



Flooding in Peninsular Malaysia and Southern Thailand

Flooding in peninsular Malaysia and southern Thailand on November 18–25, 2025

Malaysia experiences its annual monsoon season from October to March, during persistent heavy rainfall often causes widespread flooding and displaces thousands of people each year. During this period, continuous rain impacted peninsular Malaysia and southern Thailand, resulting in severe flooding. In Thailand from November 19–21, rainfall reached approximately 630 mm, surpassing the previous historical record of 428 mm within the same duration, which caused Hat Yai, Songkhla province that recorded more than 300 mm of accumulated rainfall as its highest in over three centuries.

Damage and losses

Impact on the affected area

In Malaysia, several states, including Kelantan, Perak, Terengganu, and Penang, were severely affected by flash floods, river overflows, and landslides. Kelantan, particularly the border area near Thailand, experienced the worst impacts.

Meanwhile, Thailand has reported one of its most severe flood events in recent years. Floodwaters in some areas rose as high as 2 meters, and certain areas faced over 3 meters. Floodwaters also affected nine provinces in total, especially in Hat Yai, Songkhla province. Nearly 1.9 million people were impacted, with thousands displaced and several fatalities reported. Days of continuous rainfall disrupted food supply, clean water access, transportation, electricity, and communication networks, which placed the elderly and children at heightened risk.

Furthermore, the flooding may significantly affect Thailand's rubber industry, one of the largest globally. Authorities indicated that production could decline by an estimated 10,300 tons due to prolonged inundation.

Agricultural devastation

Agricultural land:

- Malaysia: The damaged areas were reported in Kelantan, Kedah, Perak, Terengganu, and Penang, while the rest of the region were also reported, including Bachok, Bagan Datuk, Besut, Hilir Perak, Kerian, Kuala Nerus, Kuala Terengganu, Kota Bharu, Kubang Pasu, Langkawi, Manjung, Padang Terap, Pasir Puteh, Pendang, Perak Tengah, Setiu, Tanah Merah, and Tumpat. Details are as follows:
 - Kedah: 2,767 hectares damaged
 - Kelantan: 468.64 hectares damaged
 - Perak: 189.62 hectares damaged
 - Perlis: 14,892.35 hectares damaged
 - Terengganu: 529.95 hectares damaged

- A Total of affected areas of the rest of the region were 3,955.21 hectares damaged.
- Thailand: Several provinces were damaged, including Satun, Pattani, Yala, Narathiwat, Trang, Krabi, Nakhon Si Thammarat, Phatthalung, and the worst area in Songkhla.

Affected crops:

- Malaysia: Several affected crops were damaged. The Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (KPKM) mentioned that rice stockpiles in non-affected states remain sufficient to support national consumption for approximately 5–7 months, ensuring food supply stability despite the flooding situation. Details are as follows:
 - Rice: 18,481.29 hectares damaged, with the production reduced around 45,951.88 tons.
 - Fruit: 177.40 hectares damaged, with the production reduced around 2,384.26 tons.
 - Vegetable: 107.13 hectares damaged, with the production reduced around 1,979.76 tons.
 - Cash crops: 41.86 hectares damaged, with the production reduced around 525.76 tons.
 - Corn kernels: 6.70 hectares damaged, with the production reduced around 28.01 tons.
 - Mushroom: 2.00 hectares damaged, with the production reduced around 70.48 tons.
 - Herbs: 5.27 hectares damaged, with the production reduced around 36.05 tons.
 - Coconut: 20.84 hectares damaged, with the production reduced around 186.31 tons.
 - Agricultural basic industry: 0.06 hectares damaged.
 - Napier: 2.01 hectares damaged, with the production reduced around 50.41 tons.
 - Kelulut honey: 3.00 hectares damaged, with the production reduced around 1.05 tons.
- Thailand: No official reports regarding crop damage have been released yet.

Government responses and countermeasures

In Malaysia, authorities issued alerts for high-risk areas and advised residents to prepare for evacuation as a precaution against rapid flooding along river areas. The National Disaster Management Agency (NDMA) urged the public to stay updated on water levels and weather conditions, while the Malaysian Meteorological Department (MMD) warned of continuous heavy rainfall expected throughout the week across the east coast and northern peninsular regions.

In Thailand, the Royal Thai Navy deployed personnel and an aircraft carrier to affected areas in Hat Yai to provide field kitchens, medical support, and relief supplies. The Meteorological Department (MD) also issued warnings for small boats to remain onshore due to waves exceeding 3 meters. Additionally, the Rubber Trading Center and the Thai Prime Minister ordered evacuations after days of persistent rainfall, which prioritized public safety and emergency response.

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