

The Shifting Nature of Catastrophic Risk in the United States

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Not All Data in a PowerPoint Slide Are Accurate or Reliable







Only Hurricanes Caused Disasters

- Only a Small Part of the U.S. (the Gulf and South Atlantic Coasts) Was Vulnerable
- Only June-November (Hurricane Season) Was Worrisome
- Only Wind Damage Was Likely



Are More Catastrophes Occurring?

It Certainly Seems That Way

7 of the 10 Most Costly Disasters in U.S. History Were Hurricanes



(Insured Losses, 2011 Dollars, \$ Billions) **Terrorism** \$50 \$47.6 **Tornadoes** \$45 \$40 Earthquake \$35 \$30 \$25.0 \$24.0 \$21.3 \$25 \$19.1 \$20 \$13.1 \$11.9 \$15 \$9.0 \$8.5 \$7.7 \$10 \$5 \$0 Hugo Ivan (2004) Charley Wilma Ike (2008)Northridge Spring 9/11 Attack Andrew Katrina (1989)(2004)(2005)(1994) Tornadoes (2001) (1992) (2005)& Storms* (2011)

There have been larger disasters in our history, but none more costly than these, due to growth of exposures and insurance coverage

*Losses will actually be broken down into several "events" as determined by PCS. Includes losses for the period April 1 – June 30. Sources: PCS; Insurance Information Institute inflation adjustments.

15 Costliest World Insurance Losses, 1970-2011*

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*Through June 20, 2011. 2011 disaster figures are estimates; Figures include federally insured flood losses, where applicable. Sources: Swiss Re *sigma 1/2011*; AIR Worldwide, RMS, Eqecat; Insurance Information Institute.

US Insured Catastrophe Losses, Yearly, 1989-2011*





US CAT losses in 2011 were the 5th highest in US history on an inflation-adjusted basis

*Munich Re estimate for 2012 first half.

Note: 2001 figure includes \$20.3B for 9/11 losses reported through 12/31/01 (\$25.9B 2011 dollars). Includes only business and personal property claims, business interruption and auto claims. Non-prop/BI losses = \$12.2B (\$15.6B in 2011 dollars.) Sources: Property Claims Service/ISO; Insurance Information Institute.

Number of Federal Major Disaster Declarations, Yearly, 1953-2012*





*Through August 26, 2012. Sources: Federal Emergency Management Administration at http://www.fema.gov/disasters?field_state_tid=All&field_disaster_type_term_tid=All&field_disaster_declaration_type_value=All&items_per_page=60&=GO; Insurance Information Institute.

Natural Disasters in the United States, 1980 – 2011 Number of Events (Annual Totals 1980 – 2011)



Source: MR NatCatSERVICE

Natural Disasters in the United States, 1980 - 2012

Number of Events, January – June only



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Losses Due to Natural Catastrophes in the United States



1980 – 2012 (Annual Totals 1980 – 2011 vs. First Six Months 2012)

2012:1H insured losses in the US totaled US\$ 9.3bn.





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What Happened in 2011 and the 1st Half of 2012

Lately, Insured Claims from Tropical Storms in the US Have Decreased, but Other Causes of Catastrophes Have Risen

Natural Disasters in the United States, 2011



	Number of Events	Fatalities	Estimated Overall Losses (US \$m)	Estimated Insured Losses (US \$m)
Severe Thunderstorm	69	617	\$46,548	\$25,813
Winter Storm	9	67	\$2,708	\$2,017
Flood	14	20	\$2,705	\$535
Earthquake	5	1	\$257	\$50
Tropical Cyclone	3	0	\$10,700	\$5,510*
Wildfire	58	15	\$1,922	\$855
Other	2	33	\$8,000	\$1,000
Totals	160	753	\$72,840	\$35,780

Natural Disasters in the United States, 2012 1st Half



	Number of Events	Fatalities	Estimated Overall Losses (US \$m)	Estimated Insured Losses (US \$m)
Severe Thunderstorm	56	69	13,550	8,760
Winter Storm	3	3	80	38
Flood	6	0	12	Minor
Earthquake	1	0	0	0
Tropical Cyclone	2	1	100	50
Wildfire	22	6	875	500
Totals	90	79	14,617	9,348

Source: MR NatCatSERVICE

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US insured losses from the first half of 2012 totaled \$9.3billion.

