

Impact Craters and the Age of the Earth

Large craters occur in different parts of the geologic record on earth, including Paleozoic and Cenozoic strata. Most creationists interpret these not as creation-week rocks, but as Flood or post-Flood deposits. **Nearly three quarters of the impacts sites known today were into sedimentary or a mixture of sedimentary strata overlying crystalline basement** and thus would be interpreted to be into Flood or post-Flood deposits by some young earth theorists.

Earth Impact Data Base PASSC

Target Rock & Exposed/Not Exposed Totals

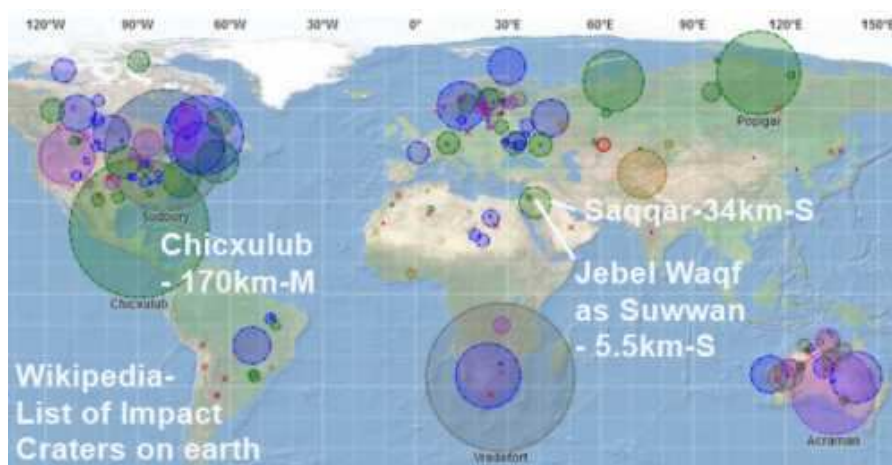
	C	C-Ms	M	S	Exposed	Not Exposed	total
North America	13	0	17	29	33	26	59
South America	1	0	6	3	11	0	11
Europe	18	0	13	9	18	21	40
Asia & Russia	6	1	14	9	20	9	30
Africa	3	1	2	14	18	2	20
Australia	4	3	8	12	24	3	27
totals			60	76	124	61	

Notation: C - Crystalline Target; C-Ms - Metasedimentary Target; M - Mixed Target (i.e. sedimentary strata overlying crystalline basement); S - sedimentary target (i.e. no crystalline rocks affected by the impact event).

Note that 73% (136) of the total is into sedimentary material and 63% of those into sedimentary material are exposed on the surface and thus in upper sedimentary material penetrating to different depths depending upon the size of the crater!! All of these impacts happening after the flood would be catastrophic to life on the earth !! Some want to put most all of the impacts into a six day creation week, but the data showing a very high percentage in upper sedimentary layers and exposed to the surface refutes this proposal, if as YEC's propose, the flood was a global former of this sedimentary material.

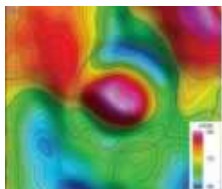
Many craters on the moon and other bodies show evidence of impacts over a significant period of time; many are overlapped and subdued by volcanic activity (Herres and Hartmann, 2004). Radiometric dates on lunar samples support the great age of the impacts and their formation over millions of years--certainly not within a literal earth week. In fact, radiometric dating methods indicate that the known earth impact sites range through out the history of the earth from the modern period less than about 600 years ago until 2,400 million years ago.

Two impact craters in Bible land are very telling!



Saqqa' of north western Saudi Arabia which is entirely into sedimentary material and at 34 km

diameter would have a large destructive effect on the area!! At about 400m depth and partially exposed on one edge it's signature pattern is as shown below as measured using airborne gravimetry instruments. The structure is formed in Cambrian–Devonian siliciclastics and is unconformably overlain by undeformed Cretaceous and Paleogene sediments. A small outcrop in the center of Saqqar may represent the exposed, albeit eroded, tip of the central crater uplift. A 34 km crater could have an ejecta blanket 110 km in diameter and with a zone of destruction extending further out, possibly covering many adjacent countries. Could be characterized as a "continent-buster" and could have some global consequences including global cooling caused by large amounts of dust thrown into the atmosphere. If it happened before a global massive catastrophic flood that formed this sedimentary strata its signature would not exist !

