

THE BAHAMAS ACKLINS

NDPBA ISLAND PROFILE



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ISLAND PROFILE

THE BAHAMAS

CAPITAL: COLONEL HILL

Area: 192 sq. mi (497.3 sq. km)



RISK AND VULNERABILITY

COMPONENT SCORE



MULTI-HAZARD RISK (MHR) - Very High Score: 0.530 • Rank: 1/17



RESILIENCE (R) - Very Low Score: 0.350 • Rank: 16/17



MULTI-HAZARD EXPOSURE (MHE) - High Score: 0.469 • Rank: 6/17



VULNERABILITY (V) - High Score: 0.482 • Rank: 4/17



COPING CAPACITY (CC) - Very Low Score: 0.382 • Rank: 15/17

*For more information on data and components please visit: https://bit.ly/2LqVoUO



Population (2010 Census) 565



Population in Poverty **52.6%**



Average Annual Foreign Arrivals Per Capita



Households with Piped Water

90.9%

0



Prevalence of Crowded Housing

19.1%



RANK: 6 / 17 ISLANDS SCORE: 0.469



ESTIMATED POPULATION AND CAPITAL EXPOSED TO EACH HAZARD:

Note: Population values from PDC's All-hazard Impact Model (AIM) leverage 2020 estimates for The Bahamas. Values may exceed 2010 Census population.





VULNERABILITY (V)

RANK: 4 / 17 ISLANDS ASSESSED SCORE: 0.482

Vulnerability in Acklins is primarily driven by Economic Constraints and Household Composition Vulnerability. The bar charts indicate the socioeconomic themes contributing to the overall Vulnerability score.





0

Gender Inequality

1 2

0.32 Ratio female to male income

 1.02

 le
 Ratio female to male avg. years of school

32 Adolescent birth rate (per 1,000)

1

SCORE: 0.498

RANK: 6/17 ISLANDS ASSESSED



Population Pressures

ÿ	0		1 SCORE: 0.196		RANK: 12/17 ISLANDS ASSESSED	
	32.0%	0.0 Average annual foreign arrivals per capita	0.0 Average annual foreign arrivals per sq. mile	1.1		
	Average population change (2000 - 2010)			Migrat persor	ion per 100 Is	



RANK: 16 / 17 ISLANDS ASSESSED SCORE: 0.318

Acklins exhibits weaker Island Capacity in the areas of Logistics Capacity and Emergency Service Capacity. The bar charts indicate the socioeconomic themes contributing to the overall Island Capacity score.





LOGISTICS CAPACITY (LC)

RANK: 15 / 18 ISLANDS ASSESSED SCORE: 0.445

Logistics Capacity describes the ability of the island to ensure efficient storage, movement, and delivery of resources key for effective humanitarian assistance and disaster relief operations. Logistics Capacity is driven by distances to a major airport, major seaport, and disaster warehouse.







138.27 mi (222.47 km) Distance to port

103.11 mi (165.9 km) Distance to airport 125.46 mi (201.86 km) Distance to warehouse

ISLAND PROFILE



Coping Capacity measures the systems, means, and abilities of people and societies to absorb and respond to disruptions in normal function. Coping Capacity in The Bahamas was calculated by using a combination of Island Capacity and Logistics Capacity.

RANK: 15 / 17 ISLANDS ASSESSED SCORE: 0.382



Resilience in The Bahamas was calculated by using a combination of Vulnerability, and Coping Capacity (including both Island Capacity and Logistics Capacity).

RANK: 16 / 17 ISLANDS ASSESSED SCORE: 0.350





MULTI-HAZARD RISK (MHR)

1 / 17 RANK WITHIN ISLANDS Score: 0.530

Acklins' score and ranking are due to High Multi-hazard Exposure combined with High Vulnerability and Very Low Coping Capacity scores.





Economic Constraints

Economic constraints have individual, household, community, and district-wide influence. Limitations on available financial resources reduce opportunities to invest in mitigation and preparedness measures and limit the Acklins' ability to facilitate short- and long-term recovery.

Acklins scores the 2nd highest in Economic Constraints in The Bahamas. Contributing to this is the highest economic dependency ratio and highest government benefit recipient percentages in The Bahamas. In addition, more than half of Acklins' population live below the poverty line ranking 2nd highest in the Commonwealth. Dependency of individuals limits mobility for populations and increases vulnerability due to lack of opportunity. Hurricane Joaquin struck Acklins in 2015, causing significant damage to homes and infrastructure, further complicating economic dependency issues on the island. Additionally, unlike most of the islands, Acklins is not known as a tourist island and does not have the amenities and infrastructure to support large-scale tourism, limiting economic growth and opportunity.

