

City Report
FIFA World Cup 2026

Toronto



Issued
14th May 2026



Toronto

Overview

Country	Canada
Host stadium	BMO Field (FIFA tournament-time name: Toronto Stadium), Exhibition Place, Toronto, ON
Distance to Downtown	3 miles (5km) from Downtown
Stadium capacity	44,315
Roof / cover type	Open-air, no roof
Altitude	About 76 m (250 ft)
Timezone (June-July 2026)	Eastern Daylight Time (UTC-4)
Official language(s)	English (federally English and French; >180 languages spoken in metro)
Match count & dates	6 matches: 5 Group Stage (12 th –26 th June), 1 R32 (2 nd July)
Primary airport(s)	YYZ (Toronto Pearson International), YTZ (Billy Bishop / City Centre)
Population (metro)	~6.4 million (Greater Toronto Area)

Risk ratings

Security	LOW
Travel Disruption	LOW
Medical Infrastructure	LOW
Natural Disasters	MINIMAL
Storms/ Hurricanes	LOW
Heat	MODERATE

Toronto offers the lowest composite risk among the two Canadian host cities and is among the lowest-risk host cities at the tournament. The stadium is located downtown and is readily accessible by foot, streetcar, train or car. Border crossings are the dominant operational complication

for visitors arriving from US host cities. Toronto Pearson International Airport (YYZ) handles most processing relatively well, but the primary ground crossings (Niagara Falls/Buffalo and Windsor/Detroit) can face substantial wait times at peak hours.

