



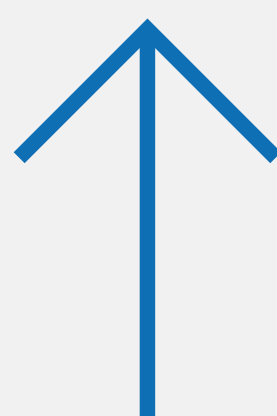
BUILDING RESILIENCE TO NATURAL DISASTERS IN OUR STATES AND TERRITORIES

NATURAL DISASTERS IN AUSTRALIA



The total economic
cost of natural
disasters in Australia
over the 10 years to 2016 averaged
\$18.2 billion per year
equivalent to 1.2% of gross domestic
product

This cost is forecast to grow by



3.4%
per year

By 2038

the costs of natural disasters will

DOUBLE

By 2050

the cost will total around

\$39 billion
per year

Natural disasters or extreme weather events have impacted more than

9 million Australians
in the past **30 years**

NATURAL DISASTERS IN TASMANIA



The total economic cost of
natural disasters in Tasmania
over the 10 years to 2016
has averaged

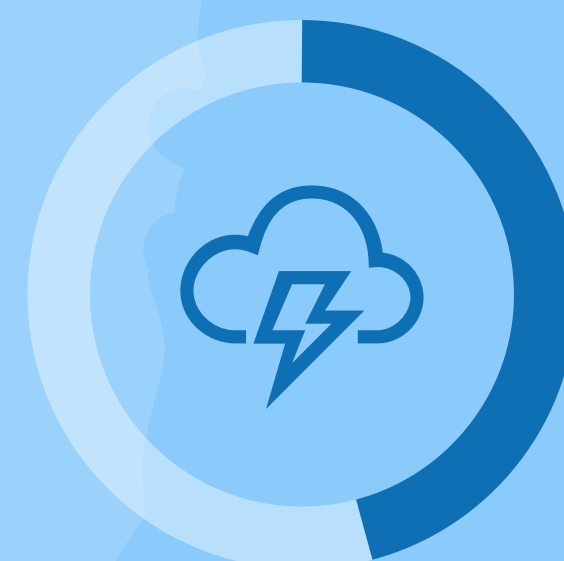
\$100m
per year

Costs by natural
disaster type

52%
BUSHFIRE

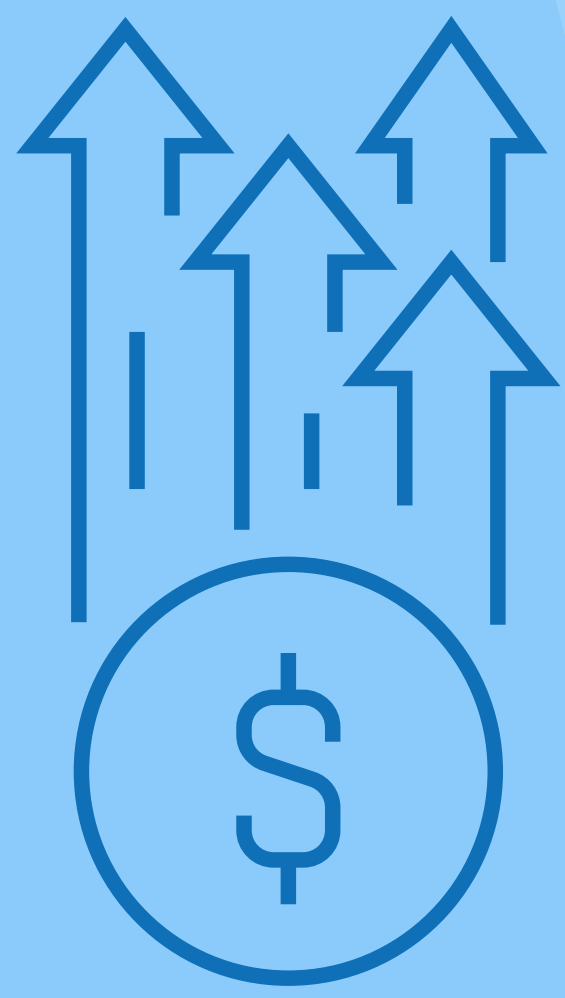


48%
STORM



Today, based on 50 years of historical data,
the total economic cost of natural disasters
in Tasmania is estimated to be