Evaluate disaster response and recovery plans to ensure the inclusion of economically vulnerable populations in long- and short-term recovery processes. Create public policies guaranteeing equal opportunity and fair wages for all.

Assess feasibility of government programs to assist in job creation and economic growth through education and short-term assistance designed to promote self-sustaining economic opportunities and decrease long-term reliance on government programs.

Household Composition Vulnerability

Vulnerable household members may have special needs that necessitate additional support to ensure their safety before, during, and after a disaster. Elderly or disabled family members more likely to require financial support, transportation, or specialized resources to support their daily care.

Acklins scores the 4th highest in The Bahamas in Household Composition Vulnerability. Contributing to the higher score are approximately 6% of the population with a disability, and more than 13% of the population over the age of 65. Households with dependent individuals increases vulnerability due to dependence for sustenance, health care, and shelter placed on other members within the household. Additionally, a higher population of elderly individuals and/or individuals with long-term disabilities can strain public and private resources without proper planning and increases care requirements during mass casualty situations.

Increase social services to support vulnerable households. Ensure medical care is adequate through both government programs and non-government organizations to meet the medical, nutritional, and housing needs of both children and the elderly. Create public health programs to provide free or reduced cost medical services to dependent populations to help reduce future healthcare costs.

Evaluate disaster preparedness and response plans and incorporate actions and programs designed to meet the requirements of special needs populations, notably the elderly and handicapped. Focus on preparedness and advance planning to reduce the strain on these individuals and the government during times of disaster. Emphasize individual/family disaster preparedness and have clear pre- and post-storm evacuation plans that are well-publicized and practiced.

3

Logistics Capacity

Efficient storage, movement and delivery of resources are key to effective humanitarian assistance and disaster relief operations. Ensuring that the supply chain can reach vulnerable and isolated communities can significantly improve the speed and quality of response operations, reducing the negative social and economic impacts of an emergency.

Acklins ranks highest among all islands in The Bahamas for Multi-Hazard Risk with highest overall single-hazard risk for hurricane wind, storm surge, and flood hazards. In addition, Acklins ranks 3rd lowest in The Bahamas for overall Logistics Capacity, with the 3rd greatest average distance to port and airport facilities, and the 5th greatest distance to a warehouse. Reduced Logistics Capacity affects the speed and agility of emergency response operations in times of disaster. Long supply chain distances to reach remote and isolated communities in an island nation can exacerbate the vulnerabilities of a disaster-affected population. Efficient movement of resources and continuity of supply chains resulting in timely arrival of disaster relief supplies can offset the potential for negative secondary and tertiary effects of a disaster.

Identify and establish strategic storage locations and capacities for emergency supplies. Create emergency action plans that include routing for emergency supplies and communications during transit. Include secondary, tertiary, and quaternary movement plans. Develop a communications plan for movement in conjunction with planned routes with primary, alternate, and emergency methods. Hold annual training to identify training gaps in movement and loading of supplies.

4

Emergency Service Capacity

Societies establish capacities to manage emergencies that scale from day-to-day events up to catastrophes that impact all of society. Establishing and maintaining a broad range of systems and resources to support emergency services in the Acklins will increase the capacity for disaster management and response.

Acklins has the lowest Emergency Services Capacity in The Bahamas with the 3rd greatest average distance to police stations, the 2nd greatest distance to designated shelters, and 6th lowest shelter capacity. Reduced emergency service capacity can increase risk to the population with limited police presence and lower shelter capacities. A diminished police presence can lead to an increase in criminal activity and create an environment for influence by criminal groups.

Address existing public policy to increase police presence through the building of new police sub-stations or increasing patrols. Identify community policing opportunities and promote feedback from communities on potential efforts that may alleviate the strain caused by lengthy response times and/or limited police services.

Identify structures that could serve to increase shelter capacity within Acklins and reduce the average distance to shelters. Ensure that structures designated as shelters can withstand hazard impacts (e.g., hurricane winds, storm surge, flood, etc.) to which Acklins is exposed. Develop storage plans to warehouse shelter supplies and increase overall shelter capacity for the island.



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