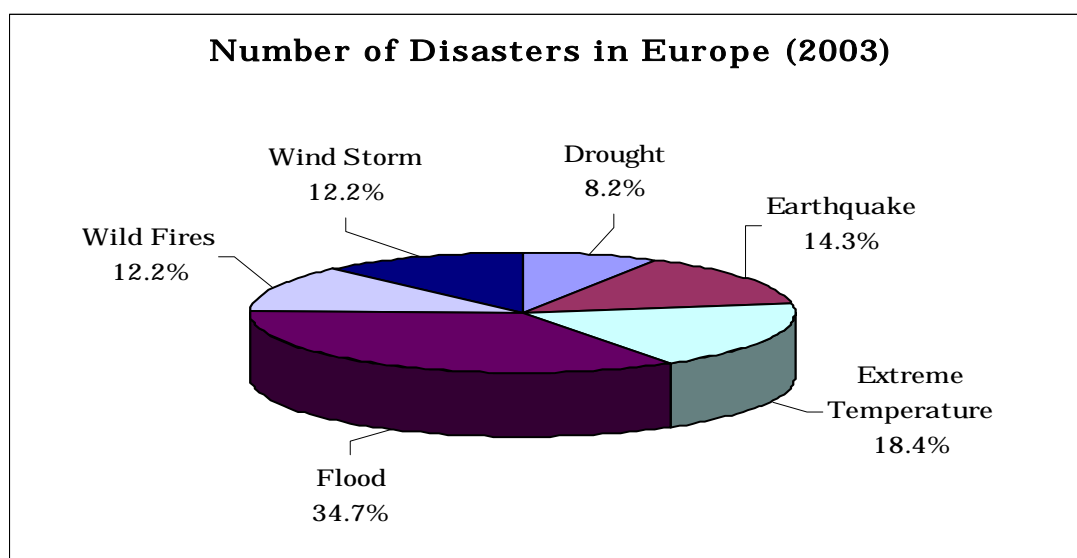


### 3.2.4 Characteristics of Disasters in Europe:

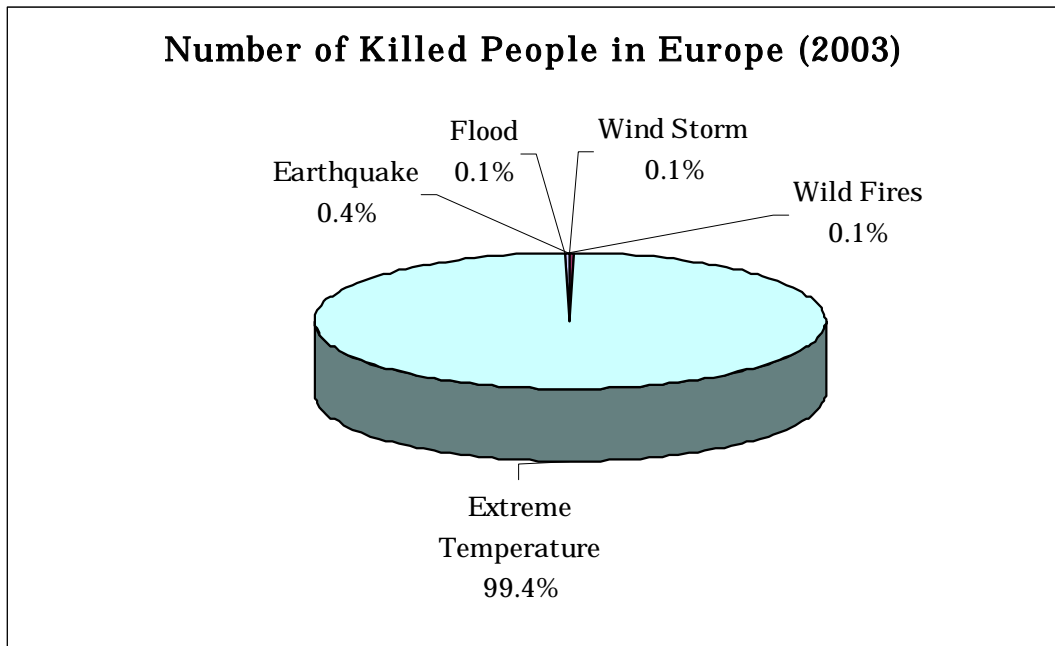
As we know, the year 2003 was a difficult year for Europe after the 2002 devastating flood. Seen from the following figures from Figure 39 to Figure 42, extreme temperatures (heatwave) and subsequent droughts caused severe human loss in the region. According to Figure 39, majority of the disasters in 2003 were floods and extreme temperatures, which account for 53% of the total disasters. The majority of the human loss was due to extreme temperatures (heatwave) as explained in Figure 40. All of these disasters caused about 99% of the total human loss in the region in 2003. Further, as seen in Figure 41, 95% of the *totally* affected people were affected by droughts contrast to the situation of previous year (In 2002 many people (84%) were affected by floods). According to the Figure 42, the floods made heavy economic loss in the region. Thus it can be concluded that the year 2003 was tumultuous for Europe, as hydro meteorological disasters once again caused severe damage.

