

# WEEKLY MARITIME INCIDENT UPDATE

Information Fusion Center-Colombo

+34.23



Information Fusion Center  
Colombo  
Sri Lanka

**Week 08**

From 2026.02.23 TO 2026.03.01



# SUMMARY OF THE WEEK 08

## Executive Summary

### Global Maritime Incidents

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

**Total Maritime Incidents 29**

### Global Weather Incident

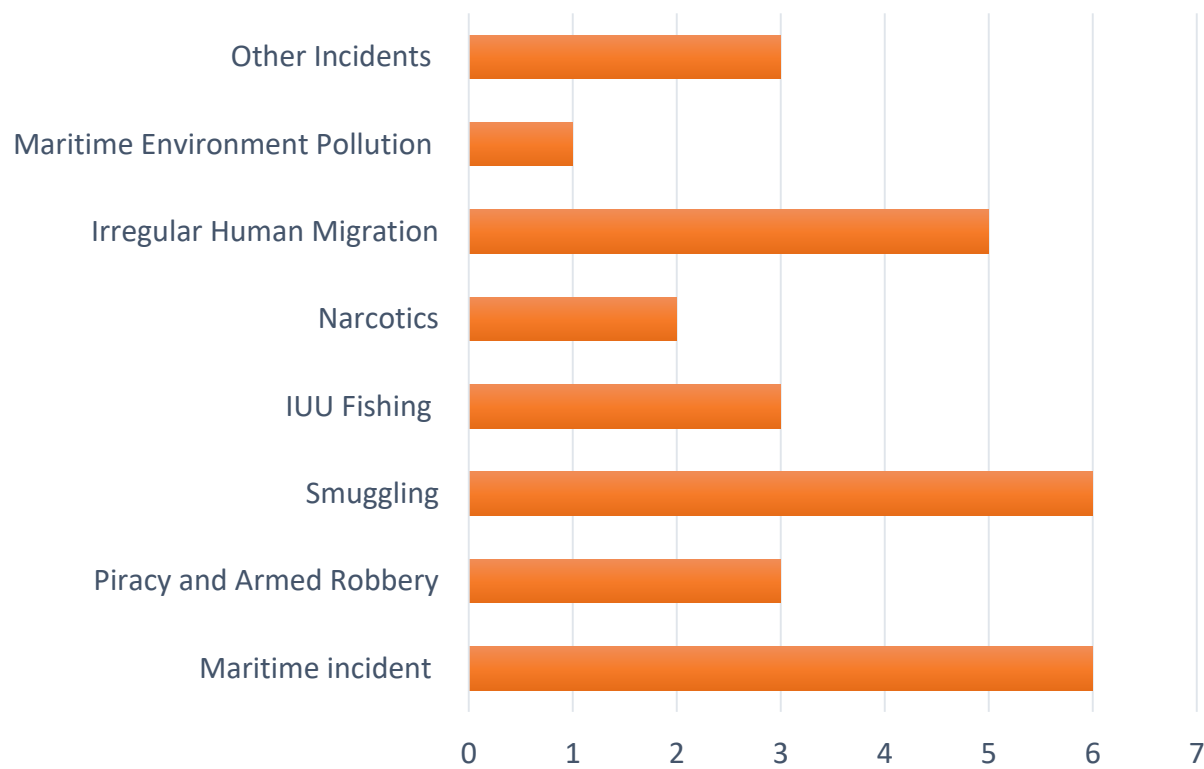
• Tropical Cyclone	:-	03
• Earthquake	:-	06

