Special Photographic Issue

Document 2011.3.11

Tsunami

Records of Tsunami Disaster in Miyako City and a Step toward Revival

The tsunami this time destroyed many precious lives and valuable properties. We would like to express our deep sorrow over the departed and sympathy for city residents who have suffered from the disaster. PR Miyako has decided to publish a special photographic issue to pass down the post-disaster state of the City as is to future generations. May this volume help people turn despair into hope and make a step toward revival of this city!.

> Photographers: Koji Fujita, Yoshiaki Kawauchi, Hiroaki Nakamura, Naomichi Nakamura (PR Miyako) Photo contributors (without title): Miyako Fishery Cooperative, Tarocho Fishery Cooperative, Hitoshi Maekawa, and Kaoru Wada







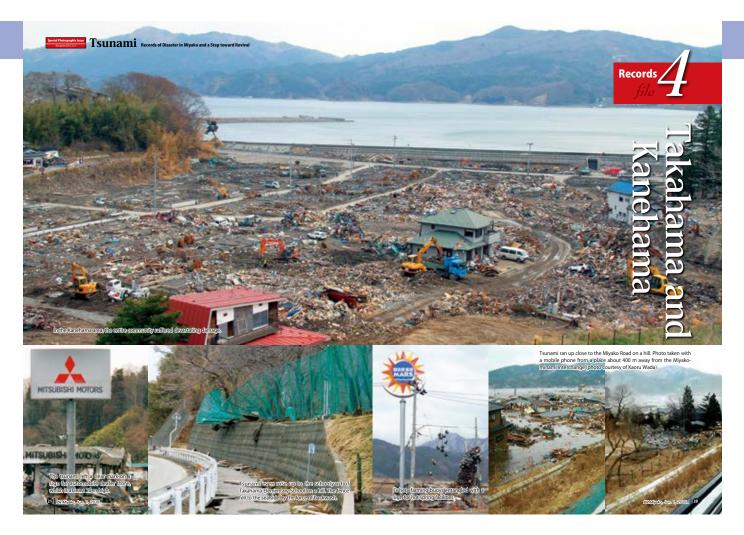




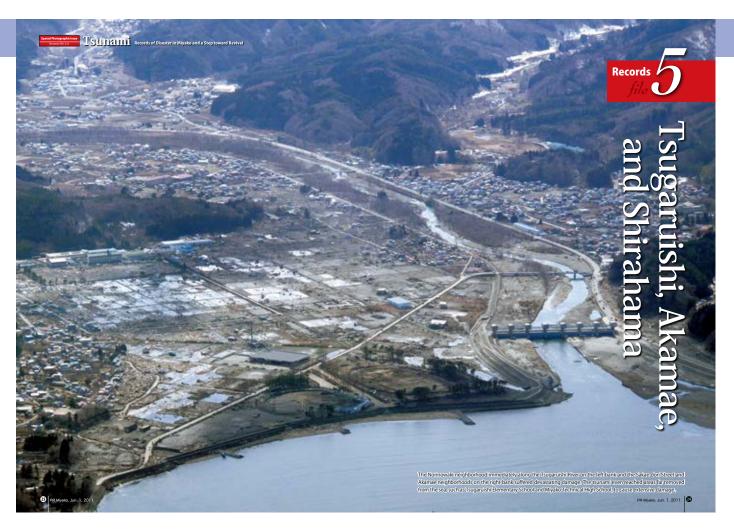


































1. Overview of Earthquake and Tsunami

(1) Overview of Earthquake

- O Date and time of earthquake occurrence: at 14:46 on Mar. 11, 2011
- Name

On Mar. 11, the Japan Meteorological Agency named the earthquake as "the 2011 Earthquake Off the Pacific Coast of Tohoku." On Apr. 1, the Japanese Government officially announced the name of the disaster caused by the earthquake as "Higashi Nihon Daishinsai (The Great East Japan Earthquake)." Iwate Prefecture makes it a rule to use the name "Higashi Nihon Daishinsai Tsunami (The Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami)."