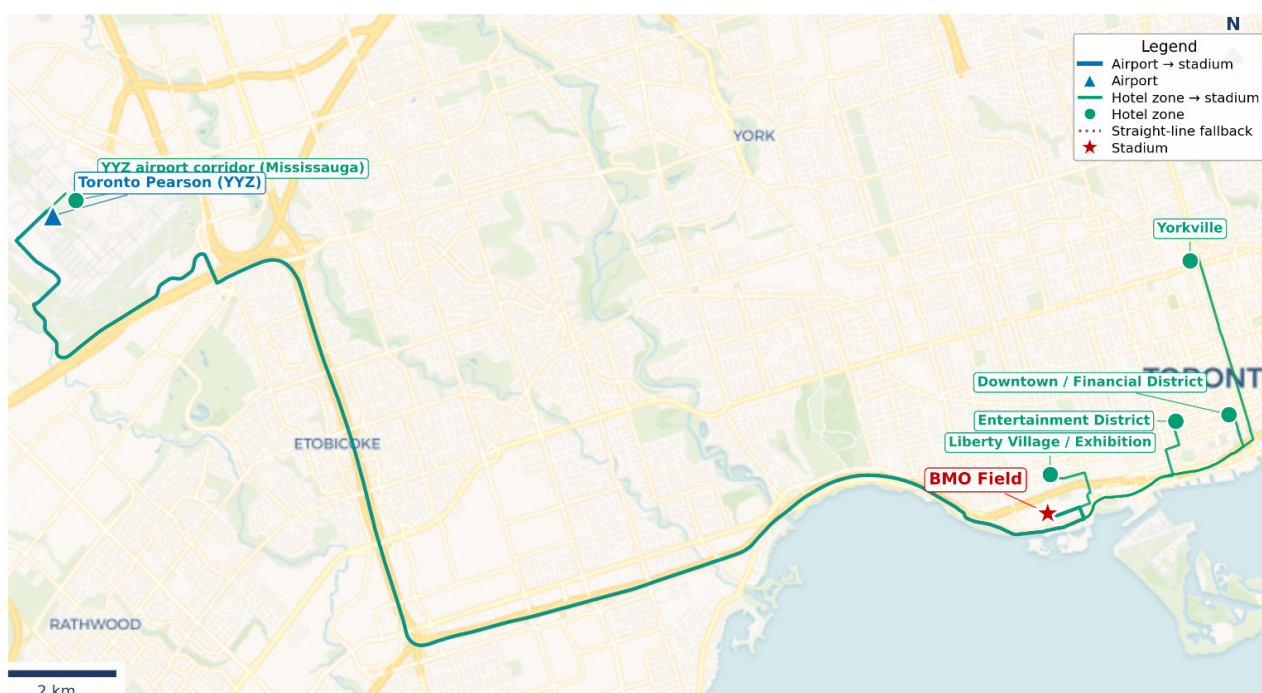
Arrival, departure and transportation

Airports and public transport

Toronto Pearson International Airport (YYZ) is the primary gateway into the city, located around twelve miles (20 km) north-west of downtown in Mississauga. The Union Pearson Express (UP Express) train connects the airport with the central train station, Union Station, and downtown, taking about 25–30 minutes. Billy Bishop (YTZ) is on the Toronto Islands, 1.5 miles (2.5km) from BMO Field, which handles regional flights, and is accessed by a short ferry from the downtown waterfront or a ten-minute pedestrian tunnel. NEXUS increases inbound immigration processing speed for pre-approved travellers, while the US Customs and Border Protection’s Mobile Passport Control increases US-bound preclearance speeds at YYZ.

Recommended accommodation zones

The recommended accommodation zones are in low-crime areas, particularly in Downtown Toronto, including the Financial and Entertainment District. Accommodation zones in Yorkville are likely to experience very low rates of petty crime during the tournament and are connected to the rest of the city by subway. The area around YYZ is farthest from the stadium but remains accessible.



Security and medical risks

Crime

Toronto consistently ranks among the safest large North American cities, with its Crime Severity Index below that of most US host cities on violent-crime metrics. Auto-theft surged in 2022–2023, peaking at around 12,500 incidents in 2023, but Toronto Police data show it reduced by about 30% year-over-year in 2025. Theft primarily targets parked vehicles in residential and park-and-ride lots. Pickpocketing and tourist scams in high-traffic zones, including the CN Tower and the Yonge–Bloor area, are the primary sources of exposure to petty crime for visitors. Specific TTC stations have elevated incident rates in the late evening, including Dundas, Bloor-Yonge, Union, Osgoode, and Saint Andrew.

Terrorism

Canada’s National Terrorism Threat Level is Medium, set by ITAC (Integrated Terrorism Assessment Centre) and unchanged by the tournament announcement; the threat of an attack aimed at a Jewish religious, educational or social site is elevated, with several incidents

occurring in the past weeks, including shootings. The Toronto Police Service, Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP), Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS) and the Canadian Border Services Agency (CBSA) coordinate through INSET (Integrated National Security Enforcement Teams) for major-event coverage, highlighting Canada’s enhanced capability to deter or capture terrorist threats. Visitors should expect visible security at Union Station, YYY, and the BMO Field perimeter.

Unrest

Demonstrations occur regularly at Queen’s Park, the Provincial Legislature, Sankofa Square (formerly known as Yonge-Dundas Square), and the US Consulate. The risk of unrest for the tournament window is low. Indigenous rights, environmental and anti-government protests have historically been peaceful and well-coordinated with the police, though such demonstrations are liable to cause localised travel disruption in their vicinity.

Natural Disaster

Toronto has the lowest natural-disaster exposure among the host cities. There is no hurricane exposure, though occasional remnants of tropical systems produce heavy rain. Tornado activity is rare but has been documented, particularly in the surrounding suburbs, with May to July as the peak period. The earthquake risk is very low. Heat waves can produce peaks of 30–35°C (86–95°F) but are relatively short-lived. Lake Ontario can produce localised flooding from intense rainfall events.

Heat/Infectious Disease

Toronto’s June to July baseline is mild compared to other host cities, with average highs of 78–82°F (26–28°C), but heat waves can produce peaks of 30–35°C (86–95°F) lasting two to four days, with humidex values regularly pushing the perceived temperature above 35°C. BMO Field is open-air with limited shade, further increasing the risks of heat exposure. Environment and Climate Change Canada issues Heat Warnings via WeatherCAN; travellers and fans are advised to sign up for push notifications for the WeatherCAN app, and to monitor local media sources for heat and disease updates.



