



PRESS RELEASE

RELEASE DATE – Immediate

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Government Intervention in the Supply Chain Concerns Experts

Cybersecurity and Data Risk remains high in Lehigh Business Supply Chain Risk Management Index.

BETHLEHEM, PA, April 2, 2026 | The results of the [Lehigh Business Supply Chain Risk Management Index](#) for the 2nd quarter of 2026 indicate a broad-based decrease in overall risk, with nine of ten risk categories declining. However, many respondents completed the survey prior to the Iran conflict, and its impact may not be fully reflected in the data.



“Interestingly, Government Intervention Risk ranked as the single highest risk in head-to-head comparisons this quarter, and Transportation Disruption Risk was the sole category to increase,” said Zach G. Zacharia, Ph.D., associate professor of supply chain management and director of the Center for Supply Chain Research at Lehigh, “both of which may rise further as the geopolitical fallout becomes clearer.”

According to the LRMI, Cybersecurity and Data Risk is the highest-rated risk, reflecting the persistent and elevated threat landscape facing digital supply chains.

“Supplier Risk and Economic Risk tied for the second highest, both declining from their first-quarter levels, indicating some stabilization in macroeconomic conditions and supplier relationships,” said Zacharia. “Transportation Disruption Risk rose sharply, signaling renewed concerns about logistics bottlenecks, shipping route disruptions, and freight cost volatility.

The LRMI was launched in 2020 by the [Center for Supply Chain Research at Lehigh](#) and the [Council of Supply Chain Management Professionals](#) in order to rank 10 broad categories of supply chain risks. According to Zacharia, the LRMI enables executives and supply chain managers to anticipate and prepare for risks that will become significant in planning for the next quarter. The risk categories are cybersecurity and data, customer, economic, environmental, government intervention, operational, quality, supplier, technological and transportation disruption.

A unique feature of the LRMI is the opportunity to compare all 10 risk categories directly against each other, rather than scoring each one individually. When supply chain professionals take that approach, the top four risks for the 2nd quarter of 2026 are government intervention, cybersecurity and data, economics, and supplier.

Another valuable aspect of the LRMI is that the quarterly reports include a sampling of candid comments from supply chain managers about each risk category, taking you beyond the numbers. Comments from this new 2nd quarter report include:

- The LLM's depend on good data; the sourcing of data could be compromised.
- As you see playing out in the war with Iran, currently cyberattacks are an absolute threat and expanding by the hour.



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- Sourcing disruption risk is expected to rise in the near term due to several converging factors: the ongoing uncertainty surrounding tariffs, the war in the Middle East, and the onboarding of many new suppliers.
- Our electric and water bids are up this quarter; we expect to see an increase in the cost of our electricity bids in Q2.
- With over 100 diesel and propane school buses on the road we are extremely exposed.
- [Read more comments.](#)

LRMI reports are available every quarter in March, June, Sept. and Dec.

To get the latest report for free and to find out how supply chain managers can take the LRMI survey for the next quarter go to: business.lehigh.edu/LRMI.

About the Center for Supply Chain Research at Lehigh

CSCRL bridges theory and practice to promote a collaborative exchange of ideas on critical issues affecting supply chain management. By leveraging Lehigh's faculty, students, alumni and industry partners, the Center brings the latest developments in research and best practices together to generate new ideas for education and future knowledge in the field of supply chain management. [Learn more.](#)

About the Council of Supply Chain Management Professionals

CSCMP's mission is to connect, educate and develop the world's supply chain management professionals throughout their careers. No matter where you are in your career development, CSCMP has the resources and network to help you achieve your goals. [Learn more.](#)