

WEEKLY MARITIME INCIDENT UPDATE

Information Fusion Center-Colombo



Information Fusion Center
Colombo
Sri Lanka

Week 10

From 2026.03.09 TO 2026.03.15

SUMMARY OF THE WEEK 10

Executive Summary

Global Maritime Incidents

• Maritime incident	:-	10
• Piracy and Armed Robbery	:-	08
• Smuggling	:-	06
• IUU Fishing	:-	02
• Narcotics	:-	03
• Irregular Human Migration	:-	02
• Maritime Environment Pollution	:-	01
• Other Incidents	:-	05

Total Maritime Incidents 37

Global Weather Incident

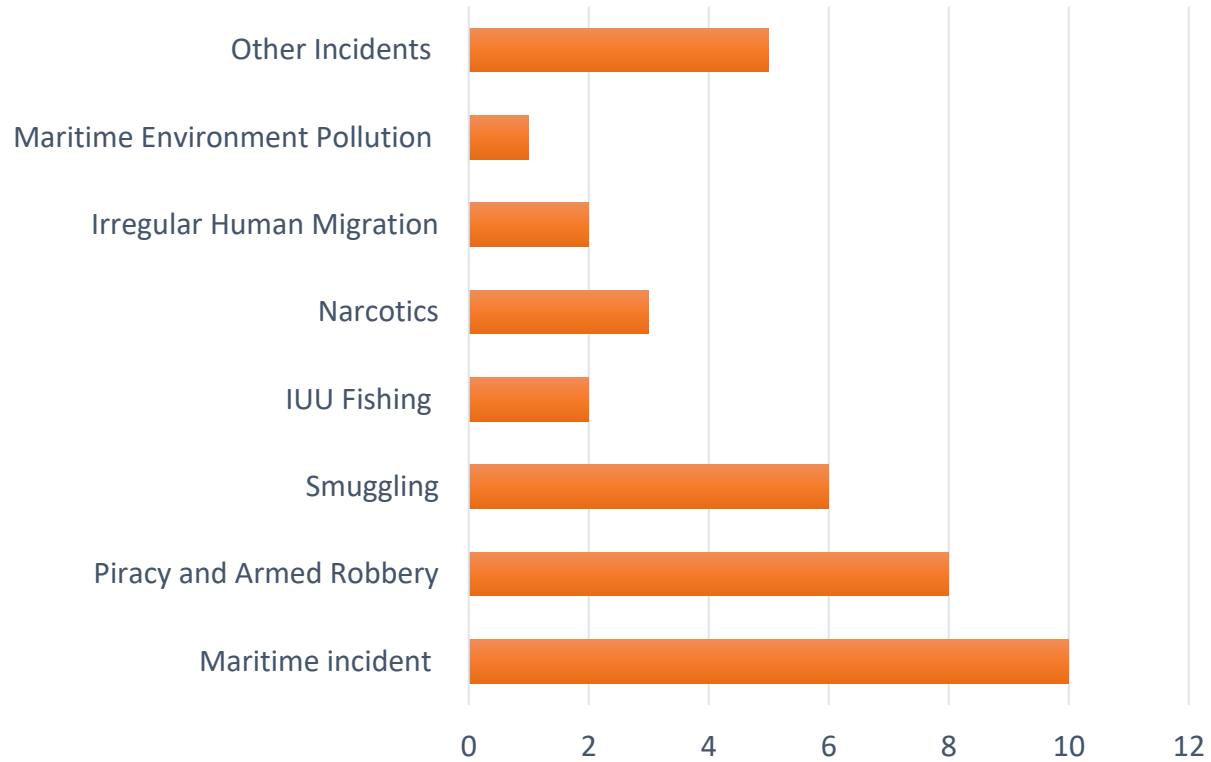
• Tropical Cyclone	:-	01
• Earthquake	:-	02

