

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



Lempira

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

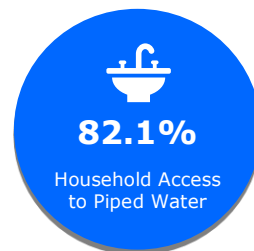
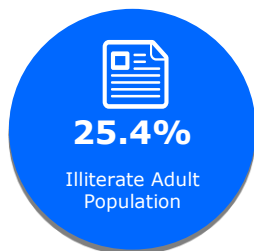
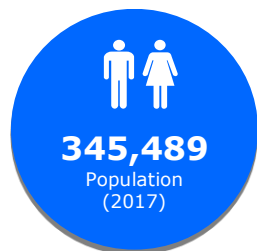
Department: Lempira



Department Capital: Gracias

Area: 4,228 km²

Lempira shares its southern border with El Salvador. Cerro Las Minas, the highest mountain in Honduras, is located within the department. With its rugged terrain, parts of Lempira are relatively isolated. Lempira has the highest rate of adult illiteracy in the country.



Municipality	Population
Belén	7,720
Candelaria	6,931
Cololaca	9,715
Erandique	16,009
Gracias	53,018
Gualcince	11,826
Guarita	8,646
La Campa	7,408
La Iguala	28,219
La Unión	13,791
La Virtud	6,682
Las Flores	10,172
Lepaera	39,004
Mapulaca	4,360
Piraera	14,485
San Andrés	14,028
San Francisco	9,260
San Manuel Colohete	15,123
San Marcos de Corquin	6,076
San Rafael	14,109
San Sebastián	11,279
Santa Cruz	7,429
Talgua	11,071
Tomalá	6,652
Valladolid	3,802

Multi-Hazard Risk Rank: Moderate (8 of 18)

Lack of Resilience Rank: Very High (2 of 18)



RVA Component Scores

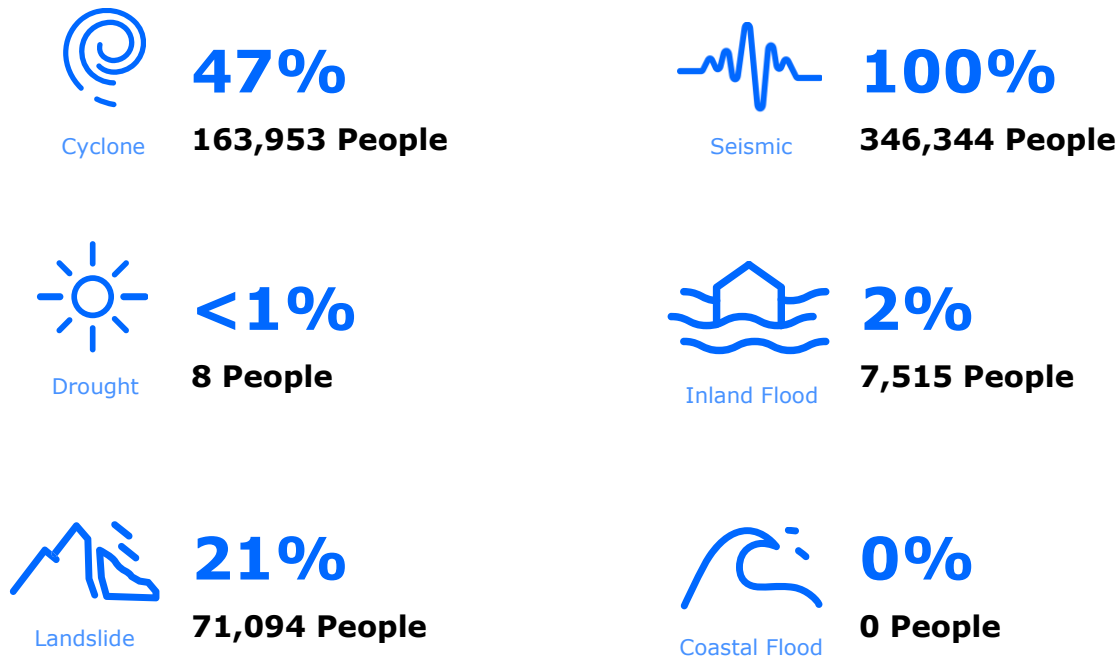
Table 1. Department scores and ranks (compared across departments) for each index.