**Total Weather Incidents 09**

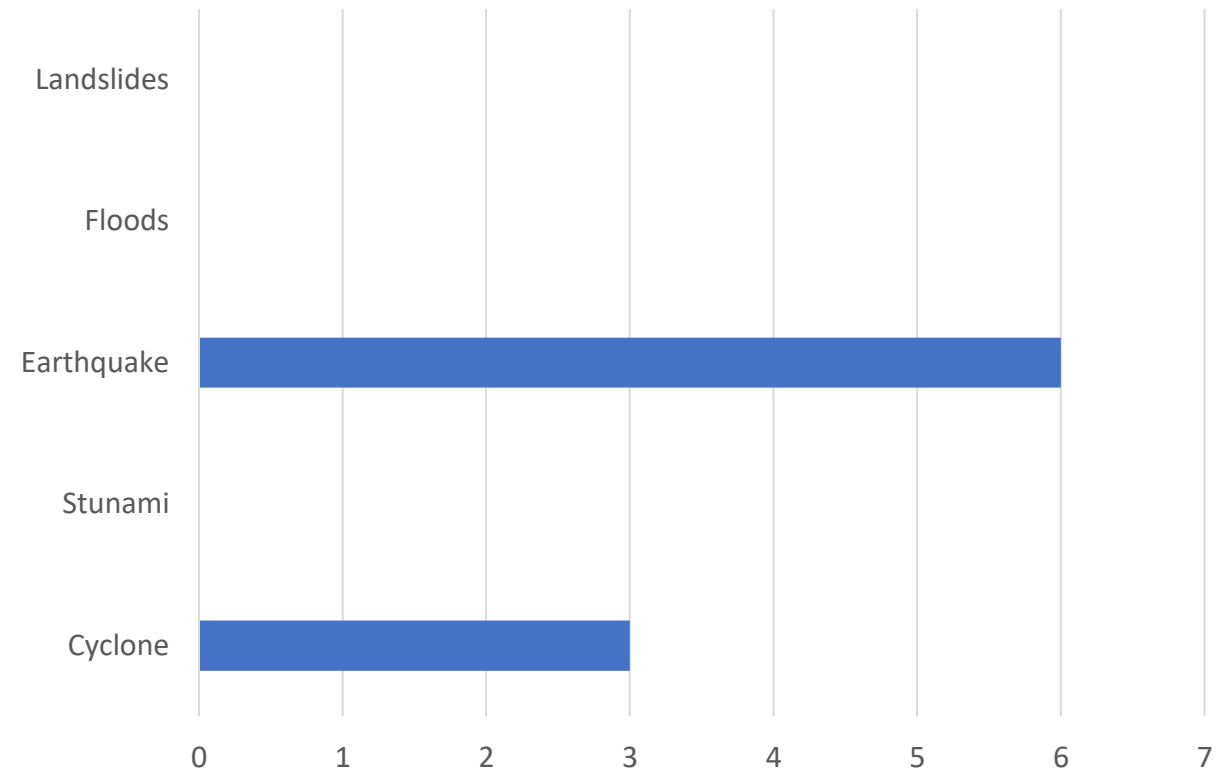


# STATISTICS

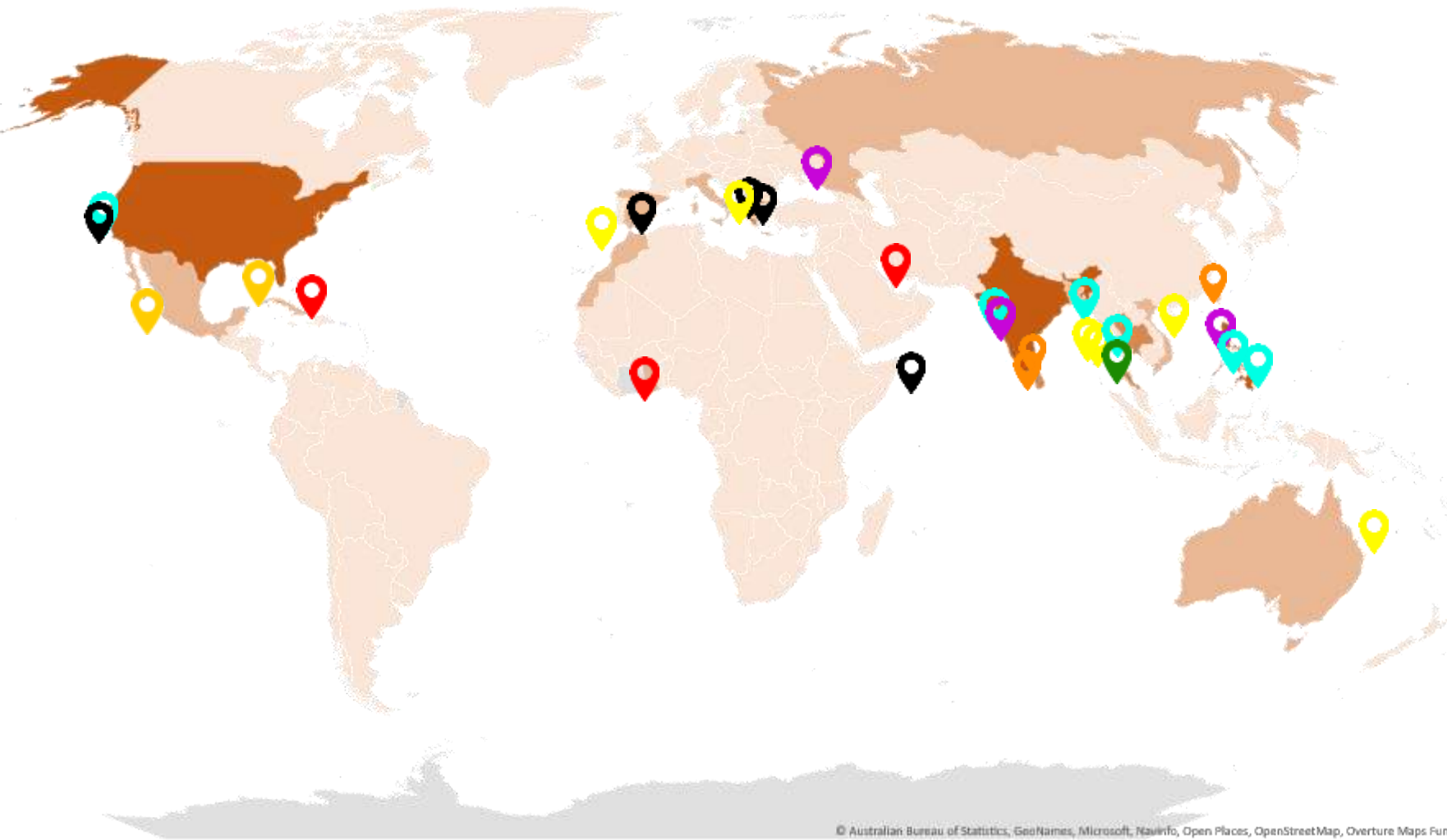
## Maritime Incidents











## Weather Incidents



# STRATEGIC OVERVIEW



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

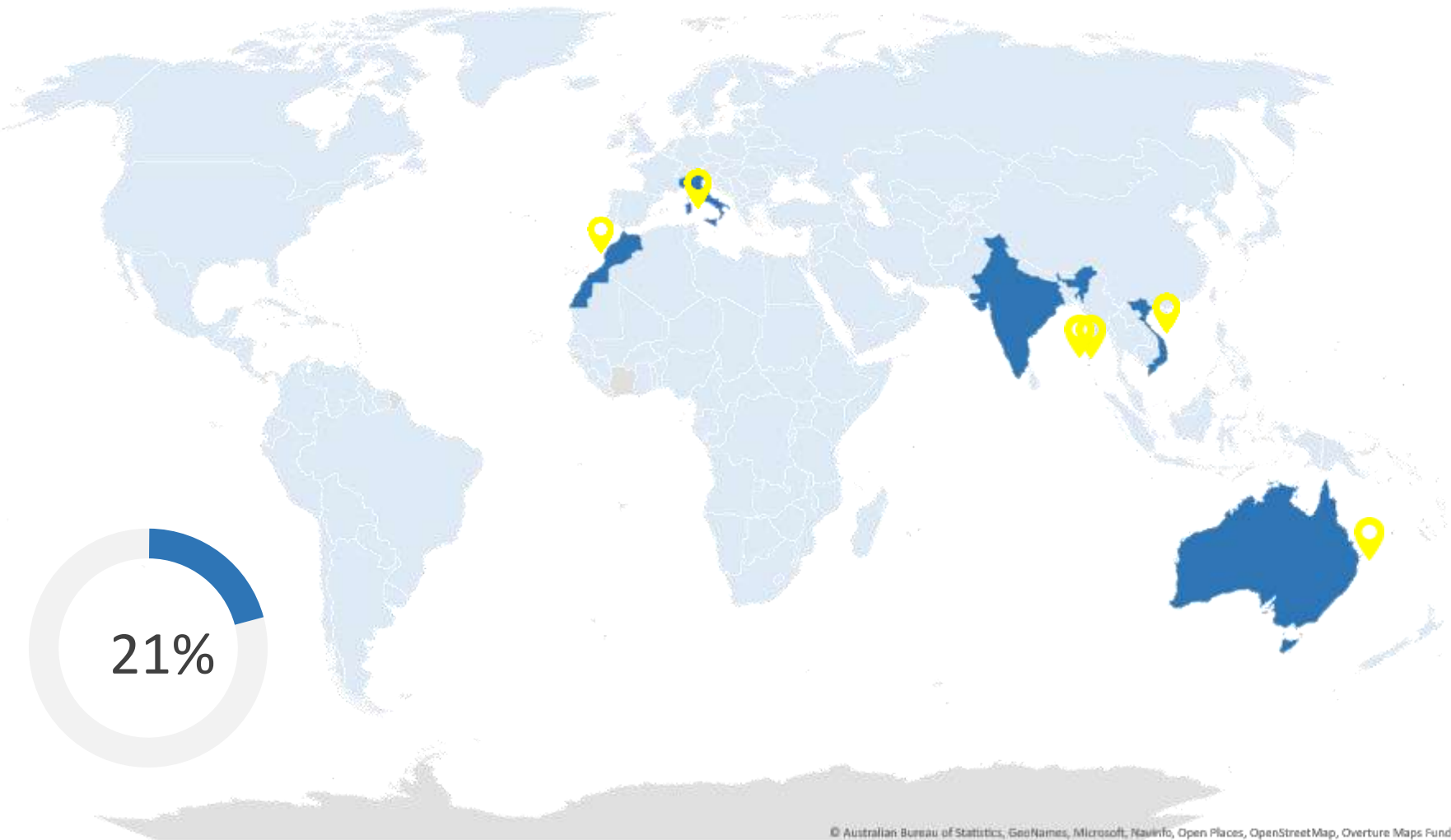
Total Incidents

29

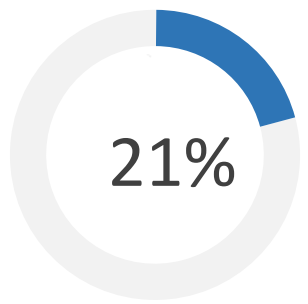
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# MARITIME INCIDENTS



	COUNTRY /REGION	NO
	Andaman	01
	Australia	01
	India	01
	Italy	01
	Morocco	01
	Vietnam	01



Total Incidents

06

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# MARITIME INCIDENTS

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUBCATEGORY	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.02.21	Vietnam	Thac Ba Lake	Collision	Passenger boat	Authorities were investigating the cause of the incident, state media outlet Vn Express said.
2026.02.23	Andaman	Andaman	Rescue Operations	-	Operations at the airstrip were briefly affected as officials assessed the situation and ensured there was no fuel leakage or environmental damage.
2026.02.24	Italy	Livorno Port	Capsizing / Sinking	Pilot boat	Initial reports stated that a collision between the yacht and the pilot boat may have caused the latter to capsize.
2026.02.24	India	Andaman Sea	Rescue Operations	Commercial helicopter	Both pilots and all five passengers, including a three-month-old infant, were pulled out of the water and evacuated to shore, where they underwent initial medical examinations.