Total Weather Incidents 03

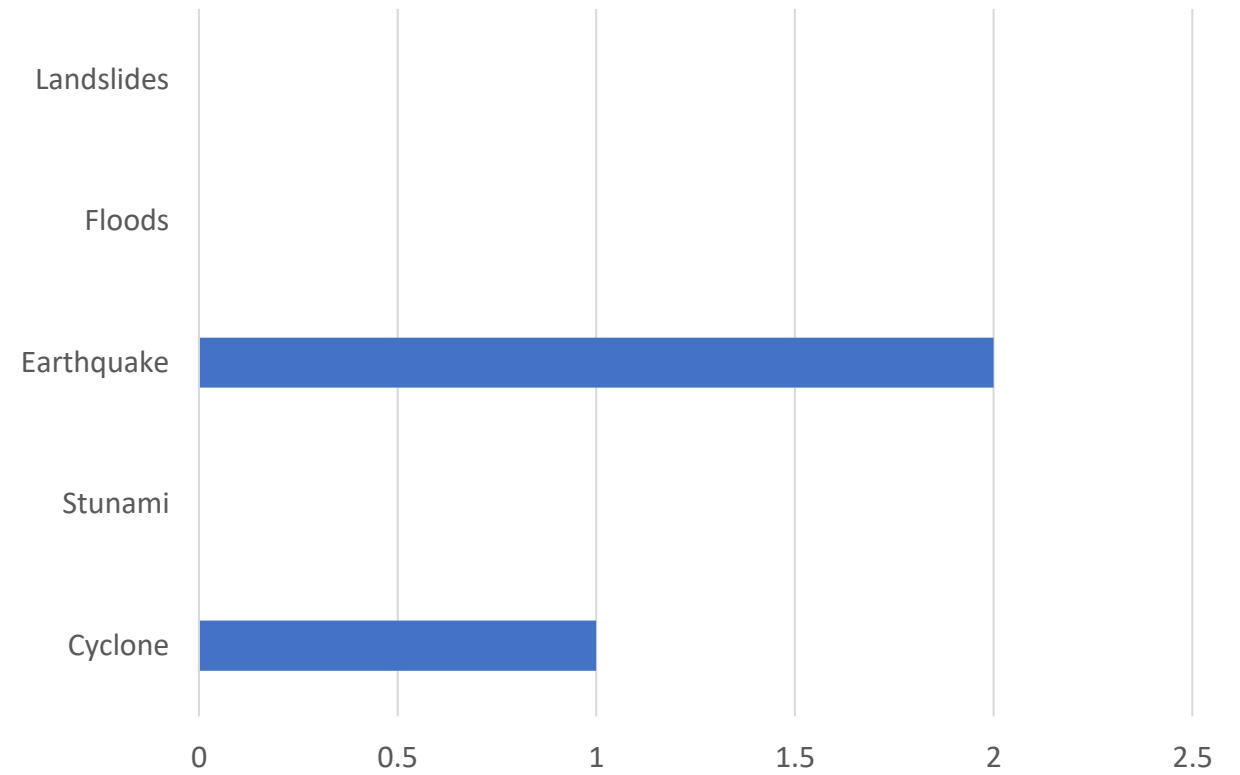


STATISTICS

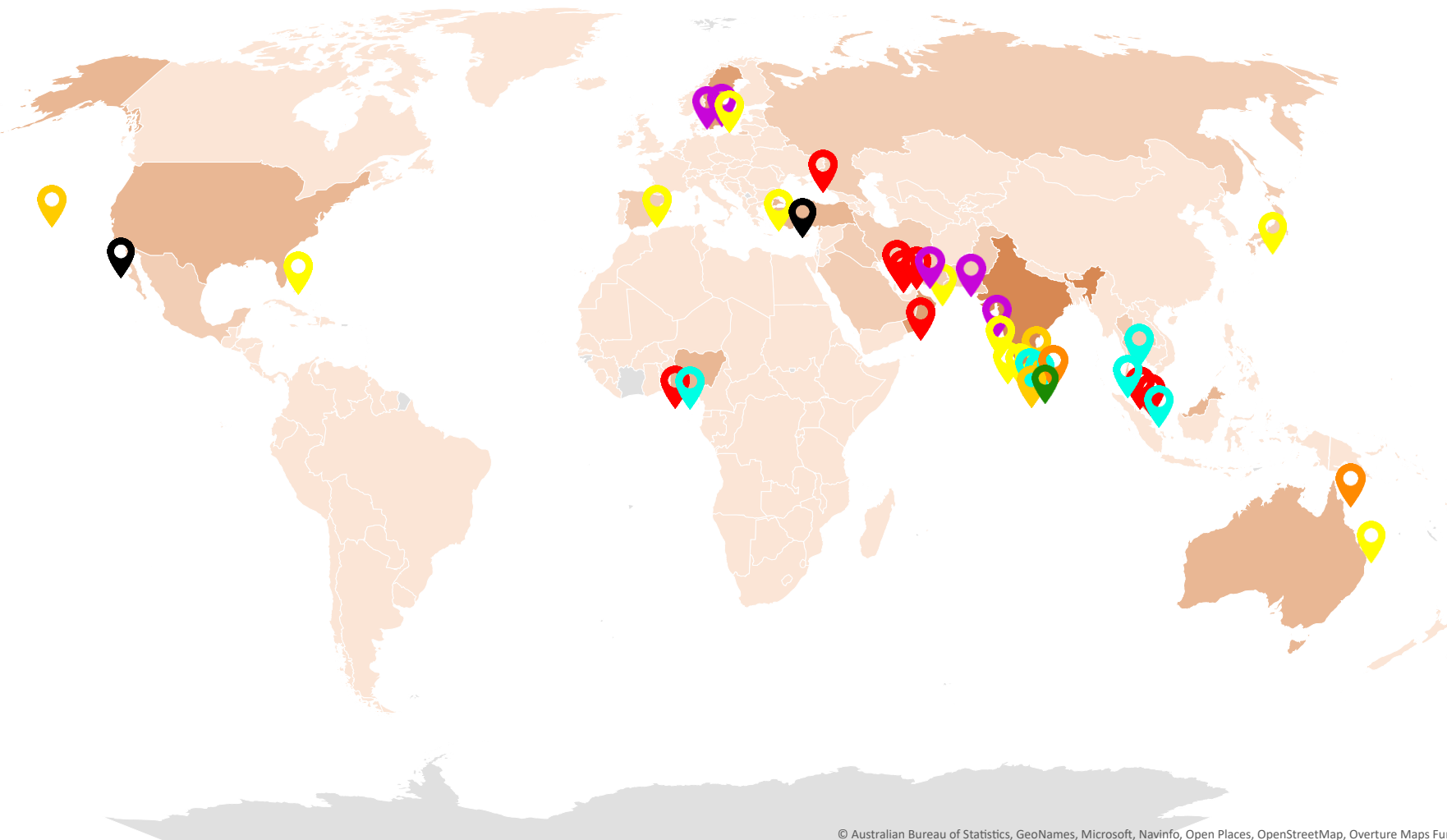
Maritime Incidents











Weather Incidents



STRATEGIC OVERVIEW



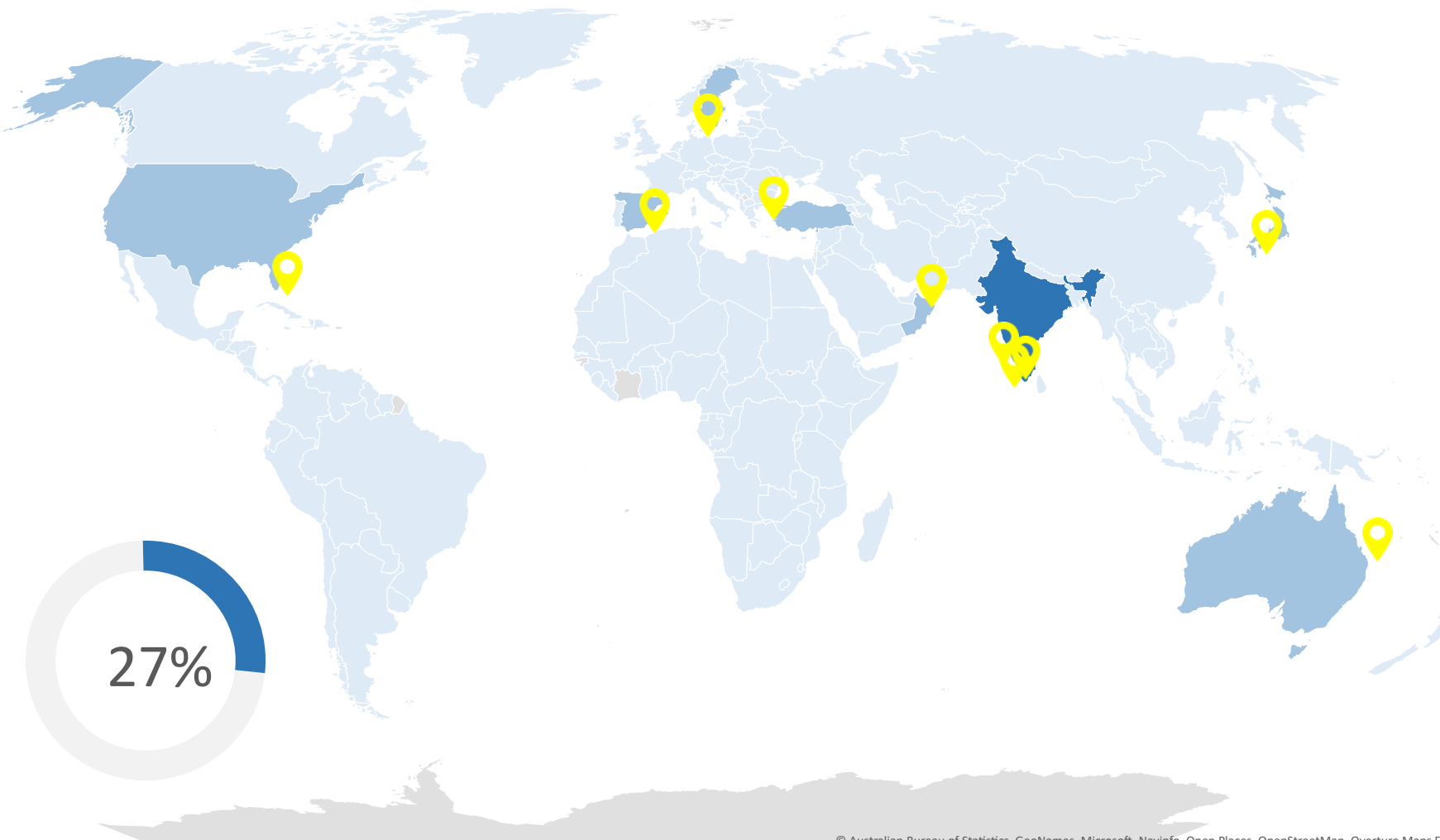
CATEGORY	NO
 Maritime Incidents	10
 Piracy & Armed Robbery	08
 Smuggling	06
 IUU Fishing	02
 Narcotic	03
 Irregular Human Migration	02
 Maritime Environment Pollution	01
 Other	05

