



EM-DAT

The International Disaster Database

Centre for research on the Epidemiology of Disasters — CRE

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General Classification

Disaster Group	Disaster Subgroup	Definition	Disaster Main Type
Natural	<u>Geophysical</u>	A hazard originating from solid earth. This term is used interchangeably with the term geological hazard.	Earthquake
			Mass Movement (dry)
			Volcanic activity
	<u>Meteorological</u>	A hazard caused by short-lived, micro- to meso-scale extreme weather and atmospheric conditions that last from minutes to days.	Extreme Temperature
			Fog
			Storm
	<u>Hydrological</u>	A hazard caused by the occurrence, movement, and distribution of surface and subsurface freshwater and saltwater.	Flood
			Landslide
			Wave action
	<u>Climatological</u>	A hazard caused by long-lived, meso- to macro-scale atmospheric processes ranging from intra-seasonal to multi-decadal climate variability.	Drought
			Glacial Lake Outburst
			Wildfire
Technological	<u>Biological</u>	A hazard caused by the exposure to living organisms and their toxic substances (e.g. venom, mold) or vector-borne diseases that they may carry. Examples are venomous wildlife and insects, poisonous plants, and mosquitoes carrying disease-causing agents such as parasites, bacteria, or viruses (e.g. malaria).	Epidemic
			Insect infestation
			Animal Accident
	<u>Extraterrestrial</u>	A hazard caused by asteroids, meteoroids, and comets as they pass near-earth, enter the Earth's atmosphere, and/or strike the Earth, and by changes in interplanetary conditions that effect the Earth's magnetosphere, ionosphere, and thermosphere.	Impact
			Space weather
	Industrial accident		Chemical spill
			Collapse
			Explosion
			Fire
			Gas leak
			Poisoning
			Radiation
			Oil spill
			Other
	Transport accident		Air
			Road
			Rail
			Water
	Miscellaneous accident		Collapse
			Explosion
			Fire
			Other

Geophysical

Disaster Group	Disaster Subgroup	Disaster Main Type	Disaster Sub-Type	Disaster Sub-Sub-Type
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Natural Disaster	Geophysical	Earthquake	Ground movement	
			Tsunami	
		Mass Movement (dry)	Rock fall	
			Landslide	
		Volcanic activity	Ash fall	
			Lahar	
			Pyroclastic flow	
			Lava flow	

Meteorological

Disaster Group	Disaster Subgroup	Disaster Main Type	Disaster Sub-Type	Disaster Sub-Sub-Type
Natural Disaster	Meteorological	Storm	Extra-tropical storm	
			Tropical storm	
			Convective Storm	Derecho
				Hail
				Lightning/thunderstorm
				Rain
				Tornado
				Sand/dust storm
				Winter storm/blizzard
				Storm/surge
				Wind
				Severe storm
		Extreme temperature	Cold wave	
			Heat wave	
			Severe winter conditions	Snow/ice
		Fog		Frost/freeze

Hydrological

Disaster Group	Disaster Subgroup	Disaster Main Type	Disaster Sub-Type	Disaster Sub-Sub-Type
Natural Disaster	Hydrological	Flood	Coastal flood	
			Riverine flood	
			Flash flood	
			Ice jam flood	
		Landslide	Avalanche (snow, debris, mudflow, rockfall)	
		Wave action	Rogue wave	
			Seiche	

Climatological

Disaster Group	Disaster Sub-Group	Disaster Main Type	Disaster Sub-Type	Disaster Sub-Sub-Type
Natural Disaster	Climatological	Drought		
		Glacial Lake Outburst		
		Wildfire	Forest Fire	
			Land fire: Brush, bush, Pasture	

Biological

Disaster Group	Disaster Sub-Group	Disaster Main Type	Disaster Sub-Type	Disaster Sub-Sub-Type
Natural Disaster	Biological	Epidemic	Viral Disease	
			Bacterial Disease	

			Parasitic Disease
			Fungal Disease
			Prion Disease
		Insect infestation	Grasshopper
			Locust
		Animal Accident	

Extraterrestrial

Disaster Group	Disaster Sub-Group	Disaster Main Type	Disaster Sub-Type	Disaster Sub-Sub-Type
Natural Disaster	Extraterrestrial	Impact	Airburst	
		Space weather	Energetic particles	
			Geomagnetic storm	
			Shockwave	

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