

ASIA PACIFIC | 2026

# Risk in Focus

This Board Briefing is a summary of the Asia Pacific Risk in Focus 2026 report, available at [theiia.org/RiskInFocus](https://theiia.org/RiskInFocus)



Asian Confederation of  
Institutes of Internal Auditors



Internal Audit  
**FOUNDATION**

# About Risk in Focus

Know Your Risks. Plan Strategically.

01

An annual initiative to identify the world's five highest risks

02

Based on survey results, roundtables, and interviews with chief audit executives and directors

03

Research facilitated by the Internal Audit Foundation and partners\*



\*Europe Risk in Focus reports are produced by the European Confederation of Institutes of Internal Auditing (ECIIA)





AFRICA



ASIA  
PACIFIC



EUROPE



LATIN  
AMERICA



MIDDLE  
EAST



NORTH  
AMERICA

## Download Risk in Focus reports for:

- Africa
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- Europe
- Latin America
- Middle East
- North America
- Global Summary

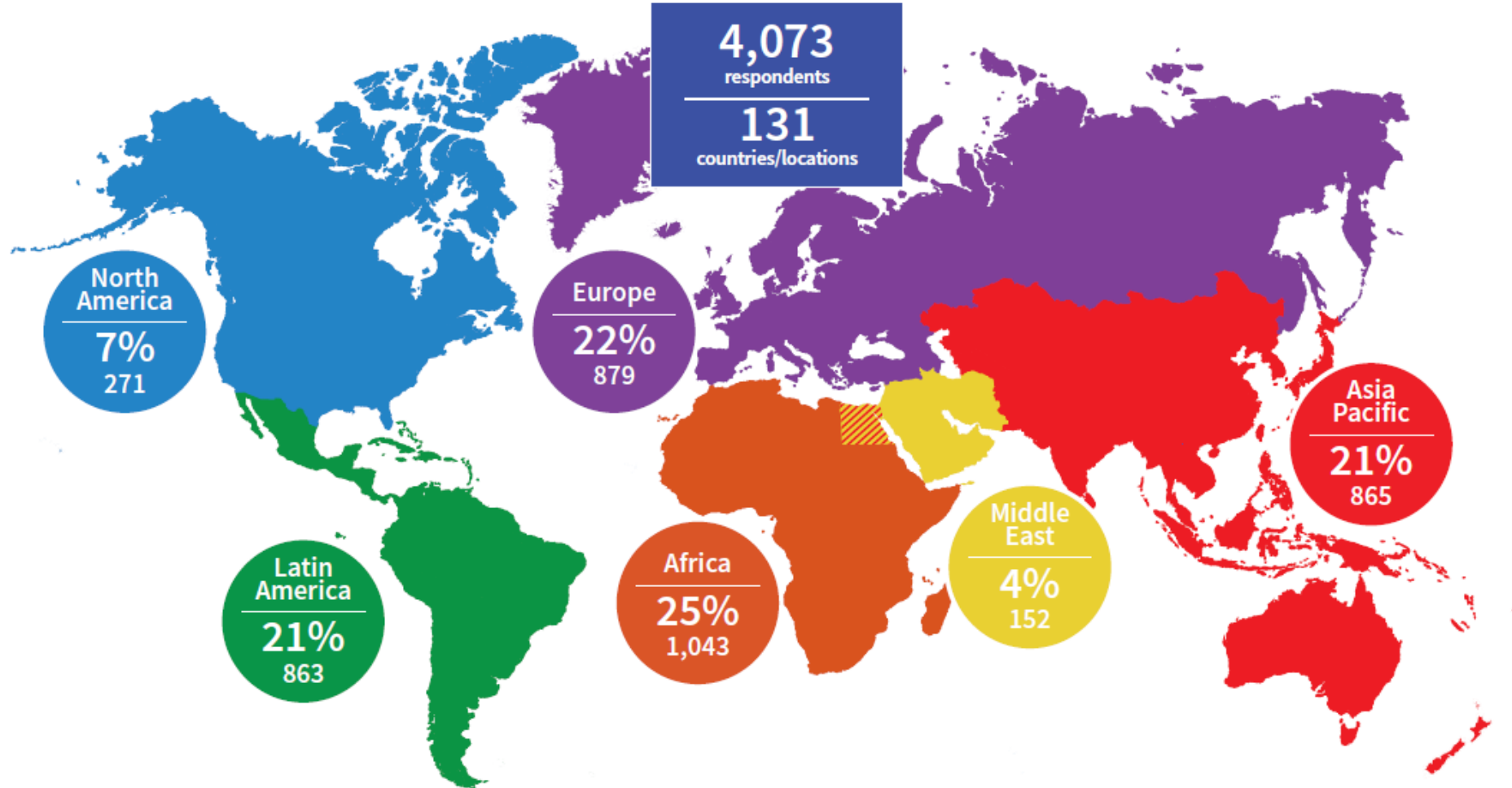


[theiia.org/RiskInFocus](https://theiia.org/RiskInFocus)



# Global Survey Participation

Response rate per region

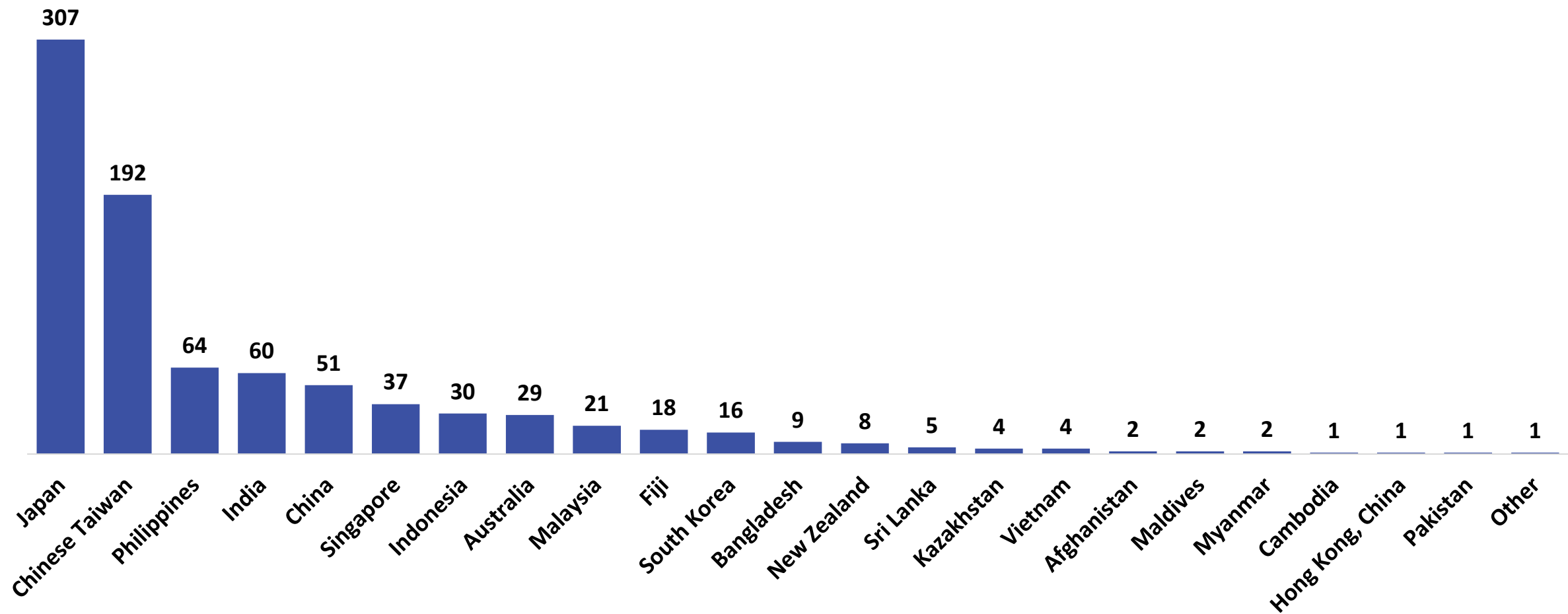


- **4,073** responses from chief audit executives and directors
- **131** countries/locations represented
- Survey conducted **April 28 to June 6, 2025**



