The North American plate is thrust northward over the Pacific plate. The plate boundary is located on the ocean floor and is marked by seismicity and volcanism. The Earth's crust is divided into tectonic plates that move relative to one another. The movement of these plates is driven by the flow of molten rock in the Earth's mantle. The edges of the plates are called plate boundaries, and they include convergent, divergent, and transform boundaries.

**DATA SOURCES**

Data were obtained from the following sources:


**REFERENCES**


**SEISMICITY OF THE EARTH 1900–2007**

The earthquakes portrayed on the main map and the depth profiles are taken from two sources: (a) the Centennial Catalog of Earthquakes since 1900, Giardini, D., Grünthal, G., and Zhang, P., Global Seismic Hazards Program, 1998, Global Seismic Hazards Program, last accessed July 22, 2010 at http://earthquake.usgs.gov/research/data/slab/; and (b) a catalog of earthquakes having high-quality depth determinations for the last 100 years. The earthquakes are limited to those for which the depth of focus is 5.5 or greater, Modified Mercalli Intensities 8 or greater, or tsunami generation. Selected for earthquakes with magnitude of 6.0 or greater, and for the ones that are associated with moderate to major damage, deaths, reported shaking, and/or historical reports.

**DATA SOURCES**


**REFERENCES**