**Figure 39:**



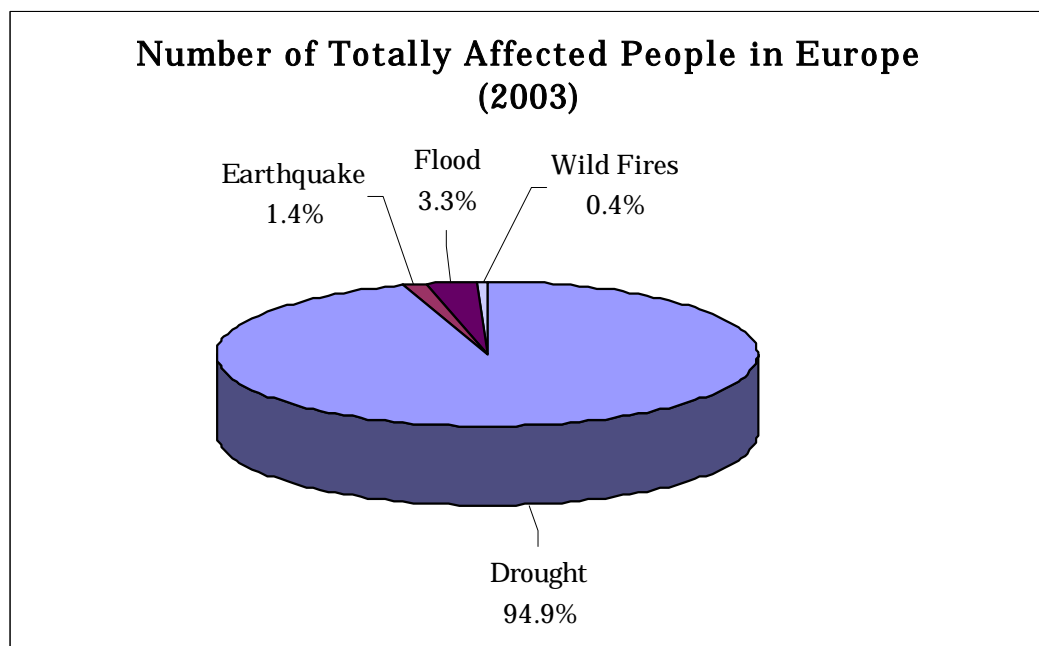
Source: ADRC, Japan and CRED-EMDAT, Universite Catholique de Louvain, Brussels, Belgium, 2003

Figure 40:

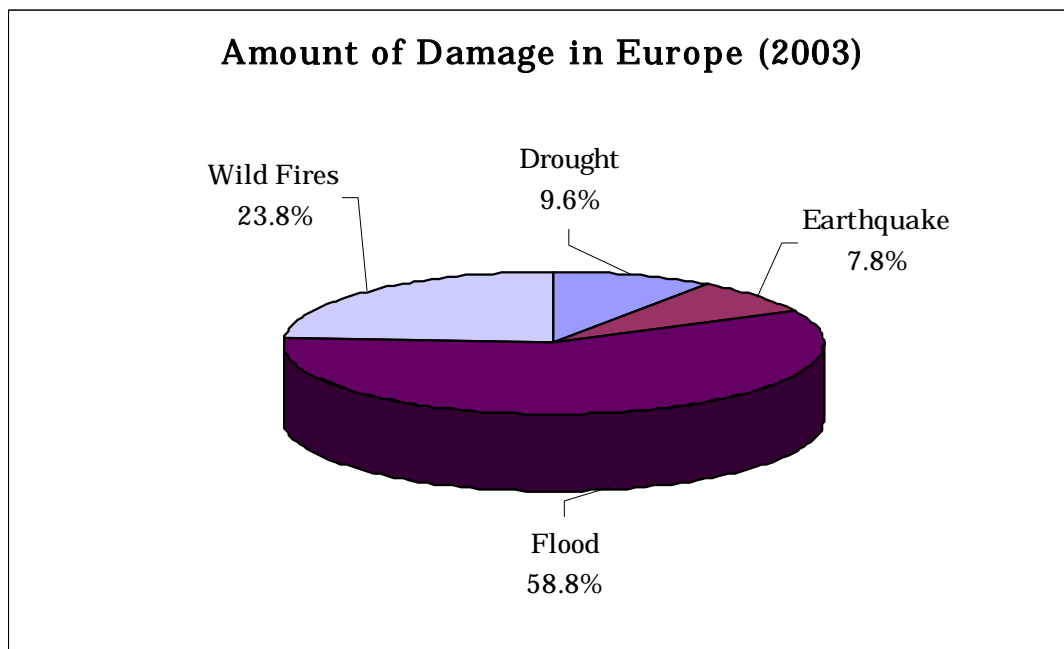


Source: ADRC, Japan and CRED-EMDAT, Universite Catholique de Louvain, Brussels, Belgium, 2003

Figure 41:



Source: ADRC, Japan and CRED-EMDAT, Universite Catholique de Louvain, Brussels, Belgium, 2003

**Figure 42:**

Source: ADRC, Japan and CRED-EMDAT, Universite Catholique de Louvain, Brussels, Belgium, 2003

### 3.2.5 Characteristics of Disasters in Oceania:

Disaster trends in Oceania are a bit different compared to those in other regions in the year 2003. Natural disasters in the year 2003 were different from the average pattern of occurrence of natural disasters in Oceania. Almost all types of natural disasters have occurred in the region except earthquakes, but the majority of them are windstorms, floods, slides and wild fires totaling 95% among them. This trend can be seen in Figure 43. According to the Figure 44, majority of the human loss is from windstorms (48%) followed by slides (28%) and floods (15%). The reason is due to the storms in the pacific island countries (Fiji and American Samoa) and slides in Papua New Guinea in 2003. Figure 45 illustrates the pattern of *totally* affected people in Oceania in 2003, with windstorms, and wild fires causing the majority (96%) of the human suffering. The reason for this unusual picture is the severe windstorm in Fiji and Australia,