# Asia Pacific Survey Participation

Response rate per country/location





# Asia Pacific Survey Participation

Response rate per subregion and country

East Asia		Pacific		South Asia		Southeast Asia		Central Asia/Other	
Japan	307	Australia	29	India	60	Philippines	64	Kazakhstan	4
Chinese Taiwan	192	Fiji	18	Bangladesh	9	Singapore	37	Afghanistan	2
China	51	New Zealand	8	Sri Lanka	5	Indonesia	30	Other	1
South Korea	16	Maldives	2	Pakistan	1	Malaysia	21	Total	7
Hong Kong, China	1	Total	57	Total	75	Vietnam	4		
Total	567					Myanmar	2		
						Cambodia	1		
						Total	159		

# Asia Pacific's Risk Environment

Trends and relationships between risks



# Survey Questions and Risk Areas

The survey focused on 16 risk areas and 2 key questions



## Key Questions:

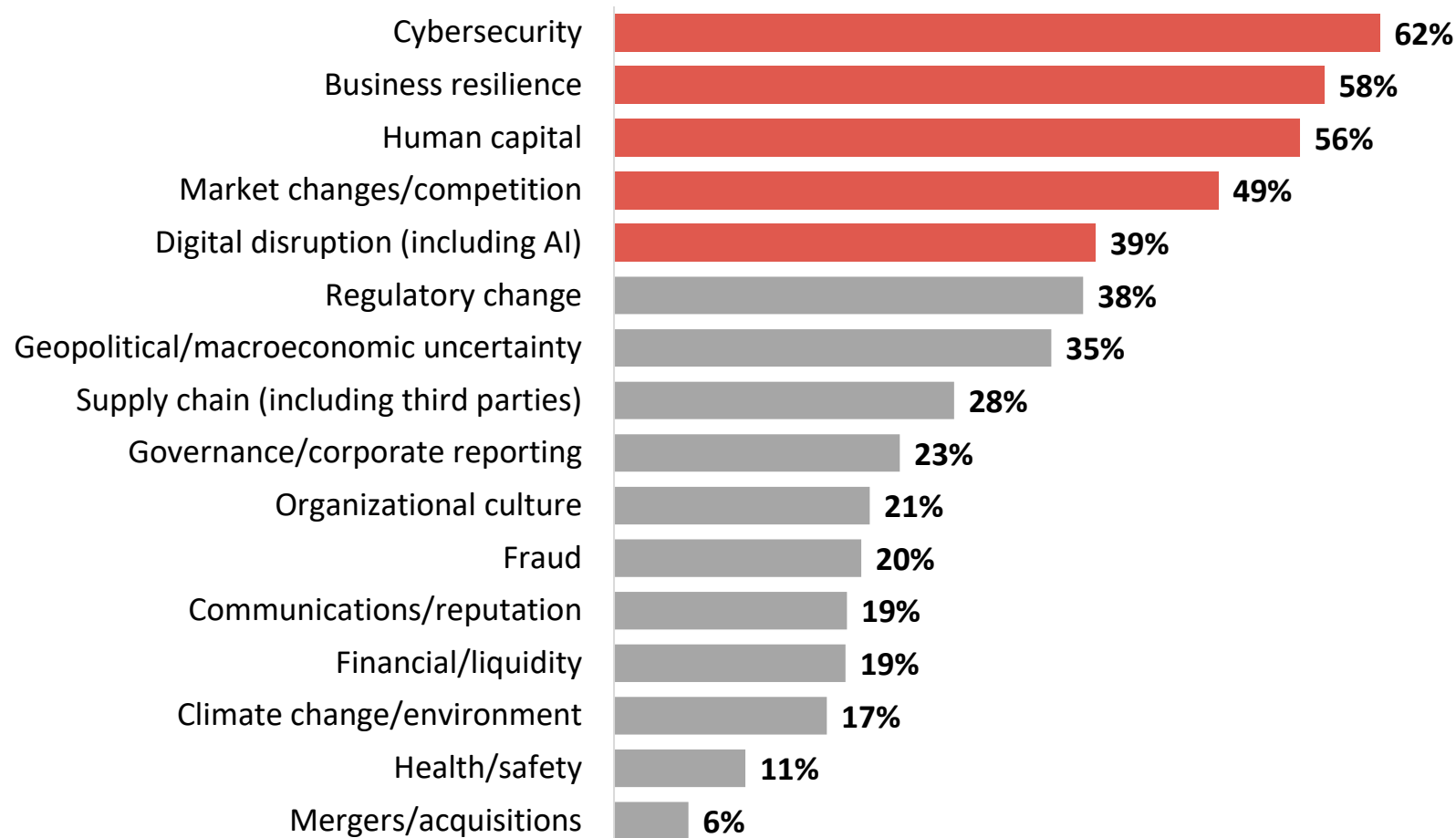
- What are the Top 5 risks your organization faces?
- What are the Top 5 areas on which internal audit spends the most time and effort?

Risk Areas in the Survey			
1	Business continuity	9	Governance/corporate reporting
2	Climate change	10	Health/safety
3	Communications/reputation	11	Human capital
4	Cybersecurity	12	Market changes/competition
5	Digital disruption (including AI)	13	Mergers/acquisitions
6	Financial liquidity	14	Organizational culture
7	Fraud	15	Regulatory change
8	Geopolitical uncertainty	16	Supply chain (including third parties)



# Asia Pacific – Highest Risks

Survey question: What are the Top 5 risks your organization currently faces?



- **Cybersecurity** is the highest risk (62% saying it is Top 5).
- **Business resilience** (58%) and **human capital** (56%) follow closely behind.
- **Market change** is a unique risk to Asia Pacific (49%).
- **Digital disruption** (39%) ranks fifth.
- Subregions had substantial differences (see further analysis).

# Asia Pacific – Highest Risks per Subregion

Survey question: What are the Top 5 risks your organization currently faces?