Stadium and matchday

Match schedule

Date	Match	Stage	Kickoff (local)
12 th June	Canada vs Bosnia and Herzegovina	Group B	15h00
17 th June	Ghana vs Panama	Group L	19h00
20 th June	Germany vs Côte d'Ivoire	Group E	16h00
23 rd June	Panama vs Croatia	Group L	19h00
26 th June	Senegal vs Iraq	Group I	15h00
2 nd July	Runner-up K vs Runner-up L	Round of 32	19h00

Public transport and transportation to the stadium

BMO Field is at Exhibition Place near the Toronto Waterfront, which is accessible via streetcars, Go trains, car and on foot. TTC streetcars (509 Harbourfront / 511 Bathurst) and GO Transit's Exhibition GO station serve the venue directly. This will be fostered by the Fan Mobility Plan, which will focus on transit options. From Union Station, the stadium is about 20 minutes by streetcar or 10

minutes by GO Train, highlighting the high level of accessibility from the city centre. Driving routes use the Gardiner Expressway (eastbound or westbound) and Lake Shore Boulevard. Per the city's mobility plan, Lake Shore Boulevard West, Strachan Avenue, Dufferin Street, and Fleet Street will be closed to non-credentialed traffic from six hours before to four hours after each kickoff, with minimal parking options near the stadium.

Entry/Gates into the stadium

Per FIFA standard policy for the 2026 World Cup, BMO Field gates are expected to open three hours before kickoff. Clear-bag policy (up to 12" x 6" x 12" / 30.5cm x 16cm x 30.5cm) is enforced per BMO Field's published bag policy, with screening including a metal-detector and visual inspection. Prohibited items include professional cameras with detachable/telephoto lenses, drones, oversized signs/banners (with FIFA's typical size limit of ~2 m x 1.5 m), umbrellas, and any flagpoles. The temporary capacity expansion to 44,315 means gate flow will be tighter than baseline Toronto FC matches; fans are advised to arrive early to the stadium to minimise delays.



Fanzones

The official FIFA Fan Festival Toronto is at Fort York National Historic Site and The Bentway, under the Gardiner Expressway, running from 11th June to 19th July. Additional secondary watch-site concentrations have been sanctioned at Sankofa Square (formerly Yonge-Dundas Square) and the Distillery District, but are not officially FIFA-sanctioned fan zones. Each official fan zone has its own screening perimeter.



Match risk rating

Match	Date and Kickoff (All Times Local)	Match Risk Rating
Canada – Bosnia and Herzegovina	12th June 15h00	MODERATE
<p>This match is assessed as MODERATE risk due to the participation of a host nation. Canada fans are liable to travel in large numbers to the fanzone and to restaurants and bars in the city centre to watch the match, increasing the risk of disruption throughout Downtown Toronto. While clashes between the two fanbases are highly unlikely to occur, ultras culture is present in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and isolated instances of fan violence near the stadium and in public gathering spaces on MD-1 and matchday cannot be ruled out. Toronto has a moderately-sized Bosnian diaspora who are likely to hold informal fanzones at restaurants and community centres. Major roads likely to be affected on matchdays include the Gardiner Expressway and Lake Shore Boulevard, as well as key transit routes, including the Lakeshore West GO Train Line and the 509 and 511 streetcar lines.</p>		
Ghana – Panama	17th June 18h00	MINIMAL
Germany – Côte d'Ivoire	20th June 16h00	LOW
<p>This match is assessed as LOW risk due to elevated fan turnout and associated disruption. German fans are likely to travel to Toronto in large numbers, particularly given that this is Germany's only match outside the United States amidst ongoing geopolitical concerns with the USA. Clashes between the two fanbases have a remote chance of occurring, though fan gatherings are liable to cause localised disruption in Downtown Toronto and near BMO Field. Major roads likely to be affected on matchdays include the Gardiner Expressway and Lake Shore Boulevard, as well as key transit routes, including the Lakeshore West GO Train Line and the 509 and 511 streetcar lines.</p>		
Panama – Croatia	23rd June 19h00	LOW
<p>This match is assessed as LOW risk due to elevated fan turnout and associated disruption. Croatia is likely to have a moderately-sized fanbase travelling to Toronto for the match, with precedent from incidents at past World Cups and European Championships indicating that this match poses an elevated risk of fan unrest due to the presence of ultras in the Croatian fanbase. While clashes between the two fanbases have a remote chance of occurring, isolated instances of fan unrest cannot be ruled out, particularly in Downtown Toronto near nightlife districts and public spaces such as Nathan Phillips Square and Sankofa-Yonge Dundas Square. Toronto also has a moderately-sized Croatian diaspora who are likely to hold informal fanzones at restaurants and community centres. Major roads likely to be affected on matchdays include the Gardiner Expressway and Lake Shore Boulevard, as well as key transit routes, including the Lakeshore West GO Train Line and the 509 and 511 streetcar lines.</p>		
Senegal – Iraq	26th June 15h00	MINIMAL
Round of 32	30th June 15h00 or 17h00	MODERATE
<p>This match is assessed as MODERATE risk due to elevated security and operational risks commensurate with the knockout stage. While the teams are not confirmed for this match, knockout stage matches are more likely to involve two teams with large fanbases, with a higher likelihood of disruption and fan unrest if it is a rivalry match or involves a fanbase with ultras presence. Disruption due to fan gatherings is most likely to affect Downtown Toronto, primarily near nightlife districts and public spaces such as Nathan Phillips Square and Sankofa-Yonge Dundas Square. Major roads likely to be affected on matchdays include the Gardiner Expressway and Lakeshore Boulevard, as well as key transit routes, including the Lakeshore West GO Train Line and the 509 and 511 streetcar lines.</p>		