○ Epicenter: Off the coast of Sanriku, around 130 km ESE of the Oshika Peninsula

38° 6.21′ N, 142° 51.66′ E ○ Focal depth: about 24 km

- O Source region: estimated to be about 450 km in length and about 200 km in width
- O Magnitude: 9.0

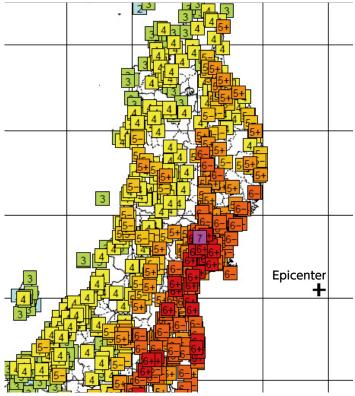
With a magnitude of 9.0, the earthquake is the largest in Japan on record. The resulting massive tsunami waves struck north Japan region along the Pacific Coast in particular to cause a disaster of unprecedented scale, leaving about twenty thousand people dead or missing.

A seismic intensity of 7 was observed in Kurihara City, Miyagi, while ground motion with a seismic intensity of 6-upper or 6-lower was recorded over a wide range of the Pacific coast from Iwate to Ibaraki Prefectures (Fig. 1). A seismic intensity of 7 was observed for the third time in Japan following the Southern Hyogo Prefecture Earthquake (Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake) in 1995 and the Mid-Niigata Prefecture Earthquake in 2004.

In Iwate Prefecture, cities such as Ichinoseki and Ofunato recorded a seismic intensity of 6-lower, indicating that stronger ground motion was observed in the southern part of the prefecture for being closer to the hypocenter. In Miyako City, a seismic intensity of 5-upper was recorded in Moichi, and a seismic intensity of 5-lower in Kadoma Tashiro, Kuwagasaki, Satsuki-cho, Taro, Kawai, and Nagasawa (Fig. 2).

The main rupture duration time for this earthquake was about 160 seconds. There were aftershocks with a magnitude of 7.4 at 15:08 on the same day off the coast of Iwate Prefecture to the north of the source region and one with a magnitude of 7.6 (the largest aftershock) at 15:15 off the coast of Ibaraki Prefecture. Very active seismic activities continued thereafter as well (Fig. 3).

In terms of the mechanism, this was a typical subduction zone-type major earthquake caused by the bouncing back of the tip of the continental plate (the North American Plate) that had been dragged by the oceanic plate (the Pacific Plate) going down from the Japan Trench (Fig. 4).



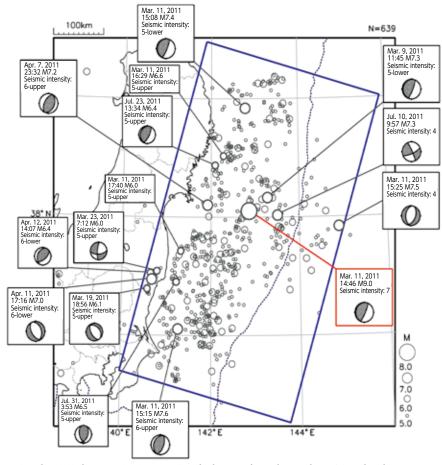
[Fig. 1] Distribution of Seismic Intensities of Municipalities for the Main Shock (with a Magnitude of 9.0 and a Maximum Seismic Intensity of 7), Which Occurred at 14:46 on Mar. 11

(Source: the Japan Meteorological Agency, Dec. 2012)

[Fig. 2] Seismic Intensities in Various Parts of Iwate Prefecture for Off the Pacific Coast of Tohoku Earthquake

