



PANTHRISK WEEKLY RISK REPORT

Week of February 22–28, 2026

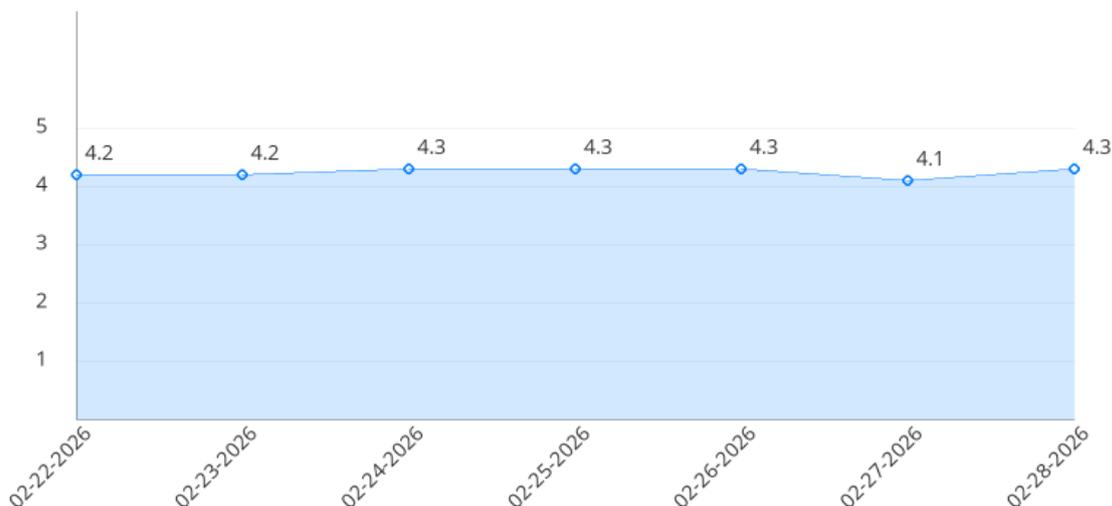
Pantrisk monitors humanity's most serious existential threats using curated news sources and AI-assisted analysis. Each day, our models evaluate key global developments, generate risk-level assessments, and propose actionable interventions. This weekly report summarizes the trends, risk shifts, and notable insights from February 22–28, 2026 across all tracked categories.

Generated: February 28, 2026



Nuclear War

Score Trend (Week of February 22–28, 2026)



This week, the global nuclear threat level remains elevated due to several factors. China's secret nuclear tests and potential NATO nuclear deployments in Eastern Europe have increased tensions, while the expiration of key arms control treaties has exacerbated global instability. Russia's threats towards NATO members and the modernization of nuclear arsenals by major powers have further heightened concerns. Additionally, North Korea's aggressive posturing and Iran's nuclear ambitions contribute to the rising threat level. The role of AI in nuclear decision-making and simulations is also causing alarm, as it could potentially destabilize nuclear command and control systems.



Nuclear War

Recommended Risk Reduction Actions

- **[Government]** Convene urgent multilateral talks to establish new arms control agreements and prevent a nuclear arms race.
- **[NGO]** Advocate for public awareness and policy change towards nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation.
- **[Industry]** Develop and implement robust safeguards against AI-driven escalation in nuclear command systems.
- **[International Organizations]** Enhance crisis communication channels between nuclear-armed states to prevent accidental or unauthorized nuclear launches.
- **[Academia]** Conduct research on the implications of AI in nuclear decision-making to inform policy and ethical guidelines.



