

Very strong mag. 6.0 Earthquake - South Pacific Ocean, Gisborne, New Zealand, on Friday, Apr 17, 2026, at 01:30 am (GMT +12) - 56 minutes ago

Updated: Apr 16, 2026 14:23 GMT - 115 seconds ago

A very strong magnitude 6.0 earthquake occurred in the South Pacific Ocean 188 km (117 mi) from [Gisborne](#), [New Zealand](#), in the early morning of Friday, Apr 17, 2026 at 1.30 am local time (GMT +12). The depth of the quake could not be determined, but is assumed to be shallow. The quake was not felt (or at least not reported so).

[QUAKE DATA](#) | [INTERACTIVE MAP](#) | [USER REPORTS](#) | [AFTERSHOCKS](#) | [EARLIER QUAKE HERE](#)



Hint: Click on the image to see different maps of this quake!

Very strong magnitude 6.0 earthquake at unknown depth

16 Apr 13:34 UTC: **First to report: GEONET (NZ) after 4 minutes.**


16 Apr 13:35: Magnitude recalculated from 4.0 to 4.1. Epicenter location corrected by 10.2 km (6.4 mi) towards SW.

... [show all] ...

16 Apr 13:45: Now using data updates from USGS

EARTHQUAKE DETAILS

Date & time	Apr 16, 2026 13:30:01 UTC - 56 minutes ago
Local time at epicenter	Friday, Apr 17, 2026, at 01:30 am (GMT +12)
Status	confirmed (manually revised)
Magnitude	6.00
Depth	10 km
Epicenter latitude / longitude	32.2098°S / 178.0541°W Gisborne, New Zealand

Seismic antipode [32.2098°N / 1.9459°E](#)  [Spain](#)
Quality 30 seismic stations
Shaking intensity VI Strong shaking near epicenter
Felt 0 reports
Primary data source [USGS](#) (United States Geological Survey)
Nearest volcano [Volcano W](#) (113 km / 70 mi)

Weather at epicenter at time of quake



Clear Sky **14.4°C** (58 F), humidity: 67%,
wind: 8 m/s (15 kts) from W

Estimated seismic energy released 6.3×10^{13} joules (17.5 gigawatt hours, equivalent to 15080 tons of TNT or 0.9 atomic bombs!) | equivalent to **ONE quake** of magnitude | [about seismic energy](#)

ALERT LEVEL FOR THIS EARTHQUAKE: LEVEL **GREEN**

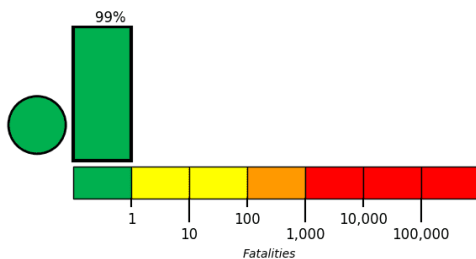
Based on seismic and statistical models, USGS estimates that **the risk of fatalities and damage from this earthquake is low**. The main factors that contribute to this evaluation are:

- The maximum expected ground shaking from this quake was unlikely to reach dangerous levels over populated areas; it should not have surpassed intensity VI (**Strong**) on the MMI scale significantly.
- The quake appears to have occurred far from densely populated areas (far as in relation to its magnitude).

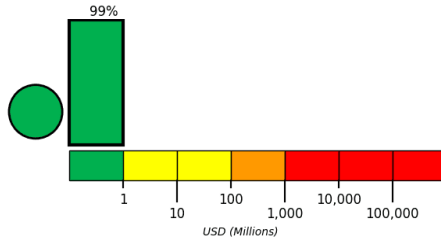
Comment

Overall, the population in this region resides in structures that are highly resistant to earthquake shaking, though some vulnerable structures exist. The predominant vulnerable building types are reinforced masonry and unreinforced brick with timber floor construction. There were no earthquakes with significant population exposure to shaking within a 400 km radius of this event.

Source: USGS



Green alert for shaking-related fatalities and economic losses. There is a low likelihood of casualties and damage.



