WEEKLY MARITIME INCIDENT UPDATE

Information Fusion Center-Colombo



Information Fusion Center
Colombo
Sri Lanka

Week 41

From 2026.10.12 TO 2026.10.18

SUMMARY OF THE WEEK 41

Executive Summery

Global Maritime Incidents

• Maritime incident	:-	13
• Piracy and Armed Robbery	:-	10
• Smuggling	:-	05
• IUU Fishing	:-	04
• Narcotics	:-	01
• Irregular Human Migration	:-	00
• Maritime Environment Pollution	:-	01
• Other Incidents	:-	06

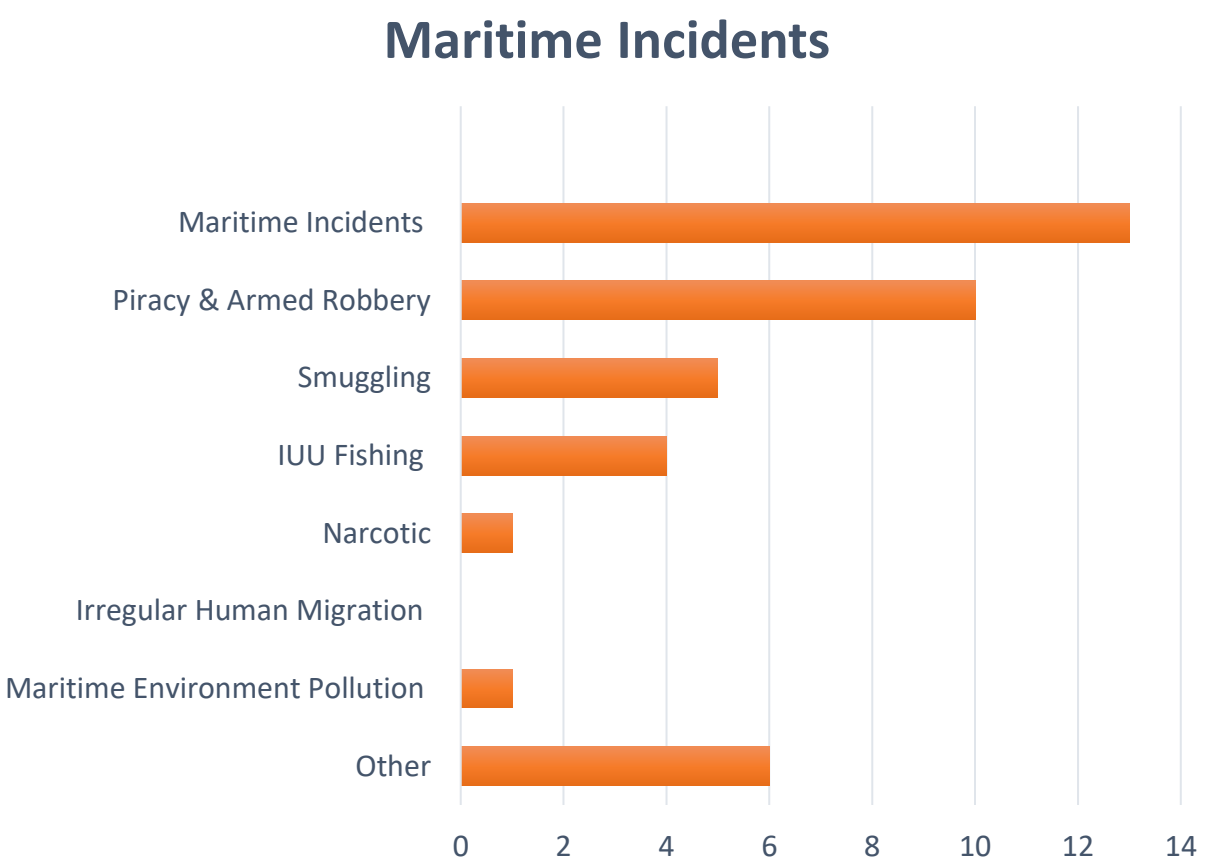
Total Maritime Incidents 40

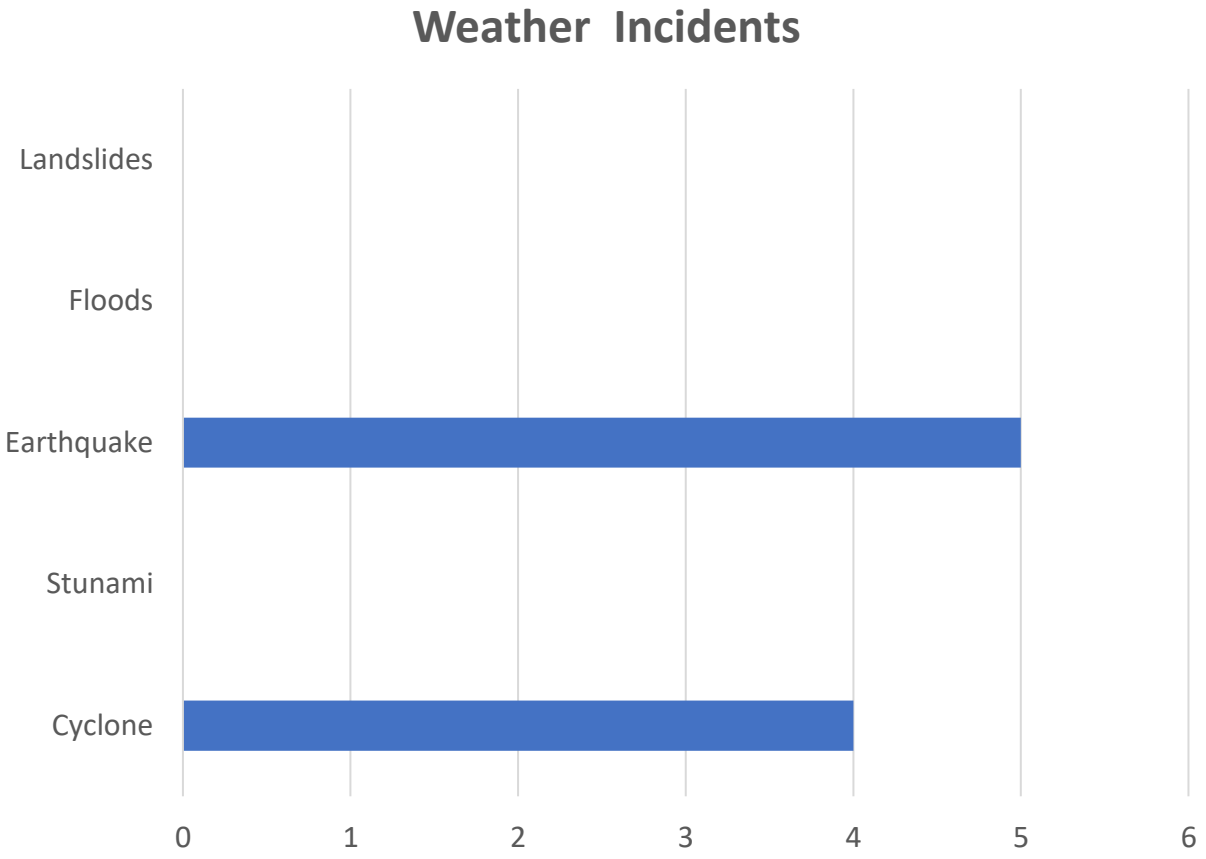
Global Weather Incident

