New Madrid Seismic Zone

About 200 earthquakes per year



Danger in the Central U.S.: New Madrid Seismic Zone

- Winter of 1811-12
- New Madrid area shaken by some of the strongest earthquakes in U.S. history (estimated to have been magnitude 7 to 8)
- Damage reported as far away as Charleston, South Carolina, and Washington, D.C.
- Shaking was felt over 5,000,000 square kilometers.



Earthquakes: The Great New Madrid Earthquakes

-Widespread Effects from the 1811-12 earthquakes-

Numerous reports of landslides, ground failures and uplifts, sand blows, etc.

- Church Bells Rang in Charleston, SC.
- New U.S. Capitol in D.C. Damaged.
- Sidewalks Cracked in Cleveland.

Earthquakes were felt as far away as Canada and the Caribbean.





(Library of Congress)

The 1811-1812 New Madrid Sequence 3 Main shocks ~M7.3-7.5: 4 aftershocks ~M6.0-6.3



Weeks



After Fuller, 1912; Nuttli, 1973; Hough et al. 2001; Hough and Martin, 2001; Hough 2009

<u>Can't be</u> Predicted

Floods are slow to arrive

Tornadoes have warnings

Earthquakes occur without warning

What are the odds?

25-40% chanceof M6 or larger in50 years

7-10% chance ofM7 or larger in50 years

For similar magnitude earthquakes, shaking area is about 10 times greater in the central and eastern U.S.











Liquefaction Susceptibility - Earthquake Scenario: New Madrid Region











Christchurch in 2010 - before the earthquakes



Christchurch in 2014 - after the earthquakes



Earthquake insurance

- Most homeowners DO NOT have it
 Only 12.7% in NMSZ in Missouri
- Must be purchased separately called an "endorsement"
- Prices and deductibles have increased, especially in high-impact areas
- Check with your insurance agent





















Shaking Intensity 10+





- Fault uplifted downstream land surface
- Natural dam
- Backflow created Reelfoot Lake
- Channel soon reclaimed
- Evidence still visible today

1811-1812 New Madrid Sequence



Four M>7.0 earthquakes:

Dec. 16, 1811 (2:15 AM) Dec. 16, 1811 ('dawn') Jan. 23, 1812 (9:00 AM) Feb. 7, 1812 (3:45 AM)



Source: J. David Rogers, Ph.D., P.E., P.G. Missouri University of Science & Technology

Estimated 8 State Impact

HAZUS Report based on a 7.7 M earthquake occurring in the New Madrid Seismic Zone

<u>Casualties</u> Injuries Fatalities Infrastructure Damages	82,269 3,496	<u>Critical Facility Damages</u> Hospitals Schools Fire Stations Police Stations	129 1,322 729 379
Buildings Damaged Bridge Damage Airport Facility Damage Port Damage Railway Bridge Damage Damage to Dams Damage to Levees Hazmat Facility Damage Debris Generated (tons)	713,200 3,547 143 232 29 327 96 253 50 million	Transportation \$1	

Other Costly Disasters

1994 – Northridge, CA Earthquake
\$42 billion 60 deaths
2005 – Hurricane Katrina
\$108 billion 1,800 deaths



- 2011 Christchurch, NZ Earthquake
 - \$26 billion 181 deaths
- 2012 Superstorm Sandy \$50 billion 286 deaths



Estimated Missouri Impact

- 1,100 hospital beds in SEMO, only 80 available
- 200 schools in SEMO, most unusable for school or shelter
- 1,000 bridges damaged, inc. 500 impassable
- 310,000 households without power
- 124,000 households without water
- 14,000 injuries
- 700 fatalities

Prepare BEFORE an earthquake happens

 Put together an <u>emergency kit</u> – flashlight, first aid kit, radio, drinking water, blankets

•Develop a <u>family communication plan</u> – identify a relative living at least 100 miles away; everyone can call to "check in" to tell family you're safe

•Secure water heater, tall furniture, move heavy objects to lower shelves





How to Protect Yourself During an Earthquake







- If inside, stay inside!
- If outside, stay outside!
- **Drop** to the floor
 - before the earthquake drops you!
- Take **Cover**
 - under a sturdy desk or table
 - Or get down next to a wall and cover your head with your arms
- Hold On to it firmly
 - Be ready to move with it until the shaking stops.

An Insider's View: The Loma Prieta Earthquake Revisited

Earthquake Engineering Laboratory October 10, 2014



University of Nevada, Reno



If you're driving, pull off the road, away from buildings and utility poles, and stay in your car.

If you're outside, drop to the ground, away from large objects, and cover your face and head with your arms.



After the quake hits:

- 1. Find your family; check for injuries
- 2. If necessary, call 911 for help
- 3. If you smell gas or hear a hissing sound, go outside shut off gas valve
- 4. Be careful to avoid live power lines and broken glass
- 5. Listen to news for latest emergency information
- 6. Be ready for aftershocks!



Great Central U.S. ShakeOut

Get Ready
shake out.
10.17.19 Register Now at Register Now at www.shakeOut.org
Shake Out

- About 3 million people in 14 states participated in "Drop, Cover and Hold On" earthquake drill
- More than 500,000 participated in Missouri
- Sign up at shakeout.org





Anchorage, Alaska November 30, 2018



Thank You!

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