Risk area	All	East Asia	Southeast Asia	Pacific	South Asia
Cybersecurity	62%	59%	67%	61%	75%
Business resilience	58%	57%	62%	61%	49%
Human capital	56%	60%	49%	49%	41%
Market changes/competition	49%	58%	30%	33%	36%
Digital disruption (including AI)	39%	32%	52%	39%	56%
Regulatory change	38%	39%	35%	42%	37%
Geopolitical/macroeconomic uncertainty	35%	34%	37%	33%	47%
Supply chain (including third parties)	28%	26%	33%	30%	27%
Governance/corporate reporting	23%	26%	22%	16%	13%
Organizational culture	21%	24%	10%	25%	15%
Fraud	20%	18%	26%	9%	29%
Communications/reputation	19%	19%	18%	26%	12%
Financial/liquidity	19%	17%	20%	28%	20%
Climate change/environment	17%	14%	22%	19%	29%
Health/safety	11%	10%	11%	21%	8%
Mergers/acquisitions	6%	6%	6%	7%	5%

■ Highest risks per subregion

■ If there is a tie for the fifth highest percentage, the tied percentages are highlighted in a lighter color

Note: Risk in Focus survey conducted online from April 28 to June 6, 2025, by the Internal Audit Foundation and partners. *n* = 567 for East Asia. *n* = 159 for Southeast Asia. *n* = 55 for Pacific. *n* = 75 for South Asia.

- The three highest risks are the same for all Asia Pacific subregions.
- East Asia is the only subregion for which **market changes/competition** is high.
- **Digital disruption** is high for all regions *except* East Asia.
- **Regulatory change** risk is highest for Pacific (42%).
- **Geopolitical uncertainty** is highest for South Asia (47%).

# Global vs. Regions – Highest Risks

Survey question: What are the Top 5 risks your organization currently faces?

Risk area	Average of the regions	Africa	Asia Pacific	Europe	Latin America	Middle East	North America
Cybersecurity	73%	62%	62%	82%	76%	72%	86%
Digital disruption (including AI)	48%	44%	39%	47%	54%	50%	53%
Business resilience	47%	49%	58%	39%	35%	58%	46%
Human capital	43%	35%	56%	48%	40%	38%	42%
Regulatory change	41%	34%	38%	45%	49%	28%	51%
Geopolitical/macroeconomic uncertainty	38%	27%	35%	45%	45%	29%	45%
Financial/liquidity	31%	43%	19%	27%	32%	38%	27%
Market changes/competition	31%	19%	49%	32%	24%	29%	34%
Governance/corporate reporting	24%	33%	23%	20%	16%	38%	15%
Organizational culture	24%	29%	21%	19%	28%	26%	20%
Supply chain (including third parties)	24%	17%	28%	29%	15%	23%	30%
Fraud	23%	43%	20%	16%	32%	19%	11%
Communications/reputation	19%	25%	19%	12%	19%	19%	18%
Climate change/environment	18%	24%	17%	23%	25%	13%	7%
Health/safety	10%	11%	11%	12%	6%	11%	8%
Mergers/acquisitions	5%	3%	6%	5%	5%	6%	7%

■ Highest risks per region

■ If there is a tie for the fifth highest percentage, the tied percentages are highlighted in a lighter color

Note 1: The global average is calculated by summing the average from each region and dividing by the number of regions.

Note 2: Risk in Focus survey conducted online from April 28 to June 6, 2025, by the Internal Audit Foundation and partners.  $n = 4,073$  for global.

- Asia Pacific ranked **business resilience** and **human capital** risks substantially higher than the global average.
- Asia Pacific ranked **digital disruption** risk lower than the global average (39% vs. 48%).
- Asia Pacific was the only region in the world where **market change** was one of the highest risks (49%).

# Asia Pacific – Risk Level Trend

Survey question: What are the Top 5 risks your organization currently faces?

2023	2024	2025	Change from 2024 to 2025	Change	Risk area
66%	64%	62%		-2	Cybersecurity
61%	62%	58%		-4	Business resilience
59%	57%	56%		-1	Human capital
47%	49%	49%		0	Market changes/competition
30%	36%	39%		+3	Digital disruption (including AI)
35%	32%	38%		+6	Regulatory change
28%	30%	35%		+5	Geopolitical/macroeconomic uncertainty
27%	24%	28%		+4	Supply chain (including third parties)
24%	22%	23%		+1	Governance/corporate reporting
23%	23%	21%		-2	Organizational culture
22%	22%	20%		-2	Fraud
18%	21%	19%		-2	Communications/reputation
21%	19%	19%		0	Financial/liquidity
22%	26%	17%		-9	Climate change/environment
12%	11%	11%		0	Health/safety
4%	4%	6%		+2	Mergers/acquisitions

Increased risk level compared to prior year Decreased risk level compared to prior year

Note 1: Risk in Focus survey conducted online from April 28 to June 6, 2025, by the Internal Audit Foundation and partners.  $n = 865$  for Asia Pacific.

Note 2: The orange and blue bars show the difference in risk level ratings from 2024 to 2025. The column labeled "change" shows the percentage point difference between 2024 and 2025. The areas are listed from the highest to lowest risk level rating for 2025. The years indicate the year the survey was conducted.

- Rankings for Asia Pacific's top risks dipped slightly (**cybersecurity**, **business resilience**, and **human capital**).
- At the same time, four mid-level risks rose moderately:
  - **Regulatory change** (+6)
  - **Geopolitical uncertainty** (+5)
  - **Supply chain** (+4)
  - **Digital disruption** (+3)
- As risks climbed in a variety of areas, risk ranking dropped sharply for **climate change** (-9).



# Asia Pacific – Highest Risks per Industry

Survey question: What are the Top 5 risks your organization currently faces?

- **Cybersecurity, business resilience, and human capital** risks were high across industries.
- **Geopolitical uncertainty** was highest for manufacturing and transport/storage.

Risk area	All	Manufacturing	Financial services	Information/communication	Wholesale and retail	Mining/energy/water	Professional/technical	Transport/storage	Health/social work
Cybersecurity	62%	54%	78%	79%	63%	47%	69%	52%	69%
Business resilience	58%	60%	58%	53%	49%	60%	48%	73%	50%
Human capital	56%	57%	52%	51%	60%	42%	67%	48%	66%
Market changes/competition	49%	61%	40%	47%	63%	40%	40%	45%	34%
Digital disruption (including AI)	39%	33%	49%	47%	32%	27%	50%	33%	38%
Regulatory change	38%	36%	43%	42%	35%	53%	33%	36%	47%
Geopolitical/macroeconomic uncertainty	35%	48%	33%	30%	25%	33%	19%	39%	19%
Supply chain (including third parties)	28%	31%	19%	32%	30%	29%	21%	27%	22%
Governance/corporate reporting	23%	22%	21%	18%	30%	20%	33%	24%	22%
Organizational culture	21%	19%	16%	24%	21%	20%	36%	21%	28%
Fraud	20%	16%	25%	14%	27%	22%	7%	27%	19%
Communications/reputation	19%	14%	18%	22%	17%	22%	19%	6%	25%
Financial/liquidity	19%	14%	23%	11%	11%	22%	14%	27%	28%
Climate change/environment	17%	22%	16%	9%	11%	27%	19%	18%	3%
Health/safety	11%	10%	4%	11%	6%	31%	10%	15%	19%
Mergers/acquisitions	6%	4%	5%	9%	10%	4%	14%	6%	13%

■ Highest risks per industry

■ If there is a tie for the fifth highest percentage, the tied percentages are highlighted in a lighter color

Note 1: Risk in Focus survey conducted online from April 28 to June 6, 2025, by the Internal Audit Foundation and partners. *n* = 865 for Asia Pacific.

