



PANTHRISK WEEKLY RISK REPORT

Week of May 10–16, 2026

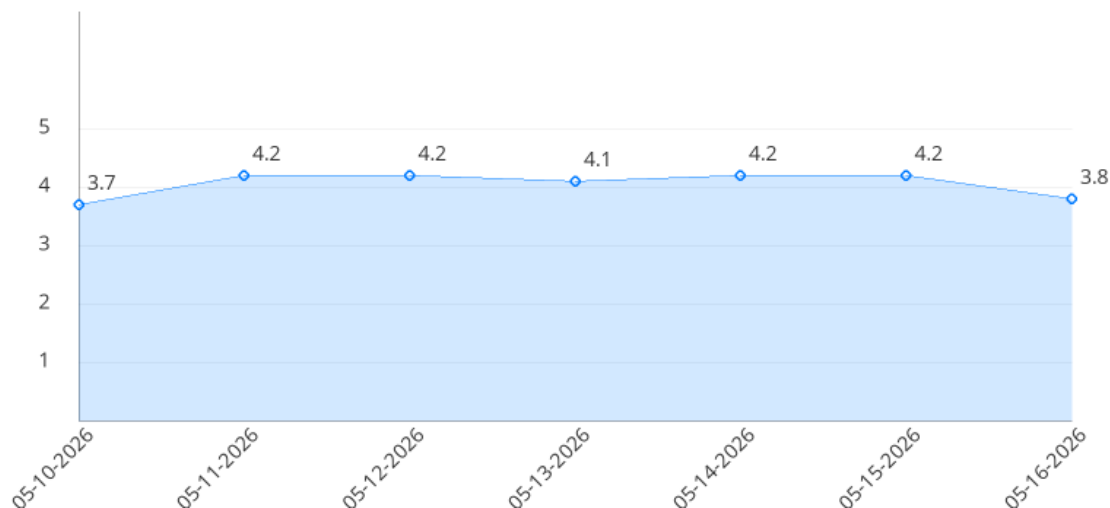
Pantrisk monitors humanity's most serious existential threats using curated news sources and AI-assisted analysis. Each day, our models evaluate key global developments, generate risk-level assessments, and propose actionable interventions. This weekly report summarizes the trends, risk shifts, and notable insights from May 10–16, 2026 across all tracked categories.

Generated: May 16, 2026



Nuclear War

Score Trend (Week of May 10–16, 2026)



This week, the nuclear threat level remains elevated primarily due to North Korea's aggressive stance on nuclear weapons, including constitutional changes that grant Kim Jong-un formal control over the country's nuclear arsenal. The rejection of non-proliferation treaties by North Korea, coupled with ongoing modernization of nuclear arsenals globally, has exacerbated tensions. Additionally, geopolitical tensions involving Iran's nuclear capabilities and its interactions with Israel have further heightened the risk. The breakdown of traditional diplomatic channels and treaties has also contributed to the increased threat level. However, a recent consensus between the US and China on preventing Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons suggests potential avenues for diplomatic engagement.



Nuclear War

Recommended Risk Reduction Actions

- **[Government]** Convene urgent multilateral talks to address North Korea's nuclear stance and explore diplomatic solutions.
- **[International Organizations]** Strengthen verification mechanisms and transparency measures to build trust and reduce the risk of nuclear proliferation.
- **[NGO]** Advocate for increased public awareness and education on the consequences of nuclear weapons use and proliferation.
- **[Industry]** Invest in technologies that improve the detection and monitoring of nuclear activities globally.
- **[Diplomatic Bodies]** Enhance crisis communication protocols and establish clear lines of communication between nuclear powers to prevent accidental escalation.



