

BREAKING NEWS: Typhoon Hammers Japan, Spreads Radiation to Tokyo?

By [Washington's Blog](#)

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Region: [Asia](#)

Theme: [Environment](#)

Japan Slammed by Typhoon

Today, Japan got hit with a major typhoon (a typhoon is [just another name](#) for a hurricane). Photos [here](#) and video [here](#).

The Sydney Morning Herald provides perspective on the [size of the typhoon](#):

Nearly 260,000 households in central Japan were without electricity, and authorities called for more than a million people to be evacuated in central and eastern Japan.

The storm, packing sustained winds of up to 144km/h, made landfall in the afternoon near the city of Hamamatsu, about 200km west of Tokyo.

CBS [reports](#):

Typhoon hits Tokyo, grazes nuke plant

A powerful typhoon slammed into Japan on Wednesday, leaving 13 people dead or missing in south-central regions and halting trains in Tokyo before grazing a crippled nuclear plant

Typhoon Spreading Fukushima Radiation to Tokyo?

The leaking Fukushima nuclear power plant avoided a direct hit (a broken video camera is the only damage reported by Tepco).

However, as CBS [reports](#), there is some danger of spent fuel pools from overflowing and spilling radioactive water:

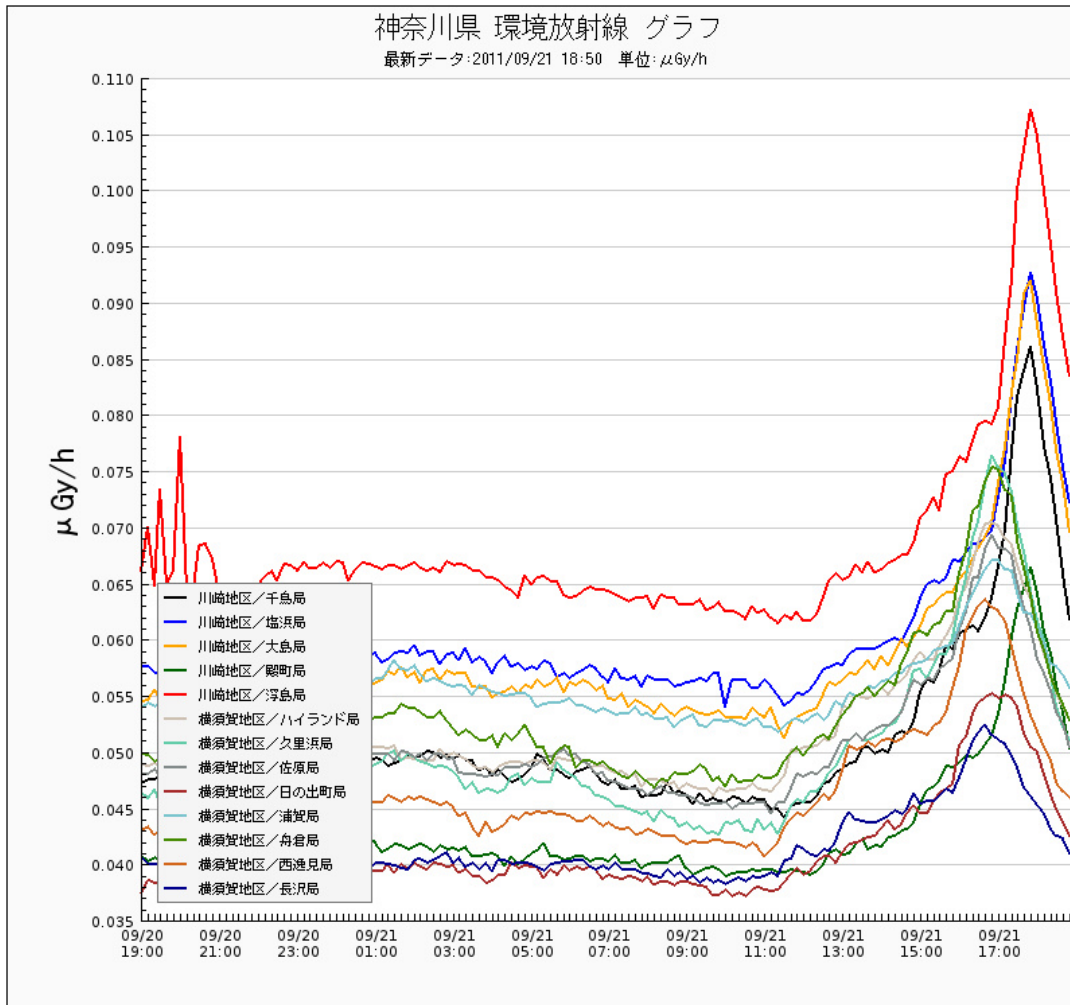
Typhoon hits Tokyo, grazes nuke plant

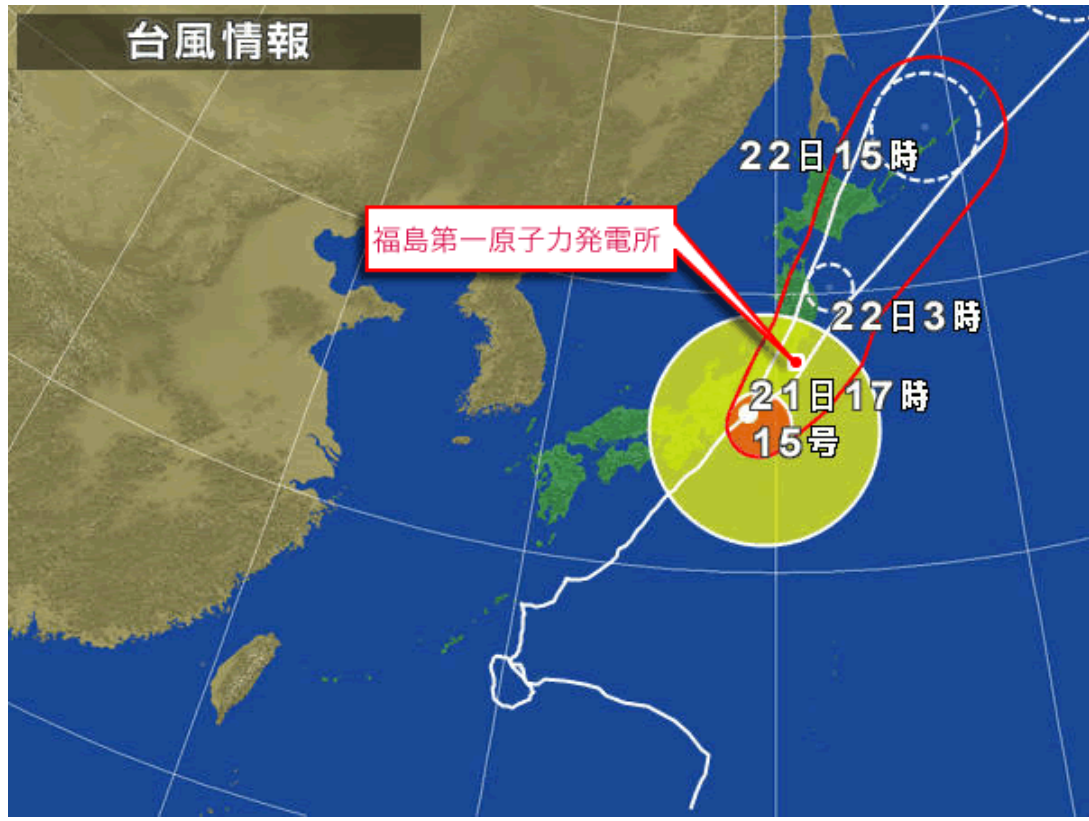
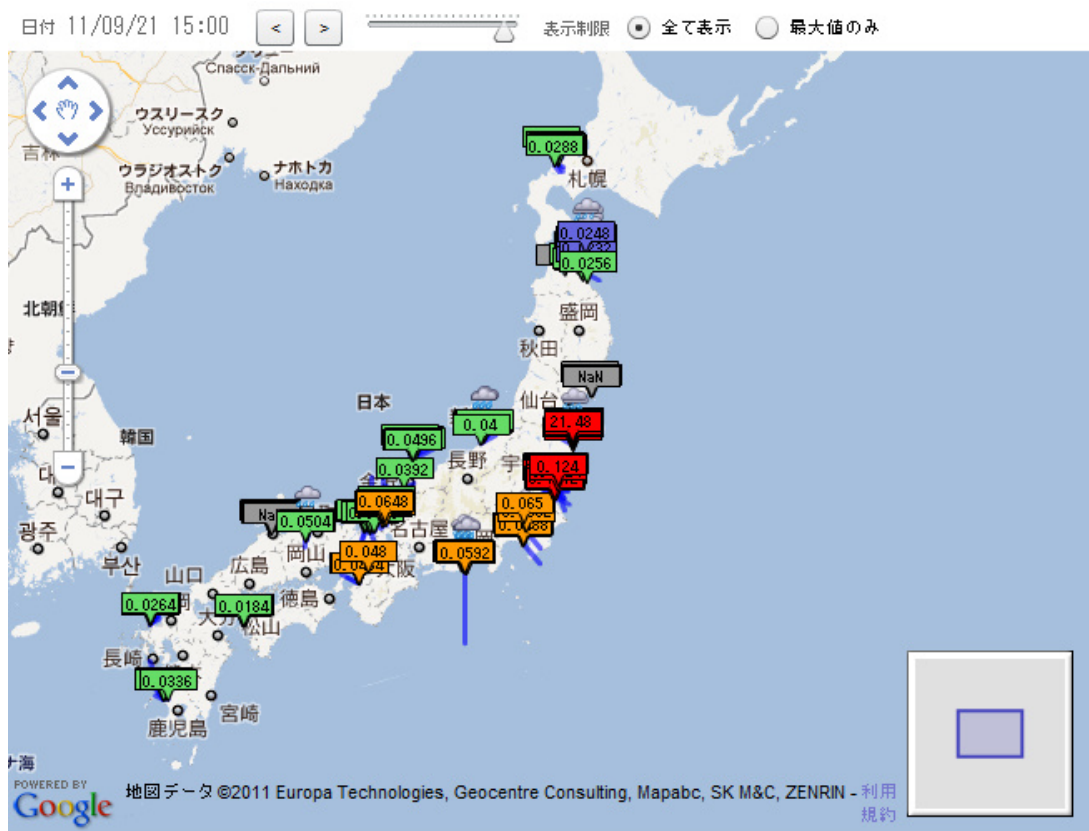
A powerful typhoon slammed into Japan on Wednesday, leaving 13 people dead or missing in south-central regions and halting trains in Tokyo before grazing a crippled nuclear plant

Workers were trying to prevent pools of contaminated water from flooding and leaking outside the complex, said Junichi Matsumoto, another power company spokesman.

“The contaminated water levels have been rising, and we are watching the situation very closely to make sure it stays there,” Matsumoto told reporters.

Yokohama-area blogger Mochizuki provides the following [on-the-ground reporting](#), claiming that radiation from Fukushima is peaking right now in Tokyo (click through any image to see larger version):







18:58 9/21/2011, Typhoon is almost right above this PC, in Yokohama.

Radiation level is spiking up around in Tokyo and Fukushima.

- In Kawasaki, **0.05 uSv/h** → **0.10 uSv/h**
- In Futabamachi, Fukushima, it's **21 uSv/h** now.

Wind is blowing from South to North, and it's very salty.

It's assumed typhoon is spreading the sea water around.

Radiation is assumed to have come from the sea.

One thing I'm sure is, I should have evacuated way before.

Photos from this typhoon







As I noted last week, [some areas of Tokyo have more radiation than in the Chernobyl exclusion zone](#), and evacuations of Tokyo have been discussed by the government and experts.

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