

**Better solutions.
Fewer disasters.
Safer world.**



Comayagua

**Honduras National Disaster Preparedness Baseline Assessment
Department Profile**

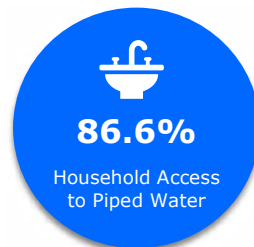
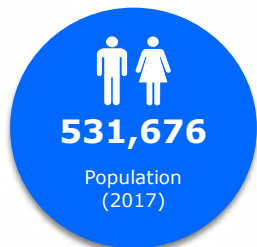
Department: Comayagua



Department Capital: Comayagua

Area: 5,124 km²

Comayagua is located in central Honduras. The economy is based primarily in livestock and agriculture. Between the 2001 and 2013 censuses, Comayagua exhibited the second largest population growth rate (40%) in the country. Soto Cano Air Base is located within the department.



Municipality

Municipality	Population
Ajuterique	11,655
Comayagua	159,904
El Rosario	31,339
Esquías	21,514
La Libertad	28,275
La Trinidad	4,755
Lamaní	7,239
Las Lajas	15,284
Lejamaní	5,883
Meámbar	13,287
Minas de Oro	13,548
Ojos de Agua	10,873
San Jerónimo	22,441
San José de Comayagua	7,909
San José del Potrero	7,125
San Luis	11,718
San Sebastián	3,629
Siguatepeque	103,506
Taulabé	25,158
Villa de San Antonio	25,234



**Multi-Hazard Risk Rank:
Very High (3 of 18)**

**Lack of Resilience Rank:
Moderate (8 of 18)**

RVA Component Scores

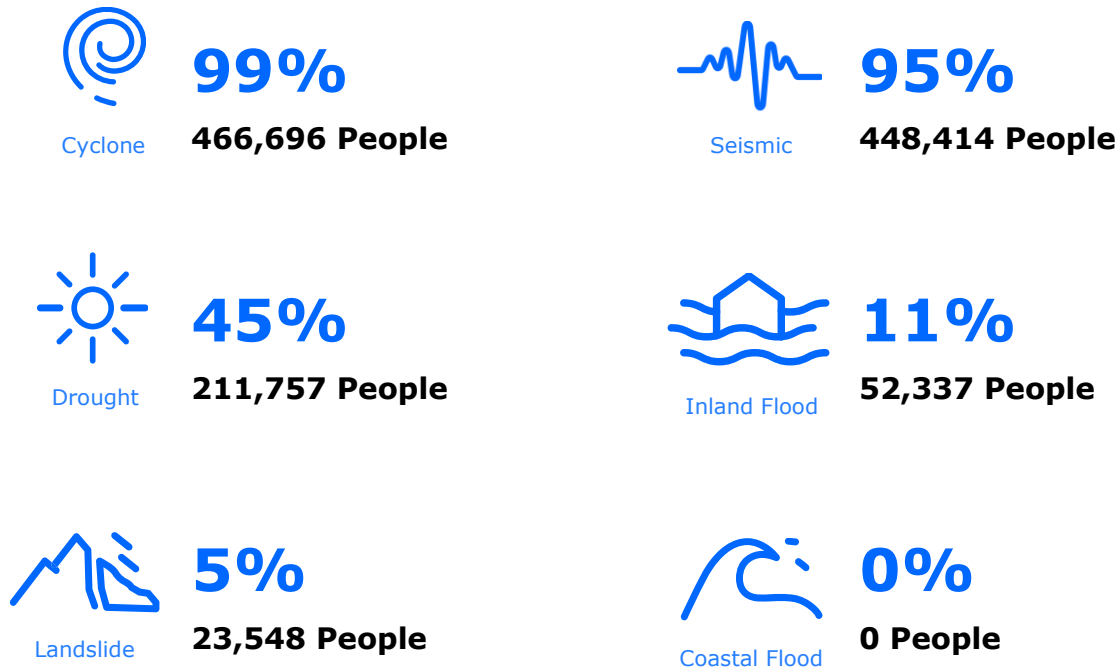
Table 1. Department scores and ranks (compared across departments) for each index.

