

Last updated 1 pm 01/13/10

EARTHQUAKE INTENSITY

The Modified Mercalli (MMI) Intensity Scale*

- 5** Felt by nearly everyone; many awakened. Some dishes, windows broken. Unstable objects overturned. Pendulum clocks may stop.
- 6** Felt by all, many frightened. Some heavy furniture moved; a few instances of fallen plaster. Damage slight.
- 7** Damage negligible in buildings of good design and construction; slight to moderate in well-built ordinary structures; considerable damage in poorly built or badly designed structures; some chimneys broken.
- 8** Damage slight in specially designed structures; considerable damage in ordinary substantial buildings with partial collapse. Damage great in poorly built structures. Fall of chimneys, factory stacks, columns, monuments, walls. Heavy furniture overturned.
- 9** Damage considerable in specially designed structures; well-designed frame structures thrown out of plumb. Damage great in substantial buildings, with partial collapse. Buildings shifted off foundations.
- 10⁺** Some well-built wooden structures destroyed; most masonry and frame structures destroyed with foundations. Rails bent.

Source: USGS

*MMI is a measure of ground shaking and is different from overall earthquake magnitude as measured by the Richter Scale.

⁺Area shown on map may fall within MMI 9 classification, but constitute the areas of heaviest shaking based on USGS data.

POPULATION EXPOSED TO SHAKING

The Modified Mercalli (MMI) Intensity Scale

MMI INTENSITY	POPULATION
5	6,308,000
6	777,000
7	749,000
8	1,884,000
9	710,000
10	137,000

Source: USGS/PAGER Alert Version: 5



The boundaries and names used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the U.S. Government.