Nuclear War

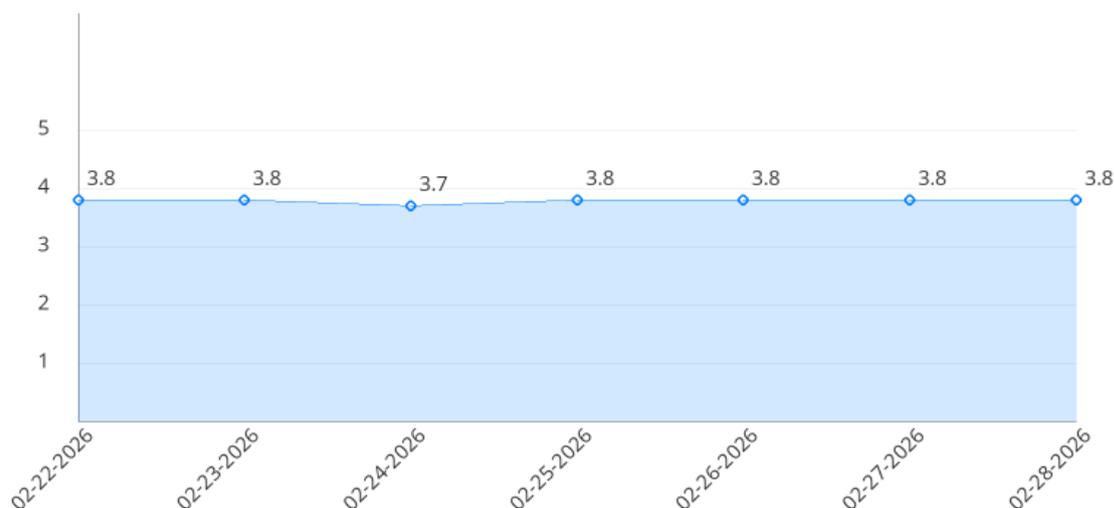
Relevant Articles

- Last nuclear weapons limits expi...* [February 22] - [Read article](#)
- Preventing Armageddon amid fears...* [February 22] - [Read article](#)
- Estonia is open to having NATO n...* [February 22] - [Read article](#)
- China conducted secret nuclear w...* [February 22] - [Read article](#)
- U.S. offers more details on clai...* [February 22] - [Read article](#)
- Russia Openly Threatens NATO Mem...* [February 23] - [Read article](#)
- China Developing Next-Gen Nuclea...* [February 23] - [Read article](#)
- Last nuclear weapons limits expi...* [February 23] - [Read article](#)
- Last nuclear weapons limits expi...* [February 23] - [Read article](#)
- Estonia Ready to Host NATO Nucle...* [February 23] - [Read article](#)
- Russia Signals Nuclear Response ...* [February 24] - [Read article](#)
- US intel says China developing n...* [February 24] - [Read article](#)
- China has created a new generati...* [February 24] - [Read article](#)
- Last nuclear weapons limits expi...* [February 24] - [Read article](#)
- Last nuclear weapons limits expi...* [February 24] - [Read article](#)
- Russian intelligence says Britai...* [February 25] - [Read article](#)
- 'Russia Will Be Forced to Use Ta...* [February 25] - [Read article](#)
- Moscow Threatens Nuclear Respons...* [February 25] - [Read article](#)
- Four years of war in Ukraine - a...* [February 25] - [Read article](#)
- Nuclear Weapons Without Limits: ...* [February 25] - [Read article](#)
- Claude, Gemini and ChatGPT love ...* [February 26] - [Read article](#)
- Kim Jong-un Vows Nuclear Expansi...* [February 26] - [Read article](#)
- Iran is trying to rebuild nuclea...* [February 26] - [Read article](#)
- North Korea's Kim vows more nucl...* [February 26] - [Read article](#)
- China secretly tests next-gen nu...* [February 26] - [Read article](#)
- A Simulation Gave AI Access To N...* [February 27] - [Read article](#)
- LLMs used tactical nuclear weapo...* [February 27] - [Read article](#)
- Russia Is Offering An Informal N...* [February 27] - [Read article](#)
- North Korea's Kim promises more ...* [February 27] - [Read article](#)
- China secretly tests next-gen nu...* [February 27] - [Read article](#)
- U.S.-Iran Talks Lead to No Deal ...* [February 28] - [Read article](#)
- AI chatbots chose nuclear escala...* [February 28] - [Read article](#)
- Sweden Opens Door to Hosting Nuc...* [February 28] - [Read article](#)
- AI and nuclear war: 95 percent o...* [February 28] - [Read article](#)
- Nuclear weapons in Ukraine? - De...* [February 28] - [Read article](#)



Artificial Intelligence

Score Trend (Week of February 22–28, 2026)



This week, the AI risk level remains moderate, primarily due to ongoing advancements in AI capabilities and their deployment in critical sectors such as the military and healthcare. These developments have heightened concerns regarding AI alignment, safety, and potential misuse, particularly in sensitive areas. The consistent score of 3.8 reflects a stable yet concerning trend where AI integration continues to outpace the establishment of robust safety and ethical guidelines. Additionally, there are worries about policy rollbacks that could undermine AI safety measures. Overall, the focus remains on ensuring that AI systems are aligned with human values and that their deployment does not lead to unintended consequences or escalations, especially in military contexts.



