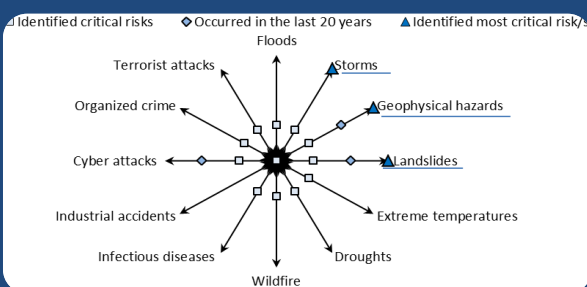


*Iceland*

### Iceland: Critical risks at a glance



**Natural hazards:** Located on the divergent boundary between the Eurasian and the North American plate, Iceland is exposed to significant seismic risks. Its location on the mid-Atlantic Ridge has also resulted in a high concentration of active volcanoes. Iceland is also exposed to floods, storms, and landslides, as well as extreme temperatures, droughts and wildfires. Infectious diseases were also identified as critical risks.

**Man-made risk:** Cyber-attacks, organised crime and terrorist attacks were also identified as critical risks.

**Most critical risk:** Storms, landslides and geophysical hazards.

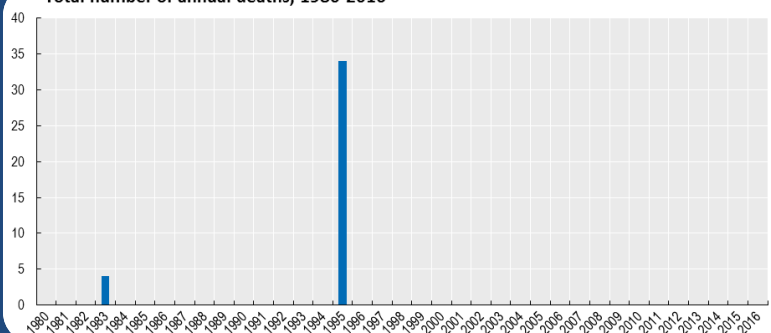
Source: OECD Survey on the Governance of Critical Risks, 2016

### Disaster-related socio-economic losses

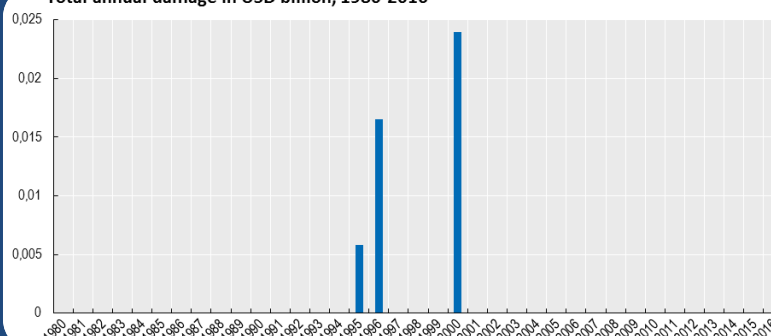
**Deaths** are mostly caused by avalanches. Average deaths per million inhabitants for the period 1995-2015 were above the OECD average.

**Damage** is mostly caused by earthquakes, followed by volcanic eruptions and landslides. Overall, damage caused by disasters as a % of GDP between 1995 and 2015 was below the OECD average.

Total number of annual deaths, 1980-2016

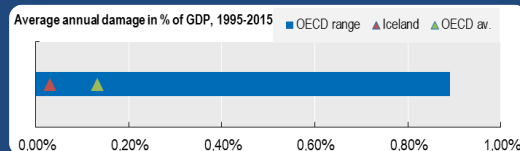
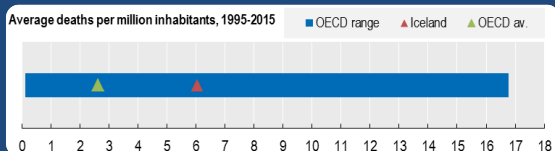


