

The Chapman University Survey of American Fears, Wave 12



The Complete List of Fears 2026 (Alphabetical Order)

The following is a complete list of all fears addressed by the Chapman University Survey of American Fears Wave 12 (2026), displayed with the *percentage of Americans who reported being afraid or very afraid*. They have been sorted alphabetically.

Accidents/Busy Intersection	25.3
Air Pollution	39.9
Artificial Intelligence (AI) Harming Personal Relationships	42.0
Artificial Intelligence (AI) Harming the Political Process	51.9
Artificial Intelligence (AI) Hurting the Economy	49.7
Artificial Intelligence (AI) Hurting the Environment	43.2
Artificial Intelligence (AI) Replacing People in the Workforce	42.0
Becoming Seriously Ill	40.5
Being Unemployed	25.7
Biological Warfare	48.2
Catching Influenza (the Seasonal Flu)	18.2
Climate Change Impacting Where I Live	37.0
Collapse of the Electrical Grid	45.5
Corporate Tracking of Personal Data	45.5
Corrupt Government Officials	61.1
Credit Card Fraud	35.9
Crime in Your City	20.6
Crime in Your Neighborhood	17.6
Cyber-Terrorism	45.7
Devastating Blizzard/Winter Storm	27.0
Devastating Drought	35.0
Devastating Earthquake	29.2
Devastating Flood	30.0
Devastating Hurricane	28.9
Devastating Tornado	33.6
Devastating Wildfire	33.5

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Dying	30.3
Economic/Financial Collapse	50.6
Extinction of Plant and Animal Species	37.2
Falling/Tripping on Uneven Sidewalks	16.0
Flying	19.0
Global Warming and Climate Change	42.8
Government Restrictions on Firearms and Ammunition	26.7
Government Tracking of Personal Data	48.9
Government Use of Drones Within the U.S.	34.2
Having Your Work Evaluated by Artificial Intelligence (AI)	19.3
Heights	31.1
High Medical Bills	44.1
Identity Theft	39.1
Illegal Immigration	25.2
Iran Using Nuclear Weapons	42.4
Losing My Health Insurance Coverage When I Need Medical Care	36.4
Mass Societal Unrest if We Discovered That Extra-terrestrials Are Real	18.8
Murder by a Stranger	30.5
Murder by Someone You Know	21.4
Needles	15.6
New Pandemic or a Major Epidemic	39.9
North Korea Using Nuclear Weapons	40.3
Not Being Able to Pay Off College Debt of Myself or a Family Member	19.9
Not Having Enough Money for the Future	45.9
Not Having Enough Money to Pay My Rent or Mortgage	29.7
Nuclear Accident/Meltdown	41.7
Oil Spills	32.3
People I Love Becoming Seriously Ill	51.8

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People I Love Dying	50.6
Pollution of Drinking Water	46.5
Pollution of Oceans, Rivers, and Lakes	42.9
Public Speaking	28.9
Racial/Hate Crime	24.2
Random/Mass Shooting	39.4
Reporting to an Artificial Intelligence (AI) Manager at Work	19.1
Russia Using Nuclear Weapons	45.9
Sexual Assault by a Stranger	27.1
Sexual Assault by Someone You Know	19.4
Sharks	28.4
Small, Enclosed Spaces	21.8
Strangers	15.0
Technological Change at Work	12.6
Technology That I Don't Understand	23.5
Terrorism	41.1
Terrorist Attack	47.3
Theft of Property	29.0
U.S. Becoming Involved in Another World War	58.0
U.S. Immigration & Customs Enforcement (ICE) in My Community	33.7
Violent Overthrow of the U.S. Government	33.4
Walking Alone at Night	25.1
Whites No Longer Being the Majority in the U.S.	14.4
Widespread Civil Unrest	44.6
Working with Artificial Intelligence (AI)-enabled Technologies	17.2

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