



PANTHRISK WEEKLY RISK REPORT

Week of August 17–23, 2025

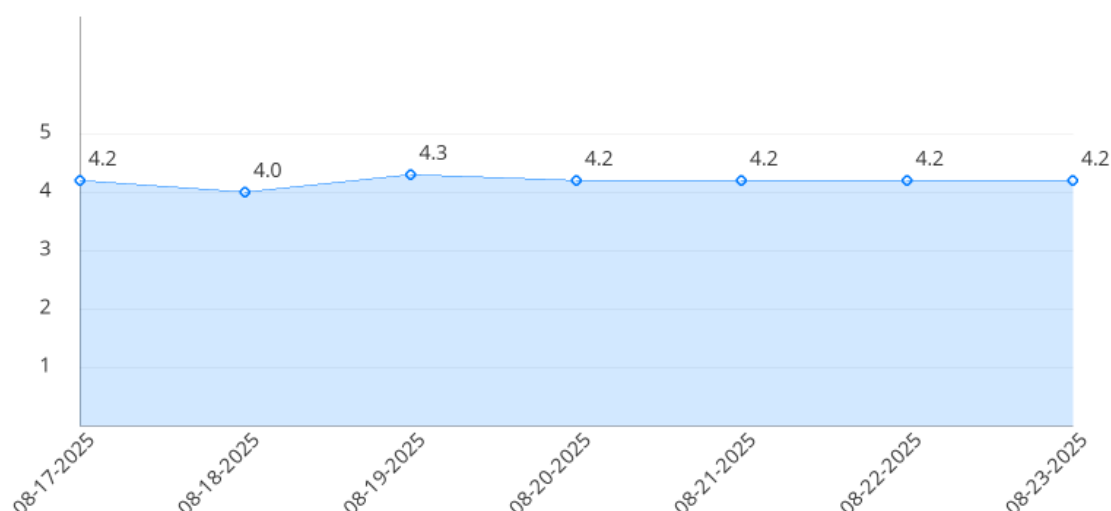
Panthrisk monitors humanity's most serious existential threats using curated news sources and AI-assisted analysis. Each day, our models evaluate key global developments, generate risk-level assessments, and propose actionable interventions. This weekly report summarizes the trends, risk shifts, and notable insights from August 17–23, 2025 across all tracked categories.

Generated: August 23, 2025



Nuclear War

Score Trend (Week of August 17–23, 2025)



This week, the nuclear threat level remains elevated due to escalating tensions between nuclear-armed states, notably between the US and Russia, and involving North Korea's nuclear ambitions. The situation is exacerbated by increased military exercises, nuclear deployments, and modernization efforts. The US has redeployed nuclear arms to the UK, raising concerns about nuclear proliferation and potential conflict. Emerging technologies, including AI, and misinformation are further complicating the geopolitical landscape, increasing the risk of miscalculation or accidental escalation. Overall, the international community faces significant challenges in managing nuclear risks and maintaining global security.



Nuclear War

Recommended Risk Reduction Actions

- **[Government]** Facilitate urgent diplomatic dialogues between nuclear-armed states to address tensions and establish new arms control agreements.
- **[NGO]** Increase public awareness campaigns on the risks of nuclear proliferation and advocate for nuclear disarmament.
- **[Industry]** Develop and implement robust safeguards against the misuse of AI in nuclear command and control systems.
- **[Military]** Enhance crisis communication protocols to prevent accidental escalation during military exercises involving nuclear forces.
- **[International Organizations]** Convene an emergency summit to explore new frameworks for dialogue and address the breakdown of nuclear arms control treaties.



