


# Very strong mag. 6.1 Earthquake - 93 km NNE of Hihifo, Tonga, on Monday, Apr 20, 2026, at 06:34 am (GMT +13) - 1 hour 60 minutes ago

Updated: Apr 19, 2026 19:10 GMT - 24 minutes ago

A very strong magnitude 6.1 earthquake occurred in the South Pacific Ocean 188 km (117 mi) from  [Samoa](#) in the early morning of Monday, Apr 20, 2026 at 6.34 am local time (GMT +13). The quake had a shallow depth of 36 km (22 mi) and was felt by many near the epicenter. The shallow depth of the quake caused it to be felt more strongly near the epicenter than a deeper quake of similar magnitude would.



## Very strong magnitude 6.1 earthquake at 36 km depth

19 Apr 17:38 UTC: **First to report: VolcanoDiscovery after 4 minutes.**

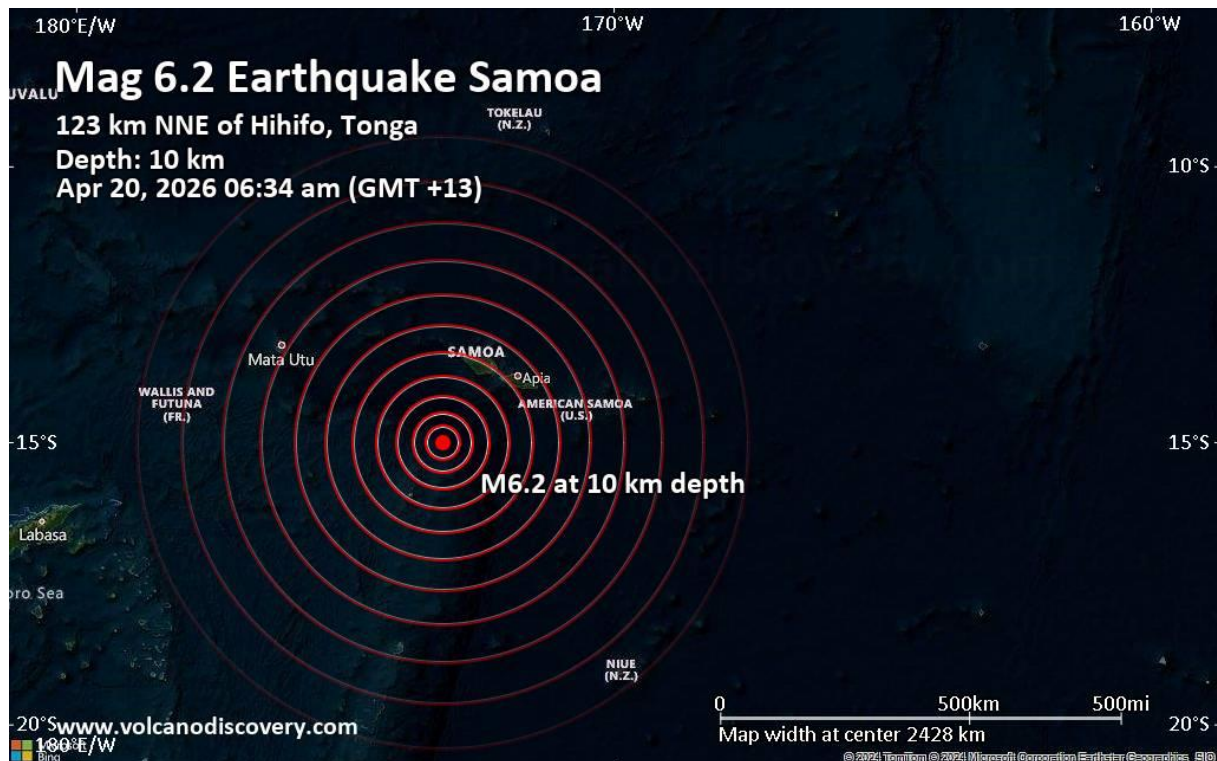
19 Apr 17:41: Now using data updates from USGS

19 Apr 17:52: Magnitude recalculated from 6.1 to 6.2. Epicenter location corrected by 14 km (9 mi) towards NNW.

19 Apr 17:59: Magnitude recalculated from 6.2 to 6.1. Hypocenter depth recalculated from 10.00 to 36.00 km (from 6.2 to 22 mi). Epicenter location corrected by 49 km (31 mi) towards WSW.

Update Sun, 19 Apr 2026, 17:54

## Significant 6.2 quake hits near Taga, Palauli, Samoa



A shallow magnitude 6.2 earthquake was reported early morning near Taga, Palauli, Samoa.

According to the United States Geological Survey, the quake hit on Monday, April 20th, 2026, at 6:34 am local time at a shallow depth of 10. km. Shallow earthquakes are felt more strongly than deeper ones as they are closer to the surface. The exact magnitude, epicenter, and depth of the quake might be revised within the next few hours or minutes as seismologists review data and refine their calculations, or as other agencies issue their report.

A second report was later issued by Italy's National Institute of Geophysics and Volcanology (INGV), which listed it as a magnitude 6.3 earthquake. Other agencies reporting the same quake include the European-Mediterranean Seismological Centre (EMSC) at magnitude 6.2, the German Research Centre for Geosciences (GFZ) at magnitude 6.0, France's Réseau National de Surveillance Sismique (RéNaSS) at magnitude 5.4, and The Incorporated Research Institutions for Seismology (IRIS) at magnitude 6.2.

Generally quakes of this magnitude are recorded by more than one agency and the results can vary, with subsequent reports that come in after the first one often showing more accuracy.

Based on the preliminary seismic data, the quake was probably felt by many people in the area of the epicenter. It should not have caused significant damage, other than objects falling from shelves, broken windows, etc.


In Taga (pop. 680) located 154 km from the epicenter, the quake should have been felt as light shaking.



# EARTHQUAKE DETAILS

Date & time	Apr 19, 2026 17:34:47 UTC - <b>1 hour 60 minutes ago</b>
Local time at epicenter	Monday, <b>Apr 20, 2026, at 06:34 am</b> (GMT +13)
Status	confirmed (manually revised)
Magnitude	<b>6.10</b>
Depth	36 km
Epicenter latitude / longitude	<a href="#">15.1256°S / 173.6164°W</a> 🇸🇲 <b>Tuamasaga, Samoa</b>
Seismic antipode	<a href="#">15.1256°N / 6.3836°E</a> 🇳🇮 <b>Niger</b>
Quality	77 seismic stations
Shaking intensity	V Moderate shaking near epicenter
Felt	4 reports
Primary data source	<a href="#">USGS</a> (United States Geological Survey)
Nearest volcano	<a href="#">West Mata</a> (15 km / 9 mi)

## Weather at epicenter at time of quake

Light Rain  **23.6°C (74 F)**, humidity: 77%,  
wind: 5 m/s (10 kts) from E

## Estimated seismic energy released

8.9 x 10<sup>13</sup> joules (24.8 gigawatt hours, equivalent to 21301 tons of TNT or 1.3 atomic bombs!) | equivalent to **ONE quake** of magnitude | [about seismic energy](#)