

Levels of degradation following a global catastrophe: from mild to extinction

Level of a catastrophe	Survivors	Possible causes	Probability now and total	Recovery time and probability of survival	Regression level	Comments
0 level	Millions victims	Regional nuclear war, 0.5 asteroid World war without nukes	Every 10-20 years	May result in speed up of tech progress, 100 per cent survival	No technological regression	Past examples: WW1, WW2, flu 1918, USSR collapse
1st level	Billions survivors billions victims	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pandemic • Nuclear war • 1 km asteroid 	1 per cent a year now	5-50 years 99 per cent (this means that with 1 per cent it will go to lower level of degradation)	End of 20 century technology	The main risk is that instead of recovery, the Long war and degradation begins which will finally results in Level 2 catastrophe level.
2st level	Millions survivors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multipandemic • Doomsday weapons • 5 km asteroid 	0.1 per cent now	50-5000 years 90 per cent	"Middle ages" level with fire arms and some electric stuff.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most likely survivors will be spared over earth's surface in smaller groups Biologist prove that for most species minimal survival population is around 1000. • Depletion of easy accessible resources may prevent creation of new technological civilization
3st level	Thousands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 km asteroid 		5 000-50 000 years 50 per cent	Neolithic level with agriculture and written books; scavenging for scraps will dominate economy and prevent its rebuild	Survival depends of remaining state of biosphere. If it is damaged: cold, radioactive and nonproductive, chances are small. See R. Hanson paper
4st level	Several people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20 km asteroid 		1 per cent		
Total extinction		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UFAI • Nanotech • Verneshot • Runaway global warming • Multipandemic 		0		