**Quelle: https://www.quora.com/If-NASA-and-JPL-are-reporting-a-96-chance-of-a-200-meter-asteroid-hitting-Earth-in-2027-why-isnt-everyone-alarmed-Will-the-Earth-end-in-2027**

**If NASA and JPL are reporting a 96% chance of a 200 meter asteroid hitting Earth in 2027, why isn't everyone alarmed? Will the Earth end in 2027?**

[Robert Graybeard](https://www.quora.com/profile/Robert-Graybeard), former career in technology, retired

Here is the first slide in the briefing. All those lines are the orbits of Potentially Hazardous Asteroid ([PHAs](http://neo.jpl.nasa.gov/neo/groups.html)). [SpaceWeather.com](http://spaceweather.com/) tells us that o*n February 27, 2019 there were 1967 known PHAs. PHAs are space rocks larger than approximately 100 meters that can come closer to Earth than 0.05 AU. None of the known PHAs is on a collision course with our planet, although astronomers are finding* [*new ones*](http://www.minorplanetcenter.org/iau/lists/PHAs.html) *all the time.*



I’m posting the 12th answer, and I agree with those who say IT WAS AN EXERCISE BACK IN 2017.

For full details, find a copy of the November/December 2018 double issue of *ANALOG Science Fiction and Fact*. Read the science article *In Defense of the Planet* by Marianne Dyson. Throughout the simulation, the threat master “rolled the dice” and the conferees “played the game”. *On the last day of the conference the threat master surprised everyone with a happy ending by two different scenarios*. In one scenario, when the asteroid was at perihelion on February 26, 2024 it was sped up so that in 2027 it passed through the point where its and the Earth’s orbit crossed before the Earth went through that point. In the other scenario, using a different technique, the asteroid was again sped up around the time of its perihelion and, as with the other technique, it also missed the Earth. In both scenarios, the miss distance was about 1000 kilometers. Whenever it happens for real, I hope there is also a successful mitigation.

[Stefan Gebhardt](https://www.quora.com/profile/Stefan-Gebhardt-2)

[Answered Mar 5, 2019](https://www.quora.com/If-NASA-and-JPL-are-reporting-a-96-chance-of-a-200-meter-asteroid-hitting-Earth-in-2027-why-isnt-everyone-alarmed-Will-the-Earth-end-in-2027/answer/Stefan-Gebhardt-2) · Author has 3.8k answers and 1.8m answer views

Yes, in 2027 the earth will end, there's nothing we can do about it, so why panic? Just accept it. And there's of course a 4% chance that nothing will happen. No need to be alarmed.

Ok, sarcasm aside, we all know now that the link is about an exercise. But what could happen?

Well, turns out it happened before, fairly recently even, in 1908. A 190m (close enough) meteor crashed into the Russian wilderness. No one died. It cause 2000km of forest to be knocked over.

So it really depends on where it would hit. Middle of the ocean? Big tsunami I guess. Middle of New York? Everyone there dies probably. Middle of the desert? Huge dust clouds cover the planet for a while. But earth will definitely not end. 200m is way too small.

Besides, if we already knew which one it is, and when it hit, we could calculate pretty closely where it hit, and take precautions. We have 8 years time. And I would get the militaries of the world would try to shoot it down or knock it if course. It's small enough for that, and maybe possible of its long and flat or so. And the impact speed would be 20km/sec, like the one in Russia a few years back. If we shoot at it from say 5000km we'd have a few minutes at least to try. Like I said it would be small enough.

[Joe Lawson](https://www.quora.com/profile/Joe-Lawson-15), former United Methodist Pastor, Retired (1990-2017)

[Answered Mar 4, 2019](https://www.quora.com/If-NASA-and-JPL-are-reporting-a-96-chance-of-a-200-meter-asteroid-hitting-Earth-in-2027-why-isnt-everyone-alarmed-Will-the-Earth-end-in-2027/answer/Joe-Lawson-15) · Author has 2.2k answers and 1.6m answer views

There is a famous order given by an American colonist during the Revolutionary War. As the Americans prepared to engage the British Redcoats at Bunker Hill, the commander was aware that his citizens militia were untested and might panic at the sight of the well-trained Brits and shoot their first volley before they were in effective range. “Don’t fire until you see the whites of their eyes!” he ordered, so as to be certain of hitting the enemy.

Could you happen to share the odds of “NASA and JPL” successfully destroying or deflecting that asteroid if they fired a weaponized missile today instead of in 2026 when it’s probably an astronomical distance closer.? There’s a term used to describe the variables which affect accuracy when shooting at a far-away target when both are moving. “Leading the target,” means shooting at a point in space in front of the moving target so both the target and the “bullet” arrive at the same 200-meter spot to be hit.