- This was well below the \$24.4b in the first half of 2011 (in 2012 Dollars).
- Thunderstorms (including tornado/hail), account for almost all of this, estimated at \$8.8b,
- Even though claims in 2012 were 1/3 of those from 2011, the first half of 2012 was the third most costly spring thunderstorm season in US history



The Good News:

- Very mild winter over most of US caused only minor winter storm losses.
- Lack of heavy winter precipitation limited spring flooding.

The Bad News:

 Lack of heavy winter precipitation has exacerbated drought conditions.

2011's Most Expensive Catastrophes, Based on Insured Losses





**Includes \$700 million in flood losses insured through the National Flood Insurance Program. Source: PCS except as noted by "*" which are sourced to Munich Re; Insurance Information Institute.



Shifting Patterns in Insured Catastrophe Losses

Lately, Insured Claims from Tropical Storms in the US Have Decreased, but Other Causes of Catastrophes Have Risen

The Changing Nature of Insured Catastrophe Losses in the US



Historically Most of US Insured Catastrophe Losses Came From Hurricanes and Tropical Storms

- Hurricanes still account for the majority of the Top 15 catastrophes, but other types of catastrophes are displacing hurricanes
- Thunderstorms (including tornados, large and high winds) are the leading cause of insured loss from 2008-2011 and so far in 2012
- A trend/pattern appears to be emerging: More frequent and more intense thunderstorm activity
- It is unclear if the recent low level of landfalling tropical cyclones is part of a trend or a longer-term oscillation in activity

Inflation-Adjusted U.S. Catastrophe Losses by Cause of Loss, 1990–2011:H1¹



- 1. Catastrophes are defined as events causing direct insured losses to property of \$25 million or more in 2009 dollars.
- 2. Excludes snow.
- 3. Does not include NFIP flood losses
- 4. Includes wildland fires

5. Includes civil disorders, water damage, utility disruptions and non-property losses such as those covered by workers compensation. Source: ISO's Property Claim Services Unit.

U.S. Insured Catastrophe Losses by Cause of Loss, 2011 (\$ Millions)



2011's insured loss distribution was unusual, with tornado and thunderstorm claims accounting for the vast majority of loss.

Source: ISO's Property Claim Services Unit, Munich Re; Insurance Information Institute.

The Changing Nature of Insured Catastrophe Losses in the US (cont'd)



Since 2008, insured thunderstorm losses totaled roughly \$60 billion vs. about \$20 billion for tropical events

- This means that insured catastrophe losses over the past 4 years have occurred predominantly in non-coastal areas
- Midwest, Plains, Mid-Atlantic regions have been hit hard
- Inland sections of coastal states have also been hit hard (e.g., AL, MS, NC)

Higher Catastrophe Losses Are Pressuring Property Insurance Markets

 Rates are rising in many areas hit hard by catastrophe losses in recent years.

Combined Ratio Points Associated with Catastrophe Losses: 1960 – 2011*



The Catastrophe Loss Component of Private Insurer Losses Has Increased Sharply in Recent Decades—Only in Part Due to Tropical Activity

*Insurance Information Institute estimates for 2010 and 2011 based on A.M. Best data.

Notes: Private carrier losses only. Excludes loss adjustment expenses and reinsurance reinstatement premiums. Figures are adjusted for losses ultimately paid by foreign insurers and reinsurers.

Sources: ISO; Insurance Information Institute.

Number of Federal Disaster Declarations Associated w/ Tropical Systems, 1990-2011

There have been 342 federal disaster 2011 produced the 70 declarations associated with tropical second highest 64 activity since 1990, which are number of federal increasing as a share of all 60 disasters due to declarations: tropical activity 1990s: 17.6% 50 ever 2000s: 24.1% 2010s: 25.6%* 38 40 30 30 23 22 20 10 ົ ω S 0 6 93 94 95 96 97 98 66 8 02 03 4 05 90 08 60 10 92 5 0 9

The Share of Federal Disaster Declarations Associated with Tropical Activity Has Been Rising

*Consists of data for 2010 and 2011.

