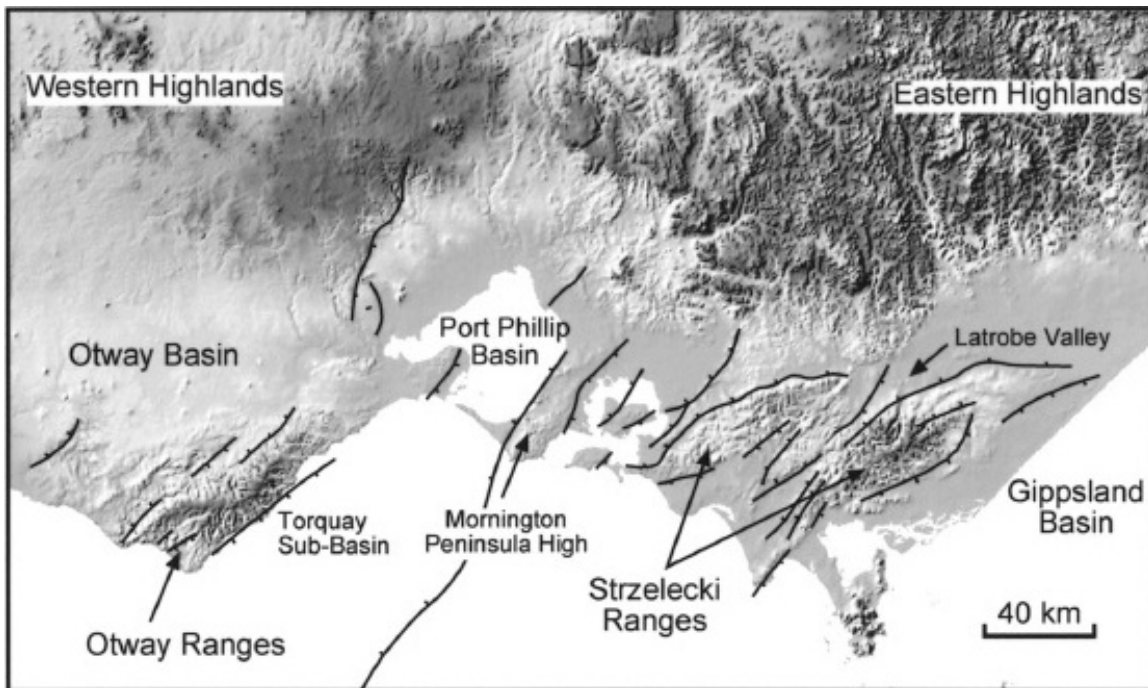


Earthquakes in Victoria

Do earthquakes happen in Victoria?

Earthquakes can and do happen in Victoria. Earthquakes in Victoria occur due to the build up of stress in rocks along fault planes in the region. A fault plane is a weak point within a tectonic plate where the pressure can be released. There are a number of fault planes that have been identified in Victoria, including the Strzelecki Ranges, Mornington Peninsula and in the Otway Ranges. In addition, fault planes can be created over time or may have not been identified.

The image below shows some of the known fault planes in Victoria:



Recent Victorian Earthquakes

On 19 June 2012, a magnitude 5.4 earthquake occurred in the state's southeast at 8:53pm. The earthquake epicentre was 16 kilometres southwest of Moe and was the strongest earthquake recorded since the 1982 Wonnangatta Valley earthquake and was felt across the state including in Melbourne and as far away as Wodonga. Since this large earthquake in June, there have been over 200 aftershocks with the largest recorded at magnitude 4.3 on Friday, 20 July.

In August 2000, a magnitude 5.0 in Boolarra caused minor damage and was felt throughout Gippsland and in 2009, Korumburra experienced two earthquakes within two weeks of each other on the 6 March and then the 18 March. Both earthquakes were recorded at a magnitude 4.6.

Recent earthquakes remind us that Earthquakes can and do occur in Victoria and occur without warning.

Historical Earthquakes

In addition to recent earthquakes, Victoria has had a number of earthquakes since records began.

The map and table on this page show some dates, sizes and locations of significant earthquakes in and around Victoria.

Magnitude	Date and Location
5.3	14 July 1903, Warrnambool
5.0	10 April 1904, Eastern Highlands (south of Mount Beauty)
4.7	29 January 1960, Mount Feathertop
4.8	14 June 1963, Welshpool
5.7	4 May 1966, Mount Hotham
5.3	20 June 1969, Boolarra
5.0	23 June 1969, Boolarra
4.7	2 December 1977, near Mount Anakie
5.4	21 November 1982, Wonnangatta Valley
5.4	21 November 1984, South of Bright
4.9	23 December 1987, near Nhill
5.0	25 September 1996, Mount Baw Baw
5.0	29 August 2000, Boolarra South
4.6	6 March 2009, Korumburra
4.6	18 March 2009, Korumburra
5.4	19 June 2012, 16km SW of Moe
4.3	20 July 2012, 15km SW of Moe

