



Munich Security Index 2026

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Since 2021, the MSC and Kekst CNC have collected data to answer core questions that help us to understand perceptions of risks across the globe. Do people think that the world is becoming a riskier place? Is there a global consensus on some of the grave risks that humanity is facing today? And how prepared do societies feel to tackle these threats? Combining five metrics, the index provides an in-depth view of how 11 countries – the G7 countries and the BICS countries (BRICS countries minus Russia) – perceive the seriousness of 32 major risks over time.

Reflecting current developments in US foreign policy, respondents across nearly all the G7 and BICS countries – except Japan and China – now see the United States as a more serious risk than last year ([Figure 1.8](#)). This represents a continuation of a trend that was already evident in last year’s edition of the Munich Security Index (MSI) after Donald Trump’s election, when perceptions of the seriousness of the US as a risk surged. In all G7 countries, except the United Kingdom and Japan, the risk perceived to have risen the most is the risk associated with the United States. Moreover, the risk due to trade wars is now perceived as much more serious than last year ([Figure 1.8](#)) and is ranked higher than ever across the G7 and BICS countries ([Figure 1.9](#) and [Figure 1.10](#)). Yet, while the perceived seriousness of the US and trade wars as risks has risen sharply, in most other countries, many other risks are still perceived as much more serious.

While still ranked as a significantly greater risk than it was in 2021, the perceived seriousness of Russia as a risk has declined across all surveyed countries since last year’s survey – in particular among G7 countries ([Figure 1.8](#)). Among the G7 countries, Russia has dropped from the second to the eighth most serious risk out of all 32 risks rated by the respondents ([Figure 1.9](#)). In the BICS group of countries, Russia has always been ranked as one of the least serious risks in any of the iterations of the MSI since 2021 ([Figure 1.10](#)). Hence, in line with last year’s survey, the G7 and BICS countries remain polarized on whether Russia is perceived as a serious risk.

Against the backdrop of numerous dramatic political and economic crises dominating the global agenda, environmental risks have come to be perceived as less imminent. Although the actual costs of global warming are rapidly increasing, the share of respondents who perceive extreme weather and forest fires and climate change as imminent risks to their country has

been declining throughout G7 and BICS countries since the first edition of the MSI in 2021, reaching a new low in 2025 ([Figure 1.13](#)).

Nonetheless, respondents in the BICS countries continue to rank environmental risks as the top risks to their country – a pattern unchanged since 2021 ([Figure 1.10](#)). In contrast, among G7 countries, environmental risks have gradually diminished in their ranking in recent years. Instead, cyberattacks, an economic or financial crisis, and disinformation campaigns from enemies have come to be ranked as the most serious risks in the G7 countries ([Figure 1.9](#)).

Overall, in most countries, the majority of risks are perceived as less serious than last year ([Figure 1.8](#)). However, the opposite trend is evident in the United Kingdom, the United States, and India, where more risks are now considered more serious than last year. In the United States, there have been particularly pronounced increases in the perceived seriousness of risks related to the country's economic and political situation – for example, food shortages, the breakdown of democracy, rising inequality, economic or financial crisis, civil war or political violence, and trade wars.

In most countries, people now see more countries as threats than they did last year ([Figure 1.12](#)). Evaluations of the US stand out: Respondents in all surveyed countries see the US as more threatening than last year. Yet, in absolute terms, Russia continues to be seen as considerably more of a threat than the US across all surveyed countries – with China and India being clear exceptions ([Figure 1.11](#)).

Explaining the Index

Information on survey methodology

This year's edition of the MSI is based on representative samples of around 1,000 people from each G7 and BICS nation. The total sample was 11,099 people. Polling was conducted between November 5 and 25, 2025, using industry-leading online panels. The local surveys were carried out by trusted and reputable fieldwork partners in compliance with the European Society for Opinion and Market Research code. The target population was the adult population of each surveyed country. Respondents were selected according to stratified quotas for gender, age, residency, formal education, and income to ensure representativeness. The final data was then weighted to exactly match the quotas. The margin of error is 3.1 percent. Polling in autocracies is always challenging, as respondents may not feel that they can freely express their views. The results from China should therefore be interpreted with caution.

Index components

The Munich Security Index combines five key dimensions and gives equal weight to each dimension. The index measures the seriousness of a risk consisting of five dimensions, each captured by a separate question.



How great a risk do the following things pose to your country?

- Answer scale: 0–10 (with 0 being the least serious and 10 the greatest risk)

Please say for each of the following whether you think the risk posed in your country will increase, decrease, or stay the same in the next year.

- Answer scale: 1 (increase a lot), 2 (increase a little), 3 (stay the same), 4 (decrease a little), 5 (decrease a lot)
- Rescaled to 0–10 and reversed

For each of the following, please say how bad you think the damage would be in your country if it were to happen or become a major risk.

- Answer scale: 0–10 (with 0 being very low and 10 very severe damage)

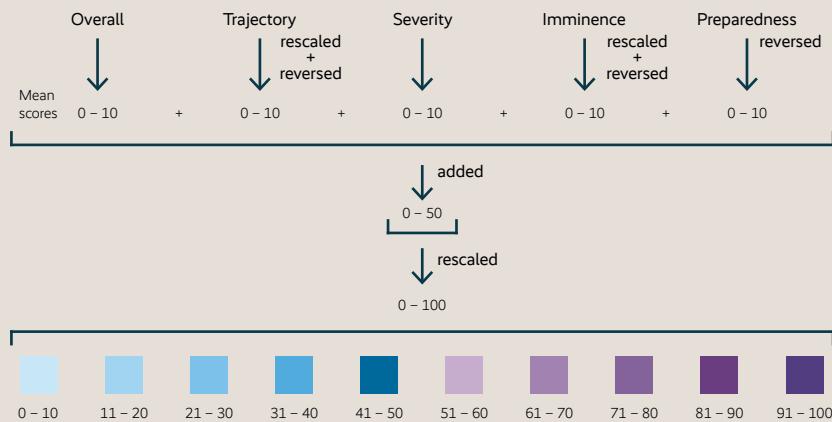
For each of the following, please say when, if at all, you think it is likely to happen or become a major risk.

- Answer scale: 1 (now or in the next few months), 2 (in the next year), 3 (in the next five years), 4 (in the next 10 years), 5 (in the next 20 years), 6 (in the next 30 years), 7 (later than 30 years), 8 (never likely to happen)
- Rescaled to 0–10 and reversed

For each of the following, please say how prepared your country is to deal with this threat.

- Answer scale: 0–10 (with 0 being the least and 10 the most prepared)
- Reversed

To compute the final risk index score for each risk in each country, we add the mean scores for all five of the inputs above – overall risk, trajectory, severity, imminence, and preparedness. The resulting total is then rescaled to run from 0 to 100 for ease of interpretation. The final risk index score is an absolute figure (with 100 being the highest and 0 the lowest possible risk index score) that can be compared between demographics, countries, and over time.



In addition to a risk heatmap (page 40) that features the G7 countries, Brazil, China, India, and South Africa and how they score on each of the 32 risks covered, the index also includes an overview of how risk perceptions have changed over time (pages 41–43) as well as an overview of how countries perceive other states (page 55). The index also provides more detailed insights into the individual risk profiles of the countries surveyed (pages 44–54).