Multi-Hazard Risk		Lack of Resilience		Multi-Hazard Exposure		Vulnerability		Coping Capacity	
Very High		Moderate		High		Moderate		Moderate	
Score	Rank (of 18)	Score	Rank (of 18)	Score	Rank (of 18)	Score	Rank (of 18)	Score	Rank (of 18)
0.554	3	0.503	8	0.658	4	0.564	7	0.559	7

Multi-Hazard Exposure (MHE)

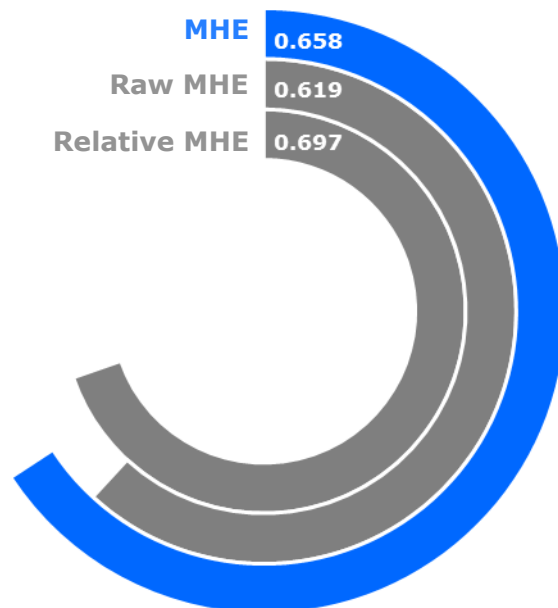
Multi-Hazard Exposure¹ Rank: 4 of 18 Departments (Score: 0.658)

Table 2. Estimated ambient population² exposed to each hazard (2014).



Case Study: Comayagua Farm Penitentiary

In February 2012, a fire broke out in the Comayagua Farm Penitentiary killing 366 inmates and injuring hundreds of others. IFRC Disaster Relief Emergency Funds were released to the Honduran Red Cross to assist in providing pre-hospital care to the injured and psychosocial support to the relatives of deceased inmates. This was the third penitentiary fire in the last 10 years in Honduras. Overall, Honduras has 24 prisons with the capacity of 8,280 persons, however, in 2011 the system had approximately 15,000 inmates, 80 percent over its limit.



¹ Multi-Hazard Exposure: Average exposure of the population to hazards.

² Ambient Population: 24-hour average estimate of the population in each department. Ambient population typically differs from census population.

Vulnerability (V)

Vulnerability³ Rank: 7 of 18 Departments (Score: 0.564) Vulnerability in Comayagua is strongly influenced by Population Pressures and Gender Inequality. The bar chart on the right indicates the socioeconomic themes contributing to the department's overall Vulnerability score.

