,700 hectares (6,700 acres) by the evening of August 15 and came within 2.5 km (1.5 mi) of the German border. Smoke risk prompted evacuations in nearby Belgian villages and parts of Monschau, Germany. No fire-related property losses were reported.

China: Flooding & Landslide

Between August 18 and 19, heavy rainfall triggered multiple flash floods and landslides across China's Sichuan and Guangxi provinces. In Sichuan, flooding forced tens of thousands of people to evacuate from risk areas across 64 counties, including Changning County, where five people died and 17 others were injured in a flood-related incident. Separately, a deadly landslide in Guangxi's Nandan County killed five people.

Uruguay: Flooding

On August 18, intense rains caused severe flooding across eastern and northeastern Uruguay, especially in Cerro Largo, Treinta y Tres and Tacuarembó. In Melo and Río Branco (Cerro Largo), the rapid rise of the Arroyo Conventos and other streams flooded low-lying neighborhoods, forcing dozens of people to evacuate and prompting multiple boat rescues; vehicles were swept away and rural roads cut.

United States: SCS & Flooding (Update)

Flooding across Indiana that began August 11 (see previous Weekly Cat Report) has killed at least five people as heavy rainfall continued into the weekend of August 14-16. Several rivers, including the White River, reached record or near-record levels around Indianapolis. Hundreds of homes were evacuated, and dozens of water rescues were conducted.

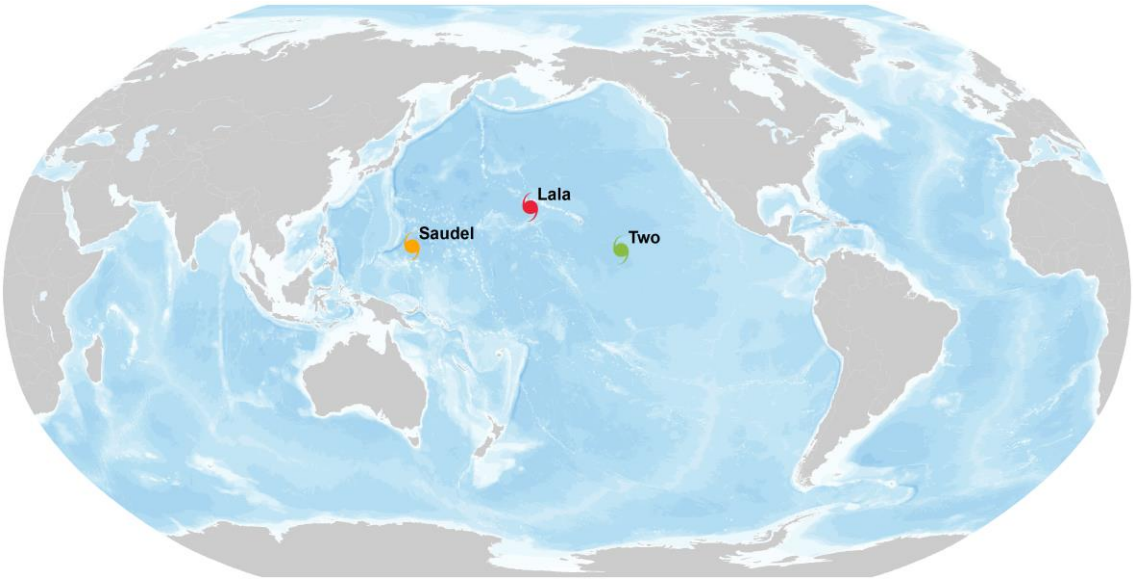
Then, on August 18, severe thunderstorms with damaging winds and a brief tornado swept across southeastern Wisconsin, including the Milwaukee metro area. The storms downed numerous trees onto homes, vehicles, and businesses. More than 50,000 customers lost power at the peak of storms.

Peru: Earthquake

On August 20 at about 13:00 local time, a magnitude 6.7 earthquake struck Peru's southern Andes near Coracora, Ayacucho, with a 100 km (62.13 mi) depth. It was widely felt across Ayacucho, Ica, Apurímac and Moquegua, but intermediate depth limited surface destruction. As of the latest official reports on August 20, no fatalities or major structural collapses have been confirmed. Damage consists mainly of rockfalls, minor to moderate building cracking, and localized impacts in rural districts, with authorities still surveying remote areas and no financial loss estimates yet available.