Nuclear War

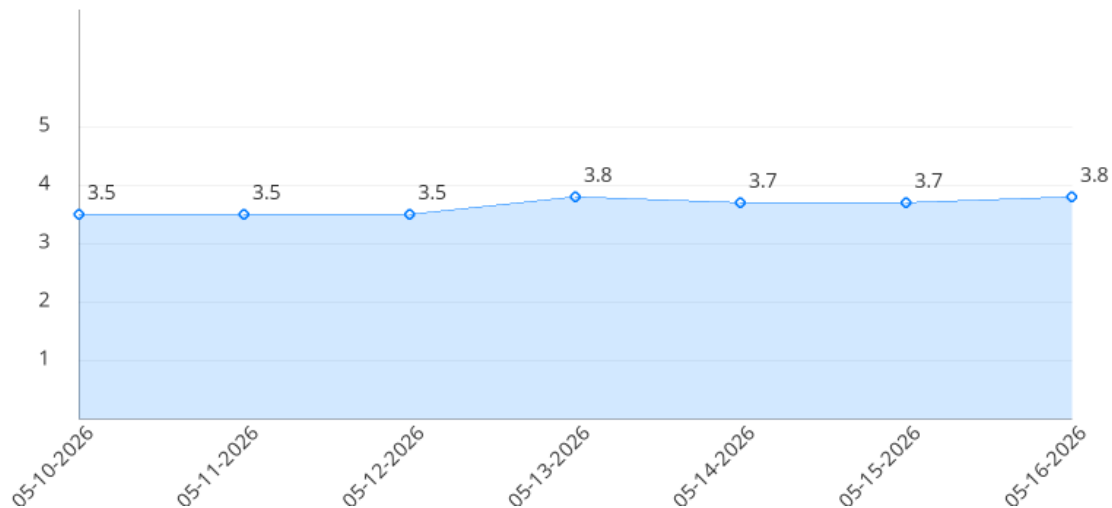
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- North Korea changes constitution...* [May 14] - [Read article](#)
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- US energy secretary says Iran is...* [May 16] - [Read article](#)
- US ramps nuclear weapons product...* [May 16] - [Read article](#)
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- Trump-Xi Summit: US and China ag...* [May 16] - [Read article](#)

Artificial Intelligence



Score Trend (Week of May 10–16, 2026)



This week, the risk associated with Artificial Intelligence remains moderate, driven by rapid advancements in AI capabilities and deployment. Key concerns include alignment, cybersecurity, and the concentration of power, alongside geopolitical tensions and regulatory challenges. Efforts are ongoing to address safety and ethical challenges, with international discussions highlighting the need for cooperation on AI safety. The potential for misuse and the challenges of ensuring AI systems align with human values are central to the discourse. The focus is on developing robust safety measures, transparency, and international collaboration to mitigate these risks.



Artificial Intelligence

Recommended Risk Reduction Actions

- **[Government]** Implement comprehensive AI regulations that address both immediate and long-term risks, ensuring alignment with ethical standards.
- **[Industry]** Develop and adhere to robust ethical guidelines for AI research and deployment, focusing on transparency and accountability.
- **[NGO]** Advocate for international collaboration on AI safety standards to address global risks and prevent misuse.
- **[Academia]** Conduct interdisciplinary research on AI alignment and safety to develop frameworks that guide ethical AI deployment.
- **[Public]** Increase awareness and education on AI risks and benefits to foster informed discussions and decision-making at all societal levels.



Artificial Intelligence

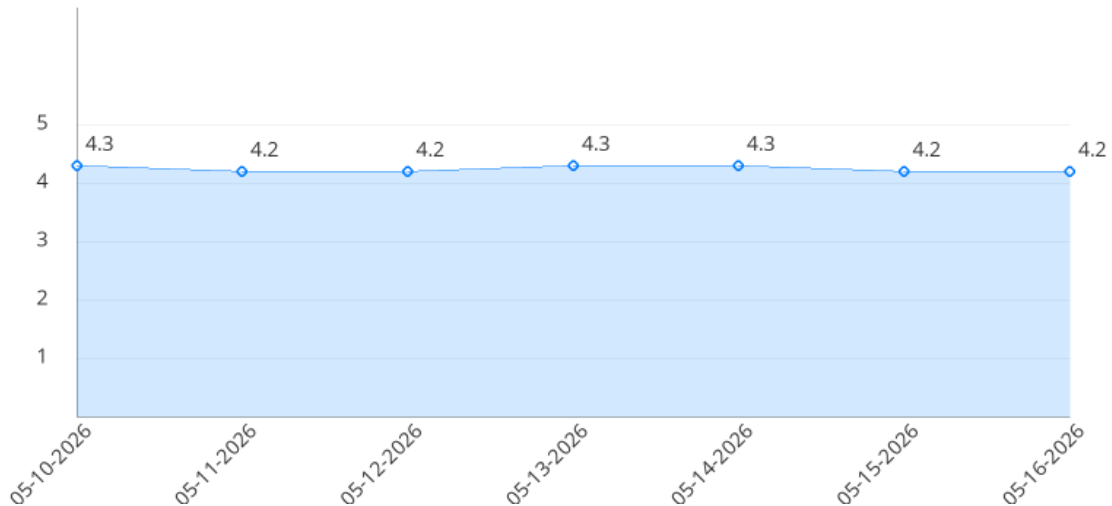
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- Companies cutting jobs as invest...* [May 14] - [Read article](#)
- Ready Or Not, AI Government Is A...* [May 14] - [Read article](#)
- OpenAI urges global AI safety fr...* [May 14] - [Read article](#)
- SAN FRANCISCO / NEW YORK – Micro...* [May 14] - [Read article](#)
- Trump and Xi Should Tackle a Pre...* [May 14] - [Read article](#)
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- Polis immediately signs regulato...* [May 15] - [Read article](#)
- Gov. Jared Polis signs new law r...* [May 15] - [Read article](#)
- Spies, Sanctions, Cyberattacks: ...* [May 16] - [Read article](#)
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- Illinois Senate Democrats introd...* [May 16] - [Read article](#)