2026.02.26	Morocco	Casablanca Port	Damage/Lost cargo	Name- Ionikos Flag – Liberia Type- Container Ship	As a precaution, maritime traffic at the Port of Casablanca was temporarily suspended to assess navigation risks and facilitate the recovery effort.
2026.01.31	Australia	Gladstone anchorage	Mechanical Failure	Name - Swift Hangzhou Flag – Liberia Type - bulker Carrier	AMSA reported its collaboration with Queensland authorities and the vessel's captain to address the situation.

Source -: <https://www.thestar.com.my/aseanplus/aseanplus-news/2026/02/22/tragic-accident-in-vietnam---passenger-boat-collision-kills-six-state-media-says>  
 Source -: <https://sundayguardianlive.com/india/pawan-hans-chopper-crashes-into-sea-during-landing-attempt-in-andaman-all-7-on-board-rescued-safely-172103/>  
 Source -: <https://www.bairdmaritime.com/amp/story/security/incidents/accidents/one-killed-after-pilot-boat-capsizes-in-italys-livorno-port>  
 Source -: <https://www.bairdmaritime.com/amp/story/security/emergency-services/search-and-rescue/indian-coast-guard-responds-to-helicopter-crash-off-andaman-and-nicobar-islands>  
 Source -: <https://en.yabiladi.com/articles/details/189294/containers-fall-into-casablanca-port.html>  
 Source -: <https://maritime-executive.com/article/australia-detains-bulker-after-24-day-response-to-engine-problem>



