

Topics Geo World Map of Natural Catastrophes 2004



640 natural hazard losses including

- 50 significant loss events (selection)
- 9 great natural catastrophes
- Earthquake, tsunami, volcanic eruption
- Windstorm
- Flood
- Others (e.g. heat wave, winter damage, wildfire)

Great natural catastrophes 2004

No.	Date	Region	Loss event	Fatalities	Overall losses US\$ m	Insured losses US\$ m
16	25-26.5	Haiti. Dominican Republic	Floods	2,000		
20	June-August	Bangladesh. India. Nepal	Floods	2,200	5,000	
31	11-14.8	Caribbean. USA	Hurricane Charley	36	18,000	8,000
34	1-9.9	Caribbean. USA	Hurricane Frances	39	12,000	6,000
36	6.-8.9	Japan. South Korea	Typhoon Songda	41	9,000	4,700
37	7-21.9	Caribbean. USA	Hurricane Ivan	125	23,000	11,500
39	15-29.9	Caribbean. USA	Hurricane Jeanne	2,000	9,000	5,000
42	23.10	Japan	Earthquake	39	28,000	450
50	26.12	South Asia. East Africa	Earthquake, tsunami	> 170,000*	> 10,000	> 1,000

*More than 100,000 people are still missing.

Topics Geo

Significant natural catastrophes in 2004

No.	Date	Loss event	Region	Fatalities	Overall losses US\$ m	Insured losses US\$ m	Explanations, descriptions
1	January	Drought	South Africa: entire country				Driest season in 26 years. Major losses to agriculture and livestock.
2	1.1–19.2	Floods, severe storms	Brazil: SE, NE, N	161	70		Torrential rain, mudslides. 120,000 houses damaged or destroyed. Major losses to infrastructure.
3	Jan–April	Floods	Angola. Botswana. Zambia. Mozambique. Namibia	37			Record rainfall. Rivers burst their banks. Dozens of villages flooded. Roads and bridges destroyed.
4	4–6.1	Tropical Cyclone Heta	Polynesia: Niue. Western Samoa. Tonga. Cook Islands. American Samoa.	2	150		Thousands of houses destroyed. Losses to infrastructure and agriculture.
5	24–31.1	Severe storms	Australia: S, E, Victoria, Queensland	1	50	30	High wind speeds, hail, torrential rain. Losses to infrastructure and property.
6	5/8.2	Earthquakes	Indonesia: E	37	>1		2 earthquakes Mw 7.0 and 7.3. Thousands of buildings damaged or destroyed. 9 bridges destroyed.
7	12–15.2	Snowstorms	Greece. Bulgaria. Turkey	5	240		2,700 villages cut off from outside world.
8	24.2	Earthquake	Morocco: N	640	400		Mw 6.4. Thousands of houses destroyed.
9	Feb–April	Floods	New Zealand: North Island	2	200	70	Worst floods in 100 years. Thousands of buildings damaged. Severe losses to agriculture.
10	5–8.3	Snowstorm	South Korea: C		570		Heaviest snowfall in 100 years. Losses to agriculture, livestock and fishery.
11	6–7.3	Cyclone Gafilo	Madagascar: N	237			>10,000 houses damaged or destroyed. Vessels capsized.
12	27–29.3	Tropical storm/ hurricane	Brazil: S, Santa Catarina	4	350	3	>40,000 buildings damaged.
13	1–22.4	Floods	Russia: C, S	16	50	16	Spring floods, ice jams, snowmelt. Rivers burst their banks. 5,000 houses damaged, 30 bridges destroyed.
14	19.5	Tropical cyclone	Myanmar: W, SW	220			2,800 houses damaged, 200 boats destroyed.
15	21–27.5	Hailstorms, tornadoes	USA: esp. IA, IL, IN, KS, KY	4	1,100	800	85 damaging tornadoes. Thousands of houses and cars damaged.
16	25–26.5	Floods	Haiti. Dominican Republic	2,000			Torrential rain. Rivers burst their banks. Homes washed away. Crops destroyed.
17	28.5	Earthquake	Iran: N	35			M 6.3. Buildings destroyed. Injured: >270.
18	29.5–2.6	Severe storms	USA: esp. TX, AR, IL, IN	10	700	495	170 tornadoes, large hail. Losses to property and infrastructure.
19	June–Sep	Floods, landslides	China: SW, C, NW	1,000	7,800		340,000 houses destroyed, >1 million damaged. >500,000 km ² of farmland affected. 1.5 million made homeless.
20	June–Aug	Floods	Bangladesh. India. Nepal	2,200	5,000		Heavy monsoon rains. Huge areas flooded. Millions of houses flooded/destroyed. Severe agricultural losses.
21	23.6	Severe Storm Yasna	Germany. United Kingdom	2	200	50	Thunderstorms, tornadoes. Losses to property.