	Index score	Change in index score	Share thinking risk is imminent	Share feeling unprepared	Country profiles
Extreme weather and forest fires	71	+10	63	28	
Climate change generally	69	+9	58	28	
Destruction of natural habitats	69	+7	60	29	

Change in index score

Change in the risk index score since the last Munich Security Index was published. The last edition of the index was based on surveys conducted in November 2024.

Share thinking risk is imminent

This shows the percentage of respondents who selected “now or in the next few months,” “in the next year,” or “in the next 5 years” in answer to the question “For each of the following please say when, if at all, you think it is likely to happen or become a major risk.”

Share feeling unprepared

This is the percentage of respondents who rated their country’s preparedness as less than 4 on a 0–10 scale in answer to the question “For each of the following, please say how prepared your country is to deal with this threat.”

Figure 1.7
The risk heatmap, November 2025, index scores

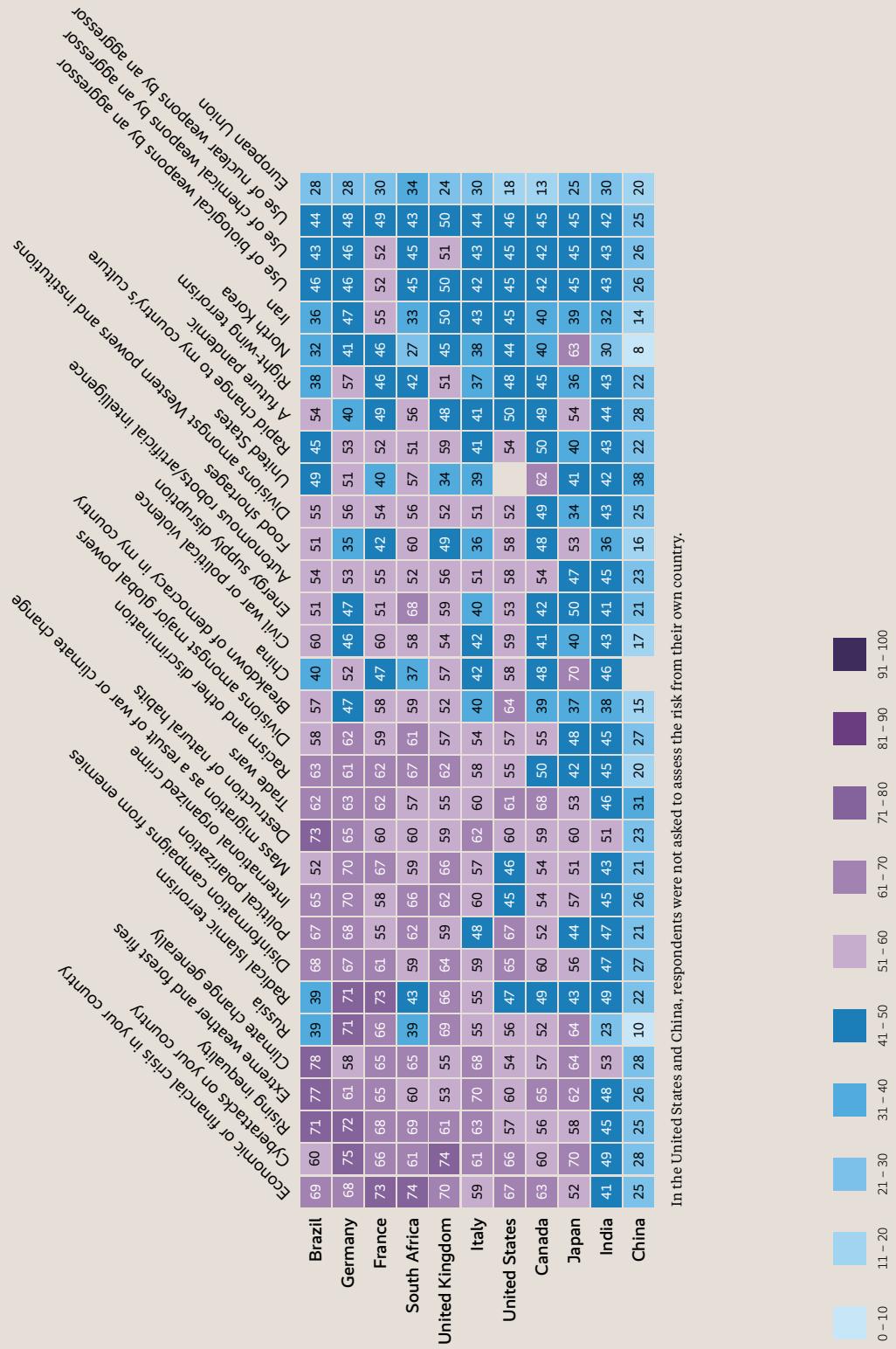
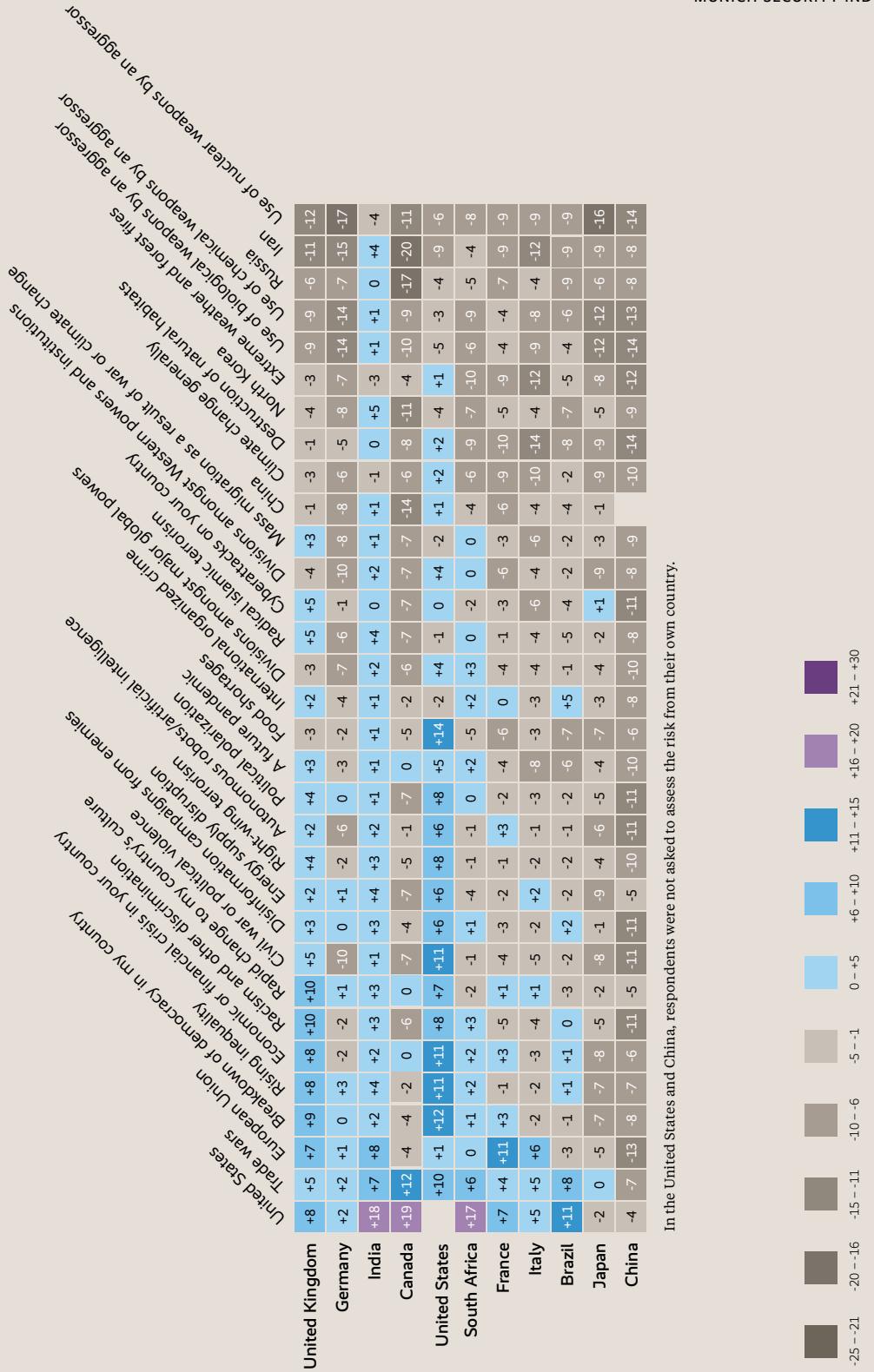