# PIRACY & ARMED ROBBERY



	COUNTRY /REGION	NO
	Bahrain	01
	Cuba	01
	Ghana	01

Total Incidents

03

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# PIRACY & ARMED ROBBERY

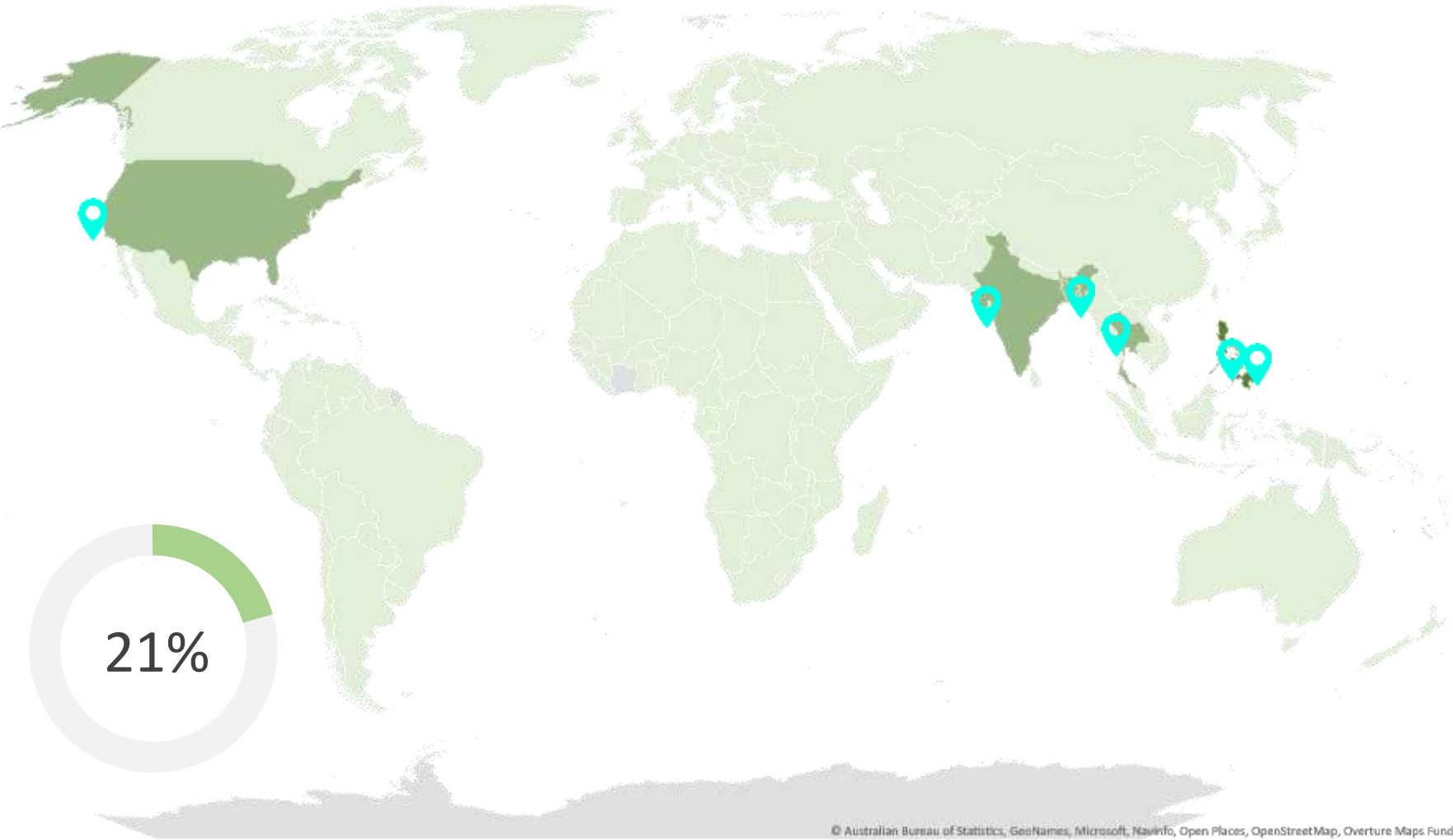
INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUBCATEGORY	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.02.22	Bahrain	Northern Sea	Robbery At Sea	Passenger boat	The Coast Guard Command affirmed that it is closely monitoring the case, noting that all necessary legal measures are being taken in coordination with the competent authorities.
2026.02.25	Cuba	Cuban waters	Assault	Speed Boat	Cuba's government stated that most of the ten individuals on the boat have a documented history of criminal and violent behavior.
2026.02.25	Ghana	Gulf of Guinea	Assault / Violence	fishing boats	At least four fishing boats, including Argentina 2, Argentina 3, Sea Lion, and Berema Nsukwa, were targeted.

Source -> <https://www.bna.bh/en/news?cms=q8FmFJgiscL2fwIzON1%2BDodrKCSIJSAE1HEWbgJIMJg%3D>

Source -> <https://apnews.com/article/cuba-us-florida-boat-shooting-68e07061282dc2470993f6539bd0bde2>

Source -> [https://www.marineinsight.com/shipping-news/ghana-navy-rescues-71-fishermen-after-armed-pirates-attack-their-boats/?utm\\_source=rss&utm\\_medium=rss&utm\\_campaign=ghana-navy-rescues-71-fishermen-after-armed-pirates-attack-their-boats](https://www.marineinsight.com/shipping-news/ghana-navy-rescues-71-fishermen-after-armed-pirates-attack-their-boats/?utm_source=rss&utm_medium=rss&utm_campaign=ghana-navy-rescues-71-fishermen-after-armed-pirates-attack-their-boats)

# SMUGGLING



COUNTRY /REGION	NO
Bangladesh	01
India	01
Philippines	02
Thailand	01
United States	01

Total Incidents

06

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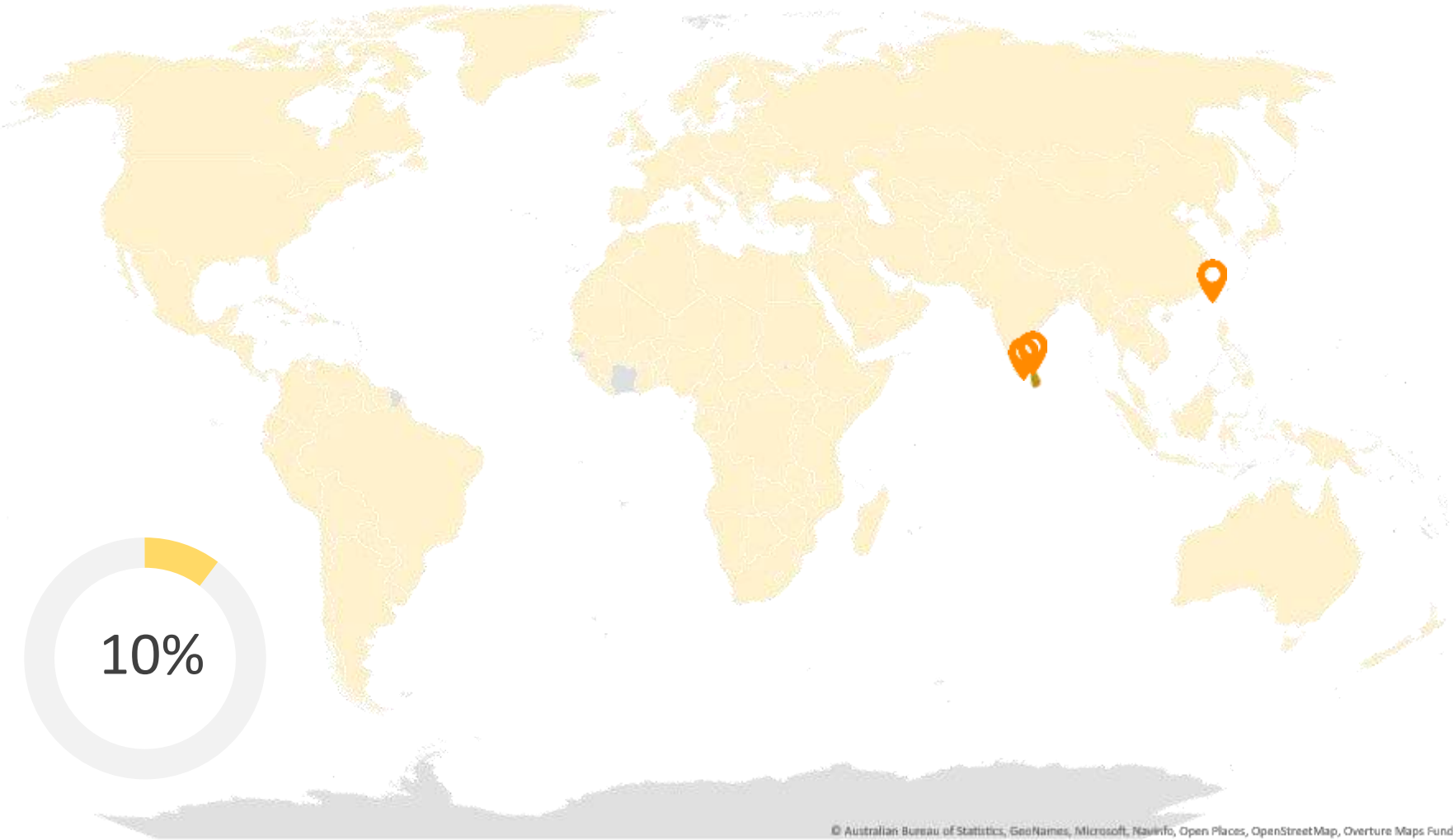
# SMUGGLING