Would the odds improve either way for deflection or destruction? Would they be better with two or more missiles, just in case? We just learned that asteroids are much more solid than previously thought. Do we have the right “bullet” for the job?

I’m sure that some really smart people are working on those variables and being alarmed for the next eight years wouldn’t help.

[Duncan Cairncross](https://www.quora.com/profile/Duncan-Cairncross), Retired Engineer

[Answered Feb 25, 2019](https://www.quora.com/If-NASA-and-JPL-are-reporting-a-96-chance-of-a-200-meter-asteroid-hitting-Earth-in-2027-why-isnt-everyone-alarmed-Will-the-Earth-end-in-2027/answer/Duncan-Cairncross) · Author has 6.9k answers and 3.9m answer views

**If NASA and JPL are reporting a 96% chance of a 200 meter asteroid hitting Earth in 2027, why isn't everyone alarmed? Will the Earth end in 2027?**

As well as the simple fact that this was an **EXERCISE** let’s look at what would happen with a 200 meter asteroid hitting the earth

200 meters - make it a cube for ease of calculation that is 8 Million Cubic meters or about 16 million tons

At a reasonable impact velocity that is 20 km/sec

Energy is 1/2 x 16 x 10^9 x 20 x 10^3 x 20 x 10^3 - joules

3.2 x 10^18 Joules

Or 3.2 million TeraJoules

That is pretty big that is about 6 “Tsar Bomba’s”

Pretty nasty if you were close but if you were 100 miles away you would not notice and the earth has a LOT of open uninhabited areas

If it fell on New York - tens of millions dead - if it hit in the middle of the Australian outback or Alaska it might kill a couple of people

[Greg Bernard](https://www.quora.com/profile/Greg-Bernard-5), Electrical engineer

[Updated Mar 12, 2019](https://www.quora.com/If-NASA-and-JPL-are-reporting-a-96-chance-of-a-200-meter-asteroid-hitting-Earth-in-2027-why-isnt-everyone-alarmed-Will-the-Earth-end-in-2027/answer/Greg-Bernard-5) · Author has 371 answers and 169.8k answer views

Every year we are told the world will end. Now we are being told we have 13 years by the New Green Deal which is not even something common folks can read.

I think we are way past 1 degree that will cause “massive destruction”. It doesnt even really snow anymore. It just all melts immediately. So yeah things are changing but the doom and gloom hasnt happened yet and that makes Nasa and all the rest of the government liars less believable.

Nasa is a bunch of liars too. They substituted fake footage for real footage accidentally during the moon race in the 60′s. Look at someone like Mark Rober and he talks with Bill Gates who eats animals yet wants to invest in artificial meat to save everyone. I do not eat animals cause I don't need to and I don't want to cause suffering. Gates also pushes a vaccine agenda. Vaccines used to have Mercury until children’s vaccine were made individually sterile. So Mercury kills bacteria in multi use vaccine vials but it is not supposed to affect human cells in any way. Now, brave people are challenging other things like aluminum in vaccines and other disproven or unproven technologies in vaccines.

Mark Rober is too weak to question the chemicals found in airline contrails and why they contain aluminum and barium as discovered by multiple state universities. But he loves getting paid off by Bill Gates to sell the lies of corporate America and not question big pharma.

Nasa is quick to call everyone trolls or conspiracy theorists. That is a sign of closed dialogue. Former head of CIA John Brennan spoke at the CIA - I mean CFR - about putting stuff in plane contrails to reflect some sunlight and slow planetary warming from the sun.

The government lies in general. Iraq didn’t have weapons of mass destruction. Osama Bin Laden is dead as is Sadam Hussein and even Moamar Kadaffi. Why are we still sending men and women to die in the middle east. Why don’t we admit it is about oil. Same deal with Venezuela and Eliot Abrams trying to overthrow Maduro after the assassination of Hugo Chavez.

[Fernando Garajalde](https://www.quora.com/profile/Fernando-Garajalde), Professional Musician at Self-Employment (1970-present)

[Answered Mar 9, 2019](https://www.quora.com/If-NASA-and-JPL-are-reporting-a-96-chance-of-a-200-meter-asteroid-hitting-Earth-in-2027-why-isnt-everyone-alarmed-Will-the-Earth-end-in-2027/answer/Fernando-Garajalde) · Author has 205 answers and 6k answer views

two-thirds of the world believe a superhero (whether Yahweh, Allah, Kali or Black Adam) will step in at the last minute to transport the faithful to safety. they are also more concerned with survival, getting enough food and water for their families and not dying on a battlefield TODAY rather than what may or may not happen 18 years from today.

the part of the world that has the technology to change this isn’t even interested in investing enough to combat climate change, and the top 5% are more concerned with predicting where the stock market is going TODAY rather than what may or may not happen 18 years from today.