Figure 1.8 The change heatmap, November 2025, change in index scores since November 2024



in the United States and China, respondents were not asked to assess the risk from their own country.

Data and illustration: Kekst CNC, commissioned by the Munich Security Conference

Figure 1.9 The G7 risk bump chart, aggregate ranking of risks by the G7 countries, 2021, 2022, 2024, 2025

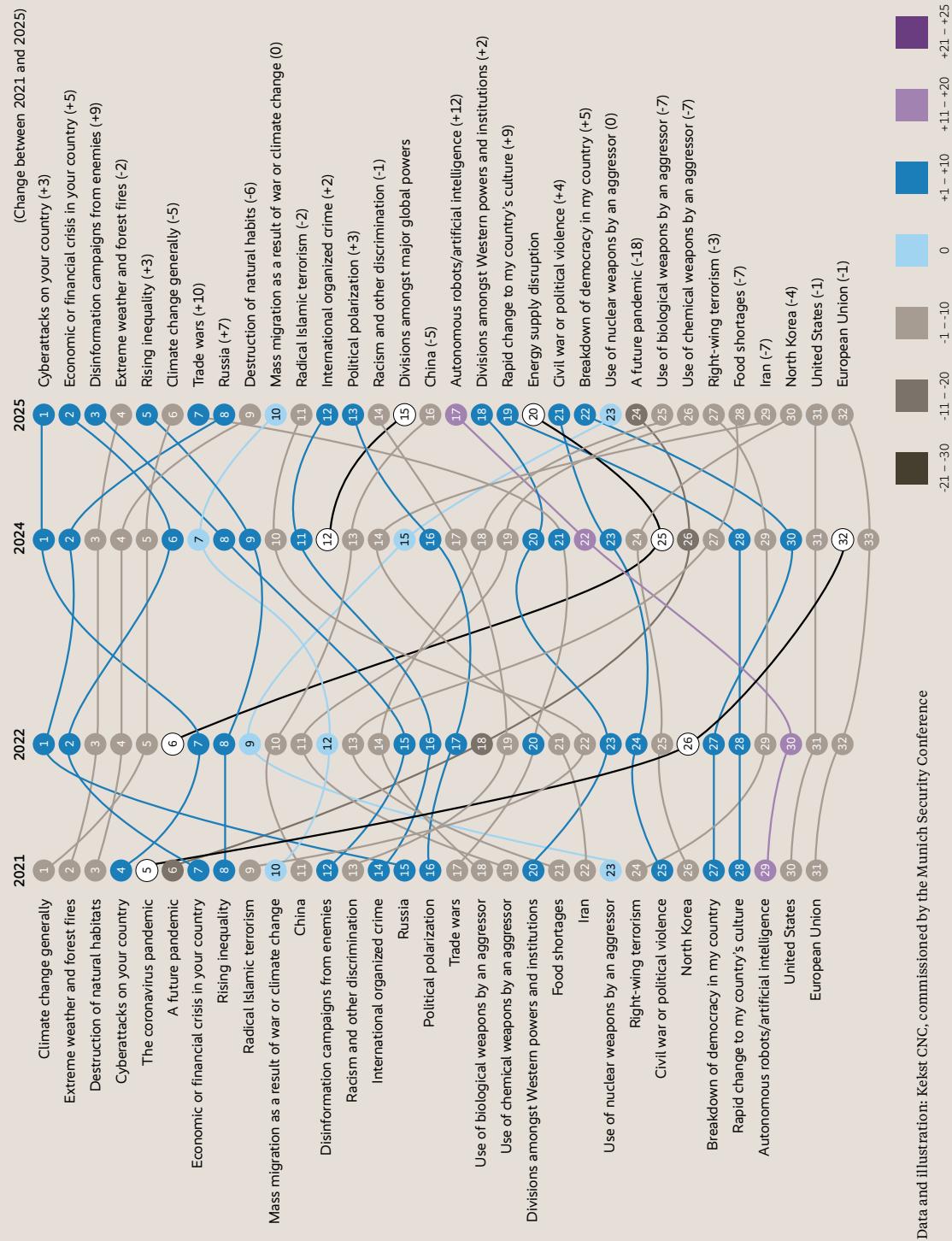
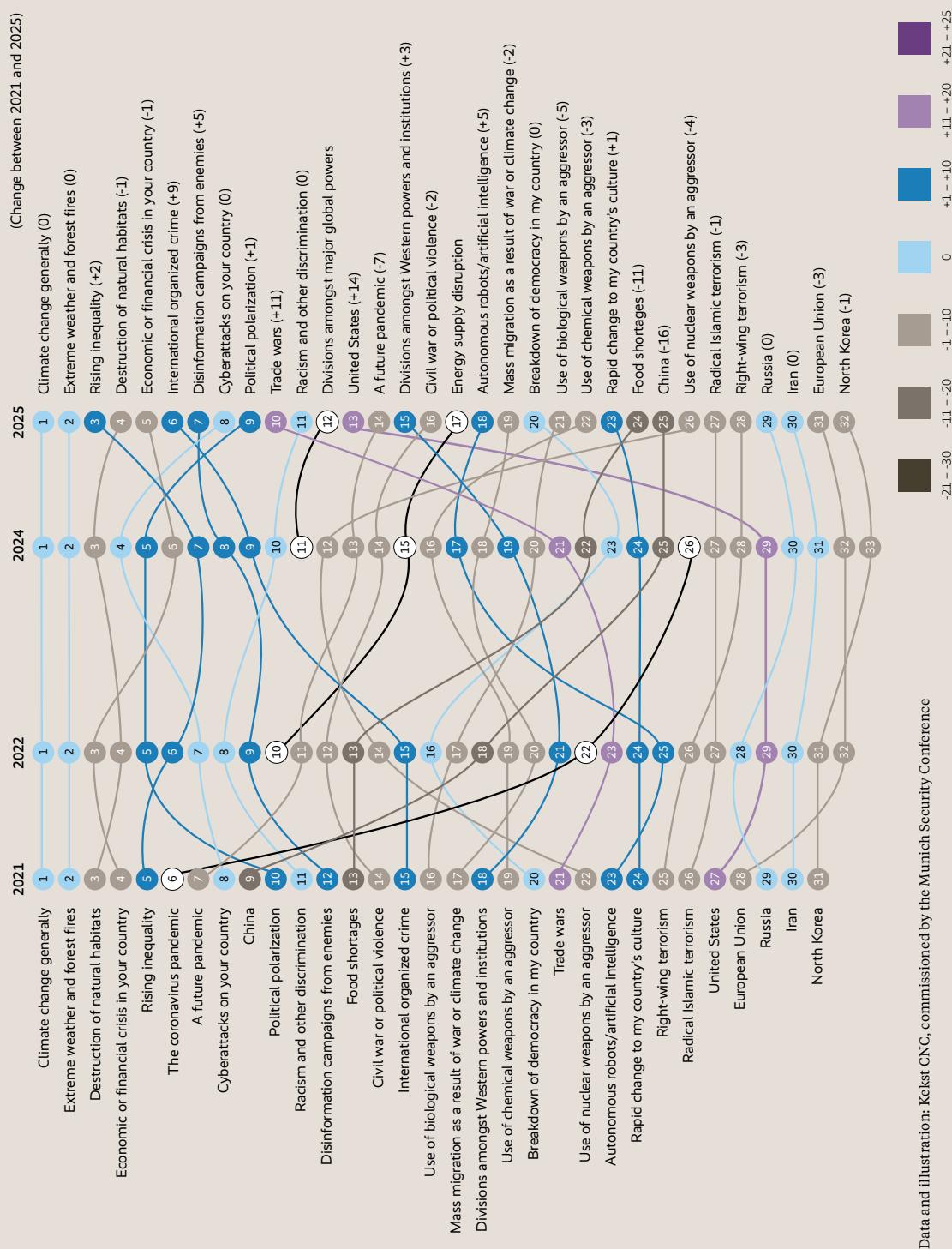


