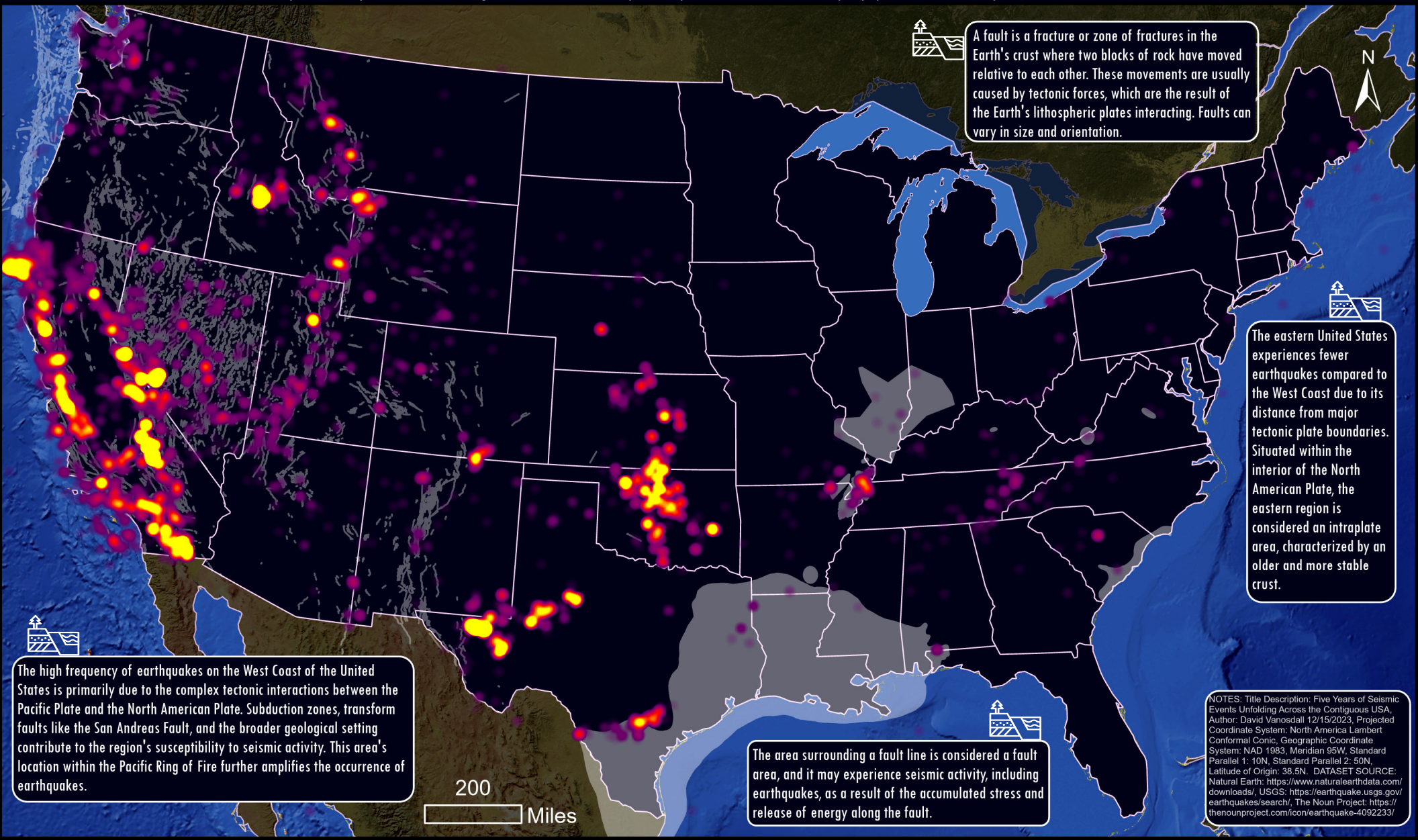
Five Years of Seismic Events Unfolding Across the Contiguous USA

A heat map is a visual representation of data using colors to indicate the intensity or density of values in a matrix, commonly employed in various fields for pattern identification and data visualization.



Legend

5 Years of Concentrated Earthquake Magnitudes

- Sparse
- Dense
- Faults
- Fault Areas

What causes earthquakes?

Earthquakes result from abrupt movement along fault lines. While earthquakes are commonly represented as single points on maps, the actual fault slip takes place on distinct fault surfaces with both length and width. The earthquake's magnitude is influenced in part by the size of the fault segment that shifted and the extent of the movement, known as slip amplitude.

Which fault lines are worth your attention?

The most notable faults in the United States include the renowned San Andreas Fault in California, characterized by transform motion between the Pacific and North American Plates. The Hayward Fault, also in California, is an active right-lateral strike-slip fault with potential hazards for densely populated areas. The New Madrid Seismic Zone in the central U.S. is historically known for significant earthquakes. Off the Pacific Northwest coast, the Cascadia Subduction Zone involves the subduction of the Juan de Fuca Plate beneath the North American Plate. The Wasatch Fault in Utah, associated with extensional tectonics, poses seismic risks for areas along the Wasatch Front, including Salt Lake City.