

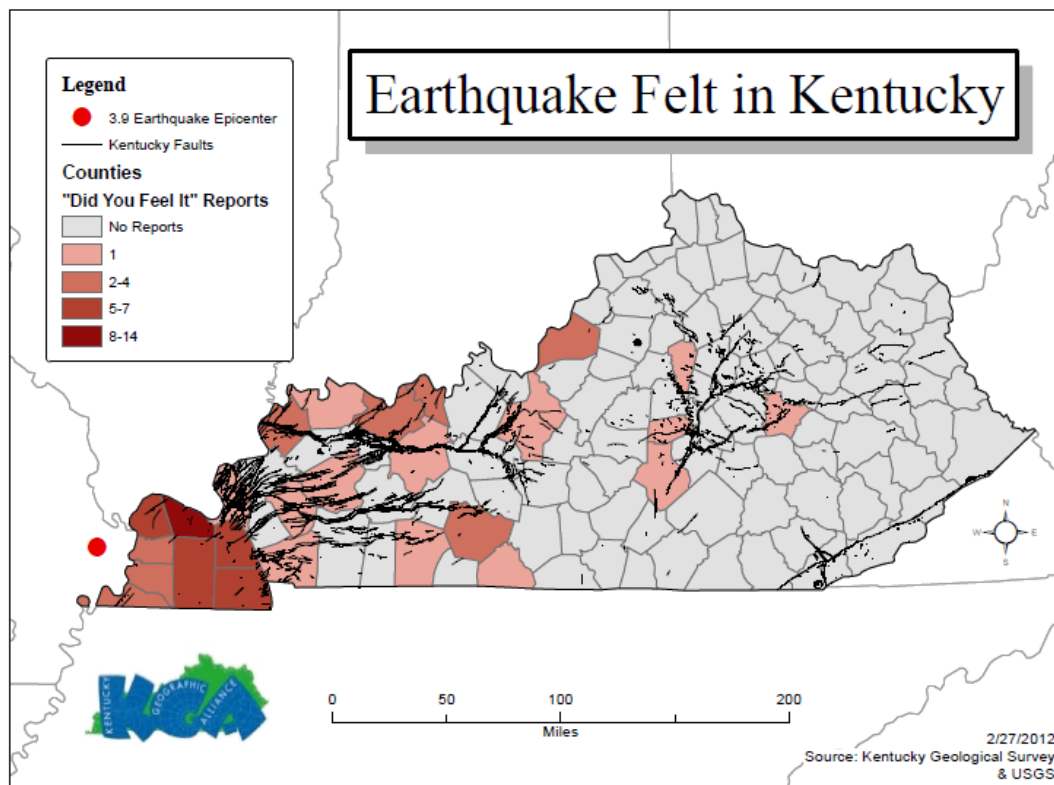
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# KENTUCKY IN THE NEWS

The Kentucky Geographic Alliance – March 2012

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At 3:58 a.m. Central Standard Time (4:58 EST) on Tuesday, February 21, 2012 a 3.9 earthquake occurred in southeast Missouri. It was only 34 miles from Bardwell, Kentucky in the Jackson Purchase region. Below is a map of Kentucky geologic faults as well as Kentucky counties labeled by the number of reports. The epicenter of the earthquake in Southeast Missouri is also indicated.



If you have any questions or would like to receive a .pdf of this map, contact us: [kga@wku.edu](mailto:kga@wku.edu)

Kentucky actually experiences a number of earthquakes each year. Most of them are not felt by many of our citizens. This earthquake is the latest reminder to us about natural hazards and how they affect our state. Use this map to talk to your students about earthquake preparedness and other content related topics such as plate tectonics, faults, and the different types of movements associated with faults. The New Madrid Fault zone, where this 3.9 earthquake occurred, has a history of the earthquakes. During the winter of [1812](#) a series of earthquakes occurred in this same area. The largest of these was a 7.7 magnitude earthquake which occurred 200 years ago in February. Below is information from the USGS about earthquakes in Kentucky. There are also many facts that your students can find on the [USGS Kentucky](#) page. Have students think about the impact that a strong earthquake near New Madrid might have on them and their communities.

- Lexington-Herald Leader: <http://www.kentucky.com/2012/02/21/2077420/40-earthquake-in-missouri-shakes.html>
- Courier-Journal: <http://www.courier-journal.com/article/20120221/NEWS0104/302210033/4-0-earthquake-in-Missouri-shakes-9-states-including-Kentucky?odyssey=tab|topnews|text|News>
- USGS Event Page: <http://earthquake.usgs.gov/earthquakes/dyfi/events/nm/022212a/us/index.html>
- USGS Kentucky Page: <http://earthquake.usgs.gov/earthquakes/states/index.php?regionID=17>