

PACIFIC RISK PROFILE SAMOA



Basic Country Statistics

Land Area
2,934 km²

Pacific Community (SPC) Our Members at <https://www.spc.int/our-members/>

Maximum Height Above Sea-level
1,857 m

Pacific Community (SPC) Our Members at <https://www.spc.int/our-members/>

Number of Volcanoes & Per cent of Population at Volcanic Risk

2 volcanoes

78%

People live within 30 km of volcanoes

UNDRR (2015) Global Assessment Report Country Risk Profile at <https://www.preventionweb.net/english/hyogo/gar/2015/en/home/data.php>

Per cent of Urban Population

18%

SPC Pocket Statistical Summary 2020 at https://sdd.spc.int/digital_library/pocket-statistical-summary-resume-statistique-de-poche-2020

Per cent of Coastal Population

61%

People live within 1 km of the coast

97%

People live within 5 km of the coast

100%

People live within 10 km of the coast

SPC Statistics (Map) at <https://sdd.spc.int/mapping-coastal>



Total Population
(2020 Estimate)

198,656
persons



Total Male & Female Population
(2020 Estimate)

Male
102,356
persons or 51.52%

Female
96,300
persons or 48.48%

SPC Statistics (Population) at <https://sdd.spc.int/topic/population>

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per Capita

US\$4,284
(2019)

SPC Pocket Statistical Summary 2020 at https://sdd.spc.int/digital_library/pocket-statistical-summary-resume-statistique-de-poche-2020



Population Density

68 persons/km²

SPC Pocket Statistical Summary 2020 at https://sdd.spc.int/digital_library/pocket-statistical-summary-resume-statistique-de-poche-2020



Disability Prevalence

2.2%

UNESCAP (2019) Disability at a Glance at <https://www.unescap.org/publications/disability-glance-2019>

Women's Share of Managerial Positions

47.3%

Women's Labour Force Participation Rate

24%

Women's Share of Wage Employment in the Non-agriculture Sector

37.5%

ADB (2016) Gender Statistics for the Pacific and Timor-Leste at <https://www.adb.org/publications/gender-statistics-pacific-and-timor-leste>

Pacific Risk Profile is a snapshot of climate and disaster risk information that is collected from credible open data sources. It is intended to provide DFAT program managers and implementing partners with easy access to essential risk information. When employing risk information in specific program contexts, however, it is strongly encouraged to study the original risk information sources or even undertake proper risk assessments.

For more information or other technical support, you may contact the Australia Pacific Climate Partnership Support Unit at helpdesk@apclimatepartnership.com.au.

Published in July 2021

Hazard Likelihood



Earthquake
Medium Likelihood



Volcano
Low Likelihood



Landslide
Low Likelihood



Cyclone
High Likelihood



Coastal Flood
Medium Likelihood



Wildfire
Very Low Likelihood



Tsunami
High Likelihood

Legend

- Very low
- Medium
- Low
- High

ThinkHazard! at <https://thinkhazard.org/en/report/212-samoa>

Economic Loss Due to Disasters

Total Average Annual Losses (AAL)

US\$41.51 million

UNESCAP (2020) The Disaster Riskscape across the Pacific Small Island Developing States at <https://www.unescap.org/sites/default/files/100-APDR-Subreport-Pacific-SIDS.pdf>

AAL as a Percentage of GDP

5.40%

UNESCAP (2020) The Disaster Riskscape across the Pacific Small Island Developing States

Adaptation Costs for Coastal Protection

US\$7~21 million per year

or 0~1% of projected GDP in 2040

World Bank (2017) Climate Change and Disaster Management (Pacific Possible Background Paper No.6) at <https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/28137>

Risk Index

World Risk index

Samoa is ranked 98th with the medium disaster risk.

Exposure - Medium
Vulnerability - High
Susceptibility - Medium
Lack of Coping Capacities - High
Lack of Adaptive Capacities - Medium

World Risk Report 2020 at <https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/WorldRiskReport-2020.pdf>

Climate Risk Index for 1999-2018

Between 1999 and 2018, Samoa was the 71st country most affected by extreme weather events.

Global Climate Risk Index 2020 at <https://www.germanwatch.org/en/17307>



INFORM Covid-19 Risk

Samoa's risk level is low when assessing the potential humanitarian impacts of Covid-19 in combination with other pre-existing crisis risks.

INFORM Covid-19 Warning (beta version) at <https://drmkc.jrc.ec.europa.eu/inform-index/INFORM-Covid-19/INFORM-Covid-19-Warning-beta-version>

Major Disasters 2011-2020

Total Population Affected



Total Damage

US\$133 million

Number of Major Cyclones in 2011-2020



Per cent of Disaster Type (Major Disasters 2011-2020)



EM-DAT Database (February 2021) at <https://www.emdat.be/>

TC EVAN (2012)

Cyclone Evan caused widespread damage across Samoa, with heavy rainfall and flash floods and maximum sustained winds up to 90 knots (166.7 km/h).



The cyclone killed at least five people and displaced 4,763 people

The total effects of the disaster amount to

US\$203.9 million including the value of damage estimated at US\$103.3 million

Per cent of Economic Damage and Loss by Sectors



37%
Infrastructure Sectors
(transport, water and sanitation, electricity, communications)



12%
Social Sectors
(education, health, housing)



35%
Productive Sectors
(agriculture, tourism, commerce)



16%
Cross-Cutting Issues
(environment, gender and social inclusion, culture, disaster risk reduction, etc.)

Climate Projection



Cyclone

Tropical cyclones are projected to be less frequent but more intense.

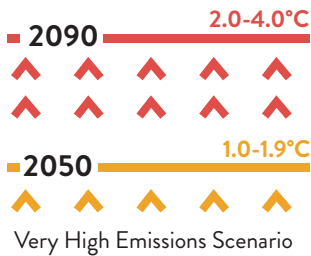


Rainfall

Little change in mean annual rainfall is projected, with more extreme rain events.

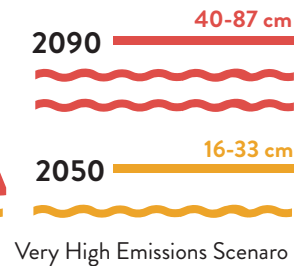
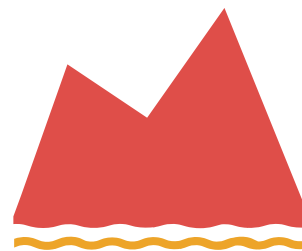
Temperature

Annual mean temperatures and extremely high daily temperatures will continue to rise.



Sea-level Rise

Sea level is expected to continue to rise.



Ocean Acidification



Ocean acidification is expected to continue.

El Niño / La Niña



Coral Bleaching Risk



The risk of coral bleaching is expected to increase.

El Niño and La Niña events will continue to occur in the future.

In Samoa, **El Niño** events tend to bring **wet seasons** that are drier than normal, while **La Niña** events **usually bring wetter** and cooler than normal conditions.

PACCSAP Country Brochures at https://www.pacificclimatechangescience.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/06/3_PACCSAP-Samoa-10pp_WEB.pdf