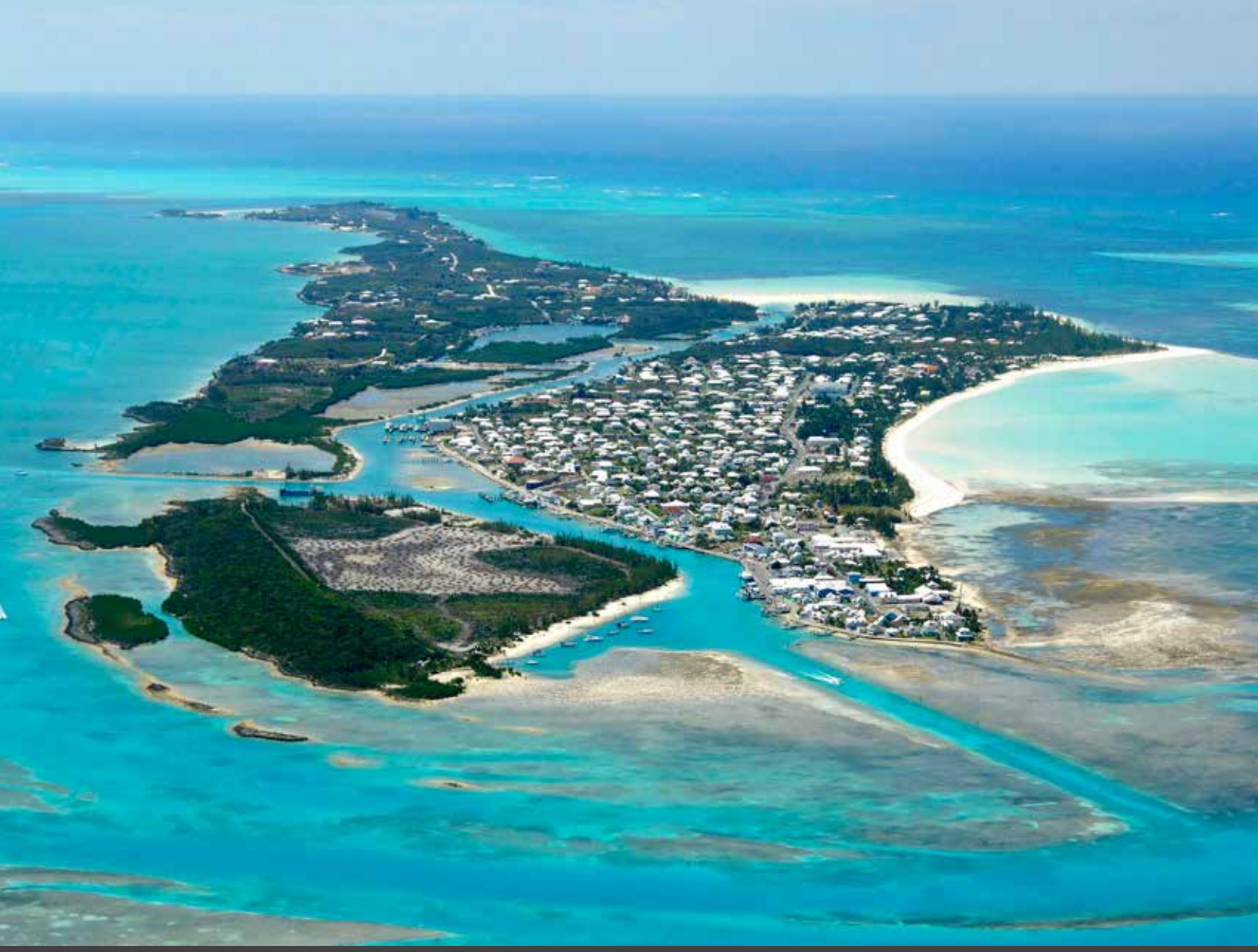

THE BAHAMAS

SPANISH WELLS

NDPBA ISLAND PROFILE

PDC | GLOBAL

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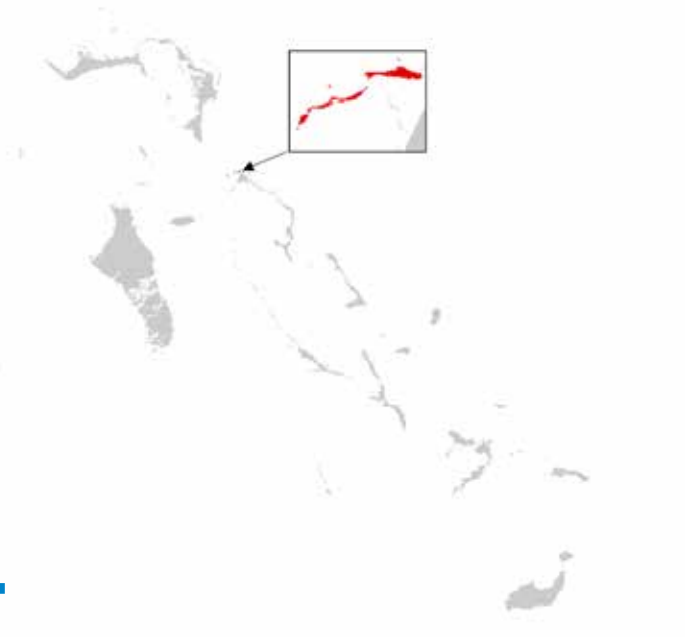
THE BAHAMAS
SPANISH WELLS

CAPITAL: SPANISH WELLS

Area: 1.5 sq. mi (3.9 sq. km)



RISK AND VULNERABILITY
COMPONENT SCORE

MULTI-HAZARD RISK (MHR) - Low
Score: 0.335 • Rank: 11/17

RESILIENCE (R) - Low
Score: 0.482 • Rank: 11/17

MULTI-HAZARD EXPOSURE (MHE) - Low
Score: 0.200 • Rank: 13/17

VULNERABILITY (V) - Very High
Score: 0.527 • Rank: 2/17

COPING CAPACITY (CC) - Moderate
Score: 0.669 • Rank: 7/17

Population (2010 Census)
1551

Population in Poverty
26.2%

Average Annual Foreign Arrivals Per Capita
0.0

Households with Piped Water
83.7%

Prevalence of Crowded Housing
11.3%

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

MULTI-HAZARD EXPOSURE (MHE)

RANK: 13 / 17 ISLANDS
SCORE: 0.200

MHE
0.200

Raw MHE
0.130

Relative MHE
0.269

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.

Tropical Cyclone Winds

100.0%
3423
$36.7 Million

Storm Surge

33.6%
1,150
$10 Million

Flooding

0.0%
0
0

Wildfire

0.0%
0
0.0%

Landslide