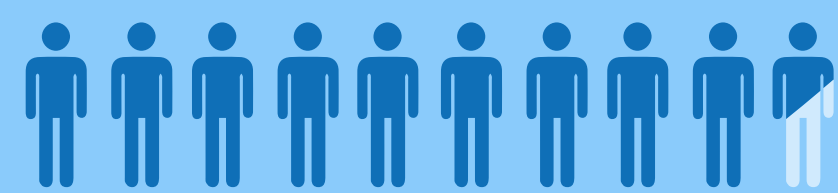
\$200m
per year

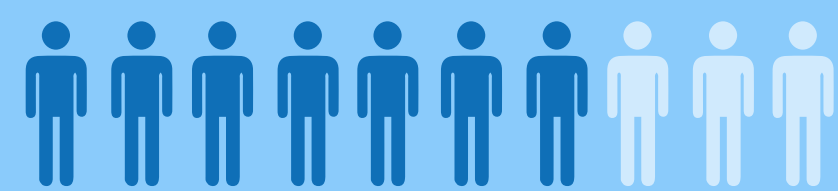


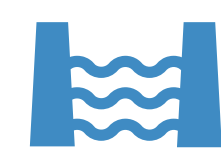
The cost in Tasmania
is forecast to reach

\$600m a year
by 2050
growing at **3.1%**
per year

Percentage
of Tasmanian
population at
**MEDIUM,
HIGH OR
EXTREME
RISK**

 **95%**
BUSHFIRE

 **70%**
FLOOD



LAUNCESTON LEVEE UPGRADE

Launceston City Council upgraded its flood levee system to protect against a **one in 200-year** flooding event. In 2016, Launceston experienced significant flooding. The avoided damage costs from this flood outweighed the cost of the levee construction fourfold. A number of social impacts were also avoided through the minimisation of the flood's damage. The levee upgrade delivered co-benefits to the community including:

- **Functional linkage for the city**
- **The facilitation of increased tourism**
- **Community use of space on waterfront**



Please see the report for the definition of co-benefits

BUILDING RESILIENCE TO NATURAL DISASTERS IN OUR STATES AND TERRITORIES

Each state and territory faces different natural hazards. This impacts the total cost of natural disasters in each jurisdiction and which tools will best build and foster resilience.

Current Australian and state government spending on direct disaster recovery is around **\$2.75 billion per year**, compared to funding directly for natural disaster resilience of approximately **\$100 million per year**.

Further investment in disaster resilience is essential to lessen the forecast increase in costs. This investment includes physical measures, such as resilient infrastructure, and community measures, such as preparedness programs.

Beyond funding and emergency management, state and territory governments are responsible for a number of areas where reform can build more resilient communities.

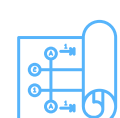
These areas include:



**Community
awareness**



**Building
controls**



**Land use
planning**



Infrastructure



**Data collection
and provision**

RECOMMENDATIONS

To build greater resilience to natural disasters in our states and territories, the Roundtable recommends the following:

1

**Embed resilience across all
aspects of policy and
decision-making**

2

**Prioritise resilience investments
by considering the broader
economic and social benefits
that result**

3

**Improve understanding of
disaster risks and costs to
society**

4

**Collaborate and coordinate
to build resilience and address
the long-term costs of natural
disasters**

THE AUSTRALIAN BUSINESS ROUNDTABLE FOR DISASTER RESILIENCE & SAFER COMMUNITIES

Since 2012, the Roundtable has been working to build a country better equipped to handle Australia's natural disasters and extreme weather events.



For more information, please visit
australianbusinessroundtable.com.au