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Japan's nuclear emergency

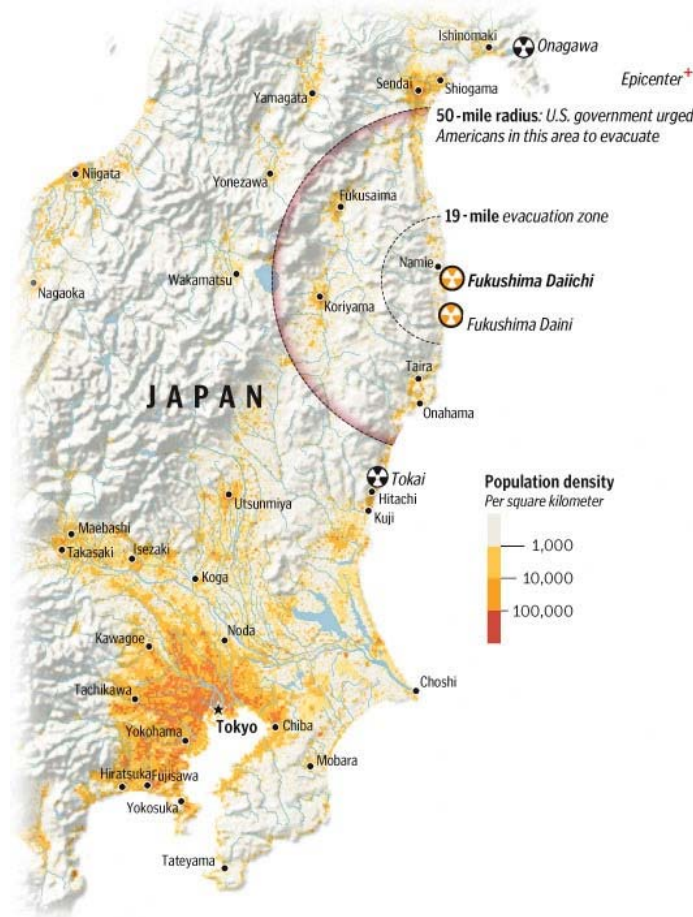
Damage at a nuclear power plant has made leaking radiation the primary threat facing a country grappling with devastation from a 9.0-magnitude earthquake and tsunami.

For a narrated animation of what happened, click here.

1 2 3 4 Next »

Evacuation

Japanese officials expanded the evacuation zone from 12.5 miles to 19 miles on March 25.



GRAPHIC: Wilson Andrews, Alberto Cuadra, Bonnie Berkowitz, Patterson Clark, Laris Karklis, Nathaniel Vaughn Kelso, Todd Lindeman, Alicia Parlapiano, Jason Samenow, Laura Stanton, Gene Thorp, Bill Webster, Karen Yourish - The Washington Post. Updated March 25, 2011.



Video: Inside Japan's nuclear emergency

Watch how the crisis at the Fukushima Daiichi power plant unfolded in this narrated animation.



Map: A wave of destruction

See how the powerful tsunami barreled across the Pacific.



Recent quakes in Japan

Japan is one of the most active seismic areas in the world. More than a thousand earthquakes of 4.0 magnitude or greater have struck in and around the country since 2009.

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SOURCES FOR "JAPAN'S NUCLEAR EMERGENCY": Tokyo Electric Power Company; Mitch Singer, Biff Bradley, Rod McCullum and Alex Marion, Nuclear Energy Institute; IAEA; The National Academies Press; "Power Plant Engineering;" "Nuclear Reactor Engineering; Reactor Systems Engineering;" Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists; Japan Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport; Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency of Japan; Nuclear Regulatory Commission; U.S. Food and Drug Administration; Kenneth D. Bergeron, Training Centre for Nuclear Technology; International Nuclear Safety Center; Argonne National Laboratory; U.S. Dept of Energy; Global Seismic Hazard Assessment Program; United Nations Population Division; World Health Organization, World Nuclear Association; NOAA Hysplit Model; U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission; Environmental Protection Agency; Japan Nuclear Energy Safety Organization; CDC; Health Physics Society; Physicians for Social Responsibility; Thomas McKone, senior staff scientist at the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory; General Electric.