

Published on *American Geosciences Institute* (<https://www.americangeosciences.org>)

Home > EARTH: Waves of Disaster: Lessons from Japan and New Zealand

EARTH: Waves of Disaster: Lessons from Japan and New Zealand

On Feb. 22, a magnitude-6.1 earthquake struck Christchurch, New Zealand, killing nearly 200 people and causing \$12 billion in damage. About three weeks later, a massive magnitude-9.0 earthquake struck northern Honshu, Japan. The quake and tsunami killed about 30,000 people and caused an estimated \$310 billion in damage. Both events are stark reminders of human vulnerability to natural disasters and provide a harsh reality check: Even technologically advanced countries with modern building codes are not immune from earthquake disasters.

Press Release PDF:



EARTH2June11.pdf
