

Tsunami Death Toll Soars to 145,000

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Associated Press

BANDA ACEH, Indonesia — U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan described the devastation on Indonesia's tsunami-battered island of Sumatra Friday as the worst he's ever seen, while authorities there pulled 4,000 new bodies from the rubble, bringing the confirmed overall death toll to nearly 145,000.

With tens of thousands and still missing and threatened by disease from the Dec. 26 earthquake and killer waves that hit 11 nations, the United Nations said the death toll would keep climbing.

Hardest hit was Sumatra, which was closest to the 9.0 magnitude quake, and where officials on Friday said they'd uncovered an additional 4,289 bodies — mostly in **Meulaboh**, which had been cut off by washed-out roads — raising Indonesia's toll to 98,489. Officials had briefly raised the toll to 113,306 on Friday but scaled it back later, blaming the inaccuracy on poor radio links with remote officials.

Annan's visit came after he attended a summit of world leaders in Jakarta on Thursday on how to turn one of history's largest-ever aid packages — nearly \$4 billion in pledges — into food for the hungry and shelter for the homeless. The U.N. chief urged nations to come up immediately with their promised aid, and to break with past practices of pledging much and delivering little.

Create and solve five real-world grade level appropriate mathematical questions utilizing the passage above.