# PACIFIC RISK PROFILE – FIJI

## COUNTRY OVERVIEW

* [**1324 m**](https://www.spc.int/our-members/) maximum height above sea level
* [**18,333 km²**](https://www.spc.int/our-members/) land area and [**49**](https://sdd.spc.int/digital_library/pocket-statistical-summary-resume-statistique-de-poche-2020) people per km²
* [**3 volcanoes and 2%**](https://www.preventionweb.net/english/hyogo/gar/2015/en/home/data.html) of people live within 30km of volcanoes
* [**51%**](https://sdd.spc.int/mapping-coastal) population is urban
* [**27%**](https://sdd.spc.int/mapping-coastal) of population live with 1km of coast, **76%** live within 5km of coast, and **91%** live within 10km of coast
* [**894,960**](https://sdd.spc.int/topic/population) total population: [**453,586**](https://sdd.spc.int/topic/population) (50.68%) men and [**441,274**](https://sdd.spc.int/topic/population) women (49.32%) in 2020
* [**13.7%**](https://www.unescap.org/publications/disability-glance-2019) disability prevalence
* [**$6152**](https://sdd.spc.int/digital_library/pocket-statistical-summary-resume-statistique-de-poche-2020) USD gross domestic product per capita
* [**46%**](https://www.adb.org/publications/gender-statistics-pacific-and-timor-leste) women’s labour force participation
* [**32.1%**](https://www.adb.org/publications/gender-statistics-pacific-and-timor-leste) women’s share of managerial positions
* [**33.2%**](https://www.adb.org/publications/gender-statistics-pacific-and-timor-leste) women’s share of wage employment in the non-agriculture sector
* [**64%**](https://www.adb.org/publications/gender-statistics-pacific-and-timor-leste) ever-partnered women who have experienced violence by an intimate partner.

## [HAZARD LIKELIHOOD](https://thinkhazard.org/en/report/83-fiji)

| **Water scarcity** | **Volcano** | **Earthquake** | **Landslide** | **Cyclone** | **Coastal flood** | **Wildfire** | **Tsunami** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Very low likelihood | Low likelihood | High likelihood | High likelihood | High likelihood | High likelihood | High likelihood | High likelihood |

## ECONOMIC LOSS DUE TO DISASTERS

* [**$343m**](https://www.unescap.org/sites/default/d8files/IDD-APDR-Subreport-Pacific-SIDS.pdf) USD total average annual loss due to disasters, which is [**8.82%**](https://www.unescap.org/sites/default/d8files/IDD-APDR-Subreport-Pacific-SIDS.pdf) of GDP.

**ADAPTATION COSTS FOR COASTAL PROTECTION**

* [**$86-$329m**](https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/28137) USD adaptation costs for coastal protection per year, or [**1-3%**](https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/28137) of projected GDP in 2040.

## RISK INDEX

* [**Fiji is ranked 15th**](https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/WorldRiskReport-2020.pdf)among countries with high disaster risk due to high exposure to extreme natural events and sea-level rise
  + Exposure – very high
  + Vulnerability – medium
  + Susceptibility – medium
  + Lack of coping capacities – medium
  + Lack of adaptive capacities – medium
* Between 1999 and 2018 [**Fiji was ranked 13th**](https://www.germanwatch.org/en/17307) among countries most affected by extreme weather
* Fiji’s risk level is [**medium**](https://drmkc.jrc.ec.europa.eu/inform-index/INFORM-Covid-19/INFORM-Covid-19-Warning-beta-version) when assessing the potential humanitarian impacts of COVID-19 in combination with other pre-existing crisis risks.

## MAJOR DISASTERS 2011-2020

* **9** major cyclones
* **854,449** people affected
* **$771m** USD total damage
* [**69%**](https://www.emdat.be/) of disasters were storms, **15%** were floods, **8%** were drought and **8%** were epidemic.

## [TC WINSTON](https://www.gfdrr.org/sites/default/files/publication/Post%20Disaster%20Needs%20Assessments%20CYCLONE%20WINSTON%20Fiji%202016%20(Online%20Version).pdf) (2016)

* Most powerful cyclone recorded in the southern hemisphere with max average wind gusts of **306km/h**
* **495** schools, **88** health clinics and **30,369** homes were damaged or destroyed
* **62%** of Fiji’s population was affected
* **$900m** USD estimated value of disaster effect (incl $600m USD in destroyed physical assets)
* Per cent loss by sector: **9%** infrastructure, **29%** productive, **30%** social and **32%** cross-cutting issues.

## [CLIMATE PROJECTION](https://www.pacificclimatechangescience.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/06/1_PACCSAP-Fiji-11pp_WEB.pdf)

* **Rainfall**: little change in rainfall but an increase in the wet season with more extreme rain events
* **Cyclones**: less frequent but more intense
* **Temperature**: annual mean temperatures and extremely high temperature days will continue to rise
* **Sea level**: expected to continue to rise
* **Ocean acidification**: expected to continue
* **Risk of** **coral bleaching** expected to increase
* **El Niño/La Niña**: likely to continue, in Suva **El** **Niño** brings dry seasons that are drier and cooler than usual, while **La Niña** events bring wetter than usual conditions.