Note 2: Industries with the highest response rates are shown. The column labeled "All" shows the average of all respondents.

# Asia Pacific's Audit Priorities

Maintaining essential coverage while  
addressing rising risks

# Asia Pacific – Highest Audit Priorities

Survey question: What are the Top 5 audit areas on which internal audit spends the most time and effort?



- **Cybersecurity** was the highest-rated audit priority for Asia Pacific (63%).
- **Regulatory change** (58%), **business resilience** (57%), and **governance** (56%) followed closely behind.
- **Fraud** was the fifth highest audit priority (42%).
- Subregions had substantial differences (see further analysis).

# Asia Pacific – Highest Priorities per Subregion

Survey question: What are the Top 5 audit areas on which internal audit spends the most time and effort?

Audit area	All	East Asia	Southeast Asia	Pacific	South Asia
Cybersecurity	63%	60%	67%	68%	71%
Regulatory change	58%	66%	41%	39%	49%
Business resilience	57%	53%	66%	67%	59%
Governance/corporate reporting	56%	56%	50%	65%	56%
Fraud	42%	41%	42%	35%	57%
Human capital	36%	42%	26%	33%	21%
Supply chain (including third parties)	32%	28%	42%	35%	45%
Financial/liquidity	30%	28%	35%	40%	29%
Digital disruption (including AI)	25%	23%	32%	16%	29%
Organizational culture	23%	27%	14%	28%	11%
Market changes/competition	19%	22%	13%	12%	15%
Communications/reputation	18%	18%	23%	14%	9%
Health/safety	17%	15%	17%	28%	19%
Climate change/environment	10%	8%	16%	12%	8%
Geopolitical/macroeconomic uncertainty	7%	7%	10%	0%	8%
Mergers/acquisitions	4%	3%	3%	7%	7%

■ Highest audit priorities per subregion

■ If there is a tie for the fifth highest percentage, the tied percentages are highlighted in a lighter color

Note: Risk in Focus survey conducted online from April 28 to June 6, 2025, by the Internal Audit Foundation and partners.  
n = 159 for Southeast Asia. n = 55 for Pacific. n = 75 for South Asia. n = 567 for East Asia.

- The four highest audit priorities are remarkably consistent across subregions.
- East Asia was higher than the region average for **human capital** audit effort (42%).
- **Supply chain** effort was especially high for Southeast Asia (42%).
- Pacific had highest priority in the region for **financial/liquidity** (40%).
- South Asia was highest in the region for **fraud** (57%).



# Global vs. Regions – Highest Audit Priorities

Survey question: What are the Top 5 audit areas on which internal audit spends the most time and effort?

Risk area	Average of the regions	Africa	Asia Pacific	Europe	Latin America	Middle East	North America
Cybersecurity	69%	60%	63%	72%	69%	69%	83%
Governance/corporate reporting	55%	51%	55%	58%	48%	64%	53%
Business resilience	53%	54%	57%	50%	40%	59%	60%
Regulatory change	46%	37%	58%	49%	53%	30%	50%
Financial/liquidity	44%	47%	30%	43%	51%	47%	44%
Fraud	40%	49%	42%	37%	51%	30%	30%
Supply chain (including third parties)	33%	31%	32%	39%	24%	35%	37%
Digital disruption (including AI)	32%	30%	25%	29%	30%	36%	43%
Human capital	29%	32%	36%	27%	27%	35%	15%
Organizational culture	23%	26%	23%	21%	29%	19%	19%
Communications/reputation	18%	23%	18%	14%	21%	19%	14%
Market changes/competition	15%	13%	19%	13%	16%	14%	13%
Health/safety	15%	13%	17%	17%	12%	14%	15%
Geopolitical/macroeconomic uncertainty	11%	12%	8%	8%	16%	13%	10%
Climate change/environment	10%	14%	10%	16%	9%	8%	4%
Mergers/acquisitions	5%	3%	4%	5%	6%	4%	7%

■ Highest audit priorities per region

■ If there is a tie for the fifth highest percentage, the tied percentages are highlighted in a lighter color

Note 1: The global average is calculated by summing the average from each region and dividing by the number of regions.

Note 2: Risk in Focus survey conducted online from April 28 to June 6, 2025, by the Internal Audit Foundation and partners.  $n = 4,073$  for global.

- Asia Pacific aligned with the world's top audit priorities, with one exception:
  - Audit priority for **financial/liquidity** risk was well below the global average (30% vs. 44%).
- Asia Pacific joined Africa and Latin America in ranking **fraud** as one of its five highest audit priorities.

# Asia Pacific – Audit Priority Trend

Survey question: What are the Top 5 audit areas on which internal audit spends the most time and effort?

2023	2024	2025	Change from 2024 to 2025	Change	Risk area
66%	63%	63%		0	Cybersecurity
56%	52%	58%		+6	Regulatory change
59%	60%	57%		-3	Business resilience
54%	55%	56%		+1	Governance/corporate reporting
42%	43%	42%		-1	Fraud
33%	33%	36%		+3	Human capital
33%	28%	32%		+4	Supply chain (including third parties)
35%	30%	30%		0	Financial/liquidity
19%	23%	25%		+2	Digital disruption (including AI)
23%	25%	23%		-2	Organizational culture
23%	25%	19%		-6	Market changes/competition
21%	23%	18%		-5	Communications/reputation
18%	16%	17%		+1	Health/safety
10%	16%	10%		-6	Climate change/environment
6%	6%	7%		+1	Geopolitical/macroeconomic uncertainty
3%	2%	4%		+2	Mergers/acquisitions

■ Increased audit priority compared to prior year ■ Decreased audit priority compared to prior year

Note 1: Risk in Focus survey conducted online from April 28 to June 6, 2025, by the Internal Audit Foundation and partners.  $n = 865$  for Asia Pacific.