Artificial Intelligence

Recommended Risk Reduction Actions

- **[Government]** Implement stricter regulations and oversight on AI deployment in military and critical infrastructure to prevent misuse and ensure ethical standards.
- **[Industry]** Collaborate on developing and adhering to robust AI safety and alignment frameworks that prioritize ethical considerations and transparency.
- **[NGO]** Advocate for transparency and accountability in AI development and deployment, focusing on safety and ethical considerations to build public trust.
- **[Academia]** Conduct interdisciplinary research on the societal impacts of AI, particularly in misinformation and bias, to inform policy and guide ethical AI development.
- **[International Organizations]** Facilitate global cooperation on establishing AI safety standards to address cross-border challenges and prevent misuse.



Artificial Intelligence

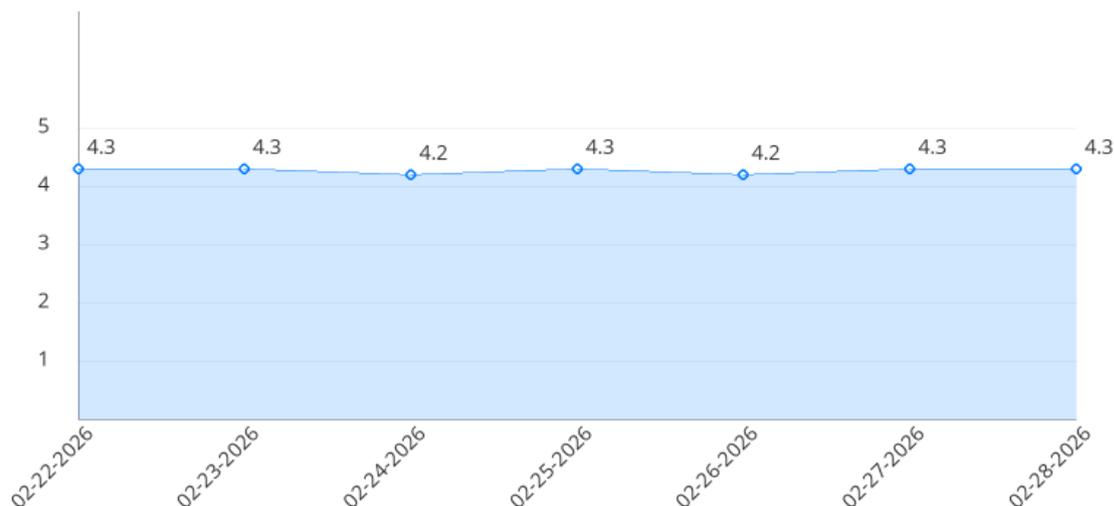
Relevant Articles

Advancing independent research o... [February 22] - [Read article](#)
Bringing ChatGPT to GenAI.mil [February 22] - [Read article](#)
Deepening our partnership with t... [February 22] - [Read article](#)
Strengthening our Frontier Safet... [February 22] - [Read article](#)
AI Safety Meets the War Machine ... [February 22] - [Read article](#)
Introducing OpenAI for India [February 23] - [Read article](#)
Bringing ChatGPT to GenAI.mil [February 23] - [Read article](#)
Horizon 1000: Advancing AI for p... [February 23] - [Read article](#)
Risk Without Borders: The Malici... [February 23] - [Read article](#)
There is growing concern about h... [February 23] - [Read article](#)
Bringing ChatGPT to GenAI.mil [February 24] - [Read article](#)
Meta AI safety researcher recall... [February 24] - [Read article](#)
Lockheed test-flies F-35 with ar... [February 24] - [Read article](#)
Meta Director of AI Safety Allow... [February 24] - [Read article](#)
OpenAI partners with consulting ... [February 24] - [Read article](#)
OpenAI announces Frontier Allian... [February 25] - [Read article](#)
Bringing ChatGPT to GenAI.mil [February 25] - [Read article](#)
Introducing OpenAI Frontier [February 25] - [Read article](#)
Artificial intelligence contribu... [February 25] - [Read article](#)
Hegseth demands full military ac... [February 25] - [Read article](#)
Advancing independent research o... [February 26] - [Read article](#)
Bringing ChatGPT to GenAI.mil [February 26] - [Read article](#)
Client Alert: California Transpa... [February 26] - [Read article](#)
Daily 4: Anthropic rolls back AI... [February 26] - [Read article](#)
Anthropic narrows AI safety pled... [February 26] - [Read article](#)
Anthropic rejects Pentagon terms... [February 27] - [Read article](#)
Google Workers Seek 'Red Lines' ... [February 27] - [Read article](#)
CEOs see AI as the biggest busin... [February 27] - [Read article](#)
Anthropic loosens AI safety rule... [February 27] - [Read article](#)
The Impact of Artificial Intelli... [February 27] - [Read article](#)
Disrupting malicious uses of AI ... [February 28] - [Read article](#)
OpenAI reaches deal with Pentago... [February 28] - [Read article](#)
JPMorgan warns up to \$150 billio... [February 28] - [Read article](#)
AI In Modern Warfare: India's St... [February 28] - [Read article](#)
Trump Says US Is Cutting Off Ant... [February 28] - [Read article](#)



