

Tables showing the major losses 1970–2009

Table 12

The 40 most costly insurance losses 1970–2009

Insured loss¹⁰

(in USD m,

indexed to 2009)

	Victims ¹¹	Date (start)	Event	Country
71 163	1 836	25.08.2005	Hurricane Katrina; floods, dams burst, damage to oil rigs	US, Gulf of Mexico, Bahamas, North Atlantic
24 479	43	23.08.1992	Hurricane Andrew; floods	US, Bahamas
22 767	2 982	11.09.2001	Terror attack on WTC, Pentagon and other buildings	US
20 276	61	17.01.1994	Northridge earthquake (M 6.6)	US
19 940	136	06.09.2008	Hurricane Ike; floods, offshore damage	US, Caribbean: Gulf of Mexico et al
14 642	124	02.09.2004	Hurricane Ivan; damage to oil rigs	US, Caribbean; Barbados et al
13 807	35	19.10.2005	Hurricane Wilma; floods	US, Mexico, Jamaica, Haiti et al
11 089	34	20.09.2005	Hurricane Rita; floods, damage to oil rigs	US, Gulf of Mexico, Cuba
9 148	24	11.08.2004	Hurricane Charley; floods	US, Cuba, Jamaica et al
8 899	51	27.09.1991	Typhoon Mireille/No 19	Japan
7 916	71	15.09.1989	Hurricane Hugo	US, Puerto Rico et al
7 672	95	25.01.1990	Winter storm Daria	France, UK, Belgium, NL et al
7 475	110	25.12.1999	Winter storm Lothar	Switzerland, UK, France et al
6 309	54	18.01.2007	Winter storm Kyrill; floods	Germany, UK, NL, Belgium et al
5 857	22	15.10.1987	Storm and floods in Europe	France, UK, Netherlands et al
5 848	38	26.08.2004	Hurricane Frances	US, Bahamas
5 242	64	25.02.1990	Winter storm Vivian	Europe
5 206	26	22.09.1999	Typhoon Bart/No 18	Japan
4 649	600	20.09.1998	Hurricane Georges; floods	US, Caribbean
4 369	41	05.06.2001	Tropical storm Allison; floods	US
4 321	3 034	13.09.2004	Hurricane Jeanne; floods, landslides	US, Caribbean: Haiti et al
4 074	45	06.09.2004	Typhoon Songda/No 18	Japan, South Korea
3 988	135	26.08.2008	Hurricane Gustav; floods, offshore damage	US, Caribbean: Gulf of Mexico et al
3 740	45	02.05.2003	Thunderstorms, tornadoes, hail	US
3 637	70	10.09.1999	Hurricane Floyd; floods	US, Bahamas, Columbia
3 631	167	06.07.1988	Explosion on platform Piper Alpha	UK
3 530	59	01.10.1995	Hurricane Opal; floods	US, Mexico, Gulf of Mexico
3 482	6 425	17.01.1995	Great Hanshin earthquake (M 7.2) in Kobe	Japan
3 372	25	24.01.2009	Winter storm Klaus	France, Spain
3 093	45	27.12.1999	Winter storm Martin	Spain, France, Switzerland
2 917	246	10.03.1993	Blizzard, tornadoes, floods	US, Canada, Mexico, Cuba
2 755	38	06.08.2002	Severe floods	UK, Spain, Germany, Austria et al
2 680	26	20.10.1991	Forest fires which spread to urban areas, drought	US
2 667	–	06.04.2001	Hail, floods and tornadoes	US
2 575	4	25.06.2007	Heavy rainfall, floods	UK
2 540	30	18.09.2003	Hurricane Isabel	US, Canada
2 488	39	05.09.1996	Hurricane Fran	US
2 454	20	03.12.1999	Winter storm Anatol	Denmark, Sweden, UK et al
2 448	4	11.09.1992	Hurricane Iniki	US, North Pacific Ocean
2 361	–	29.08.1979	Hurricane Frederic	US

Source: Swiss Re, sigma catastrophe database

¹⁰ Property and business interruption, excluding liability and life insurance losses;

US natural catastrophe figures: with the permission of Property Claim Services (PCS)/incl. NFIP losses (see page 34 “Terms and selection criteria”)

¹¹ Dead and missing