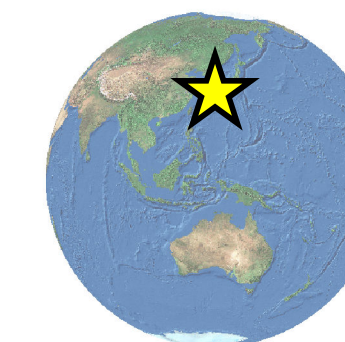
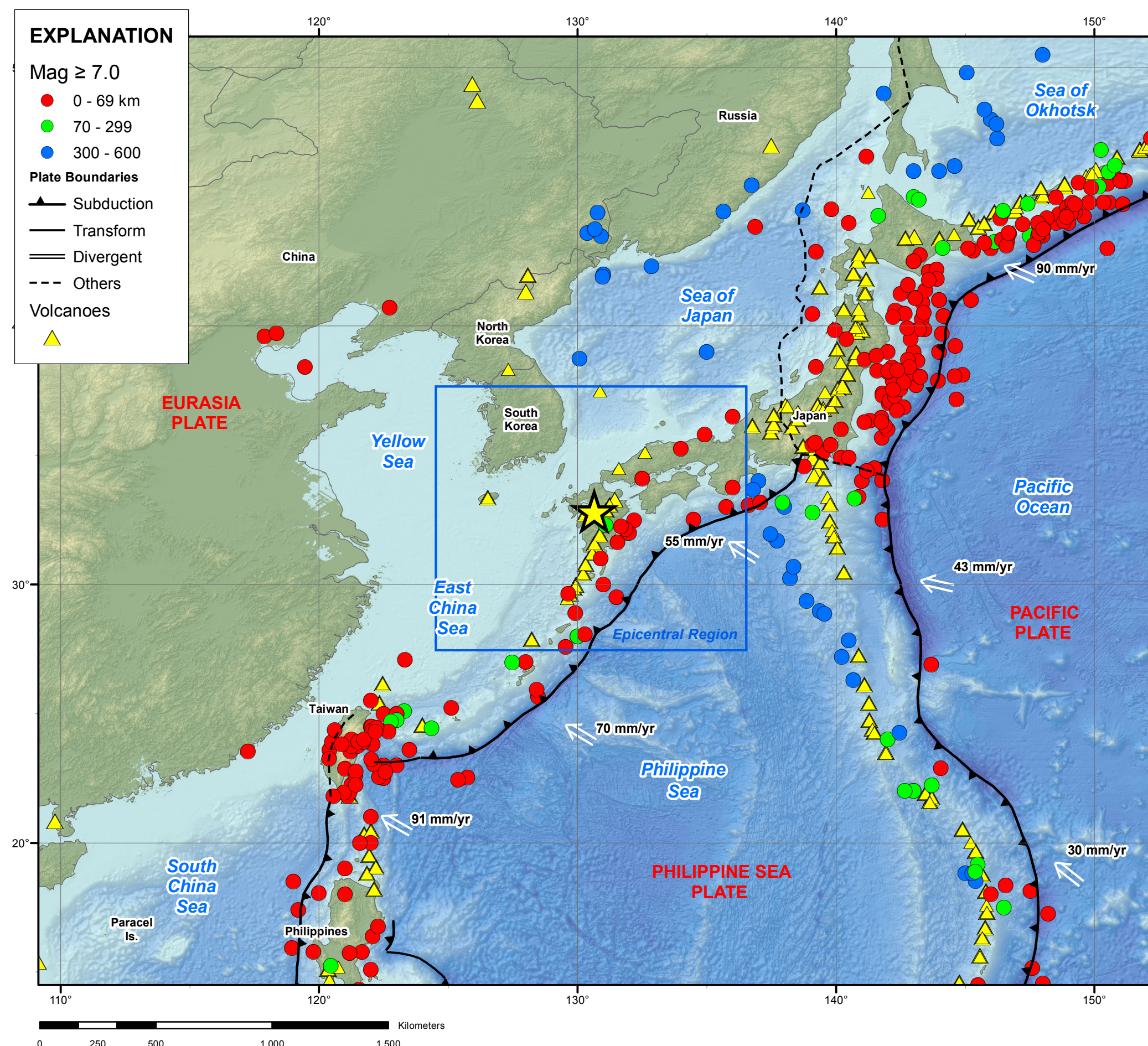