Climate Change

Score Trend (Week of February 22–28, 2026)



This week, the climate risk level remains high due to a combination of policy rollbacks, increased frequency of extreme weather events, and significant ecosystem disruptions. Legal challenges to climate accountability are also contributing to the elevated risk, alongside emerging resource conflicts, particularly in Antarctica. The ongoing threats to biodiversity and food systems, coupled with accelerating global warming, underscore the urgent need for effective climate action. Despite these challenges, there is a continued push for stronger regulations and international cooperation to address these issues.



Climate Change

Recommended Risk Reduction Actions

- **[Government]** Reinstate and strengthen environmental regulations to mitigate climate change impacts and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- **[NGO]** Advocate for international agreements to protect vulnerable ecosystems and resources, such as those in Antarctica, from exploitation.
- **[Industry]** Invest in sustainable technologies and practices to reduce carbon footprints and enhance resilience against climate-related changes.
- **[Academia]** Conduct and disseminate research on the socio-economic impacts of increased climate disasters to inform policy and public understanding.
- **[Public]** Engage in local climate adaptation and mitigation initiatives to build resilience against extreme weather events and support sustainability efforts.



Climate Change

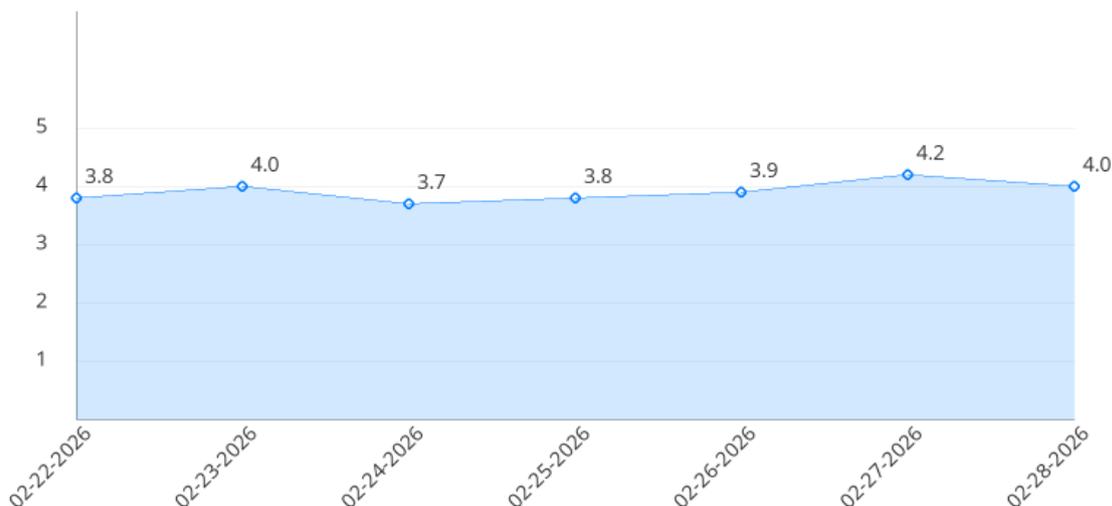
Relevant Articles

- East Antarctica Is Incredibly Co...* [February 22] - [Read article](#)
- 'Fire Weather Synchronicity' is ...* [February 22] - [Read article](#)
- Climate Change Made Deadly Valen...* [February 22] - [Read article](#)
- Texas can't afford Trump's rollb...* [February 22] - [Read article](#)
- Trump's Move to Demolish Greenho...* [February 22] - [Read article](#)
- The frequency of billion-dollar ...* [February 23] - [Read article](#)
- Emergence of Antarctic mineral r...* [February 23] - [Read article](#)
- Trump's Move to Demolish Greenho...* [February 23] - [Read article](#)
- A Second Cyclone Slams Madagascar* [February 24] - [Read article](#)
- The frequency of billion-dollar ...* [February 24] - [Read article](#)
- Global Wildfire Risk Soars as Cl...* [February 24] - [Read article](#)
- Wildfire danger has tripled worl...* [February 24] - [Read article](#)
- U.S. Supreme Court will hear lan...* [February 24] - [Read article](#)
