

Kahramanmaraş Earthquake

On February 6, 2023, at 4:17 a.m an earthquake of magnitude 7.8 hit Pazarcık, Kahramanmaraş. At 13:24 a magnitude 7.6 earthquake hit Elbistan in same province which were followed by continuous aftershocks. The earthquake left devastated damages to wide areas in southeast of Türkiye. The largest intensity X was observed in Hatay.

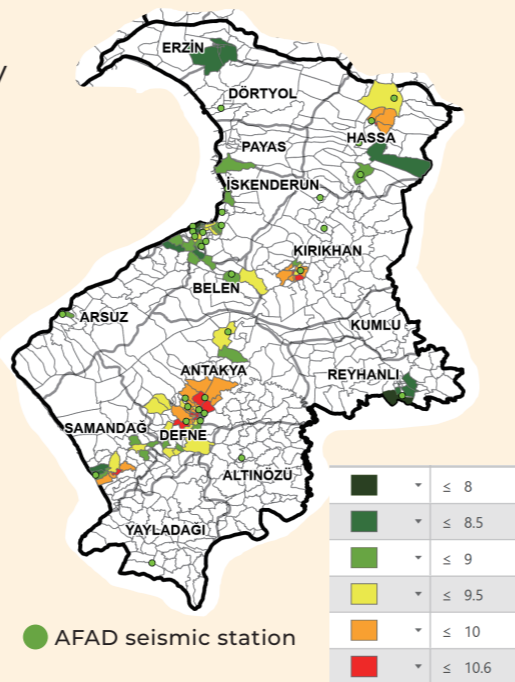
“Earthquake Intensity” measures the tremor felt and damages at the ground surface.

Earthquake intensity is larger near the seismic fault and decreases with distance. In some locations, earthquake intensity is larger depending on ground conditions.



AFAD seismic station monitors earthquake (Antakya, Hatay)

Questionnaire based Earthquake Intensity map of Hatay



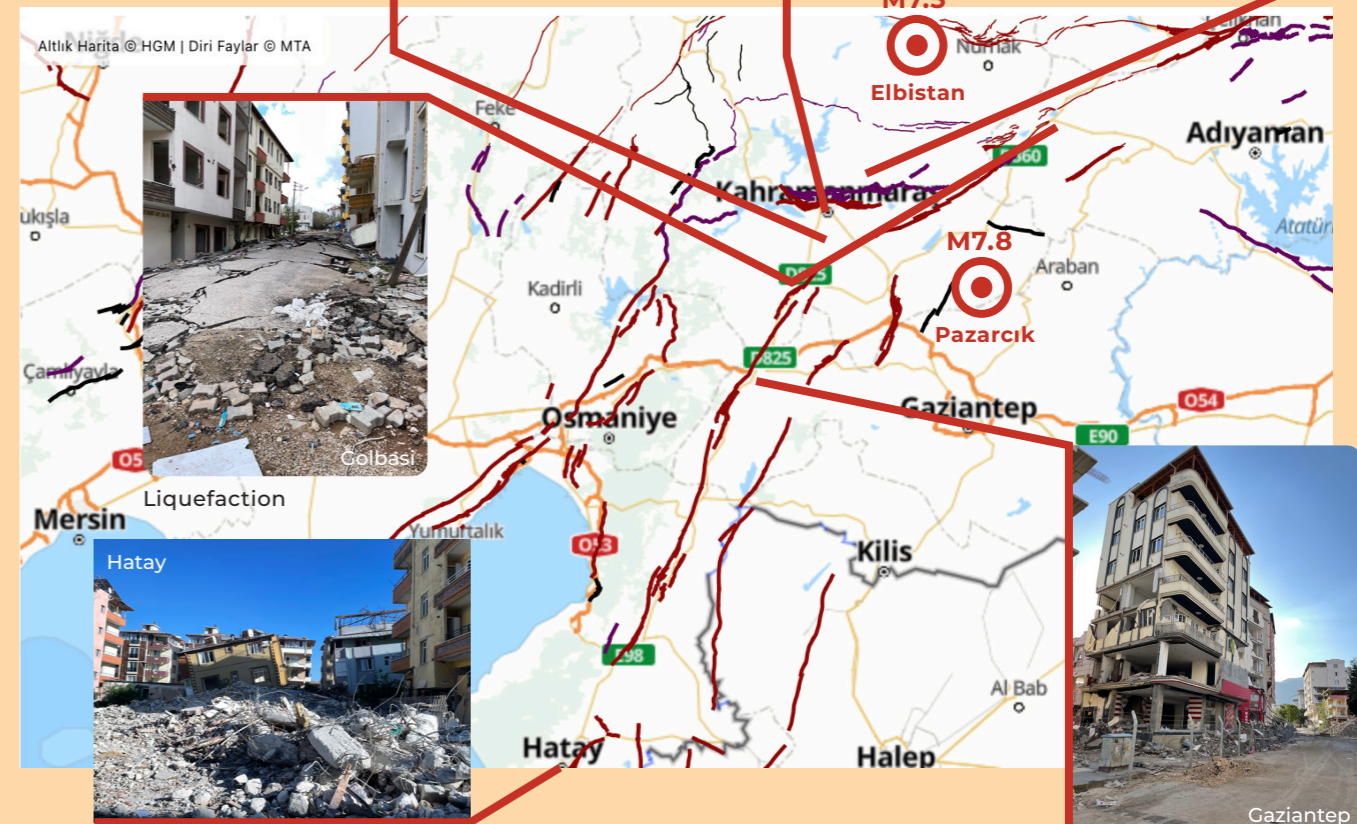
Damages in the earthquake suffered region