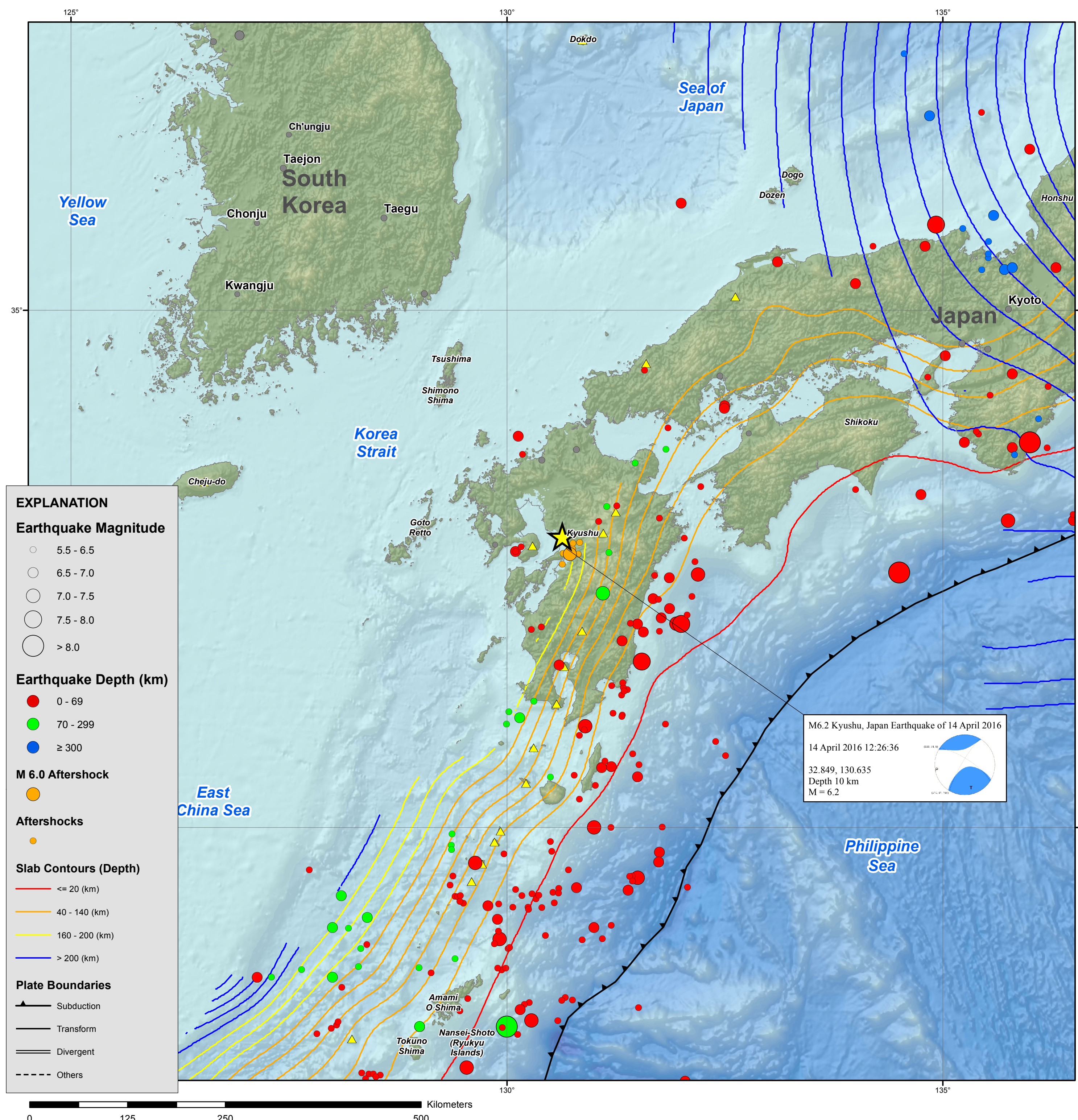
M6.2 Kyushu, Japan Earthquake of 14 April 2016