Think you got the message yet? No, you don’t. You should be more concerned with where your growth as an individual is going TODAY rather than what may or may not happen 18 years from today.

[Michael Craig](https://www.quora.com/profile/Michael-Craig-7)

[Answered Mar 8, 2019](https://www.quora.com/If-NASA-and-JPL-are-reporting-a-96-chance-of-a-200-meter-asteroid-hitting-Earth-in-2027-why-isnt-everyone-alarmed-Will-the-Earth-end-in-2027/answer/Michael-Craig-7) · Author has 57 answers and 20.7k answer views

I’m not alarmed about it but I’m facing a similar situation. I’m 60. I lost my job. I’m going through a divorce. It looks like my wife is turning my daughter against me. Well I’m doing ok. I have a plan. I’m looking up at least two women I knew from school that have admitted they had crushes on me. They are single and both have had rough lives. I’ve asked one of them out. She said sure. I’ve been texting the other one. I plan on visiting her where she lives. I plan on showing them a real good time! Now I’m not looking to get married again. These two ladies are welcome to my affections. Now there is only one lady I would consider marrying. Over the course of our lives we have been each other’s calm in the storm. Our paths have crossed just when we’ve needed to. She’s married to what seems to be a very stable boring guy. My hats off to them but I’m biding my time, having fun, trying to be a blessing to those I meet. When the time is right, I plan on marrying this woman.

It may never happen, but I’m open to it because we are friends that started with a kiss. I want to live out my life in the calm, gently kissing my friend that I love.

Something dreams do come true!

[Keith Burton](https://www.quora.com/profile/Keith-Burton-16), Just a lifelong space fanatic with a good memory for details

[Answered Feb 25, 2019](https://www.quora.com/If-NASA-and-JPL-are-reporting-a-96-chance-of-a-200-meter-asteroid-hitting-Earth-in-2027-why-isnt-everyone-alarmed-Will-the-Earth-end-in-2027/answer/Keith-Burton-16) · Author has 801 answers and 507.6k answer views

Look at the bottom right corner of every slide. See where it says, “EXERCISE ONLY!!” in big red letters?

That’s why nobody is alarmed. This was a simulation JPL presented at a “what if” conference to explain why we need to track, and be prepared to divert, real asteroids that may be on real collision courses someday.

Besides, if you really studied the slides, you’d see that this simulated 200 meter asteroid wouldn’t remotely end the world. It’d be a devastating regional disaster. Impacting on or near the most heavily populated coastlines of Asia, it might potentially kill up to several million people. Not good, but far from a world-ending event.

[Anthony A Chiello](https://www.quora.com/profile/Anthony-A-Chiello)

[Answered Mar 7, 2019](https://www.quora.com/If-NASA-and-JPL-are-reporting-a-96-chance-of-a-200-meter-asteroid-hitting-Earth-in-2027-why-isnt-everyone-alarmed-Will-the-Earth-end-in-2027/answer/Anthony-A-Chiello) · Author has 664 answers and 64.6k answer views

Forget chance A small rock hits the earth every day When see it we call it a shooting star. And we have a few issues before we go nuts. Let say a small Asteroid was coming about the size of a car. And we believe it will hit the USA say New York. What could we do. Remember we have to see it first to know coming. We know there are many Asteroids all around us . And anything big enough they we did see, We just don’t have a way something to big a nuclear missile if it did break up be like a shotgun blast. A rocket to push away mite sound good but we have hard time just getting off the ground. If knew for shore the time and there was enough maybe a color sale could ship out to deep space with help from a lazer. but we think about it but have never real build one. So being alarmed. Only thing you could do is build deep bomb shelter with food water some tech and as many people as posable, with guns and maybe save some things But Who wants live throw it. talking hundred of years to build up. This why need be a people of two or more worlds. We can’t even live on the moon. and real that should be the first step. everything you could learn is close to us.

[John D'Adesky](https://www.quora.com/profile/John-DAdesky), GSEC, GCED, MCP, Astronomer, Space Enthusiast.

[Answered Feb 25, 2019](https://www.quora.com/If-NASA-and-JPL-are-reporting-a-96-chance-of-a-200-meter-asteroid-hitting-Earth-in-2027-why-isnt-everyone-alarmed-Will-the-Earth-end-in-2027/answer/John-DAdesky) · Author has 993 answers and 144.4k answer views

The Earth is 70% water.

