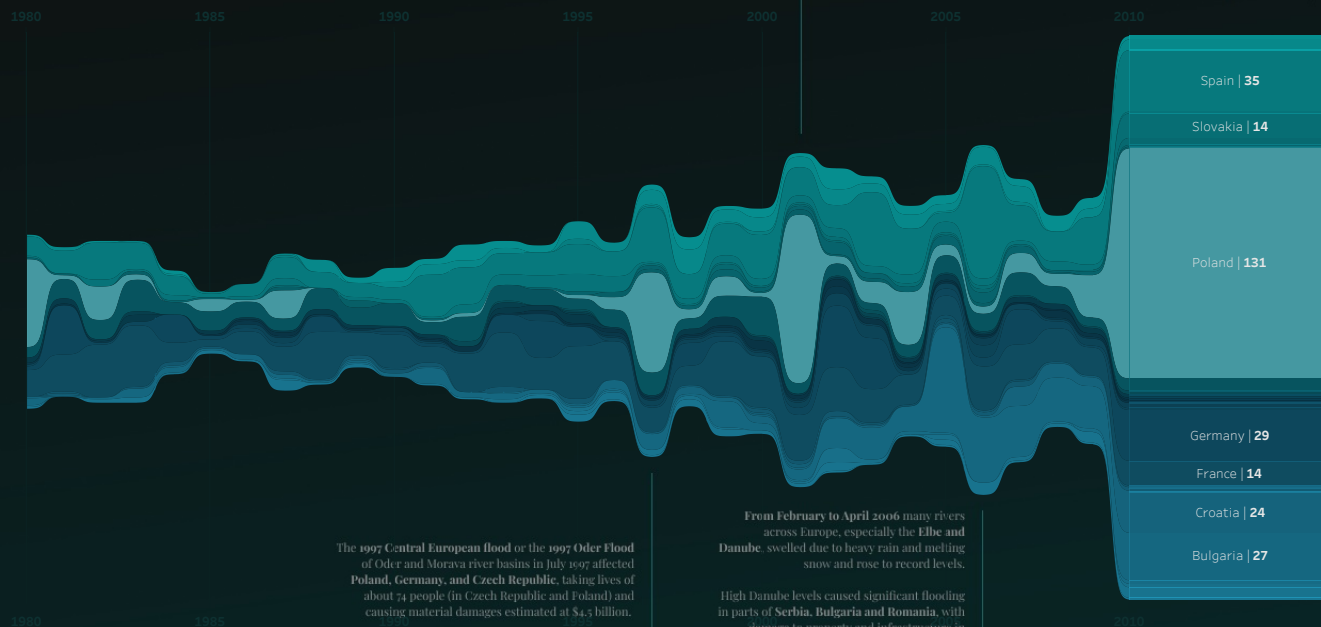
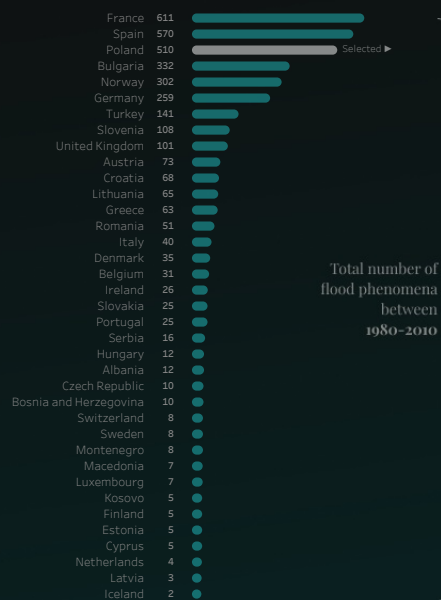


# FLOOD PHENOMENA IN EUROPE

Past floods in European countries 1980-2010



In August 2002 a flood caused by over a week of continuous heavy rains ravaged Europe, killing dozens, dispossessing thousands, and causing damage of billions of euros in the Czech Republic, Austria, Germany, Slovakia, Poland, Hungary, Romania and Croatia, as well as in Russia. The flood was of a magnitude expected to occur roughly once a century.

Unprecedented flood heights were recorded and at least 110 people died. In December 2002, total economic damage estimates exceeded 15 billion Euro, of which 15% was insured.

The 2010 Central European floods were a devastating series of weather events which occurred across several Central European countries during May and June 2010. Poland was the worst affected. Austria, Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Slovakia, Serbia and Ukraine were also affected.

At least thirty-seven people died in the floods and approximately 21,000 people were evacuated. The city of Kraków declared a state of emergency.

The 1997 Central European flood or the 1997 Oder Flood of Oder and Morava river basins in July 1997 affected Poland, Germany, and Czech Republic, taking lives of about 74 people (in Czech Republic and Poland) and causing material damages estimated at \$4.5 billion.

The flooding began in Czech Republic, then spread to Poland and Germany. In Poland, where it was one of the most disastrous floods in history of that country, it was named the Millennium Flood.

From February to April 2006 many rivers across Europe, especially the Elbe and Danube, swelled due to heavy rain and melting snow and rose to record levels.

High Danube levels caused significant flooding in parts of Serbia, Bulgaria and Romania, with damage to property and infrastructure in localities near the shores of the river. The effects of high water across Southeastern Europe were blamed on the poor levee systems in the affected countries.

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