

Natural disasters in 2010

In 2010, 373 natural disasters were recorded in the EM-DAT database. They killed over 296,800 people, affected over 207 million others and caused more than US\$109 billion of economic damages. The two most lethal disasters - the January 12 earthquake in Haiti, which killed over 222,500 people, as well as the Russian summer heat wave, which caused about 56,000 fatalities - made 2010 the deadliest year in at least two decades. For the first time, the Americas headed the list of the world's most affected continents, with 75 per cent of total deaths were caused by one single event in the Caribbean: the Haiti earthquake. Asia experienced in 2010 fewer disaster deaths than the Americas and Europe – representing 4.7 per cent of total mortality – but remains the most affected continent. Some 89 per cent of all people affected by disasters in 2010 lived in Asia. The costliest event in 2010 was the Chilean earthquake in February, which resulted in US\$30 billion of disaster damages. And yet, economic losses in 2010 still do not surpass that of 2005, when damages from Hurricane Katrina, Rita and Wilma alone amounted to US\$139 billion. Compared to previous years, there is a vast increase in disaster mortality in 2010, with 296,800 deaths which is far above the annual average of 2000-2009 (78,087). However, the number of affected people remained lower in 2010, with 207 million compared to the annual average of 227 million during 2000-2009. The devastating year 2010 shows once again that it is important to clearly understand the direct causes of deaths and destruction of livelihoods from natural disasters, and to act on them with effective relief response and preparedness measures.”

Debarati Guha-Sapir
Director, CRED

Economic impact in 2010

10 most affected countries

In absolute amounts (US\$ billion)		As percentage of GDP	
Chile	30.0	Haiti	123.5
China P Rep	19.1	Chile	18.3
Pakistan	9.5	Pakistan	5.9
United States	8.7	Guatemala	4.0
Haiti	8.0	New Zealand	2.9
Mexico	5.9	Fiji	1.4
France	5.7	Guyana	1.2
New Zealand	3.7	Jamaica	1.2
Russia	3.6	Antigua and Barbuda	1.1
Poland	3.2	Portugal	0.9

2. On January 12, 2011, the Prime Minister of Haiti updated the mortality figures by 93,430 additional deaths, putting the final toll at 316,000 deaths. At this time, this figure still needs to be validated by CRED and is therefore not included in the table.

All figures presented in the CRED CRUNCH come from EM-DAT: The OFDA/CRED International Disaster Database”

Natural disasters¹ in 2010: summary

	2010	2000-2009 yearly average
No. of country-level disasters	373	387
No. of countries affected	129	118
No. of people killed	296,818	78,087
No. of people affected	207 mil.	227 mil.
Economic damages (US\$)	109 bil.	99 bil.

1. The CRED CRUNCH newsletter does not include epidemics and insect infestations as natural disasters unless explicitly stated

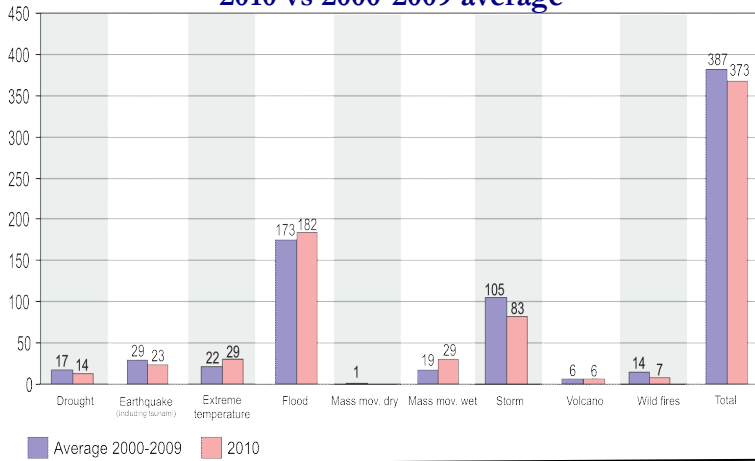
Human impact in 2010

10 most affected countries

No. of people killed		No. killed/100,000 inhabitants	
Haiti ²	222,570	Haiti	2,219
Russia	55,736	Russia	39
China P Rep	2,968	St Lucia	6
Pakistan	1,985	Chile	3
China P Rep	1,765	Honduras	2
China P Rep	1,691	Peru	2
Chile	562	Nicaragua	2
Indonesia	530	Guatemala	2
Peru	409	Pakistan	1
Uganda	388	Uganda	1

No. of people affected (million)		No. affected/100,000 inhabitants	
China P Rep	145.0	Haiti	37,879
Pakistan	18.1	Chile	15,743
Thailand	10.1	Somalia	15,506
India	4.9	Thailand	14,854
Philippines	3.9	Zimbabwe	13,422
Haiti	3.8	Cook Is	11,010
Chile	2.7	China P rep	10,902
Colombia	2.2	Pakistan	10,689
Zimbabwe	1.7	Mauritania	9,383
Mexico	1.6	Benin	9,301

