

Climate change samoa

Explore historical and projected climate data, climate data by sector, impacts, key vulnerabilities and what adaptation measures are being taken. Explore the overview for a general context of how climate change is affecting Samoa.

Despite experiencing less frequent disasters compared to other Pacific Island Countries (PICs), Samoa experiences a high degree of economic and social shock during disaster years: over 40 percent of the population of Samoa is affected and Samoa's economic losses have averaged 46 percent of their gross domestic product (GDP). In the capital city of Apia, a cyclone with a 100-year return period, or with a 50 percent chance of occurring within the current generation, could likely inflict damage equivalent to 60 percent of GDP. Samoa is at risk to tropical cyclones, tsunamis, droughts, and floods.

This section provides a summary of key natural hazards and their associated socioeconomic impacts in a given country. It allows for a quick assessment of most vulnerable areas through the spatial comparison of natural hazard data with development data, thereby identifying exposed livelihoods and natural systems.

The charts provide overview of the most frequent natural disaster in a given country and understand the impacts of those disasters on human populations.

Climate change is now recognized to have a significant impact on disaster management efforts and pose a significant threat to the efforts to meet the growing needs of the most vulnerable populations. The demands of disaster risk management are such that concise, clear, and reliable information is crucial. The information presented here offers insight into the frequency, impact and occurrence of natural hazards. Source (PDF)

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The capital, Apia, is located on the second largest island Upolu and has a population of approximately 40,000 people. The islands are of volcanic origin clearly visible in the form of several dormant volcanoes and lava fields. Approximately 70% of Samoa's population and infrastructure are located in low-lying coastal areas. Projected sea level rise could exacerbate coastal erosion, loss of land and property and dislocation of the island

inhabitants. The extreme events of tropical cyclones Ofa (1990) and Val (1991) caused damage with costs estimates of approximately four times the gross domestic product (GDP) of Samoa.

This WHO UNFCCC health and climate change country profile for Samoa provides a summary of available evidence on climate hazards, health vulnerabilities, health impacts and progress to date in health sector efforts to realize a climate-resilient health system.

The WHO and UNFCCC Health and Climate Change Country Profile Project monitors the health impacts of climate change and progress in building climate resilient health systems. By publishing updated country profiles every four years, the project not only provides a snapshot on a range of national health and climate change indicators, but also creates a mechanism to track climate-related health impacts and responses over time. During the first cycle of the project in 2015, nearly 50 country profiles were published. The number of country profiles is being significantly expanded in the second cycle, with around 100 country profiles expected to be published by the end of 2021.

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