

Groups identified as being extremely vulnerable to risk

Vulnerable group	Risks facing this group
Elderly people	As the proportion of elderly people in societies increases, social security and health systems become stressed and could become unable to meet this group's needs adequately. The migration of the working-age population to urban areas reduces the support system available for the elderly, especially in rural areas, while changing societal values further reduce the level of care available. These factors make elderly people vulnerable to many emerging risks.
Indigenous populations	Increasing demands for natural resources are leading to an increased risk of indigenous communities being displaced from their ancestral lands, their culture threatened, or their lands being polluted.
Urban migrants	Urban migrants, especially those working in the informal sector, are more exposed to the impacts of climate change, as their homes – often informal settlements – tend to be in areas more vulnerable to climate change.
People with disabilities	This group faces a higher risk of being left behind than others, in part due to the lack of basic infrastructure, especially in the face of climate change-induced disasters triggered by natural hazards. The interplay of disability and ageing complicates the situation further.
Working-age women	In many countries, social norms expect women to be the caregivers in households. With many populations ageing, working-age women are likely to have to bear additional responsibilities by taking care of the elderly. This reduces their time to engage in formal employment.
Unskilled youth	Young people in many countries are finding it extremely difficult to find gainful employment that matches their aspirations and enables them to contribute meaningfully to society.