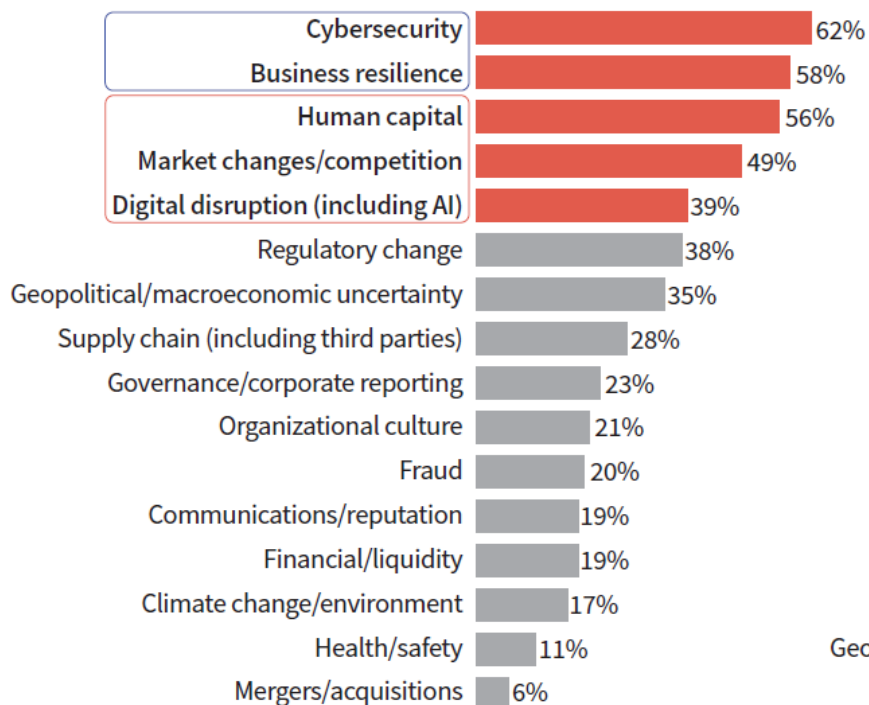
Note 2: The orange and blue bars show the difference in audit priority ratings from 2024 to 2025. The column labeled "change" shows the percentage point difference between 2024 and 2025. The areas are listed from the highest to lowest audit priority rating for 2025. The years indicate the year the survey was conducted.

- The three areas with the greatest audit priority increase for Asia Pacific were:
  - **Regulatory change** (+6)
  - **Supply chain** (+4)
  - **Human capital** (+3)
- The areas that were substantially less likely to be Top 5 audit priorities this year vs. the prior year were:
  - **Market changes** (-6)
  - **Climate change** (-6)
  - **Communications/reputation** (-5)

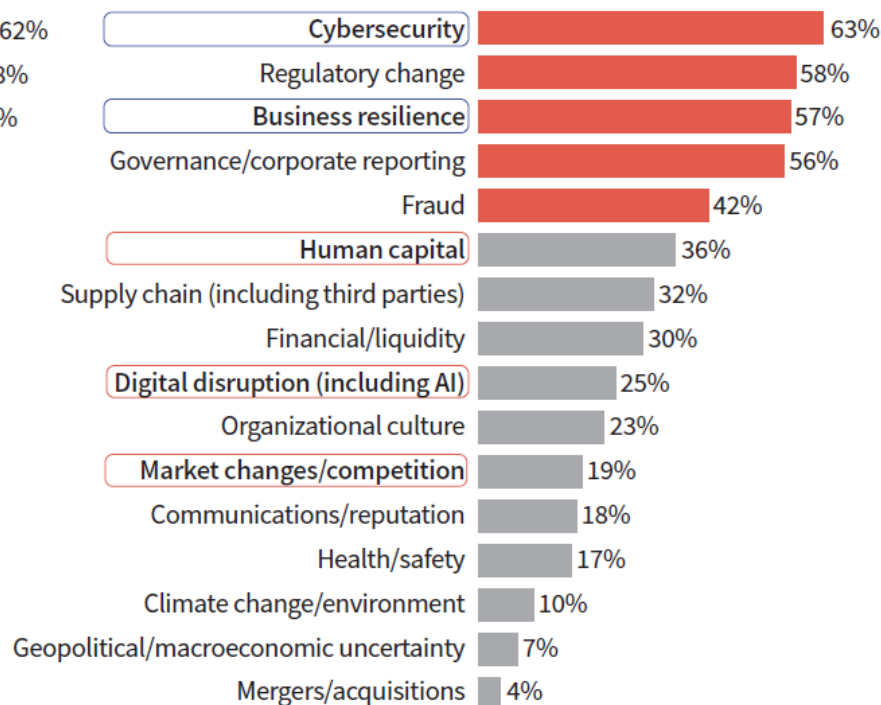
# Asia Pacific – Risk vs. Audit Priorities

Highest risks compared to highest priorities for internal audit time and effort

## Asia Pacific – Highest Risks



## Asia Pacific – Highest Audit Priorities



■ Highest risks and audit priorities    ■ Areas with both high risk and high audit priority    ■ Areas with high risk but lower audit priority

Note: Risk in Focus survey conducted online from April 28 to June 6, 2025, by the Internal Audit Foundation and partners. n = 865 for Asia Pacific.

- For Asia Pacific, only 2 out of 5 high risk areas were also high audit effort areas.
- Audit effort was substantially lower than risk for:
  - **Human capital** (-20)
  - **Market changes** (-30)
  - **Digital disruption** (-14)

# Asia Pacific – Highest Audit Priorities per Industry

Survey question: What are the Top 5 audit areas on which internal audit spends the most time and effort?

- The five highest audit priorities were consistent across almost all industries.
- **Human capital** priority was high for information, professional, and health/social work.

Audit area	All	Manufacturing	Financial services	Information/communication	Wholesale and retail	Mining/energy/water	Professional/technical	Transport/storage	Health/social work
Cybersecurity	63%	62%	72%	72%	57%	49%	71%	61%	53%
Regulatory change	58%	61%	61%	62%	67%	40%	62%	48%	59%
Business resilience	57%	59%	62%	53%	48%	69%	33%	58%	66%
Governance/corporate reporting	56%	53%	49%	53%	65%	60%	71%	58%	66%
Fraud	42%	41%	38%	41%	57%	40%	33%	52%	34%
Human capital	36%	34%	34%	43%	40%	27%	52%	45%	50%
Supply chain (including third parties)	32%	37%	24%	34%	25%	44%	26%	27%	38%
Financial/liquidity	30%	28%	33%	24%	30%	27%	26%	36%	34%
Digital disruption (including AI)	25%	22%	36%	30%	11%	22%	19%	9%	19%
Organizational culture	23%	23%	18%	22%	21%	22%	26%	33%	28%
Market changes/competition	19%	23%	19%	16%	21%	22%	17%	21%	16%
Communications/reputation	18%	14%	20%	14%	21%	20%	19%	18%	9%
Health/safety	17%	16%	8%	16%	10%	36%	17%	21%	19%
Climate change/environment	10%	13%	7%	7%	6%	18%	12%	9%	3%
Geopolitical/macroeconomic uncertainty	7%	10%	6%	9%	6%	0%	5%	0%	3%
Mergers/acquisitions	4%	3%	2%	4%	8%	4%	10%	3%	3%

■ Highest audit priorities per industry

■ If there is a tie for the fifth highest percentage, the tied percentages are highlighted in a lighter color

Note 1: Risk in Focus survey conducted online from April 28 to June 6, 2025, by the Internal Audit Foundation and partners.  $n = 865$  for Asia Pacific.

Note 2: Industries with the highest response rates are shown. The column labeled "All" shows the average of all respondents.