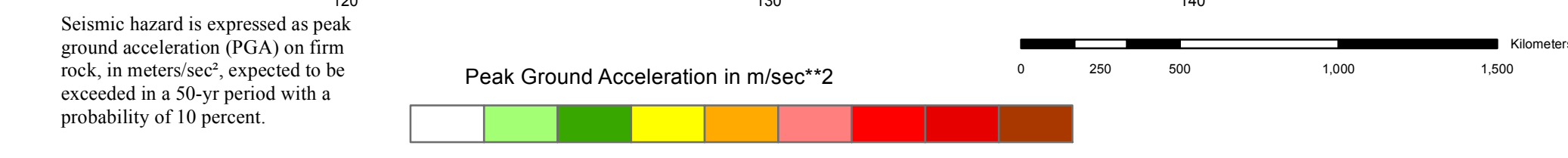
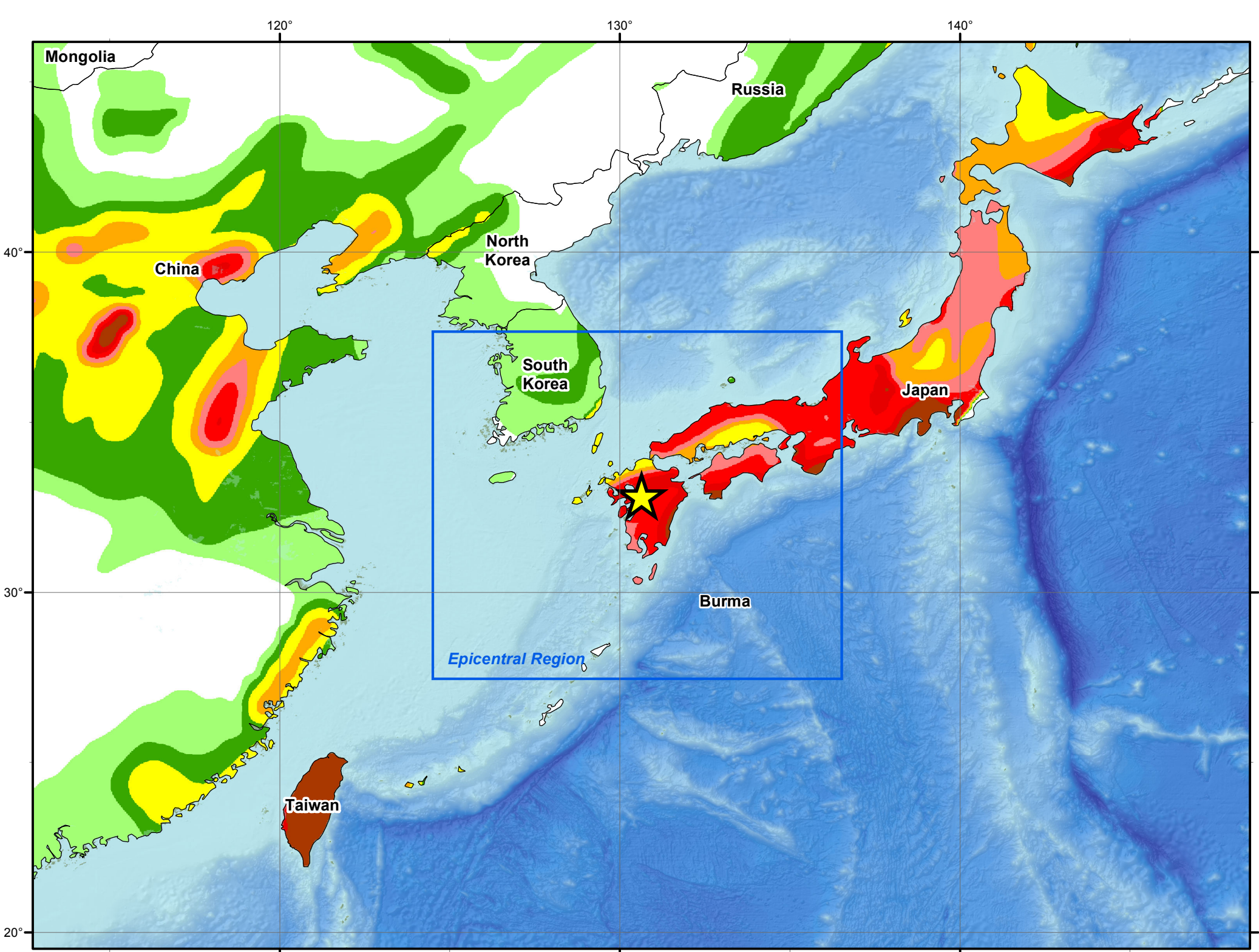
Tectonic Setting