Nuclear War

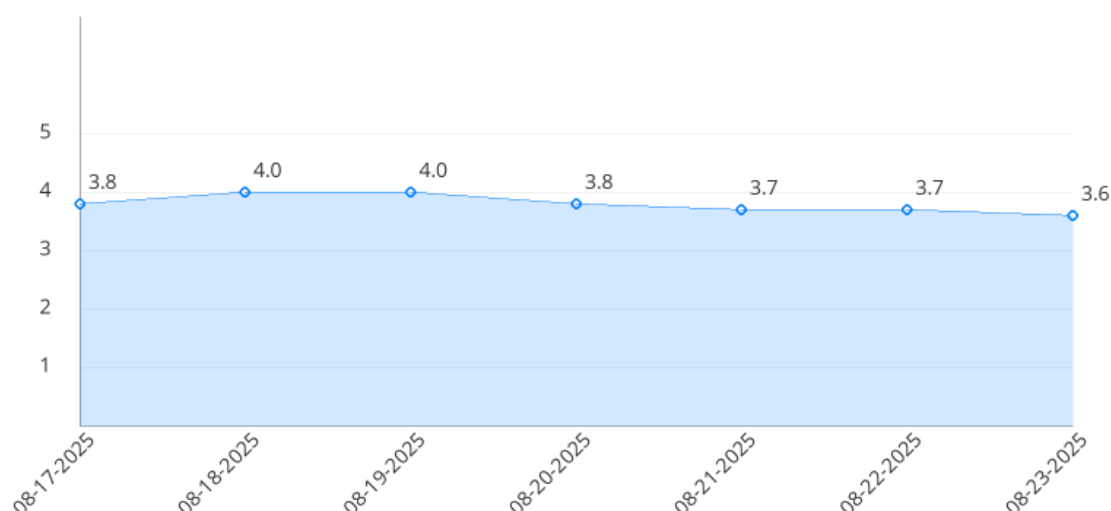
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Artificial Intelligence

Score Trend (Week of August 17–23, 2025)



This week, the main trend in Artificial Intelligence revolves around the rapid deployment of advanced AI models like GPT-5 across various sectors, including government and healthcare. This expansion has heightened concerns about alignment, misuse, and the concentration of power, leading to a moderate AI risk level. The scores have fluctuated slightly, indicating ongoing concerns about safety and regulatory challenges. Despite the potential productivity enhancements offered by these advancements, there is a persistent need for robust alignment and safety mechanisms to prevent unintended consequences. Overall, the focus remains on ensuring that AI systems are safe, transparent, and aligned with human values.



Artificial Intelligence

Recommended Risk Reduction Actions

- **[Government]** Implement comprehensive regulatory frameworks to ensure AI systems are safe, transparent, and aligned with human values.
- **[Industry]** Prioritize the development and deployment of robust alignment and safety mechanisms in AI systems.
- **[Academia]** Conduct interdisciplinary research to better understand the implications of AI deployment across different sectors.
- **[NGO]** Advocate for equitable access to AI technologies to prevent concentration of power and ensure diverse input in AI development.
- **[Public]** Engage in informed discussions about the ethical and societal impacts of AI to foster a balanced approach to its integration.



Artificial Intelligence

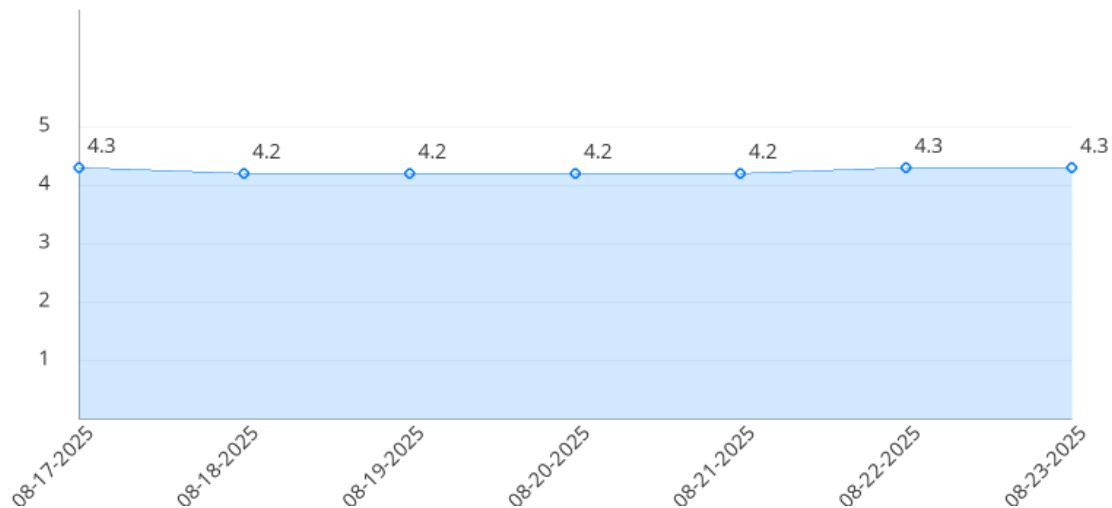
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Climate Change