Source: Federal Emergency Management Administration: <u>http://www.fema.gov/news/disaster_totals_annual.fema</u>; Insurance Information Institute research.

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2011-12: Nowhere to Run, Nowhere to Hide

Most of the Country East of the Rockies Suffered Severe Weather in 2011



Tornadoes, Thunderstorms, and Large Hailstorms

2012 Is Off to a Worrisome Start, But a Repeat of 2011 Is Unlikely

US Thunderstorm Loss Trends



Annual Totals 1980 – 2011 vs. First Six Months 2012

Average thunderstorm losses have increased over fivefold since 1980



US Thunderstorm Loss Trends



January – June Only, 1980 - 2012

Thunderstorm losses for January – June 2012 were much lower than 2011, but still the third worst spring thunderstorm season loss in history.





Insurers Expect to Pay at Least \$2 Billion for the April 2011 Tornadoes in Alabama and a Similar Amount for the May Storms in Joplin

*Through June 2012, latest data after adjusting sightings to actual, as of Sept 10, 2012 Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Storm Prediction Center, National Weather Service at http://www.spc.noaa.gov/climo/online/monthly/newm.html

Number of Tornadoes, 1st Six Months of the Year vs. Full Year, 2007 – 2012





Source: <u>http://www.spc.noaa.gov/climo/online/monthly/newm.html</u>; Insurance Information Institute.

Location of Tornadoes in the US, 2011





Source: NOAA Storm Prediction Center; http://www.spc.noaa.gov/climo/online/monthly/2011_annual_summary.html#

Location of Tornadoes in the US, 2012*





*Through July 4, 2012.

Source: NOAA Storm Prediction Center; http://www.spc.noaa.gov/climo/online/monthly/2012_annual_summary.html#

U.S. Winter Storm Loss Trends, 1980 – 2011





Location of Large Hail Reports in the US, 2011





Source: NOAA Storm Prediction Center; http://www.spc.noaa.gov/climo/online/monthly/2011_annual_summary.html#

Location of Large Hail Reports in the US, 2012*





^{*}Through July 4, 2012.

Source: NOAA Storm Prediction Center; http://www.spc.noaa.gov/climo/online/monthly/2012_annual_summary.html#

Location of Wind Damage Reports in the US, 2011





Source: NOAA Storm Prediction Center; http://www.spc.noaa.gov/climo/online/monthly/2011_annual_summary.html#

Location of Wind Damage Reports in the US, 2012*





*Through July 4, 2012. Source: NOAA Storm Prediction Center; http://www.spc.noaa.gov/climo/online/monthly/2012_annual_summary.html#

Severe Weather Reports, 2011





Source: NOAA Storm Prediction Center; http://www.spc.noaa.gov/climo/online/monthly/2011_annual_summary.html#

Severe Weather Reports, 2012*





*Through July 4, 2012.

Source: NOAA Storm Prediction Center; http://www.spc.noaa.gov/climo/online/monthly/2012_annual_summary.html#

Number of Severe Weather Reports in US, by Type, 2011



June 29, 2012 Derecho: Traveled 600 Miles from Midwest to Mid-Atlantic



Millions of people **10-HOUR RADAR COMPOSITE (2PM – MIDNIGHT)** were without power in sweltering heat for days, particularly in PΑ **Mid-Atlantic states** 2pm EDT 4pm EDT 6pm ED1 8pm EDT 10pm EDT 12am EDT IL IN ~600 miles The June 29 derecho traveled 600 miles in just 10 hours—an average speed of 60 MPH! **Peak wind gusts** 80-100 MPH.

Source: National Weather Service: http://www.spc.noaa.gov/wcm/2012/20120629-derecho.png



Wildfires



Subhead: "Wildfires used to be seasonal.

- They also used to be regional, pretty much limited to the more fire-prone areas of the country.
- Today, wildfires no longer have either characteristic—and that's not a good thing."
- Callout: "At one point, wildfires were burning continuously in...Texas over an 18-month time span."

