

Threat and Hazards Assessment Table: Jordan

| Natural | Technological | Human-caused |
|---|---|---|
| Resulting from acts of nature | Involves accidents or the failures of systems and structures | Caused by the intentional actions of an adversary |
| <p>Droughts: Due to its geographic location in the Middle East, Jordan has historically been susceptible to periods of drought though the lengths and frequency of these dry spells have intensified in recent years. Experts already label the country as one of the most water-deficient in the world, but with climate change, this will only get worse as temperatures continue to rise and precipitation lowers. Jordan requires roughly 1.3 billion cubic meters of water per year, but only has access to about 900 million cubic meters. (Photos, n.d.)</p> <p>Floods: Periods of extreme rainfall have caused flooding, many of which are deadly flash floodings in Jordan. Many recent tragedies have resulted from these flash floodings, such as at the Dead Sea in 2018 where 18 were killed, mostly children and teachers on a school trip. (Al-Khalidi, n.d.) This was part of the casualty list, with a total of 33 deaths in the fall of that year. (Israel, n.d.) The WHO anticipates a doubling in the number of days of heavy rainfall in this century, which greatly adds to the flood risk in Jordan. (Climate, n.d.)</p> | <p>Transportation: Road safety is a major issue in Jordan, as it has one of the greatest numbers of traffic incidents resulting in death and injury. In 2014 alone, nearly 700 were killed and another 2063 were gravely injured due to traffic accidents. In 2013, Jordan was second only to Saudi Arabia in the world for fatalities per 100,000 population at 11.76. This issue especially affects the elderly and children passengers and pedestrians. (Road, 2016)</p> <p>Power: In recent years, Jordan has reported severe power outages caused by a number of incidents, from heavy snowfall to car accidents, showing the poor fundamental structural design in the utility poles' placements. Most recently, in 2022, over 3000 outages were reported during a snowstorm, which was linked to untrimmed trees in close proximity to the poles. (JEPCO, 2022) One of the largest power outages on record occurred the year prior on May 21, 2021, leaving the entire country without power for 3 hours. (Jordan, 2021)</p> | <p>Terrorism: Jordan faces constant threats of terrorism due to its central geographical position amongst the war-torn neighboring countries of Syria and Iraq as well as Palestine and Lebanon. The most prominent and recent of which occurred on November 6th, 2019, when a Palestinian refugee from a nearby camp stabbed 8 people in Jerash. (Jordan, n.d.) Prior to that, on December 18, 2016, four gunmen later claimed by ISIS attacked in the city of Karak which ended in 19 fatalities, after taking several tourist hostages in a castle. The attack also left another 34 people injured. (Jordan: Extremism, n.d.) And on November 10, 2005, three hotels in Amman were targeted by suicide bombers, leaving 57 people dead and 110 injured. (Fattah, 2005)</p> <p>Civil Unrest: Due to all other discussed threats such as water scarcity and close proximity to war, Jordan deals with great civil unrest. Perhaps most famously during the Arab Spring movement which saw other Arab countries fall into civil war over corruption, Jordanians began protesting the constitutional monarchy and economic struggles in 2011. (Arab, 2013) Most recently, major protests broke out in 2021 against</p> |

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| | | the government following 8 deaths due to negligence at a hospital to replace oxygen tanks for patients for over 2 hours. These protests are not uncommon as people continue to be outraged by poor living standards and unemployment. (Protests, 2021) |
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