

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.  
*A **dangerous** animal.*
- deceptive** Designed to deceive or mislead either deliberately or inadvertently.  
*He put the question with **deceptive** casualness.*
- delicate** Of an instrument or device; capable of registering minute differences or changes precisely.  
*A **delicate** sweet flavour.*
- doubtful** Not known with certainty.  
*I was **doubtful** of my judgement.*

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

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

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

