

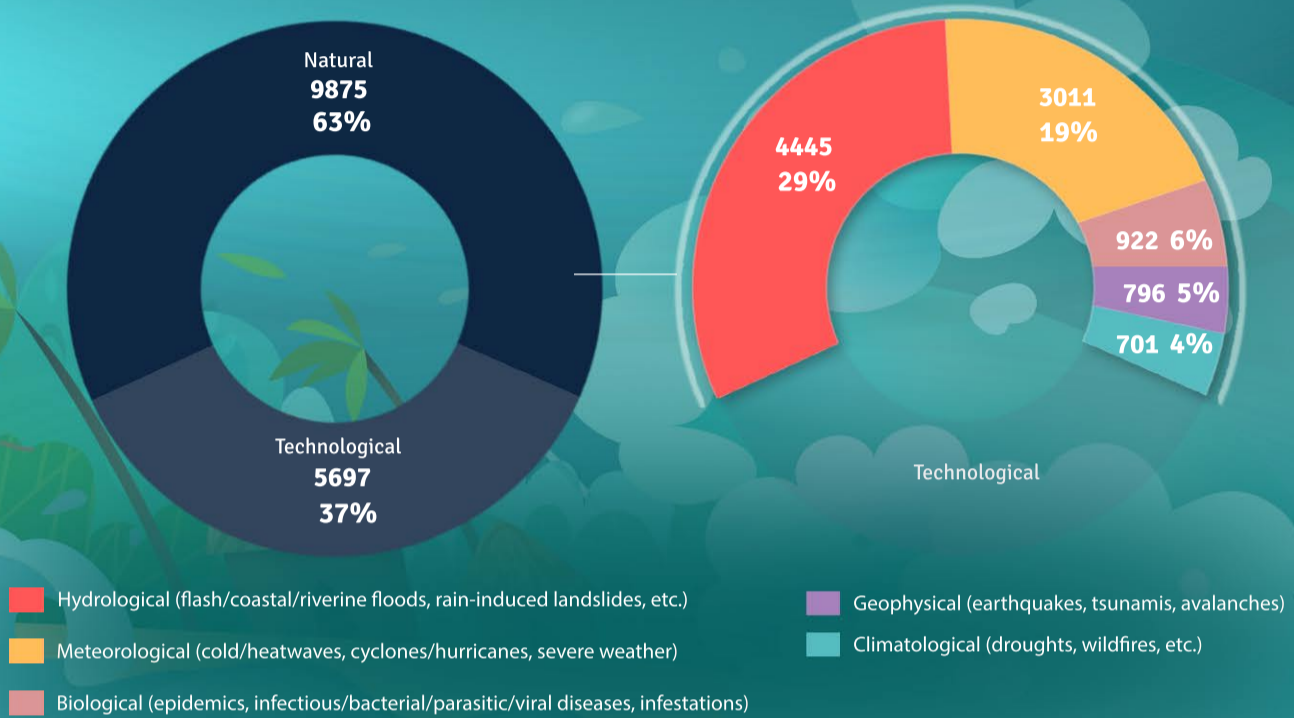
BY THE NUMBERS: DISASTERS CAUSED BY NATURAL HAZARDS

Compiled by Keith Paolo C. Landicho

Breakdown of Global Disasters

Data from the Emergency Events Database (EM-DAT) revealed that from 2000 to the end of 2023, there were **15,573 disasters** globally. 37% (5,697) of total disasters were linked to “technological hazards” such as industrial, transport, and miscellaneous accidents.¹ A much larger share of 63% (9,876) of total disasters were attributed “natural hazards.”² The most frequent cause of disasters were the hydrological hazards such as the different types of flood (flash, coastal, riverine), and rain-induced landslides (45% of all disasters or 4,445 records), followed by meteorological hazards such as cold/heat waves, cyclones/hurricanes, severe weather (31%, 3,011 records); biological hazards such as disease epidemics and infestations (9%, 922 records); geophysical hazards such as earthquakes, tsunamis, avalanches (8%, 796 records), and climatological hazards such as droughts and wildfires (7%, 701 records).