Total Incidents

37

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MARITIME INCIDENTS



COUNTRY /REGION	NO
Australia	01
India	03
Japan	01
Oman	01
Spain	01
Sweden	01
Türkiye	01
United States	01

Total Incidents

10

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MARITIME INCIDENTS

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUBCATEGORY	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.03.07	India	80 nautical miles off the Kerala coast	Collisions	Fishing Vessel	Preliminary reports indicate that a fishing boat collided with the merchant vessel MV Solis, traveling from Oman to Colombo,
2026.03.07	Spain	Palma Port	Collisions	Name – Golden bridge Type – Passenger Flag - Cyprus	The fire started in a refrigerated truck in the cargo hold of the Golden Bridge at approximately 6:30 am local time,
2026.03.06	Japan	Near Ogijima Island	Grounding/Stranding	Name:-PHOENIX Type:- Tanker IMO:- 9413042	All 15 crew members, consisting of two South Koreans, six Myanmar nationals, and seven Indonesians, are safe and unharmed, with authorities confirming no pollution from the incident.
2026.03.08	India	off Mumbai coast	Fire/Flooding /Explosion	One Fishing Boat	A fishing boat caught fire in deep waters off the Mumbai coast on Sunday morning and later sank, leaving one crew member injured, fishermen's representatives said.
2026.03.08	India	Off Kerala	Collisions	Name:-SOLIS Type:- Tanker IMO:- 9276248	The Indian Directorate General of Shipping has stated that an investigation has been opened into the incident.
2026.03.11	Oman	strait of Hormuz	Fire/Flooding /Explosion	Name:-Mayuree Naree Type:- Cargo Flag - Thailand IMO:- 9323649	Mayuree Naree is a 2008-built bulk carrier that is owned by Precious Shipping PCL. The vessel measures 178.72 meters in length, 28.06 meters in width and has a carrying capacity of 30,196 tonnes.

Source -> <https://www.newsonair.gov.in/nine-fishermen-rescued-after-boat-accident-off-kerala-coast/>

Source -> <https://www.marinetraffic.com/en/maritime-news/14/accidents/2026/12750/ferry-hit-by-cargo-hold-fire-near-palma-port-several-suffer->

Source -> <https://www.marinetraffic.com/en/maritime-news/14/accidents/2026/12751/south-korean-tanker-refloated-after-grounding-near-ogijima-i>

Source -> <https://www.hindustantimes.com/cities/mumbai-news/fishing-boat-catches-fire-sinks-off-mumbai-coast-one-injured-101772996368304.html>

Source -> <https://www.marinetraffic.com/pt/maritime-news/14/accidents/2026/12755/two-feared-dead-as-tanker-collides-with-fishing-vessel-off-k>

Source -> <https://www.marinetraffic.com/en/maritime-news/15/maritime-security/2026/12759/fire-erupts-on-thai-bulk-carrier-after-attack-in-hormuz>



MARITIME INCIDENTS

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUBCATEGORY	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.03.11	Türkiye	Canakkale Strait	Grounding/ Standing	Name:- Nota app Type:- Cargo Flag - Panama	Following the response, the vessel was refloated and escorted by tugboats to Karanlık Liman Anchorage for further inspection.
2026.03.11	Sweden	Port of Trelleborg	Collisions	Name:SKANE Name:TINKER BELL Type: Passenger Type: Passenger IMO: 9133915 IMO: 9217242	Both vessels remained in port for inspections and were subsequently declared seaworthy. Authorities have launched an investigation to determine the exact cause of the incident.
2026.03.12	USA	Off Miami Beach	Fire/Flooding /Explosion	One Boat	There were no injuries and the fire was extinguished, officials said. Miami-Dade Fire Rescue officials said they assisted in extinguishing the fire.
2026.03.12	Australia	Yamba	Capsizing/ Sinking	-	A 52-year-old man was rescued from a life raft by a passing vessel and towed to shore. Unfortunately, a 54-year-old woman and a 59-year-old man were found deceased in the water.

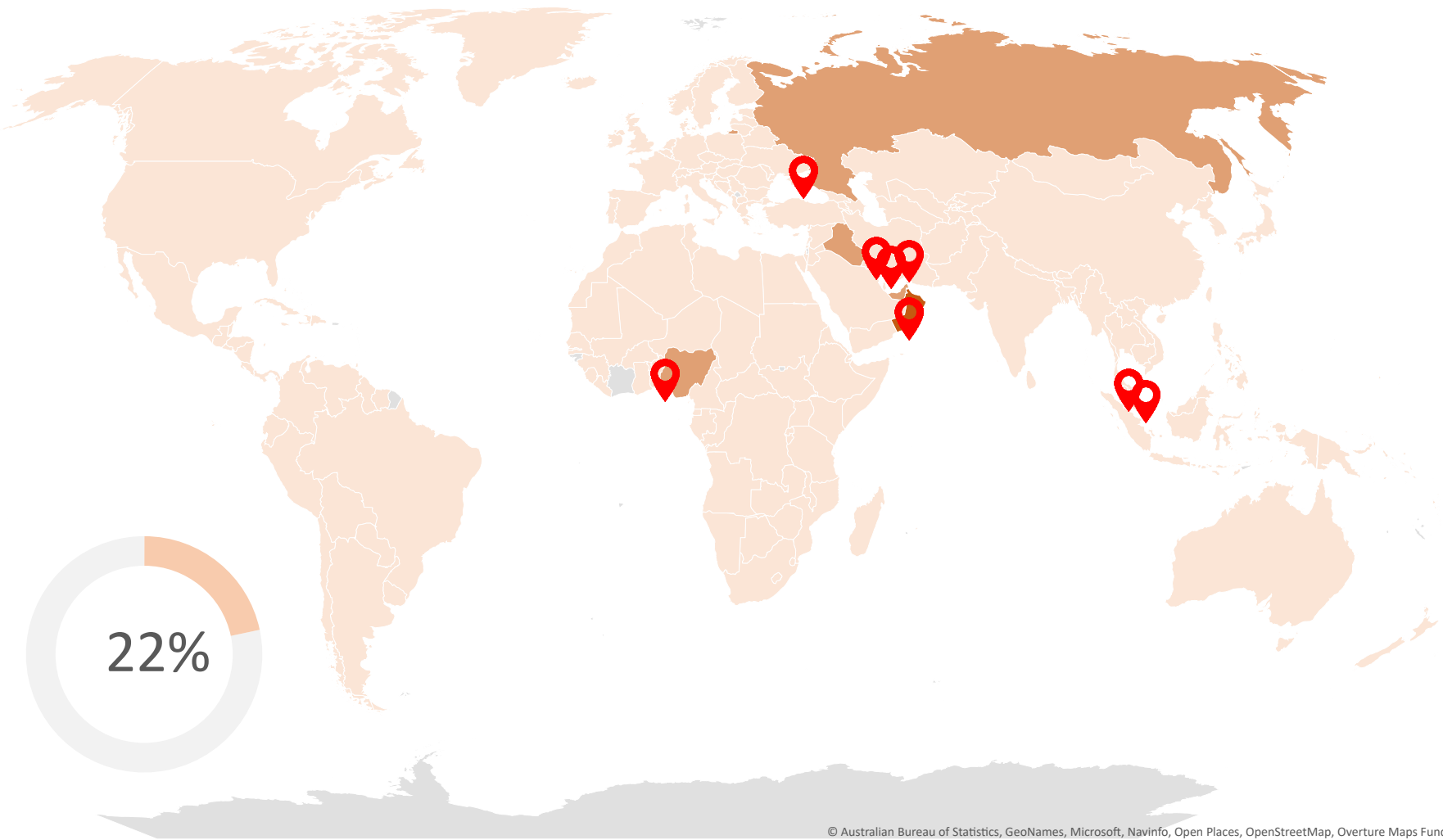
Source -: <https://www.marinetraffic.com/en/maritime-news/14/accidents/2026/12762/panama-flagged-bulk-carrier-refloated-running-aground-in-can>