Epicentral Region



Seismic Hazard



TECTONIC SUMMARY

The April 14, 2016 M 6.2 earthquake north of Kumamoto, on the island of Kyushu in southwest Japan, occurred as the result of strike-slip faulting at shallow depth. Focal mechanisms for the earthquake indicate slip occurred on either a left-lateral fault striking to the northwest, or on a right-lateral fault striking northeast. While the earthquake occurred several hundred kilometers northwest of the Ryukyu Trench, where the Philippine Sea plate begins its northward subduction beneath Japan and the Eurasia plate, the shallow depth and faulting mechanism of this earthquake indicate it occurred on a crustal fault within the upper Eurasia plate. At the location of this event, the Philippine Sea plate converges with Eurasia towards the northwest at a velocity of 58 mm/yr.

Moderate-to-large, shallow earthquakes in Kyushu are infrequent – most seismicity in the region is related to the subduction of the Philippine Sea plate at depth. Thirteen M 5+ earthquakes have occurred at shallow depths (> 50 km) within 100 km of the April 2016 event over the past century. In January and April of 1975, two shallow events with magnitudes of M 5.8 and M 6.1 - 40 km and 65 km to the northwest of the April 2016 earthquake, respectively – caused injuries, but no known fatalities. A shallow M 6.6 earthquake in March 2005, just off the north coast of Kyushu and 110 km north of the April 2016 event, caused over 1000 injuries and at least one fatality.

Mapped faults in the region generally trend east-west or northeast-southwest, in agreement with the right-lateral plane of preliminary focal mechanisms, and the trend of early aftershocks. In the first three hours after the M 6.2 event (12:26:36 UTC), 7 aftershocks have been located, the largest of which is a M 6.0 event at 15:03:47 UTC.

PAGER

USGS Earthquake Shaking Red Alert

M 6.2, KYUSHU, JAPAN
Origin Time: Thu 2016-04-14 12:26:36 UTC (21:26:36 local)
Location: 32.85°N 130.63°E Depth: 10 km

Estimated Fatalities

Estimated Economic Losses

Estimated Population Exposed to Earthquake Shaking

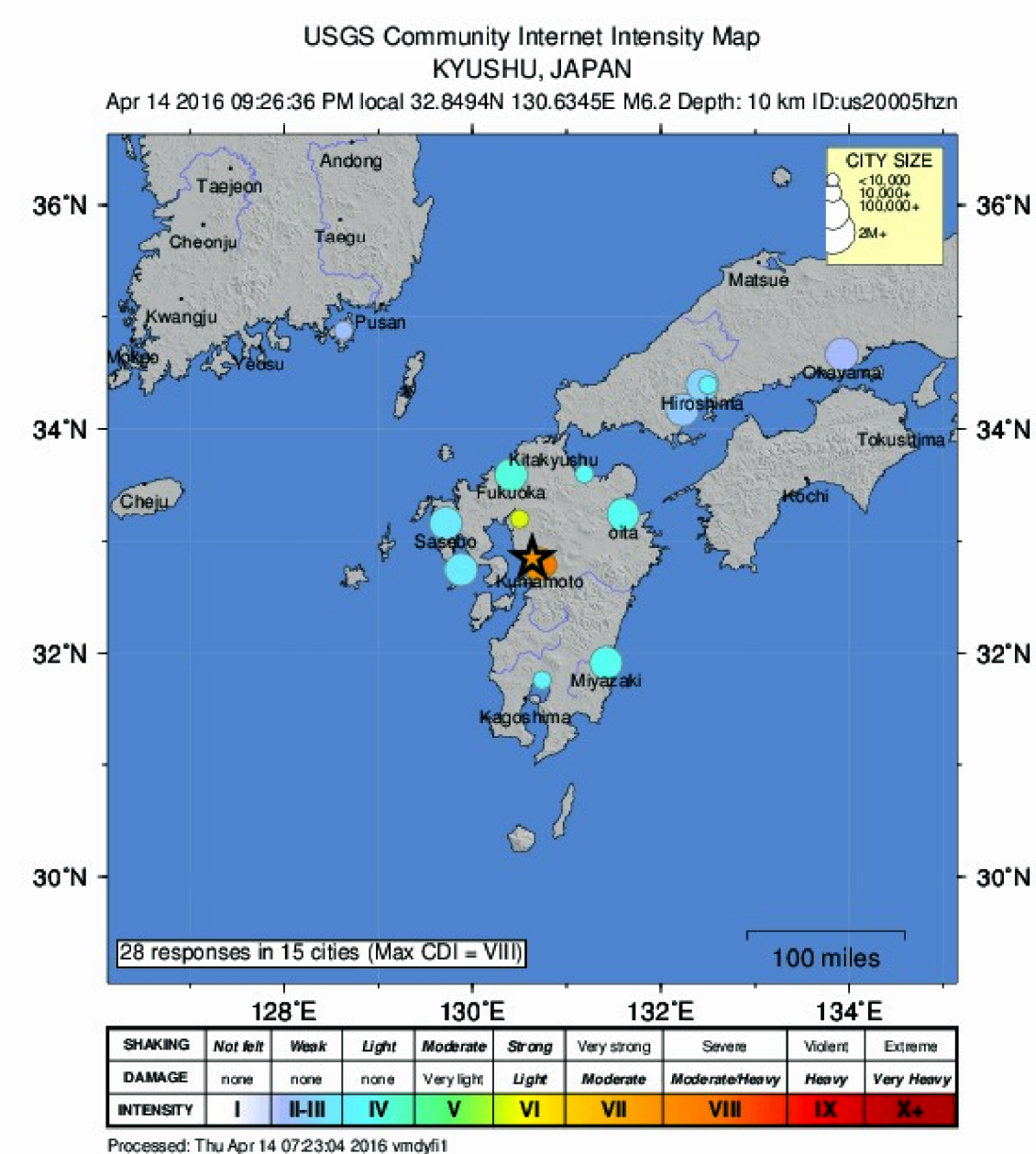
ESTIMATED POPULATION EXPOSURE (N = 21989)	I	II-III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X+
ESTIMATED NUMBER	13,469k	10,398k	1,187k	399k	192k	756k	0	0	0