Climate Change



Score Trend (Week of May 10–16, 2026)



This week, climate risks remain high due to a combination of factors including accelerating sea level rise, record low Antarctic sea ice, and extreme weather events exacerbated by climate change. The situation is further intensified by the impending 'super' El Niño, rising ocean temperatures, and unprecedented global wildfires. Biodiversity shifts and increased disease outbreaks are also contributing to the high risk levels. Policy challenges and setbacks in addressing these issues continue to pose significant obstacles to effective climate action. Overall, the persistent high risk scores highlight the urgent need for comprehensive and coordinated global efforts to mitigate and adapt to climate change impacts.



Climate Change

Recommended Risk Reduction Actions

- **[Government]** Implement and enforce stricter emissions regulations to mitigate climate change impacts.
- **[NGO]** Increase public awareness campaigns on the impacts of biodiversity loss and its connection to climate change.
- **[Industry]** Invest in sustainable practices and technologies to reduce carbon footprints.
- **[Research Institutions]** Conduct further studies on the socio-economic impacts of climate change to inform policy.
- **[Community Organizations]** Engage in local climate adaptation and mitigation initiatives to build resilience.



Climate Change

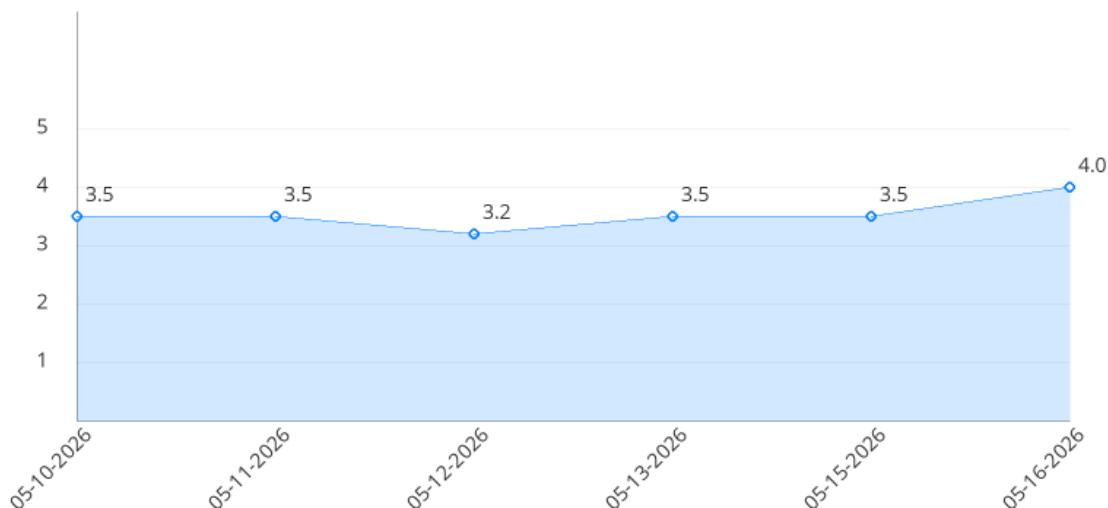
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- Once Insect-Free Iceland Now See...* [May 13] - [Read article](#)
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Pandemics

Score Trend (Week of May 10–16, 2026)



This week, the pandemic risk level has been consistently moderate, with a notable increase to high on May 16 due to Ebola outbreaks in the Democratic Republic of Congo and hantavirus cases linked to a cruise ship. The ongoing challenges include outbreaks of COVID-19, flu, avian flu, and hantavirus, compounded by vaccine hesitancy and misinformation. The persistence of these issues highlights the need for improved public health communication and response strategies. The situation underscores the importance of enhancing surveillance, promoting vaccine uptake, and ensuring rapid response capabilities to manage these infectious disease threats effectively.