• Tropical Cyclone	:-	04
• Earthquake	:-	05

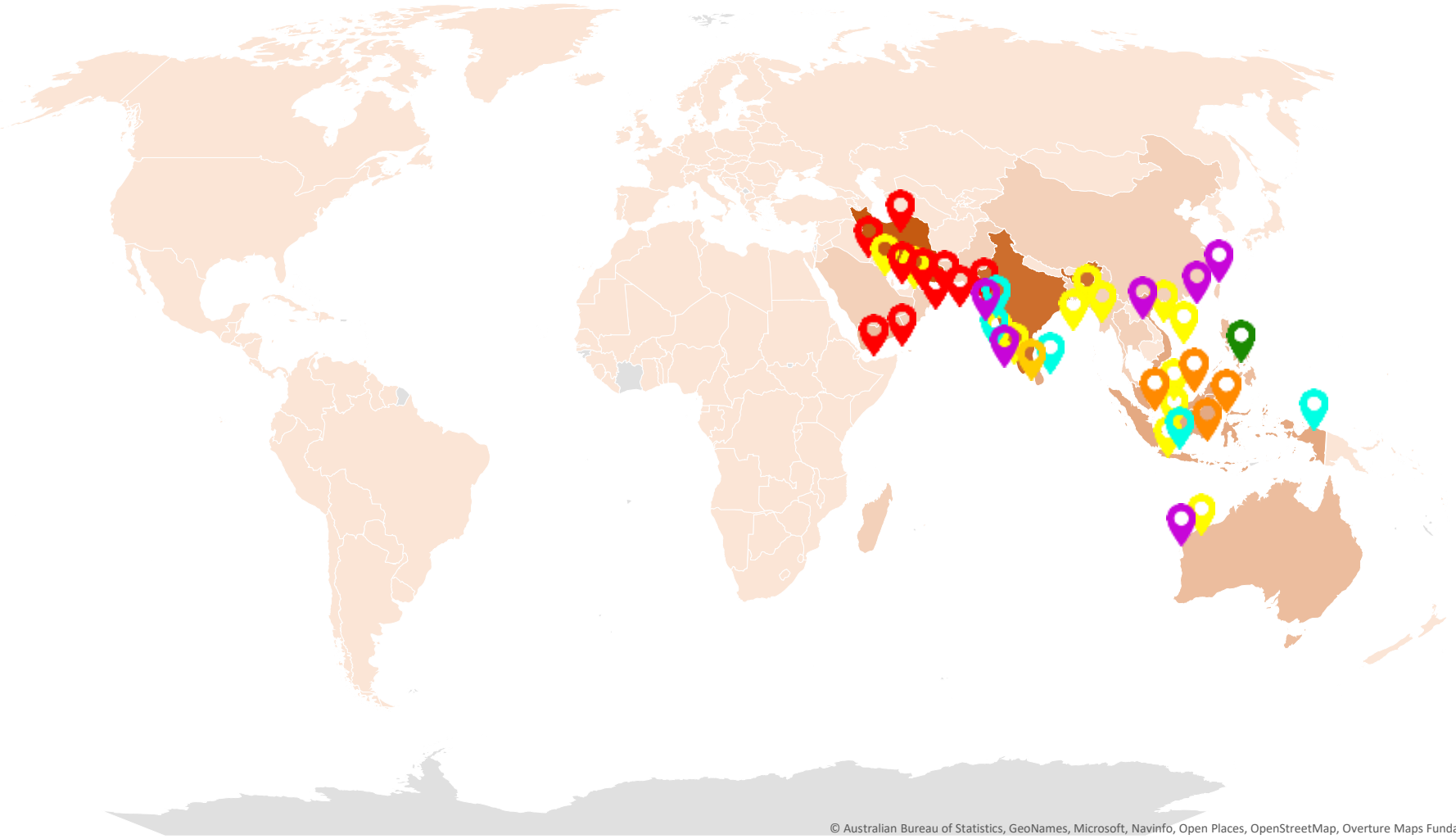
Total Weather Incidents 09

STATISTICS


Maritime Incidents
Maritime Incidents
Piracy & Armed Robbery
Smuggling
IUU Fishing
Narcotic
Irregular Human Migration
Maritime Environment Pollution
Other
0
2
4
6
8
10
12
14


