

Earthquakes In Australia – A '101' For Building Owners

1. Australia gets potentially damaging earthquakes.

Every 1 – 2 years a shake above M5.0 occurs. And roughly every decade the country has a quake greater than M6.0 – similar to Christchurch in 2011.

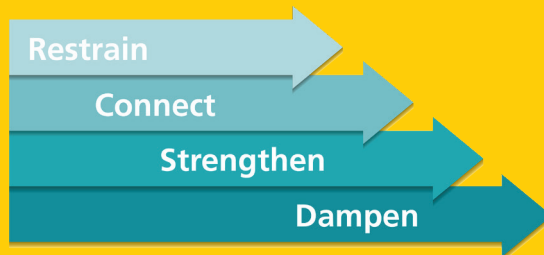
2. You should be aware of earthquake risk if you own or operate buildings that provide critical services or have vulnerable features.

Critical – Is it acceptable for your asset not to function in an emergency – how would you handle loss of service after an earthquake?

Vulnerable – Have you taken reasonable steps to avoid loss of life in an earthquake?

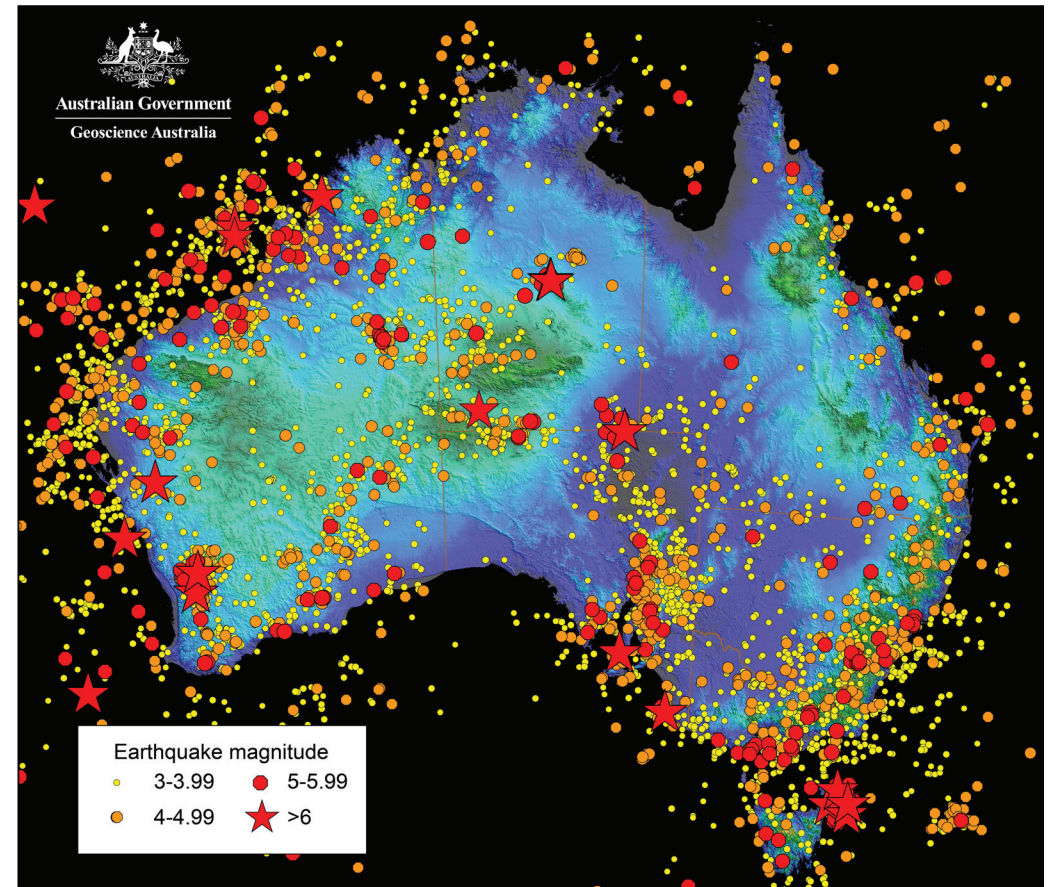
3. A retrofit project is the perfect time to address vulnerabilities.

Getting earthquake engineering input early can result in better project outcomes. The cheat sheet overleaf can help you spot things that can be addressed during your project.



4. Beca's experts are here to help.

We're world leaders in earthquake engineering, and our team has improved the seismic resilience for heritage theatres, major hospitals, high-rise towers, industrial facilities. If you can think of a building typology, chances are we've worked on improving its earthquake performance.



Contact Us



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Vulnerable Building Elements



Parapets, gables & chimneys



Precast elements



Masonry infill walls



Non-structural elements
e.g. suspended plant &
ceilings, elevated walkways,
external fire escapes



Short, slender columns



Tanks
& other heavy
fitout items

Vulnerable Building Types



Pre-1945 buildings



Unreinforced masonry buildings
e.g. brick and stone



Buildings on slopes