So 4% chance of hitting Earth

.028% chance of hitting land.

Chance of hitting a populated area is about 20% of that.

.0056% chance of catastrophic (localized) impact.

Still better odds then winning a powerball but not by much. You are much more likely to die in a car crash, bitten by a shark, or killed by a cow.

If we can refine the data through observation the asteroid is small enough we could send a spacecraft up to park on it and redirect it to avoid earth.

With a small amount of energy imparted at the right point in it’s orbit, it could be redirected to a stable orbit.

[David Johnson](https://www.quora.com/profile/David-Johnson-57), Library Computer Person

[Answered Feb 25, 2019](https://www.quora.com/If-NASA-and-JPL-are-reporting-a-96-chance-of-a-200-meter-asteroid-hitting-Earth-in-2027-why-isnt-everyone-alarmed-Will-the-Earth-end-in-2027/answer/David-Johnson-57) · Author has 5.6k answers and 508.6k answer views

Because if you actually read the first page of the PDF, you'll see this is an “Exercise Only" for the 2017 conference on planetary defense. A supposed impact prediction from a year or so after the conference, so that they can consider proper responses.

Basically, it's no more real than those two trains heading at each other in a math textbook.

It also would be far from “the end of the Earth.” Again from the PDF, you see potential damage is limited to a thin oval from the coast of China, out over Korea and Japan, to a few hundred miles past the Japanese coast. From a nuke standpoint, it's pretty big - 3000 megatons or so - but from Earth's standpoint…it's no big deal. We get hit by one of these every 70000–100000 years or so.

[Richard Dreiser](https://www.quora.com/profile/Richard-Dreiser), former Yerkes Observatory (1980-2018)

[Answered Feb 25, 2019](https://www.quora.com/If-NASA-and-JPL-are-reporting-a-96-chance-of-a-200-meter-asteroid-hitting-Earth-in-2027-why-isnt-everyone-alarmed-Will-the-Earth-end-in-2027/answer/Richard-Dreiser) · Author has 2.4k answers and 249.6k answer views

No, you need to look again. Because probably more than one dozen didn’t see the disclaimer, NASA has added the following RIGHT AT THE TOP: *This webpage does not describe a real potential asteroid impact. The information on this page is fictional and provided only to support an emergency response exercise conducted during the International Academy of Astronautics (IAA)* [*2019 Planetary Defense Conference*](http://pdc.iaaweb.org/) *in Washington DC, USA, April 29–May 3, 2019. This is only an exercise.*

[Naitik Gupta](https://www.quora.com/profile/Naitik-Gupta-5)

[Answered Mar 9, 2019](https://www.quora.com/If-NASA-and-JPL-are-reporting-a-96-chance-of-a-200-meter-asteroid-hitting-Earth-in-2027-why-isnt-everyone-alarmed-Will-the-Earth-end-in-2027/answer/Naitik-Gupta-5)

Simple answer humans have evolved a lot and first of all half the people dont even know about it and the ones who know are scientific enough to know that humans are capable of easily destroying any asteroid maybe thru missiles or nuclear or simply sattelites can comr in the way and the asteriod will burst off

[Jeff Moses](https://www.quora.com/profile/Jeff-Moses-14), former Technical Editor (1984-1990)

[Answered Mar 10, 2019](https://www.quora.com/If-NASA-and-JPL-are-reporting-a-96-chance-of-a-200-meter-asteroid-hitting-Earth-in-2027-why-isnt-everyone-alarmed-Will-the-Earth-end-in-2027/answer/Jeff-Moses-14) · Author has 1k answers and 74.5k answer views

Because my “alarm” is already on overload. Apparently, vaccines are deadly in themselves, “hordes” are caravanning toward our southern border, we’re all going to fry (or drown, or something) because of global climate change, war in outer space is immanent, and Hillary’s emails and the Apocalypse.

And the JPL/NASA thing was just an exercise.

Oh! Zombies!!

[Mick Crappins](https://www.quora.com/profile/Mick-Crappins), studied at Llfe Skills (1977)

[Answered Mar 10, 2019](https://www.quora.com/If-NASA-and-JPL-are-reporting-a-96-chance-of-a-200-meter-asteroid-hitting-Earth-in-2027-why-isnt-everyone-alarmed-Will-the-Earth-end-in-2027/answer/Mick-Crappins) · Author has 268 answers and 119.3k answer views

200 meters you say?

That's like throwing a lump of rock at an elephant, surely?

Or even a small pebble.

Get real…

Earth as a magnetic shield.