15.4%
526
$3.4 Million

Sea Level Rise

0.0%
0
$30 Thousand

VULNERABILITY (V)

RANK: 2 / 17 ISLANDS ASSESSED
SCORE: 0.527

Vulnerability in Spanish Wells is primarily driven by Environmental Stress and Household Composition Vulnerability. The bar charts indicate the socioeconomic themes contributing to the overall Vulnerability score.

Environmental Stress

0 — 1 **SCORE: 0.921** **RANK: 2/17** ISLANDS ASSESSED

100.0% Coral reef exposed to local threats
100.0% Coral reef exposed to thermal stress
43.1% Tree cover loss
4.84 per mi. (3.01 per km) Historical hurricane hits per length of coastline

Household Composition Vulnerability

0 — 1 **SCORE: 0.791** **RANK: 2/17** ISLANDS ASSESSED

6.1% Disability
15.3% Elderly population (65+)

Clean Water Access Vulnerability

0 — 1 **SCORE: 0.545** **RANK: 4/17** ISLANDS ASSESSED

83.7% Households with piped water
98.2% Households with flush toilets
5.5% Households with shared toilet facilities

Housing and Transportation Vulnerability

0 — 1 **SCORE: 0.333** **RANK: 17/17** ISLANDS ASSESSED

11.3% Crowded housing
16.0% Population without private vehicle
54.8% Housing built before 1980

