

OVERVIEW

This summary presents key findings from the 2025 cross-sector threat monitoring survey, with input from 25 UK financial sector firms. The report highlights the extensive and diverse set of significant threats to operational resilience, both in the short and longer terms. Of the 35 baseline sectoral threats evaluated, 29 were assessed as sufficiently significant to be of concern.

- Nation-state cyber-attacks, disruption to key third parties and Critical National Infrastructure (CNI), and technological failures are the most highly rated short-term threats.
- The data from the 2024 & 2025 surveys suggest the most highly rated threats are stable over the entire forecast period. However, at the 5-10 year horizon, rising threats include disruption from AI and other new technologies, the rise of digital currencies, and the destabilising effects of climate change.
- Increasing geopolitical instability is a contributing factor to many sectoral threats.

STRATEGIC FINDINGS



Reporting Trends: The top threats fall into three categories:

- Malicious cyber activity
- Technological threats
- External/supply chain dependency failures



Broader Alignment: There is a high degree of alignment between these top threats and the short-term risks identified in the CMORG Strategic Risk Register.



Limitations: The report does not seek to be a comprehensive view of all possible threats and does not constitute absolute predictions for the future.

AI DEEP DIVE



Artificial intelligence is amplifying existing attack types by increasing their scale, precision, and speed.



Attackers use AI for organisational mapping, rapid vulnerability exploitation, and more convincing social engineering.



Defensive postures must evolve to address AI-driven threats, including automation in threat detection and incident response.



Deepfake voices and faces are increasingly used to extract sensitive operational information, bypass verbal authentication checks, and influence incident response decisions during active compromises.

SUPPLEMENTARY RESOURCES



National Risk Register 2025: The National Risk Register 2025 provides the UK Government's update, public assessment of the most serious risks facing the country. It details their likelihood and potential impact across a wide range of threats. [National Risk Register - 2025 edition](#)



CMORG Strategic Risk Register: The Strategic Risk Register 2025 provides a refreshed, sector-wide view of the most relevant operational risks facing the UK financial sector, integrating insights from industry experts, regulators, and the National Risk Register. [Strategic Risk Register 2025 version 3 | Cross Market Operational Resilience Group](#)

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Thank you: With thanks to the working group and its leads, plus the 25 firms who completed the survey.



Call to Action: The 2025 report was produced on a 'give to get' basis. Organisations are encouraged to help ensure the next iteration reflects an even more representative view of the sectors' evolving risks.