

^{*} The amount of shaking during an earthquake is expressed as a percentage of **g**, where **g** is the acceleration of a falling object due to gravity. The hazard level increases as the percentage of **g** increases. Seismic hazard data, developed by the United States Geological Survey (USGS), are utilized in designing building codes, insurance rate structures, earthquake loss studies, and land-use planning. Seismic hazard data are also incorporated into the designs of buildings, bridges, highways, and critical infrastructure in order for these structures to withstand earthquakes without collapse.