FIGURE I Global Risks Horizon

When do respondents forecast risks will become a critical threat to the world?

Clear and present dangers Short-term risks (0 – 2 years)	Economic Environmental Geopolitical Societal Technological	% of respondents
	Infectious diseases	58.0
	Livelihood crises	55.1
	Extreme weather events	52.7
	Cybersecurity failure	39.0
	Digital inequality	38.3
	Prolonged stagnation	38.3
	Terrorist attacks	37.8
	Youth disillusionment	36.4
	Social cohesion erosion	35.6
	Human environmental damage	35.6
Knock-on effects Medium-term risks (3 – 5 years)		
	Asset bubble burst	53.3
	IT infrastructure breakdown	53.3
	Price instability	52.9
	Commodity shocks	52.7
	Debt crises	52.3
	Interstate relations fracture	50.7
	Interstate conflict	49.5
	Cybersecurity failure	49.0
	Tech governance failure	48.1
	Resource geopolitization	47.9
Existential threats Long-term risks (5 – 10 years)	Weapons of mass destruction	62.7
	State collapse	51.8
	Biodiversity loss	51.2
	Adverse tech advances	50.2
	Natural resource crises	43.9
	Social security collapse	43.4
	Multilateralism collapse	39.8
	Industry collapse	39.7
	Climate action failure	38.3
	Backlash against science	37.8

Source: World Economic Forum Global Risks Perception Survey 2020