Source -: <https://www.marinetraffic.com/no/maritime-news/14/accidents/2026/12764/two-swedish-ferries-collide-at-port-of-trelleborg-no-injurie>

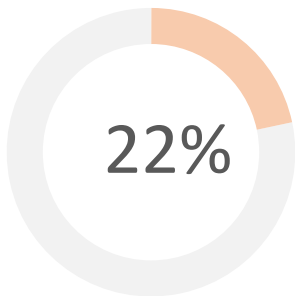
Source -: <https://www.nbcmiami.com/news/local/crews-respond-after-boat-catches-fire-off-miami-beach/3780146/>

Source -: <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2026-03-12/double-drowning-at-yamba/106445588>

PIRACY & ARMED ROBBERY



COUNTRY /REGION	NO
Iraq	01
Nigeria	01
Oman	02
Russia	01
Saudi Arabian	01
Singapore	02



Total Incidents

08

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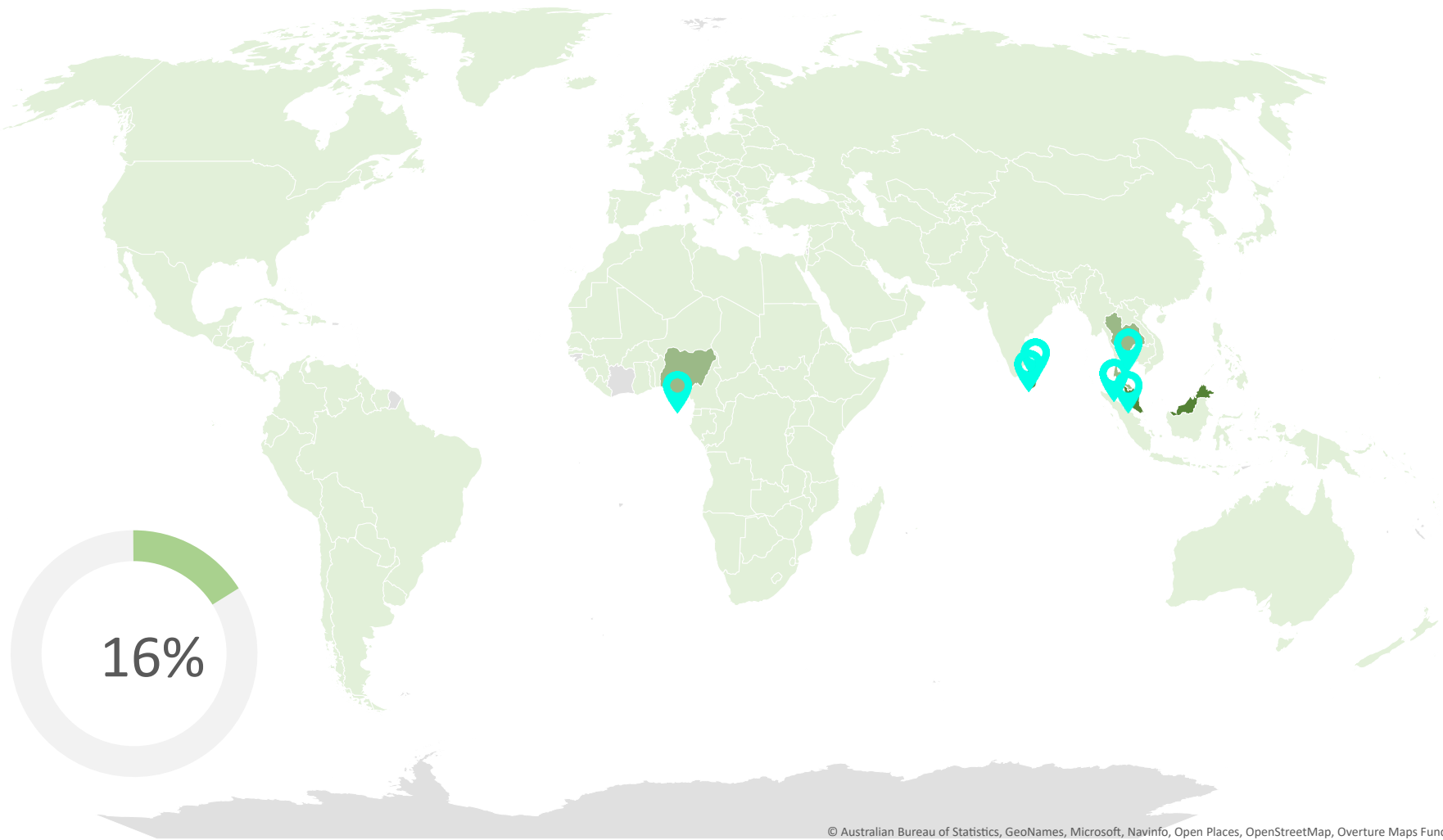
PIRACY & ARMED ROBBERY

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUBCATEGORY	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.03.06	Oman	Strait of Hormuz	Assault violations	United Arab Emirates-flagged tugboat	Tehran has conducted multiple attacks on vessels in the crucial Strait of Hormuz, targeting ships as a reaction to the US-Israeli war with Iran that began on February 28.
2026.03.07	Saudi Arabian	Port of Jubail.	Assault violations	Name - Louis P Flag - Marshall islands Type - Tanker	There are no reported casualties or injuries among the crew, and independent confirmation of the incident is pending.
2026.03.08	Nigeria	Along Ibaka–Calabar Channel	Piracy and Armed Robbery	One Boat	The operation followed an earlier intelligence report indicating suspicious maritime criminal activity around Buoy 12 along the strategic waterway.
3 to 9 March 26	Singapore	Singapore Strait Off Straits of Malacca	Piracy and Armed Robbery	One Cargo and One Tanker	For the 6th consecutive year, there has been no report of incident of abduction of crew in the Sulu-Celebes Seas and waters off Eastern Sabah.
2026.03.11	Iraq	Iraq Waters	Assault violations	Name :- Safesea Vishnu Name :- Zefyros	The two fuel tankers targeted were the Safesea Vishnu, registered in the Marshall Islands, and the Zefyros, registered in Malta, as identified by Iraq's State Oil Marketing Company.
2026.03.11	Oman	Port of Salalah	Assault violations	-	This incident highlights the escalation of the regional conflict, extending threats to Gulf energy infrastructure and vital maritime trade routes.
2026.03.14	Russia	Black Sea	Assault /Violations	Greek flagged vessel	A Greek-flagged suezmax tanker owned by Maran Tankers Management was attacked in the Black Sea early Saturday.