Expected fatalities

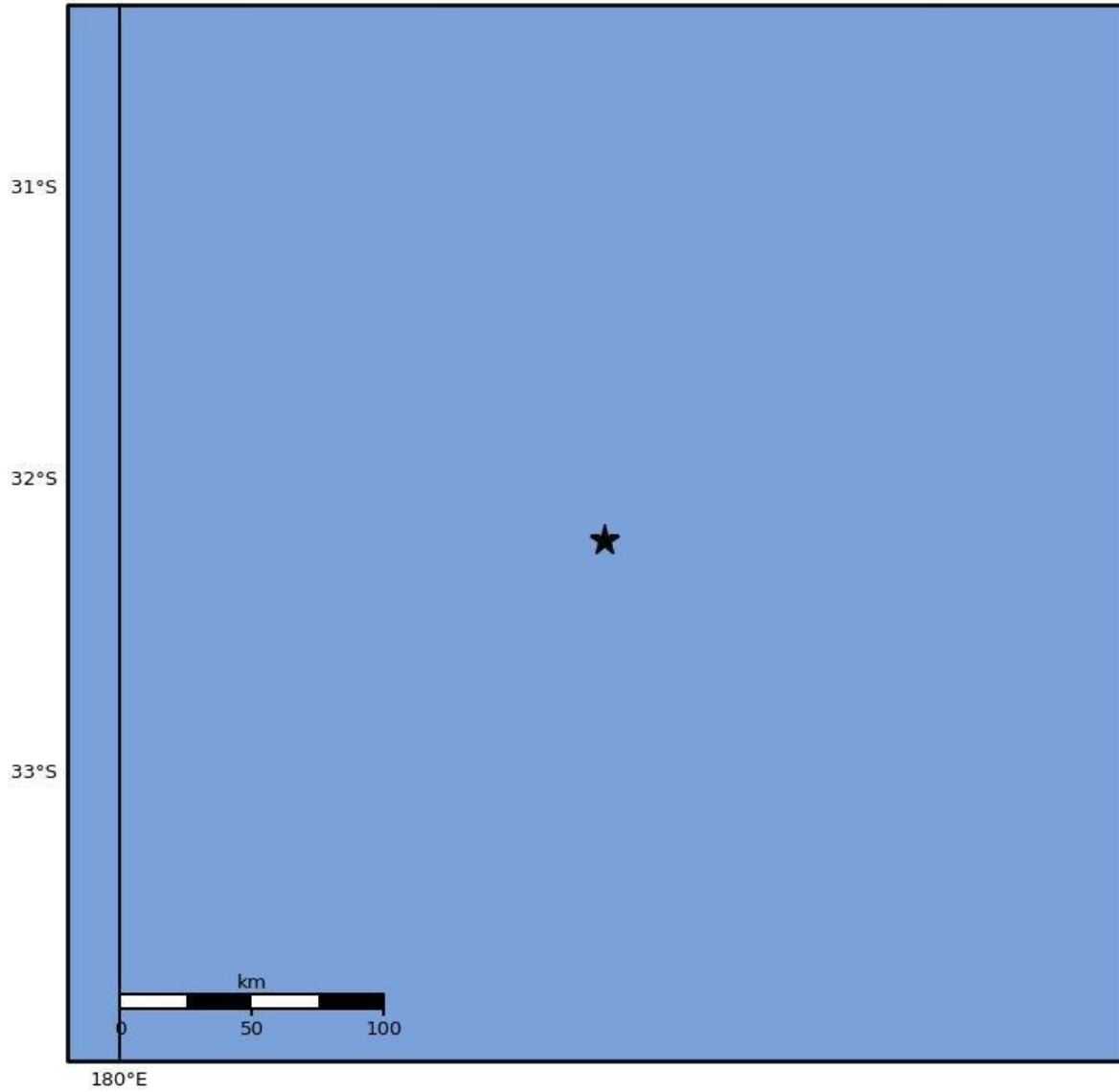
The risk of fatalities from this quake is considered low and classified as Level **GREEN**, the lowest on a color scale from Green (low) to Red (very high). USGS estimates that there is a 94.8% chance that there are **no direct fatalities** as effect of shaking and a 5.1% chance that between 1 and 10 fatalities occurred. The likelihood that there are more than 10 fatalities is less than 1%.

Expected economic damage

The economic impact of this earthquake is expected to be minimal or small (Level **GREEN**). Only light damage if any should have occurred. USGS calculates an 90.4% chance of total economic loss in the range of 0-1 million US Dollars and a 9.1% risk of losses between 1 and 10 million US Dollars. Total economic loss from this quake is not likely to surpass 1 million US Dollars (less than 1% chance).

GROUND SHAKING FROM THIS QUAKE

Macroseismic Intensity Map USGS
 ShakeMap: south of the Kermadec Islands
 Apr 16, 2026 13:30:01 UTC M6.0 S32.21 W178.05 Depth: 10.0km ID:us6000sqjb



SHAKING	Not felt	Weak	Light	Moderate	Strong	Very strong	Severe	Violent	Extreme
DAMAGE	None	None	None	Very light	Light	Moderate	Moderate/heavy	Heavy	Very heavy
PGA(%g)	<0.0464	0.297	2.76	6.2	11.5	21.5	40.1	74.7	>139
PGV(cm/s)	<0.0215	0.135	1.41	4.65	9.64	20	41.4	85.8	>178
INTENSITY	I	II-III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X+

