## Growing Catastrophe Losses & the Role of Climate Change

Steve Bowen | June 2023



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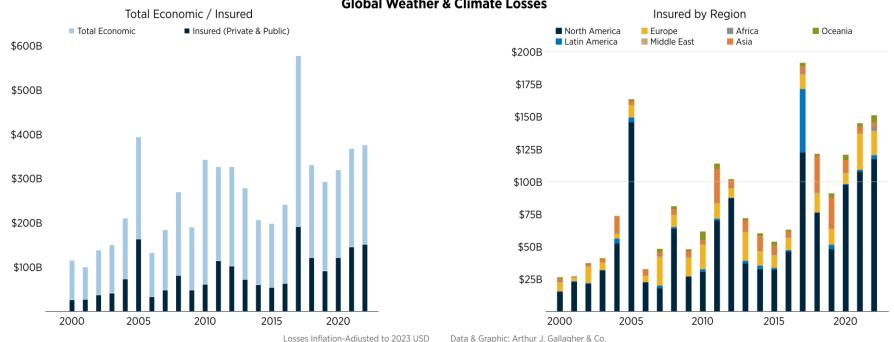


## What's Happening?





### State the Obvious: Losses Going Up



#### **Global Weather & Climate Losses**

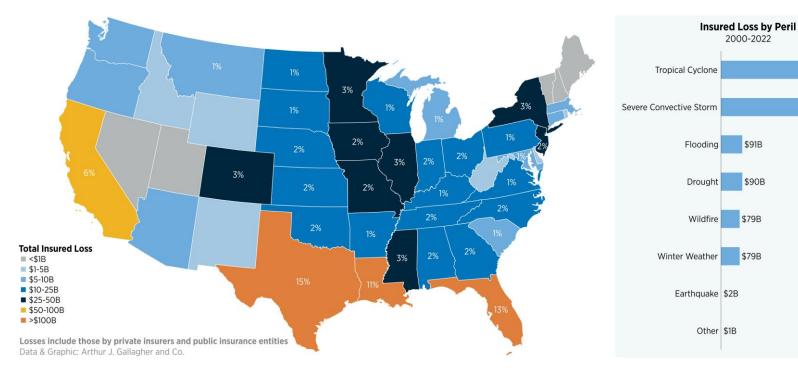


\$496B

\$446B

### **US Remains Nat Cat Epicenter**

#### Since 2000: Private & public insurers have paid out USD1.3T

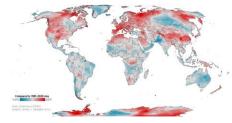




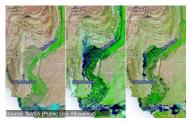
### **Climate Change & Extreme Weather**



Hurricane Ian (2022) USD112 billion



2022: Drought / Heatwaves USD79 billion / 40,000+ dead



Pakistan Floods (2022) USD15 billion

### **Common Theme**

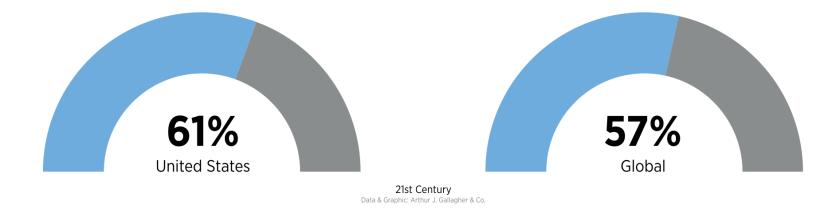
Events enhanced by climate change...

...and societal vulnerabilities in where / how we live.



