Navigate: Digital Risk Index 2025

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The Navigate Digital Risk Index ranks the most important technological, geopolitical, societal and organizational risks impacting the governance of digital technologies, now and in the near-term, as identified by more than 600 global digital responsibility leaders. The top digital risks have been ranked by category and overall based on the percentage of total respondents who selected them.

Geopolitical

1. Nation state or sponsored cyberattacks, espionage and warfare — **42%**
2. Political and policy focus on deprioritizing governance and compliance — **39%**
3. Economic competition and confrontation, including through political directives that protect or prefer certain providers of digital technologies over others — **33%**
4. Risks to human rights and/or civic freedoms associated with political, policy and regulatory interventions on digital governance — **31%**
5. Increasingly multipolar, siloed or fragmented governance norms and rules — **31%**

Societal and Environmental

1. Risk to privacy and data protection — **58%**
2. AI technologies as accelerating or compounding the risk of adverse outcomes — **54%**
3. Identifying and managing misinformation and disinformation online — **37%**
4. Challenges in defining and measuring potentially harmful impacts of technology — **34%**
5. Risk of discrimination, bias and unfairness — **30%**

TOP 10

1. Risk to privacy and data protection — **58%** — SOCIETAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL
2. AI technologies as accelerating or compounding the risk of adverse outcomes — **54%** — SOCIETAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL
3. Dependency on and risks associated with third–party vendors — **51%** — TECHNOLOGICAL
4. Lack of sufficient budget and resources to invest in governance professionals, practices and tooling — **48%** — ORGANIZATIONAL
5. Nation state or sponsored cyber-attacks, espionage and warfare — **42%** — GEOPOLITICAL
6. Legacy infrastructure and tooling not fit for purpose — **41%** — TECHNOLOGICAL
7. Political and policy focus on deprioritizing governance and compliance — **39%** — GEOPOLITICAL
8. Unclear or lack of awareness of data and systems mapping — **39%** — TECHNOLOGICAL
9. Identifying and managing misinformation and disinformation online — **37%** — SOCIETAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL
10. Business deprioritization of governance and compliance — **36%** — ORGANIZATIONAL

Organizational

1. Lack of sufficient budget and resources to invest in governance professionals, practices and tooling — **48%**
2. Business deprioritization of governance and compliance — **36%**
3. Lack of or unclear accountability and ownership of risk management and risk taking — **35%**
4. Lack of access to or availability of skilled governance talent — **29%**
5. Legacy or insufficient data governance management architecture and processes — **29%**

Technological

1. Dependency on and risks associated with third–party vendors — **51%**
2. Legacy infrastructure and tooling not fit for purpose — **41%**
3. Unclear or lack of awareness of data and systems mapping — **39%**
4. Ensuring physical and cyber security and resilience — **34%**
5. Pace of innovation and technological change causing technological obsolescence — **29%**