Source: Risk & Insurance magazine, June 2012, p. 19

Number of Acres Burned in Wildfires, 1980 – 2012



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Number of Federal Fire Management Assistance Declarations, 1953-2012*





Some fire management assistance declarations cover separate fires in a single state; for example, there were 3 declarations in 2012 for the "Oil Creek," "Squirrel Creek," and "Arapahoe" fires in Wyoming

*Through July 31, 2012. Sources: Federal Emergency Management Administration at http://www.fema.gov/disasters?field_state_tid=All&field_disaster_type_term_tid=All&field_disaster_declaration_type_value=All&items_per_page=60&=GO; Insurance Information Institute.



Let's not forget about hurricanes

Whether they make landfall, or not

Number of Major & Minor Hurricanes Making US Landfall, 1983-2012







And did you notice it's getting hotter (and, in some places, drier)?

Land/Ocean Average Temperatures vs. 20th Century Baseline*





*Northern Hemisphere, month of June each year, through 2012

Source: NOAA, National Climatic Data Center, accessed at <a href="http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/ghcnm/time-series/index.php?surface=land-ocean®ion=90S.90N&month=6&trend=true&beg-trend-year=1880&end-trend-year=2012&submitted=Subm

US Drought Conditions, June 26, 2012



The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/

Released Thursday, June 28, 2012 Author: Richard Heim/L. Love-Brotak, NOAA/NESDIS/NCDC

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US Drought Conditions, July 31, 2012



Released Thursday, August 2, 2012 Author: Mark Svoboda, National Drought Mitigation Center

Source: National Drought Mitigation Center

http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/

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And don't forget the flood risk (even though it's currently mostly federally insured)

Number of Significant Flood Events,* 1978-2012



We appear to have had at least one "significant" flood every year since 1978, averaging about 3 per year.

*As determined by the NFIP, measured as an event with 1,500 or more paid losses "or occasionally one added for other reasons." **Through July 31, 2012

Sources: FEMA, at <u>http://www.fema.gov/policy-claim-statistics-flood-insurance/policy-claim-statistics-flood-insurance/policy-claim-13</u>; Insurance Information Institute.

Upward Trend of Inflation-Adjusted Flood Loss Payments*, 1978-2012



*Excluding 2005 (which was \$20.4 billion in 2011 dollars).

**Through July 31, 2012

Sources: FEMA, at <u>http://www.fema.gov/policy-claim-statistics-flood-insurance/policy-claim-statistics-flood-insurance/policy-claim-13</u>; Insurance Information Institute.

Adjusted* Flood Loss Payments, 1978-2011**: No Discernible Trend



Some of the increase shown here is due to growth in the number of policies

*per million policies in force, in 2011 dollars

**Excluding 2005 (which was \$4,118 in 2011 dollars).

Sources: FEMA, at <u>http://www.fema.gov/policy-claim-statistics-flood-insurance/policy-claim-statistics-flood-insurance/policy-claim-13</u>; Insurance Information Institute.

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The frequency and severity of most catastrophes seems to be increasing

In recent years, thunderstorms and other severe weather has caused most insured damage, supplanting tropical storms/ hurricanes

2011 was an especially expensive year for insured losses, and 2012 appears directionally similar



Insurance Information Institute Online:

www.iii.org

Thank you for your time and your attention!

Upward Trend of Nominal NSURANCE FORMATION Flood Loss Payments*, 1978-2012 **\$** Millions Avg. Number by Decade \$3,471 \$4,000 1981-1990: 2.3 1991-2000: 3.5 \$3,500 2001-2010: 2.7 \$3,000 \$2,232 \$1,848 \$2,500 \$2,000 \$1,296 \$1,277 \$1,500 \$886 \$828 \$768 \$777 755 \$781 \$662 \$659 \$710 \$613 \$641 520 \$1,000 \$483 \$434 ċ \$368 354 \$43 255 252 \$230 \$198 \$168 48 4 S 27 \$126 \$105 \$500 ŵ Ġ \$51 S \$ Э \$0 066 966 998 2000 2009 978 980 982 1986 988 992 994 2002 2004 1984 2007 2011

We appear to have had at least one "significant" flood every year since 1978, averaging 3 per year.

*Excluding 2005, which was \$17,740.3 million.

**Through July 31, 2012

Sources: FEMA, at <u>http://www.fema.gov/policy-claim-statistics-flood-insurance/policy-claim-statistics-flood-insurance/policy-claim-13</u>; Insurance Information Institute.

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