

Need another word that means the same as “precarious”? Find 24 synonyms and 30 related words for “precarious” in this overview.

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The synonyms of “Precarious” are: shaky, unstable, parlous, perilous, touch-and-go, dangerous, hazardous, unsafe, risky, deceptive, unreliable, undependable, uncertain, insecure, unsure, unpredictable, treacherous, on a slippery slope, on thin ice, doubtful, dubious, delicate, tricky, problematic

Precarious as an Adjective

Definitions of "Precarious" as an adjective

According to the [Oxford Dictionary of English](#), “precarious” as an adjective can have the following definitions:

- *Fraught with danger.*
- *Not secure; beset with difficulties.*
- *Affording no ease or reassurance.*
- *Not securely held or in position; dangerously likely to fall or collapse.*
- *Dependent on chance; uncertain.*



Synonyms of "Precarious" as an adjective (24 Words)

dangerous	Causing fear or anxiety by threatening great harm. <i>A dangerous animal.</i>
<u>deceptive</u>	Designed to deceive or mislead either deliberately or inadvertently. <i>He put the question with deceptive casualness.</i>
delicate	Of an instrument or device; capable of registering minute differences or changes precisely. <i>A delicate sweet flavour.</i>
doubtful	Not known with certainty. <i>I was doubtful of my judgement.</i>

dubious	Morally suspect. <i>What one found uncertain the other found dubious or downright false.</i>
hazardous	Risky; dangerous. <i>It is hazardous to personal safety.</i>
insecure	Not firm or fixed; liable to give way or break. <i>A top model who is notoriously insecure about her looks.</i>
on a slippery slope	Not to be trusted- James Agee.
on thin ice	Lacking resonance or volume.
parlous	Fraught with danger. <i>A parlous journey on stormy seas.</i>
perilous	Exposed to imminent risk of disaster or ruin. <i>A perilous voyage across the Atlantic in a small boat.</i>
problematic	Constituting or presenting a problem. <i>The situation was problematic for teachers.</i>
risky	Full of the possibility of danger, failure, or loss. <i>It was much too risky to try to disarm him.</i>
shaky	Not secure; beset with difficulties. <i>Thoroughly shaky evidence.</i>
touch-and-go	Functioning correctly and ready for action.
treacherous	Tending to betray especially having a treacherous character as attributed to the Carthaginians by the Romans. <i>Memory is particularly treacherous.</i>
tricky	Not to be trusted- James Agee. <i>A tricky recipe to follow.</i>
uncertain	Not established beyond doubt; still undecided or unknown. <i>Moving with uncertain or unsure steps.</i>
undependable	Liable to be erroneous or misleading. <i>An undependable generalization.</i>
unpredictable	Not occurring at expected times. <i>The unpredictable weather of the Scottish islands.</i>
unreliable	Dangerously unstable and unpredictable. <i>He s lazy and unreliable.</i>
unsafe	Not safe from attack. <i>Because the confession was unreliable the verdict was unsafe and unsatisfactory.</i>

unstable

Prone to psychiatric problems or sudden changes of mood.
An **unstable** government.

unsure

Lacking or indicating lack of confidence or assurance.
A very **unsure** young man.



Usage Examples of "Precarious" as an adjective

- *He made a precarious living as a painter.*
- *A precarious truce.*
- *A precarious ladder.*
- *The precarious life of an undersea diver.*



Associations of "Precarious" (30 Words)

anxiety	Strong desire or concern to do something or for something to happen. <i>The housekeeper's eager anxiety to please.</i>
chill	Chilly. <i>He was confined to bed with a severe chill.</i>
danger	A dangerous place. <i>He moved out of danger.</i>
dangerous	Involving or causing danger or risk; liable to hurt or harm. <i>A dangerous criminal.</i>
dicey	Unpredictable and potentially dangerous. <i>An extremely dicey future on a brave new world of liquid nitrogen tar and smog.</i>
<u>hazardous</u>	Involving risk or danger. <i>Skydiving is a hazardous sport.</i>

<u>insecure</u>	Not firm or firmly fixed; likely to fail or give way. <i>Badly paid and insecure jobs.</i>
<u>insecurity</u>	The state of being open to danger or threat; lack of protection. <i>Growing job insecurity.</i>
<u>insidious</u>	Working or spreading in a hidden and usually injurious way. <i>Sexual harassment is a serious and insidious problem.</i>
parlous	Full of danger or uncertainty; precarious. <i>A parlous journey on stormy seas.</i>
<u>perilous</u>	Exposed to imminent risk of disaster or ruin. <i>The economy is in a perilous state.</i>
rickety	Lacking bodily or muscular strength or vitality. <i>A rickety table.</i>
risk	Take a risk in the hope of a favorable outcome. <i>All risks insurance for professional photographers.</i>
<u>risky</u>	Not financially safe or secure. <i>Anything that promises to pay too much can't help being risky.</i>
<u>shaky</u>	Inclined to shake as from weakness or defect. <i>She managed a shaky laugh.</i>
shivering	The action of shaking slightly and uncontrollably as a result of being cold, frightened, or excited. <i>Sparkling light from the shivering crystals of the chandelier.</i>
straddle	Stand, walk, or sit with one's legs wide apart. <i>A sideways on stance such as a straddle.</i>
threatened	Likely in the near future to become endangered. <i>The spotted owl is a threatened species not yet an endangered one.</i>
<u>uncertain</u>	(of a person) not completely confident or sure of something. <i>I was uncertain how to proceed.</i>
<u>uncertainty</u>	The state of being uncertain. <i>Times of uncertainty and danger.</i>
<u>uneasy</u>	(of a situation or relationship) not settled; liable to change. <i>She lived in a state of uneasy truce with her strict father.</i>
<u>unrest</u>	A feeling of disturbance and dissatisfaction in a person. <i>Years of industrial unrest.</i>
unsafe	Involving or causing danger or risk; liable to hurt or harm. <i>Drinking water in some areas may be unsafe.</i>
unsettled	Worried and uneasy. <i>A spell of unsettled weather.</i>

<u>unsound</u>	Physically unsound or diseased. <i>This line of argument is unsound.</i>
<u>unstable</u>	Likely to change or fail; not firmly established. <i>Sensitive and highly unstable compounds.</i>
<u>unsteady</u>	Not firmly or solidly positioned. <i>Her unsteady walk.</i>
<u>volatile</u>	A volatile substance. <i>A passionate volatile young man.</i>
volatility	Liability to display rapid changes of emotion. <i>A week of historic stock market volatility.</i>
<u>vulnerable</u>	(of a partnership) liable to higher penalties, either by convention or through having won one game towards a rubber. <i>We were in a vulnerable position.</i>

