

# Kosovo

 GDP \$6.3 billion\*  
 Population 1.9 million\*

AFFECTED  
BY 100-YEAR  
FLOOD

\$200 million (3%)

50,000 (3%)

AFFECTED  
BY 250-YEAR  
EARTHQUAKE

\$3 billion (44%)

800,000 (44%)

CAPITAL LOSS  
FROM 250-YEAR  
EARTHQUAKE

\$300 million (5%)

50 (<1%)

\*2015 estimates



Kosovo's population and economy are exposed to earthquakes and floods, with earthquakes posing the greater risk of a high impact, lower probability event. The model results for present-day risk shown in this risk profile are based on population and gross domestic product (GDP) estimates for 2015. The estimated damage caused by historical events is inflated to 2015 US dollars.

Just over half of Kosovo's population lives in rural environments. The country's GDP was approximately US\$6.4 billion in 2015, with most derived from services and industry (together almost

percent) and agriculture generating the remainder. Kosovo's per capita GDP was \$3,410.

This map displays GDP by province in Kosovo, with greater color saturation indicating greater GDP within a province. The blue circles indicate the risk of experiencing floods and the orange circles the risk of earthquakes in terms of normalized annual average of affected GDP. The largest circles represent the greatest normalized risk. The risk is estimated using flood and earthquake risk models.

The table displays the provinces at greatest normalized risk for each peril. In both relative and absolute terms, the province at greatest risk of floods is Mitrovica, and the one at greatest risk of earthquakes is Prizreni.

\*Subnational boundaries on the Kosovo map represent "planning areas" for the purposes of this analysis.

## TOP AFFECTED PROVINCES



### FLOOD

ANNUAL AVERAGE OF  
AFFECTED GDP (%)

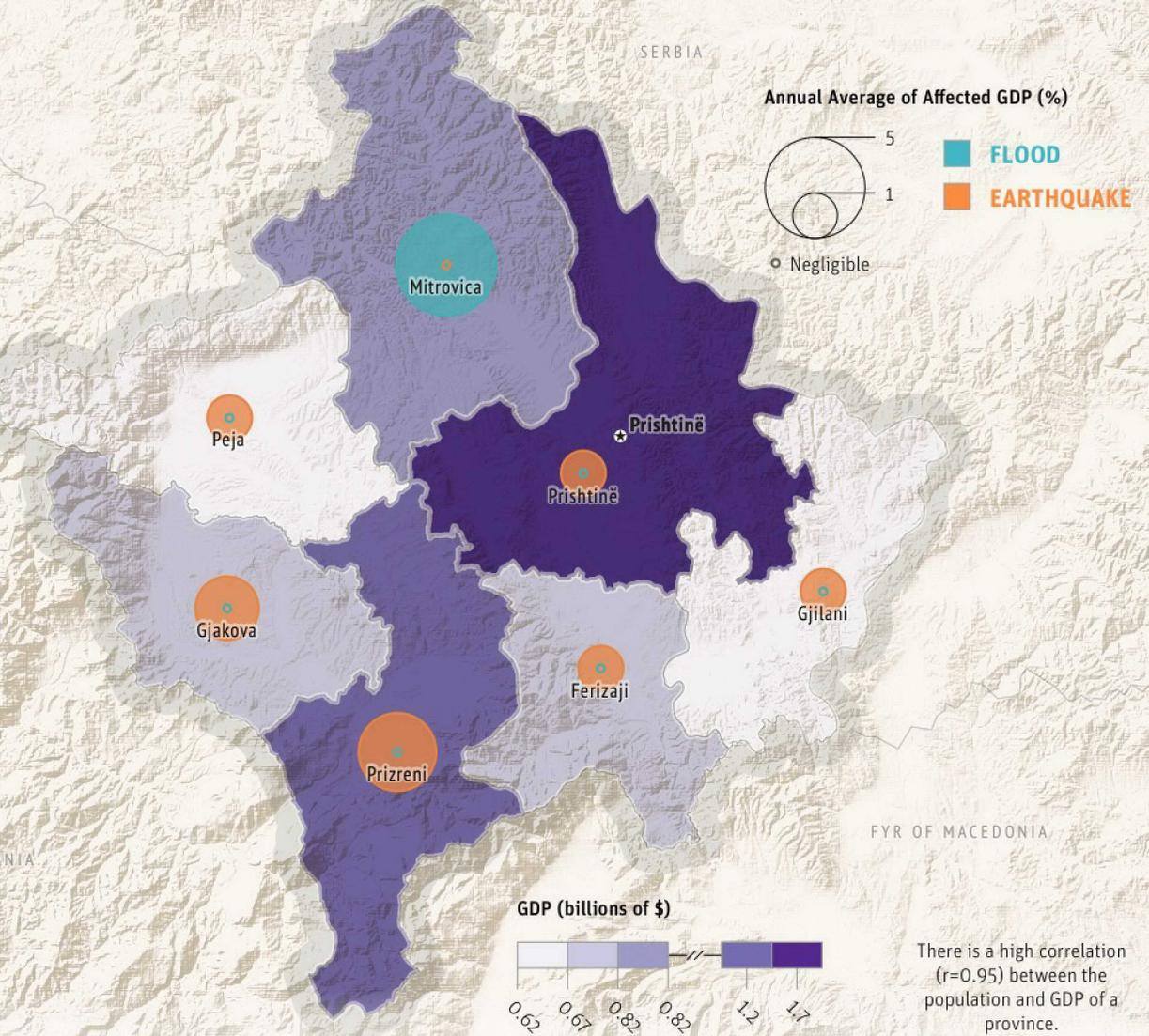
Mitrovica	5
Gjilani	0
Prishtinë	0
Prizreni	0
Peja	0
Gjakova	0
Ferizaji	0