Figure 1.10 The “BICS” risk bump chart, aggregate ranking of risks by Brazil, China, India, and South Africa, 2021, 2022, 2024, 2025



Canada

	Index score	Change since 2024	Share thinking risk is imminent	Share feeling unprepared
Trade wars	68	+12	73	23
Extreme weather and forest fires	65	-4	63	23
Economic or financial crisis in your country	63	0	62	26
United States	62	+19	64	32
Cyberattacks on your country	60	-7	61	26
Disinformation campaigns from enemies	60	-4	61	24
Destruction of natural habitats	59	-8	52	23
Climate change generally	57	-6	52	24
Rising inequality	56	-2	60	24
Divisions amongst major global powers	55	-6	54	25
International organized crime	54	-2	54	24
Autonomous robots/artificial intelligence	54	-1	50	27
Mass migration as a result of war or climate change	54	-7	47	32
Political polarization	52	-7	54	23
Russia	52	-17	47	33
Racism and other discrimination	50	-6	59	19
Rapid change to my country's culture	50	0	47	28
A future pandemic	49	0	45	18
Radical Islamic terrorism	49	-7	48	30
Divisions amongst Western powers and institutions	49	-7	49	22
Food shortages	48	-5	46	25
China	48	-14	45	31
Use of nuclear weapons by an aggressor	45	-11	29	40
Right-wing terrorism	45	-5	47	26
Use of biological weapons by an aggressor	42	-10	29	37
Use of chemical weapons by an aggressor	42	-9	30	38
Energy supply disruption	42	-7	42	21
Civil war or political violence	41	-7	38	27
Iran	40	-20	37	29
North Korea	40	-11	33	32
Breakdown of democracy in my country	39	-4	36	29
European Union	13	-4	27	20

1 The 19-index-point increase in risk perceptions of the US since last year is the sharpest increase observed across all risks and countries surveyed. Trade wars are the top concern among Canadians.

2 All three environmental risks – climate change generally, extreme weather and forest fires, and destruction of natural habitats – have dropped in perceived seriousness compared to last year according to Canadian respondents.

3 Canadians perceive all 32 risks – except the risk posed by the United States and the risk of trade wars – as less serious risks to their country compared to last year.

is the share of Canadian respondents who think that trade wars are an imminent risk to their country.

73%

France

	Index score	Change since 2024	Share thinking risk is imminent	Share feeling unprepared
Radical Islamic terrorism	73	-1	68	21
Economic or financial crisis in your country	73	+3	66	29
Rising inequality	68	-1	62	26
Mass migration as a result of war or climate change	67	-3	56	32
Cyberattacks on your country	66	-3	63	21
Russia	66	-7	57	28
Climate change generally	65	-9	55	24
Extreme weather and forest fires	65	-9	61	22
Racism and other discrimination	62	-5	65	21
Trade wars	62	+4	63	22
Disinformation campaigns from enemies	61	-3	62	21
Destruction of natural habitats	60	-10	54	24
Civil war or political violence	60	-4	50	27
Divisions amongst major global powers	59	-4	53	23
International organized crime	58	0	53	21
Breakdown of democracy in my country	58	+3	46	31
Autonomous robots/artificial intelligence	55	+3	53	24
Political polarization	55	-2	53	20
Iran	55	-9	46	25
Divisions amongst Western powers and institutions	54	-6	51	22
Use of biological weapons by an aggressor	52	-4	38	30
Use of chemical weapons by an aggressor	52	-4	39	29
Rapid change to my country's culture	52	+1	43	30
Energy supply disruption	51	-2	48	22
Use of nuclear weapons by an aggressor	49	-9	34	28
A future pandemic	49	-4	45	21
China	47	-6	41	27
Right-wing terrorism	46	-1	51	21
North Korea	46	-5	35	27
Food shortages	42	-6	39	22
United States	40	+7	43	27
European Union	30	+11	42	23

1

French respondents' top concern remains radical Islamic terrorism, for the third year in a row.

2

An economic or financial crisis and rising inequality rank as the second and third most serious risks to their country according to French respondents.

3

Although there has been a decrease of three index points since last year, mass migration as a result of war or climate change remains a great concern among French respondents.

63%

is the share of French respondents who think that trade wars are an imminent risk to their country.

