

Weekly report

Institut de physique du globe de Paris

Observatoire volcanologique et sismologique de Martinique

Activity of Mount Pelée

Saint-Pierre, September 18, 2026, 16:00 local time (GMT-4)

Volcanic seismic activity

Between September 11, 2026 at 16:00 (UTC) and September 18, 2026 at 16:00 (UTC), the OVSM has recorded **123** volcanic earthquakes:

- **120 volcano-tectonic** type earthquakes. 5 have a magnitude (local magnitude M_{lv} or duration magnitude M_d) higher than 1. The largest one has a magnitude $M_{lv} = 1.38$. The others are of lower energy. These earthquakes are located at depths between 0.6 and 1.8 km below the summit of the volcano.
- **2 shallow hybrid** type earthquakes of low energy. These earthquakes are located around 1 km beneath the summit of the volcano.
- **1 deep long-period** type earthquake, located to the south-east of Mont Pelée at 28 km depth and with a magnitude $M_{lv} = 1.46$.

No earthquake was felt by the population.

The week before, the OVSM had recorded 159 earthquakes of volcanic origin. As of September 18, and during the last 4 weeks, the OVSM recorded a total of 538 volcanic earthquakes, corresponding to an average of **134 to 135 volcanic earthquakes** per week.

Deformation at Mont Pelée

Since May 2026, the OVSM has recorded multi-centimeters ground displacements in the summit area of Mont Pelée. The maximum extension recorded near the summit over the past four weeks was **0.7 cm** (along a 570-m-long profile), declining compared to the previous month. These displacements are consistent with deformation of the volcanic edifice induced by an inflating pressure source located at a depth of approximately 1 km beneath the summit.

The probability of eruptive activity in the short term remains low. However, considering the observations accumulated over the past months and years, an evolution of the situation in the medium term (weeks to months) cannot be excluded.

The alert level, in accordance with the provisions planned by the authorities, is currently **YELLOW: vigilance**.

For more details on longer-term observations and interpretations of volcanic activity, please refer to the monthly bulletins of the OVSM.

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 by mail at: infos@ovmp.martinique.univ-ag.fr

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