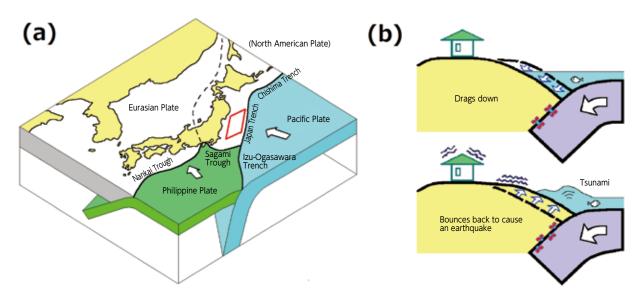
Seismic intensity of 6-lower	Nakazuma-cho, Kamaishi City(5.7); Minami-yahaba, Yahaba Town(5.7); Ofunato-cho, Ofunato City(5.6); Ikawa-cho, Ofunato City(5.6); Ukai, Takizawa Village(5.6); Hanaizumi-machi, Ichinoseki City(5.6); Fujisawa, Fujisawa Town(5.6); O-hasama-machi, Hanamaki City(5.5); Murone-cho, Ichinoseki City(5.5); Maesawa-ku, Oshu City(5.5); Koromogawa-ku, Oshu City(5.5)
Seismic intensity of 5-upper	Tadakoe-cho, Kamaishi City(5.4); Yabukawa, Tamayama-ku, Morioka City(5.4); Yanagihara-cho, Kitakami City(5.4); Aisari-cho, Kitakami City(5.4); Esashi-ku, Oshu City(5.4); Doya, Fudai Village(5.3); Shibutami, Tamayama-ku, Morioka City(5.3); Towa-cho, Hanamaki City(5.3); Matsuzaki-cho, Tono City(5.3); Hiraizumi-cho, Hiraizumi Town(5.3); Dendo, Hachimantai City(5.2); Noda, Hachimantai City(5.2); Zaimoku-cho, Hanamaki City(5.2); Nishine, Kanegasaki Town(5.2); Sakurakawa, Mizusawa-ku, Oshu City(5.2); Osawa, Yamada Town(5.1); Setamai, Sumita Town(5.1); Sanno-cho, Morioka City(5.1); Higashiyama-cho, Ichinoseki City(5.1); Kawasaki-cho, Ichinoseki City(5.1); Ogane-cho, Mizusawa-ku, Oshu City(5.1); Moichi, Miyako City(5.0); Ishidoriya-cho, Hanamaki City(5.0); Miyamori-cho, Tono City(5.0); Daito-cho, Ichinoseki City(5.0)
Seismic intensity of 5-lower	Kadoma Tashiro, Miyako City(4.9); Noda, Noda Village(4.9); Sakari-cho, Ofunato City(4.9); Joboji-machi, Ninohe City(4.9); Hizume, Shiwa Town(4.9); Kuwagasaki, Miyako City(4.8); Satsuki-cho, Miyako City(4.8); Kozenji, Ichinohe Town(4.8); Obuke, Hachimantai City(4.8); Taro, Miyako City(4.7); Kawai, Miyako City(4.7); Hachiman-cho, Yamada Town(4.7); Baba-cho, Morioka City(4.7); Itsukaichi, Iwate Town(4.7); Kawasaki-cho, Kuji City(4.6); Osanai-cho, Kuji City(4.6); Ishikiridokoro, Niinohe City(4.6); Sengarita, Shizukuishi Town(4.6); Karumai, Karumai Town(4.6); Nagasawa, Miyako City(4.5); Fukuoka, Niinohe City(4.5); Kuzumaki Motoki, Kuzumaki Town(4.5); Ohasama General Branch Office, Hanamaki City(4.5)

Figures in parentheses indicate the recorded seismic intensity. Prepared based on data published in *the Technical Report of the Japan Meteorological Agency*, No. 133. Dec. 2012



[Fig. 3] The Off the Pacific Coast of Tohoku Earthquake and Its Aftershocks
Each circle represents an earthquake with a magnitude of 5.0 or greater and a focal depth of 0-90 km that
occurred from Mar. 1, 2011, to Feb. 29, 2012. In particular, boxes with lead lines refer to earthquakes with a
magnitude or 7.0 or greater and those with a magnitude of 6.0 or greater and a seismic intensity of 5-upper or
greater that occurred inside the tilted rectangular region. (Source: the Japan Meteorological Agency, Dec. 2012)