## "Primary" vs "Secondary"

### Secondary perils play a primary role in annual insured losses

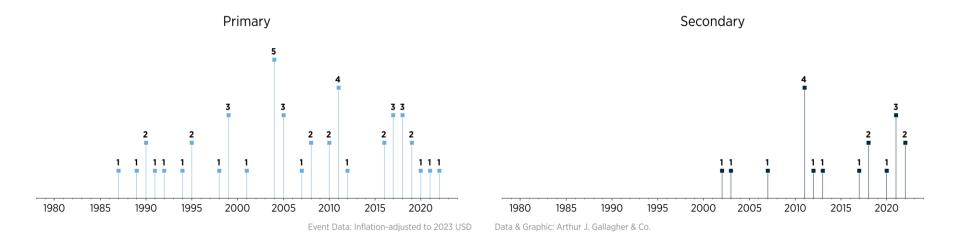


**Primary:** Tropical Cyclone / Earthquake / European Windstorm

Secondary: Severe Convective Storm / Flooding / Wildfire / Winter Weather / Drought

## "Primary" vs "Secondary"

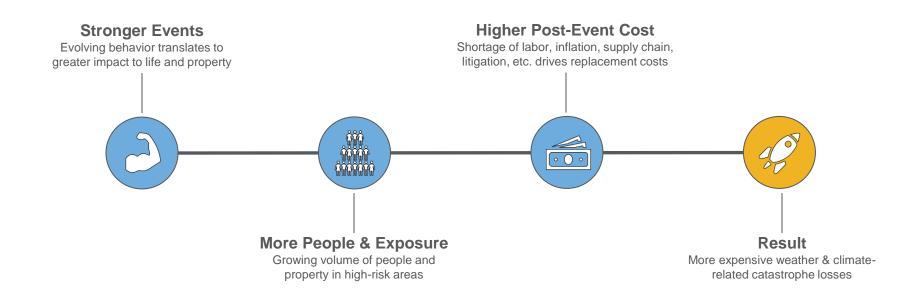
### Number of >\$5B Insured Events Since 2010: Primary (20) / Secondary (15)



**Gallagher Re** 



### What's Driving the Loss?

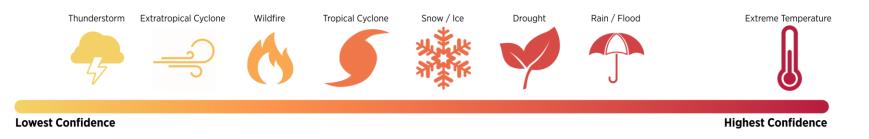




## Climate Change & Individual Peril Risk

## **Current Science**





Adapted from https://www.nap.edu/catalog/21852/attribution-of-extreme-weather-events-in-the-context-of-climate-change\_

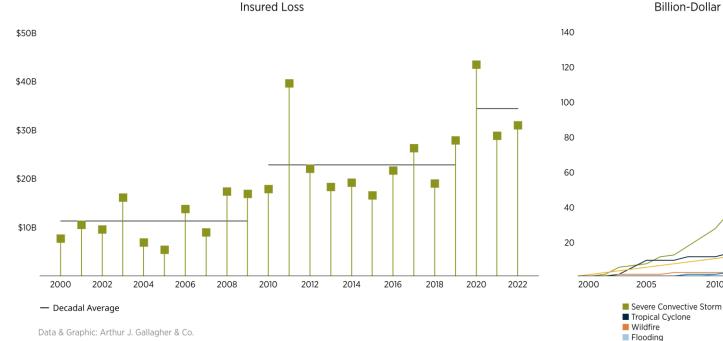
Graphic: Arthur J. Gallagher & Co.

