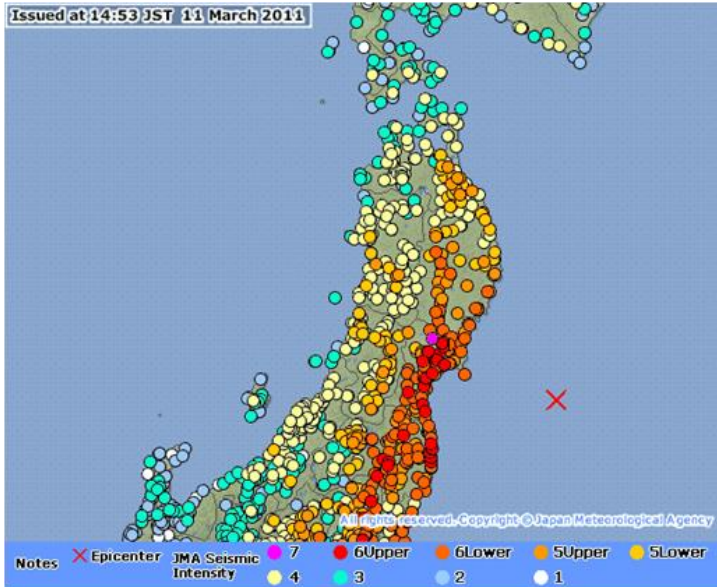


**Date and Time:** March 11, 2011 14:46 JST  
**Epicenter:** Off the Sanriku coast  
 (38° 6.2' N, 142° 52' E)  
 Depth 24km  
**Magnitude:** 9.0

**Distribution of JMA\* Seismic Intensity** Source: JMA website



\*JMA: Japan Meteorological Agency

**Overview of the earthquake**

On March 11, 2011, the earthquake occurred centered off the Sanriku coast. The magnitude was 9.0, far beyond the scale of the Kanto Great Earthquake (M7.9) in 1923 and Showa Sanriku Earthquake (M8.4) in 1933, the biggest earthquake ever in and around Japan.

Soon after the earthquake, the JMA named it as “2011 off the Pacific coast of Tohoku Earthquake”. On April 1, 2011, the cabinet decided to call the disaster caused by the earthquake and the following Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant accident “Great East Japan Earthquake”.

The JMA seismic intensities observed in Fukushima Prefecture are as follows:

JMA Seismic Intensity	Location
6 Upper	Shirakawa, Sukagawa, Kunimi, Tenei, Tomioka, Okuma, Namie, Kagamiishi, Naraha, Futaba and Shinchi
6 Lower	Fukushima, Nihonmatsu, Motomiya, Koriyama, Koori, Kawamata, Nishigo, Yabuki, Nakajima, Tamakawa, Ono, Tanagura, Date, Hirono, Asakawa, Tamura, Iwaki, Kawauchi, Iitate, Soma, Minamisoma and Inawashiro
5 Upper	Otama, Izumizaki, Yamatsuri, Hirata, Ishikawa, Miharu, Katsurao, Furudono, Aizuwakamatsu, Aizubange, Kitakata, Yugawa, Aizumisato and Bandai

(Translation of Fukushima Prefecture report)



[Photos]  
 JRCS Fukushima Chapter soon after the onset of the earthquake. Things are scattered due to the big quake.