

# SAINT LUCIA Hurricanes and Earthquakes RISK PROFILE

## What is a country disaster risk profile?

An estimation of the potential economic losses to property caused by adverse natural hazards.

### Country Disaster Risk Profile

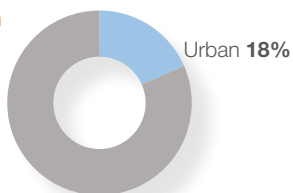
#### Applications

- ▶ **Inform** disaster risk financing
- ▶ **Develop** key baseline data
- ▶ **Evaluate** impact of disasters
- ▶ **Promote and inform** risk reduction

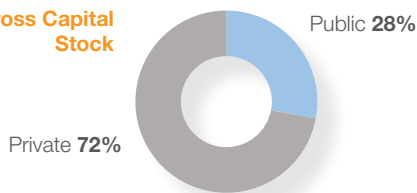
## Country At-A-Glance

GDP US\$ 1.4 billion | Population 180,000 | Total Building Exposure US\$ (Replacement Value) 3.0 billion

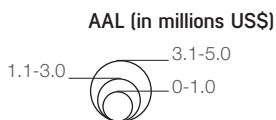
#### Population



#### Gross Capital Stock



## Two representations of hurricane risk

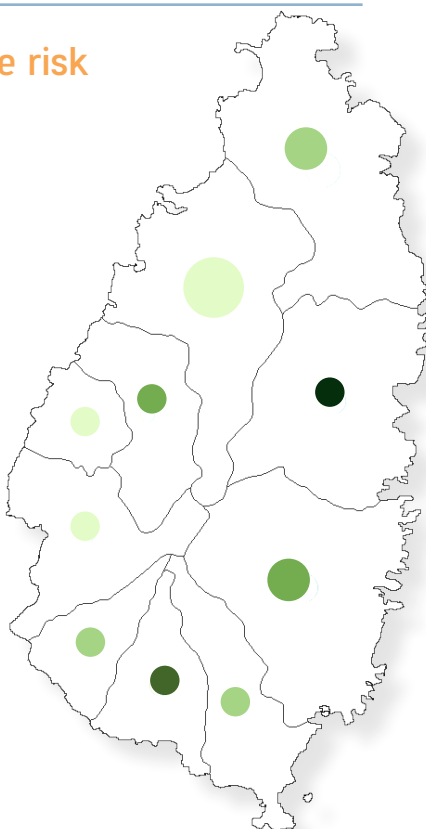


#### Provinces by ratio (AAL/Province Exposure)

lowest ratio highest ratio

**Absolute Risk:** The larger the circle, the higher the Annual Average Losses that the province could potentially incur over the long term.

**Relative Risk:** The darker the color, the higher the ratio of AAL/Province Exposure. The darkest color represents the province of Dennery which has a higher proportion of vulnerable structures due to construction types and/or potentially higher hurricane intensity.



## Snapshot

▶ The **hurricane risk** in Saint Lucia is **more significant** than the **earthquake risk**.

▶ Annual Average Loss (AAL) from **hurricanes** is **US\$ 9.5M (0.7% of GDP)** and from **earthquakes** is **US\$ 2.6M (0.2% of GDP)**.

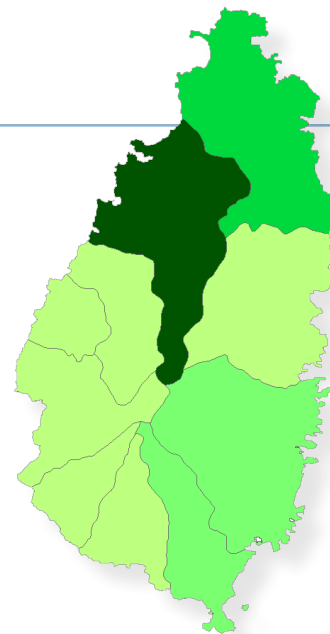
▶ The Probable Maximum Loss for **hurricanes** (250 year return period) is **US\$ 382M (27.2% of GDP)** and for **earthquakes** (250 year return period) is **US\$ 148M (10.5% of GDP)**.

▶ Single family, wood stud-wall frame with plywood/gypsum board sheathing are the buildings most vulnerable to **hurricanes**, **accounting for 30% of AAL**.

### What is at risk?

Economic assets such as residential and non-residential buildings are at risk. These assets that are exposed to natural disasters are referred to as a country's **Building Exposure**.