Data and illustration: Kekst CNC, commissioned by the Munich Security Conference

Germany

	Index score	Change since 2024	Share thinking risk is imminent	Share feeling unprepared
Cyberattacks on your country	75	-1	73	39
Rising inequality	72	+3	68	40
Radical Islamic terrorism	71	-6	67	37
Russia	71	-7	61	48
International organized crime	70	-4	69	34
Mass migration as a result of war or climate change	70	-8	59	44
Political polarization	68	0	68	34
Economic or financial crisis in your country	68	-2	64	38
Disinformation campaigns from enemies	67	0	70	35
Destruction of natural habitats	65	-5	54	34
Trade wars	63	+2	62	38
Divisions amongst major global powers	62	-7	54	37
Extreme weather and forest fires	61	-7	61	32
Racism and other discrimination	61	-2	67	30
Climate change generally	58	-6	51	30
Right-wing terrorism	57	-2	64	29
Divisions amongst Western powers and institutions	56	-10	53	36
Autonomous robots/artificial intelligence	53	-6	55	31
Rapid change to my country's culture	53	+1	51	37
China	52	-8	45	47
United States	51	+2	51	41
Use of nuclear weapons by an aggressor	48	-17	28	58
Breakdown of democracy in my country	47	0	37	42
Energy supply disruption	47	+1	45	37
Iran	47	-15	42	41
Use of biological weapons by an aggressor	46	-14	30	56
Use of chemical weapons by an aggressor	46	-14	29	54
Civil war or political violence	46	-10	40	40
North Korea	41	-8	35	42
A future pandemic	40	-3	44	26
Food shortages	35	-2	32	32
European Union	28	+1	40	29

1 Cyberattacks on their country are perceived as the most serious risk by German respondents.

2 While German respondents perceive most risks as less serious than last year, the risk posed by rising inequality has increased by three index points – and now ranks second.

3 The risk posed by Russia remains a top concern among German respondents – the index score is 71, and 48 percent of respondents report feeling unprepared to deal with this threat.

70%

is the share of German respondents who think that disinformation campaigns from enemies are an imminent risk to their country.

Italy

	Index score	Change since 2024	Share thinking risk is imminent	Share feeling unprepared
Extreme weather and forest fires	70	-12	62	30
Climate change generally	68	-10	53	30
Rising inequality	63	-2	59	28
Destruction of natural habitats	62	-14	46	30
Cyberattacks on your country	61	-6	59	26
International organized crime	60	-3	55	23
Trade wars	60	+5	57	28
Disinformation campaigns from enemies	59	-2	57	25
Economic or financial crisis in your country	59	-3	51	31
Racism and other discrimination	58	-4	58	26
Mass migration as a result of war or climate change	57	-6	47	33
Radical Islamic terrorism	55	-4	48	28
Russia	55	-4	50	38
Divisions amongst major global powers	54	-4	47	27
Autonomous robots/artificial intelligence	51	-1	48	24
Divisions amongst Western powers and institutions	51	-4	47	25
Political polarization	48	-3	47	25
Use of nuclear weapons by an aggressor	44	-9	31	45
Use of chemical weapons by an aggressor	43	-8	31	39
Iran	43	-12	39	33
Use of biological weapons by an aggressor	42	-9	32	38
Civil war or political violence	42	-5	35	33
China	42	-4	38	36
A future pandemic	41	-8	37	24
Rapid change to my country's culture	41	+1	33	29
Breakdown of democracy in my country	40	-2	34	31
Energy supply disruption	40	+2	34	31
United States	39	+5	39	36
North Korea	38	-4	34	36
Right-wing terrorism	37	-2	41	26
Food shortages	36	-3	31	31
European Union	30	+6	35	27

1

In contrast to all other G7 countries, Italian respondents perceive two environmental risks – extreme weather and forest fires and climate change generally – as the most serious risks to their country. Yet environmental risks have sharply decreased in perceived seriousness since last year according to Italian respondents.

2

Almost four years after Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine, 38 percent of Italian respondents still view their country as unprepared for the risk stemming from Russia.

3

Geopolitical risks – such as trade wars as well as the risks emerging from the United States – are amongst the few risks that have increased in perceived seriousness for Italian respondents.



-10

is the decrease in index points for the risk posed by climate change compared to last year among Italian respondents.

Japan

	Index score	Change since 2024	Share thinking risk is imminent	Share feeling unprepared
Cyberattacks on your country	70	+1	60	29
China	70	-1	47	31
Climate change generally	64	-9	47	23
Russia	64	-6	43	31
North Korea	63	-5	38	31
Extreme weather and forest fires	62	-8	51	25
Destruction of natural habitats	60	-9	43	24
Rising inequality	58	-7	48	26
International organized crime	57	-3	47	26
Disinformation campaigns from enemies	56	-1	45	28
A future pandemic	54	-4	38	20
Trade wars	53	0	45	23
Food shortages	53	-7	32	27
Economic or financial crisis of your country	52	-8	33	24
Mass migration as a result of war or climate change	51	-3	34	27
Energy supply disruption	50	-9	27	26
Divisions amongst major global powers	48	-4	33	24
Autonomous robots/ artificial intelligence	47	-6	43	20
Use of nuclear weapons by an aggressor	45	-16	20	35
Use of biological weapons by an aggressor	45	-12	22	34
Use of chemical weapons by an aggressor	45	-12	22	34
Political polarization	44	-5	36	22
Radical Islamic terrorism	43	-2	30	35
Racism and other discrimination	42	-5	36	23
United States	41	-2	33	23
Civil war or political violence	40	-8	26	27
Rapid change to my country's culture	40	-2	30	21
Iran	39	-9	26	27
Breakdown of democracy in my country	37	-7	25	24
Right-wing terrorism	36	-4	28	27
Divisions amongst Western powers and institutions	34	-9	23	23
European Union	25	-5	23	22

1 Risks stemming from other countries – namely China (ranking second), Russia (ranking fourth), and North Korea (ranking fifth) – remain top concerns for Japanese respondents.

2 The risk perceived as most serious by Japanese respondents – cyberattacks on their country – is the only risk that is seen as more serious than last year.

3 In line with trends in other G7 countries, index scores related to environmental risks have dropped markedly in Japan.

60%

is the share of Japanese respondents who think that cyberattacks are an imminent risk to their country.

Data and illustration: Kekst CNC, commissioned by the Munich Security Conference

United Kingdom

	Index score	Change since 2024	Share thinking risk is imminent	Share feeling unprepared
Cyberattacks on your country	74	+5	71	29
Economic or financial crisis in your country	70	+8	67	32
Russia	69	-6	61	35
Radical Islamic terrorism	66	+5	64	26
Mass migration as a result of war or climate change	66	+3	57	41
Disinformation campaigns from enemies	64	+3	68	25
International organized crime	62	+2	64	22
Racism and other discrimination	62	+10	68	26
Rising inequality	61	+8	64	29
Destruction of natural habitats	59	-1	51	28
Political polarization	59	+4	56	26
Rapid change to my country's culture	59	+10	56	33
Energy supply disruption	59	+2	60	32
China	57	-1	47	34
Divisions major global powers	57	-3	54	25
Autonomous robots/ artificial intelligence	56	+2	52	30
Climate change generally	55	-3	47	25
Trade wars	55	+5	64	23
Civil war or political violence	54	+5	50	30
Extreme weather and forest fires	53	-3	50	28
Divisions amongst Western powers and institutions	52	-4	52	23
Breakdown of democracy in my country	52	+9	47	32
Use of chemical weapons by an aggressor	51	-9	36	33
Right-wing terrorism	51	+4	58	23
Use of nuclear weapons by an aggressor	50	-12	32	34
Use of biological weapons by an aggressor	50	-9	36	33
Iran	50	-11	47	29
Food shortages	49	-3	47	30
A future pandemic	48	+3	41	23
North Korea	45	-4	39	30
United States	34	+8	39	30
European Union	24	+7	36	22

1

In contrast to most other G7 and BICS countries, UK respondents view most risks as more serious than last year.

