

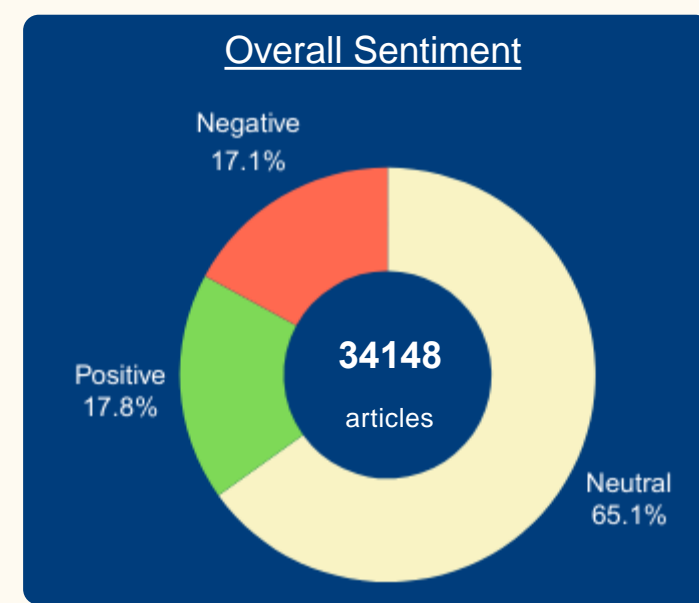
RISKRADAR MONTHLY INSIGHTS

APRIL 2024

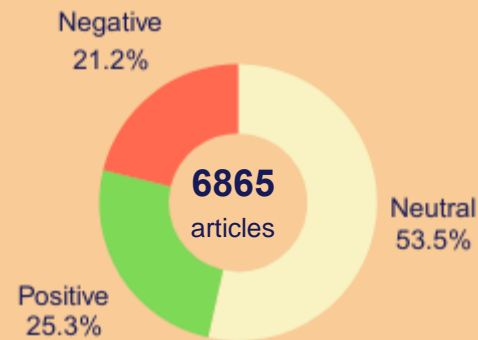
*Taking risk intelligence to the next level.
Enabling the University stay ahead.*



RiskRadar Overview of Key Risks



Economic Risk



Key Topics

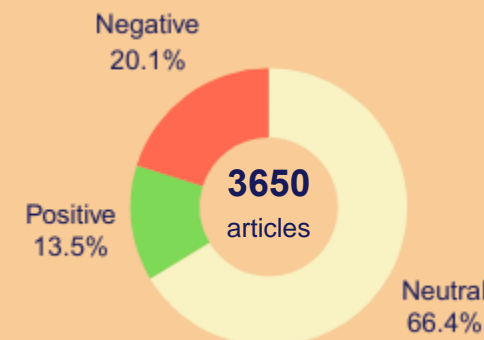
1. Employment
2. China Economy
3. Singapore GDP & Inflation

Relevant Articles

- [Employment growth cools in Q1 of 2024, retrenchments down for second straight quarter: MOM](#)
- [China GDP: what is needed to achieve the 'very challenging' 5% economic growth goal for 2024?](#)
- [ADB sees Singapore growth accelerating and inflation slowing in 2024 to 2025](#)



Environmental Risk



Key Topics

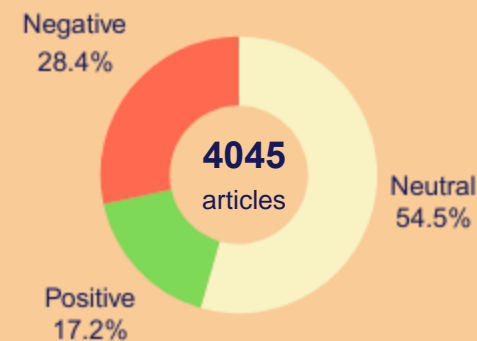
1. Rising Temperatures
2. Carbon Emissions Tracking
3. Green Skills Training

Relevant Articles

- [CNA Explains: What can we do about the extreme heat across Asia - including in Singapore?](#)
- [New registry for Singapore businesses to track and report carbon emissions launched](#)
- [\\$35 million to be invested to help those in finance sector develop new green skills: MAS](#)



Geopolitical Risk



Key Topics

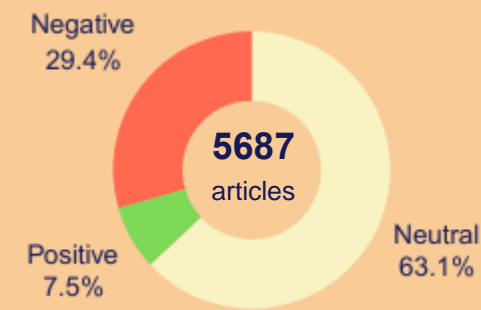
1. Israel-Hamas War
2. German-China Espionage
3. International Education

Relevant Articles

- [Israel-Hamas conflict top geopolitical concern in S-E Asia: ISEAS survey](#)
- [Aide to far-right German politician arrested for spying for China](#)
- [Fears over 'influx' of Chinese students in strategic area](#)



