

WEEKLY MARITIME INCIDENT UPDATE

Information Fusion Center-Colombo

+34.23



Information Fusion Center
Colombo
Sri Lanka

Week 09

From 2026.03.02 TO 2026.03.08

SUMMARY OF THE WEEK 09

Executive Summary

Global Maritime Incidents

• Maritime incident	:-	11
• Piracy and Armed Robbery	:-	04
• Smuggling	:-	04
• IUU Fishing	:-	01
• Narcotics	:-	01
• Irregular Human Migration	:-	01
• Maritime Environment Pollution	:-	00
• Other Incidents	:-	03

Total Maritime Incidents 25

Global Weather Incident

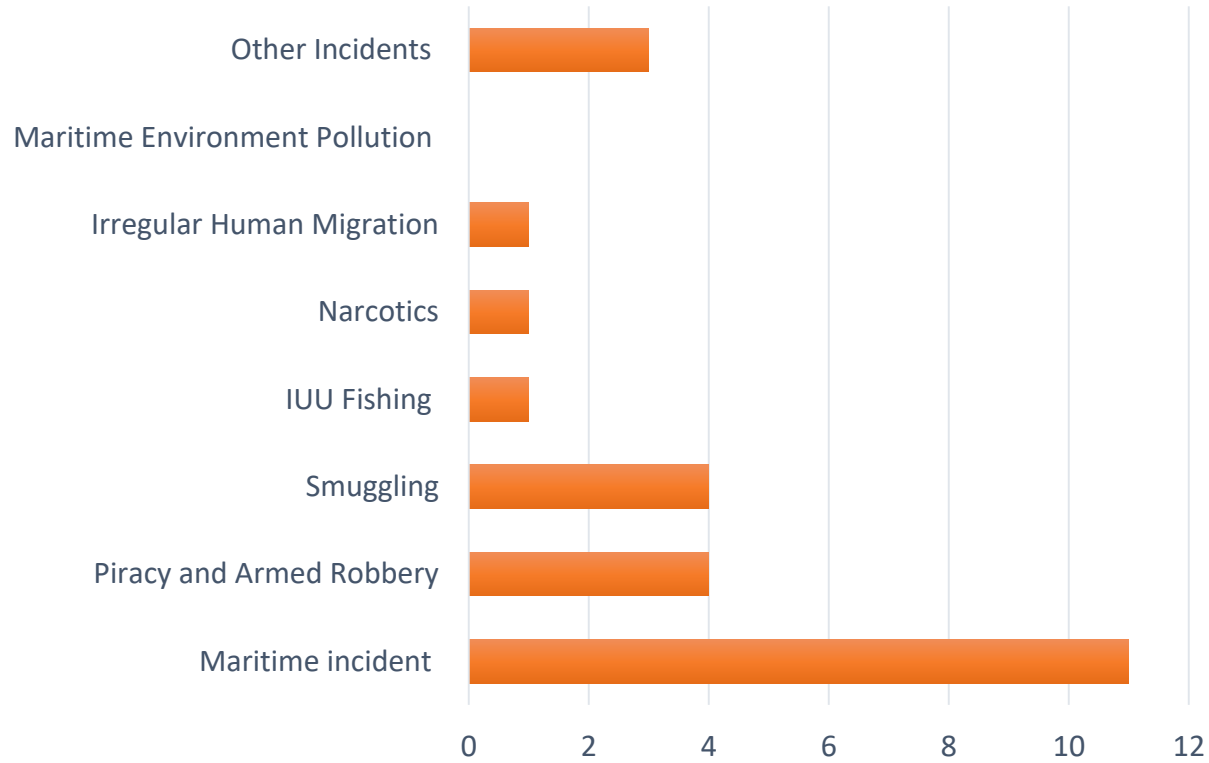
• Tropical Cyclone	:-	03
• Earthquake	:-	05

