

Floods cripple Indonesia's capital

20 February 2021



Rescuers paddle a raft through a flooded neighbourhood in Jakarta on Saturday



Parts of Jakarta are under four to nine feet (1.2 to 2.7 metres) of water

Whole neighbourhoods of Indonesia's capital Jakarta and dozens of major roads were flooded on Saturday after torrential rains pounded the Southeast Asian city overnight.

More than 1,300 residents have been evacuated to temporary shelters, with parts of the capital under four to nine feet (1.2 to 2.7 metres) of water.

Images showed rescuers on rafts battling to evacuate the elderly and children from submerged houses in hard-hit southern and eastern areas of the city, and dozens of cars were seen submerged on waterlogged streets.

National rescue agency spokesman Yusuf Latif said the floods were triggered by extreme downpours.

"The rainfall intensity is very high due to [extreme weather](#) in Jakarta and it's been raining since yesterday night," Latif told AFP.

"Our top priority is children as well as infants and the elderly."



Residents wade through a flooded road in Jakarta on Saturday following heavy rains overnight

No casualties have been reported so far, he added.

Jakarta, a megalopolis that is home to around 30 million people, is frequently hit by floods in the [rainy season](#).

The [city](#) saw some of its deadliest flooding in years

in January last year after downpours that also triggered landslides.

At least 67 people in Jakarta and nearby cities were killed in that disaster, with the floodwaters reaching the second floor of some buildings after rivers burst their banks.

© 2021 AFP

APA citation: Floods cripple Indonesia's capital (2021, February 20) retrieved 12 April 2021 from <https://phys.org/news/2021-02-cripple-indonesia-capital.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.