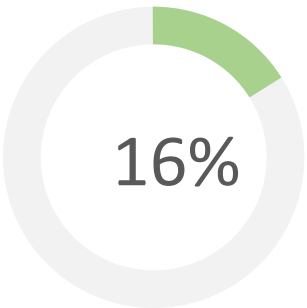
- Source - : <https://www.timesofisrael.com/uae-tugboat-hit-by-explosion-sinks-in-strait-of-hormuz-3-indonesian-crew-missing/>
 Source - : <https://www.marinetraffic.com/en/maritime-news/15/maritime-security/2026/12754/iran-claims-drone-strike-on-chemical-tanker-near-saudi-port->
 Source - : <https://www.tvcnews.tv/navy-rescues-16-passengers-foils-sea-robbery-attempt-along-ibaka-calabar-channel/>
 Source - : <https://safety4sea.com/recaap-isc-two-incidents-of-armed-robbery-3-9-march/>
 Source - : <https://www.marinetraffic.com/en/maritime-news/15/maritime-security/2026/12760/two-fuel-tankers-attacked-in-iraqi-waters-amid-iran-conflict>
 Source - : <https://www.marinetraffic.com/en/maritime-news/15/maritime-security/2026/12761/fuel-tanks-ablaze-after-drone-strike-at-port-of-salalah>
 Source - : <https://www.tradewindsnews.com/tankers/angelicoussis-tanker-hit-by-missile-or-drone-in-black-sea/2-1-1960250>



SMUGGLING



	COUNTRY /REGION	NO
	Malaysia	02
	Nigeria	01
	Sri Lanka	02
	Thailand	01



Total Incidents



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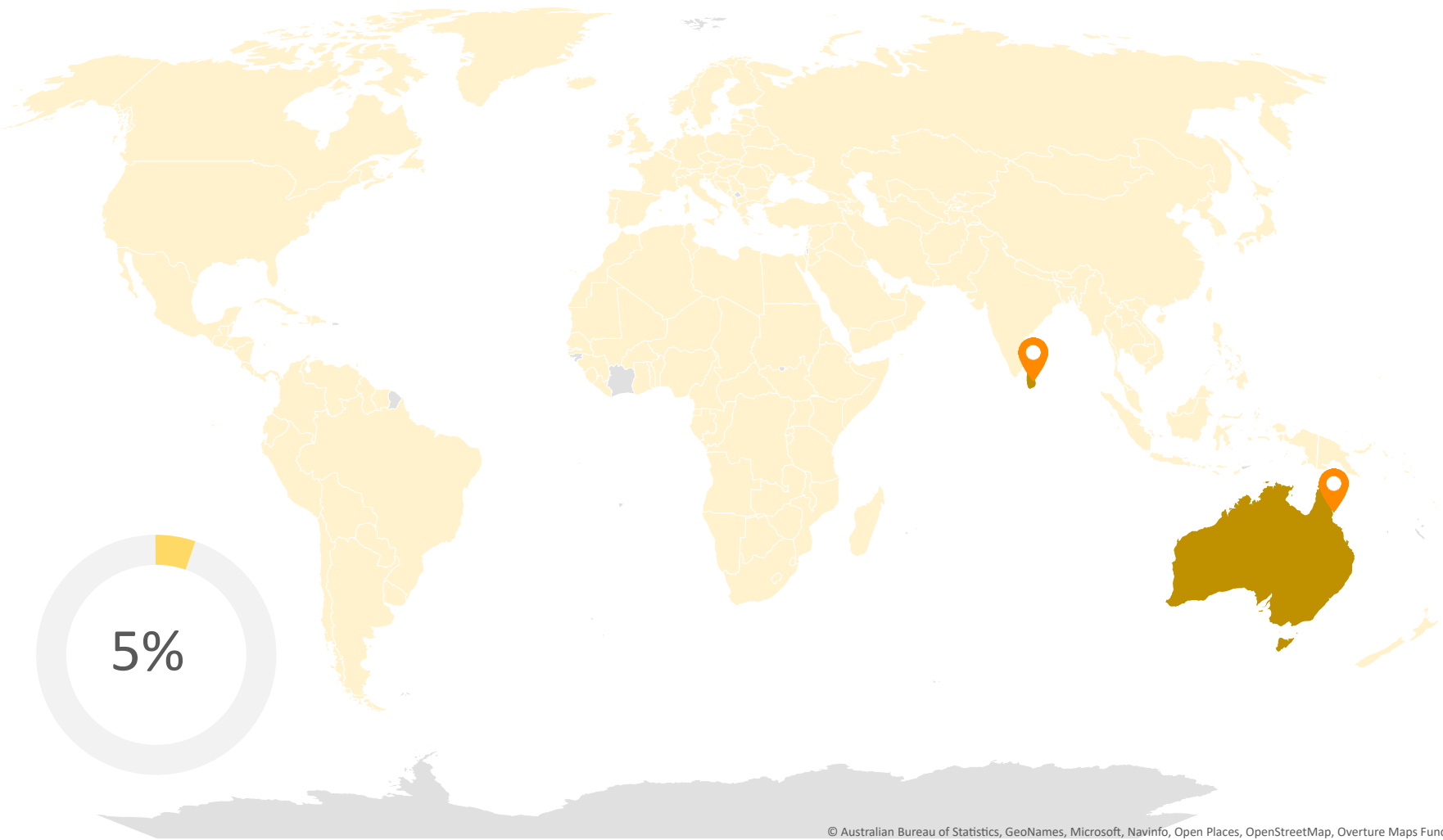
SMUGGLING

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUBCATEGORY	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.03.03	Sri Lanka	Maravila Sea Area	Contraband /Goods Smuggling	-	The stock of Kendu leaves was transferred to the Customs Preventive Office at Colombo Port for legal proceedings.
2026.03.07	Malaysia	Apapa port	Contraband /Goods Smuggling	One Boat	The patrol vessel was dispatched to the identified location near Batu 3 Jetty, heading towards Pulau Sebatik at about 9pm.
2026.03.08	Malaysia	Kuala Sanglang Jetty	Contraband /Goods Smuggling	-	He said authorities will take a tough stance on smuggling, stepping up patrols and enforcement in national waters ahead of the festive season.
2026.03.09	Sri Lanka	Kankasanthurai	Contraband /Goods Smuggling	One Dinghy	On 9 Mar 26 the Sri Lanka Navy and Coast Guard apprehended two suspects attempting to smuggle a total of 6.865 kg of gold into the country.
2026.03.10	Nigeria	Apapa port	Contraband /Goods Smuggling	-	Customs officers also intercepted two 40-foot containers filled with unregistered pharmaceutical products, including Hyegra 200 and Sildenafil Citrate.
2026.03.11	Thailand	Pak Bara Pier	Contraband /Goods Smuggling	One Boat	After receiving reports from Thai fishermen, authorities dispatched an aircraft and the naval ship HTMS Khlong Yai to track the vessels.