Total Weather Incidents 08

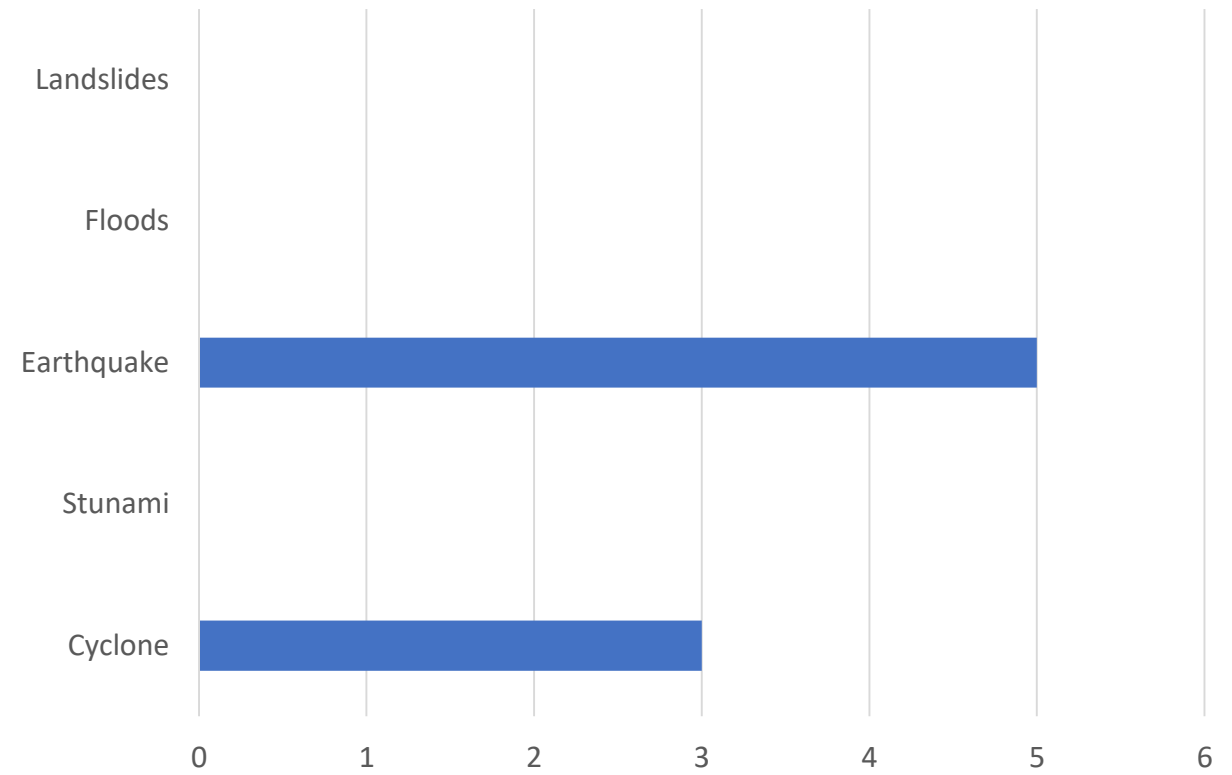


STATISTICS

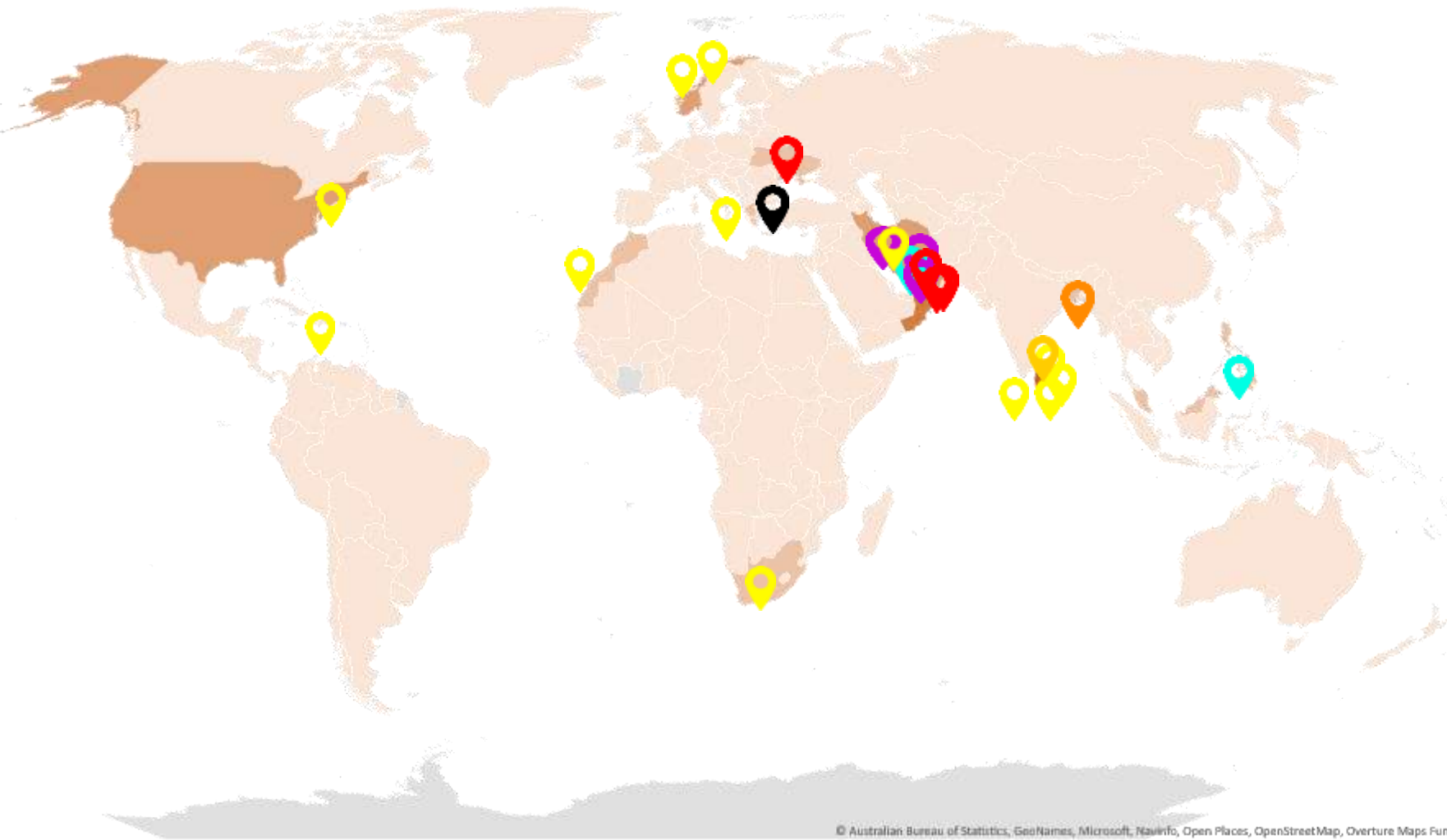
Maritime Incidents











Weather Incidents



STRATEGIC OVERVIEW



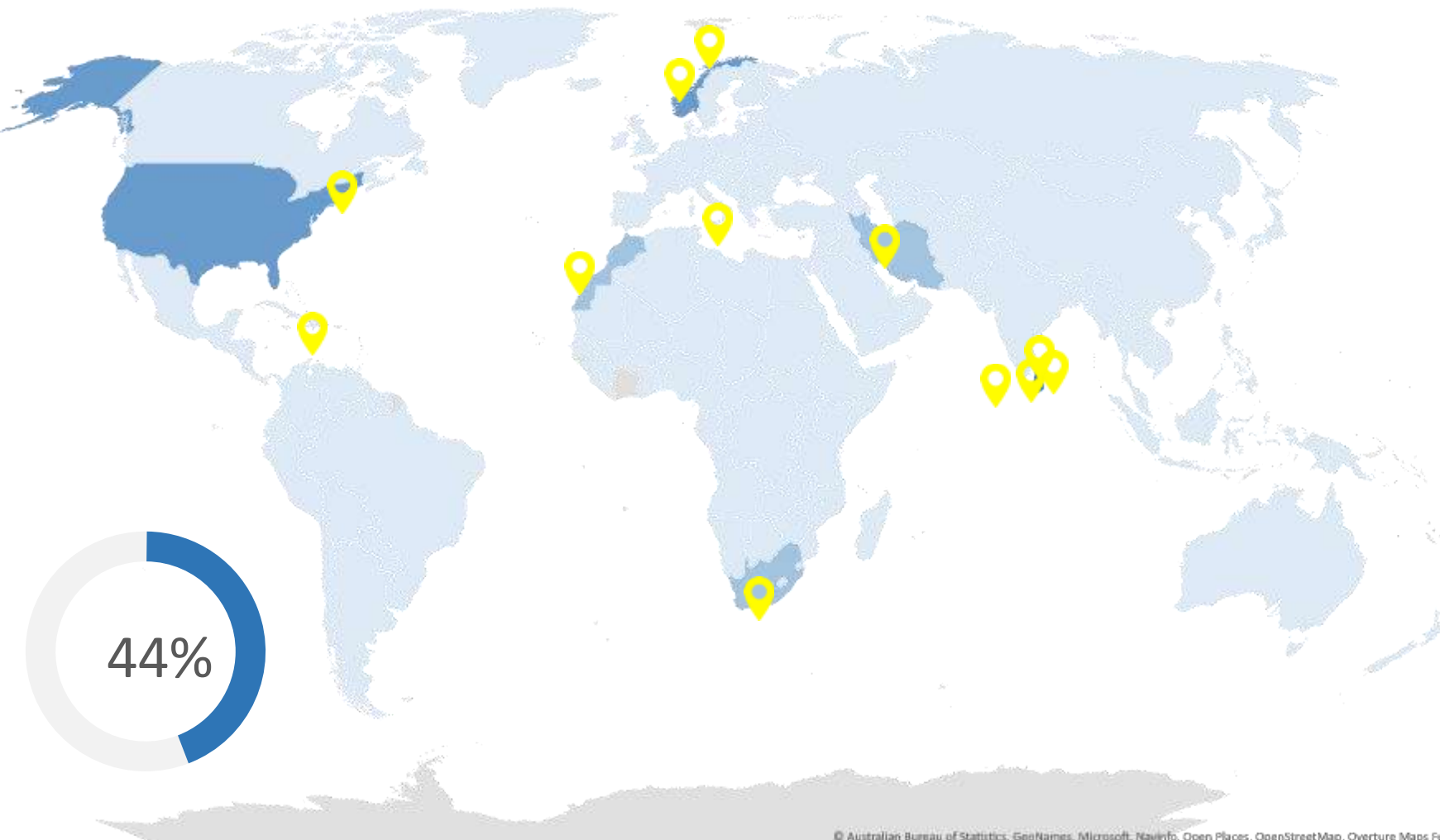
CATEGORY	NO
 Maritime Incidents	11
 Piracy & Armed Robbery	04
 Smuggling	04
 IUU Fishing	01
 Narcotic	01
 Irregular Human Migration	01
 Maritime Environment Pollution	00
 Other	03