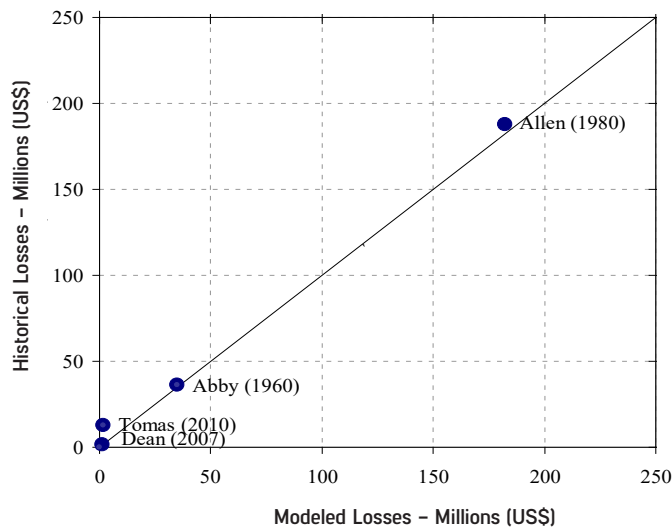
The map provides the value of residential and non-residential buildings in each province at risk from hurricanes and earthquakes.



#### Building Exposure

(in percentage of total)

- 0.4 - 5.0
- 5.1 - 10.0
- 10.1 - 20.0
- 20.1 - 50.0 (no province in this range)
- 50.1 - 54.0

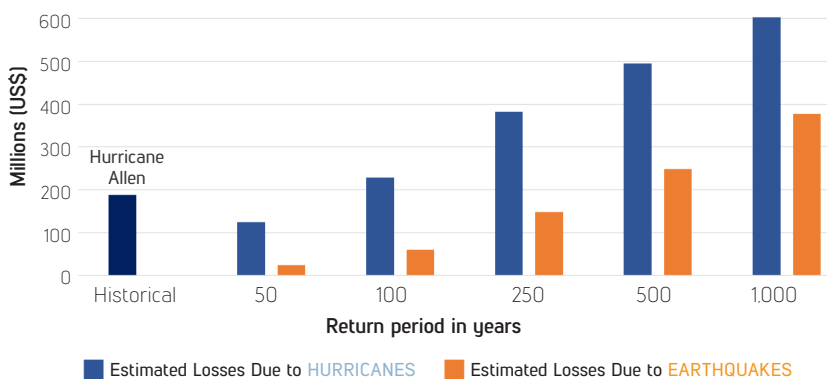


### What have been the historical losses?

Saint Lucia has suffered significant losses from hurricanes. The direct losses have been modeled to a high degree of accuracy in the risk profile. In 1980, Hurricane Allen struck Saint Lucia. If this historical event were to happen in 2016, it would cause a loss of US\$ 188M, amounting to 13.4% of GDP.

△ The chart shows the direct actual and modeled losses due to historical events.

### What are the potential future losses?



△ The chart shows the estimated potential future losses in Saint Lucia that could be caused by hurricanes and earthquakes for a given return period.

This is the first step of quantification of contingent liability. Next steps include determining its impact on budgetary appropriation, which would directly inform the development of the disaster risk financing strategy.

To learn more, visit: [collaboration.worldbank.org/groups/cdrp](http://collaboration.worldbank.org/groups/cdrp) or email [cdrp@worldbank.org](mailto:cdrp@worldbank.org)

© 2016 International Bank for Reconstruction and Development / The World Bank  
1818 H Street NW  
Washington DC 20433  
Telephone: 202-473-1000  
Internet: [www.worldbank.org](http://www.worldbank.org)

This work is a product of the staff of The World Bank with external contributions. The findings, interpretations, and conclusions expressed in this work do not necessarily reflect the views of The World Bank, its Board of Executive Directors, or the governments they represent.

The World Bank does not guarantee the accuracy of the data included in this work. The boundaries, colors, denominations, and other information shown on any map in this work do not imply any judgment on the part of The World Bank concerning the legal status of any territory or the endorsement or acceptance of such boundaries.

### **Rights and Permissions**

The material in this work is subject to copyright. Because The World Bank encourages dissemination of its knowledge, this work may be reproduced, in whole or in part, for noncommercial purposes as long as full attribution to this work is given.

Any queries on rights and licenses, including subsidiary rights, should be addressed to World Bank Publications, The World Bank Group, 1818 H Street NW, Washington, DC 20433, USA; fax: 202-522-2625; e-mail: [pubrights@worldbank.org](mailto:pubrights@worldbank.org).