### EARTHQUAKE

ANNUAL AVERAGE OF  
AFFECTED GDP (%)

Prizreni	3
Gjakova	2
Gjilani	1
Peja	1
Ferizaji	1
Prishtinë	1
Mitrovica	0



No reliable reports are available on flood damage for Kosovo. The country was, however, affected by floods in 2010 and 2014.

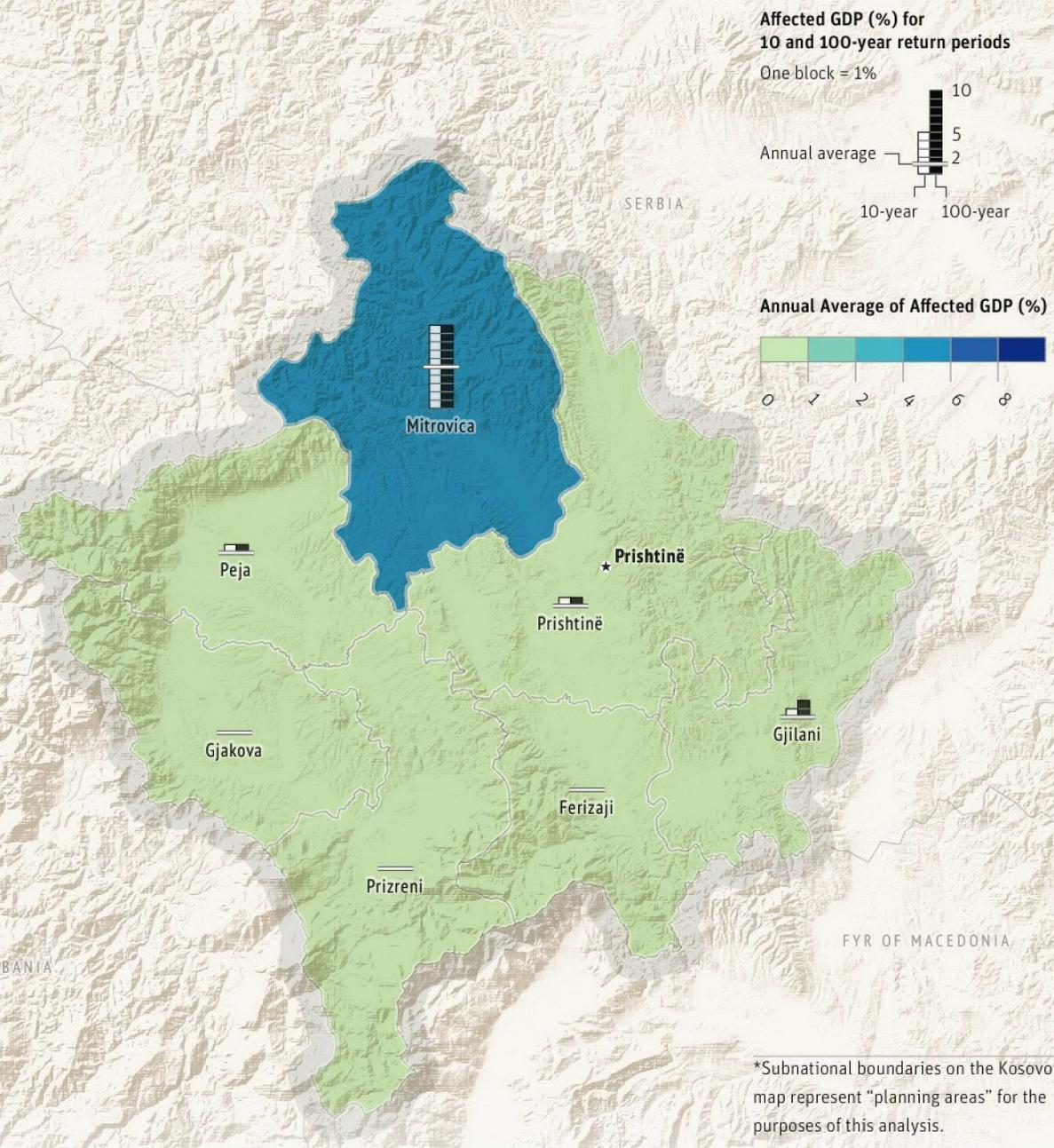
This map depicts the impact of flooding on provinces' GDPs, represented as percentages of their annual average GDPs affected, with greater color saturation indicating higher percentages. The bar graphs represent GDP affected by floods with return periods of 10 years (white) and 100 years (black). The horizontal line across the bars also shows the annual average of GDP affected by floods.