2

While the perceived risk stemming from Russia has decreased by six index points since last year, UK respondents still perceive it as the third most serious risk to their country.

3

Mass migration as a result of war or climate change has risen in perceived seriousness by three index points since last year – with a share of 41 percent of respondents in the United Kingdom feeling their country is unprepared to deal with this risk.

68%

is the share of UK respondents who think that disinformation campaigns are an imminent risk to their country.

Data and illustration: Kekst CNC, commissioned by the Munich Security Conference

United States

	Index score	Change since 2024	Share thinking risk is imminent	Share feeling unprepared
Political polarization	67	+8	68	26
Economic or financial crisis in your country	67	+11	65	29
Cyberattacks on your country	66	0	67	22
Disinformation campaigns from enemies	65	+6	71	25
Breakdown of democracy in my country	64	+12	60	32
Trade wars	61	+10	69	24
Extreme weather and forest fires	60	+1	63	24
Destruction of natural habitats	60	+2	55	25
Civil war or political violence	59	+11	55	28
Autonomous robots/artificial intelligence	53	0	54	19
Food shortages	58	+14	56	29
China	58	+1	54	21
Rising inequality	57	+11	62	27
Divisions amongst major global powers	57	+4	58	22
Russia	56	-4	57	19
Racism and other discrimination	55	+8	62	25
Climate change generally	54	+2	51	26
Rapid change to my country's culture	54	+7	55	25
Energy supply disruption	53	+6	54	26
Divisions amongst Western powers and institutions	52	+4	52	21
A future pandemic	50	+5	51	23
Right-wing terrorism	48	+8	57	22
Radical Islamic terrorism	47	-1	55	15
Use of nuclear weapons by an aggressor	46	-6	38	21
Mass migration as a result of war or climate change	46	-2	48	25
Use of biological weapons by an aggressor	45	-5	40	21
Use of chemical weapons by an aggressor	45	-3	39	20
International organized crime	45	-2	54	12
Iran	45	-9	49	16
North Korea	44	-4	42	18
European Union	18	+1	32	15

1 Political polarization has not only become US respondents' top concern but has also risen substantially in perceived seriousness since last year.

2 An economic or financial crisis in their country as well as trade wars have become serious threats to their country according to US respondents – they now rank second and sixth, respectively.

3 US respondents view 23 out of 32 risks as more serious this year than last.

is the share of US respondents who think that a breakdown of democracy is an imminent risk to their country.

60%

Brazil

	Index score	Change since 2024	Share thinking risk is imminent	Share feeling unprepared
Climate change generally	78	-2	63	36
Extreme weather and forest fires	77	-5	64	37
Destruction of natural habitats	73	-8	59	35
Rising inequality	71	+1	63	35
Economic or financial crisis in your country	69	+1	57	36
Disinformation campaigns from enemies	68	+2	63	32
Political polarization	67	-2	60	33
International organized crime	65	+5	58	40
Racism and other discrimination	63	0	63	28
Trade wars	62	+8	58	33
Cyberattacks on your country	60	-4	54	37
Civil war or political violence	60	-2	50	36
Divisions amongst major global powers	60	-1	51	33
Breakdown of democracy in my country	57	-1	48	35
Divisions amongst Western powers and institutions	55	-2	48	32
A future pandemic	54	-6	44	32
Autonomous robots/artificial intelligence	54	-1	54	33
Mass migration as a result of war or climate change	52	-2	48	32
Food shortages	51	-7	41	33
Energy supply disruption	51	-2	42	36
United States	49	+11	51	39
Use of biological weapons by an aggressor	46	-4	37	47
Rapid change to my country's culture	45	-3	44	31
Use of nuclear weapons by an aggressor	44	-9	33	52
Use of chemical weapons by an aggressor	43	-6	35	49
China	40	-4	41	40
Radical Islamic terrorism	39	-5	36	45
Russia	39	-9	38	42
Right-wing terrorism	38	-2	45	34
Iran	40	-9	36	42
North Korea	32	-7	34	41
European Union	28	-3	34	36

1

Brazilian respondents evaluate environmental risks – climate change generally, extreme weather and forest fires, and the destruction of natural habitats – as the most serious risks to their country, although they perceive them as less serious than last year.

2

Ranking fourth and fifth, rising inequality and an economic or financial crisis are also major concerns for Brazilians.

3

According to Brazilian respondents, the risks stemming from the US as well as trade wars have increased sharply, by 11 and 8 index points, respectively.

39%

is the share of Brazilian respondents who think that their country is unprepared to deal with the risk arising from the US.

China

	Index score	Change since 2024	Share thinking risk is imminent	Share feeling unprepared
United States	38	-4	38	8
Trade wars	31	-7	35	10
A future pandemic	28	-10	26	13
Cyberattacks on your country	28	-11	30	12
Climate change generally	28	-10	26	13
Disinformation campaigns from enemies	27	-11	30	11
Divisions amongst major global powers	27	-10	27	13
Use of biological weapons by an aggressor	26	-14	19	13
Use of chemical weapons by an aggressor	26	-14	19	13
International organized crime	26	-8	27	13
Extreme weather and forest fires	26	-12	24	11
Use of nuclear weapons by an aggressor	25	-14	18	12
Divisions amongst Western powers and institutions	25	-8	27	13
Economic or financial crisis in your country	25	-6	22	14
Rising inequality	25	-7	26	12
Autonomous robots/artificial intelligence	23	-11	27	12
Destruction of natural habitats	23	-14	23	10
Right-wing terrorism	22	-10	23	13
Radical Islamic terrorism	22	-8	21	12
Rapid change to my country's culture	22	-5	25	14
Political polarization	21	-11	23	12
Mass migration as a result of war or climate change	21	-9	19	12
Energy supply disruption	21	-5	21	12
Racism and other discrimination	20	-11	24	13
European Union	20	-13	25	13
Civil war or political violence	17	-11	20	14
Food shortages	16	-6	17	13
Breakdown of democracy in my country	15	-8	15	13
Food shortages	22	+2	20	11
Iran	14	-8	18	13
Russia	10	-8	19	15
North Korea	8	-9	19	17

1

The US and trade wars pose the most serious risks to their country according to Chinese respondents. Yet, only 8 percent see their country as unprepared to deal with the threat posed by the US.

2

All risks to their country have decreased in seriousness from an already low level according to Chinese respondents.

3

Chinese respondents evaluate the risks arising from Iran, Russia, and North Korea as the least serious of all 32 risks.

3rd
place

is the ranking of the risk of a future pandemic according to Chinese respondents.

