

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



Chontales

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

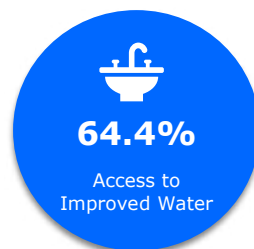
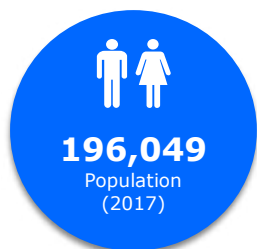
Department: Chontales



Department Capital: Juigalpa

Area: 6,481 km²

Chontales is located in central Nicaragua on the shores of Lake Nicaragua. This department is the cattle and dairy region of the country, supplying the majority of Nicaragua's dairy products.



Municipality	Population
Comalapa	22,530
San Francisco de Cuapa	10,048
Juigalpa	61,688
La Libertad	14,779
Santo Domingo	14,268
Santo Tomás	19,429



**Multi-Hazard Risk Rank:
Very Low (16 of 17)**

**Lack of Resilience Rank:
Medium (9 of 17)**

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 Low		Medium		Very Low		Medium		Medium	
Score	Rank (of 17)	Score	Rank (of 17)	Score	Rank (of 17)	Score	Rank (of 17)	Score	Rank (of 17)
0.366	16	0.463	9	0.172	15	0.419	9	0.493	9

Multi-Hazard Exposure (MHE)

Multi-Hazard Exposure¹ Rank: 15 of 17 Departments (Score: 0.172)

Table 2. Estimated ambient population² exposed to each hazard



Cyclone

2.1%

3,661 People



Earthquake

87.7%

154,182 People



Volcano

0%

0 People



Flood

1.4%

2,450 People



Landslide

10%

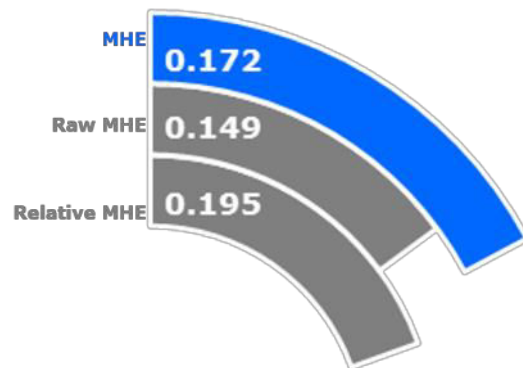
17,532 People



Tsunami

5.6%

9,901 People



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: 9 of 17 Departments (Score: 0.419) Vulnerability in Chontales is primarily driven by Gender Inequality, Clean Water Vulnerability, and Information Access Vulnerability. The bar chart on the right indicates the socioeconomic themes contributing to the department's overall Vulnerability score.

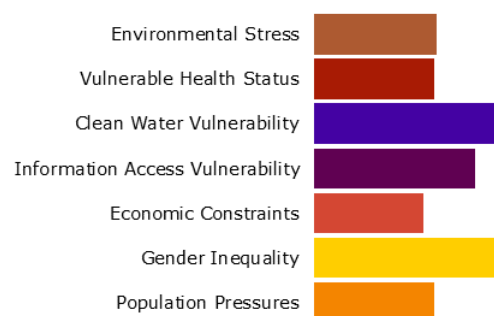









Table 3. Component scores for each vulnerability sub-component

	Environmental Stress	23.7% Province at Drought Risk	15.8% Erosion Risk	96.4 Livestock per km ²		
	Vulnerable Health Status	16.5 Infant Mortality Rate	N/A Maternal Mortality Rate	73.5 yrs Average Life Expectancy	0.5% Acute Malnutrition (Children < 5)	2.4% Population Disabled
	Clean Water Vulnerability	64.4% Households with Access to Improved Water	23.3% Households with Access to Flush Toilets			
	Information Access Vulnerability	28.1% Illiteracy	5.3 yrs Average Years of Schooling	86.0% Primary School Enrollment	93.3% Households without Internet	30.8% Households without TV 49.1% Households without Radio
	Economic Constraints	54.1 Economic Dependency Ratio	68.9% Population in Poverty			
	Gender Inequality	35.0% Female Seats in Government	1.04 Female to Male Secondary Education Enrollment	0.49 Female to Male Labor Ratio		
	Population Pressures	2.07% Average Annual Population Change	2.44% Average Annual Urban Population Change			

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

Coping Capacity (CC)

Coping Capacity⁴ Rank: 9 of 17 Departments (Score: 0.493)

Chontales exhibits weaker Coping Capacity in the area of Environmental Capacity. The bar chart on the right indicates the socioeconomic themes contributing to the department's overall Coping Capacity score.