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### Severe Convective Storm

### Higher frequency peril with increasingly consequential impacts



**Billion-Dollar Insured Events** 

2010



2020

2015

Winter Weather

Drought

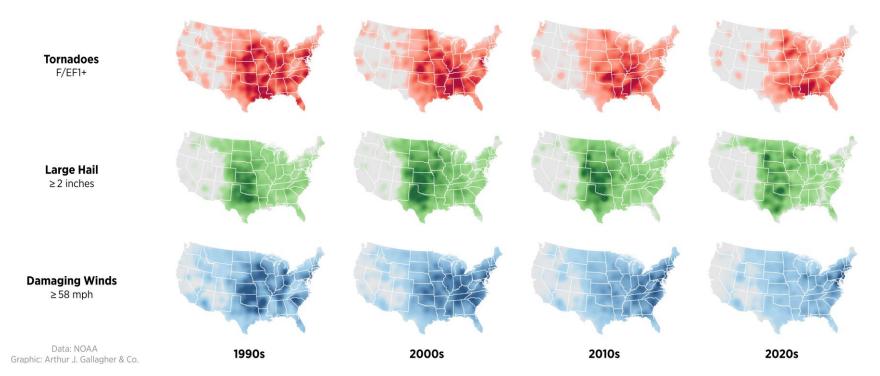
Other

Earthquake



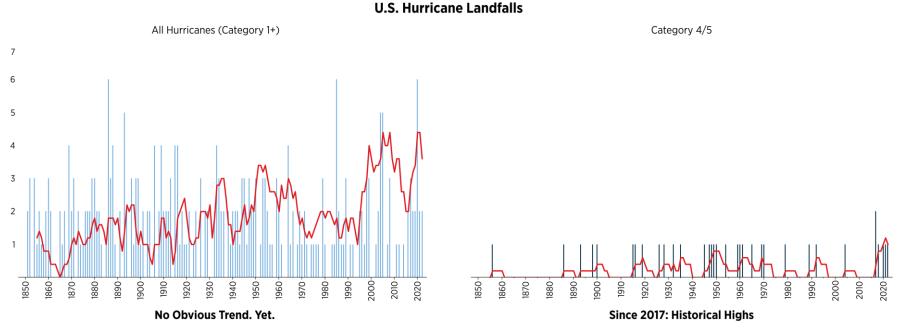
### Severe Convective Storm

Takeaway: Most notable shift seen in tornado genesis location (east & south)



## **Tropical Cyclone**





5-Year Rolling Avg.

Data: NOAA Graphic: Arthur J. Gallagher & Co.

**Gallagher Re** 



## **Tropical Cyclone**

#### Increased frequency of rapid intensification & higher portion of high-end TCs

24-Hour RI Episodes: 30+ kt RI

#### **Atlantic TC Rapid Intensification Points**

 Rapid Intensification: 30+ knots (35+ mph) in a 24-hour period
 50

 Explosive Rapid Intensification: 50+ knots (58+ mph) in a 24-hour period
 40

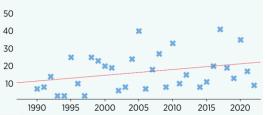
 Research Paper
 30

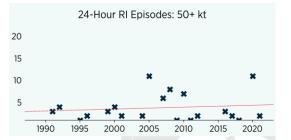
 Klotzbach: Wood: Schreck III: Bowen: Patricola; Bell (2022)
 20

 https://doi.org/10.1029/2021GL095774
 10

 Data: IBTrACS
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 Graphic: Steve Bowen (Co-Author)
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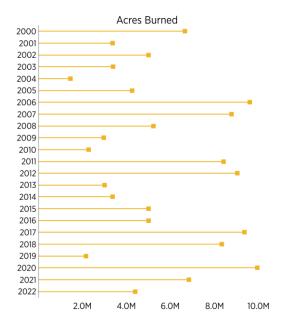




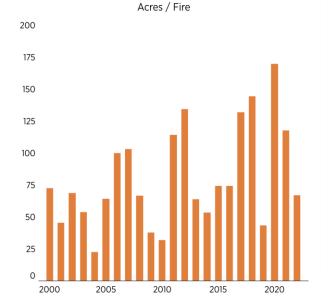
### Wildfire



#### **Bigger fires. Hotter fires. Longer fire seasons. Increased loss costs.**



#### Wildfire Statistics: CONUS (Lower 48)



Fire Data: NIFC Loss Data & Graphic: Arthur J. Gallagher & Co.

U.S. Wildfire Seasons Since 2015

\$100B Economic Loss (2023 USD)

\$66B Insured Loss (2023 USD)

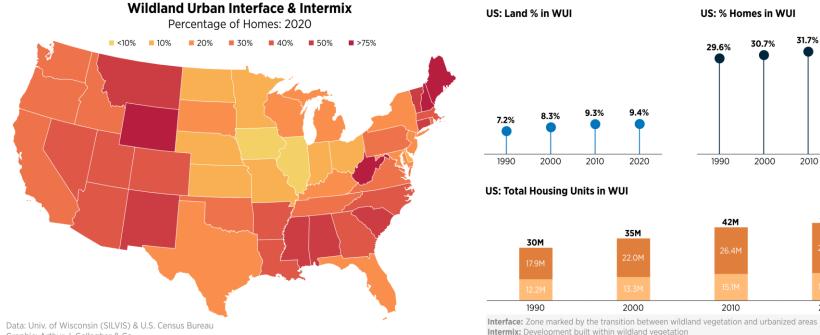
#### Fact

The United States has recorded 18 individual billion-dollar insured wildfire events on record. Fourteen (14) have occurred since 2015.