Score Trend (Week of August 17–23, 2025)



This week, the climate threat level remains high due to a combination of extreme weather events, such as rapidly intensifying hurricanes and widespread wildfires, alongside systemic issues like ecosystem tipping points and inadequate policy responses. The situation is exacerbated by rapid Antarctic ice melt and persistent La Niña impacts, leading to significant economic and agricultural disruptions. Despite these challenges, there is a notable lack of sufficient policy measures to effectively mitigate these risks. The need for global cooperation and enhanced resilience strategies is increasingly urgent as the impacts of climate change continue to mount.



Climate Change

Recommended Risk Reduction Actions

- **[Government]** Implement stricter regulations and policies to accelerate the transition to renewable energy and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- **[NGO]** Increase public awareness campaigns on the impacts of climate change and promote community-based adaptation strategies.
- **[Industry]** Invest in sustainable technologies and practices to reduce carbon footprints and enhance resilience against climate impacts.
- **[Research Institutions]** Conduct and disseminate studies on the effectiveness of climate adaptation strategies, particularly in vulnerable regions.
- **[International Bodies]** Facilitate global cooperation on climate action, focusing on both mitigation and adaptation strategies.



Climate Change

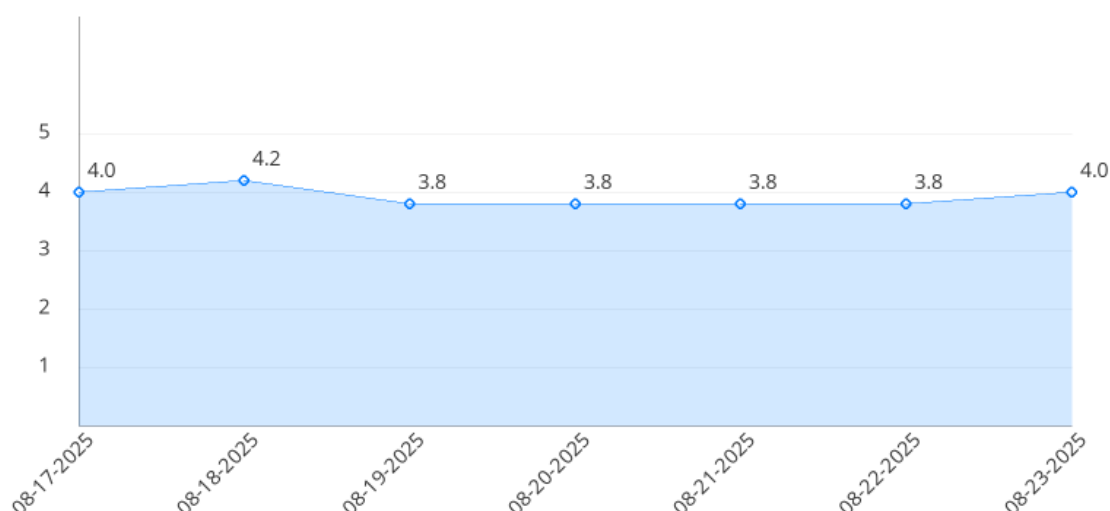
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Pandemics

Score Trend (Week of August 17–23, 2025)



This week, the pandemic risk fluctuated between high and moderate levels, primarily driven by increasing COVID-19 activity in the US, persistent challenges with long COVID, and emerging threats from infectious diseases such as avian flu, MERS, and measles. The situation is compounded by ongoing outbreaks of polio and measles, as well as a severe cholera outbreak in Sudan. Vaccine uptake remains a significant challenge due to misinformation and trust issues. The spread of avian flu and MERS is particularly concerning, requiring enhanced surveillance and response efforts. Overall, the focus is on improving vaccine coverage, combating misinformation, and strengthening global cooperation to address these threats effectively.



