brink /brɪŋk/ noun

the brink (of something)

a situation when you are almost in a new situation, usually a bad one

on the brink of death/disaster/war etc

***UN warns Syria is on brink of war:***

***…***

***Emerson and Dutton discuss the week's events:***

**they ramped up, by tens of thousands, the number of public servants and the recurrent spend that basically brought Queensland to the brink of bankruptcy.**