[Fig. 4] (a) Plate Structure around the Japan Islands (b) Schematic Diagram of a Subduction Zone-Type Major Earthquake Caused by a Plate Going Down (Source: Okada, Mar. 2012)



(Source: National Research Institute for Earth Science and Disaster Prevention. *Research Report on the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake Disaster.*)

[Fig. 5] Assessments by the Earthquake Research Committee on Apr. 11, 2011

Assessments of the 2011 Off the Pacific Coast of Tohoku Earthquake

- At about 14:46 on Mar. 11, an earthquake with a magnitude (M) of 9.0 (interim value) occurred off the coast of Sanriku with a focal depth of about 25 km. The scale of the main shock was the largest in Japan on record. For this earthquake, a maximum seismic intensity of 7 was observed in Kurihara City, Miyagi Prefecture. Furthermore, high tsunamis were observed along the Pacific coast of the Hokkaido, Tohoku, and Kanto regions, including a tsunami at least 7.3 m high in Soma, one at least 4.2 m high at Oarai, and one at least 4.1 m high in Kamaishi.
- O In terms of focal mechanism, the earthquake was caused by reverse-type faults with pressure axes in the WNW-ESE direction at the boundary between the Pacific oceanic plate and the continental plate.
- As of 15:00 on Mar. 13, the largest aftershock so far is an earthquake of M 7.5 (interim value) that occurred at 15:08 on Mar. 11. Off the Pacific coast of Iwate to Ibaraki Prefectures, there have been three earthquakes of M 7.0 or greater and 40 aftershocks (interim value) of M 6.0 or greater. The source region for the aftershocks spans about 500 km in the north-south direction. Large-scale aftershocks may still arise in the future.
- GPS observation revealed crustal deformations due to the main shock, including a displacement of Shizugawa observation station in Miyagi Prefecture in the ESE direction by about 4.4 m. Furthermore, along the coast of Iwate to Fukushima Prefectures, a maximum subsidence of about 75 cm has been observed with some areas continuing to be submerged even after the tsunami subsided.
- The source region for this earthquake extends from off the coast of Iwate Prefecture to off the coast of Ibaraki Prefecture. According to diverse analysis results based on data such as seismic waves and crustal deformations, it is estimated that the earthquake had a source region of about 400 km long and about 200 km wide with a maximum slip amount of about 20 m or greater. The source region is considered to include off the coast of Miyagi Prefecture to the east of which the trench side of the southern part of off the coast of Sanriku, off the coast of Fukushima Prefecture, and off the coast of Ibaraki Prefecture, for which evaluations have been carried out by the Earthquake Research Committee. However, it may also have included the middle part of off the coast of Sanriku, the northern part of off the coast of Sanriku, and a part of the trench side of off the coast of Boso, Chiba Prefecture.

(Source: Technical Report of the Japan Meteorological Agency, No. 133. Dec. 2012)

(2) Overview of Tsunami

Since the Off the Pacific Coast of Tohoku Earthquake was a subduction zone-type massive earthquake with a magnitude of 9.0, its tsunamis also were of extraordinary scale. High tsunamis have been observed along the Pacific coast of Hokkaido to Okinawa with tsunamis having been also observed along the coast of the Sea of Japan, Sea of Okhotsk, and East China Sea. Furthermore, tsunamis have reportedly reached Hawaii as well as the Northern and Southern Americas.

