

Vanuatu - January 2, 2002

On January 2, 2002 (3 January local date), a powerful earthquake with a magnitude 6.3mb (7.5Ms) approximately 45 km West of of Port Vila , caused extensive damage to this seaside capital on Vanuatu's main island of Efate and in the surrounding areas. The quake generated a local tsunami . Although the tsunami only registerd a crest to trough amplitude of 0.8 m on the tide gauge, eyewitness accounts in different parts of the Port Vila harbour put the maximum tsunami runup at at about 3.0 m which was large enough to cause significant damage. However most of the damage was due to earthquake effects. A major asubsequent aftershock also generated a a much smaller tsunami which was recorded by the harbor tide gauge. See [Tsunami Newsletter](#) and [Post-Tsunami Survey](#) links.