Disaster Groups and Sub-groups 2000-2023

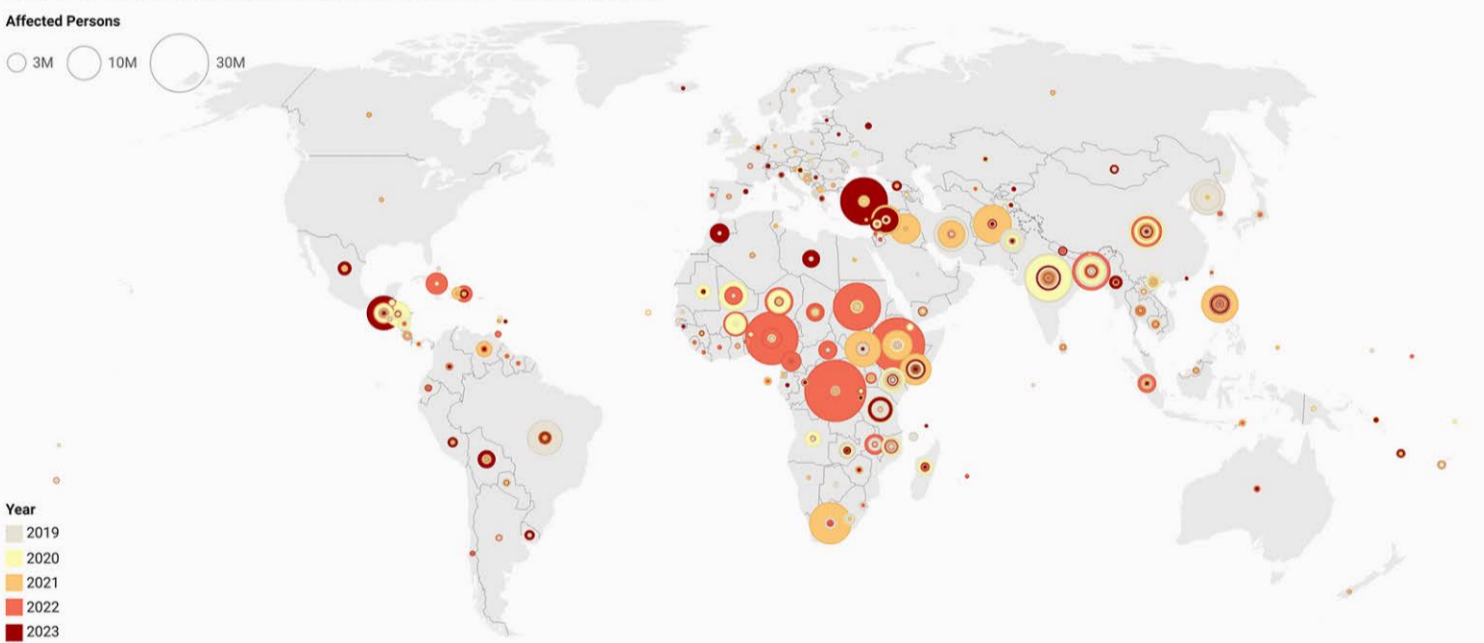


Source: Compiled from EM-DAT, CRED / UCLouvain, 2024, Brussels, Belgium – www.emdat.be, accessed 06 February 2024.

