

## **EARTHQUAKES IN AND NEAR JAPAN, MARCH-AUGUST, 2011**

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The great Tohoku earthquake of March 11, 2011 was the most powerful to be recorded by seismographs on Japan, with a 9.0 moment magnitude ( $M_w$ ). We examine all earthquakes of greater than 4.0  $M_w$  tabulated by the National Earthquake Information Center (NEIC) to identify "foreshock" and "aftershock" movements related to the March 11 event. Our results indicate abundant fault activity at crustal depths shallower than 30 km during March of 2011. Of the 4,662 earthquakes studied, 63.4 percent (2,954) occurred during March. Strong earthquakes greater than 4.0  $M_w$  did continue to occur along this boundary through August, however, and crustal movements comparable to that which caused the great Tohoku event may recur in the not too distant future.