- Source -> <https://news.navy.lk/operation-news/2026/03/08/202603081000>
- Source -> <https://www.dailyexpress.com.my/news/277391/tawau-lpg-smuggling-attempt-foiled/>
- Source -> <https://www.thestar.com.my/news/nation/2026/03/08/mmea-foils-attempt-to-smuggle-over-rm500000-worth-of-vape-devices>
- Source -> <https://news.navy.lk/operation-news/2026/03/10/202603101215/>
- Source -> <https://theeyewitnessnews.com/2026/03/11/apapa-customs-records-major-breakthrough-in-anti-smuggling-operations/>
- Source -> <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/general/3215829/marine-missions-see-twenty-arrested>



IUU FISHING



	COUNTRY /REGION	NO
	Australia	01
	Sri Lanka	01

Total Incidents

02

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IUU FISHING

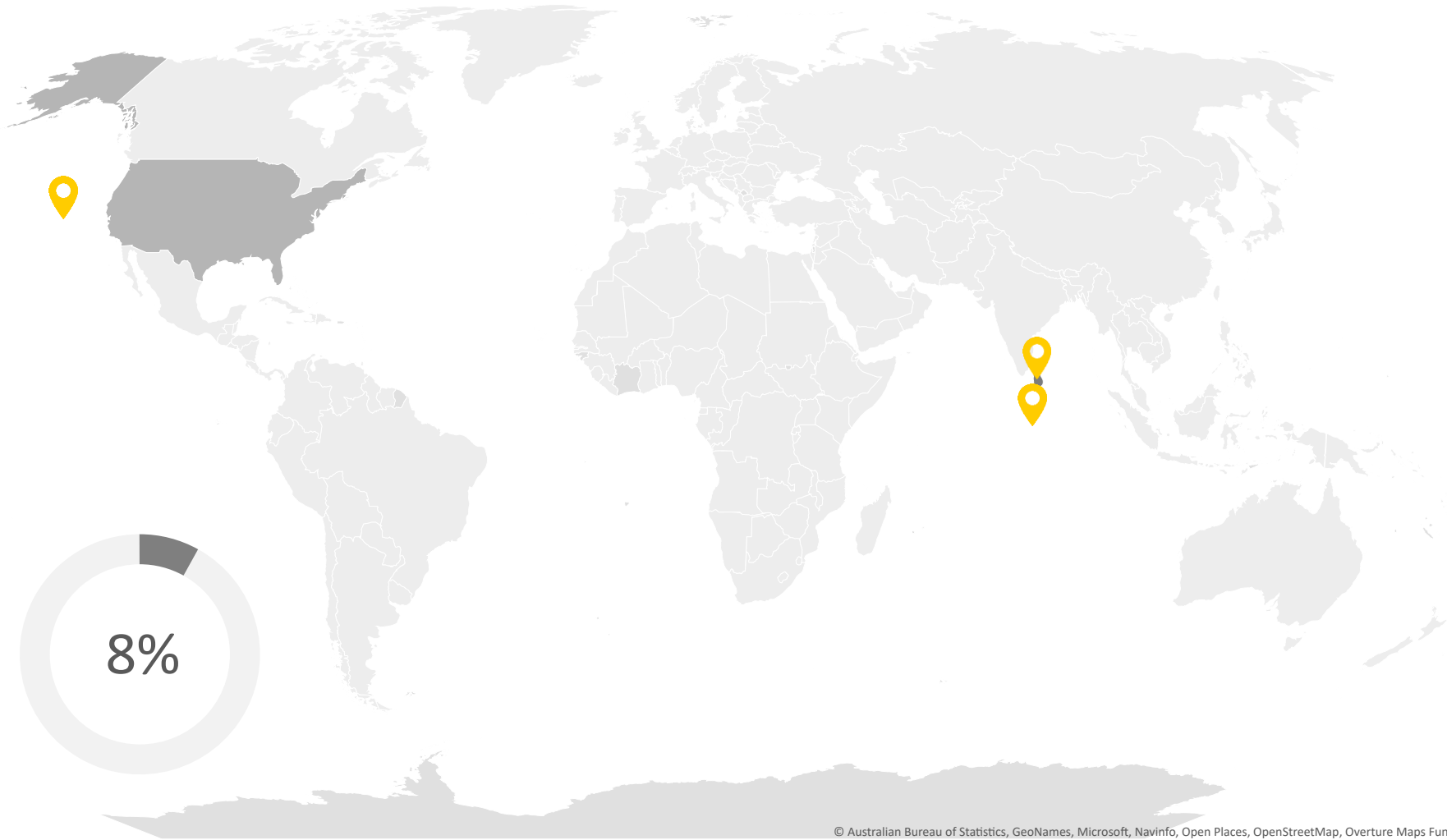
INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUBCATEGORY	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.03.07	Sri Lanka	Kalpitiya	Fishing without license	-	The suspects, aged 24 to 51, from Kalpitiya, were apprehended with stocks of dried sea cucumber and transferred to the Customs Preventive Office in Katunayake and the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Office in Puttalam for legal proceedings.
2026.03.07	Australia	Trochus Island	Poaching /Maritime boundary violations	Two Boat	This brings the total number of foreign fishing vessels intercepted in the region to 18 since the beginning of 2026.

Source -: <https://news.navy.lk/operation-news/2026/03/10/202603101130/>

Source -: <https://www.marinelink.com/news/australia-intercepts-illegal-fishers-536864/>



NARCOTIC



COUNTRY /REGION	NO
Sri Lanka	02
United States	01

Total Incidents

03

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NARCOTIC

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUBCATEGORY	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.03.08	Sri Lanka	-	Seizure of narcotics	Multiday Fishing Trawler	Speaking on this occasion, the Deputy Minister emphasized that, under the guidance of the President and the supervision of the Ministry of Defence, the Tri-Forces, Police, and intelligence agencies have intensified the "A Nation United" national mission, leaving no stone unturned.
2026.03.08	USA	Eastern Pacific	Sea based Drugs Trafficking	Drug Vessel	Intelligence indicated that the vessel was traveling along established narco-trafficking routes in the Eastern Pacific and involved in such activities. According to the Southern Command, six men on board were killed, but no U.S. forces were harmed in the attack on the vessel.
2026.03.10	Sri Lanka	southern coast	Seizure of narcotics	One Malt day fishing vessel	He added that the vessel is expected to be brought ashore within the next two days.

Source -: <https://news.navy.lk/operation-news/2026/03/08/202603081600/>

Source -: <https://www.dailymirror.lk/breaking-news/Over-600-kg-of-narcotics-found-in-seized-fishing-vessel/108-334953>

Source -: <https://www.foxnews.com/politics/us-military-strike-suspected-narco-boat-eastern-pacific>

