Runups in the Hawaiian Islands for Large, Pacific-Wide, 20th and Early 21st Century Tsunamis

Runups given are estimated maximum heights in feet of water levels on land relative to sea level, produced by island flooding of the tsunami’s waves. Runups should not be confused with inundation limits (i.e., horizontal penetration of the island perimeters of a tsunami’s waves). In low-lying areas, inundation can extend inland for several hundred yards. Source locations for these tsunamis are the Aleutian Islands (1946 and 1957), the Kamchatka Peninsula (1952), Chile (1960), Alaska (1964), and Japan (2011). Runup data are not available for all of these tsunamis for all of the islands. Further discussion of runups, data sources, and the sectional runup maps from which these island-wide maps were derived may be found in:


Illustrations by Nancy Hulbirt, data compiled by Daniel A. Walker and the NOAA International Tsunami Information Center.