CA: 11 OR: 1 CO: 1 TN: 1

## Wildfire





Graphic: Arthur J. Gallagher & Co.

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31.6%

2020

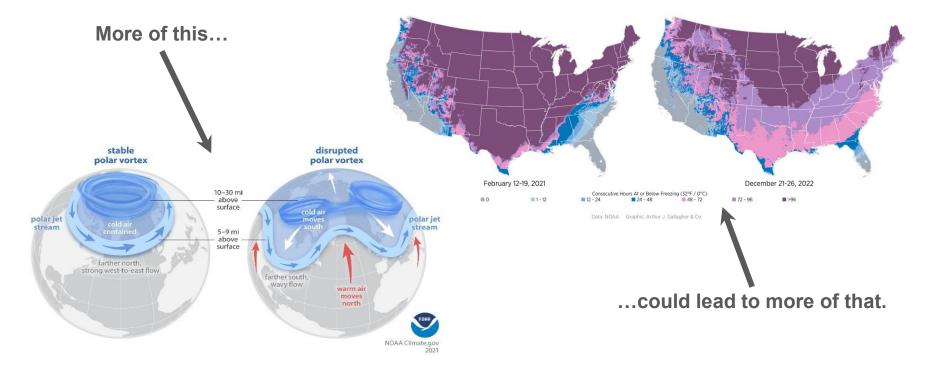
44M

2020



### Winter Weather

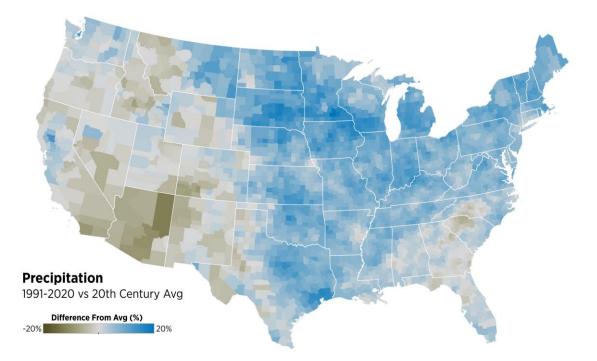
#### Polar Vortex: No significant increase in North American occurrences (yet)

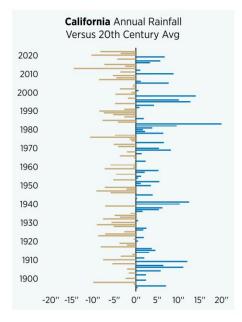




## Rainfall / Flooding

#### Heavier individual rain events occurring; long-term data can be noisy



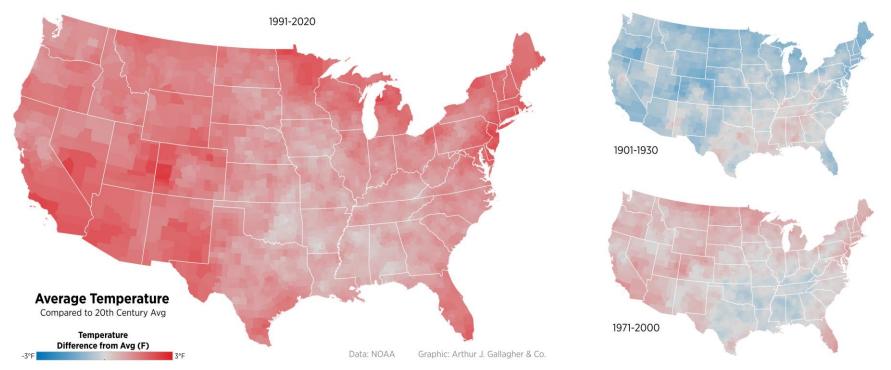


Data: NOAA Graphic: Arthur J. Gallagher & Co.