When a flood has a 10-year return period, it means the probability of occurrence of a flood of that magnitude or greater is 10 percent per year. A 100-year flood has a probability of occurrence of 1 percent per year. This means that over a long period of time, a flood of that magnitude will, on average, occur once every 100 years. It does not mean a 100-year flood will occur exactly once every 100 years. In fact, it is possible for a flood of any return period to occur more than once in the same year, or to appear in consecutive years, or not to happen at all over a long period of time.

If the 10- and 100-year bars are the same height, then the impact of a 10-year event is as large as that of a 100-year event, and the annual average of affected GDP is dominated by events

that happen relatively frequently. If the impact of a 100-year event is much greater than that of a 10-year event, then less frequent events make a larger contribution to the annual average of affected GDP. Thus, even if a province's annual affected GDP seems small, less frequent and more intense events can still have large impacts.

The annual average population affected by flooding in Kosovo is about 10,000 and the annual average affected GDP about \$50 million. For most provinces, the 10- and 100-year impacts do not differ much, so relatively frequent floods have large impacts on these averages.



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**K**osovo's worst earthquake since 1900 took place in 1911. Its epicenter was in Ochrida, now FYR of Macedonia. The same region was also hit by an earthquake in 1896.

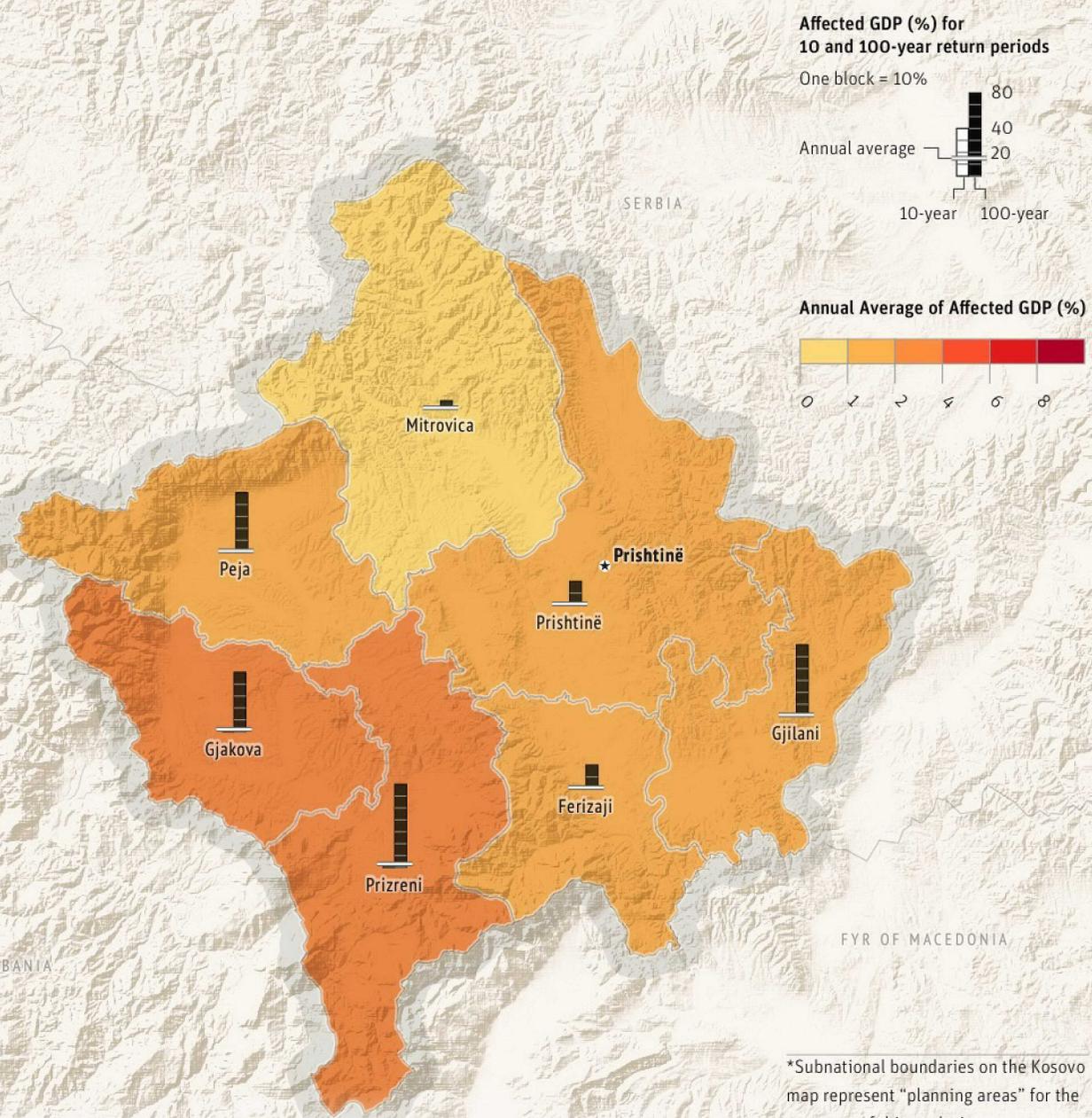
