



# World Cup 2026 – Rolling Risk Brief

**Issue:** 02 **Date/Time:** 6 May 2026 | 09:00 EST **Coverage Period:** 06–20 May 2026

## Executive Snapshot

### Key Shift Since Last Brief:

- Continued transitioning into increasingly active pre-event phase, with planning and monitoring continuing to align.
- Geopolitical developments in the region and in the Middle East continue to influence corporate risk perception and travel decision-making.

### Highest Attention Cities (Next 14 Days):

- Mexico City – Coalescing grievances regarding security, housing and labor laws are likely to prompt large mobilizations across key corridors ahead of the tournament, impacting logistics and movement.
- Miami – health concerns due to nearby wildfires and potential for winds to blow hazardous smoke into the metro area.
- Boston – deal reached to pay security in Foxborough, which had previously been a point of contention.

### Highest Attention Fixtures:

- No fixtures within this period; focus remains on pre-tournament conditions and forward planning.

### Key external factors:

- The conflict in the Middle East is having secondary effects on associated protests, anti-war public sentiment, and corporate posturing.
- Mexico–US relations have strained after accusations that 10 political figures in Sinaloa colluded with organized crime.
- Seasonal and event-driven travel congestion across key North American hubs.

## What's Changed (Since Last Issue)

### New Developments

- In the travel and executive security realms, corporations are increasingly sensitive to geopolitical developments.
- Heightened scrutiny of VIP security in the US following attempted assassination of President Donald Trump in Washington (DC).
- Increasing and continued indicators of accommodation pressure in key host cities.

### De-escalations / Stabilising Factors

- Public order remains stable across the US and Canada.
- End of US government shutdown and funding for DHS will subsequently lead to funding of TSA, relieving resourcing pressures at airports.

## Analyst View

Risks ahead of the World Cup remain manageable across host cities, with pressure gradually increasing as the tournament approaches. The main concerns are logistical rather than threat-driven, particularly in major Mexican cities, where protests, congestion, and pressure on city services may complicate mobility and operational planning. Organizations should prioritize advanced coordination for transport, accommodation, and movement between key locations, especially in Mexico City.

## Methodology Note

This rolling brief applies the baseline risk and Fan Tension Index (FTI) methodology outlined in the World Cup 2026 Risk Outlook, updated to reflect current conditions and developments.



## Forward Look (Next 14 Days)

### High-Attention Fixtures

- No fixtures within this period; focus remains on environment shaping and early movement patterns

### City Pressure Outlook

- **Monterrey** – heightened security linked to recent security developments in neighbouring Tamaulipas, particularly focused on highways. Disruption in major thoroughfares remains likely.
- **Miami, Atlanta, Los Angeles** – wildfires are ongoing in California, Florida, Georgia, although fires and smoke are not currently threatening the cities. Conducive conditions for additional wildfires remain.
- **Dallas** – ongoing 'jugging' robbery trend poses risk to travellers in Dallas-Fort Worth area. Jugging is a specific form of robbery where criminals observe their victims withdrawing cash from a bank or ATM, then following them to a second location for the actual robbery.

### Emerging Watchpoints

- Ongoing, periodic nationwide protests in the US continue to take place and may prove disruptive to the games should they occur during the tournament.
- Heavy rains are expected from May to July in urban areas of Mexico, potentially causing flash floods that may disrupt traffic on major roads.
- Security operations in Mexico targeting criminal leaders have temporarily destabilised security in key corridors across the country.

## Reporting Cadence

		Cadence	Coverage Window
01	22 Apr	Bi-weekly	22 Apr–06 May
02	06 May	Bi-weekly	06–20 May
03	20 May	<b>Switch to weekly</b>	20–27 May
04	27 May	Weekly	27 May–03 Jun
05	03 Jun	Weekly	03–10 Jun
06	10 Jun	Weekly	10–17 Jun (tournament start window)

## City Spotlight – Mexico City

**Current Posture:** Elevated

### Key Pressure Points:

- Teachers' unions have threatened to block main roads on 15 May, demanding pension law reform. They have warned of potential disruption to mobility and logistics during the tournament if their demands remain unmet.
- Heightened security deployments across government buildings and tournament-related infrastructure may affect risk perception.
- Severe congestion of transport hubs, thoroughfares and key locations is expected.

### Implications:

- Travel remains viable but requires advance planning; allow additional time, use alternate routes, and expect disruption near protest areas.
- Interactions with protests present a direct risk; attempting to bypass blockades or confronting demonstrators may lead to escalation, despite foreigners not being the primary target.

## Implications for Organizations

- **Travel:** Maintain flexible itineraries; anticipate congestion, protests, and restrictions on key corridors.
- **Executive Movement:** Conduct low-profile movement; secure routing and plan for contingencies.
- **Events / Meetings:** Reconfirm venues for access, density, and proximity to protests or hazards.
- **Operations:** Track air quality, staffing constraints, and disruptions amid evolving conditions.