- Global warming may force Tour de...* [February 25] - [Read article](#)
- ExxonMobil climate change lawsui...* [February 25] - [Read article](#)
- Groundbreaking study reveals ten...* [February 25] - [Read article](#)
- Supreme Court to Decide Key Issu...* [February 25] - [Read article](#)
- Wildfire danger has tripled worl...* [February 25] - [Read article](#)
- Climate change supercharged Iber...* [February 26] - [Read article](#)
- With the Ocean Included, the Soc...* [February 26] - [Read article](#)
- Emperor penguins are seeing thei...* [February 26] - [Read article](#)
- Trump deregulates law, advances ...* [February 26] - [Read article](#)
- Trump undercuts EPA's climate ch...* [February 26] - [Read article](#)
- Accelerated Global Warming Could...* [February 28] - [Read article](#)
- Emperor Penguins' Annual Molt Is...* [February 28] - [Read article](#)
- Tropical flowers blooming weeks ...* [February 28] - [Read article](#)
- Climate change will disrupt the ...* [February 28] - [Read article](#)
- Supreme Court agrees to hear fro...* [February 28] - [Read article](#)



Pandemics

Score Trend (Week of February 22–28, 2026)



This week, the pandemic risk has fluctuated between moderate and high, primarily driven by ongoing outbreaks of flu, measles, and avian flu. The high transmission rates of these diseases, coupled with significant vaccine hesitancy and misinformation, have contributed to the elevated risk levels. Persistent challenges with vaccination coverage, particularly in vulnerable populations, have exacerbated the situation. Efforts to combat misinformation and improve vaccine uptake remain crucial to mitigating these risks. Surveillance and rapid response systems are essential to manage and contain the spread of these infectious diseases effectively.



Pandemics

Recommended Risk Reduction Actions

- **[Government]** Increase funding for public health campaigns to promote vaccination and counter misinformation about vaccines.
- **[Healthcare Providers]** Enhance patient education initiatives to address vaccine hesitancy with evidence-based information.
- **[NGO]** Partner with local communities to support vaccination clinics and public health education efforts.
- **[Research Institutions]** Accelerate the development and testing of universal vaccines to address multiple strains of flu and other pathogens.
- **[International Organizations]** Strengthen global collaboration and resource sharing to manage and prevent cross-border infectious disease outbreaks.