Economic Constraints

0 — 1 **SCORE: 0.256** **RANK: 12/17** ISLANDS ASSESSED

45.7 Economic dependency ratio
$128 Government benefits received (Bahamian Dollars)
49.8% Non-wage earning population
26.2% Poverty rate

Gender Inequality

0 — 1 **SCORE: 0.750** **RANK: 1/17** ISLANDS ASSESSED

0.18
Ratio female to male income

1.06
Ratio female to male avg. years of school

-
Adolescent birth rate (per 1,000)

Population Pressures

0 — 1 **SCORE: 0.093** **RANK: 16/17** ISLANDS ASSESSED

1.6%
Average population change (2000 - 2010)

0
Average annual foreign arrivals per capita

0.0
Average annual foreign arrivals per sq. mile

5.1
Migration per 100 persons

ISLAND CAPACITY (IC)

RANK: 8 / 17 ISLANDS ASSESSED
SCORE: 0.460

Spanish Wells exhibits weaker Island Capacity in the areas of Health Care Capacity and Environmental Capacity. The bar charts indicate the socioeconomic themes contributing to the overall Island Capacity score.

Economic Capacity

0 — 1 **SCORE: 0.403** **RANK: 9/17** ISLANDS ASSESSED

0.3%
Households receiving remittances

13775
Median income, Bahamian dollars

Environmental Capacity

0 — 1 **SCORE: 0.000** **RANK: 16/17** ISLANDS ASSESSED

0.0%
Protected areas

-
Coastline protected by natural habitat

-
Standing fish stock

Infrastructure Capacity

0 — 1 **SCORE: 0.678** **RANK: 3/17** ISLANDS ASSESSED

Health Care Capacity

SCORE: 0.105 **RANK: 16/17** ISLANDS ASSESSED

0
Physicians per 10,000

0
Nurses & midwives per 10,000

6.5
Clinics per 10,000

-
DTP3 Vaccine coverage rate

Transportation Capacity

SCORE: 0.882 **RANK: 3/17** ISLANDS ASSESSED

7.5 mi per sq. mi (4.66 km per sq. km)
Road density

Communications Capacity

SCORE: 0.942 **RANK: 1/17** ISLANDS ASSESSED

65.7%
Internet access

100.0%
Mobile coverage

Emergency Services Capacity

SCORE: 0.775 **RANK: 2/17** ISLANDS ASSESSED

1.11 mi (1.79 km)
Average distance to police station

2.29 mi (3.69 km)
Average distance to shelter

37.2
Shelter capacity per 100 persons

Energy Capacity

SCORE: 0.689 **RANK: 13/17** ISLANDS ASSESSED

99.7%
Households with electricity

46.7%
Households with liquid propane gas

LOGISTICS CAPACITY (LC)

RANK: 6 / 18 ISLANDS ASSESSED
SCORE: 0.874

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.

49.26 mi (79.26 km)
Distance to port

0 mi (0 km)
Distance to airport

49.26 mi (79.26 km)
Distance to warehouse

COPING CAPACITY (CC)

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: 7 / 17 ISLANDS ASSESSED
SCORE: 0.669

RESILIENCE (R)

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

RANK: 11 / 17 ISLANDS ASSESSED
SCORE: 0.482

HAZARD-SPECIFIC RISK (HSR)

Tropical Cyclone Winds	**RANK:** 11 / 17 ISLANDS ASSESSED	**SCORE:** 0.421
Storm Surge	**RANK:** 10 / 17 ISLANDS ASSESSED	**SCORE:** 0.378
Flooding	**RANK:** 11 / 17 ISLANDS ASSESSED	**SCORE:** 0.000
Wildfire	**RANK:** 7 / 17 ISLANDS ASSESSED	**SCORE:** 0.000
Landslide	**RANK:** 3 / 17 ISLANDS ASSESSED	**SCORE:** 0.429
Sea Level Rise	**RANK:** 7 / 17 ISLANDS ASSESSED	**SCORE:** 0.338

MULTI-HAZARD RISK (MHR)

11 / 17
RANK WITHIN ISLANDS
Score: 0.335

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

Multi-hazard risk component scores compared to overall average country scores:

SPANISH WELLS SCORE
COUNTRY SCORE

Multi-Hazard Exposure
0.200
0.392

Vulnerability
0.527
0.435

Coping Capacity
0.669
0.617

SPANISH WELLS RECOMMENDATIONS

1

Environmental Stress

Environmental stressors such as the depletion, degradation, or contamination of natural resources can exacerbate natural hazards and negatively impact the health, safety, and economic security of Spanish Wells' population.