Pandemics

Recommended Risk Reduction Actions

- **[Government]** Increase funding for public health surveillance and rapid response teams to monitor and control infectious disease outbreaks.
- **[NGO]** Support community-based health education programs to improve understanding and compliance with public health measures.
- **[Industry]** Accelerate research and development of vaccines and treatments for emerging infectious diseases, including H5N1 and MERS.
- **[Media]** Enhance public awareness campaigns to promote vaccination and counter misinformation about vaccines.
- **[International Organizations]** Facilitate global cooperation and resource sharing to strengthen pandemic preparedness and response capabilities.



Pandemics

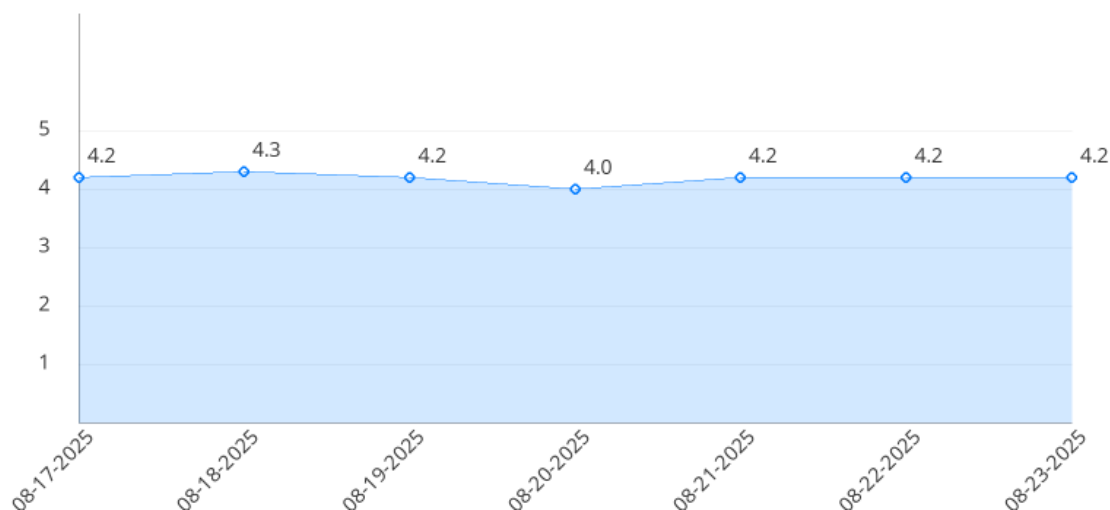
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Information Integrity

Score Trend (Week of August 17–23, 2025)



This week, the misinformation risk remains consistently high, driven by disinformation campaigns and the proliferation of fake news across multiple domains, including politics, health, and climate issues. AI-generated content and allegations of falsified data are exacerbating the situation, impacting public trust and safety. Geopolitical events and public figures are frequently targeted by these campaigns, with counterfeit products posing additional safety risks. The persistent high risk underscores the need for effective countermeasures to address the spread of misinformation and restore public confidence.



Information Integrity

Recommended Risk Reduction Actions

- **[Government]** Implement stricter regulations and penalties for spreading misinformation, particularly in critical areas such as health and elections.
- **[Industry]** Collaborate with tech companies to develop and deploy advanced AI tools for detecting and flagging deepfakes and other forms of manipulated media.
- **[Education]** Integrate media literacy programs into school curricula to equip students with skills to critically evaluate information sources.
- **[NGO]** Launch public awareness campaigns to educate citizens on identifying and reporting misinformation, focusing on critical thinking and media literacy.
- **[International Organizations]** Foster global cooperation to address cross-border misinformation and develop unified strategies to combat it.