At places such as Kamaishi and Ofunato in Iwate Prefecture and Ishinomaki in Miyagi Prefecture, the first wave of tsunami arrived at 14:46, or substantially at the same time as the occurrence of the earthquake, with a height of 10-20 cm, with the largest wave having hit at around 15:20, or about 30 minutes after the occurrence of the earthquake. In Miyako City, according to observation data at Hitachihama Beach tidal station of the Japan Meteorological Agency, the first tsunami was observed at 15:01 with another wave with a height of 8.5 m or more having been observed at 15:26 (These data may not be accurate since the tidal station was swept away. Fig. 6). According to a report by the Earthquake Research Institute, the University of Tokyo, a tsunami run-up height of 37.9 m was observed at Koborinai, Taro. According to tsunami trace survey results by the 2011 Tohoku Earthquake and Tsunami Joint Survey Group, a maximum run-up height for the tsunami this time was 40.5 m at Omoe Aneyoshi, Miyako City. This figure broke the reputed highest run-up height in Japan on record of 38.2 m, which had been observed at the time of Meiji Sanriku Earthquake and Tsunami in 1896 at Ryori, Sanriku-cho, Ofunato City. At 14:49, three minutes after the occurrence of the earthquake, the Japan Meteorological Agency issued major tsunami warnings for Iwate, Miyagi, and Fukushima prefectures, forecasting a tsunami height of 3 m. At 15:14, JMA updated the expected tsunami height to 6 m, and at 15:30 to over 10 m. However, some places near the coast were already hit by a tsunami at this time, or the updated information did not reach some other places because telecommunication there was cut off. Subsequently, JMA downgraded the alerts to tsunami warnings at 20:20 on Mar. 12, and then to tsunami advisories at 7:30 on Mar. 13, cancelling all warnings and advisories at 17:58 on Mar. 13 (Fig. 7).

The Sanriku Coast is known as zone frequented by tsunamis, suffering a number of massive tsunami disasters in the past, including the Meiji Sanriku Earthquake and Tsunami in 1896 (with a magnitude of 8.3), the Showa Sanriku Earthquake and Tsunami in 1933 (with a magnitude of 8.1), and the Chilean Earthquake and Tsunami in 1960. Furthermore, it has been reported that the Sendai Plain saw a tsunami run-up distance of about 3 km in the wake of the Jogan Earthquake in 869 during the Heian Era (with a magnitude of 8.3; Satake et al., 2008). It is said that the tsunami this time is similar to the Meiji Sanriku Tsunami in height and to the Jogan Earthquake in run-up distance inland from the coastline (Okada, 2012).

[Table. 6] Tsunami Observation Data Obtained at Tsunami Observation Facilities

	First wave	Highest w	ave	Highest tidal level		
Name of tsunami observation	Time of arrival (onset) a	Time of manifestation b	Height	Time of manifestation d	Tidal level measured by D.L.	
	Day hour minute	Day hour minute	CM * 9	Day hour minute	CM *9	
Miyako *1 *4 *5	11 15 1	11 15 26	8.5 m or more	11 15 26	9.0 m or more	
Ofunato *1 *3 *5 *6	11 14 —	11 15 18	8.0 m or more	11 15 18	9.8 m or more	
Kamaishi *1 *5 *6	11 14 —	11 15 21	420 or more	11 15 21	642 or more	
Off the coast of Kuji, Iwate *1 *2	11 14 —	11 15 19	4.0 m			
Off the coast of Miyako, Iwate *1 *2	11 14 —	11 15 12	6.3 m			
Off the coast of Kamaishi, Iwate *1 *2	11 14 48	11 15 11	6.7 m			

(Source: Technical Report of the Japan Meteorological Agency, No. 133. Dec. 2012)

- * 1 There are periods for which data is not available.
- * 2 The station has a GPS wave meter.
- st 3 Observation has been made using a massive tsunami meter (with a measurement unit of 0.1 m).
- * 4 The first wave was measured using a tidal gauge and the largest wave using a massive tsunami meter.
- * 5 The reading of the first wave may not be accurate due to ground subsidence.
- * 6 Fluctuations in tidal level caused by ground motion of the earthquake made it impossible to determine the time of the onset of the first wave from the tidal level data.
- * 9 Data from massive tsunami meters and GPS wave meters are shown using a measurement unit of 0.1 m.

