

# WAJD NEWS

We Are Jesus Doers - Watching, Praying, and Pointing Back to God's Word.

## Deadly Flooding Strikes Southern and Central China After Extreme Rainfall

At least 21 people have died after days of torrential rain caused severe flooding, landslide danger, transportation disruption, and emergency rescues across multiple provinces.

WAJD News Desk | Based on reports from May 16-20, 2026



Rescue crews navigate floodwaters after extreme rainfall hit southern and central China.

A deadly round of extreme rainfall swept across southern and central China from May 16 to May 19, 2026, leaving at least 21 people dead and several others missing. The unrelenting rain overwhelmed communities, damaged roads and bridges, disrupted transportation, and forced some schools and businesses to suspend operations.

China's National Meteorological Center kept a yellow rainstorm warning in place as heavy rain continued to affect large areas of the country. Officials warned that the intense downpours could trigger additional flash flooding, landslides, severe urban flooding, and dangerous waterlogging on roads and in low-lying neighborhoods.

The rainfall totals recorded during this event were extraordinary. Hefeng County in Hubei Province recorded 458.8 mm, about 18.1 inches, of rain. In Lixian County in Hunan Province, an hourly total of 146 mm, about 5.7 inches, fell in just one hour.

Hundreds of meteorological stations across the region reported torrential rain, and several locations broke historical or monthly precipitation records. Rivers rose quickly, mountainous areas faced landslide risks, and urban centers struggled with severe waterlogging that left vehicles stranded and underpasses flooded.

Local governments responded by activating emergency plans, relocating residents from high-risk areas, and deploying rescue teams to flood-affected communities. In many places, schools were closed and public transportation was suspended to ensure safety.

Emergency responders worked around the clock to evacuate people, deliver supplies, and help restore access to isolated areas.



Residents are assisted to safety by rescue teams in a flooded neighborhood in central China.

WAJD watches these events with a prayerful heart. We do not look at disaster with fear or sensationalism. We look with compassion for the hurting and with spiritual seriousness, remembering that creation is groaning and that the people of God must stay awake.

# Flood Deaths and Emergency Impacts Reported Across Several Provinces



Heavy rainfall floods streets in southern China, leaving vehicles stranded and residents wading through dangerous waters.

The reported death toll includes 10 people in a vehicle-flood incident in Huanjiang County, Guangxi. Authorities said the missing from that incident had been found, with five survivors and 10 deaths reported.

In Guiding County, Guizhou, officials reported four deaths and five missing people as of the afternoon of May 19. In Shimen County, Hunan, authorities said 23 townships were affected to varying degrees, with more than 61,000 people impacted, four deaths, and one person missing.

In Xuan'en County, Hubei, flood-control officials reported three deaths and four missing people as of the evening of May 18. Residents were relocated in some areas as floodwaters rose and conditions worsened.

In Hainan, officials issued a geological-disaster warning after a mountainside collapse affected a highway in Lingshui, leading authorities to close several major roads in that area of the island.

The rainfall zone stretched more than 1,000 km, according to Chinese meteorologists. The slow-moving rain event was linked to abundant moisture flowing from the Bay of Bengal, the South China Sea, and the Pacific Ocean.

The Ministry of Emergency Management described this round of heavy rain as the strongest since the start of this year's flood season.

**"When disasters strike, WAJD prays for the families, the missing, the rescuers, and the communities facing loss."**