## Heat / Drought

### Average temperatures getting warmer; minimum temperatures rising fastest





## Takeaways & Things to Consider





## **Climate Change**

### Essential to identify the totality of climate change risk



**Exposure** Where and how we (re)build is critical to minimize physical risk

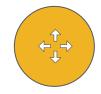


#### Hazard

Changes in the behavior and frequency of high intensity events



Attribution Quantify the "fingerprints" of climate change on individual events



#### **Non-Physical / Transition**

Companies looking to transition away from carbon focused portfolios



People Population trends moving into wellknown high-risk areas



#### Uncertainty

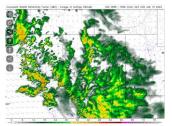
Account for unknowns found within current state of climate science



## Modelling Climate Change Risk

The term "model" can mean different things to different people. Understanding the unique and distinct differences are critical when assessing various types of risk.

Numerical Weather Prediction (NWP)



Time Scale Current or Short-Term

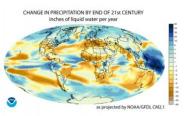
#### **Base Data**

Current surface, satellite, and atmospheric observation data

#### Usage

Simulate future weather at a downscaled level

#### Global Climate Model (GCM)



Time Scale Long-Term (Decadal / Centurial)

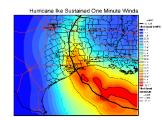
#### **Base Data**

Atmospheric, land surface, ocean, sea ice, tree rings, etc.

#### Usage

Simulate future larger-scale global climate conditions

#### **Catastrophe Model**



Time Scale Historical / Current / Future

#### Base Data

Physical hazard exposure, historical weather events, financial info, etc.

#### Usage

Simulate historical events or stochastic (hypothetical) events

Climate Risk Model (CRM)

### Moody's | esg

### S&P Global

Time Scale Short, Medium, Long-Term

#### Base Data

Climate data, socioeconomic metrics, current exposure, policy details, etc.

#### Usage

Simulate hazard scenarios to quantify portfolio risks to businesses



## Complementary Risks

**Complexity of climate change rising as ancillary issues add further costs** 





## Climate & ESG: Global Regulation

Europe leads on regulatory frameworks with mandatory standards and reporting

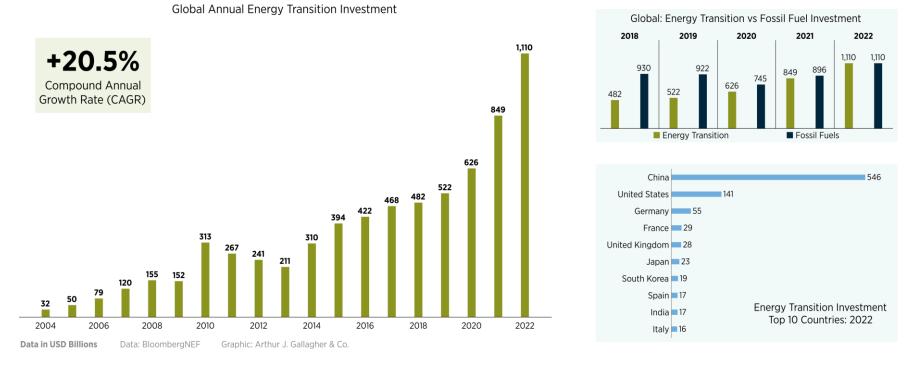


- Binding (Framework Under Review)
- Voluntary (Guidelines in Place)
- Voluntary (Guidelines Under Review)



## **Climate Finance**

#### Rapid acceleration in global investment to clean energy solutions





### Effective Investment Will Save Money

#### **Build Better. Build Smarter. Codes Work.**



#### Natural disaster strikes

#### Sources:

FEMA, "Building Codes Save: A Nationwide Study," 2020; (source of cost data). NIBS, "Natural Hazard Mitigation Saves: 2019 Report," 2019; (source of dollar spent on mitigation).



# The climate of tomorrow is here today.

### Thank You!

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