Weather Incidents
Landslides
Floods
Earthquake
Stunami
Cyclone
0
1
2
3
4
5
6

STRATEGIC OVERVIEW

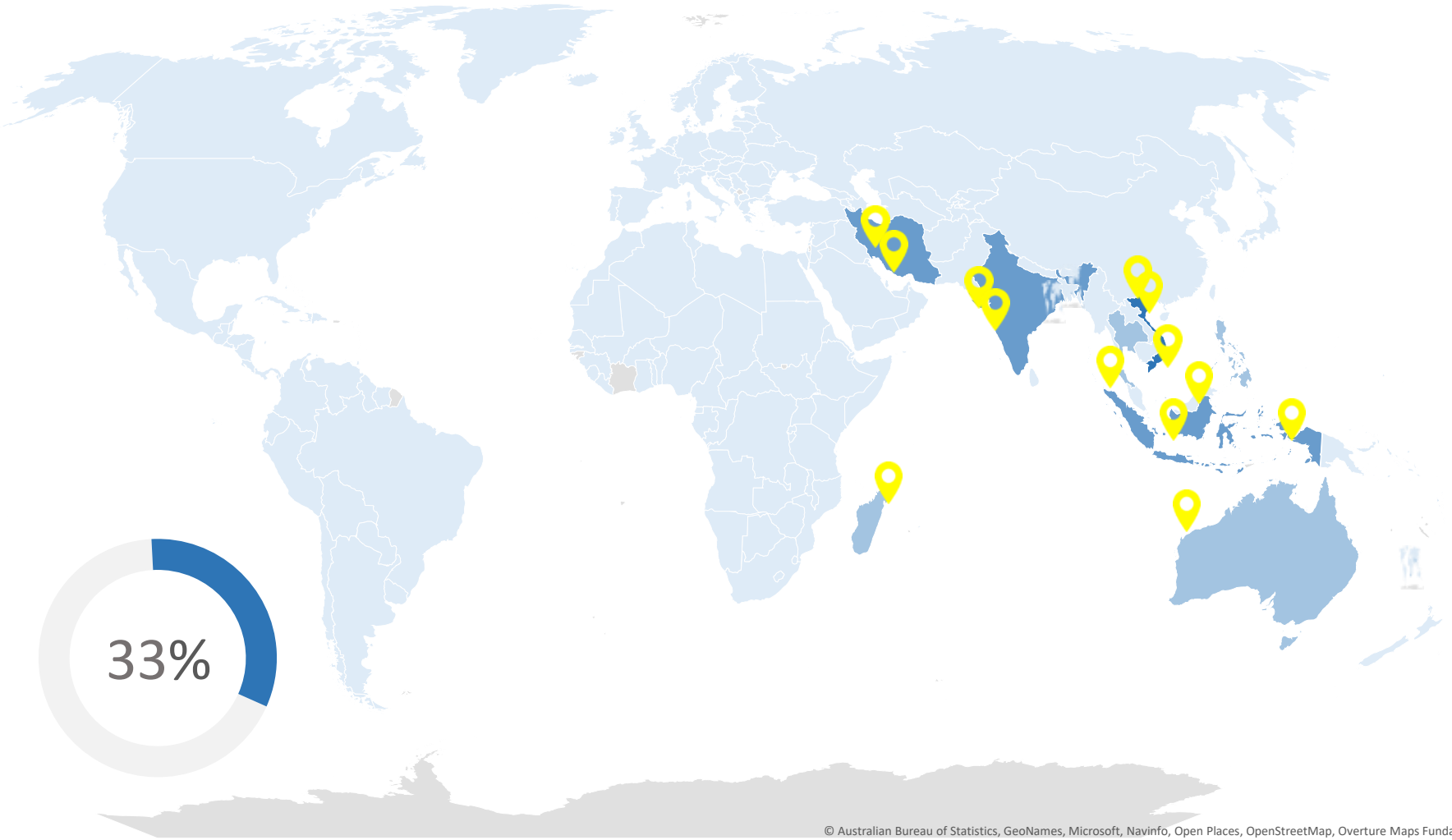


CATEGORY	NO
Maritime Incidents	13
Piracy & Armed Robbery	10
Smuggling	05
IUU Fishing	04
Narcotic	01
Irregular Human Migration	00
Maritime Environment Pollution	01
Other	06

Total Incidents

40

MARITIME INCIDENTS



COUNTRY /REGION	NO
Australia	01
Madagascar	01
Iran	02
India	02
Indonesia	02
Thailand	01
Philippine	01
Vietnam	03

