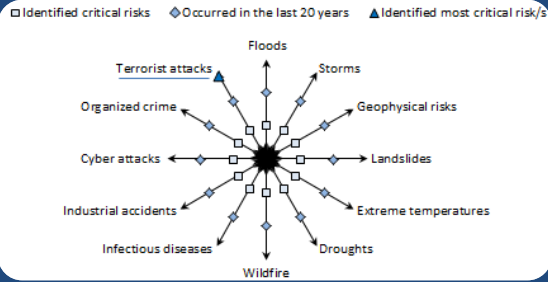


United States of America

United States of America: Critical risks at a glance



Natural hazards: The United States is exposed to a wide variety of natural hazards, including seismic risk, tsunamis and volcanic hazards in the west, to hurricanes along the Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico coasts and tornadoes in the midwest and southeast. Heat waves and river floods constitute hazards across the country.

Man-made hazards: Cyber-attacks, industrial accidents and organised crime are also identified as critical risks. Terrorist attacks are given special attention and led to the establishment of the Department of Homeland Security.

Most critical risk/s: not identified.

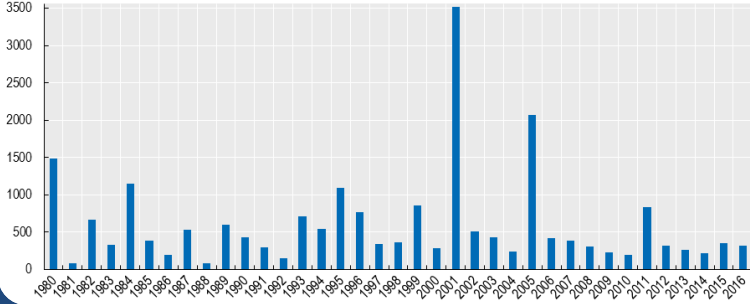
Sources: OECD Survey on the Governance of Critical Risks, 2016; Department of Homeland Security, 2017

Disaster-related socio-economic losses

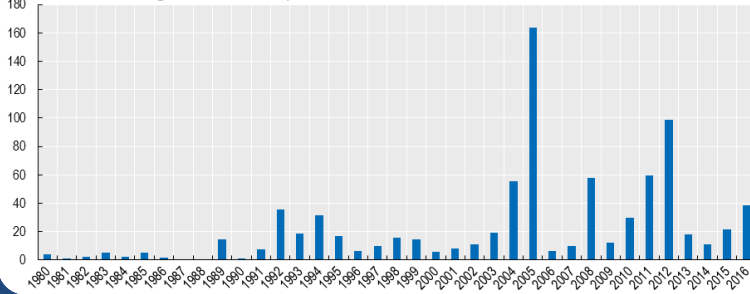
Deaths from hazardous events were caused mostly by storms and extreme temperatures, but single large-scale events, such as the 9/11 terrorist attacks in 2001 and Hurricane Katrina in 2005, have caused spikes in the number of annual fatalities recorded. Overall, average deaths per million inhabitants between 1995 and 2015 are below OECD average.

Damage was mostly the result of storms and floods. Large-scale events, such as hurricanes Katrina, Sandy and Ike or the 1994 Northridge earthquake, significantly increased the recorded economic damages. Overall, damage caused by disasters as a % of GDP between 1995 and 2015 was above OECD average.

Total number of annual deaths, 1980-2016



Total annual damage in USD billion, 1980-2016



Major disasters

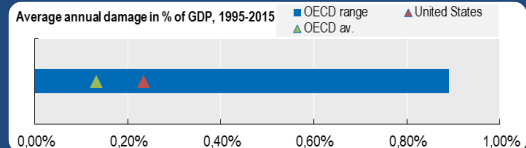
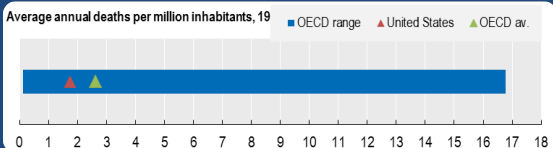
Hurricane Sandy

- October 2012 in the North Eastern US
- 54 deaths
- 50 billion US\$ damage (est.)

Hurricane Katrina

- August – September 2005 in Alabama, Louisiana and Mississippi
- 1 833 deaths
- 130 billion US\$ damage (est.)

11 September 2001 Terrorist Attacks



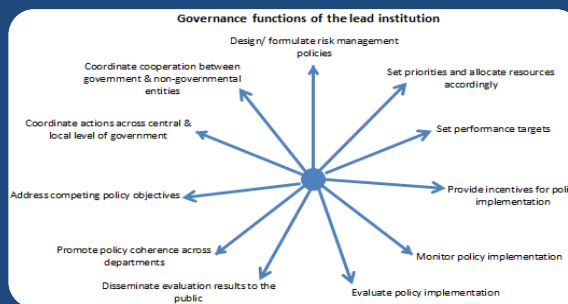
Notes: For 57% of disaster events registered for the USA in EM-DAT, damage data are not recorded. Owing to differences in the measurement of damage, estimations for individual events may differ across sources. Due to methodological differences in the attribution of deaths to heatwaves, the figure comparing 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; CIA – The World Factbook, 2017; U.S. Geological Survey, 2016

Institutional lead for risk management

Risk Assessment • Department of Homeland Security	Prevention and Mitigation • Department of Homeland Security	Preparedness and Response • Department of Homeland Security	Crisis Management • Department of Homeland Security	Disaster Recovery • Department of Homeland Security
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At the federal level, the **Department of Homeland Security (DHS)** is the responsible **lead institution** for all aspects of the governance of critical risks. It led the development of the Strategic National Risk Assessment (SNRA) in 2011 and is in the lead for setting priorities for the management of critical risks. It designs the respective risk management policies and monitors and evaluates implementation. Through its respective agencies, such as the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and offices, the DHS translates its risk management policy priorities into action.



Sources: OECD Survey on the Governance of Critical Risks, 2016; Department of Homeland Security, 2017

Risk anticipation

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

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
USA	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Responding Countries	Partial	Partial	Partial	Partial	Partial	Partial

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
USA	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes
Responding Countries	Partial	Partial	Partial	Partial	Partial	Partial	Partial	Partial	Partial

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.