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# A Closer Look at Asia Pacific's Subregions

East Asia, Pacific, South Asia, Southeast Asia



# A Closer Look at East Asia – Key Points

Survey findings and internal audit strategies

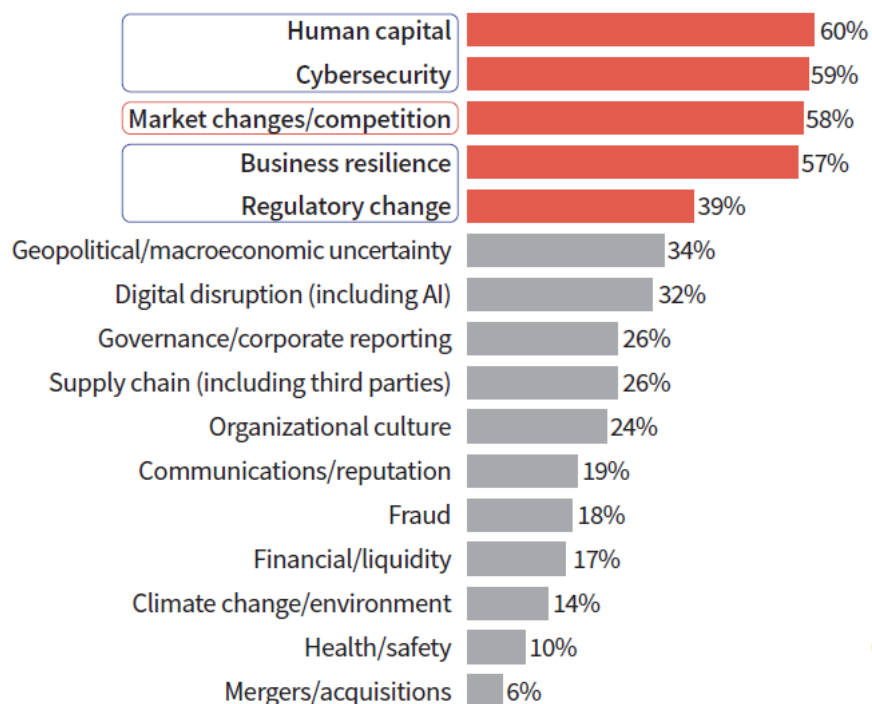
- **Survey findings**
  - **Human capital** risk was slightly higher than **cybersecurity** risk for East Asia (60% vs. 59%).
  - East Asia risk levels for **market changes/competition** were the highest in the world (58%).
- **Internal audit strategies**
  - Develop a keen understanding of business strategy.
  - Test supply chain reliability.
  - Monitor technology adoption.
  - Support quality control and compliance.
  - Provide consulting services for new business strategies.
  - Stay up to date on industry changes.
  - Speak to governing bodies about adapting to new uncertainties.
  - Become forward-looking to respond to a fast-changing world.



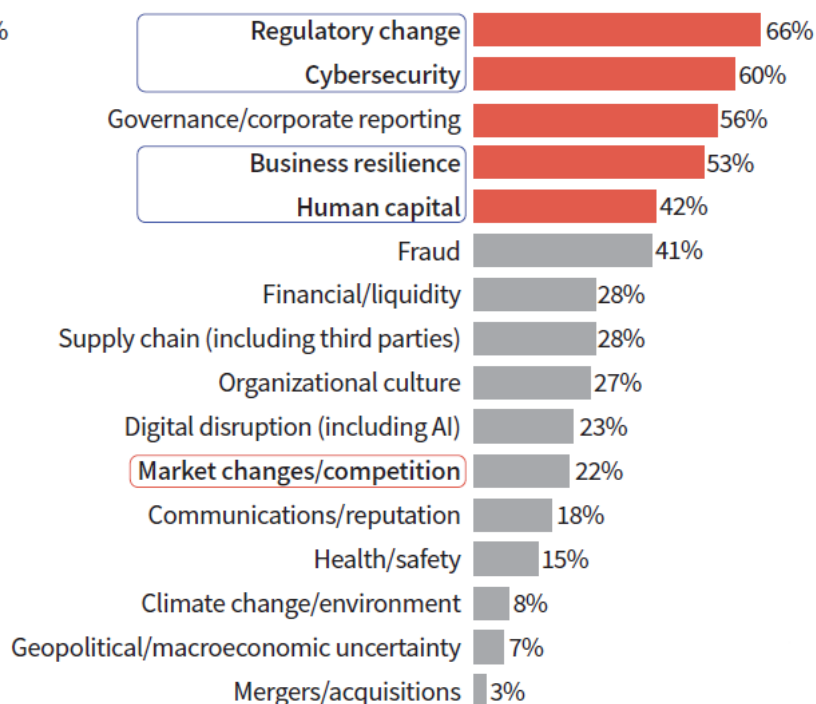
# East Asia – Risk vs. Audit Priorities

Highest risks compared to highest priorities for internal audit time and effort

## East Asia – Highest Risks



## East Asia – Highest Audit Priorities



■ Highest risks and audit priorities   ■ Areas with both high risk and high audit priority   ■ Areas with high risk but lower audit priority

Note: Risk in Focus survey conducted online from April 28 to June 6, 2025, by the Internal Audit Foundation and partners. n = 567 for East Asia.

- For East Asia, risk and audit priority alignment were better than the region average, with 4 out of 5 high risk areas also rated as high audit effort areas.
- However, audit effort was substantially lower than risk level for:
  - **Market changes** (-36)



# A Closer Look at the Pacific – Key Points

Survey findings and internal audit strategies

- **Survey findings**
  - **Business resilience** and **cybersecurity** were tied as the highest risks for the Pacific (60%).
  - **Human capital** (49%) and **digital disruption** (39%) were among the five highest risks in the region.
- **Internal audit strategies**
  - Understand strategic risks and the broader risk landscape for your organization's industry.
  - Consider whether audit plans are aligned to strategic plans and key risks.
  - Provide benchmarking and advisory services for recruiting and retention programs.
  - Anticipate disruption in global markets and adjust audit plans.
  - Stay current on new regulations and be prepared to provide assurance and advisory support.