Remember the Simpsons when a comet, asteroid type thing was to blow up Earth?

Well, the massive object did manage to land on the ground, about Baseball sized

[Radhakrishnan (Arkay) Nair](https://www.quora.com/profile/Radhakrishnan-Arkay-Nair), Writer and Author (2001-present)

[Answered Mar 3, 2019](https://www.quora.com/If-NASA-and-JPL-are-reporting-a-96-chance-of-a-200-meter-asteroid-hitting-Earth-in-2027-why-isnt-everyone-alarmed-Will-the-Earth-end-in-2027/answer/Radhakrishnan-Arkay-Nair) · Author has 596 answers and 36.5k answer views

These calculations are based on the assumption that Earth revolves around Sun once in 365.25 days (some 30 km /sec). If some one can do a fresh calculation under the assumption that Earth doesn’t move but Sun revolves around Earth once in 24 hours; we can get a better grip on the probability of this asteroid strike. My guess is that earth will be spared since Moon protects earth primarily (lunar shell) and Sun protects Earth with its solar shell above the lunar shell. There are also good chances that any of the other moving planets will deflect a possible impact with earth since they all work like moving windshield wipers cleaning the windshield when it rains. We see a lot more impact craters on our Moon, Mercury, Venus and Mars than on earth, because they all move. Earth does not move but is fixed (Tycho Brahe Model). This is also the reason why life developed only on immovable Earth (less impacts) and not on any Moving Planet. I would say that the chance of an impact is less than 50%. [Grand Unified Theory](http://www.tablo.io/arkay-nair/grand-unified-theory)

[Raul Fliman](https://www.quora.com/profile/Raul-Fliman), former Infrastructure architect, project manager, skier

[Answered Mar 10, 2019](https://www.quora.com/If-NASA-and-JPL-are-reporting-a-96-chance-of-a-200-meter-asteroid-hitting-Earth-in-2027-why-isnt-everyone-alarmed-Will-the-Earth-end-in-2027/answer/Raul-Fliman)

Thank you very much for your heads-up warning. You just convinced me it's time to panic. Furthermore, I'll do my best to get all my friends and family to panic ASAP.

I will also practice long-range shooting my slingshot, who knows when it'll be handy.

[Chloé Desoutter](https://www.quora.com/profile/Chlo%C3%A9-Desoutter), former Played Video Games for Like 26 Years and Counting.

[Answered Feb 25, 2019](https://www.quora.com/If-NASA-and-JPL-are-reporting-a-96-chance-of-a-200-meter-asteroid-hitting-Earth-in-2027-why-isnt-everyone-alarmed-Will-the-Earth-end-in-2027/answer/Chlo%C3%A9-Desoutter)

This PDF file is marked as “Exercise only”. If this were true, we’d get a real report and press conference and that would make the headlines. It doesn’t.

Deep-linking to an “Exercise only” PDF file mentioning a make-believe asteroid doesn’t constitute basis for concern.

[Brayden Eames](https://www.quora.com/profile/Brayden-Eames), Brochure Distributor at Salmat (2018-present)

[Answered Mar 8, 2019](https://www.quora.com/If-NASA-and-JPL-are-reporting-a-96-chance-of-a-200-meter-asteroid-hitting-Earth-in-2027-why-isnt-everyone-alarmed-Will-the-Earth-end-in-2027/answer/Brayden-Eames)

Answer 13 and 12 are right… It’s just an exercise that they were using. Even if this was the case. NASA & JPL would most likely have worked an Idea to change the path of this asteroid to a different path of Earth. Don’t panic. there are worse things on earth then outside of earth.

**Related Questions**

* [Why all of a sudden are there reports of a dangerous asteroid hitting Earth?](https://www.quora.com/Why-all-of-a-sudden-are-there-reports-of-a-dangerous-asteroid-hitting-Earth)
* [What are humanity’s chances if that asteroid actually hit Earth?](https://www.quora.com/What-are-humanity-s-chances-if-that-asteroid-actually-hit-Earth)
* [Is it true an asteroid could hit the earth on February 4th, 2018?](https://www.quora.com/Is-it-true-an-asteroid-could-hit-the-earth-on-February-4th-2018)
* [Why is Mars' day length and axial tilt almost the same as the Earth's when no other Solar System bodies are even close to these numbers? The o...](https://www.quora.com/Why-is-Mars-day-length-and-axial-tilt-almost-the-same-as-the-Earths-when-no-other-Solar-System-bodies-are-even-close-to-these-numbers-The-odds-of-that-being-a-coincidence-are-astronomical-What-is-the-scientific-explanation-for-it)
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