

Quake magnitude scale

Description of what might happen based on the magnitude scale:

Scale Potential damage

1.5	Detected only by sensitive instruments.
2	Felt by few people at rest; delicately suspended objects may swing.
2.5	Felt noticeably indoors; stationary autos rock slightly.
3 - 3.5	Felt indoors by many, outdoors by few; dishes and windows rattle.
4	Felt by most people; some dishes and windows break.
4.5	Felt by all; many are frightened enough to run outdoors; plaster and chimneys fall.
5	Everybody runs outdoors; damage to buildings depends on construction.
5.5 - 6	Panel walls thrown out of frame; walls, monuments and chimneys fall; drivers of autos disturbed.
6.5	Buildings shifted off foundation, cracked, thrown out of plumb; ground cracked; underground pipes broken.
7	Most masonry and frame structures destroyed; rails bent; landslides.
7.5	Few structures remain standing; bridges destroyed, fissures in ground.
8	Damage is total; waves seen on ground surface, objects thrown into air.

SOURCE: Adapted from information on the OhioSeis web site www.dnr.state.oh.us/OhioSeis