Pandemics

Recommended Risk Reduction Actions

- **[Government]** Enhance public health communication strategies to effectively counter misinformation and improve vaccine uptake.
- **[NGO]** Support community-based education programs to raise awareness about the importance of vaccinations and preventive health measures.
- **[Industry]** Accelerate the development and distribution of combination vaccines to address multiple pathogens simultaneously.
- **[Healthcare]** Strengthen infection control measures in high-risk environments like cruise ships and healthcare facilities.
- **[Global Organizations]** Enhance cross-border surveillance and response coordination for Ebola and other high-risk pathogens.



Pandemics

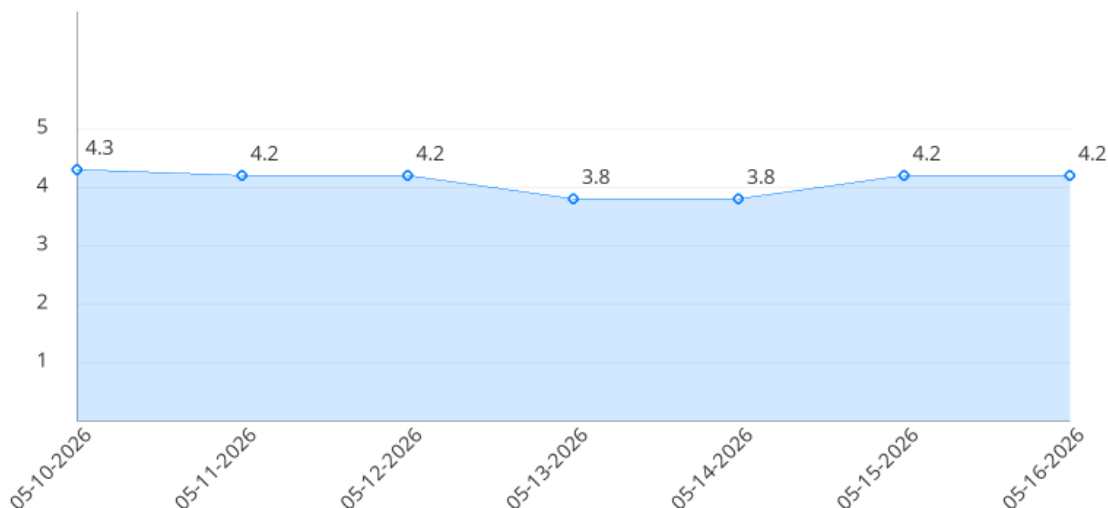
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- At least 8 sickened in suspected...* [May 13] - [Read article](#)
- The Hantavirus Outbreak Is Resur...* [May 13] - [Read article](#)
- Antiviral ensitrelvir cuts risk ...* [May 15] - [Read article](#)
- Many older adults who died of CO...* [May 15] - [Read article](#)
- COVID vaccines tied to less hosp...* [May 15] - [Read article](#)
- RSV tied to high complication, d...* [May 15] - [Read article](#)
- Hantavirus Doesn't Spread Easily...* [May 15] - [Read article](#)
- New Ebola outbreak hits Democrat...* [May 16] - [Read article](#)
- WHO officials on hantavirus case...* [May 16] - [Read article](#)
- Vaccine skepticism now the norm ...* [May 16] - [Read article](#)
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- New Ebola outbreak leaves 65 dea...* [May 16] - [Read article](#)



Information Integrity

Score Trend (Week of May 10–16, 2026)



This week, the misinformation risk has consistently been high, with scores fluctuating between 4.2 and 4.3, except for a brief dip to a moderate level of 3.8. The primary concerns have been false claims related to health, political events, and the use of AI in generating deceptive content. Disinformation campaigns, fake news, and scams have been particularly impactful, affecting elections, social trust, and public safety. Despite a slight reduction in risk mid-week, the overall trend indicates a persistent threat across multiple sectors globally, necessitating ongoing vigilance and intervention strategies.



Information Integrity

Recommended Risk Reduction Actions

- **[Government]** Implement stricter regulations and penalties for spreading misinformation, especially during election periods and in health-related contexts.
- **[Industry]** Enhance AI-driven detection tools and human oversight to identify and remove fake content and accounts more effectively on social media platforms.
- **[NGO]** Collaborate with fact-checking organizations to provide real-time verification of viral claims and disseminate verified information to counteract falsehoods.
- **[Education]** Integrate media literacy programs into curricula to equip students with skills to critically assess information and identify misinformation.
- **[Public Health]** Proactively communicate accurate health information and counteract false claims about diseases and treatments through public awareness campaigns.