Multi-Hazard Risk		Lack of Resilience		Multi-Hazard Exposure		Vulnerability		Coping Capacity	
Moderate		Very High		Low		Very High		Very Low	
Score	Rank (of 18)	Score	Rank (of 18)	Score	Rank (of 18)	Score	Rank (of 18)	Score	Rank (of 18)
0.499	8	0.586	2	0.325	14	0.631	2	0.460	17

Multi-Hazard Exposure (MHE)

Multi-Hazard Exposure¹ Rank: 14 of 18 Departments (Score: 0.325)

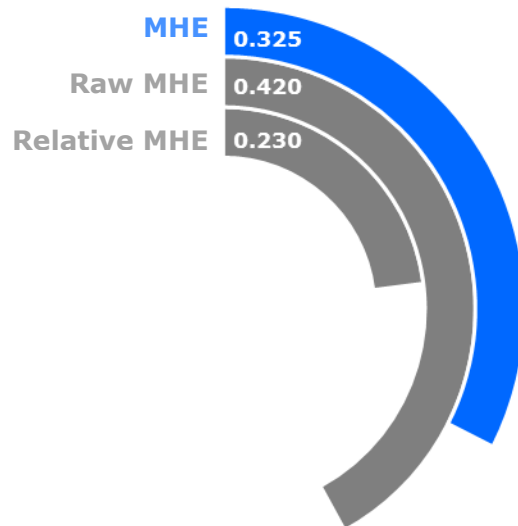
Table 2. Estimated ambient population² exposed to each hazard (2014).



Case Study: Assistance for the Dry Corridor

In 2017, USAID Office of Food for Peace (FFP) supported the UN World Food Program (WFP) to provide cash-for-assets activities reaching approximately 7,600 vulnerable, drought-affected households in Lempira Department. In exchange for participating in asset creation activities—including efforts to improve the productivity of agricultural land, construction of hygiene infrastructure, rehabilitation of family gardens and agroforestry projects—households receive cash transfers for food. This assistance allows families to purchase nutritious foods, while supporting local markets and agricultural producers whenever possible, reducing drought susceptibility.

USAID Food Assistance Fact Sheet, Honduras, 25 SEP 2017



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: 2 of 18 Departments (Score: 0.631) Vulnerability in Lempira is strongly influenced by Information Access Vulnerability, Economic Constraints, Gender Inequality, Clean Water Vulnerability, and Population Pressures. The bar chart on the right indicates the socioeconomic themes contributing to the department's overall score.

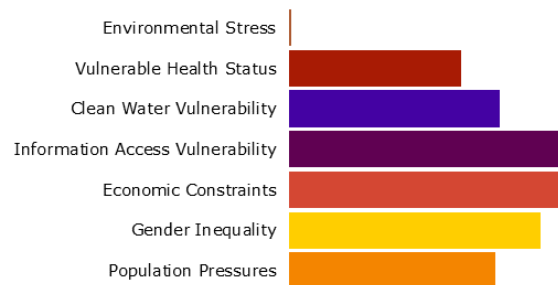









Table 3. Component scores for each vulnerability subcomponent

	Environmental Stress	0.4% Forest Loss Due to Pine Beetle Plague	<0.1% Water Shortage Area					
	Vulnerable Health Status	19.0 Infant Mortality Rate	85.8 Maternal Mortality Ratio	73.7 Life Expectancy (years)	2.4% Acute Malnutrition Rate	3.7% Population Disabled	0.289 Communicable Disease Sub-Index ⁴	0.284 Non-Communicable Disease Sub-Index ⁴
	Clean Water Vulnerability	82.1% Households Access to Piped Water	36.1% Households Connected to Sewer or Septic System					
	Information Access Vulnerability	25.4% Adult Illiteracy	5.0 Average Years of Schooling	88.9% Enrollment in Basic Education	98.7% Households without Internet	69.1% Households without TV	40.2% Households without Radio	
	Economic Constraints	0.83 Economic Dependency Ratio	73.6% Population in Poverty	0.40 GINI Coefficient				
	Gender Inequality	0.29 Ratio of Female to Male Land Ownership Rate	0.83 Ratio of Female to Male Home Ownership Rate	0.12 Ratio of Female to Male Economic Activity	1.06 Ratio of Female to Male Secondary Enrollment			
	Population Pressures	2.4% Average Annual Population Change	10.5% 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: 17 of 18 Departments (Score: 0.460) Lempira exhibits weaker Coping Capacity in the areas of Economic Capacity, Environmental Capacity, and Infrastructure. The bar chart on the right indicates the socioeconomic themes contributing to the department's overall Coping Capacity score.