22	June–July	Cold wave	Peru: S, C	90			Heavy snowfall, temperatures –35 °C. Major losses to agriculture and livestock.
23	July/Aug	Forest fires, heat wave	Portugal: S, NE	2			10,000 seats of fire, temperature 45 °C. 1,000 km ² of forest burnt.
24	July	Hailstorms	Canada: C, Alberta		200	110	Losses to buildings and cars.
25	12.7	Earthquake	Slovenia: NW	1	10	1	Mb 5.0. Landslides. Hundreds of buildings damaged.
26	12–14.7	Floods, severe storms	USA: esp. PA, NJ	1	500	370	Worst flooding in 100 years (NJ). Power failures, >300,000 without electricity.
27	15.7	Flash flood	Canada: SE, Ontario		100	65	Record rainfalls. Buildings, cars damaged. Losses to infrastructure.
28	17–18.7	Floods, landslides	New Zealand: North Island	2	30		Worst flood in 50 years. Losses to infrastructure.
29	7–9.8	Flash floods	Nigeria: C, S	65			Worst flood in 50 years. Thousands of houses flooded. Losses to infrastructure.
30	10.8	Earthquake	China: SW	4	50		Mb 5.1. >80,000 buildings damaged or destroyed. Injured: 600.
31	11–14.8	Hurricane Charley	USA. Cuba. Jamaica. Cayman Islands	36	18,000	8,000	Hundreds of thousands of houses, mobile parks damaged or destroyed. Losses to ports, oil platforms, agriculture and infrastructure. 2.4 million evacuated.
32	12–15.8	Typhoon Ranim	Taiwan. China	165	2,200		Torrential rain. 150,000 houses damaged or destroyed. 1,100 km of roads damaged. Major losses to agriculture.
33	22.8–2.9	Typhoon Chaba	Japan. Guam. Northern Mariana Islands	16	2,000	1,100	Torrential rain (750 mm/1 day). >60,000 houses damaged or destroyed. Oil industry affected.
34	1–9.9	Hurricane Frances	USA. Bahamas. Turks and Caicos Islands	39	12,000	6,000	Thousands of houses, mobile home parks destroyed. 2.8 million evacuated.
35	5/6.9	Earthquakes	Japan: SW				Mw 7.2 and 7.4. Tsunamis. Losses to infrastructures.
36	6–8.9	Typhoon Songda	Japan. South Korea	41	9,000	4,700	Torrential rain. Thousands of houses, >10,000 boats damaged. 1.5 million households without electricity.
37	7–21.9	Hurricane Ivan	Caribbean. USA	125	23,000	11,500	Tens of thousands of buildings destroyed. Losses to industries, oil platforms, infrastructure. 3.5 million evacuated.
38	11.9–16.10	Floods	Bangladesh. India. Nepal	200			Heaviest rainfall in Dhaka/Bangladesh in 50 years. >90,000 houses destroyed.
39	15–29.9	Hurricane Jeanne	Haiti. Dominican Republic. Puerto Rico. Bahamas. USA	2,000	9,000	5,000	Torrential rain, landslides. Thousands of houses flooded. Losses to crops. 2.3 million without electricity.
40	1.10–5.11	Floods, mudslides	Colombia: entire country	31			Infrastructural and agricultural losses.
41	19–21.10	Typhoon Tokage	Japan: esp. S, W	80	7,500	1,200	Torrential rain (500 mm/24 hours). Thousands of houses and vehicles damaged. Train derailed.
42	23.10	Earthquake	Japan: NW	39	28,000	450	ML 6.8. Landslides. Major losses to infrastructure. Shinkansen train derailed.
43	30.11–1.12	Tropical Depression Winnie, floods	Philippines: E, N, C	775	20		Flash floods, mudslides. Numerous villages flooded. Losses to infrastructure.
44	2–4.12	Typhoon Nanmadol	Philippines. Taiwan	39	40		Buildings damaged. Losses to infrastructure.
45	5.12	Earthquake	Germany: SW		12	8	ML 5.1–5.4. Buildings damaged.
46	6.12	Floods	Italy: S	2	70		Torrential rain, flash floods, mudslides. Losses to infrastructure. Evacuations.
47	6.–18.12	Floods	Argentina: N				6,000km ² flooded. 50% of harvest destroyed. 10,000 homeless/evacuated.
48	6.–19.12	Severe storms, floods	Australia: E, SE	4	15	10	Losses to property and agriculture.
49	17–18.12	Winter Storm Dagmar	France. Germany. Switzerland	17	1,200	600	Buildings damaged.
50	26.12	Earthquake, tsunami	Sri Lanka. Indonesia. India. Thailand. Bangladesh. Maldives. Malaysia. East Africa	>170,000	>10,000	>1,000	Mw 9.0. Coastal areas devastated. Islands wiped out. Villages, tourist centres, infrastructure destroyed. Millions made homeless. >100,000 missing.