Appendices

Current Global Tropical Cyclone Activity

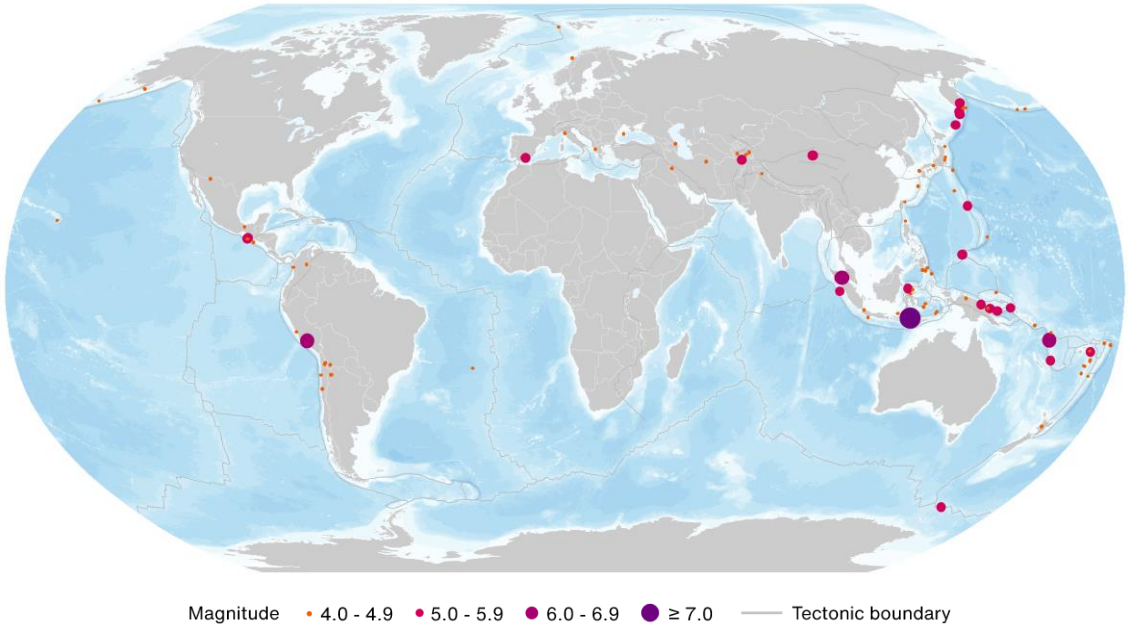


Tropical Depression Tropical Storm Category 1 Category 2 Category 3 Category 4 Category 5

Name	Location	Winds	Center
TD Two-C	11.7N, 142.6W	35	1205 mi (1945 km) SE from Honolulu, United States
HU Lala	23.8N, 172.0W	100	920 mi (1480 km) W from Honolulu, United States
TS Saudel	12.8N, 150.2E	45	340 mi (550 km) SE from Guam

Data: National Hurricane Center (NHC), Joint Typhoon Warning Center (JTWC), Central Pacific Hurricane Center (CPHC) | Graphic: Aon Catastrophe Insight

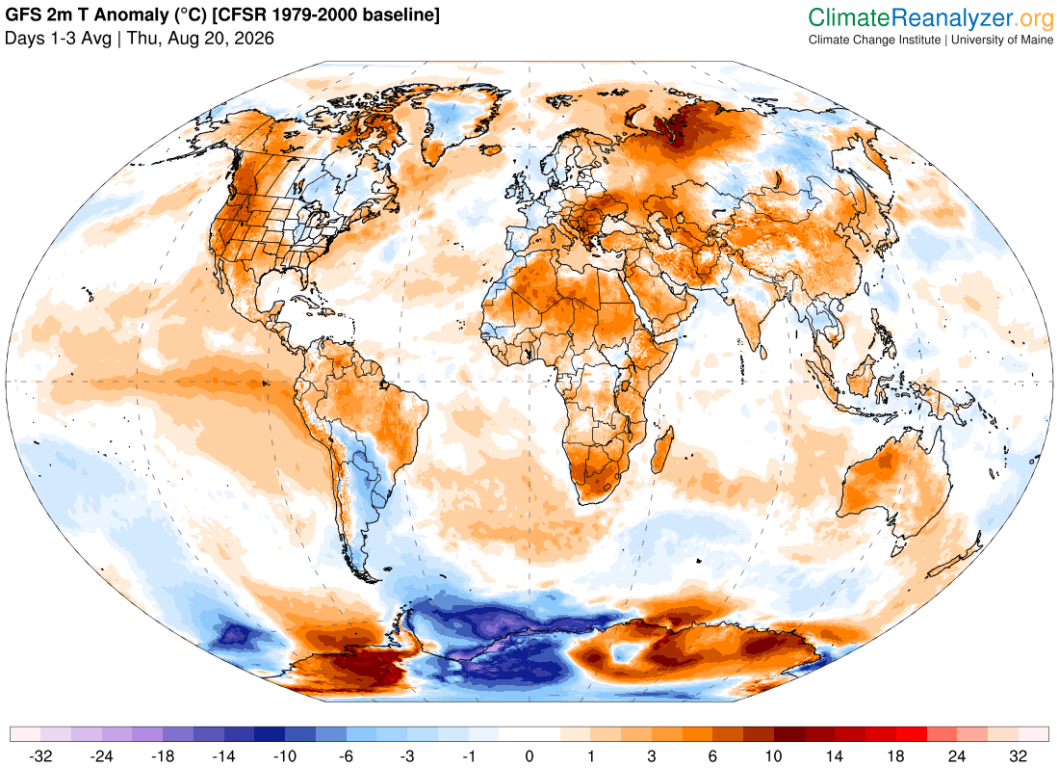
Global Earthquake Activity: M4.0+ Earthquakes on August 14-20



