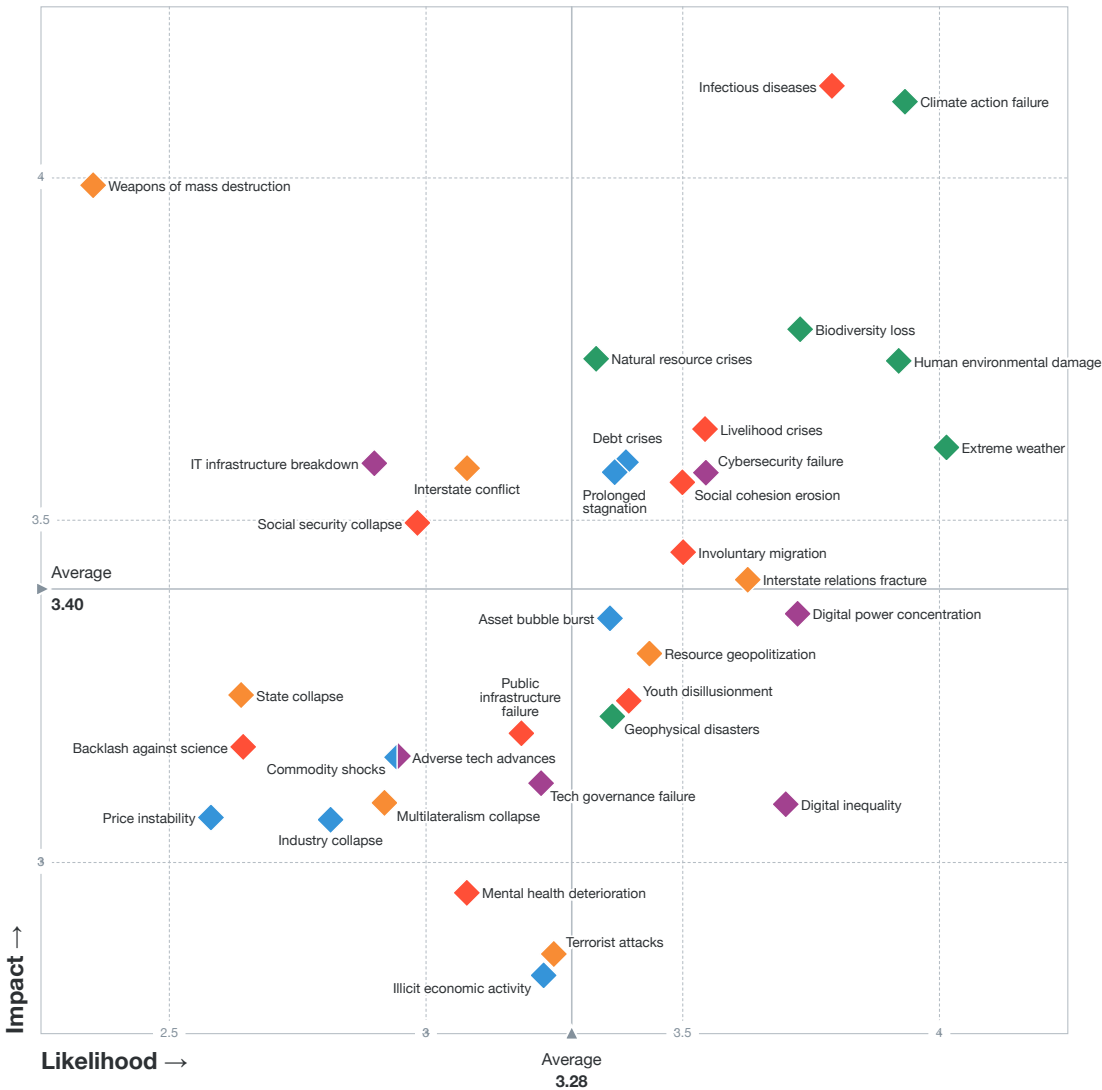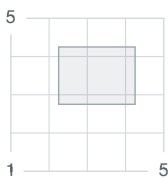FIGURE II

Global Risks Landscape

How do respondents perceive the impact ↑ and likelihood → of global risks?

Visible area

Risk categories

- ◆ Economic
- ◆ Environmental
- ◆ Geopolitical
- ◆ Societal
- ◆ Technological

Methodology

Survey respondents were asked to assess the likelihood of the individual global risk on a scale of 1 to 5, 1 representing a risk that is very unlikely and 5 a risk that is very likely to occur over the course of the next ten years. They also assessed the impact of each global risk on a scale of 1 to 5, 1 representing a minimal impact and 5 a catastrophic impact. To ensure legibility, the names of the global risks are abbreviated.

Source: World Economic Forum Global Risks Perception Survey 2020

Top Risks
by likelihood

1. Extreme weather
2. Climate action failure
3. Human environmental damage
4. Infectious diseases
5. Biodiversity loss
6. Digital power concentration
7. Digital inequality
8. Interstate relations fracture
9. Cybersecurity failure
10. Livelihood crises

Top Risks
by impact

1. Infectious diseases
2. Climate action failure
3. Weapons of mass destruction
4. Biodiversity loss
5. Natural resource crises
6. Human environmental damage
7. Livelihood crises
8. Extreme weather
9. Debt crises
10. IT infrastructure breakdown