

Weekly report

Institut de physique du globe de Paris

Observatoire volcanologique et sismologique de Martinique

Activity of Mount Pelée

Saint-Pierre, May 8, 2026, 18:45 local time (GMT-4)

Between May 1st, 2026 at 16:00 (UTC) and May 8, 2026 at 16:00 (UTC), the OVSM has recorded **336 volcanic earthquakes**:

- **328 volcano-tectonic** type earthquakes. Among them, 22 have a magnitude (local magnitude M_{lv} or duration magnitude M_d) higher than 0.5 and 5 have a magnitude higher than 1. The largest one has a magnitude $M_{lv} = 1.3$. The others are of lower energy. The vast majority of these earthquakes are located at depths between 0.4 and 1.7 km below the summit of the volcano. However, 1 earthquake has been preliminarily located at depths of 4.4 km below sea level directly beneath Mount Pelée. Volcano-tectonic seismicity is associated with micro-fracturing in the volcanic edifice related to the overall reactivation of the volcano observed since 2019.
- **8 shallow hybrid** type earthquakes. Among them, 5 have a local magnitude (M_{lv}) greater than 0.5. The largest has a magnitude $M_{lv} = 0.7$. The others are of lower energy. These earthquakes are principally located in the same zones as the shallow volcano-tectonic-type earthquakes. The seismic signals from shallow hybrid types earthquakes are enriched in low frequencies and are associated with the circulation of fluids (gas, hydrothermal fluids) within the volcanic edifice.

No earthquake was felt by the population.

The week before, the OVSM had recorded 494 earthquakes of volcanic origin. As of May 8, and during the last 4 weeks, the OVSM recorded a total of 1801 volcanic earthquakes, and an average of **450 to 451 volcanic earthquakes** per week.

During phases of volcanic unrest on volcanoes similar to Mount Pelée, it is usual to observe seismic activity variable in intensity and frequency. The probability of eruptive activity in the short term remains low. However, considering the observations accumulated over the past several years, particularly in recent months, an evolution of the situation in the medium term (weeks to months) cannot be excluded.

For more details on longer-term observations and interpretations of volcanic activity, please refer to the monthly bulletins of the OVSM. The alert level, in accordance with the provisions planned by the authorities, is currently **YELLOW: vigilance**

The Director's office of OVSM-IPGP.

Informations

The data in this report are preliminary and subject to change depending on their subsequent analysis.

The reports of OVSM-IPGP, including detailed monthly bulletins, are available at <https://www.ipgp.fr/observation/ovs/ovsm/>.

You can also find us on our [Bluesky](#) et [Facebook](#) accounts. Locations of volcano-tectonic and tectonic earthquakes determined by the OVSM-IPGP are available in real-time at <https://renass.unistra.fr/fr/zones/les-antilles/>.

To receive the weekly report by email, simply request it at: infos@ovmp.martinique.univ-ag.fr

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