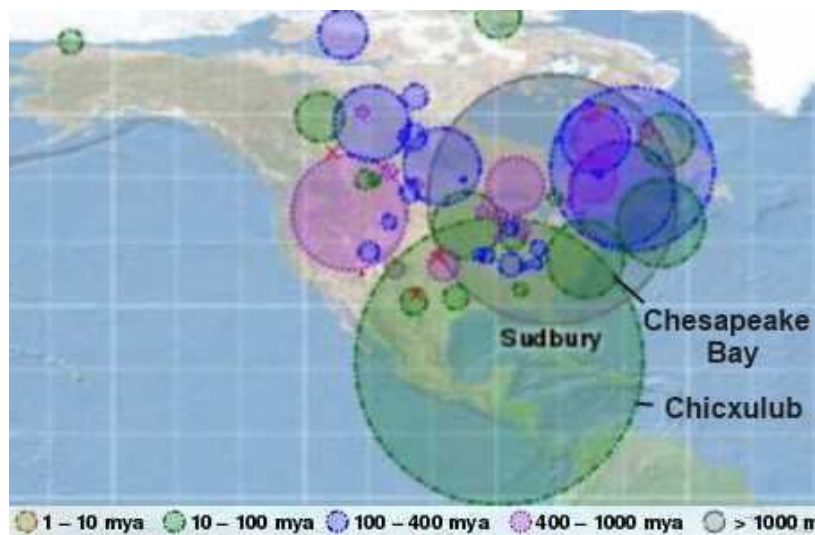


D) Airborne Bouguer gravity, A local gravity high of -60 mgal is surrounded by a low of -80 mgal. The former corresponds to the central uplift, the latter to the ring syncline.

(from SAQQAR IMPACT STRUCTURE: A BURIED 34 KM CRATER IN SAUDI ARABIA)

Jebel Waqf as Suwwan located in eastern Jordan, due east of southern end of the Dead sea, is listed as 5.5 km in diameter, exposed on the surface, and impacted into sedimentary Cretaceous limestone. It is located well within the area that would have been detrimentally influenced by an earlier Saqqar impact. Both of these craters existing in the geologic record, one above the other, indicate that they would have to have both happened after the theorized global flood that is proposed to have formed much of the sedimentary strata !!

Looking at North America we see many overlapping impact destruction areas at varying depths in the sedimentary layers. Chicxulub being much later than Sudbury and Chesapeake Bay more recent. Sudbury being the second largest on earth and entirely into crystalline rock.



Considering the following verses:

Gen 8:16 "Go out from the ark, you and your wife, and your sons and your sons' wives with you.

Gen 8:17 Bring out with you every living thing that is with you of all flesh--birds and animals and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth--that they may swarm on the earth, and be fruitful and multiply on the earth."

Gen 8:22 While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease." (ESV)

Then we would expect that there just would not be any catastrophic impacts after the flood to

hinder animals and humans from multiplying, and that is just what the data for craters less than 10,000 years old as presented in Wikipedia shows !

Name	Location	Country	Diameter (apx. km)	Age (thousand years)	Date	Coordinates
Wabar	Rub' al Khali desert	Saudi Arabia	0.1	0.2	~1800 AD	21°30'N 50°28'E
Kaali	Saaremaa	Estonia	0.1	4.0	1500 BC	58°24'N 22°40'E
Campo del Cielo	Chaco	Argentina	0.1	4.0	2000 BC	27°38'S 61°42'W
Henbury	Northern Territory	Australia	0.2	4.2	2200 BC	24°34'S 133°8'E
Morasko	Poznań	Poland	0.1	5.0	3000 BC	52°29'N 16°54'E
Boxhole	Northern Territory	Australia	0.2	5.4	3400 BC	22°37'S 135°12'E
Macha	Sakha Republic	Russia	0.3	7.3	5300 BC	60°6'N 117°35'E
Ilumetsa	Põlva County	Estonia	0.08	6.6	<4600 BC	57°57'N 27°24'E

Wikipedia July 2020

The Kaali impacts (c. 1500 BC) during the Nordic Bronze Age may have influenced Estonian and Finnish mythology, the Campo del Cielo (c. 2000 BC) could be in the legends of some Native American tribes, while Henbury (c. 2200 BC) has figured in Australian Aboriginal oral traditions. (see Wikipedia on each crater)

Old earth theories allow for long periods of time for the large catastrophic impacts to happen before the recorded history of mankind !!