IRREGULAR HUMAN MIGRATION



	COUNTRY /REGION	NO
📍	Mexico	01
📍	Türkiye	01

Total Incidents

02

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IRREGULAR HUMAN MIGRATION

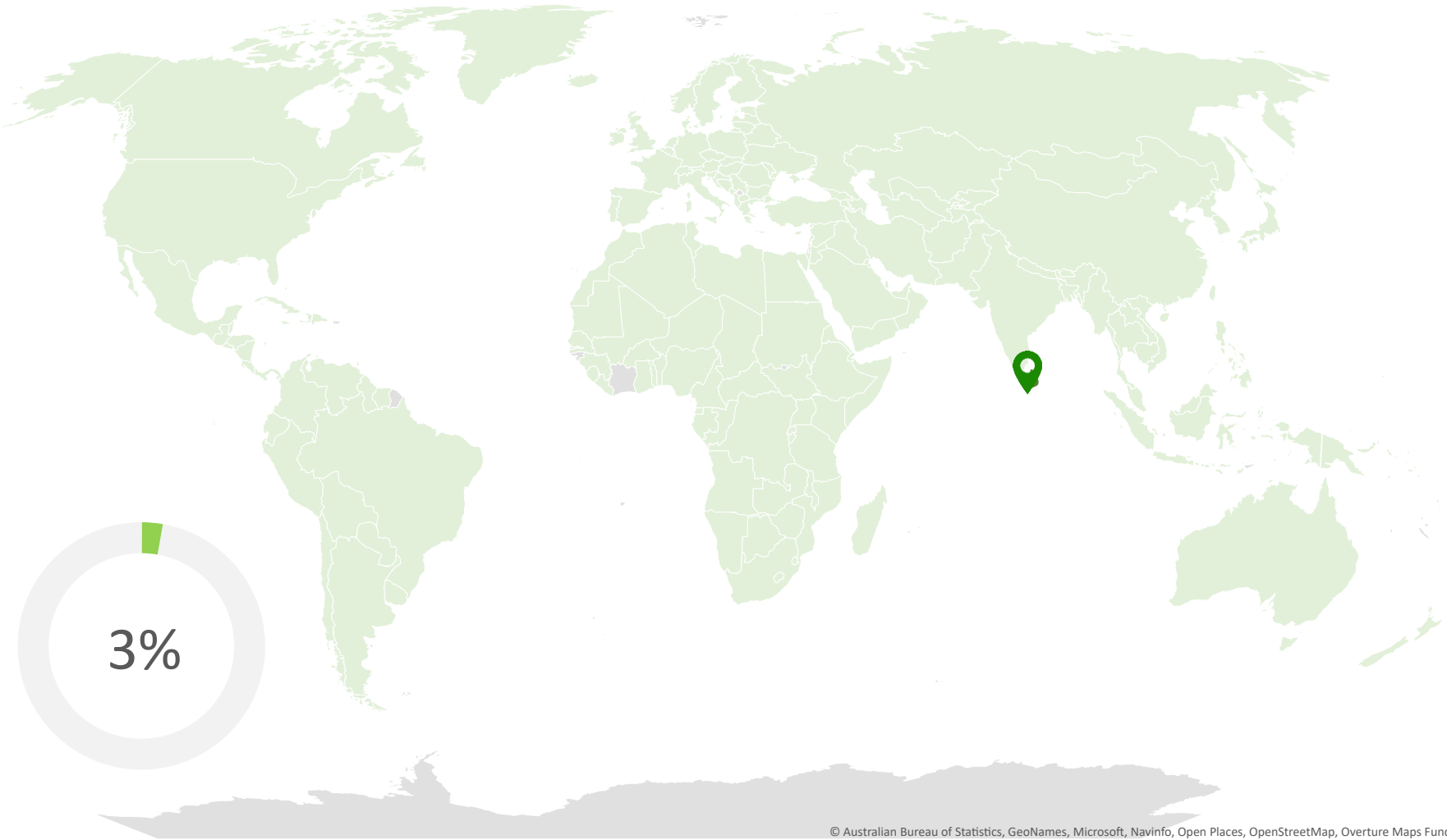
INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUBCATEGORY	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.03.09	Türkiye	Coast off Finike Antalya	Illegal broader crossing	One Boat	It said six migrants and one Turkish national were rescued, but that 14 were found dead and 15 others were caught after continuing in their boat until they reached land.
2026.03.09	Mexica	Coast of San Diego	Illegal broader crossing	-	Kerber Palma urged the migrant community not to put their lives at risk, warning that those who organize these crossings are only seeking to turn a profit.

Source -: <https://english.aawsat.com/world/5249130-least-14-dead-after-migrant-boat-crashes-coast-guard-vessel-southern-t%C3%BCrkiye>

Source -: <https://www.borderreport.com/hot-topics/border-crime/migrant-smuggling-on-the-water-persists-mexican-diplomat-warns/>



MARITIME ENVIRONMENT POLLUTION



	COUNTRY /REGION	NO
	Sri Lanka	01

Total Incidents

01

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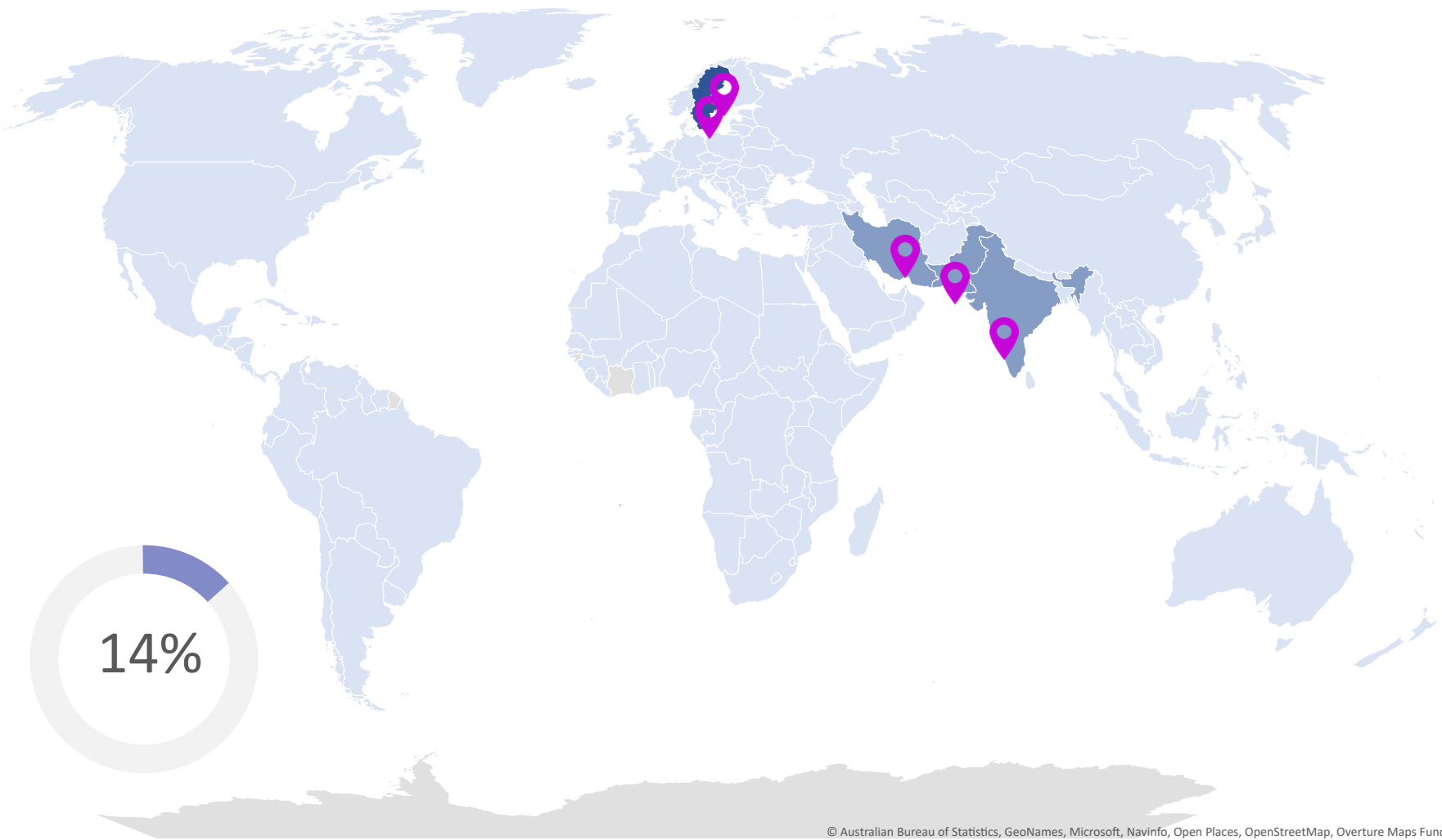






MARITIME ENVIRONMENT POLLUTION

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUBCATEGORY	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.03.06	Sri Lanka	Off Hikkaduwa	Oil Spill	-	The oil spill was reported following the attack on an Iranian vessel in seas off Galle.