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUBCATEGORY	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.02.19	Thailand	4.9 Nm Ban Hat Lek	Contraband Goods Smuggling	Fishing boat	Following the inspection, the navy escorted the vessel and all crew members to Khlong Yai Pier in Khlong Yai district, Trat, for legal proceedings
2026.02.20	Bangladesh	Saint Martin's Island	Contraband Goods Smuggling	Two boat	Upon searching the vessel, Navy personnel recovered 450 sacks of cement, 250 sacks of pulses and chickpeas, 160 kilograms of ginger, and 360 bottles of energy drinks.
2026.02.21	India	115 Nm off Dwarka	Contraband Goods Smuggling	One boat	A thorough inspection of the boat's storage areas led to the discovery of the illicit cargo hidden deep within the vessel.
2026.02.21	Philippine	Marungas Island	Contraband Goods Smuggling	Three Vessel	The Philippine Navy apprehended three vessels and confiscated smuggled cigarettes worth P55.7 million in separate operations here and in Sulu.
2026.02.21	USA	South of san Clemente Island	Human Trafficking	Cuddy cabin-style boats	The vessels were described as 20- to-25-foot (six- to 7.6-metre) cuddy cabin-style boats carrying fishing gear and fuel barrels on board.
2026.02.23	Philippine	Zamboanga Coast	Contraband Goods Smuggling	One Boat	In this case, the key priority of Enhanced Managing Police Operations guided the patrol, ensuring the effective interception of contraband while maintaining public safety.

Source - : <https://www.pattayamail.com/news/thai-navy-intercepts-cambodian-vessel-smuggling-seafood-into-territorial-waters-off-trat-536624>  
 Source - : <https://www.bssnews.net/others/362606>  
 Source - : <https://www.republicworld.com/india/indian-coast-guard-intercepts-suspicious-boat-with-iranian-crew-seizes-foreign-cigarettes-worth-up-to-rs-5-crore>  
 Source - : <https://www.philstar.com/nation/2026/02/23/2509719/navy-seizes-p557-million-smuggled-cigarettes>  
 Source - : <https://www.facebook.com/pnp.pio/posts/pnp-seizes-14-million-smuggled-cigarettes-in-zamboanga-coastal-sweepin-a-res/1400896352081758/>  
 Source - : <https://www.bairdmaritime.com/security/incidents/piracy/us-coast-guard-partners-interdict-multiple-suspected-smuggling-vessels-off-californias-san-clemente-island>



# IUU FISHING



	COUNTRY /REGION	NO
	Sri Lanka	02
	Taiwan	01

Total Incidents

03

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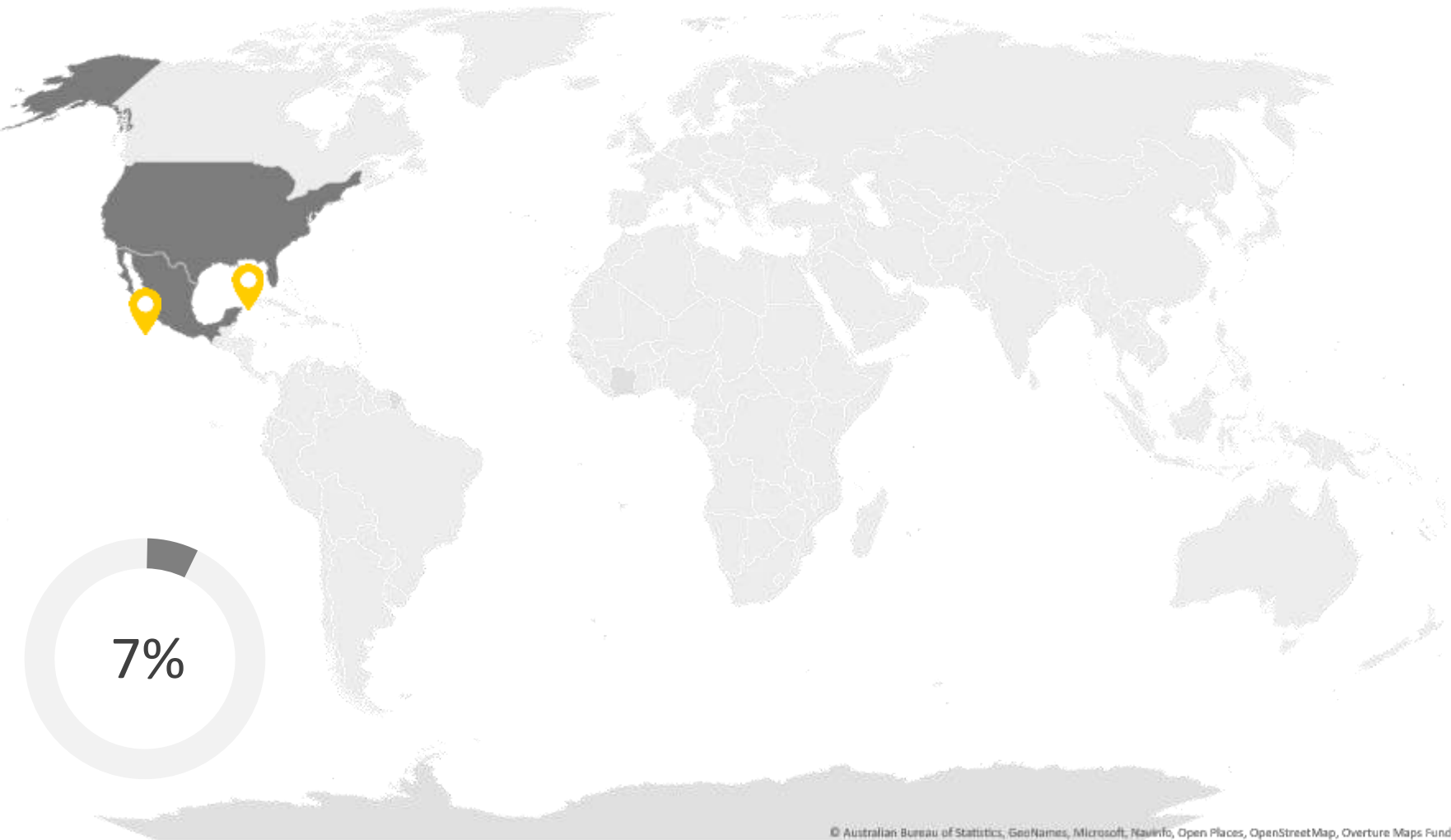
# IUU FISHING

