

Risk Landscape Affecting Americans Current Domestic and External Factors

Union of Saints

Chronic Health Conditions Highest Overall Impact

Heart disease, cancer, diabetes, and obesity related illnesses are the leading causes of death in the United States.

These conditions are associated with diet, physical inactivity, stress, and limited access to preventive care.

They affect millions of individuals each year.

Far Reaching Effects Impacts

Chronic conditions contribute to long term mortality, increased healthcare costs, and reduced population health outcomes.

Mental Health and Substance Abuse

Rates of anxiety, depression, and social isolation have increased.

Opioids, including fentanyl, are a primary driver of overdose deaths.

Suicide remains a leading cause of death, particularly among younger populations.

Far Reaching Effects Impacts

These factors affect public health systems, workforce participation, and overall community stability.

Economic Pressure and Cost of Living

Housing affordability, healthcare expenses, and inflation impact household financial stability.

Economic strain is linked to reduced access to care and increased stress related conditions.

Far Reaching Effects Impacts

Economic pressure influences health outcomes, access to resources, and long term financial security.

Traffic Fatalities and Everyday Safety Risks

Motor vehicle accidents remain a leading cause of injury and death.

Contributing factors include distracted driving, speeding, and impaired driving.

Far Reaching Effects Impacts

These incidents result in significant mortality, injury, and economic costs each year.

Crime Localized but Serious

Violent crime and property crime vary by region and circumstance.

Certain areas experience higher concentrations of criminal activity.

Far Reaching Effects Impacts

Crime affects public safety, economic activity, and community stability in impacted areas.

Home Violence

Incidents of violence within the home include intimate partner violence, family violence, and abuse involving children or other household members.

These cases often involve individuals known to one another and may include physical, emotional, or psychological harm.

Reporting rates vary and some incidents remain underreported.

Far Reaching Effects Impacts

Home violence contributes to injury, long term trauma, housing instability, and increased demand on healthcare and legal systems.

Cartel Related Mass Kidnappings

Mass kidnapping incidents associated with criminal organizations have been documented in border regions and transit corridors.

These incidents often involve multiple victims and are linked to trafficking, extortion, or coercion operations.

Activity is also highly concentrated outside the United States and can affect U.S. citizens traveling or residing in high risk areas.

Far Reaching Effects Impacts

These events result in severe human harm, cross border law enforcement challenges, and increased national security and diplomatic concerns.

Misinformation and Social Division

False or misleading information circulates widely through digital platforms.

Political and cultural divisions contribute to reduced trust in institutions.

Far Reaching Effects Impacts

These dynamics influence public decision making, policy responses, and social cohesion.

Global and External Threats Lower Likelihood High Impact

This category includes terrorism, cyberattacks, and geopolitical conflict.

These threats are monitored by national security agencies.

Cyberattacks targeting infrastructure are an area of increasing concern.

Far Reaching Effects Impacts

Such events can disrupt critical systems, economic activity, and national security.

Bottom Line

The most common risks to individuals in the United States are related to physical health, mental health, economic conditions, transportation safety, home violence, and localized crime.

Risks often include crime, social tension, and political conflict.

Broad categorization of nations as uniformly harming Americans is not supported by available data.

Most risks are domestic, and international risks are specific to defined activities rather than entire populations.

Cyberattacks and Espionage

China

Russia
Iran
North Korea

These governments are frequently cited in cybersecurity reporting for hacking, intellectual property theft, and influence operations.

Impacts are primarily on data systems, infrastructure, and institutions.

Political Destabilization and Influence Operations

Efforts to influence public opinion, elections, and institutional trust have been documented. Methods include disinformation campaigns, coordinated messaging, and digital amplification. Both domestic and foreign actors may contribute.

Far Reaching Effects Impacts

These activities affect institutional trust, governance processes, and public discourse.

Transnational Crime and Drug Trafficking

Mexico
China

The distribution of fentanyl and other substances contributes significantly to overdose deaths. This activity involves organized criminal networks and international supply chains.

Far Reaching Effects Impacts

Impacts include mortality, public health strain, and law enforcement resource allocation.

Geopolitical and Military Tension

Russia
China
Iran
North Korea

(& BRICS)

These nations are identified in national security assessments related to military capability and strategic competition.

Far Reaching Effects Impacts

These factors influence defense policy, global stability, and international relations.

Important reality

These categories refer to governments, organized networks, and strategic systems rather than entire populations.

For individuals, these risks are generally indirect when compared to health, economic, and safety related factors.

Final summary

Commonly cited issues appear across cybersecurity, geopolitical, and transnational crime

contexts.

The most significant risks remain criminal, domestic and systemic.