Total Incidents

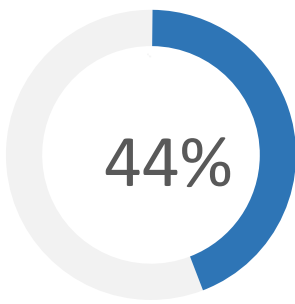
25

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MARITIME INCIDENTS



	COUNTRY /REGION	NO
	Iran	01
	Maldives	01
	Malta	01
	Morocco	01
	Norway	02
	South Africa	01
	Sri Lanka	03
	United State	01



Total Incidents

11

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MARITIME INCIDENTS

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUBCATEGORY	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.02.28	Morocco	Near Laayoune Port	Capsizing /Sinking	Name- Dura bulk Flag- Panama Type- General Cargo	Dura Bulk is a vessel built in 1973, measuring 88.85 meters long, 13.28 meters wide, and has a carrying capacity of 3,007 tones.
2026.02.28	Norway	Skarberget	Grounding/ Standing	Name - Lote Type - Ro-Ro/Passenger Ship Flag - Norway	Lote is a ferry built in 2006, measuring 108.67 meters in length and 18 meters in width, with a carrying capacity of 2,984 gross tonnage.
2026.03.01	Iran	Strait of Hormuz	Fire/ Folding/ Explosion	Name- Skylight Flag- Palau Type- Oil Tanker	The Maritime Security Centre announced that rescue operations were conducted in cooperation with military, security, and civilian authorities, showcasing Oman's readiness to manage maritime incidents amidst escalating regional tensions.
2026.03.01	South Africa	Mossel Bay	Capsizing/ Sinking	Name- Leo Type- Tug	The ship sank approximately 80 nautical miles south of Mossel Bay in South Africa's Western Cape province in the early hours of Sunday, 01 Mar 26.
2026.03.02	USA	Caribbean Sea	Collisions	Name-USS Truxtun (DDG-103) Name-USNS(T-AOE-6) Type- Military	A spokesperson for Southern Command confirmed that the injured personnel were sailors, and both ships continued their missions safely.

- Source -: <https://www.marinetraffic.com/en/maritime-news/14/accidents/2026/12733/cargo-vessel-dura-bulk-goes-down-near-laayoune-port>
- Source -: <https://www.marinetraffic.com/en/maritime-news/14/accidents/2026/12731/norway-flagged-ferry-lote-runs-aground-in-norway-no-injuries>
- Source -: <https://ilkha.com/english/world/iran-strikes-strategic-oil-route-after-assassination-of-ayatollah-khamenei-515110>
- Source -: <https://www.thenews.com.pk/latest/1394231-sea-tragedy-one-dead-several-missing-after-tugboat-sinks-off-south-africa>
- Source -: <https://knewz.com/two-american-navy-ships-collide-in-caribbean-sea/>



MARITIME INCIDENTS

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUBCATEGORY	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.03.03	Malta	Mediterranean Sea	Fire/ Folding/ Explosion	Name – Arctic metagaz Flag – Russia Type - LNG Tanker	The LNG carrier Arctic Metagaz reportedly caught fire southeast of Malta early Tuesday morning, suspected to have been caused by a drone attack around 0400 local time while transiting eastbound in the Mediterranean, according to EOS Risk Group.
2026.03.04	Sri Lanka	Indian Ocean	Search And Rescue (SAR)	IRIS Dena	Rescued 32 Corpses 84
2026.03.05	Norway	Norwegian Coast	Grounding/ Standing	Name – Oralynn Flag – Denmark Type - Oil/Chemical Tanker	Oralynn is a vessel built in 2008, measuring 103 meters in length, 16 meters in width, and has a carrying capacity of 6,886 tonnes.
2026.03.05	Sri Lanka	Colombo	Search and Rescue(SAR)	Name – IRIS BUSHEHR Flag –Iran Type – Mil OPS	The Navy Spokesman confirmed that all personnel were brought to Colombo safely and are receiving appropriate assistance.
2026.03.06	United State	Provincetown	Capsizing/ Sinking	Fishing Vessel	The capsizing occurred one week after first responders had rescued two crew members from the same boat due to carbon monoxide exposure.
2026.03.06	Sri Lanka	Gurunagar Jetty in Jaffna	Capsizing/ Sinking	Small Boat	Preliminary reports suggest that approximately 25 individuals were on board during the incident. Out of these, 23 were rescued and taken ashore, with 13 needing treatment at the Jaffna Teaching Hospital.