[Table. 7] Status of Tsunami Warnings and Advisories Issued (Including Information on Expected Time of Arrival and Height for Tsunamis)

Issued time Top: warnings Bottom: Region subject to tsunami forecast	11 14:49 14:50	11 15:14 15:14	11 15:30 15:31	11 16:08 16:09	11 18:47 18:47	11 21:35 21:36	11 22:53 22:53	12 3:20 3:20	12 13:50 —	12 20:20 —	13 07:30 —	13 17:58
Eastern Pacific coast, Hokkaido	0.5 m	1 m	3 m	6 m	→	→	→	→				Canceled
Middle Pacific coast, Hokkaido	1 m	2 m	6 m	8 m	→	→	→	→				Canceled
Western Pacific coast, Hokkaido	0.5 m	1 m	4 m	6 m	→	→	†	→				Canceled
Northern Japan Sea coast, Hokkaido						0.5 m	→	→		Canceled		
Southern Japan Sea coast, Hokkaido		0.5 m	1 m	→	→	→	→	→		Canceled		
Okhotsk Sea coast			0.5 m	→	→	→	→	→		Canceled		
Japan Sea coast, Aomori	0.5 m	1 m	2 m	3 m	→	→	→	→		Canceled		
Pacific coast, Aomori	1 m	3 m	8 m	10 m or more	→	→	→	→				Canceled
Mutsu Bay		0.5 m	1 m	→	→	→	→	→		Canceled		
Iwate Prefecture	3 m	6 m	10 m or more	→	→	→	→	→				Canceled
Miyagi Prefecture	6 m	10 m or more	→	→	→	→	→	→				Canceled
Akita Prefecture				0.5 m	→	→	→	→	Canceled			
Yamagata Prefecture				0.5 m	→	→	→	→	Canceled			
Fukushima Prefecture	3 m	6 m	10 m or more	→	→	→	→	→				Canceled
Ibaraki Prefecture	2 m	4 m	10 m or more	→	→	→	→	→				Canceled
Kujukuri/Boso, Chiba Prefecture	2 m	3 m	10 m or more	→	→	→	→	→				Canceled
Uchibo, Chiba Prefecture	0.5 m	1 m	2 m	4 m	→	→	→	→			Canceled	
Inner bay of Tokyo Bay		0.5 m	1 m	2 m	→	→	→	→			Canceled	
Izu Islands	1 m	2 m	4 m	6 m	→	→	→	→				Canceled
Ogasawara Islands	0.5 m	1 m	2 m	4 m	→	→	→	→				Canceled

^{*}N/A means Not Available.
**Canceled means warnings/advisories were canceled.

[Fig. 8] Tsunami Survey Points and Tsunami Height

	Name of Observation point	Survey date	Survey time	Tsunami height (m)
99	Hitachihama-cho, Miyako City (near the Miyako tidal station) (i)	Mar. 28	12:00	7.3
100	Hitachihama-cho, Miyako City (near the Miyako tidal station) (ii)	Mar. 28	11:00	7.1
101	Hitachihama-cho, Miyako City (near the Miyako tidal station) (iii)	Mar. 28	12:25	5.1
102	Koganji, Miyako City	Mar. 28	13:45	8.5
103	Near the outfall of the Hei River, Fujiwara, Miyako City	Mar. 28	14:50	9.3

(Source: Technical Report of the Japan Meteorological Agency, No. 133. Dec. 2012)

* Hitachihama-cho, Miyako City (near the Miyako tidal station) (i) (ii) (iii); Koganji, Miyako City; and near the outfall of the Hei River, Fujiwara, Miyako City

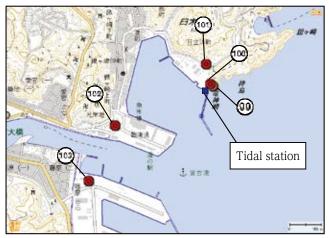


Fig. 3.2.83 Tsunami survey points



Photo 99 Traces of Tsunami (at point 99 in Fig. 3.2.83). Found drifts at places marked by red circles.



Photo 100 Traces of Tsunami (at point 100 in Fig. 3.2.83). Found drifts.



Photo 101 Traces of Tsunami (at point 101 in Fig. 3.2.83). Found drifts.



Photo 102 Traces of Tsunami (at point 102 in Fig. 3.2.83). Found drifts.



Photo 103 Traces of Tsunami (at point 103 in Fig. 3.2.83). Found drifts on trees.