Business as usual operations

The most affected sectors include financial services, due to the impact on the Financial District and Bay Street area; technology and media, particularly in King West and Liberty Village areas adjacent to BMO Field; and film and television production, which frequently uses downtown locations. Broader operational impacts are also likely for any activity dependent on the Gardiner Expressway / Lake Shore corridor. Demand for hotels and ride-share services is almost certain to peak around match days. Lake Shore Boulevard and the Gardiner Expressway are highly likely to operate at saturation around afternoon kickoffs. Cross-border supply chains via Niagara/ Buffalo and Windsor/Detroit will be under strain during US-fan inbound surges. Toronto's doctors have expressed concern about the city's hospital Emergency Rooms (ERs), noting that hospitals could become overwhelmed if demand for acute care surges.

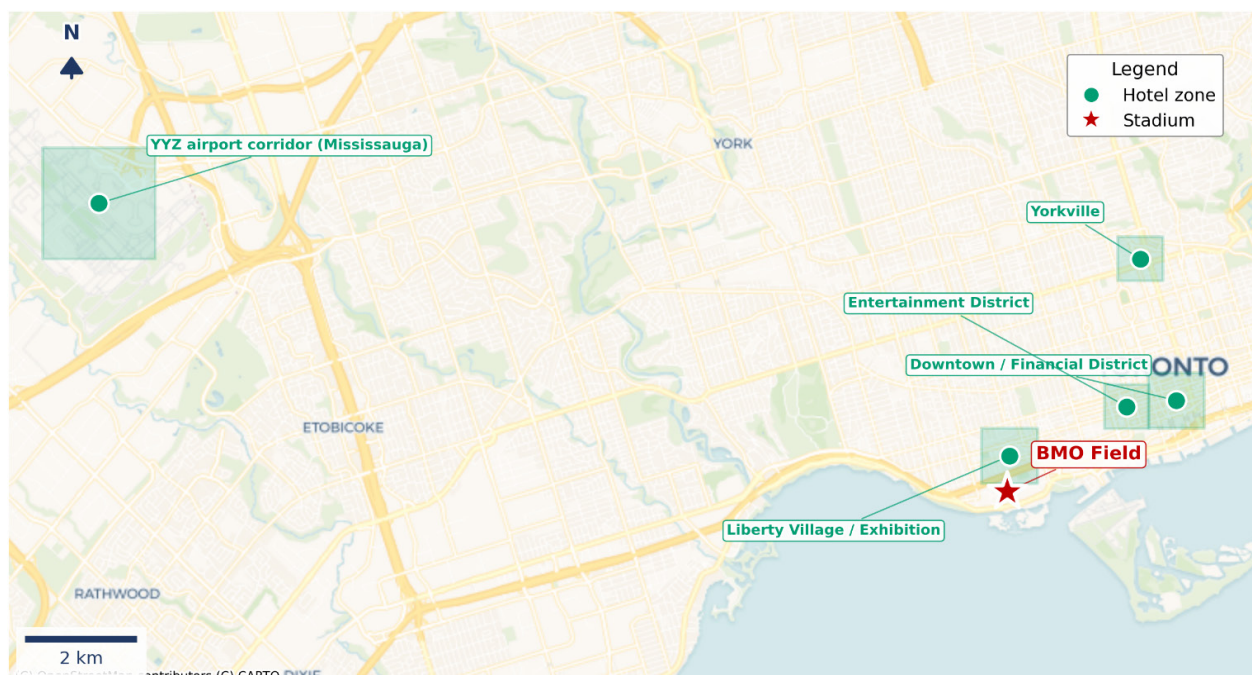
Recommendations for Businesses and Organisations