Information Integrity

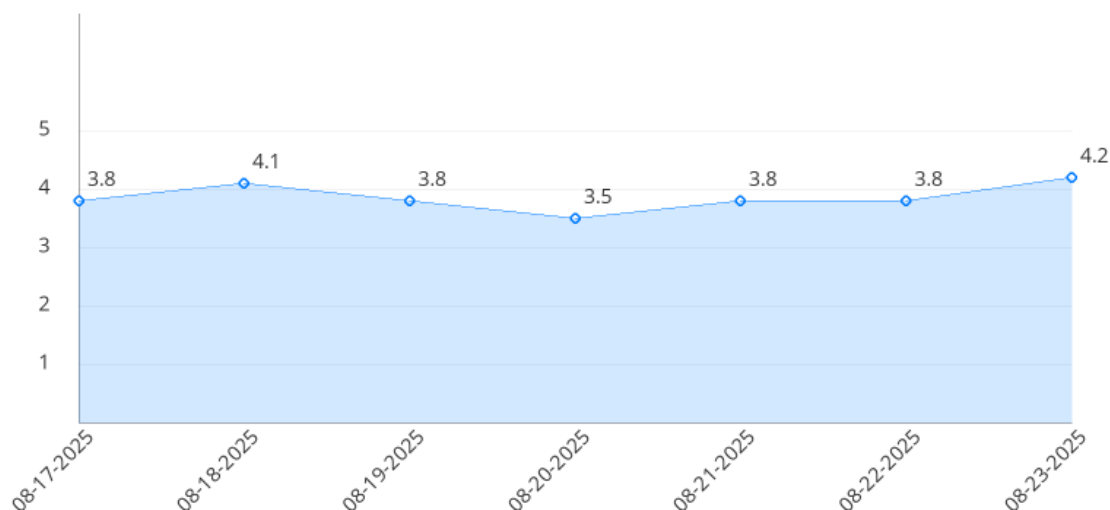
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Unknown / Black Swan

Score Trend (Week of August 17–23, 2025)



This week, several potential Black Swan events have been identified, including geopolitical tensions over water resources in the Nile region, financial instability linked to Bitcoin market fluctuations, and public health threats from zoonotic diseases. The completion of Ethiopia's Grand Renaissance Dam has heightened tensions with Egypt, increasing the risk of conflict over water rights. Concurrently, Bitcoin's volatile market behavior is raising concerns about financial stability. Additionally, unexpected outbreaks of Melioidosis in Hong Kong and Rat Lungworm in Georgia, USA, highlight the potential for ecological and public health disruptions. Lastly, India's aviation safety system is under threat due to critical staffing shortages, posing a significant risk to global air travel safety.



Unknown / Black Swan

Recommended Risk Reduction Actions

- **[Government]** Initiate diplomatic talks between Ethiopia, Egypt, and Sudan to mediate and de-escalate tensions over the Nile water resources.
- **[Industry]** Conduct stress tests to assess the impact of cryptocurrency market volatility on financial stability and prepare regulatory frameworks to mitigate potential systemic risks.
- **[Public Health]** Implement immediate quarantine measures and restrict access to affected areas in Hong Kong to prevent further spread of Melioidosis.
- **[Environmental Agencies]** Implement monitoring and control measures for invasive species in Georgia to prevent the spread of Rat Lungworm.
- **[Aviation Authorities]** Increase funding and resources for India's DGCA to address staffing shortages immediately and ensure global aviation safety.



Unknown / Black Swan

Relevant Articles

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Week in Review: August 17–23, 2025

This week, existential risk trends across the six domains reveal a complex landscape of elevated concerns and emerging challenges. In the nuclear domain, tensions have intensified with increased military activities and nuclear deployments, particularly involving the US, Russia, and North Korea, raising proliferation and conflict risks. The rapid deployment of advanced AI models has sparked discussions about alignment and regulatory challenges, maintaining a moderate risk level. Climate change remains a high-priority issue, with extreme weather events and inadequate policy responses highlighting the need for global cooperation. Pandemic risks fluctuate due to rising COVID-19 activity and emerging infectious diseases, emphasizing the importance of vaccine uptake and misinformation management. Information integrity continues to be compromised by disinformation campaigns, necessitating effective countermeasures. Lastly, potential Black Swan events, such as geopolitical tensions over water resources and financial instability linked to Bitcoin, underscore the need for vigilance across multiple domains.



Closing Notes

Thank you for reviewing this week's Panthrisk report. To stay informed, visit **panthrisk.com** — our dashboard is updated daily with the latest risk levels, GPT summaries, and recommended actions.

If you find this information valuable, please share it with colleagues working to reduce global catastrophic risk. Awareness is the first step toward action.