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUBCATEGORY	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.02.22	Taiwan	off Khlong Yai	Poaching	One Fishing Boat	The arrest was reported at 1000Hrs by the commander of patrol boat Tor 996. The vessel was located at latitude 11°31.51' North and longitude 102°53.40' East.
2026.02.22	Sri Lanka	South Of Mannar	Poaching / Maritime Boundary Violations	One Boat	The seized boat (01) and Indian fishermen (12) were handed over to the Fisheries Inspector of Dikovita for onward legal proceedings.
2026.02.23	Sri Lanka	Puttalam	Fishing Without License	Three Boat	The suspects, aged 29 to 54, were apprehended in Pallimunai, Mannar, along with sea cucumbers, dinghies, and diving gear, and were handed over to the Fisheries Inspector of Kilinochchi for legal action.

Source -: <https://www.khaosodenglish.com/news/2026/02/22/navy-region-1-seizes-cambodian-fishing-boat-in-thai-waters/>  
 Source -: <https://news.navy.lk/operation-news/2026/02/23/202602231705/>  
 Source -: <https://news.navy.lk/operation-news/2026/02/23/202602231705/>



# NARCOTIC



COUNTRY /REGION	NO
Mexico	01
United States	01

Total Incidents

02

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# NARCOTIC

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUBCATEGORY	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.02.19	Mexico	Pacific coast	Seizure Of Narcotics	One submarine	The Philippine Navy apprehended three vessels and confiscated smuggled cigarettes worth P55.7 million in separate operations here and in Sulu.
2026.02.23	USA	Caribbean Sea	Sea Based Drug Trafficking	One Boat	The latest operation brings the total death toll from US boat strikes, which began in September last year, to around 150.

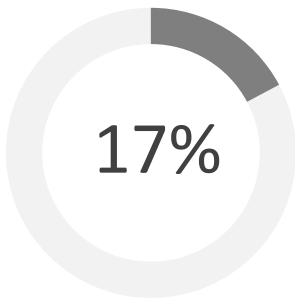
Source -: <https://www.devdiscourse.com/article/law-order/3811140-navy-snares-submarine-smuggling-four-tons-of-cocaine>

Source -: <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2026/2/23/another-us-boat-strike-in-caribbean-sea-kills-three-pentagon-says>

# IRREGULAR HUMAN MIGRATION



COUNTRY /REGION	NO
Africa	01
Greece	02
Spain	01
United States	01



Total Incidents

05

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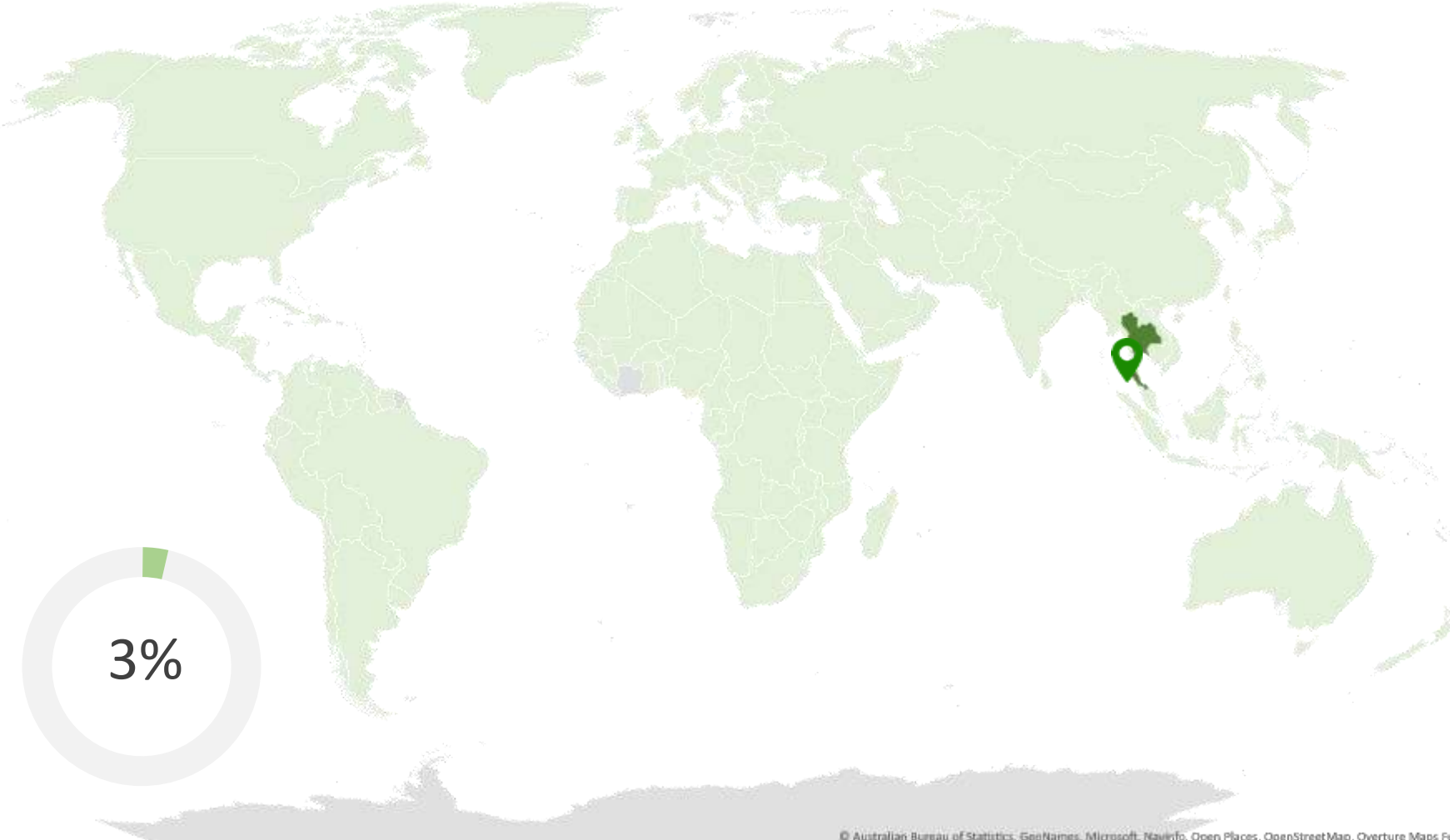
# IRREGULAR HUMAN MIGRATION