- Pre-book accommodation for visiting personnel, particularly in higher-demand areas such as Downtown Toronto.
- Consider activating remote-work options for staff commuting through Lake Shore Boulevard West, Strachan Ave, Dufferin St, or Fleet St: these all close to non-credentialed traffic from 6 hours before to 4 hours after each kickoff.
- Consider supplying PRESTO cards or arranging employer-loaded transit credit for affected staff; TTC + GO Transit are the recommended match-day commute.
- Build a border-crossing buffer into supply chains and travel itineraries: communicate to personnel that CBSA Advance Declaration via the ArriveCAN app speeds up YYZ processing.

- FIFA's restrictions apply identically in Canada — brief any tournament-themed marketing through legal; CIPO (Canadian Intellectual Property Office) handles trademark enforcement, and FIFA's official Canadian counsel is likely to aggressively pursue ambush marketing around the Fort York / Bentway Fan Festival.

Recommendations for Residents

- Plan errands and medical appointments away from match-day afternoons.
- Adhere to heat-wave warnings from Environment and Climate Change Canada — keep extra water and air-conditioning supplies.
- Ensure travelling personnel do not leave valuables in parked vehicles overnight. If renting a house, avoid leaving key fobs in front-door drawers due to the risk of relay-attack vulnerability.



Multi City travel

Toronto sits in FIFA's Eastern cluster with NYC/NJ, Boston, Philadelphia, and Miami. Flights to US host cities take one to three hours; ground crossings via Niagara Falls/Buffalo or Windsor/Detroit are practical day trips for fans. Travellers entering Canada need a passport; visa-exempt nationals flying in need a Canadian eTA before boarding, while visa-required nationals need a visitor visa unless they qualify for an eTA exception. Cross-border travel to