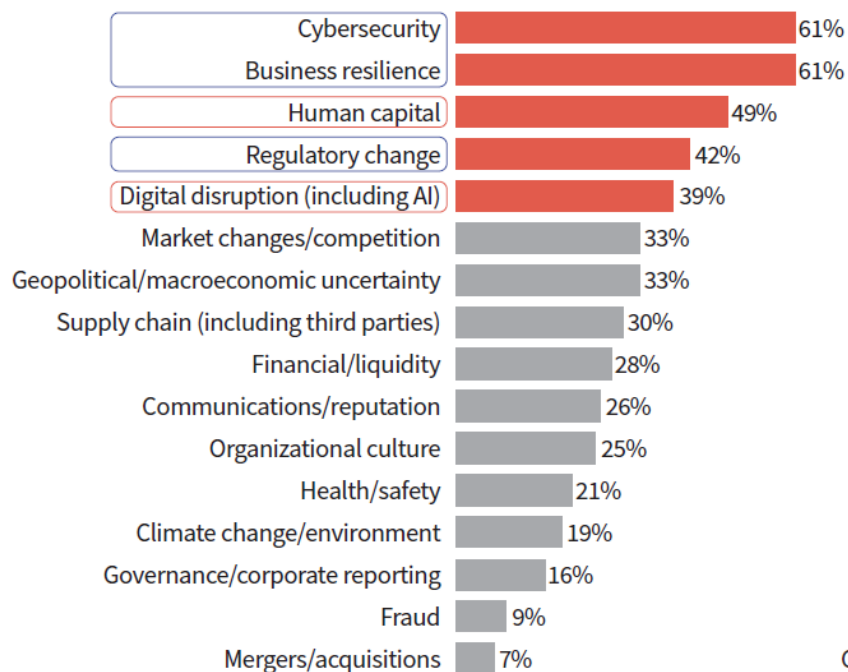




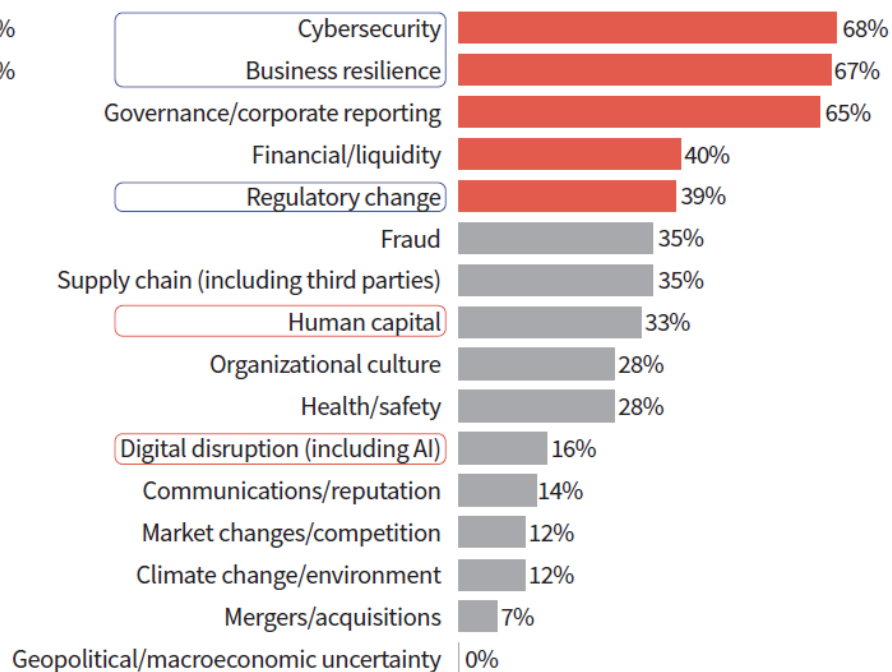
# Pacific – Risk vs. Audit Priorities

Highest risks compared to highest priorities for internal audit time and effort

## Pacific – Highest Risks



## Pacific – Highest Audit Priorities



■ Highest risks and audit priorities    ■ Areas with both high risk and high audit priority    ■ Areas with high risk but lower audit priority

Note: Risk in Focus survey conducted online from April 28 to June 6, 2025, by the Internal Audit Foundation and partners. n = 57 for Pacific.

- The Pacific area had 3 out of 5 areas for which risk and audit effort were both high (**cybersecurity**, **business resilience**, and **regulatory change**).
- However, audit effort was substantially lower than risk level for:
  - **Human capital** (-16)
  - **Digital disruption** (-23)



# A Closer Look at South Asia – Key Points

Survey findings and internal audit strategies

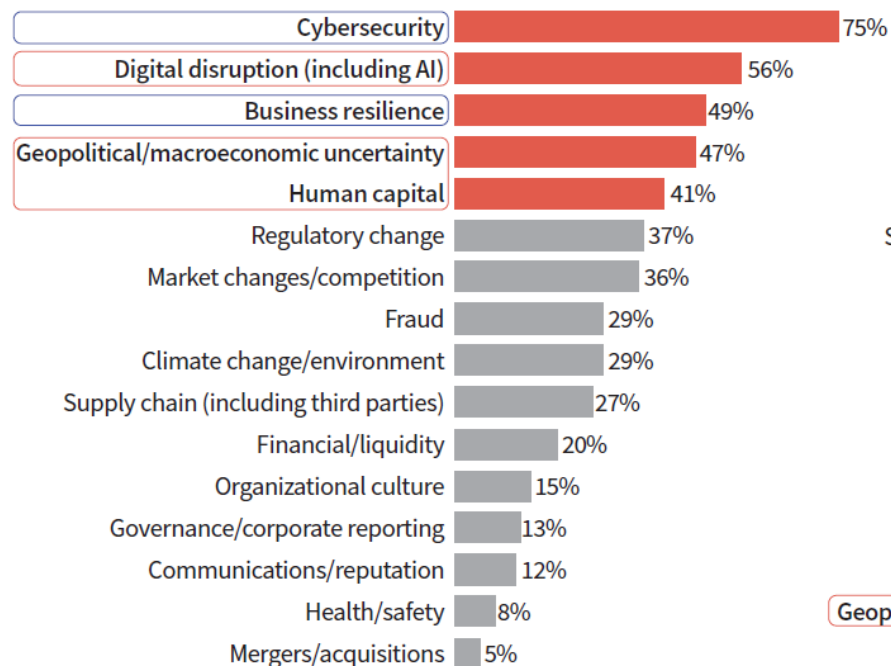
- **Survey findings**
  - Internal auditors in South Asia ranked technology risks higher than any other Asia Pacific subregion – with **cybersecurity** at 75% and **digital disruption** at 56%.
  - South Asia also ranked highest in the region for **geopolitical uncertainty** risks (47%).
- **Internal audit strategies**
  - Test the supply chain for reliability and test business continuity and disaster recovery plans.
  - Anticipate disruption in global trade and markets and adjust audit plans accordingly.
  - Understand how AI can be used in your organization and provide relevant assurance over related controls.
  - Look for the opportunity in risks and be prepared to advise governing bodies on how to leverage them.



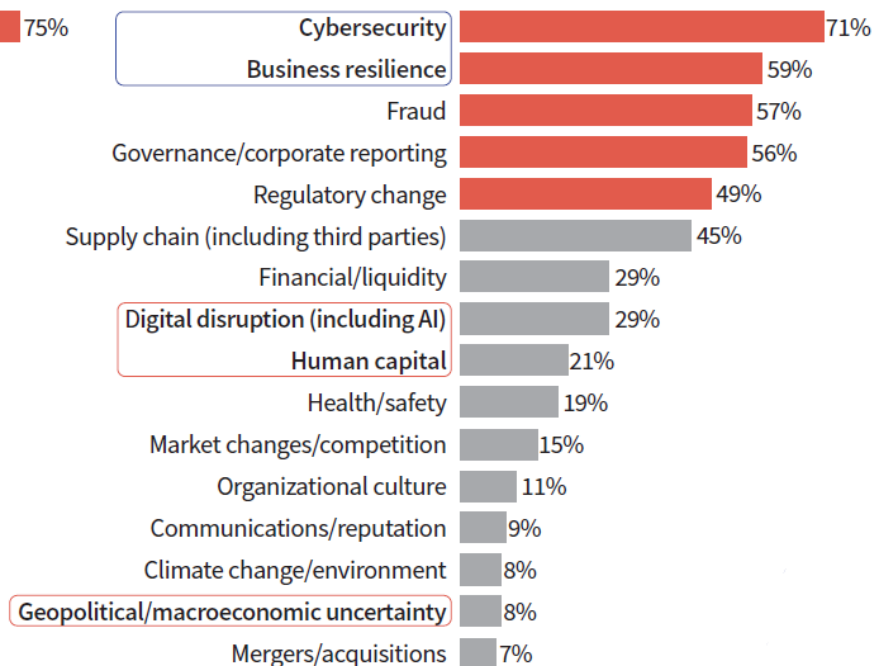
# South Asia – Risk vs. Audit Priorities

Highest risks compared to highest priorities for internal audit time and effort

## South Asia – Highest Risks



## South Asia – Highest Audit Priorities



■ Highest risks and audit priorities    ■ Areas with both high risk and high audit priority    ■ Areas with high risk but lower audit priority

Note: Risk in Focus survey conducted online from April 28 to June 6, 2025, by the Internal Audit Foundation and partners. n = 75 for South Asia.

