Ireland
Deaths due to natural hazards are mostly caused by storms, followed by floods. Average deaths per million inhabitants for the period 1995-2015 are below the OECD average.

Damage due to natural hazards is mostly caused by floods, followed by storms. Overall, damage caused by disasters as a % of GDP between 1995 and 2015 was below the OECD average.

Natural hazards: Natural hazards include floods, storms and infectious disease. The 2015 mumps outbreak is an example of a natural hazard. Extreme temperatures, droughts and wildfires were also identified as critical risks. Geophysical hazards such as landslides may occur in Ireland though the risks are relatively low.

Man-made risks: Industrial accidents, cyber-attacks, organised crime and terror attacks are also critical risks. Most critical risk: Not identified.


Disaster-related socio-economic losses

Notes: For 62% of disaster events registered for Ireland 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.

In Ireland, the governance of critical risks is a shared task that rests with various government departments. Consequently, no one single national entity is responsible for the management of critical risks. Instead, Ireland uses the systems approach to emergency management, which involves a continuous cycle of activity carried out by all principal response agencies. The Department of An Taoiseach (Prime Minister) oversees the preparation of the National Risk Assessment – Strategic Overview of Risk; reviews risk governance and reports to government. The Government Task Force on Emergency Planning oversees the review of the National Risk Assessment for Ireland and the emergency management activities of all involved ministries and authorities.


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.

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