Information Integrity

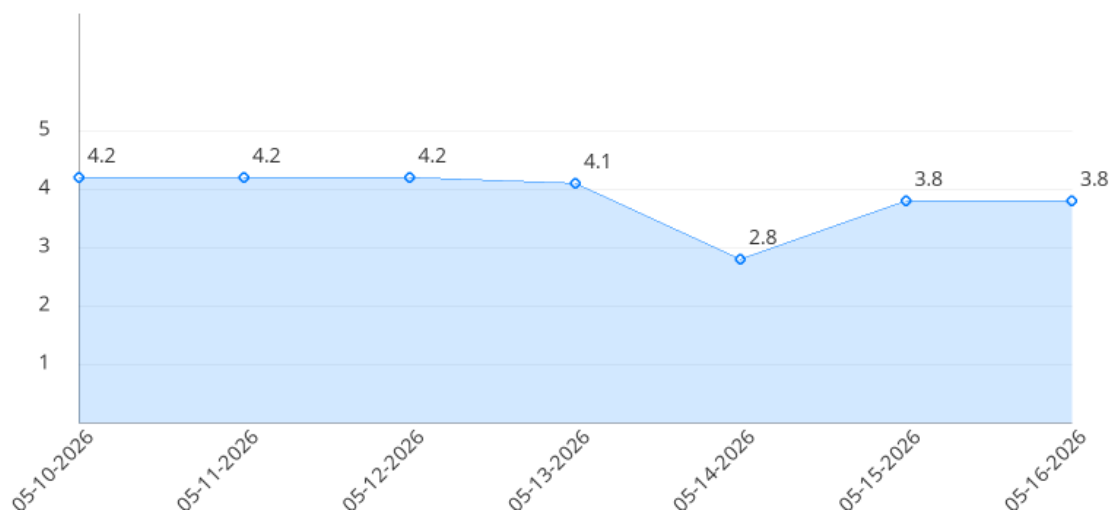
Relevant Articles

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Unknown / Black Swan

Score Trend (Week of May 10–16, 2026)



This week, significant geopolitical tensions have emerged as a primary concern, particularly in the Middle East and between Venezuela and Guyana over the Esequibo region. These tensions pose a substantial risk of regional conflicts and broader geopolitical instability, potentially affecting global air travel and economies. Concurrently, the rise of quantum computing presents a Black Swan risk to the security of Bitcoin and the stability of global financial systems. The potential for quantum computing to undermine existing cryptographic standards introduces significant uncertainty and necessitates urgent attention. Sustaining diplomacy amid US-China competition also highlights the potential for unexpected geopolitical shifts, although this is currently less pressing than the other risks.



Unknown / Black Swan

Recommended Risk Reduction Actions

- **[Government]** Increase diplomatic efforts to de-escalate tensions in the Middle East and between Venezuela and Guyana to prevent regional conflicts.
- **[Industry]** Develop contingency plans for potential disruptions in global air travel due to escalating geopolitical tensions.
- **[Academia]** Accelerate research into quantum-resistant cryptographic algorithms to safeguard digital currencies against emerging quantum threats.
- **[NGO]** Facilitate dialogue and mediation efforts to find peaceful resolutions to territorial disputes and geopolitical tensions.
- **[Finance]** Prepare for potential rapid shifts in cryptocurrency markets by developing strategies to mitigate the impact of quantum advancements.



Unknown / Black Swan

Relevant Articles

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Week in Review: May 10–16, 2026



This week, existential risk trends across the six domains show a range of concerns, with nuclear war risks remaining elevated due to North Korea's aggressive nuclear policies and geopolitical tensions involving Iran. In the realm of Artificial Intelligence, the moderate risk level persists, driven by rapid technological advancements and the need for international cooperation on safety and ethical standards. Climate change risks are high, exacerbated by extreme weather events and policy challenges, underscoring the urgency for coordinated global action. Pandemic risks have fluctuated, with a notable spike due to Ebola and hantavirus outbreaks, highlighting the importance of robust public health strategies. Information integrity remains a significant concern, with misinformation impacting various sectors, despite a brief mid-week risk reduction. Lastly, geopolitical tensions and the rise of quantum computing present emerging risks, particularly regarding regional conflicts and potential threats to cryptographic security.



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.