Road deformed by active fault

Collapsed building

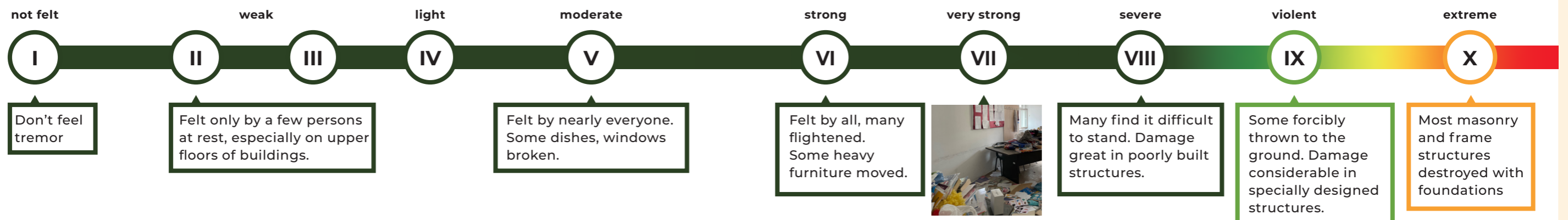
Landslide



(Source) AFAD https://tdvms.afad.gov.tr/continuous_data?fbclid=IwAR00UrBiXW4lyAnVAzP3X4R92UjhukNdsZCIHFveOo31tPgJMYnbVsYuO4

Damaged building

Intensity and tremors felt (MMI)



What can I do to be prepared for an earthquake?

Here are the results of the survey on how people behaved during the earthquake. The questionnaire based survey was conducted from October to November 2023 in the provinces suffered by earthquake. (The original answers were written in Turkish and were translated in English by automatic translation software)

1 During the earthquake

The earthquake was felt very violently. There was the sound of the furniture in the building shaking, along with the sound of the glassware in the kitchen cabinet shaking. It was a sound that we thought would never end. When I tried to stand up, I could never do it. It was such a strong tremor that I thought the whole city was collapsing. (Gaziantep)

We immediately lay down at the foot of the bed and when the shaking was over, we got ready and left the building without stress. (Osmaniye)

We had a hard time standing. We dropped down. There were crunching sounds as if from the building, pieces the suspended ceiling and plaster fell from the ceiling. I woke up seconds before the earthquake, but I did not wake up with any feeling (such as sound, light, shaking). There were sounds and lights in the sky, the plaster had already begun to fall off in the first shake in the building. (Kahramanmaraş)

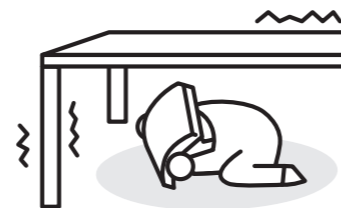
I was awake when the earthquake started, we started snaking suddenly, my wall fell down in a few seconds, I ran to my parents, we were all shouting side by side, we didn't have much hope that we would live, the moment the earthquake stopped, we all went to the stairs together, we came out in a few minutes, there were screams, shouting sounds, alarm sounds around us. (Adiyaman)

During the tremor I woke up asleep and ran to the children and calmed them down, we tried to stand up, we tried to keep the room doors open, we left the building immediately after tremor. (Malatya)

Although I knew about the earthquake drill, I couldn't do anything at that moment, because I was on the 7th floor, we were shaken very seriously, we didn't know where to go and what to do at that moment. We had a pet, we thought it had fallen from the balcony, we called him, while the shaking was happening, there was a very bad shaking, it was very severe, may God never let it happen again, but it was an experience. I hope the buildings will be strong, people will not die in the earthquake now. (Şanlıurfa)

Secure your safety first. Protect yourself.

- Drop down covering your head underneath or besides sturdy table or similar object.
- Get away from tall furniture or windows.
- Use a cushion or bag to protect your head.
- Be careful of fallen objects or shattered glass in the home.
- Put your shoes or slippers next to you when you walk.



2 After shaking stopped

We were in fear and panic, we were very scared and we immediately dropped down and covered heads and as soon as the earthquake was over we went out and stayed outside. (Hatay)

I woke up with a slight shaking, then it became very strong, I tried to jump out of the window, they held me, then we were desperately looking at each other wondering when the building would collapse on top of us. We waited standing, holding on to the window and the bed, we did not think about the triangle of life. Then it became so violent that we could not go to each other in the same room, many things in other rooms were shaken, our building shook from right to left and from left to right, it jumped up and down, we guessed that many places in Malatya must have been destroyed before we even went outside. It was winter and snow. (Malatya)

Keep Calm. Panic may cause you injuries.

- Don't jump from the window.
- Don't rush outside.

During the tremor, we were shaken as if we were in the body of a truck speeding on a very rough road. Heavy objects were sliding and shifting with us. We thought the building was going to collapse, my wife and our two children protected the triangle of life. When the day dawned and we went out into the neighborhood, we saw the extent of the destruction. Many buildings had collapsed. The roads were blocked with debris. People were in a state of panic. It was a huge destruction. (Adiyaman)



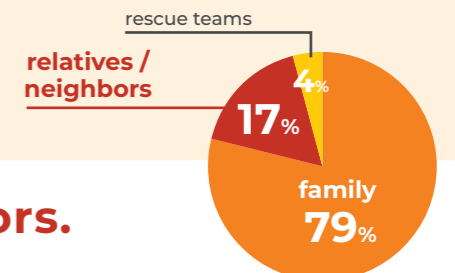
Keep Away from buildings and walls.

- Get away from structures like concrete-block walls. Watch out falling objects such as bricks, glass or signboards.
- Use a bag or hand luggage to protect your head when you evacuate from the building.



Who get you out from the trapped building?

The survey shows that the support from relatives and neighbors were important to get out from the collapsed building. It is important to support your families and neighbors.



Support your relatives and neighbors.