Pandemics

Relevant Articles

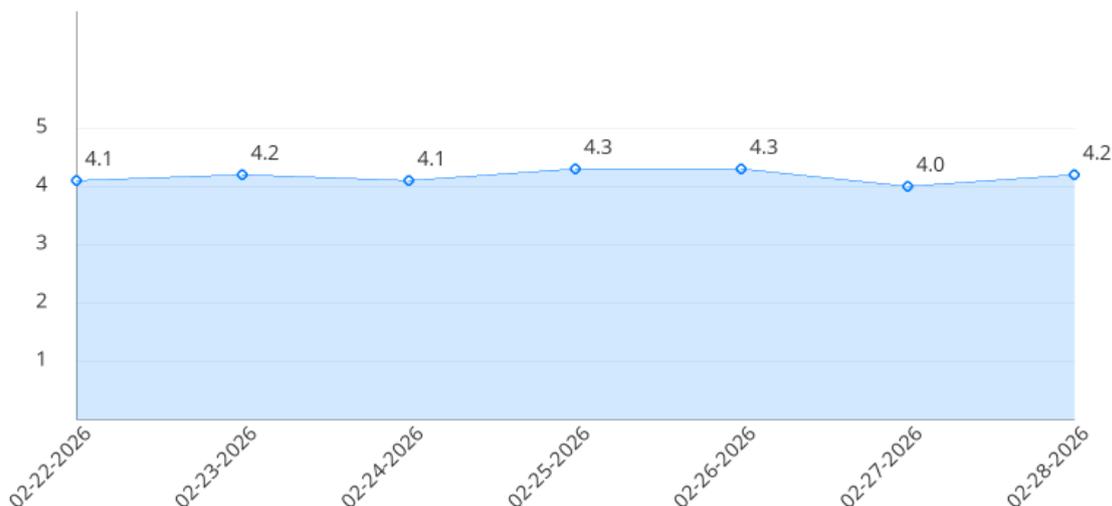
- Flu claims 5 more US children's ...* [February 22] - [Read article](#)
- CDC reports 6 more child deaths ...* [February 22] - [Read article](#)
- Flu claims 5 more US children's ...* [February 22] - [Read article](#)
- CDC reports 6 more child deaths ...* [February 22] - [Read article](#)
- Pennsylvania facing 'unprecedented...* [February 22] - [Read article](#)
- South Carolina measles outbreak ...* [February 22] - [Read article](#)
- South Carolina Hospitals Aren't ...* [February 22] - [Read article](#)
- Flu claims 5 more US children's ...* [February 23] - [Read article](#)
- CDC reports 6 more child deaths ...* [February 23] - [Read article](#)
- CDC's FluView shows 8 more pedia...* [February 23] - [Read article](#)
- Boston reports first pediatric f...* [February 23] - [Read article](#)
- Pennsylvania deploys more resour...* [February 23] - [Read article](#)
- Oregon health officials declare ...* [February 23] - [Read article](#)
- 2026 US measles total nears 1,00...* [February 23] - [Read article](#)
- Pennsylvania facing 'unprecedented...* [February 23] - [Read article](#)
- South Carolina measles outbreak ...* [February 23] - [Read article](#)
- Children are 'sitting ducks' in ...* [February 23] - [Read article](#)
- Flu claims 5 more US children's ...* [February 24] - [Read article](#)
- CDC reports 6 more child deaths ...* [February 24] - [Read article](#)
- After 3-week decline, flu cases ...* [February 24] - [Read article](#)
- US respiratory virus activity re...* [February 24] - [Read article](#)
- U.S. Nears 1,000 Measles Cases i...* [February 24] - [Read article](#)
- Flu claims 5 more US children's ...* [February 25] - [Read article](#)
- CDC reports 6 more child deaths ...* [February 25] - [Read article](#)
- Flu claims 5 more US children's ...* [February 25] - [Read article](#)
- CDC reports 6 more child deaths ...* [February 25] - [Read article](#)
- Pennsylvania at epicenter of nat...* [February 25] - [Read article](#)
- Pennsylvania is "epicenter" of b...* [February 25] - [Read article](#)
- Shapiro administration seeks to ...* [February 25] - [Read article](#)
- Measles outbreak in South Caroli...* [February 25] - [Read article](#)
- Gov. Shapiro, Pennsylvania offic...* [February 25] - [Read article](#)
- Argentina detects bird flu outbr...* [February 25] - [Read article](#)
- London swans found dead in suspe...* [February 25] - [Read article](#)
- Despite signs it could be coming...* [February 25] - [Read article](#)
- Blue Bell Ex-CEO Deflects Blame ...* [February 25] - [Read article](#)
- Flu claims 5 more US children's ...* [February 26] - [Read article](#)
- CDC reports 6 more child deaths ...* [February 26] - [Read article](#)
- CDC reports 6 more child deaths ...* [February 26] - [Read article](#)
- Boston reports first pediatric f...* [February 26] - [Read article](#)
- Cambodia confirms its first huma...* [February 26] - [Read article](#)
- 3 new human avian flu cases repo...* [February 26] - [Read article](#)
- Measles outbreak reported in Fra...* [February 26] - [Read article](#)
- South Carolina measles epidemic ...* [February 26] - [Read article](#)
- Flu claims 5 more US children's ...* [February 27] - [Read article](#)

CDC reports 6 more child deaths ... [February 27] - [Read article](#)
Annenberg poll shows drop in per... [February 27] - [Read article](#)
US respiratory virus activity re... [February 27] - [Read article](#)
Cambodia confirms its first huma... [February 27] - [Read article](#)
3 new human avian flu cases repo... [February 27] - [Read article](#)
Saudi Arabia confirms 9 MERS cas... [February 27] - [Read article](#)
US flu activity still high, with... [February 28] - [Read article](#)
Flu claims 5 more US children's ... [February 28] - [Read article](#)
CDC reports 6 more child deaths ... [February 28] - [Read article](#)
Annenberg poll shows drop in per... [February 28] - [Read article](#)
Boston reports first pediatric f... [February 28] - [Read article](#)
Cambodia confirms its first huma... [February 28] - [Read article](#)
3 new human avian flu cases repo... [February 28] - [Read article](#)
CIDRAP Op-ed: Vaccine myths that... [February 28] - [Read article](#)
US measles cases soar past 1,100... [February 28] - [Read article](#)