Source -> <https://gcaptain.com/crew-of-sanctioned-russian-lng-carrier-arctic-metagaz-found-alive-after-fire-incident-off-malta/>
 Source -> <https://www.newsfirst.lk/2026/03/04/sri-lanka-responds-to-distress-call-from-iranian-naval-ship-in-indian-ocean>
 Source -> <https://www.marinetraffic.com/en/maritime-news/14/accidents/2026/12747/tanker-carrying-liquid-fertilizer-refloated-after-grounding->
 Source -> <https://www.themorning.lk/articles/9bsf1G5y5HG6GTfozwYk>
 Source -> <https://www.wbur.org/news/2026/03/05/yankee-rose-fishing-boat-capsizes-provincetown>
 Source -> <https://www.adaderana.lk/news.php?nid=119336>

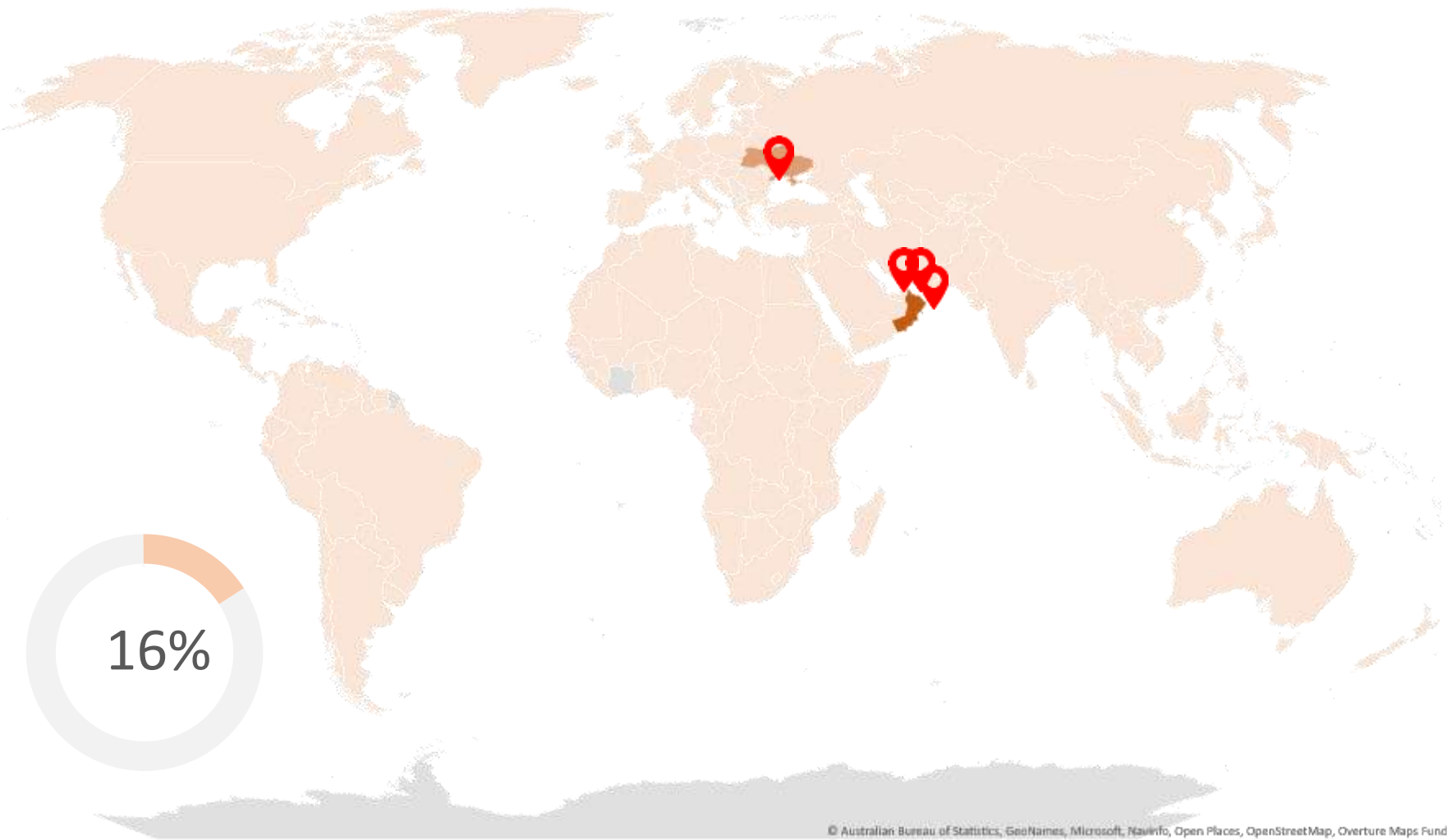





MARITIME INCIDENTS

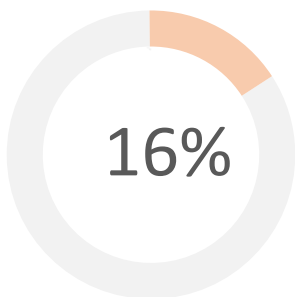
INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUBCATEGORY	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.03.07	Maldives	Feydhoo Harbour	Fire/ Folding/ Explosion	Diving boat	Raging fire broke out in a diving boat moored outside the Feydhoo Harbour, destroying it beyond use.

Source -: <https://edition.mv/news/48896?ref=cat-sub>

PIRACY & ARMED ROBBERY



	COUNTRY /REGION	NO
	Bahrain	01
	Oman	02
	Ukraine	01



Total Incidents

04

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PIRACY & ARMED ROBBERY

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUBCATEGORY	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.03.01	Oman	Northwest of Port Sultan	Assault /Violations	Name – MKD VYOM Flag – Marshall Islands Type - Crude Oil Tanker	An unmanned drone boat struck oil tanker MKD VYOM off Oman's coast, killing one Indian crew member and triggering a fire before all 21 personnel were evacuated safely.
2026.03.02	Bahrain	Northwest of Port Sultan	Assault /Violations	Name – Stena Imperative Flag – USA Type - Crude Oil Tanker	Reports suggest that a tanker may have been targeted due to its role in the U.S. fuel program, although analysts highlight the chaotic nature of the Iranian attacks, which appear more aimed at instilling fear than accurately targeting specific vessels.
2026.03.04	Oman	Strait of Hormuz	Assault /Violations	Name – Safeen prestige Flag – Malta Type - Container Ship	The vessel was hit by an unknown projectile above the waterline, causing a fire in the engine room. Vanguard reported no environmental impact has been observed at this time.
2026.03.04	Ukraine	Port of Chornomorsk	Assault /Violations	Name – Bull Flag – Liberia Type - Bulk Carrier	The attack aligns with a trend of Russian strikes aimed at Ukrainian maritime exports, vital for the nation's trade and wartime economy.

