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Commentary

Published June 3, 2019 Updated June 3, 2019

Flash floods, fallen ti 'int





Source: "Flash floods in several part

Flash floods hit Commonwealth Lane, Craig Road in the afternoon



A photo circulating on social media showing a car with its wheels submerged in brown, murky waters near a Shell petrol station.

"Flash floods hit Commonwealth Lane", 2019



Source: Chin, 2023



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Climate change has intensified El Nino and La Nina events, study finds



Source: Fogarty, 2023

CLIMATE CHANGE	A global issue that has led to ever increasing extreme weather variations, including heavy rainfall amounts
EXISTING URBAN INFRASTRUCTURE	Infrastructure that were designed based on historical weather patterns may not adequately address the heightened flood risks and surge from increasingly heavier rainfalls
POTENTIAL CONSEQUENCE	Flash floods and prolonged inundation can cause severe disruptions, economic losses and endanger lives
MITIGATION REQUIRED	Urban development plans and flood adaptation measures have to be reviewed and updated in order to be future-proof against extreme weather variations and heavy rainfall amounts

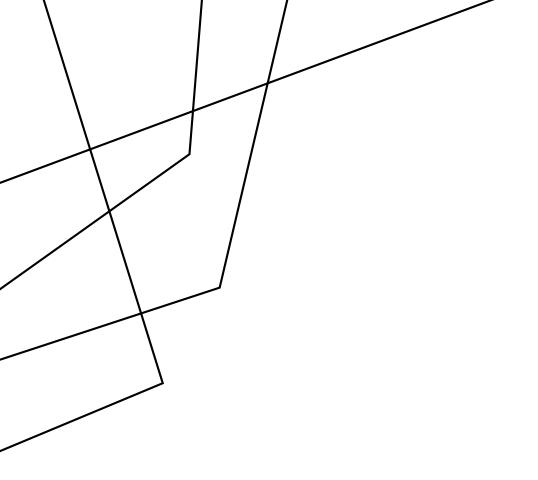
PROBLEM STATEMENT

AIMS OF THIS ANALYSIS

Present insights on rainfall
 Based on total rainfall per month from 1982 to present

2. Make recommendations

To mitigate risks



METHODOLOGY

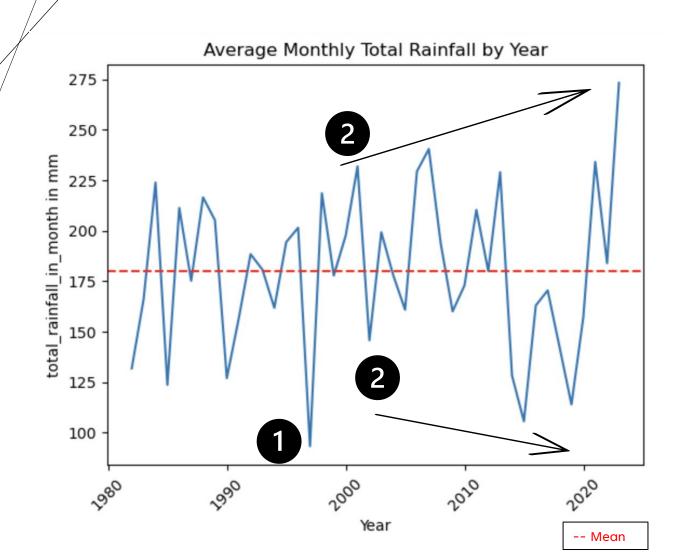
Data Collection

- Total amount of rainfall in millimetres was collected and recorded in Singapore's climate station
- Monthly tabulation of rainfall amount
- Time period: January 1982 to April 2023

Data Analysis

- Average total monthly rainfall is calculated for each year
- Average total rainfall for each month itself is also calculated

INSIGHTS ON RAINFALL

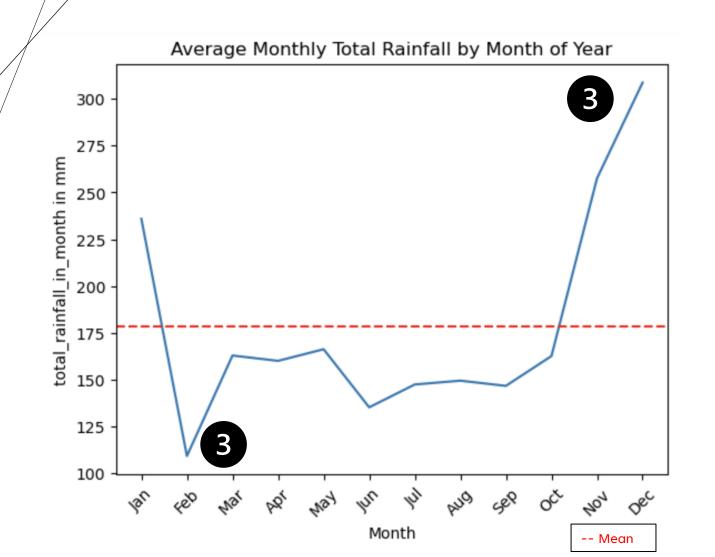


1997 saw the lowest average total rainfall due to El Niño (a climate pattern responsible for dry periods in Southeast Asia).

As we progress through the years to the present, there is an increase in volatility of the average monthly total rainfall.

Peaks are getting higher, and troughs are also getting lower.

INSIGHTS ON RAINFALL



Differences in average total rainfall across the months, with February having the lowest rainfall and December having the highest.

RECOMMENDATIONS AND NEXT STEPS



Further studies and analyses required:

- Analyse rainfall variations between each district of Singapore to prioritise efforts on districts that have higher rainfall and more prone to flooding, in the case of limited budget and resources
- 2. Build accurate models to model the future amount of rainfall and length of extreme wet and dry periods, taking into account the extreme weather variations



Review flood preparedness:

- Review existing drainage system and identify gaps in future-proofing flood and stormwater management measures
- 2. Review existing urban plans, especially for older estates, to determine and plug gaps in flood preparedness, as well as on-site mitigation measures such as detention tanks, green roofs, rain gardens or retention ponds

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