Spanish Wells has the 2nd highest overall Environmental Stress ranking in The Bahamas with the highest rate of forest cover change (43% over a 20-year period), highest percentage of reef exposure to thermal stress (100%) and local threats (100%), and the 2nd highest hurricane hits per kilometer of coastline. Spanish Wells also has the highest landslide exposure ranking in the islands.

Increase environmental protection measures. Develop programs to encourage planting of natural vegetation, replanting of forest, and limit development in natural areas.

Review building codes and coastal development plans for long range sustainability of not only the structures, but the island and surrounding environment. Establish environmental protection areas as needed to protect natural reefs and institute monitoring of reef health and effectiveness of protection measures.

SPANISH WELLS RECOMMENDATIONS

2

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.

Spanish Wells has the 2nd highest score for overall Vulnerability. It also has the 2nd highest Household Composition Vulnerability ranking, driven by the 3rd highest percentage of households with elders (15.3%) age 65 and older, and the 3rd highest percentage of persons with long-term disabilities. Elderly and/or disabled individuals are more susceptible to negative consequences as a result of a disaster due to their reliance on others for sustenance, health care, mobility assistance, and shelter.

Increase social services to identify and provide assistance to vulnerable households. Expand available medical care through government programs and non-governmental organizations to ensure that children, the elderly, and the disabled have their medical, nutritional, and shelter needs met.

Review and update local emergency plans to anticipate and address the special needs of vulnerable population groups. Include special considerations in disaster management and sheltering plans for those with chronic health conditions, mobility challenges or other disabilities. These individuals will require extra precautions to protect against transmission of COVID-19 and other communicable diseases during sheltering.

SPANISH WELLS RECOMMENDATIONS

3

Health Care Capacity

Robust access to skilled caregivers and the dedicated facilities for the treatment of injury and disease during non-disaster times greatly enhances the ability of the served population to absorb and manage post-disaster impacts to health, and increases the likelihood that disaster associated health and medical impacts may be addressed.

Spanish Wells ranks next to last for overall Health Care Capacity, with fewer than seven health care clinics per 10,000 persons. RVA analysis showed no physicians or nurses/midwives available per 10,000 population. Access to skilled caregivers and dedicated facilities for the treatment of injury and disease during non-disaster times greatly enhances the ability of the served population to absorb and manage post-disaster impacts to health, and increases the likelihood that disaster associated health and medical impacts may be addressed. The health care capacity limitations evident for Spanish Wells could lead to negative consequences during a disaster when urgent care may be required.

Improve health care services in Spanish Wells through expansion of health care infrastructure and availability of medical personnel. Encourage providers to support existing clinics or open new ones on the island. Provide government-supported traveling physicians or nurses/midwives to deliver preventative and acute care on a consistent basis.

Strengthen health education programs focused on promoting overall health and wellness, including maternal and child health, vaccination, nutrition, smoking cessation, family planning and weight loss to minimize the preponderance of long-term illnesses.

SPANISH WELLS RECOMMENDATIONS

4

Environmental Capacity

Properly managed environments sustain populations by providing food, water, and even economic benefits from industries such as tourism. Increasing protected areas can also serve as additional buffers between the population and impacted area.

Spanish Wells ranks the lowest in Environmental Capacity in The Bahamas. The island has no designated protected areas. Properly managed environments sustain populations by providing food, water, and economic benefits from industries such as tourism. Increasing protected areas can serve as additional buffers between the population and disaster-impacted areas.

Identify island features for designation as protected areas, such as beach parks, green belts, and natural area buffers to provide protection from hazard impacts. Institute management programs to monitor use of these areas and environmental changes such climate change impacts, reef health, and erosion.

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