- Source -> <https://www.indiatoday.in/world/story/indian-crew-member-killed-after-drone-boat-hits-oil-tanker-off-oman-coast-2876550-2026-03-02>
 Source -> <https://maritime-executive.com/article/u-s-flagged-stena-tanker-hit-by-iranian-missiles-during-attack-on-bahrain>
 Source -> <https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/malta-flagged-container-ship-hit-by-projectile-hormuz-vessel-abandoned-sources-2026-03-04/>
 Source -> <https://www.marinetraffic.com/en/maritime-news/15/maritime-security/2026/12746/bulk-carrier-hit-by-russian-drone-near-ukrainian-port-of-cho>



SMUGGLING



	COUNTRY /REGION	NO
	Indonesia	01
	Malaysia	01
	Oman	01
	Philippines	01

Total Incidents

04

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SMUGGLING

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUBCATEGORY	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.03.01	Oman	Coast Of Khasab	Contraband/ Goods Smuggling	-	Following the seizure, the suspects were arrested and the contraband was confiscated by provincial authorities, with legal proceedings being finalized by the Royal Oman Police against those involved.
2026.03.01	Philippines	Western Mindanao's sea	Contraband/ Goods Smuggling	M/L Makhfeiyan and M/L M.K. Fiyon 1	Each undetected shipment results in significant losses in excise tax revenue for state health, infrastructure, and community programs.
2026.03.04	Indonesia	North Sulawesi	Contraband/ Goods Smuggling	-	During checks on a green expedition truck, officers discovered a shipment of hazardous cyanide packed in 29 sacks in the cargo hold, Herdijanto said.
2026.03.05	Malaysia	Pulau Bum Bum	Contraband/ Goods Smuggling	One Boat	Upon realizing the presence of the enforcement team, the boat skipper jumped into the water before escaping to the nearby land area.

Source -: <https://www.muscatdaily.com/2026/03/01/3-arrested-for-smuggling-alcohol-in-musandam/>

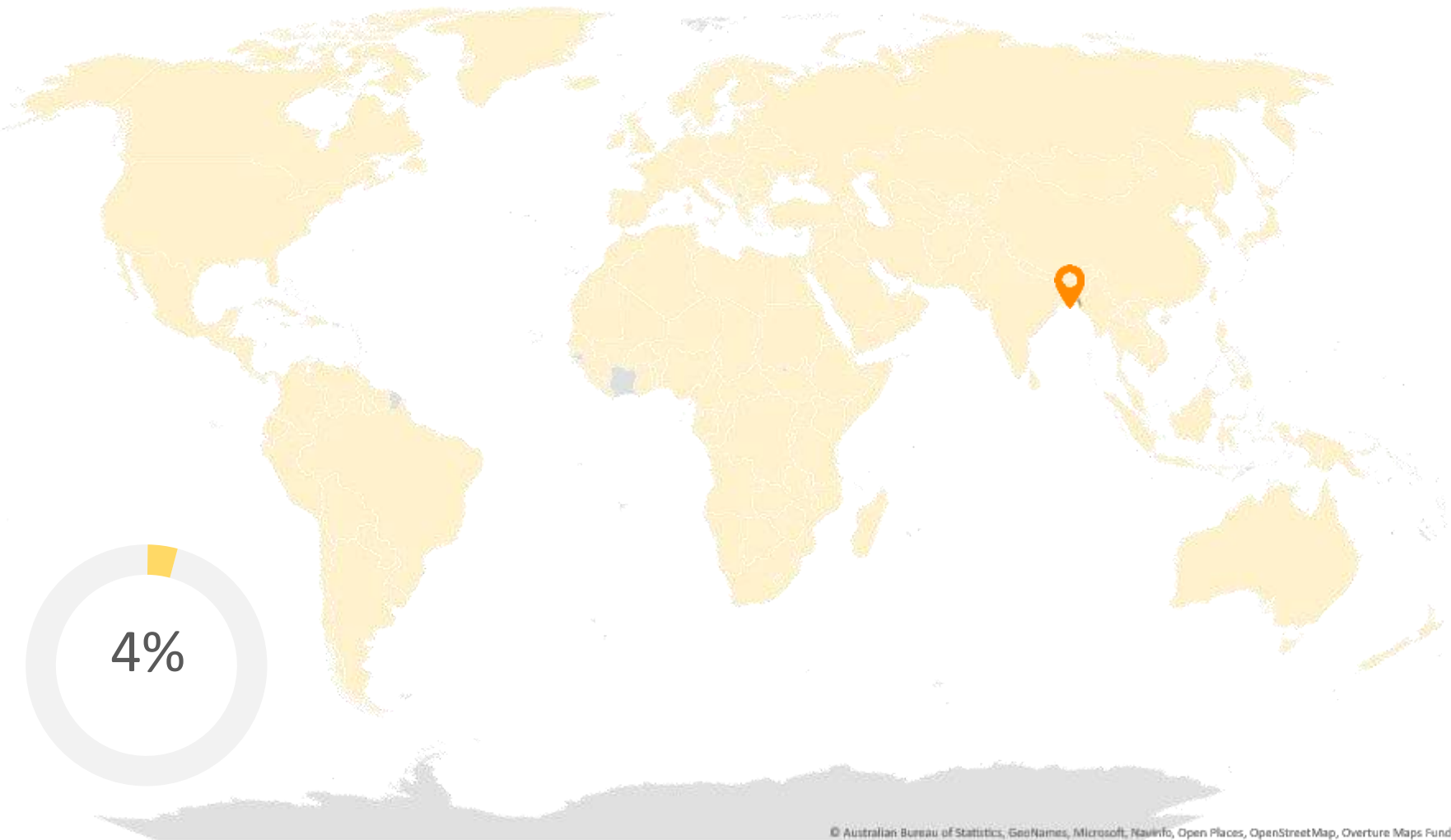
Source -: <https://newsline.ph/western-mindanao-naval-command-intercepts-p114-m-cigarette-haul-flags-maritime-security-gaps-in-maguindanao-norte/>

Source -: <https://en.antaranews.com/news/407399/indonesian-navy-seizes-14-tonne-cyanide-smuggled-from-philippines>

Source -: <https://www.dailyexpress.com.my/news/277198/sempona-smuggling-foiled-twice-in-one-hour/>