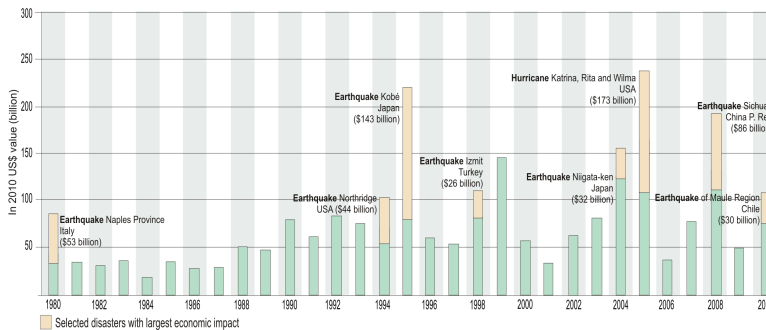
Disaster occurrence by disaster type 2010 vs 2000-2009 average



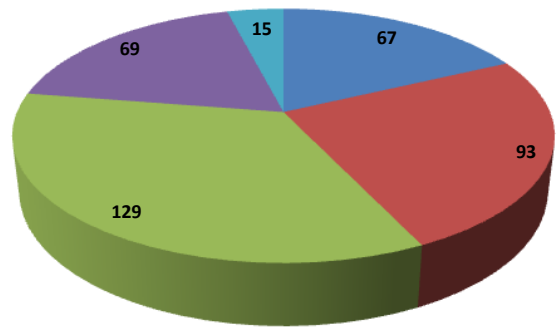
Top 10 Number of reported disasters per country in 2010

China P Rep	22
India	16
Philippines	14
United States	12
Indonesia	11
Australia	8
Mexico	8
Russia	8
Pakistan	7
Viet Nam	7

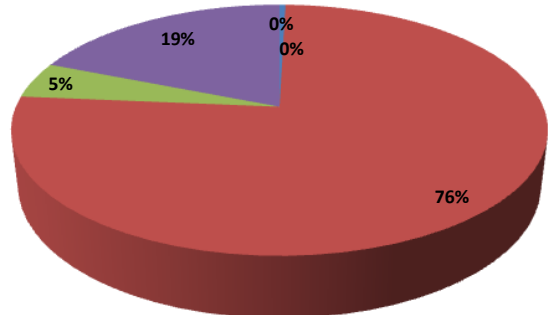
Annual reported economic damages from disasters 1980-2010



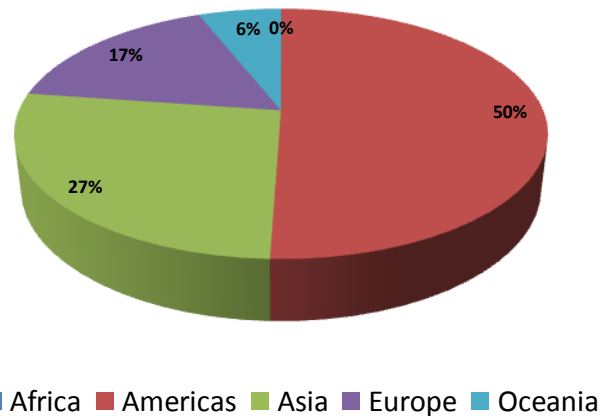
Number of disaster events by continent 2010



Disaster mortality by continent (%) 2010



Disaster economic costs by continent (%)



CRED News

- CRED is pleased to present the 2011 Summer Course on Assessing Public Health in Emergency Situations (APHES). This course will take place on July 4-15, 2011 in Brussels, Belgium. More information at www.aphes.be.
- The MICRODIS team is pleased to announce its working paper "Health impacts of floods in Europe: Data gaps and information needs from a spatial perspective"; accessible on http://www.cred.be/sites/default/files/Health_impacts_of_floods_in_Europe.pdf.
- The MICRODIS team also announces the publication of its Project Report, available through the following link : <http://www.cred.be/sites/default/files/MicrodisProjectReport.pdf>
- CRED takes part in the Global Earthquake Model project "Global Earthquake Consequences Database". See: www.globalquakemodel.org/risk-global-components/consequence-database for more information.
- The CE-DAT team has signed a new Research Agreement with World Vision International.
- CRED announces the release of a new book chapter: Guha-Sapir D, Vos F (2011). Quantifying Global Environmental Change Impacts: Methods, Criteria and Definitions for Compiling Data on Hydro-meteorological Disasters. In: Brauch et al. (Eds.) Coping with Global Environmental Change, Disasters and Security – Threats, Challenges, Vulnerabilities and Risks. Hexagon Series on Human and Environmental Security and Peace, vol. 5. Berlin – Heidelberg – New York: Springer-Verlag.

Please note that disaster data are subject to change as validation and cross-referencing of the sources is undertaken and as new information becomes available. For any enquiries please contact contact@emdat.be or visit www.emdat.be