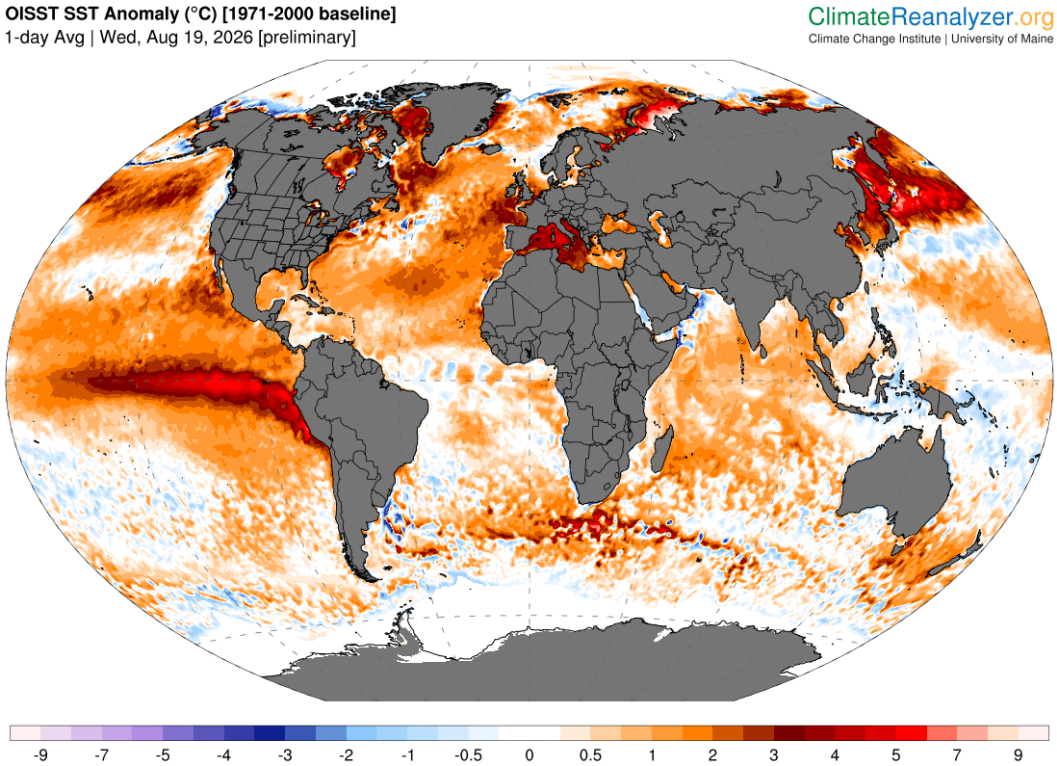
Date (UTC)	Location	Magnitude	Epicenter
8/14/2026	8.31S, 121.35E	7.7	68 km (42 mi) NNW of Ende, Indonesia
8/14/2026	8.32S, 121.57E	6.1	58 km (36 mi) N of Ende, Indonesia
8/15/2026	3.09N, 99.02E	6.9	15 km (9 mi) NNW of Pematangsiantar, Indonesia
8/16/2026	14.55S, 167.19E	6.1	56 km (35 mi) NNE of Port-Olry, Vanuatu
8/20/2026	14.64S, 73.52W	6.7	31 km (19 mi) NW of Aniso, Peru

Data: U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) | Graphic: Aon Catastrophe Insight