Scale based on Worden et al. (2012)

Version 1: Processed 2026-04-16T13:50:30Z

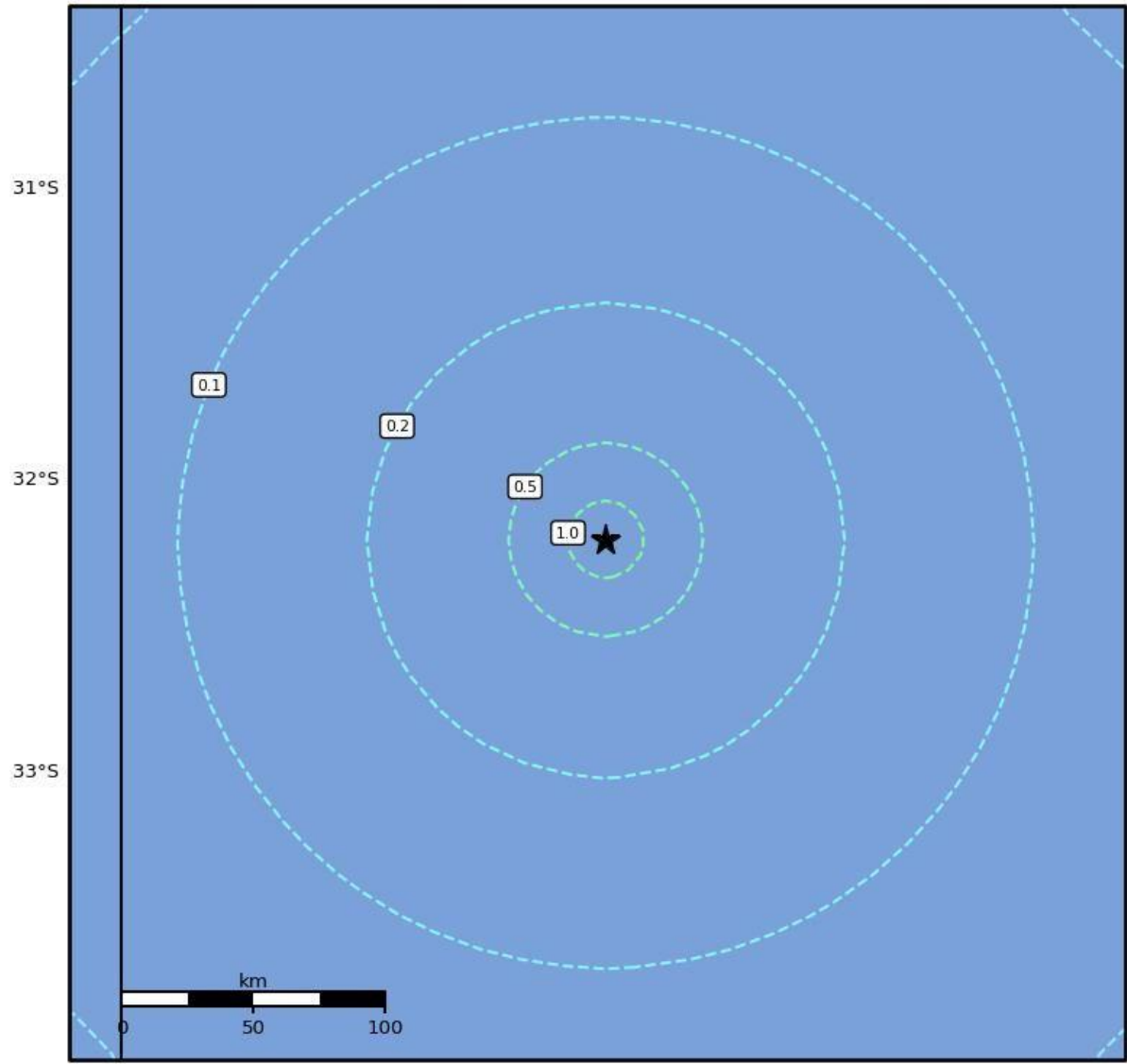
△ Seismic Instrument ○ Reported Intensity

★ Epicenter

Map of estimated ground shaking (source:USGS)

GROUND ACCELERATION MAP FOR THIS QUAKE

3.0 Second Peak Spectral Acceleration Map USGS
 ShakeMap: south of the Kermadec Islands
 Apr 16, 2026 13:30:01 UTC M6.0 S32.21 W178.05 Depth: 10.0km ID:us6000sqjb



180°E



Scale based on Worden et al. (2012) Version 1: Processed 2026-04-16T13:50:30Z
 △ Seismic Instrument ○ Reported Intensity ★ Epicenter

Map of estimated ground acceleration (source:USGS)