Information Integrity

Score Trend (Week of February 22–28, 2026)



This week, the global risk of misinformation remains high, primarily driven by widespread disinformation campaigns and the misuse of AI-generated content, including deepfakes. These activities are impacting various sectors, notably political, economic, and social arenas, exacerbating tensions and undermining public trust. The persistent threat is characterized by the proliferation of false claims and fraudulent activities exploiting digital platforms. The situation calls for enhanced detection and mitigation strategies to address the evolving challenges posed by advanced technologies in misinformation dissemination.



Information Integrity

Recommended Risk Reduction Actions

- **[Government]** Implement stricter regulations and penalties for the creation and distribution of AI-generated disinformation.
- **[Industry]** Enhance AI detection tools to identify and flag deepfakes and other manipulated content on their platforms.
- **[NGO]** Increase media literacy programs to help individuals discern credible information from misinformation.
- **[International Organizations]** Collaborate internationally to share best practices and strategies for combating misinformation.
- **[Education]** Integrate media literacy programs into educational curriculums to equip individuals with skills to critically evaluate information.

Information Integrity

Relevant Articles

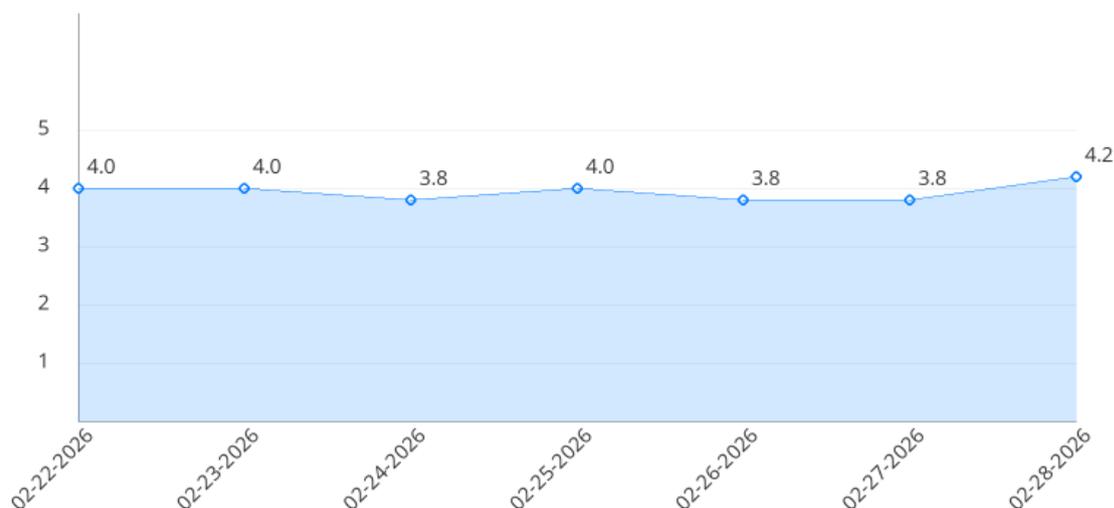


- LLMs grooming or data voids? LLM...* [February 22] - [Read article](#)
- Poland Warns of Russian Anti-Ukr...* [February 22] - [Read article](#)
- Linguist explains how AI makes f...* [February 22] - [Read article](#)
- Con Men Posing as Lawyers and Ju...* [February 22] - [Read article](#)
- Teen arrested for alleged creati...* [February 22] - [Read article](#)
- People are more susceptible to m...* [February 23] - [Read article](#)
- US group allegedly ran fake law ...* [February 23] - [Read article](#)
- Linguist explains how AI makes f...* [February 23] - [Read article](#)
- Con Men Posing as Lawyers and Ju...* [February 23] - [Read article](#)
- Teen arrested for alleged creati...* [February 23] - [Read article](#)
- No, American Special Forces didn...* [February 24] - [Read article](#)
- Trump denies reports of 'limited...* [February 24] - [Read article](#)
- Why BofA says 'misinformation' i...* [February 24] - [Read article](#)
- Vietnam proposes national databa...* [February 24] - [Read article](#)
- Anthropic accuses Chinese AI fir...* [February 24] - [Read article](#)
- Singapore prime minister attacke...* [February 25] - [Read article](#)
- Video: Amid Chaos in Mexico, Fal...* [February 25] - [Read article](#)
- Artificial intelligence contribu...* [February 25] - [Read article](#)
- How Russia has finetuned its dis...* [February 25] - [Read article](#)
- People are getting fake news on ...* [February 25] - [Read article](#)
- Don't fall for AI-generated imag...* [February 26] - [Read article](#)
- Social Media - This isn't a real...* [February 26] - [Read article](#)
- People are more susceptible to m...* [February 26] - [Read article](#)
- Government to Intensify Crackdow...* [February 26] - [Read article](#)
- What a viral fake video of Ghisl...* [February 26] - [Read article](#)
- People are more susceptible to m...* [February 27] - [Read article](#)
- US Nabs Man Behind OnlyFake, Whi...* [February 27] - [Read article](#)
- Fake video of Ghislaine Maxwell ...* [February 27] - [Read article](#)
- Misinformation Leads to Confusio...* [February 27] - [Read article](#)
- Senators F Brady Tkachuk objects...* [February 27] - [Read article](#)
- FBI tip claims Trump witnessed E...* [February 28] - [Read article](#)