3-Day Global Temperature Anomaly Forecast

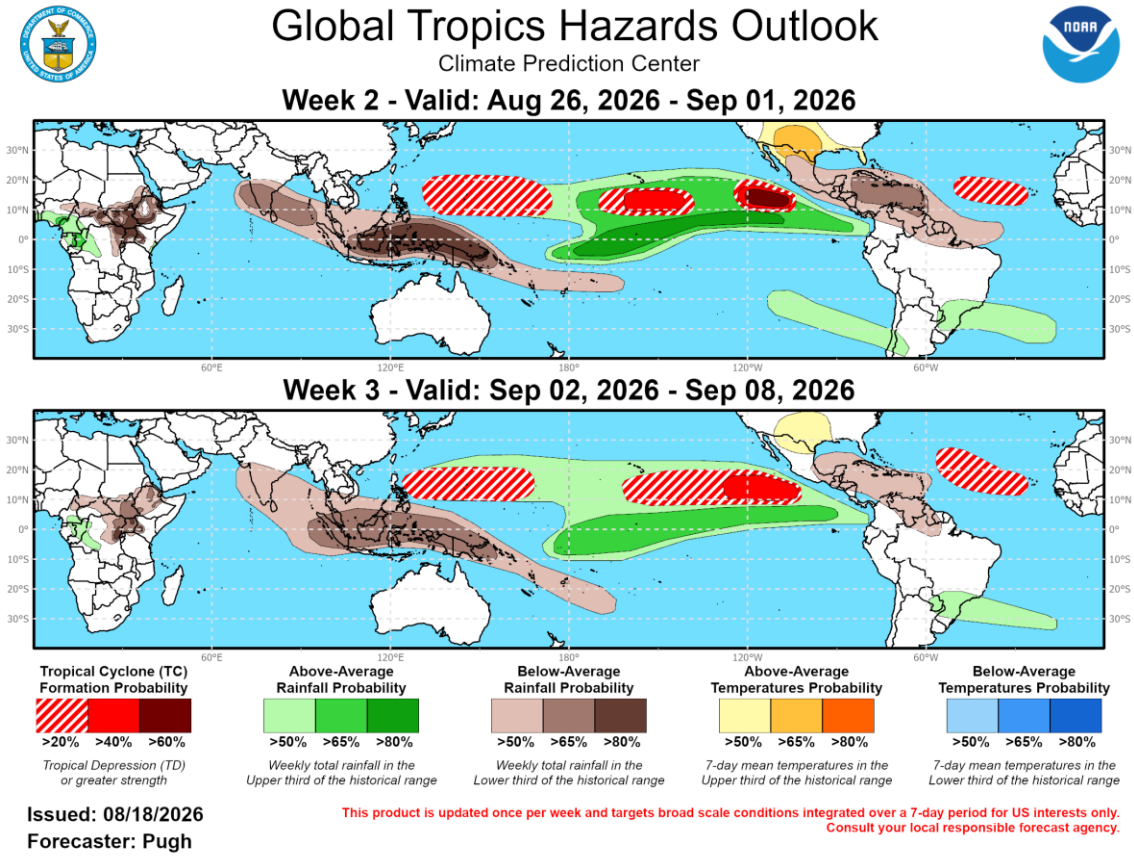


Current Global Sea Surface Temperature Anomaly



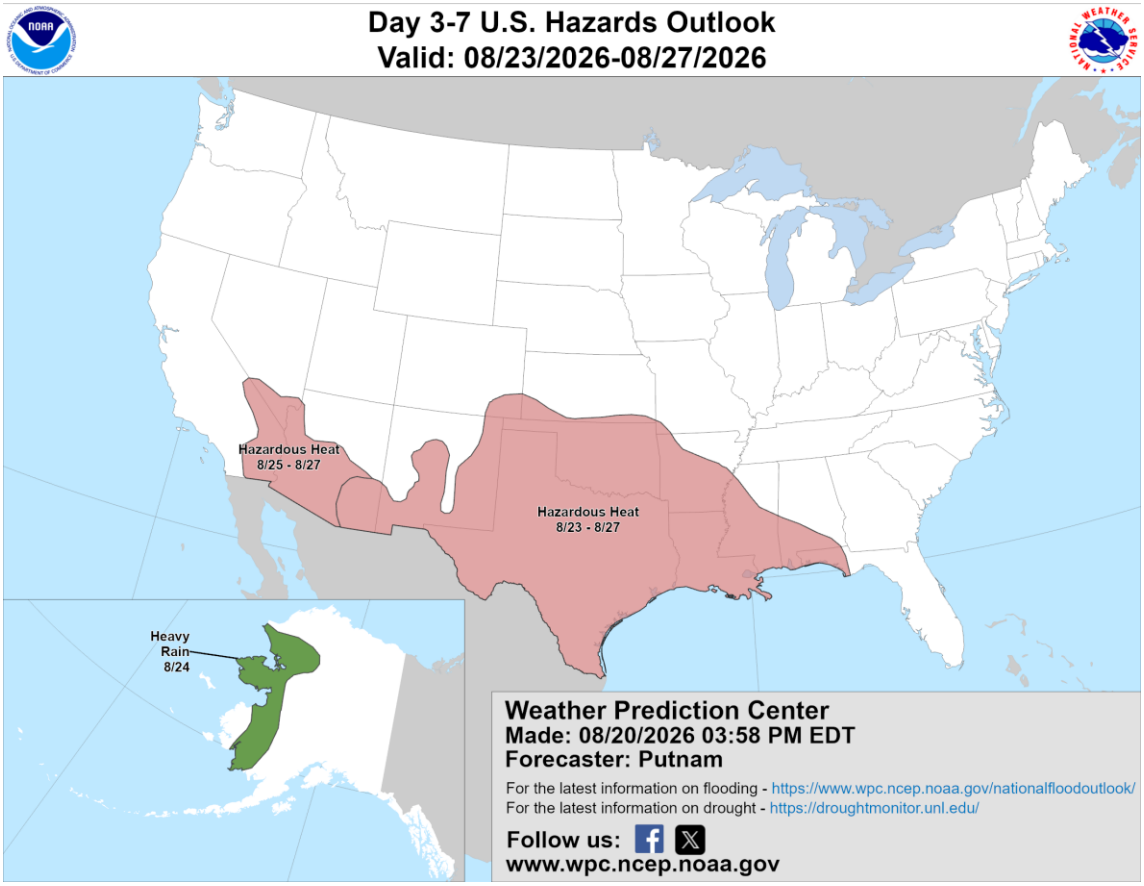
Data & Graphic: Climate Reanalyzer. Climate Change Institute, University of Maine

Global Tropics Hazards Outlook



Data: Climate Prediction Center (CPC)

U.S. Hazard Outlook



Data: Weather Prediction Center (WPC)

References

Hawaii: Hurricane Lala

Hawaiian Electric
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
National Hurricane Center (NHC)
National Weather Service (NWS)
Weather Prediction Center (WPC)
Deadly Hurricane Lala lashed Hawaiian islands with widespread flooding, damaging winds, *The Weather Channel*
What We Know About Damage From Hurricane Lala in Hawaii, *The New York Times*

Indonesia: Earthquake

U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)
National Disaster Management Agency of Indonesia (BNPB)
Regional Disaster Management Agency East Nusa Tenggara (NTT BNPB)

Global Disasters: In Brief

Japanese Fire and Disaster Management Agency (FDMA)
Croatian Firefighting Association (HVZ)
European Forest Fire Information System (EFFIS)
Unprecedented rain in Japan kills eight people, *BBC*
The Watchers
El Litoral
U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)

Additional Report Details

Please note that any financial loss estimate is preliminary and subject to change. These estimates are provided as an initial view of the potential financial impact from a recently completed or ongoing event based on early available assessments. Significant adjustments may inevitably occur.

All financial loss totals are in US dollars ($) unless noted otherwise.

Structures are defined as any building — including barns, outbuildings, mobile homes, single or multiple family dwellings, and commercial facilities — that is damaged or destroyed by winds, earthquakes, hail, flood, tornadoes, hurricanes, or any other natural-occurring phenomenon.

Claims are defined as the number of claims (which could be a combination of homeowners, commercial, auto, and others) reported by various public and private insurance entities through press releases or various public media outlets.

Damage estimates are obtained from various public media sources, including news websites, publications from insurance companies, financial institution press releases, and official government agencies. Economic loss totals are separate from any available insured loss estimates. An insured loss is the portion of the economic loss covered by public or private insurance entities. In rare instances, specific events may include modeled loss estimates determined from utilizing Impact Forecasting's suite of catastrophe model products.

Fatality estimates as reported by public news media sources and official government agencies.

The information contained herein and the statements expressed are of a general nature and are not intended to address the circumstances of any particular individual or entity. Although we endeavor to provide accurate and timely information and use sources we consider reliable, there can be no guarantee that such information is accurate as of the date it is received or that it will continue to be accurate in the future. No one should act on such information without appropriate professional advice after a thorough examination of the particular situation.

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