Data and illustration: Kekst CNC, commissioned by the Munich Security Conference

India

	Index score	Change since 2024	Share thinking risk is imminent	Share feeling unprepared
Climate change generally	53	-1	51	12
Destruction of natural habitats	51	0	47	14
Radical Islamic terrorism	49	+4	50	11
Cyberattacks on your country	49	0	52	10
Extreme weather and forest fires	48	-3	45	13
Disinformation campaigns from enemies	47	+3	49	13
Political polarization	47	+1	48	13
Trade wars	46	+7	49	11
China	46	+1	48	13
International organized crime	45	+1	47	11
Autonomous robots/artificial intelligence	45	+2	49	11
Racism and other discrimination	45	+3	49	14
Rising inequality	45	+4	48	12
Divisions amongst major global powers	45	+2	43	11
A future pandemic	44	+1	40	12
Use of biological weapons by an aggressor	43	+1	39	14
Use of chemical weapons by an aggressor	43	+1	39	12
Right-wing terrorism	43	+3	46	12
Mass migration as a result of war or climate change	43	+1	42	13
Divisions amongst Western powers and institutions	43	+2	45	11
Civil war or political violence	43	+1	44	13
Rapid change to my country's culture	43	+3	42	12
Use of nuclear weapons by an aggressor	42	-4	38	12
United States	42	+18	44	13
Economic or financial crisis in your country	41	+2	39	13
Energy supply disruption	41	+4	42	13
Breakdown of democracy in my country	38	+2	40	15
Food shortages	36	+1	37	13
Iran	32	+4	38	14
European Union	30	+8	39	11
North Korea	30	+5	37	13
Russia	23	0	36	17

1

Indian respondents view two environmental risks – climate change generally and the destruction of natural habitats – as the most serious risks to their country.

2

The risk posed by the US to their country has increased most sharply of all 32 risks, according to Indian respondents.

3

Only three out of the total of 32 risks are perceived as less serious compared to last year by Indian respondents.

51%

is the share of Indian respondents who think that climate change is an imminent risk to their country.

South Africa

	Index score	Change since 2024	Share thinking risk is imminent	Share feeling unprepared
Economic or financial crisis in your country	74	+2	63	35
Rising inequality	69	+2	63	32
Energy supply disruption	68	-4	64	30
Racism and other discrimination	67	+3	66	28
International organized crime	66	+3	58	35
Climate change generally	65	-6	60	26
Political polarization	62	0	58	35
Cyberattacks on your country	61	-2	56	28
Divisions amongst major global powers	61	+3	54	29
Extreme weather and forest fires	60	-10	58	25
Destruction of natural habitats	60	-9	51	27
Food shortages	60	-5	53	32
Disinformation campaigns from enemies	59	+1	61	28
Mass migration as a result of war or climate change	59	0	50	33
Breakdown of democracy in my country	59	+1	51	32
Civil war or political violence	58	-1	50	33
Trade wars	57	+6	57	30
United States	57	+17	55	36
A future pandemic	56	+2	48	28
Divisions amongst Western powers and institutions	56	0	54	28
Autonomous robots/artificial intelligence	52	-1	53	29
Rapid change to my country's culture	51	-2	49	28
Use of biological weapons by an aggressor	45	-6	34	41
Use of chemical weapons by an aggressor	45	-9	34	43
Use of nuclear weapons by an aggressor	43	-8	31	43
Radical Islamic terrorism	43	0	42	38
Right-wing terrorism	42	-1	42	38
Russia	39	-5	38	39
China	37	-4	38	35
European Union	34	0	39	31
Iran	33	-4	33	34
North Korea	27	-7	28	35

(1)

Economic risks – an economic or financial crisis and rising inequality – are the top concerns among South African respondents, ranking first and second.

(2)

Like in most other surveyed countries – both G7 and BICS – the risk posed by the US is the one that has risen most in perceived seriousness since last year according to South African respondents.

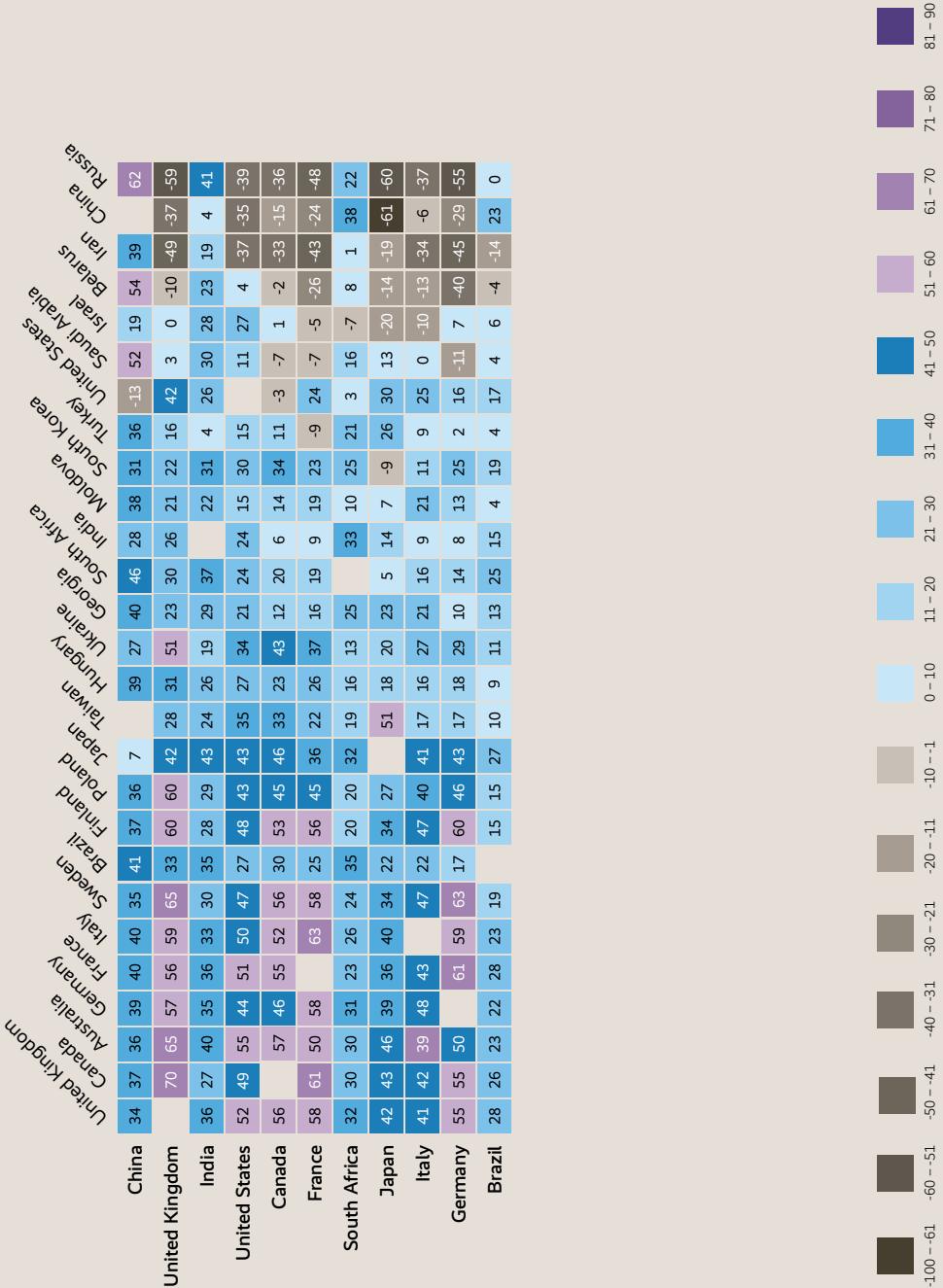
(3)

All environmental risks – climate change generally, extreme weather and forest fires, and the destruction of natural habitats – are perceived as markedly less serious by South African respondents compared to last year.

