

7.1 Magnitude Quake Hits Indonesia, Tsunami Warning Issued

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The quake struck out at sea at a depth of 10 kilometers according to Indonesia's geophysics agency. A tsunami warning was issued after the earthquake.

A 7.1 magnitude quake struck off the northeastern coast of Indonesia's Sulawesi island late on Sunday, prompting authorities to issue a tsunami warning.

The quake struck out at sea at a depth of 10 kilometers according to Indonesia's geophysics agency. The United States Geological Survey (USGS) put the magnitude at 6.9. There were no immediate reports of casualties or damage.

The agency had not lifted the tsunami warning over an hour after the quake, a spokesman told Reuters.

"We have not ended it because we are still monitoring the tide gauges for high waves...though none have been recorded yet," Rahmat Triyono, a BMKG official, told Kompas TV.

Residents in some cities panicked as tremors shook buildings and authorities urged people to seek higher ground.

Some hospitals in the city of Ternate, around 130 km (80 miles) from the epicenter, sustained minor damage and had to evacuate patients, according to media.

Residents in the seaside resort city of Manado, 185 km (115 miles) from the epicenter, said the quake was felt strongly for several seconds but no damage was reported.

Last month the coast of Indonesia was hit by a 7.3-magnitude earthquake but it did not cause a tsunami.

