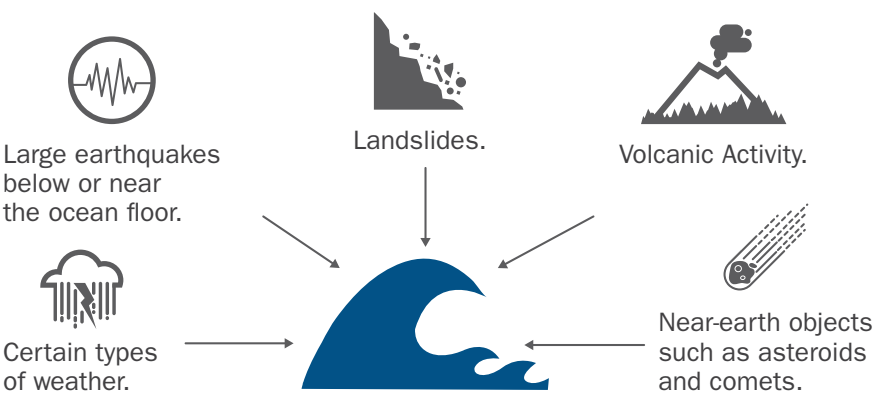


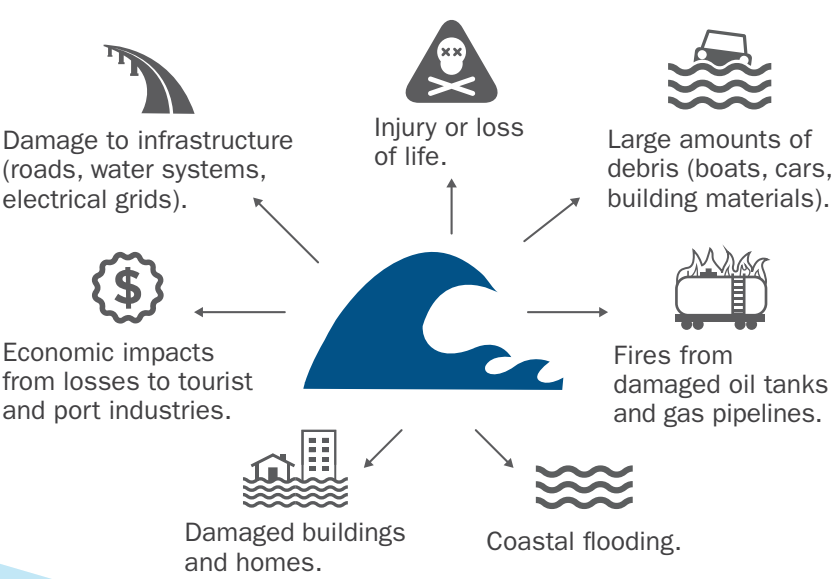
TSUNAMI

A series of enormous waves that can travel 20 to 30 miles per hour and extend up to 100 feet high. Tsunamis can occur anywhere along the coastline. Coasts that border the Pacific Ocean or the Caribbean have the highest risk.

CAUSES



IMPACTS



How I Can Reduce My Risk

Sign up for emergency notifications.

Know the natural warning signs including earthquakes, a loud roar from the ocean, a sudden rise of water or a sudden draining of water showing the ocean floor.

Have an emergency plan.

Find out if you live, spend time or travel in a tsunami zone.

Consult an engineer about how to protect your coastal home.

Practice a communication and evacuation plan with everyone in your family. Have a plan for pets and livestock.

Elevate potential sources of fire (like propane tanks) above the tsunami inundation level.

Know your tsunami evacuation route.

The illustration shows a two-story white house with a dark roof and dormers, situated on a sandy beach. A large blue tsunami wave is crashing onto the shore from the left. In the foreground, there is a blue patio umbrella and a red chair. The background shows a green hill under a blue sky with clouds.

How Local Officials Can Reduce My Risk

- Keep an inventory of critical infrastructure in the tsunami inundation area.
- Specially design and construct coastal structures to resist both tsunami and earthquake loads.
- Build coastal structures to allow for proper vertical evacuation.
- Adopt and enforce building codes and design standards that contain requirements for tsunami-resistant design.
- Identify tsunami assembly areas. These serve as immediate evacuation locations during a tsunami event. These areas include parking lots, buildings, elevated roads.
- Relocate fire-prone infrastructure such as electrical lines or oil/gas tanks.
- Conduct outreach on tsunami evacuation areas and tsunami risk.
- Limit new development in tsunami inundation areas and relocate existing infrastructure outside of the tsunami hazard area.

Additional Resources

Ready.gov
www.ready.gov/tsunamis

U.S. Tsunami Warning Centers
www.tsunami.gov/

Contact your local or state emergency management department for more information on tsunami risk reduction.