IUU FISHING



COUNTRY /REGION	NO
Bangladesh	01

Total Incidents

01

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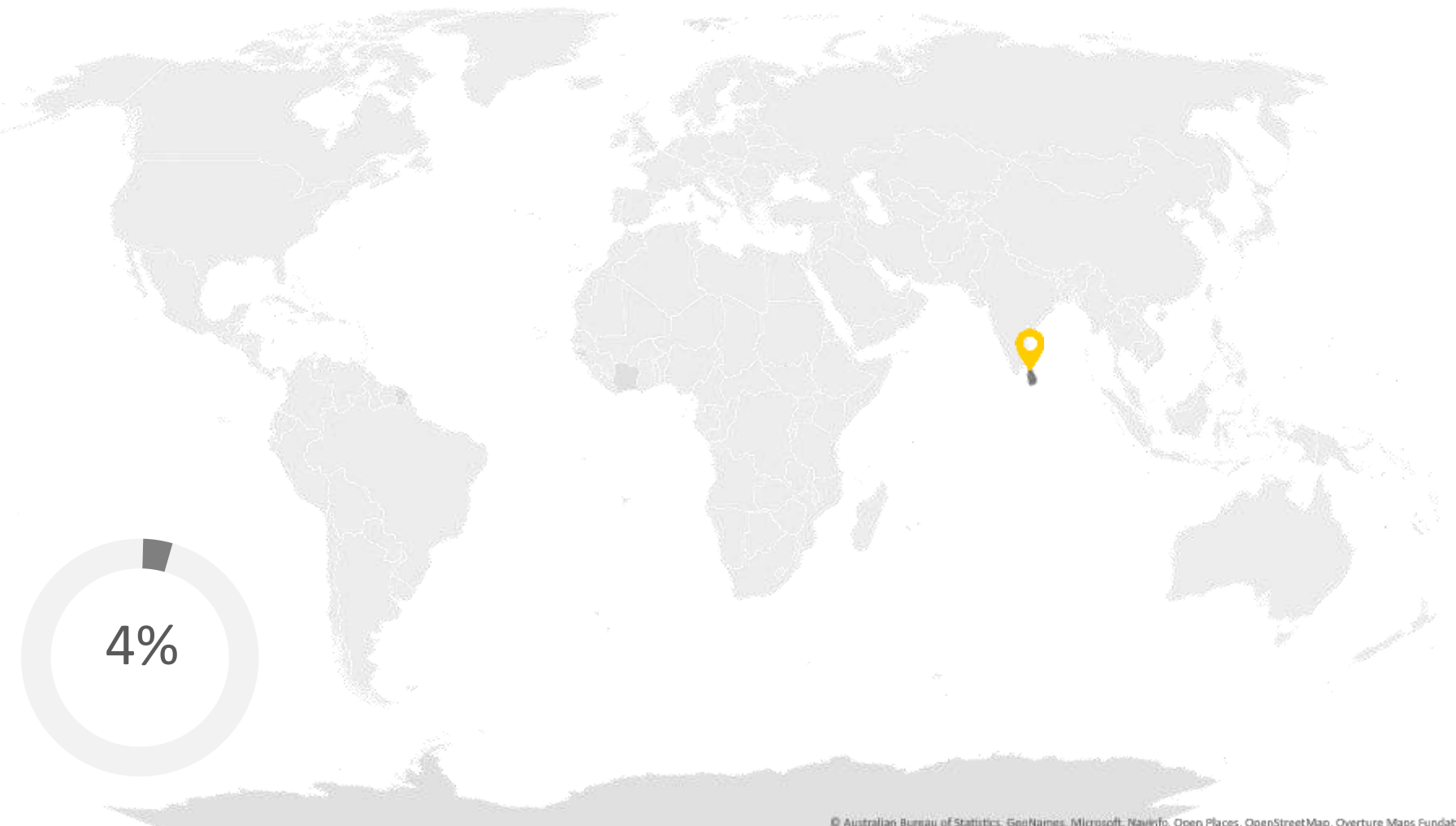
IUU FISHING


INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUBCATEGORY	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.03.06	Bangladesh	Bay of Bengal	Destructive Fishing Practices	Three trawling boats	The fishermen are residents of the Patharghata area in Barguna.

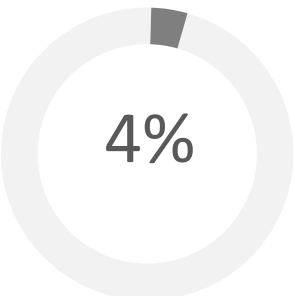
Source -: <https://www.dhakatribune.com/bangladesh/nation/404866/37-fishermen-arrested-over-illegal-fishing-in-bay>



NARCOTIC



COUNTRY /REGION	NO
 Sri Lanka	01



Total Incidents

01

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NARCOTIC

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUBCATEGORY	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.03.04	Sri Lanka	Northern naval area	Seizure of narcotics	Kayts Island	The suspect, a 35 year old from Velanai on Kayts Island, was arrested along with a dinghy and a stock of cannabis, which were subsequently transferred to the Kayts Police Station for legal proceedings.


Source -: <https://www.devdiscourse.com/article/law-order/3811140-navy-snares-submarine-smuggling-four-tons-of-cocaine>