Societal Risk



Key Topics

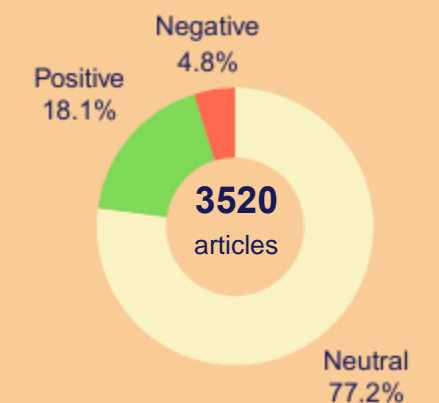
1. Young Drug Addicts
2. Job Satisfaction
3. Aging Population

Relevant Articles

- [IN FOCUS: Why is there a rise in new young drug abusers in Singapore?](#)
- [The True Purpose of Work Revealed: 97% of Singaporeans Want Meaning at Work](#)
- [Aging population forces rethink on family duties, healthcare](#)



Technological Risk



Key Topics

1. AI Safety Partnership
2. Digital Divide
3. Digital Evolution

Relevant Articles

- [US, Britain announce partnership on AI safety, testing](#)
- [Banning TikTok would hit China's tech ambitions and deepen the global digital divide](#)
- [30 years on: China's internet firms transform from followers to global bellwethers](#)

Recent Global Developments in IHLs



Financial Sustainability

- Irish universities are projected to collectively face deficits of around €15 million this year due to rising costs, with several institutions including TU Dublin, University College Cork, and University of Limerick experiencing financial challenges ([University World News](#)).
- Financial challenges in UK higher education institutions, exacerbated by stagnant domestic tuition fees and declining international student enrollment, are leading to staff redundancies and potential bankruptcy threats ([New Statesman](#)).
- Nearly 200 jobs are to be cut at the University of Huddersfield with several courses, including geography and sociology, being axed due to financial pressures exacerbated by a decline in international students ([BBC](#)).



Admissions

- Despite post-pandemic shifts and increased MBA value, Singapore experienced an 8.3% drop in MBA enrollments in 2023. Universities adapt to post-pandemic shifts, offering blended learning and specialised tracks to cater to changing demands. Global competitiveness is maintained through international partnerships, exchange programmes, and joint research initiatives. ([Singapore Business Review](#))
- A top student's denial of admission to postgraduate programs in two prominent Chinese universities, allegedly due to animal cruelty, sparked major debate on whether moral attributes should outweigh academic performance in university admissions ([University World News](#)).



Research Development

- The discovery of gut bacteria in mosquitoes by Chinese scientists presents a promising biocontrol solution for mosquito-borne diseases like dengue and Zika, potentially reducing global public health risks associated with these viruses. This nature-based approach offers a safer, ecological alternative to medical interventions and insecticides, with implications for worldwide implementation ([South China Morning Post](#)).
- NTU scientists have developed mini kidneys in the lab, offering hope for polycystic kidney disease (PKD) patients through potential new therapies ([The Independent Singapore](#)).



Cybersecurity

- Moody's reported a 70% increase in higher education cybersecurity budgets from 2019 to 2023, but universities still lag behind other sectors in spending, with only 7% allocated for cybersecurity in 2023. Institutions with research or medical centers are particularly vulnerable to cyberattacks ([Inside Higher Ed](#)).
- The University of Winnipeg suffered a cyberattack resulting in the theft of personal information of students and employees spanning over two decades, prompting the institution to take down internet services, cancel classes, and delay exams ([Global News](#)).



EdTech

- Over 900 staff from Nigerian higher education institutions completed a 13-week AI training programme, enabling them to integrate AI into teaching, research, and policy-making, with a focus on ethics and deepfake detection ([The Guardian](#)).
- Five key trends are shaping the EdTech sector up to 2030: the rise of automation and AI, demand for flexible learning solutions, the use of AI for personalised learning, the involvement of top-tier talent from tech giants, and the prioritisation of mental health support in education ([World Economic Forum](#)).



Graduate Employability

- More university graduates in China are opting for jobs in smaller cities due to factors like increased income levels and job satisfaction, challenging the dominance of big cities like Shanghai and Beijing ([Channel News Asia](#)).

DEI (Diversity, Equity & Inclusion)

- MIT eliminates diversity statements from faculty position applications, citing concerns about compelled speech and emphasising a structured approach to faculty searches for increased diversity. Nearly half of large U.S. universities require diversity statements for job applicants. Critics, including free expression advocates, view diversity statements as compelled speech ([Inside Higher Ed](#)).

About RiskRadar

RiskRadar is the Office of Risk Management and Compliance (ORMC)'s cutting-edge risk intelligence and sense-making capability. Launched in March 2023, RiskRadar serves as a cornerstone for horizon scanning that enables us to identify mega and macro trends by integrating media monitoring and social listening tools. It transforms conventional risk management at the National University of Singapore, providing expert insights and intelligence to allow for holistic decision-making amidst a fast-evolving landscape.