Total annual damage in USD billion, 1980-2016



#### Major disasters

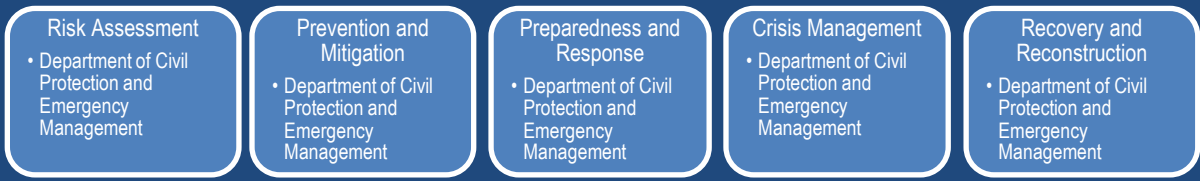
- Eruptions of Eyjafjallajökull**
  - March – June 2010 with cascading effects on air traffic in 20 countries
- Earthquake**
  - June 2000 in Grimsnes, Selfoss, Eyrarbakki, Stokkseyri city
  - 12 million US\$ damage (est.)
- Grimsvotn volcanic activity**
  - October – November 1996 in Northern Iceland
  - 16.5 million US\$ damage (est.)
- Avalanche**
  - October 1995 in Flateyri
  - 20 deaths
  - 3.36 million US\$ damage (est.)



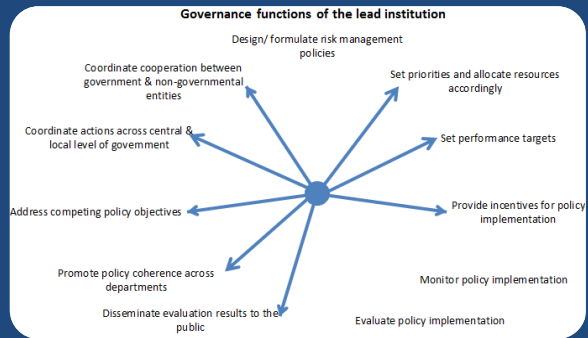
Notes: For 50% of disaster events registered for Iceland in EM-DAT between 1995 and 2015, damage data are not recorded. Owing to differences in the measurement of damage, estimations for individual events may differ across sources. Due to methodological differences in the attribution of deaths to heatwaves, the figure comparing average deaths per million inhabitants against the OECD average excludes these deaths.

Sources: OECD Survey on the Governance of Critical Risks, 2016; EM-DAT: The International Disaster Database, 2017; GTD: The Global Terrorism Database, 2016; OECD Statistics, 2017

### Institutional lead for risk management



The **Department of Civil Protection and Emergency Management (DCPEM)** is the **lead institution** responsible for the governance of critical risks. Run by the National Commissioner of the Icelandic Police (NCIP), the DCPEM falls under the Ministry of the Interior. The DCPEM coordinates cooperation across departments and levels of government, as well as with non-governmental entities. To enable policy coherence, the DCPEM sets performance targets and priorities, allocates resources and provides incentives for policy implementation. To enable effective crisis coordination, the NCIP operates a central National Crisis Coordination Centre.



Sources: OECD Survey on the Governance of Critical Risks, 2016; Almannavarnir, 2017

### Risk anticipation

	Horizon scanning exercises	Emergency response exercises	National Risk Assessment	Local risk assessment	Research on risk interlinkages	Research on emerging risks
Iceland	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Responding Countries	Mixed	Mixed	Mixed	Mixed	Mixed	Mixed

### Risk communication

	Target vulnerable population	Media briefings	Platforms for two-way communication	Information to stimulate investment in self-protective measures	Information on protective measures against imminent major hazards	Public education system
Iceland	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Responding Countries	Mixed	Mixed	Mixed	Mixed	Mixed	Mixed

### Critical infrastructure protection

	Critical infrastructure protection programme	Standards/toolkits for business continuity	Capabilities to ensure function following a shock	First responders required to be stationed	Information on exposure to natural hazards provided	Information on exposure to terrorist threats provided	Mandatory emergency preparedness requirements	Mandatory information sharing about vulnerabilities	Voluntary information sharing about vulnerabilities
Iceland	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Responding Countries	Mixed	Mixed	Mixed	Mixed	Mixed	Mixed	Mixed	Mixed	Mixed

Source: OECD Questionnaire on the Governance of Critical Risks, 2016  
 Note: Data from the OECD Survey on the Governance of Critical Risks is only available for 33 OECD countries plus Colombia and Costa Rica.