Source -: <https://news.navy.lk/operation-news/2026/03/07/202603071200/>



IRREGULAR HUMAN MIGRATION



COUNTRY /REGION	NO
 Greece	01

Total Incidents

01

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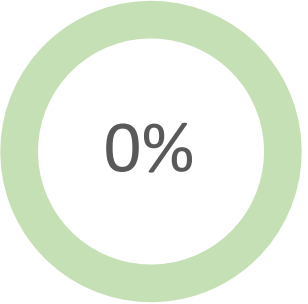
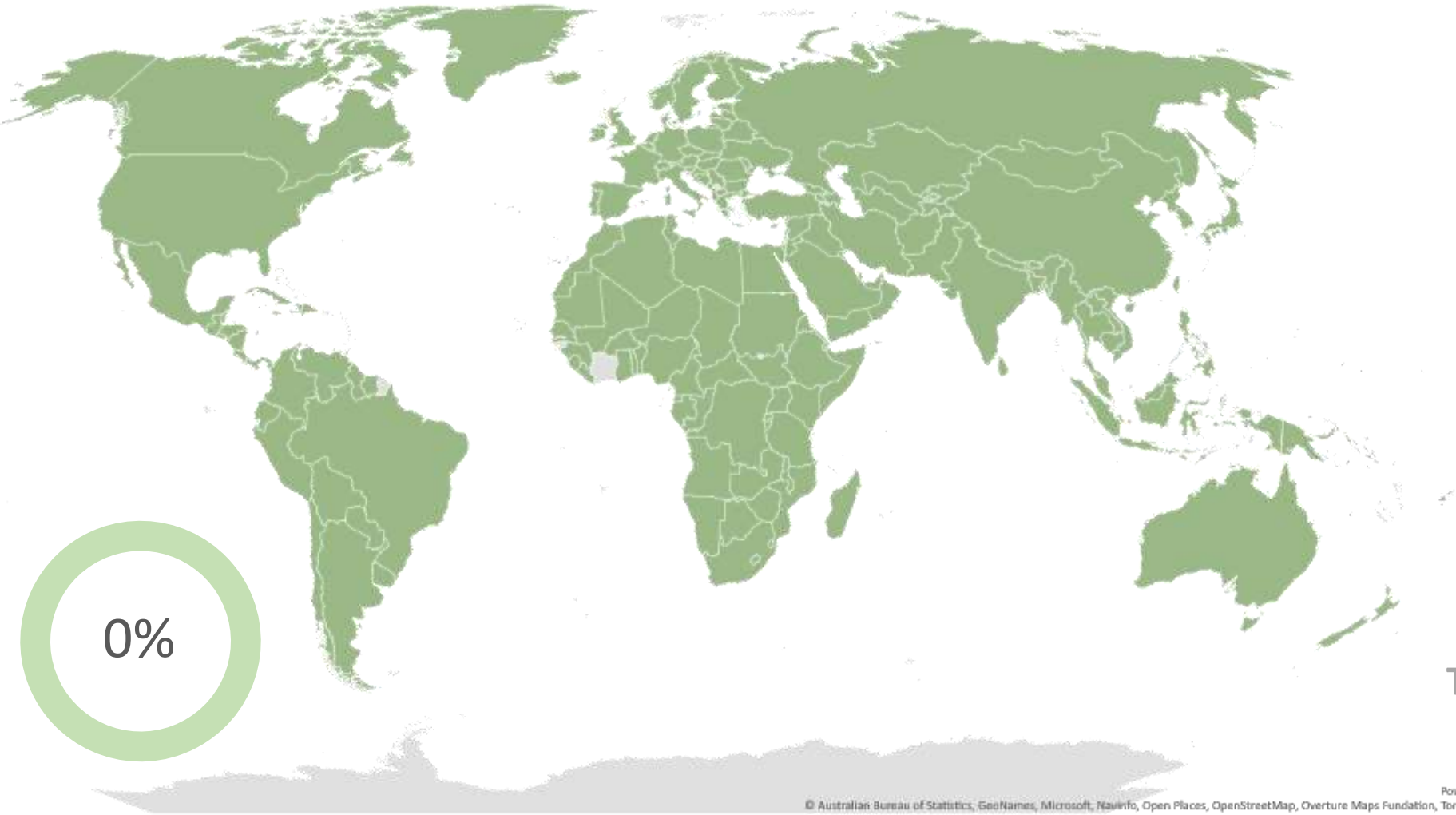
IRREGULAR HUMAN MIGRATION

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUBCATEGORY	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.03.04	Greece	Platia Peramata	Illegal broader crossing	One boat	Migrants told authorities that they set off from north Africa on Saturday night, after paying smugglers to get them to Europe.

Source -: <https://www.ekathimerini.com/news/1296991/teenager-arrested-for-allegedly-smuggling-39-migrants-across-mediterranean/>