- For South Asia, only 2 out of the 5 highest risks were also high for audit effort (**cybersecurity** and **business resilience**).
- Audit effort was substantially lower than risk level for:
  - **Digital disruption** (-27)
  - **Geopolitical uncertainty** (-39)
  - **Human capital** (-20)

# A Closer Look at Southeast Asia – Key Points

## Survey findings and internal audit strategies

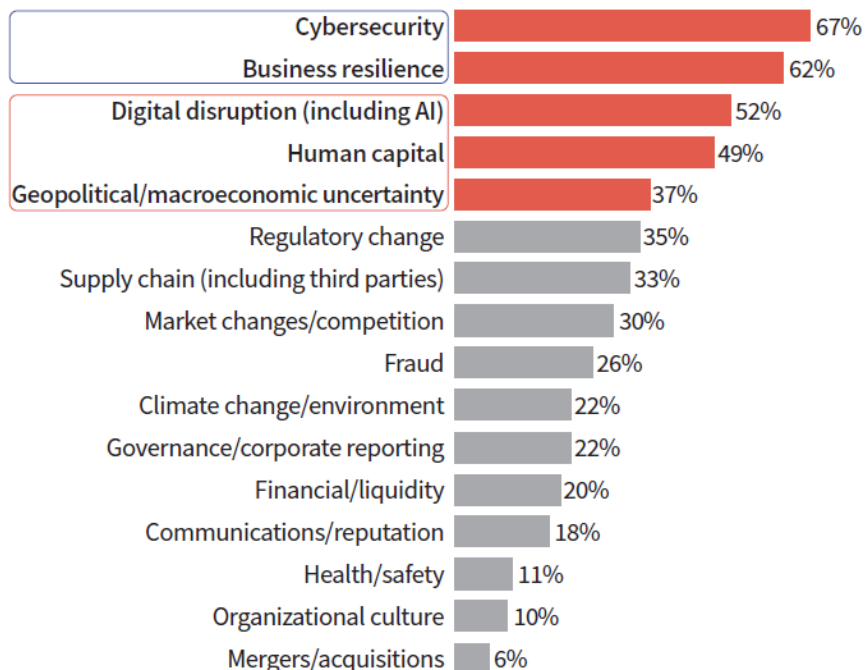
- **Survey findings**
  - **Cybersecurity** and **business resilience** were at the top of the risk rankings for Southeast Asia (above 60%).
  - **Digital disruption** ranked third (52%), followed closely by **human capital** (49%).
- **Internal audit strategies**
  - Be transparent with your governing body (board) about internal audit capability for auditing AI.
  - Use internal audit quality assurance and improvement programs to set goals for improving technology skills, including use of AI.
  - Monitor employee recruitment and retention programs for effectiveness and return on investment.
  - Communicate to executives and the governing body how internal audit allocates time and resources.



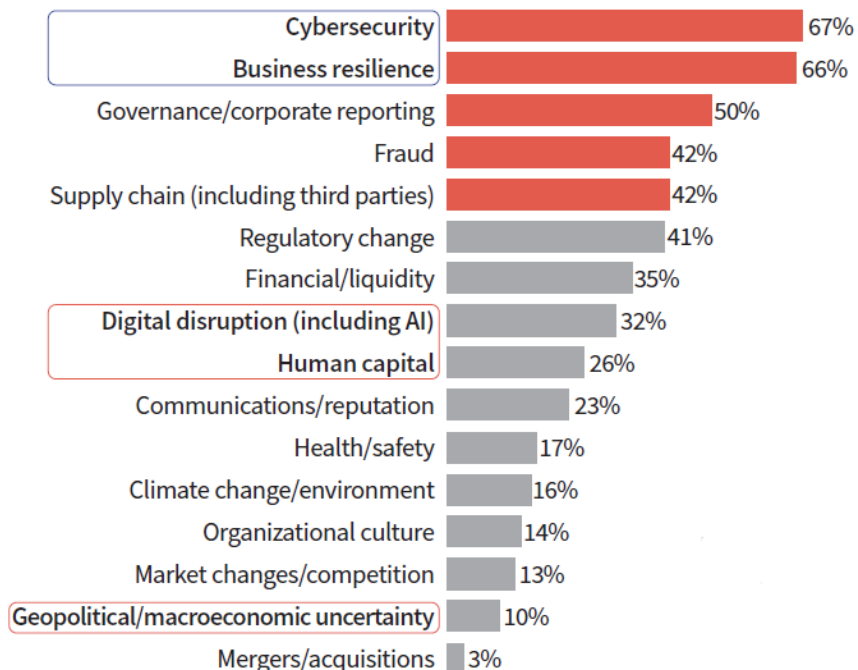
# Southeast Asia – Risk vs. Audit Priorities

Highest risks compared to highest priorities for internal audit time and effort

## Southeast Asia – Highest Risks



## Southeast Asia – Highest Audit Priorities



■ Highest risks and audit priorities    ■ Areas with both high risk and high audit priority    ■ Areas with high risk but lower audit priority

Note: Risk in Focus survey conducted online from April 28 to June 6, 2025, by the Internal Audit Foundation and partners.  $n = 159$  for Southeast Asia.

- Only 2 out of 5 areas in Southeast Asia aligned between risk level and audit priority – **cybersecurity** and **business resilience**.
- Risk was substantially higher than audit effort for:
  - **Digital disruption**(-20)
  - **Human capital** (-23)
  - **Geopolitical uncertainty** (-27)





# Auditing Resources from The IIA

Resources to help internal auditors with emerging risks

## Developing a Risk-Based Internal Audit Plan

- This [Global Practice Guide](#) describes how to create and maintain a risk-based audit plan.

## Cybersecurity Topical Requirement

- This new [Topical Requirement](#) provides guidance to follow when auditing cybersecurity.

## Auditing IT Governance and IT Management

- This [Global Technology Audit Guide](#) (GTAG) from The IIA helps internal auditors:
  - Identify gaps in IT governance.
  - Evaluate alignment with organizational objectives.
  - Provide recommendations to bolster IT oversight and resilience.

# Download the Asia Pacific Risk in Focus Report



For more analysis and leading practices, download the complete Asia Pacific report and board briefing at:



[theiia.org/RiskInFocusAsiaPacific](https://theiia.org/RiskInFocusAsiaPacific)

# Acknowledgments

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