# Schools, Earthquakes, and Early Warning Systems

Preliminary Findings from Alaska and California





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### **Research Sites**

#### Anchorage and the Matanuska-Susitna Borough, Alaska



On **November 30, 2018**, at 8:29 a.m. 7.1 M earthquake hit South Central Alaska. It was followed six minutes later by a magnitude 5.7 aftershock.

### Ridgecrest and Trona, California



On **July 3 and 4, 2019** earthquakes occurred north and northeast of the town of Ridgecrest, California and west of Searles Valley. They included three initial main shocks of 6.4, 5.4, and 7.1 M, and many perceptible aftershocks.

### Research Methods

- **Study Sample**: Engineers, K-12 school administrators, emergency managers, building officials, teachers, parents, and students.
- Data Collection: We conducted in-depth interviews and focus groups with 88 participants in Alaska in January and 25 participants in California in February 2020.
- **Research Questions**: We asked study participants about their recent earthquake experiences, gaps between preparedness and protective action decision-making, and their perceptions of EEW systems.





## Preliminary Findings Alaska



## Preliminary Findings California



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