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUBCATEGORY	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.02.21 to 22	Spain	Region Murcia		Five Boat	NGOs have urged Madrid to accelerate safe and legal pathways such as humanitarian visas to prevent further dangerous sea crossings.
2026.02.21	Greece	Kala Limena	Human Smuggling By Sea	One Boat	The incident occurred approximately 15 nautical miles south of Kala Limena, a coastal settlement on Crete's southern shore, according to the Hellenic Coast Guard.
2026.02.23	Greece	River In Croatia-Bosnia border	Human Smuggling	One Boat	One man died and several other people were missing on Monday after a migrant boat capsized on a river on the Croatia-Bosnia border.
2026.02.26	USA	San Diego	Failed Border Crossings	18-foot panga-style vessel	The Coast Guard has interdicted 20 suspected aliens approximately 8 miles west of Sunset Cliffs, San Diego.
Last Year		Mediterranean and Horn of Africa	Failed border crossing		Almost 8,000 people died or went missing last year on perilous migration routes such as across the Mediterranean and Horn of Africa

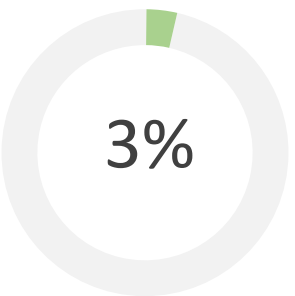
- Source -> <https://www.visahq.com/news/2026-02-22/es/five-boats-carrying-109-migrants-intercepted-off-murcia-coast-during-weekend-surge/>
- Source -> <https://newskarnataka.com/world/five-dead-dozens-missing-after-migrant-boat-capsizes/24022026>
- Source -> <https://www.arabnews.pk/node/2634104/world>
- Source -> <https://www.reuters.com/world/almost-8000-died-migration-routes-2025-toll-likely-far-higher-says-un-agency-2026-02-26/>
- Source -> <https://www.hstoday.us/subject-matter-areas/maritime-security/coast-guard-cutter-interdicts-20-individuals-on-suspected-smuggling-vessel/>



# MARITIME ENVIRONMENT POLLUTION



COUNTRY /REGION	NO
 Thailand	01



Total Incidents

01

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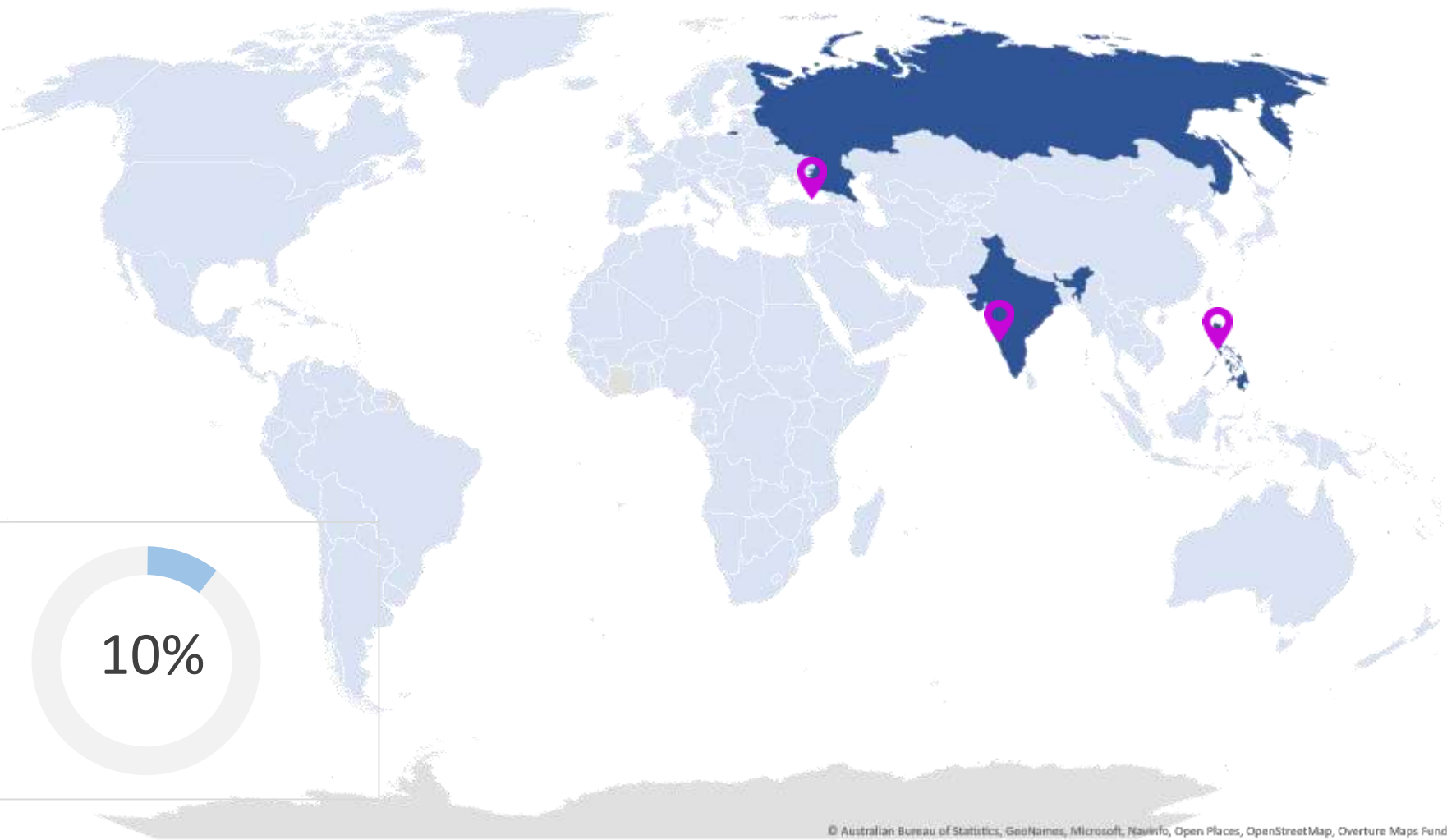





# MARITIME ENVIRONMENT POLLUTION

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUBCATEGORY	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.02.07	Thailand	Nearby islands off Phuket	Oil Spill	Name - Sealloyd arc Flag – Panama Type – Cargo Ship	The Panama-flagged vessel sank approximately 5km offshore while traveling from Malaysia to Bangladesh after reporting water ingress.

