



Hazard Factsheet: Earthquakes



Auckland
Emergency
Management

While technically classed as being a 'low seismic hazard' area, Auckland does have active faults in South Auckland.

Recent mapping by GNS Science has identified three new faults in the Franklin area: Paerata, Pukekohe and Aka Aka Faults. More research is required to understand the hazard that these faults pose.

Two well-known faults, the Wairoa North and Wairoa South Faults, mark the edge of the Hunua Ranges. Scientists estimate the Wairoa North and Wairoa South faults may be able to generate an earthquake up to magnitude 6.7. This is unlikely to cause widespread damage across Auckland, however there may be localised impacts near the faults themselves.

During an earthquake

- **DROP** down on your hands and knees. This protects you from falling but lets you move if you need to.
- **COVER** your head and neck, or your entire body if possible, under a sturdy table or desk if it is within a few steps of you. If there is no shelter nearby and cover your head and neck with your arms and hands.
- **HOLD** on to your shelter, or your position to protect your head and neck, until the shaking stops. If the shaking shifts your shelter around, move with it. If there is no shelter near you, crawl to an inside corner of the room away from large furniture, and cover your head and neck with your hands and arms.

**Do not stand in a doorway.
Do not run outside which risks you getting
hit by falling bricks, glass and debris.**

Drop, Cover, Hold:

- stops you being knocked over
- makes you a smaller target for falling objects
- protects your head, neck and vital organs.

When in bed, stay, cover and hold.

When in a car, pull over and wait.

If the earthquake lasts longer than a minute or is strong enough to make it difficult to stand, move quickly to the nearest high ground or as far inland as you can out of tsunami evacuation zones. Long or Strong, Get Gone.

WHEN AN EARTHQUAKE HAPPENS

DROP



COVER



HOLD



After an earthquake

- Expect more shaking. Each time you feel earthquake shaking, Drop, Cover and Hold. More shaking can happen minutes, days, weeks, months and even years following an earthquake.
 - Check yourself and others for injuries and get first aid if necessary.
 - Turn off water, electricity and gas if advised to. If you smell gas or hear a blowing or hissing noise, open a window, get everyone out quickly and turn off the gas if you can.
 - If you see sparks, broken wires or evidence of electrical system damage, turn off the electricity at the main fuse box if it is safe to do so.
 - If you can, put on protective clothing that covers your arms and legs, and sturdy footwear. This is to protect yourself from injury by broken objects.
 - If you are in an unfamiliar building or on public transport, follow the instructions of those in charge.
- Use social media or text messages instead of calling to keep phone lines clear for emergency calls.

Stay informed about earthquakes via Geonet's website or app:

geonet.org.nz/earthquake

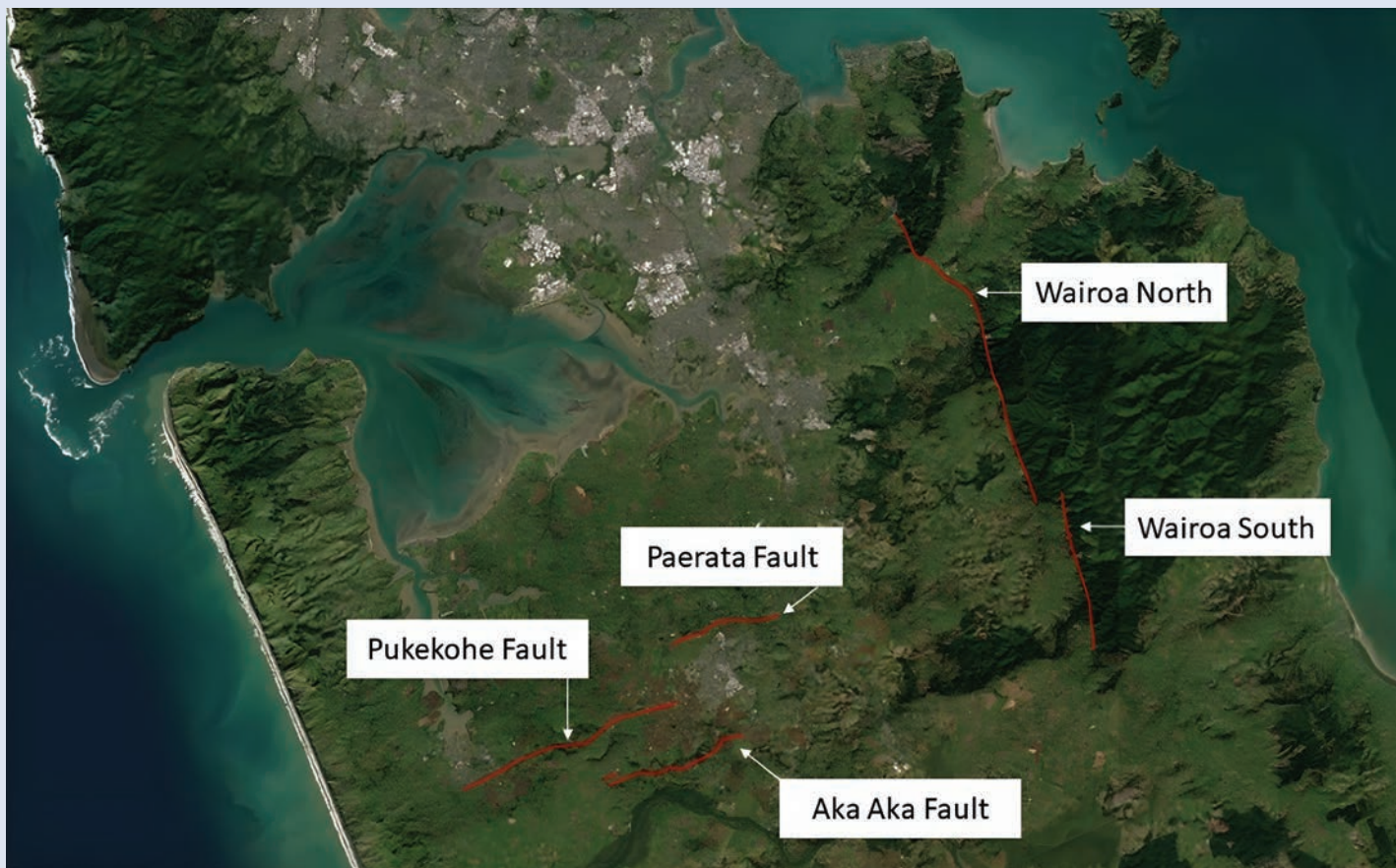


Figure 9: Figure showing faults within the Auckland region (note that the Paerata, Pukekohe and Aka Aka Faults require more research to understand their risks, as recent mapping has just recently identified these features).