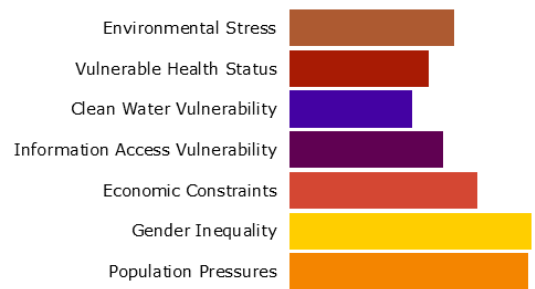









Table 3. Component scores for each vulnerability subcomponent

	Environmental Stress	26.3% Forest Loss Due to Pine Beetle Plague	23.5% Water Shortage Area					
	Vulnerable Health Status	18.3 Infant Mortality Rate	201.2 Maternal Mortality Ratio	76.5 Life Expectancy (years)	1.5% Acute Malnutrition Rate	2.4% Population Disabled	0.405 Communicable Disease Sub-Index ⁴	0.448 Non-Communicable Disease Sub-Index ⁴
	Clean Water Vulnerability	86.6% Households Access to Piped Water	63.2% Households Connected to Sewer or Septic System					
	Information Access Vulnerability	14.8% Adult Illiteracy	6.0 Average Years of Schooling	90.2% Enrollment in Basic Education	91.8% Households without Internet	35.1% Households without TV	30.8% Households without Radio	
	Economic Constraints	0.75 Economic Dependency Ratio	56.2% Population in Poverty	0.36 GINI Coefficient				
	Gender Inequality	0.31 Ratio of Female to Male Land Ownership Rate	0.86 Ratio of Female to Male Home Ownership Rate	0.25 Ratio of Female to Male Economic Activity	1.11 Ratio of Female to Male Secondary Enrollment			
	Population Pressures	3.3% Average Annual Population Change	7.4% Average Annual Urban Population Change					

³ **Vulnerability:** The socioeconomic conditions that are associated with the susceptibility to disruptions in a country's normal functions.

⁴ **Sub-indices:** A combination of scaled indicators to represent a vulnerability theme (e.g. Communicable Disease). Values range from 0 (low) to 1 (high).

Coping Capacity (CC)

Coping Capacity⁵ Rank: 7 of 18 Departments (Score: 0.559)

Comayagua exhibits weaker Coping Capacity in the areas of Environmental Capacity and Health Care Capacity. The bar chart on the right indicates the socioeconomic themes contributing to the department's overall Coping Capacity score.

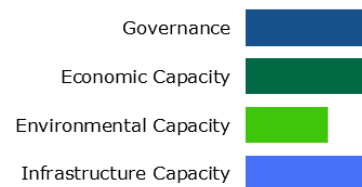









Table 4. Component scores for each coping capacity subcomponent

	Governance	51.0 Homicides per 100k Persons	155.9 Sexual Violence and Assault per 100k Persons	25.1% Households with Public Garbage Collection	63.1% Voter Participation (2013 Election)	
	Economic Capacity	35.2% Economic Activity Rate	98.4% Employment Rate	15.1% Population in Highest Wealth Quintile		
	Environmental Capacity	18.2% Natural Protected Area				
	Infrastructure Capacity					
	Health Care Capacity	3.2 Hospital Beds per 10,000 Persons	2.1 Physicians per 10,000 Persons	7.8 Nurses per 10,000 Persons	29.5 km Average Distance to Nearest Hospital	86.4% Children Completed Immunization Schedule
	Communications Capacity	19.2% Households with Access to Fixed Phone Line	64.1% Households with Access to Mobile Phone			
	Transportation Capacity	27.4 km Average Distance to Nearest Port or Airport	15.9 km Total Length of Road per km ² (area)			

⁵ Coping Capacity: The systems, means, and abilities of a country to absorb and respond to events that could potentially disrupt normal function.

Lack of Resilience (LR)

Lack of Resilience⁶ Rank: 8 of 18 Departments (Score: 0.503)

Comayagua's Lack of Resilience score and ranking are due to moderate Vulnerability combined with moderate Coping Capacity scores.

Table 5. The three thematic areas with the weakest relative scores.



Gender Inequality



Population Pressures



Environmental Capacity

Multi-Hazard Risk (MHR)

Multi-Hazard Risk⁷ Rank: 3 of 18 Departments (Score: 0.554)

Comayagua's Multi-Hazard Risk score and ranking are due to high Multi-Hazard Exposure combined with moderate Vulnerability and Coping Capacity scores.