Source -: <https://safety4sea.com/oil-spills-from-sunken-cargo-vessel-off-thailand/>

# OTHER



	COUNTRY /REGION	NO
	India	01
	Philippine	01
	Russia	01

Total Incidents

03

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# OTHER

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUBCATEGORY	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.02.21	Russia	Sevastopol harbor	Poaching	-	Battle damage assessments were not released.
2026.02.24	Philippine	Subic Bay	Naval Activity	Two Navy ship	Two of the Philippine Navy's newest ships entered active duty during a commissioning ceremony at the Naval Operating Base in Subic Bay on Tuesday.
Last Week	India	Goa Ship Yard	Naval activities	Floating Dry Dock	The project is India's first significant defense export initiative, aimed at enhancing maritime collaboration in the Indian Ocean region.

Source -: <https://maritime-executive.com/article/ukrainian-drones-hit-russian-patrol-boats-and-maritime-patrol-aircraft>  
 Source -: <https://www.navalnews.com/naval-news/2026/02/philippine-navy-commissions-new-patrol-vessel-missile-boat/>  
 Source -: [https://www.dailymirror.lk/print/front-page/India-launches-floating-dry-dock-for-Sri-Lanka-Navy/238-334138?utm\\_source=chatgpt.com](https://www.dailymirror.lk/print/front-page/India-launches-floating-dry-dock-for-Sri-Lanka-Navy/238-334138?utm_source=chatgpt.com)



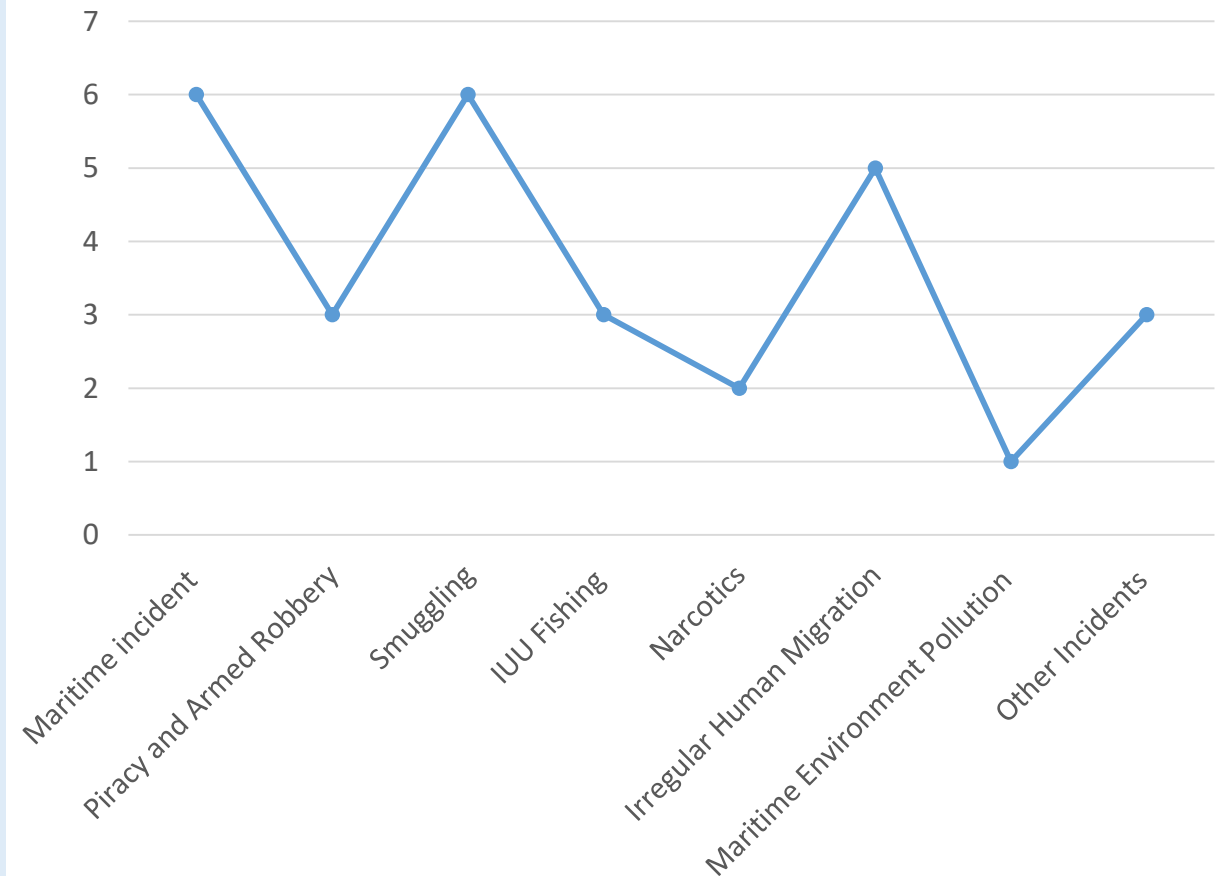
# WEEKLY ANALYSIS

During the weekly it reports 29 total incidents globally. Key categories include Piracy & Armed Robbery (3), Smuggling (6), IUU Fishing (3), Narcotics (2), Irregular Human Migration (5), and Maritime Environment Pollution (1). Additionally, 3 Tropical Cyclones and 6 Earthquakes were reported as weather-related incidents. Maritime incidents spanned several countries, with notable events including collisions in Vietnam and Italy, a capsizing in Livorno Port, and rescue operations in India and the Andaman Sea. Smuggling activity continues in regions like Thailand, Bangladesh, and the Philippines, while IUU fishing persists in Sri Lanka and Taiwan waters. The maritime environment was impacted by an oil spill off Thailand.

## Recommendations:

To address the rising maritime security challenges, it is recommended that anti-piracy measures be intensified in high-risk zones like the Gulf of Guinea, Bahrain, Cuba, and Ghana. In terms of smuggling, increased enforcement and surveillance are needed on maritime routes, especially for contraband goods and human trafficking, with a focus on regions like Thailand, Bangladesh, and the Philippines. IUU fishing requires enhanced monitoring and stricter regulations, particularly in the waters of Sri Lanka and Taiwan. Lastly, authorities should prepare better for environmental risks such as oil spills, while ensuring disaster readiness for weather events like tropical cyclones and earthquakes, especially in vulnerable maritime zones.

Maritime Incidents





# Information Fusion Center Colombo Sri Lanka

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