Population Exposure

Selected City Exposure

City	Population
VIII Kumamoto-shi	650k
VII Uto	39k
VII Matsubase	26k
VII Ozu	39k
VI Ueki	32k
VI Tamana	46k
IV Fukuoka-shi	1,392k
IV Kagoshima-shi	556k
III Hiroshima-shi	1,144k
III Busan	3,679k
III Changwon	550k

Did You Feel It?



DATA SOURCES

EARTHQUAKES AND SEISMIC HAZARD
USGS, National Earthquake Information Center
NOAA, National Geophysical Data Center
IASPEI, Centennial Catalog (1900 - 1999) and extensions (Engdahl and Villaseñor, 2002)
EHB catalog (Engdahl et al., 1998)
IHF (unpublished earthquake catalog, Engdahl, 2003)
Global Seismic Hazard Assessment Program
Volcanoes of the World (Siebert and Simkin, 2002)

PLATE TECTONICS AND FAULT MODEL

FB2002 (Bird, 2003)
Ji, C., D.J. Wald, and D.V. Helmenberger. Source description of the 1999 Hector Mine, California earthquake, Part I: Wavelet domain inversion theory and resolution analysis. Bull. Seism. Soc. Am., Vol 92, No 4, pp. 1192-1207, 2002.
DeMets, C., Gordon, R.G., Argus, D.F., 2010. Geologically current plate motions. Geophys. J. Int. 181, 1-80.

BASE MAP
NIMA and ESRI, Digital Chart of the World
USGS, EROS Data Center
NOAA GEBCO and GLOBE Elevation Models

REFERENCES

Bird, P., 2003. An updated digital model of plate boundaries: Geochem. Geophys. Geosyst., v. 4, no. 3, pp. 1027-80.
Engdahl, E.R., and Villaseñor, A., 2002. Global Seismicity: 1900-1999, chap. 41 of Lee, W.H.K., and others, eds., International Earthquake and Engineering Seismology, Part A: New York, N.Y., Elsevier Academic Press, 932 p.

Engdahl, E.R., Van der Hilst, R.D., and Buland, R.P., 1998. Global teleseismic earthquake relocation with improved travel times and procedures for depth determination. Bull. Seism. Soc. Amer., v. 88, p. 722-743.

DISCLAIMER

Base map data, such as place names and political boundaries, are the best available but may not be current or may contain inaccuracies and therefore should not be regarded as having official significance.

Map updated by U.S. Geological Survey National Earthquake Information Center
14 April 2016
http://earthquake.usgs.gov/
Map not approved for release by Director USGS