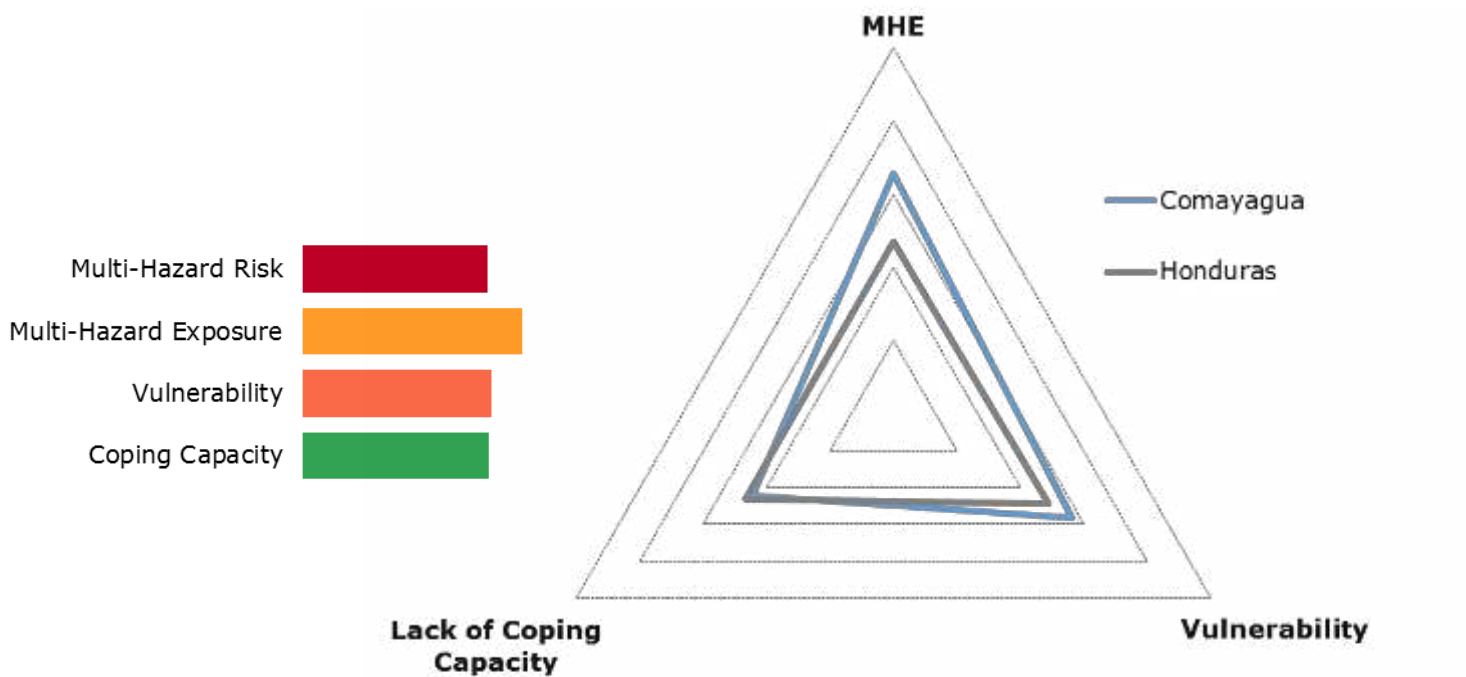


Figure 48. Department multi-hazard risk component scores compared to overall average country scores.

⁶ **Lack of Resilience:** The susceptibility to impact from the short-term inability to absorb, respond to, and recover from disruptions to a country's normal function. This index provides a hazard-independent look at current socio-economic conditions.

⁷ **Multi-Hazard Risk:** The likelihood of losses or disruptions to a country's normal function due to interaction between multi-hazard exposure, socioeconomic vulnerability, and coping capacity.

Successes



High information access

High information access indicates that the population has an increased ability to access and comprehend disaster-related information before, during, and after events.



Low vulnerable health status

Ranked 13 of 18 departments, low health vulnerability could indicate a population that will be more resilient to the negative health impacts associated with major disaster events.

Recommendations

01

Provide opportunities for women

Public education and awareness programs that focus on increasing the role of women in the workplace and society will improve resilience and decrease vulnerability.

02

Monitor and manage population influx

Invest in a program to manage population influx into the region. Comayagua's vast (protected) resources have caused an increase in corporate and individual farming and logging operations. Population-control measures must be enacted to control the influx in personnel as the infrastructure is not designed to handle it.

03

Invest in communication infrastructure

Increase access to communications for the population through investments in infrastructure and education. By increasing citizen access to information, disaster managers can provide disaster-related information to a greater percentage of the population.



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