Source -: <https://www.adaderana.lk/news.php?nid=119432>

OTHER



	COUNTRY /REGION	NO
	India	01
	Iran	01
	Pakistan	01
	Sweden	02

Total Incidents

05



OTHER

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUBCATEGORY	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.03.06	Sweden	Swedish Waters Of The Baltic Sea	Other Military/ Coastguard activities	Name - CAFFA Type - Cargo IMO - 9143611	According to the coast guard, the vessel is considered stateless under maritime legislation, which prevents it from claiming the right of innocent passage through Sweden's waters.
2026.03.09	Pakistan	Middle East	Other Military/ Coastguard activities	-	The operation's goal is to ensure uninterrupted maritime trade and secure lines of communication at sea, according to the military's media statement.
2026.03.10	Iran	strait of Hormuz	Naval Activities	16mine-laying vessels	Intelligence sources claim Iran has begun mine laying as US energy secretary backtracks on claim US escorted a ship through strategic chokepoint.
2026.03.13	India	Kochi	Naval Activities	IRIS LAVAN	The ship participated in the International Fleet Review, housing about 183 crew members at local naval facilities.
2026.03.12	Sweden	Off Trelleborg	Other Military/ Coastguard Activities	Name – Sea owl I Flag – Comoros Type - Tanker	The vessel is listed under EU sanctions, with authorities suspecting it may be operating under a false flag.

- Source -: <https://www.marinetraffic.com/en/maritime-news/15/maritime-security/2026/12749/swedish-coast-guard-seizes-cargo-vessel-in-baltic-over-state>
- Source -: https://www.reuters.com/business/energy/pakistan-navy-launches-shipping-security-operation-amid-middle-east-tensions-2026-03-09/?utm_source=chatgpt.com
- Source -: <https://www.theguardian.com/news/2026/mar/11/us-iran-strait-of-hormuz-mine-boat-attacks>
- Source -: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/stranded-iran-navy-ship-crew-fly-out-of-kochi/articleshow/129564555.cms>
- Source -: <https://www.marinetraffic.com/en/maritime-news/15/maritime-security/2026/12766/comoros-flagged-tanker-boarded-by-swedish-coast-guard>



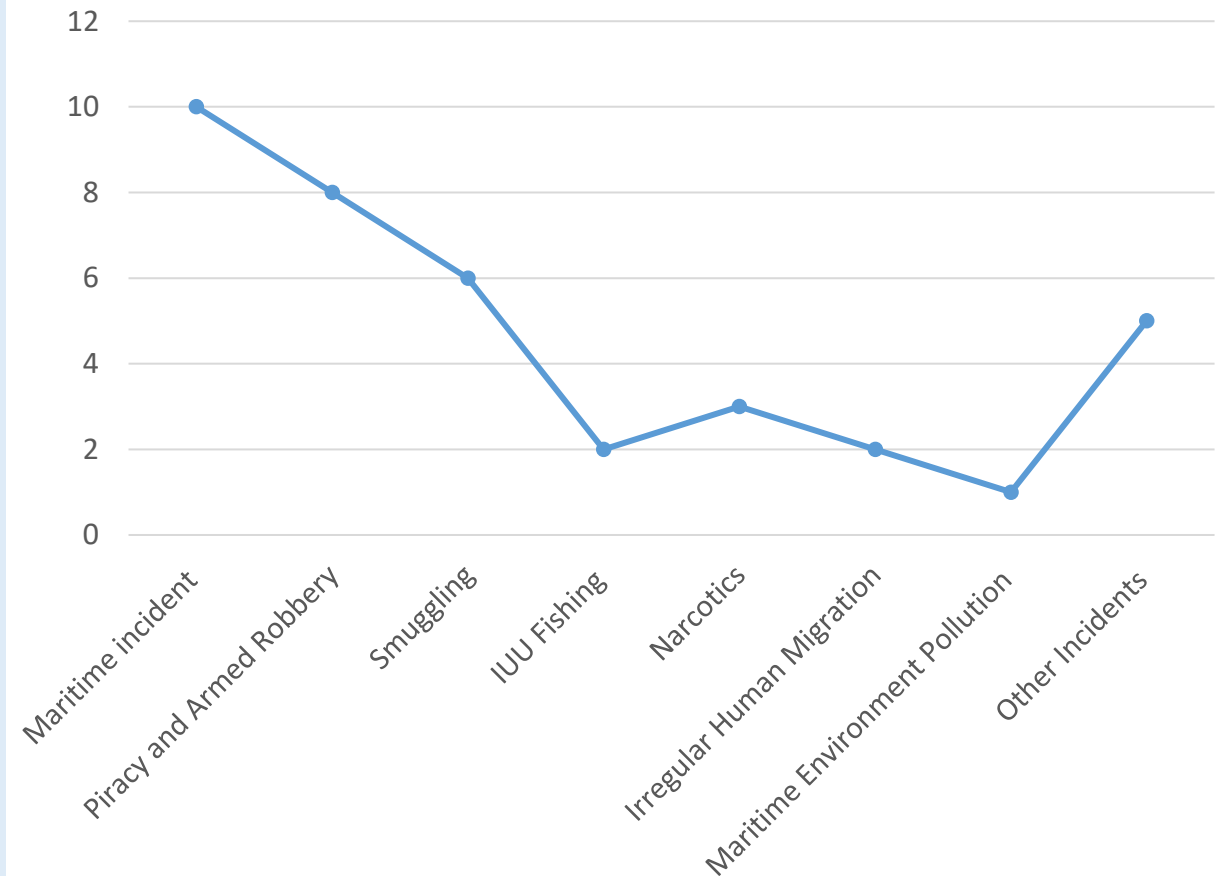
WEEKLY ANALYSIS

During the week, 37 maritime incidents were recorded globally, reflecting a combination of maritime safety issues and security-related threats. Among these, 10 maritime incidents involved vessel capsizing, grounding, collisions, fires, and search and rescue (SAR) operations. Additionally, 8 piracy and armed robbery incidents, 6 smuggling cases, 2 illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing incidents, 3 narcotics-related cases, and 2 irregular human migration incidents were reported. Five other incidents were associated with military or maritime security activities linked to regional geopolitical tensions. Significant incidents included maritime operations related to the Iran-US tensions, such as Iranian mine-laying activities in the Strait of Hormuz, and Sri Lanka's search and rescue operations for distressed vessels in the region. One maritime environmental pollution incident was reported involving an oil spill off Hikkaduwa, Sri Lanka.

Recommendations:

To strengthen maritime security, it is essential to enhance maritime domain awareness through improved surveillance systems, AIS monitoring, and intelligence sharing among regional partners. Increased naval and coast guard patrols in high-risk areas will help deter piracy and maritime attacks. Furthermore, improving vessel safety standards, crew training, and emergency response capabilities, including coordinated search and rescue operations, will reduce maritime accidents and strengthen overall maritime operational safety

Maritime Incidents





Information Fusion Center Colombo Sri Lanka

DISCLAIMER

The information in this report has been sourced from various internal and external parties, including international and local stakeholders, maritime agencies, and open sources. The report analyzes incidents to identify trends and discrepancies, aiming to improve the safety and security of mariners and seafarers. While efforts have been made to ensure data accuracy, users should exercise due diligence. Some incident locations may be approximate. IFC-Colombo requests stakeholders' cooperation in reporting incidents for more accurate analysis of maritime threats. The views expressed in this report do not reflect those of the Sri Lanka Navy or Government of Sri Lanka.

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