

The total number of earthquakes reported felt, and the maximum intensities reported in each of the years 1921 to 1934 (inclusive), are as follows :—

Year.				Number of Earthquakes reported felt.	Maximum Intensity, R.-F. Scale.
1921	..	..	..	91	8
1922	..	..	..	1,187	8
1923	..	..	..	76	6
1924	..	..	..	70	7
1925	..	..	..	76	8
1926	..	..	..	173	8
1927	..	..	..	107	8
1928	..	..	..	80	8
1929	..	..	..	678	10
1930	..	..	..	748	8
1931	..	..	..	432	10
1932	..	..	..	313	9
1933	..	..	..	108	7
1934	..	..	..	230	9

The figures given in the above table of reported shocks require careful interpretation. In a year of major earthquakes, followed by numerous aftershocks, many of the latter pass unnoticed, while during a period of quiescence there is a tendency for all shocks, however slight, to be reported. This leads to undue emphasis being placed upon the earthquake activity of what is a comparatively quiet period. The great number of earthquakes reported in 1922 is due largely to the swarm of local earthquakes which occurred in the Taupo region in the latter half of that year.

Earthquakes in 1934.—The following is a list, giving the position of the epicentres, of all important New Zealand earthquakes in the year 1934. The list includes (1) earthquakes of high intensity, (2) earthquakes felt over a wide area :—

New Zealand Mean Time.				Approximate Position of Epicentre.		Maximum R.-F. Intensity as felt.	Places reporting Maximum Intensity.
				South Lat.	East Long.		
1934.	d.	h.	m.	°	°		
Mar.	5	23	16	40.95	176.8	9	South-east part of North Island.
„	5	23	27	41.1	176.6	3	Masterton and Paraparaumu.
„	7	0	23	40.6	176.6	5	South-east part of North Island.
„	10	6	55	..	..	5-6	Awarua Radio.*
„	10	19	27	40.9	176.0	8	Porangahau.
„	10	19	34	40.6	176.9	6-7	Porangahau.
„	10	20	24	40.6	176.8	6-7	Porangahau.
„	15	22	16	39.65	177.6	7	Northern Hawke's Bay.
„	21	21	25	41.0	172.4	6	Takaka.
April	14	20	18	40.4	176.8	6	Castlepoint.
May	1	21	11	40.9	175.3	5-6	Masterton.
„	8	6	4	40.5	176.1	5	Dannevirke.
„	9	15	15	40.8	172.5	5	Collingwood and Havelock.
„	22	16	50	38.8	176.5	5	Taupo and Rakauroa.
July	1	20	37	41.3	172.5	6	Collingwood.
Aug.	8	11	35	40.0	176.7	5	Pahiatua.
„	9	8	0	40.6	175.8	5	Masterton.
„	12	1	50	41.8	172.1	6	Murchison.
Oct.	25	22	35	41	176	6-7	Wanganui.
„	28	21	16	38.3	175.5	4-5	Taumarunui.
Nov.	26	11	42	39.5	175.8	6	Waipawa.
„	26	20	3	39.6	177.4	6	Napier.
Dec.	9	8	22	45.4	167.4	6	South Otago.
„	14	19	44	41.3	174.2	6	Paraparaumu and Martinborough.

* This earthquake was widely felt in the southern part of the South Island, but was not sufficiently well recorded on seismographs to enable the position of the epicentre to be determined.