¹ The technological group is less detailed and comprises three main types: transport, industrial, and miscellaneous accidents.
² The natural group is further classified up to four additional levels following the 2014 IRDR Peril Classification and Hazard Glossary.
https://www.irdrinternational.org/knowledge_pool/publications/173

People Affected by Disasters (2019-2023)

DISASTER refers to a “serious disruption of the functioning of a community or a society involving widespread human, material, economic or environmental losses and impacts, which exceeds the ability of the affected community or society to cope using its own resources.” (UNDRR)



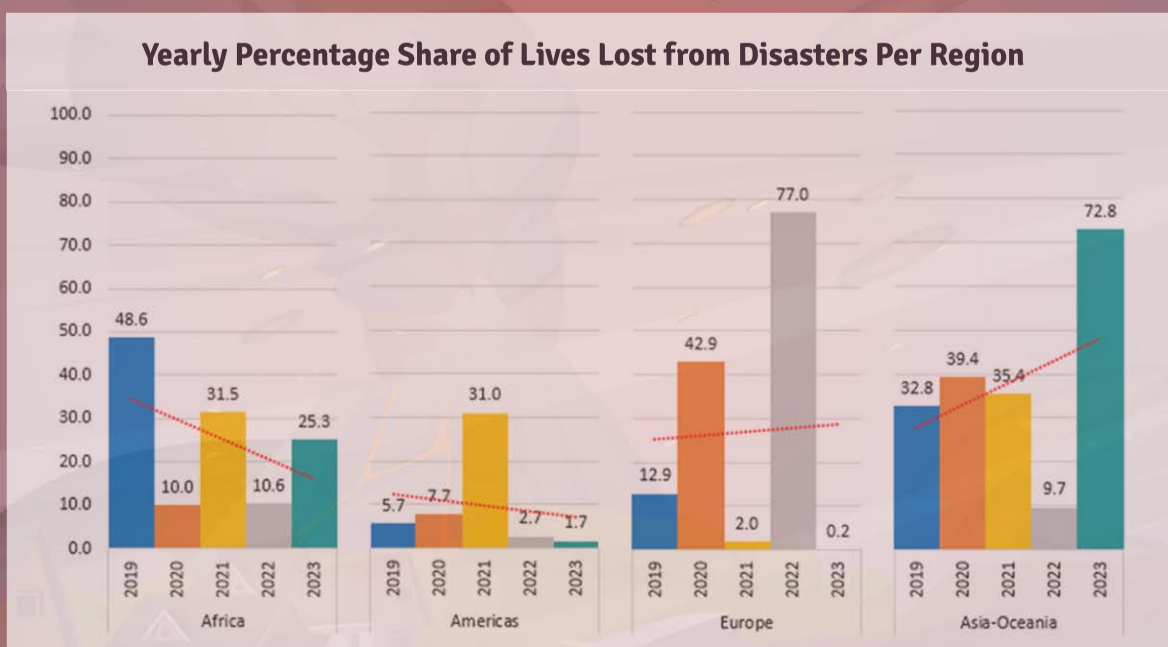
Data source: EM-DAT. Disclaimer: (1) Events with information on affected persons but are less than 100 were excluded. (2) Events with no information on affected persons information were excluded. (3) The exclusion does not necessarily imply that no disaster took place. Map Disclaimer: The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

Map: Keith Paolo C. Landicho • Source: EM-DAT • Created with Datawrapper

Source: Compiled from EM-DAT, CRED / UCLouvain, 2024, Brussels, Belgium – www.emdat.be, accessed 06 February 2024.

Disasters in the Asia-Pacific Region

In 2023, natural hazards in the Asia-Pacific region impacted 52.8 million lives or one in every 100 people, resulting in 61,405 fatalities and \$54.8 million (U.S. dollars) in damages. While the number of affected individuals (52.8 million people) was 20% lower than in the previous year (64.7 million people), disasters in 2023 were 30% costlier (12.4 million U.S. dollars more than 2022). 2023 also saw a staggering 539% increase in fatalities largely attributed to the Magnitude 7.8 Earthquake in Türkiye earlier in the year.



Source: Compiled from EM-DAT, CRED / UCLouvain, 2024, Brussels, Belgium – www.emdat.be, accessed 06 February 2024.