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When an earthquake has a 10-year return period, it means the probability of occurrence of an earthquake of that magnitude or greater is 10 percent per year. A 100-year earthquake has a probability of occurrence of 1 percent per year. This means that over a long period of time, an earthquake of that magnitude will, on average, occur once every 100 years. It does not mean a 100-year earthquake will occur exactly once every 100 years. In fact, it is possible for an earthquake of any return period to occur more than once in the same year, or to appear in consecutive years, or not

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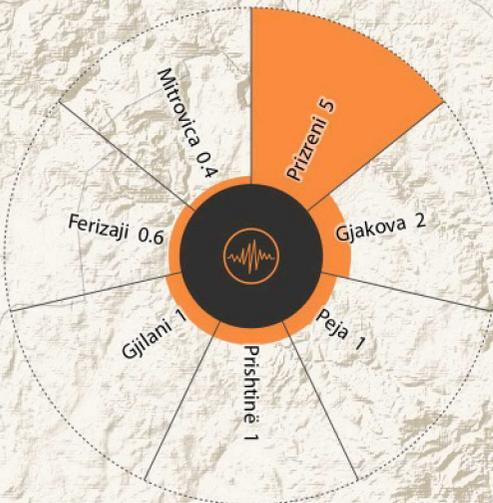
If the 10- and 100-year bars are the same height, then the impact of a 10-year event is as large as that of a 100-year event, and the annual average of affected GDP is dominated by events that happen relatively frequently. If the impact of a 100-year event is much greater than that of a 10-year event, then less frequent events make larger contributions to the annual average of affected GDP. Thus, even if a province's annual affected GDP seems small, less frequent and more intense events can still have large impacts.

The annual average population affected by earthquakes in Kosovo is about 30,000 and the annual average affected GDP about \$90 million. The annual averages of fatalities and capital losses caused by earthquakes are about two and about \$10 million, respectively. The fatalities and capital losses caused by more intense, less frequent events can be substantially larger than the annual averages. For example, an earthquake with a 0.4 percent annual probability of occurrence (a 250-year return period event) could cause nearly \$400 million in capital loss (6 percent of GDP).