4th place

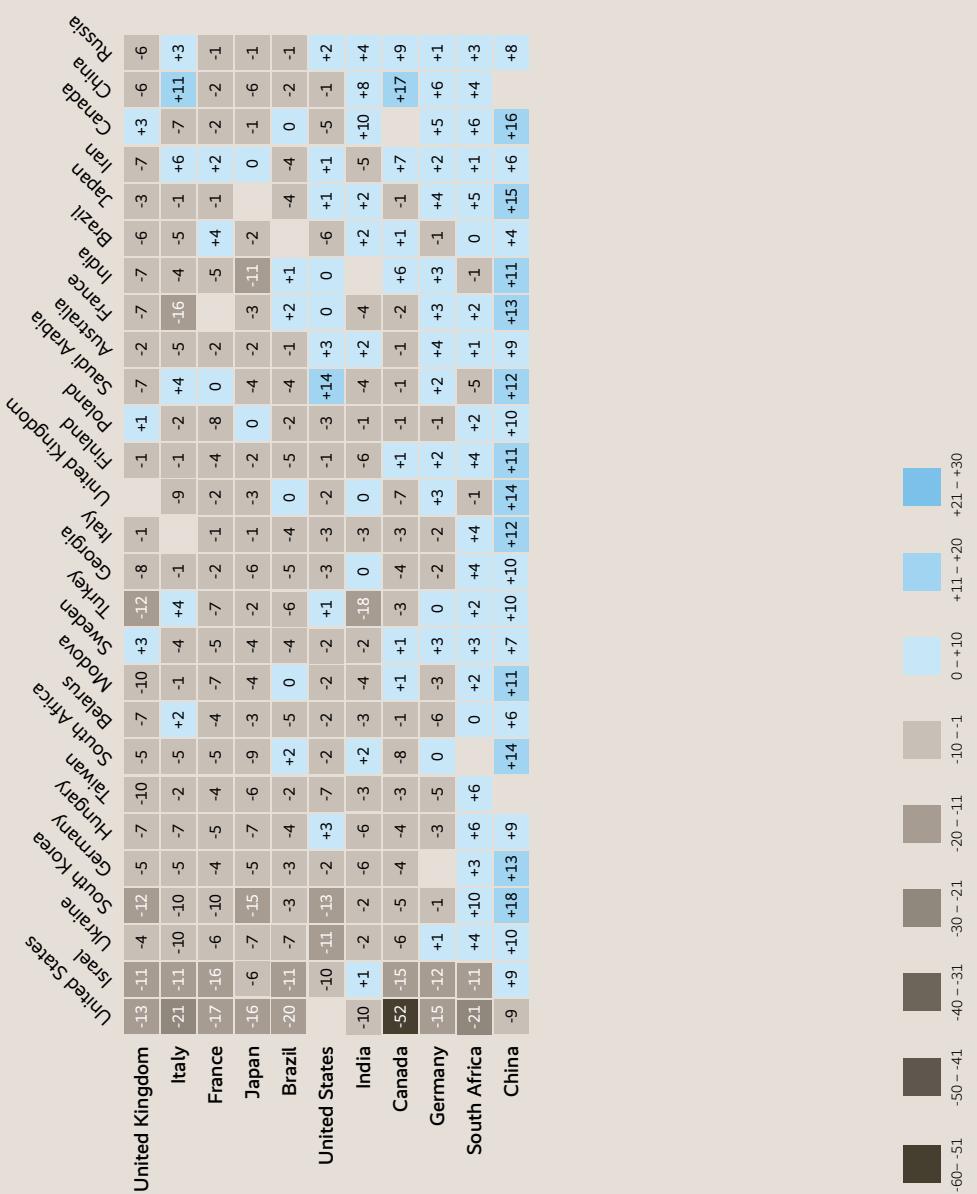
is the ranking of the risk stemming from racism and other discrimination to their country according to South African respondents.

Figure 1.11 Respondents' perceptions of other countries as threats or allies, share saying country is an ally minus share saying country is a threat, November 2025, percent



Data and illustration: Kest CNC, commissioned by the Munich Security Conference

Figure 1.12
Changes in
and Novem-



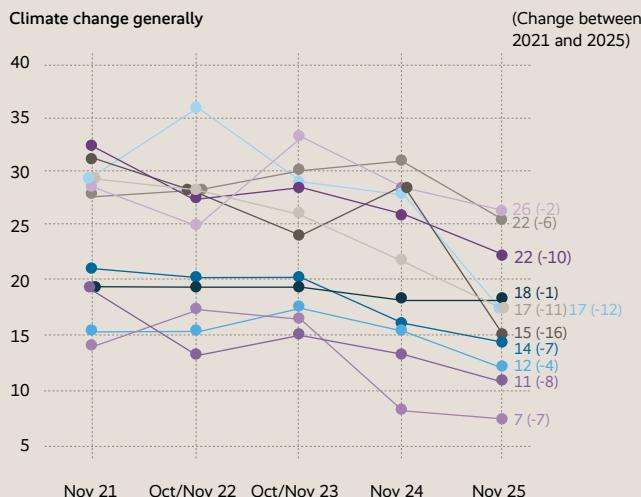
Data and illustration: Kekst CNC, commissioned by the Munich Security Conference

Figure 1.13

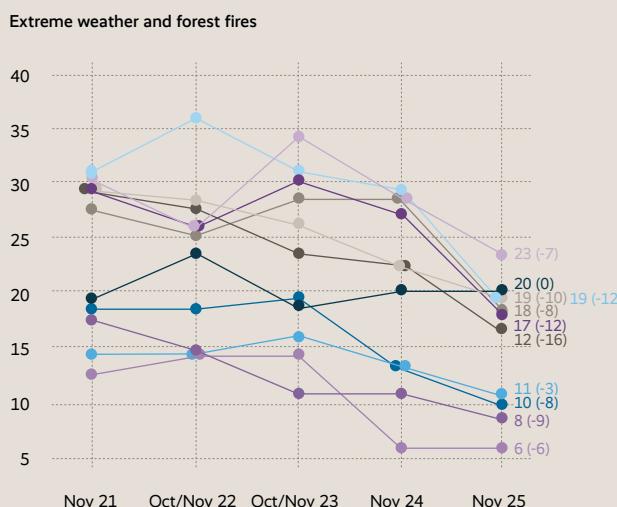
**Respondents' perceptions of the imminence of environmental risks,
November 2021–November 2025, percent**

Percentages of respondents who answered now or within the next few months

● Canada ● France ● Germany ● Italy ● Japan ● UK ● US
● Brazil ● China ● India ● South Africa



For each of the following,
please say when, if at
all, you think it is likely
to happen or become a
major risk.



Data: Kekst CNC, commissioned by the Munich Security Conference. Illustration: Munich Security Conference