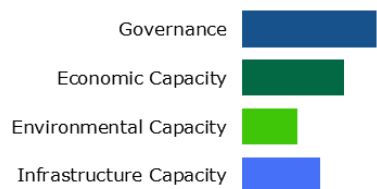









Table 4. Component scores for each coping capacity subcomponent

	Governance	54.6 Homicides per 100k Persons	94.6 Sexual Violence and Assault per 100k Persons	7.0% Households with Public Garbage Collection	78.9% Voter Participation (2013 Election)	
	Economic Capacity	33.6% Economic Activity Rate	99.2% Employment Rate	2.5% Population in Highest Wealth Quintile		
	Environmental Capacity	12.8% Natural Protected Area				
	Infrastructure Capacity					
	Health Care Capacity	4.1 Hospital Beds per 10,000 Persons	1.8 Physicians per 10,000 Persons	7.1 Nurses per 10,000 Persons	25.9 km Average Distance to Nearest Hospital	90.9% Children Completed Immunization Schedule
	Communications Capacity	3.2% Households with Access to Fixed Phone Line	46.1% Households with Access to Mobile Phone			
	Transportation Capacity	31.6 km Average Distance to Nearest Port or Airport	15.3 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: 2 of 18 Departments (Score: 0.586)

Lempira's Lack of Resilience score and ranking are due to very high Vulnerability combined with very low Coping Capacity scores.

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



**Information
Access
Vulnerability**



**Economic
Constraints**



Gender Inequality

Multi-Hazard Risk (MHR)

Multi-Hazard Risk⁷ Rank: 8 of 18 Departments (Score: 0.499)

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

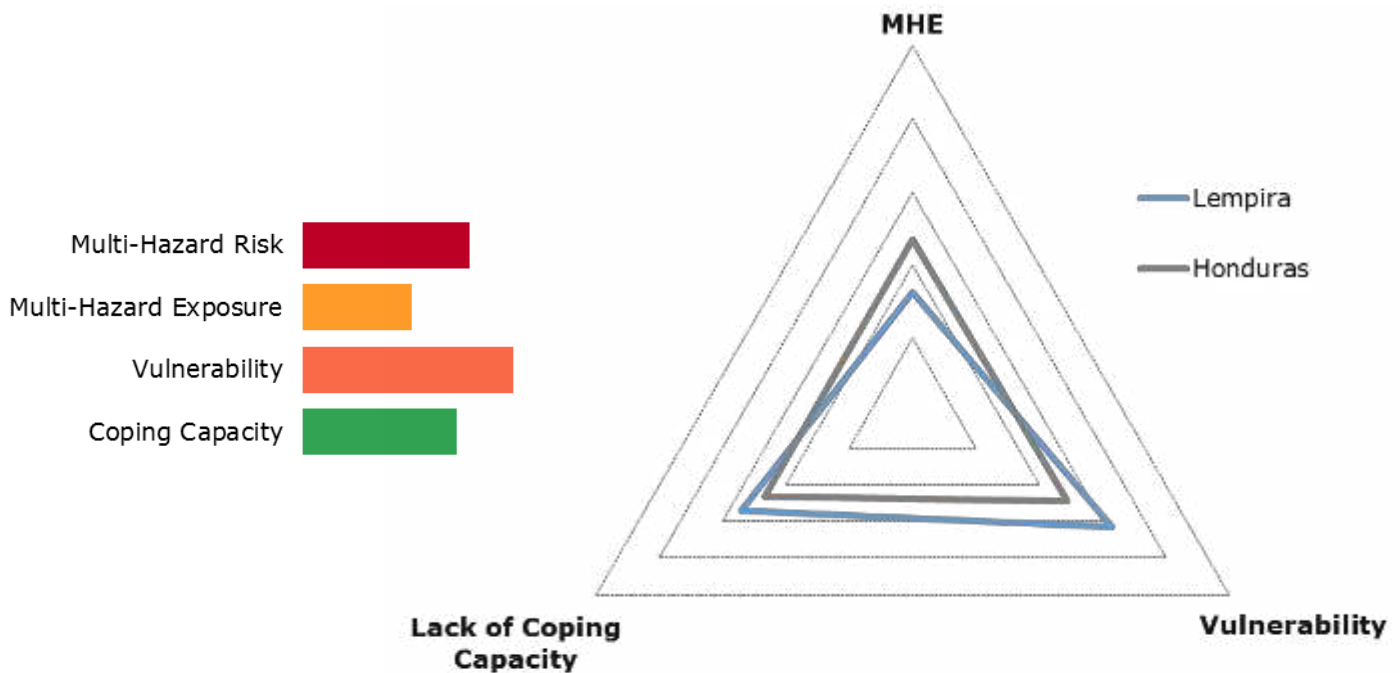


Figure 57. Department multi-hazard risk component scores compared to overall average country scores

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



Low environmental stress

Ranked 14 of 18 departments, low environmental stress indicates that natural resources and agriculture will be more resilient to the effects of a disaster and may recover faster.

Recommendations

01

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.

02

Provide business opportunities and education

Institute programs to provide independent economic opportunities in the department. Increased economic capacity will decrease vulnerability in emergencies.

03

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.



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NDPBA Honduras Report
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