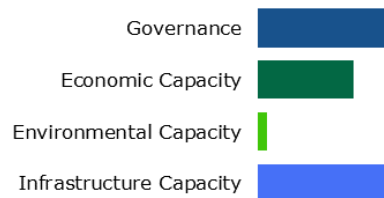


Table 4. Component scores for each coping capacity sub-component

	Economic Capacity	6.3% Households that Receive Remittances	87.0% Employment Rate (Male)	44.7% Employment Rate (Female)	20.9% Population in Highest Welfare Quintile	\$709.5 Annual Nominal Global Revenue per Capita	
	Governance	87.2% Crime Complaints Cleared	1,447 Crime Rate per 100k Persons	54.6% Households without Garbage Collection	95.8% Voter Participation (2016 Election)		
	Environmental Capacity	5.9% Protected or Reforested Land					
	Infrastructure Capacity						
	Health Care Capacity		10.3 Hospital Beds per 10,000 Persons	17.8 Nurses per 10,000 Persons	9.8 Physicians per 10,000 Persons	29.9 km Average Distance to Nearest Hospital	86.7% Children Completed Immunization Schedule
	Communications Capacity		14.8% Households with Access to Fixed Phone Line	82.4% Households with Access to Mobile Phone			
	Transportation Capacity		40.0 km Average Distance to Nearest Port or Airport	0.21 km Total Length of Road per km ² (area)			

⁴ 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 Resilience⁵ Rank: 9 of 17 Departments (Score: 0.463)

Chontales' score and ranking are due to medium Vulnerability combined with medium Coping Capacity scores.

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



Gender Inequality



Economic Capacity



Environmental Capacity

Multi-Hazard Risk (MHR)

Multi-Hazard Risk⁶ Rank: 16 of 17 Departments (Score: 0.366)

Chontales' score and ranking are due to very low Multi-Hazard Exposure combined with medium Vulnerability and medium Coping Capacity scores.

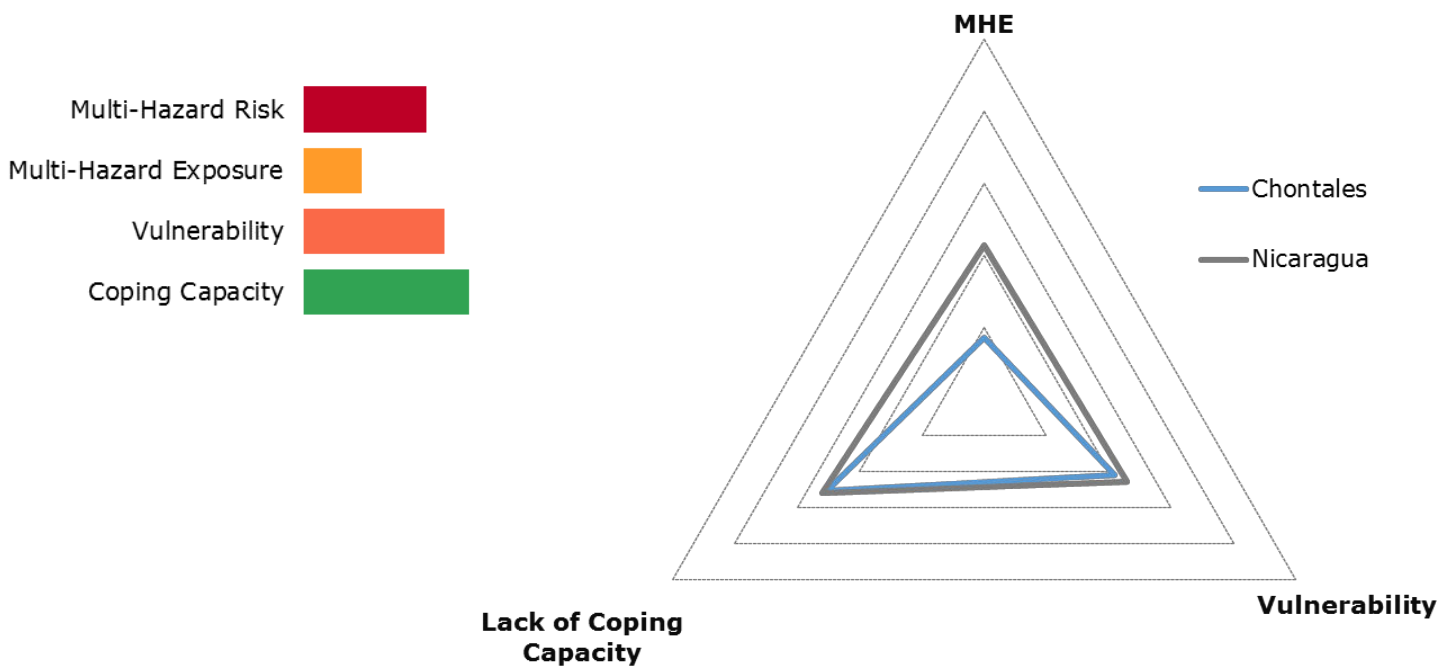


Figure 1. Department Multi-Hazard Risk component scores compared to overall average country scores

⁵ **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 socioeconomic conditions.

⁶ **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



Very low vulnerable health status

Ranked 16 of 17 departments, low health vulnerability indicates a population that will be more resilient to the negative health impacts associated with major disaster events.

Recommendations

01

Promote gender equality

Support equal-educational enrollment at all levels; access to the labor market, wages, and credit; and political representation to reduce vulnerability.

02

Increase economic capacity

Foster small-business development and invest in business education and human capital to raise economic stability and increase employment.



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