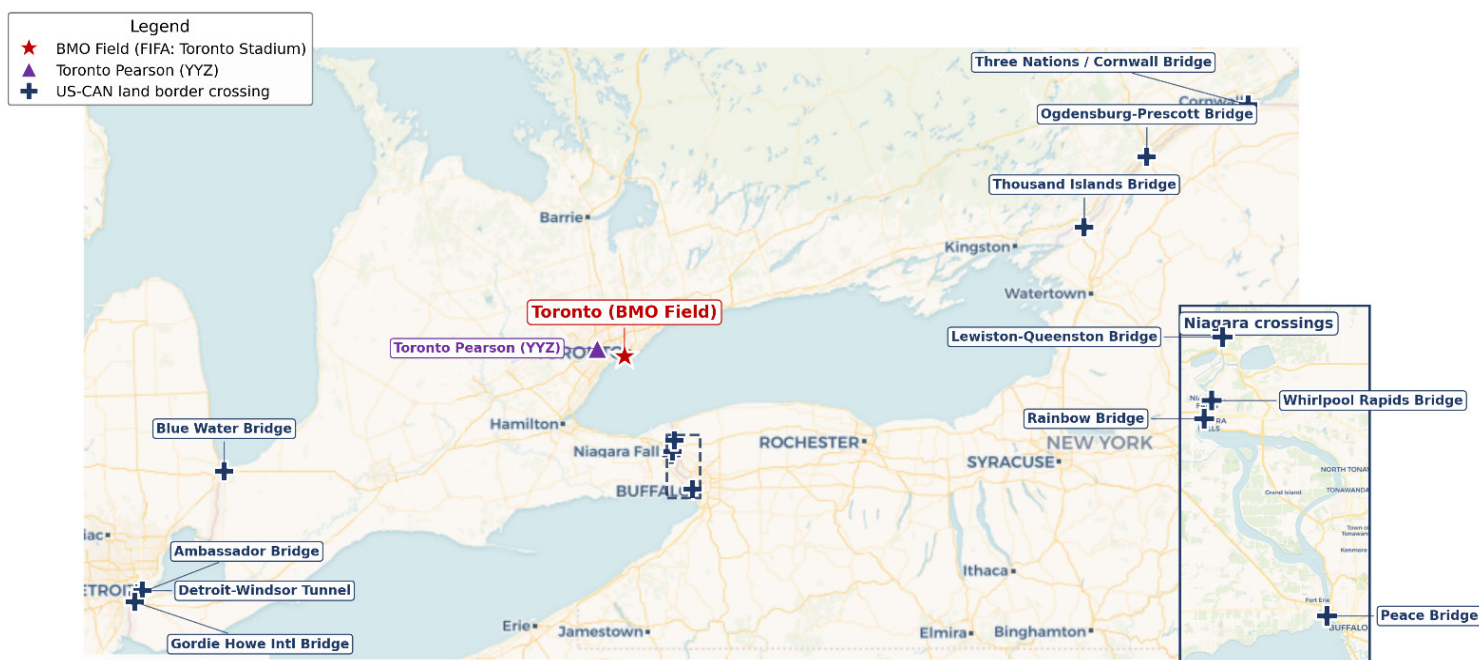
US host cities requires a passport plus appropriate US authorisation: Mexican nationals need a B1/B2 visitor visa, while Visa Waiver Program nationals, including most EU nations, the UK and Japan, among others, need an Electronic System for Travel Authorization (ESTA) before boarding. Travellers to Mexico require a Visa unless they are from Canada, the USA, the EU, the UK, Japan, or select other countries. See the Multi-City Special Advisory for routing guidance.



City-Specific Risks

Toronto's defining operational complication is the international border. Roughly 70% of expected non-Canadian fans are likely to be inbound from US host cities and international destinations, and ground crossings at Niagara Falls / Buffalo and Windsor / Detroit are highly likely to see substantial dwell-time spikes during US-fan inbound surges. NEXUS lanes are open to pre-approved travellers and materially reduce wait times. CBSA's Advance Declaration option speeds up processing at YYZ for arriving air passengers and is administered via the ArriveCAN app/web portal.

Visa-required nationals must obtain a Canadian eTA or visa before travel. U.S. passport holders can enter Canada by air without a visa but must carry a valid passport (not just a passport card) and meet standard admissibility criteria; past convictions, including DUI/DWI, are likely to result in denial of entry. Travellers crossing back into the US face standard CBP processing on the way out; travellers are advised to allow at least 2 hours for ground processing at YYZ during peak match-week outbound days. See the Special Advisory for routing-specific guidance.



General advice

- **Exercise increased caution in high footfall areas due to reports of opportunistic crime in Downtown Toronto and Old Toronto.** Do not leave bags or personal belongings unattended at any time, and store valuables in accommodation overnight.
- **Minimise travel to or through high-crime areas, such as Jane and Finch, St. Jamestown and Moss Park.** If unsure about a specific district or area, consult the hotel concierge for local knowledge.
- **Take note of likely protest flashpoints** such as Nathan Phillips and Sankofa/Yonge and Dundas Square, as well as Queen's Park and university campuses.
- **Ride-sharing apps, such as Uber and Lyft, can be used to travel within the city.** Cab services are also viable and can be hailed from the streets or booked through cellphone apps.



Appendix: Methodology

Risk Ratings

MINIMAL	LOW	MODERATE	HIGH	EXTREME
Locations in this category are likely to be affected by small-scale, peaceful, protests that occur sporadically and represent no security risk but may cause temporary localised travel disruption.	Locations in this category are likely to be affected by small-scale protests and low-level clashes, resulting in a heightened police presence in the affected areas. Multiple arrests are reported, resulting in travel and operational disruption.	Locations in this category are likely to be affected by medium to large-scale protests and multiple low-level clashes. Local businesses are at a heightened risk of being damaged and looted, resulting in operational disruption.	Locations in this category are likely to be affected by large-scale protests and clashes taking place resulting in the deployment of National Guard units to contain the unrest. Movement restrictions are implemented to contain unrest, resulting in significant operational disruption.	Locations in this category are likely to be affected by significant civil unrest resulting in the temporary absence of law and order. Strict movement restrictions are imposed and a significant deployment of National Guard units leads to severe operational disruption.

