

THE MERCALLI SCALE

Scale I	only a few people can feel it
Scale II	only people on the upper floors of buildings can feel it
Scale III	people feel it indoors
Scale IV	hanging objects swing
Scale V	people feel it outdoors
Scale VI	all people can feel it; many are frightened and run outdoors
Scale VII	people have difficulty in standing
Scale VIII	little damage in strong buildings
Scale IX	much damage in strong buildings
Scale X	ground cracks and train rails bend
Scale XI	bridges destroyed, broad cracks in the ground
Scale XII	all buildings are destroyed

When there is an earthquake, buildings may start to shake. The buildings may shake so much that they fall down, and people may be killed.

One way to measure an earthquake is by the way it feels. The Mercalli Scale shows how it feels when there is an earthquake.