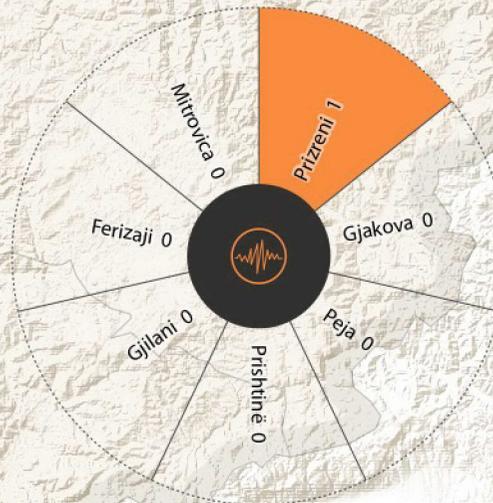


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## EARTHQUAKE ANNUAL AVERAGE CAPITAL LOSS (\$)

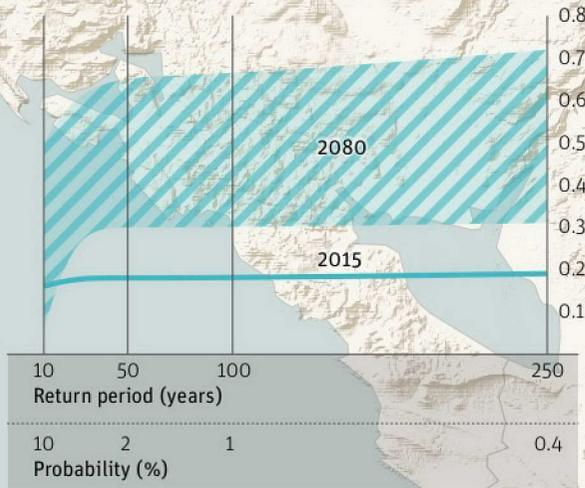


## EARTHQUAKE ANNUAL AVERAGE FATALITIES

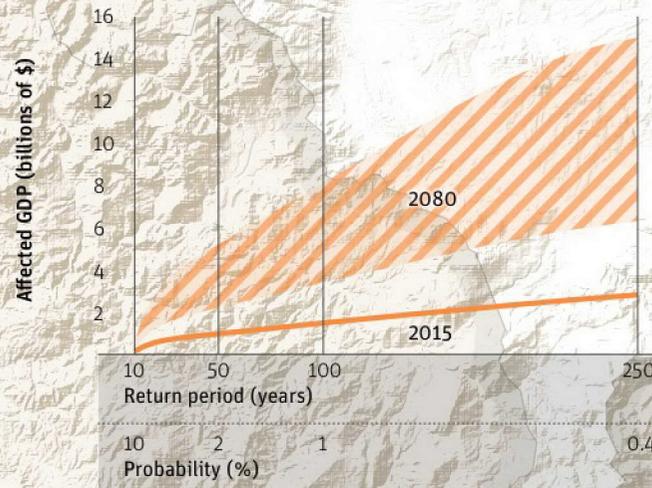


The rose diagrams show the provinces with the potential for greatest annual average capital losses and highest annual average numbers of fatalities, as determined using an earthquake risk model. The potential for greatest capital loss occurs in Prizreni, which is not surprising, given the economic importance of the province.

## FLOOD EXCEEDANCE PROBABILITY CURVE, 2015 AND 2080



## EARTHQUAKE EXCEEDANCE PROBABILITY CURVE, 2015 AND 2080



The exceedance probability curves display the GDP affected by, respectively, floods and earthquakes for varying probabilities of occurrence. Values for two different time periods are shown. A solid line depicts the affected GDP for 2015 conditions. A diagonally striped band depicts the range of affected GDP based on a selection of climate and socioeconomic scenarios for 2080. For example, if Kosovo had experienced a 100-year return period flood event in 2015, the affected GDP would have been an estimated \$200 million. In 2080, however, the affected GDP from the same type of event would range from about \$300 million to about \$700 million. If Kosovo had experienced a 250-year earthquake event in 2015, the affected GDP would have been about \$3 billion. In 2080, the affected GDP from the same type of event would range from about \$6 billion to about \$15 billion, due to population growth, urbanization, and the increase in exposed assets.

All historical data on earthquakes are from J. Daniell and A. Schaefer, "Eastern Europe and Central Asia Region Earthquake Risk Assessment Country and Province Profiling," final report to GFDRR, 2014. Damage estimates for all historical events have been inflated to 2015 US\$. More information on the data and context can be found in the full publication, Europe and Central Asia Country Risk Profiles for Floods and Earthquakes, at [www.gfdr.org/publications](http://www.gfdr.org/publications), or by contacting Joaquin Toro ([jtoro@worldbank.org](mailto:jtoro@worldbank.org)) or Dr. Alanna Simpson ([asimpson1@worldbank.org](mailto:asimpson1@worldbank.org)). Please see the full publication for the complete disclaimer and limitations on methodology. Although GFDRR makes reasonable efforts to ensure all the information presented in this document is correct, its accuracy and integrity cannot be guaranteed.