Incident Impact Ratings

MINIMAL	LOW	MODERATE	SIGNIFICANT	CRITICAL
Incidents in this category are routine within the risk environment and do not pose a threat to life. Incidents rarely impact beyond the immediate vicinity and / or there is negligible implication associated with the risk factor.	Incidents in this category are routine within the risk environment but rarely pose a threat to life and / or the casualty impact is incidental and highly localised. Incidents rarely impact beyond the immediate vicinity or the implications are incidental.	Incidents in this category are fairly common for the risk environment and may pose a threat to life, occasionally resulting in mass casualties. The impact is typically restricted to the immediate vicinity and / or is incidental.	Incidents in this category occasionally occur in the risk environment and typically pose a credible and imminent threat to life, occasionally resulting in mass casualties. The impact may spread beyond the immediate vicinity.	Incidents in this category are highly out of the ordinary for the risk environment, pose a significant and imminent threat to life and will likely result in significant mass casualties. The impact is likely to have wider-reaching implications.

Risk Trends

RAPIDLY IMPROVING	IMPROVING	STABLE	DETERIORATING	RAPIDLY DETERIORATING
The situation is improving in the short term, with the potential for an event to cause a sudden and unexpected improvement.	The situation is improving in the medium term, at a steady and predictable rate.	The situation is unlikely to see a significant improvement or deterioration over the medium term.	The situation is worsening in the medium term, at a steady and predictable rate.	The situation is worsening in the short term, with the potential for a sudden and unexpected deterioration.

Source Evaluation Criteria

CANNOT BE JUDGED	UNRELIABLE	RARELY RELIABLE	FAIRLY RELIABLE	USUALLY RELIABLE	RELIABLE
No basis exists for evaluating the reliability of the source.	Lacking in authenticity, trustworthiness, or competency. Frequent history of misinformation or inaccuracy.	Significant doubt about authenticity, trustworthiness or competency. Some history of misinformation or inaccuracy.	Doubt about authenticity, trustworthiness, or competency. History of some valid information.	Some doubt about authenticity, trustworthiness, or competency. History of valid information most of the time.	No doubt of authenticity, trustworthiness, or competency. History of being reliable almost all of the time.

Information Validity

CANNOT BE JUDGED	CONFIRMED FALSE	LIKELY FALSE	POSSIBLY TRUE	PROBABLY TRUE	CONFIRMED TRUE
No basis exists for evaluating the validity of the information.	Confirmed as false by reputable independent sources.	Not confirmed. Possible but not logical. No other information on the subject or information is contradictory.	Not confirmed but reasonably logical. Limited other information on subject.	Not confirmed but logical in itself and consistent with most other information on subject.	Confirmed by reputable independent sources and logical in itself.

Forecasting

REMOTE CHANCE	HIGHLY UNLIKELY	UNLIKELY	EVEN CHANCE	LIKELY	HIGHLY LIKELY	ALMOST CERTAIN
<5%	10% - 20%	25% - 35%	40%-50%	55%-75%	80%-90%	>95%

This report was brought to you by the Healix Global Security Operations Centre (GSOC), providing clients with 24/7 access to dedicated professionals offering proactive, end-to-end risk management expertise and assistance.

The information contained herein does not constitute a guarantee by Healix and is not an insurance against risk. Information has been compiled on a best effort basis and Healix is not in any way responsible for the client's ultimate decision in response to the findings of this document.

Are you happy with this report?

We would like to invite you to provide your feedback on this report by completing our short 1-minute survey.



Should you prefer, please feel free to speak directly with one of the Healix Security team or your Account Manager.

Click [here](#) to take the survey

Discover more about how we can support you

 enquiries@healix.com

 healix.com