MARITIME ENVIRONMENT POLLUTION

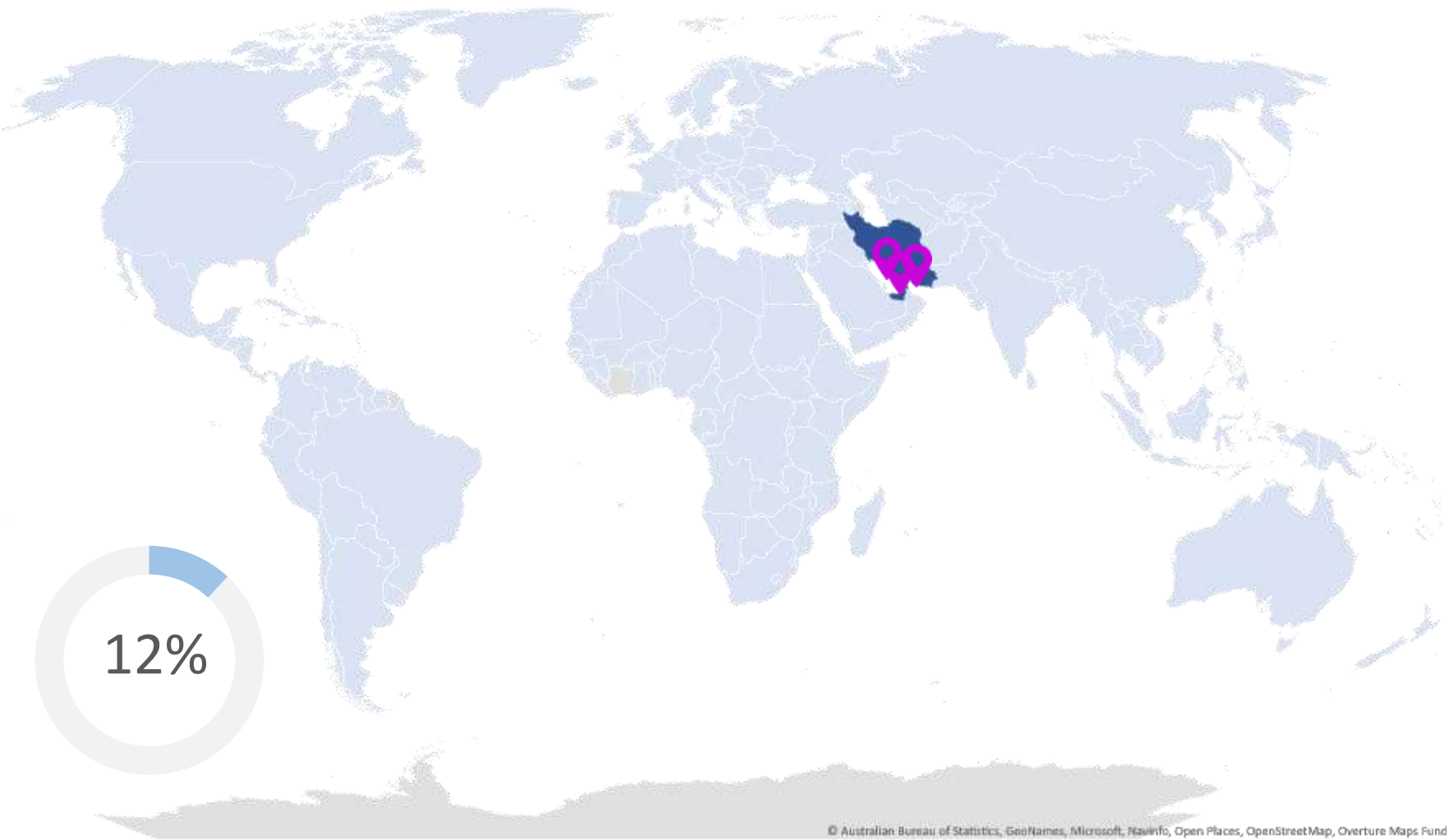





Total Incidents



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OTHER



COUNTRY /REGION	NO
 Bahrain	01
 UAE (Jebel Ali anchorage)	01
 Iran	01

Total Incidents

03

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OTHER

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUBCATEGORY	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.03.01	Iran	Strait of Hormuz	Naval Activities	-	The Directorate General of Shipping in India has issued an advisory for Indian seafarers due to the worsening security situation in Iran. This comes after the Indian Embassy in Tehran quickly recommended an evacuation and the Ministry of External Affairs issued a travel advisory against Iran.
2026.03.02	Bahrain	Salman Industrial City port	Other Military /Coastguard Activities	-	The Bahrain Defence Force General Command reported that its air and missile defence systems successfully intercepted an Iranian attack, downing 61 missiles and 34 drones.
2026.03.02	Jebel Ali anchorage	UAE	Other Military /Coastguard Activities	U.S Navy Ship	Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) reported its recent attack on an American ship that was transporting ammunition intended for U.S. Naval vessels.

Source -: <https://maritimefairtrade.org/iran-restricts-traffic-in-the-strait-of-hormuz-india-issues-advisory-for-seafarers/>

Source -: <https://www.marinetraffic.com/en/maritime-news/15/maritime-security/2026/12732/missile-debris-hits-vessel-at-bahrain-port-one-dead>

Source -: https://www.marineinsight.com/shipping-news/iran-destroys-u-s-navy-ship-carrying-ammunition-in-the-indian-ocean-region/?utm_source=rss&utm_medium=rss&utm_campaign=iran-destroys-u-s-navy-ship-carrying-ammunition-in-the-indian-ocean-region

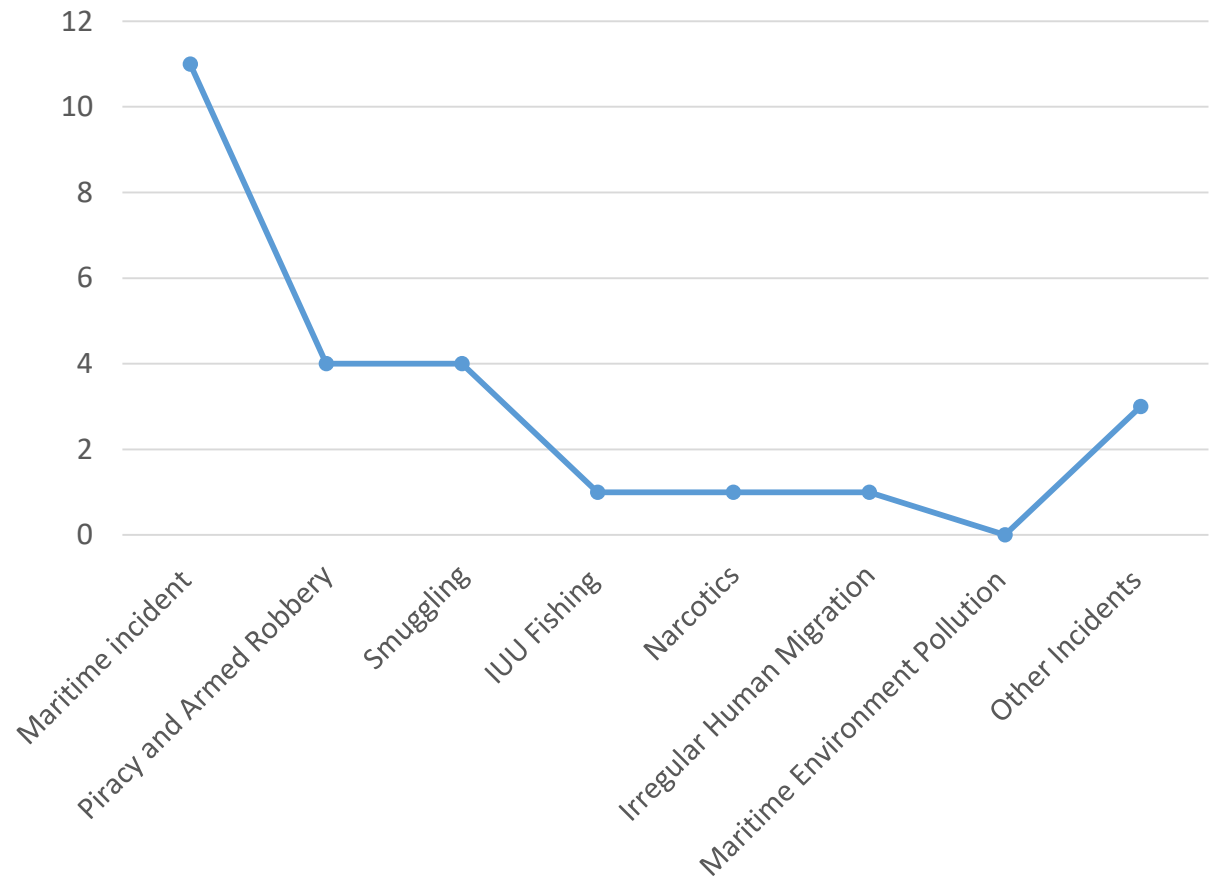


WEEKLY ANALYSIS

During the week, 25 maritime incidents were recorded globally, reflecting a combination of maritime safety issues and security-related threats. Among these, 11 maritime incidents involved vessel capsizing, grounding, collisions, fires, and search and rescue (SAR) operations. Additionally, 4 piracy and armed robbery incidents, 4 smuggling cases, 1 illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing incident, 1 narcotics-related case, and 1 irregular human migration incident were reported. Three other incidents were associated with military or maritime security activities linked to regional geopolitical tensions. Significant incidents included and search and rescue operations conducted by Sri Lanka for distressed Iran Navy vessels demonstrate continued maritime law enforcement and response efforts within the Indian Ocean Region. No maritime environmental pollution incidents were reported during the week.

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, It 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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