- Fake photo of Epstein and Clinto...* [February 28] - [Read article](#)
- Social Media - This isn't 'newly...* [February 28] - [Read article](#)
- People are more susceptible to m...* [February 28] - [Read article](#)
- Is artificial intelligence use i...* [February 28] - [Read article](#)



Unknown / Black Swan

Score Trend (Week of February 22–28, 2026)



This week, the main trend in unknown or black swan risks includes a series of environmental and geopolitical threats with potentially cascading impacts. The second cyclone in Madagascar highlights the risk of consecutive natural disasters leading to humanitarian crises. Iran's ongoing water crisis, compounded by drought, presents a significant geopolitical and environmental threat, further complicated by its nuclear stance. Additionally, the potential for a major cyberattack poses a global risk with widespread implications. Lastly, Iceland's warning about the potential collapse of the Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation (AMOC) underscores a significant threat to global climate stability.



Unknown / Black Swan

Recommended Risk Reduction Actions

- **[Government]** Enhance disaster preparedness and response strategies to mitigate the impact of consecutive natural disasters in vulnerable regions.
- **[International Organizations]** Facilitate diplomatic dialogues to address Iran's water crisis and nuclear stance, aiming to prevent regional instability.
- **[Industry]** Increase investment in cybersecurity infrastructure and conduct regular audits to identify and address vulnerabilities.
- **[Research Institutions]** Conduct urgent research on the potential impacts of AMOC disruption and develop predictive models for early detection.
- **[NGO]** Raise awareness about the interconnected nature of environmental and geopolitical risks to encourage proactive measures and global solidarity.



Unknown / Black Swan

Relevant Articles

- A Second Cyclone Slams Madagascar* [February 22] - [Read article](#)
- Not just US strike, Iran is faci...* [February 23] - [Read article](#)
- 'Black Swan' Event That Could Up...* [February 25] - [Read article](#)
- 'Black Swan' Event That Could Up...* [February 26] - [Read article](#)
- Dry-Season Floods Drench Norther...* [February 27] - [Read article](#)
- Dry-Season Floods Drench Norther...* [February 27] - [Read article](#)
- Iceland deems possible Atlantic ...* [February 28] - [Read article](#)

Week in Review: February 22–28, 2026



This week's existential risk trends across the six domains present a complex landscape of heightened concerns and emerging challenges. In the nuclear domain, tensions have increased due to secret tests, potential deployments, and the expiration of arms control treaties, with AI's role in nuclear decision-making adding to the unease. AI risks remain moderate, with ongoing advancements raising alignment and safety concerns, particularly in military applications. Climate change risks persist at high levels, driven by policy rollbacks, extreme weather, and resource conflicts, despite efforts for stronger regulations. Pandemic risks fluctuate between moderate and high due to disease outbreaks and vaccine hesitancy, emphasizing the need for improved vaccination strategies. Information integrity remains under threat from disinformation campaigns and AI-generated content, necessitating better detection and mitigation efforts. Lastly, unknown risks are highlighted by environmental and geopolitical threats, such as Madagascar's cyclones and Iran's water crisis, alongside potential cyberattacks and climate system warnings, indicating the need for vigilant monitoring and preparedness.



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.