Total Incidents

13

MARITIME INCIDENTS

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUBCATEGORY	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.10.07	Madagascar	Off the southern coast of Madagascar.	Fire/Folding/Explosion	Name – HMM Platinum Flag - Liberia	According to Dolphin Maritime & Aviation Service, a fire ignited in a container while the ship was navigating the Indian Ocean near Madagascar's southern coast.
2026.10.10	Thailand	Andaman Sea region	Mechanical Breakdown / Engine Failure	Fishing boat	Phuket Marine Police deployed patrol boat No. 444 to assist a disabled vessel, towing it safely to shore by 0030 hrs on 11 Oct. All three fishermen aboard were reported safe and uninjured.
2026.10.11	Vietnam	Approximately 292 NM southeast of Da Nang	Patient Onboard (POB)	Name-QNA 90298 TS Flag-Vietnam	The rescue vessel arrived in Da Nang at 2227 hrs, where the fisherman was transferred to authorities and his family before being taken to Da Nang General Hospital for emergency treatment.
2026.10.11	Vietnam	Approximately 174 NM south-southeast of Vung Tau Cape	Patient Onboard (POB)	Name-Flag-Vietnam	The patient was delivered to his family at Loc An Fishing Port at 0800 hrs on 11 October for transfer to Military Hospital 175 for further treatment.
2026.10.12	India	South East of Kovalam	Fire/Folding/Explosion	Name – Sri Balaji Type – Fishing Vessel Flag - India	On 12 October 2026, the crew of the Indian Coast Guard Ship Sujay intercepted a distress message from IFB Sri Balaji while patrolling off the Tamil Nadu coast.

Source -: https://www.tradewindsnews.com/casualties/fire-burns-on-hmm-container-ship-in-the-indian-ocean/2-1-2056935
Source -: https://www.novostiphuketa.asia/rybakov-na-zaglohshey-lodke-spasli-vo-vremya-shtorma-na-phukete-24332.php
Source -: https://vmrcc.gov.vn/tin-tuc/cuu-nan-khan-cap-mot-ngu-dan-bi-benh-nang-tren-vung-bien-da-nang-1989.html
Source -: https://cand.vn/kip-thoi-dua-ngu-dan-nghi-bi-tai-bien-tren-bien-vao-bo-dieu-tri-post824614.html
Source -: https://www.vietnam.vn/en/chim-thuyen-danh-ca-tren-pha-tam-giang-1-nguoi-tu-vong

MARITIME INCIDENTS

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUBCATEGORY	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.10.12	Indonesia	Aru Island	Search and Rescue (SAR)	-	All victims were retrieved by the USS Dobo ground team with a Rescue Car and transported to Dobo City for handover to their families.
2026.10.12	Australia	Off Barragga Bay	Search and Rescue (SAR)	-	The incident underscores the importance of safety measures like carrying a PLB, wearing lifejackets, and logging trips with Marine Rescue NSW to enhance survival chances in emergencies.
2026.10.13	India	Bihar	Capsizing /Sinking	-	The passengers were residents of Rampur Shyamchand village who were travelling to attend a feast in a village across the river, officials said.
2026.10.13	Indonesia	Batu Bolong - Tatawa Besar waters	Capsizing/Sinking	Name - KM Feronia Type -Tourist/Diving Vessel	A joint Search and Rescue (SAR) team initiated an operation to find the missing 23-year-old passenger, Veronica Beatrix Jessica, while three foreign passengers were reported injured.
2026.10.14	Vietnam	Tam Giang Lagoon	Capsizing/Sinking	-	Hue City Police's Fire Prevention and Rescue Department, in conjunction with Hoa Chau Ward Police and Thuan An Port Border Guard Station, swiftly mobilized personnel and vehicles to assist local authorities in the search for the victim following the report.
2026.10.17	Iran	Strait of Hormuz	Damage/Lost Cargo	-	The discovery of floating goods has garnered significant online attention, linked to a serious incident involving a cargo vessel that caught fire and sank in the crucial Strait of Hormuz.

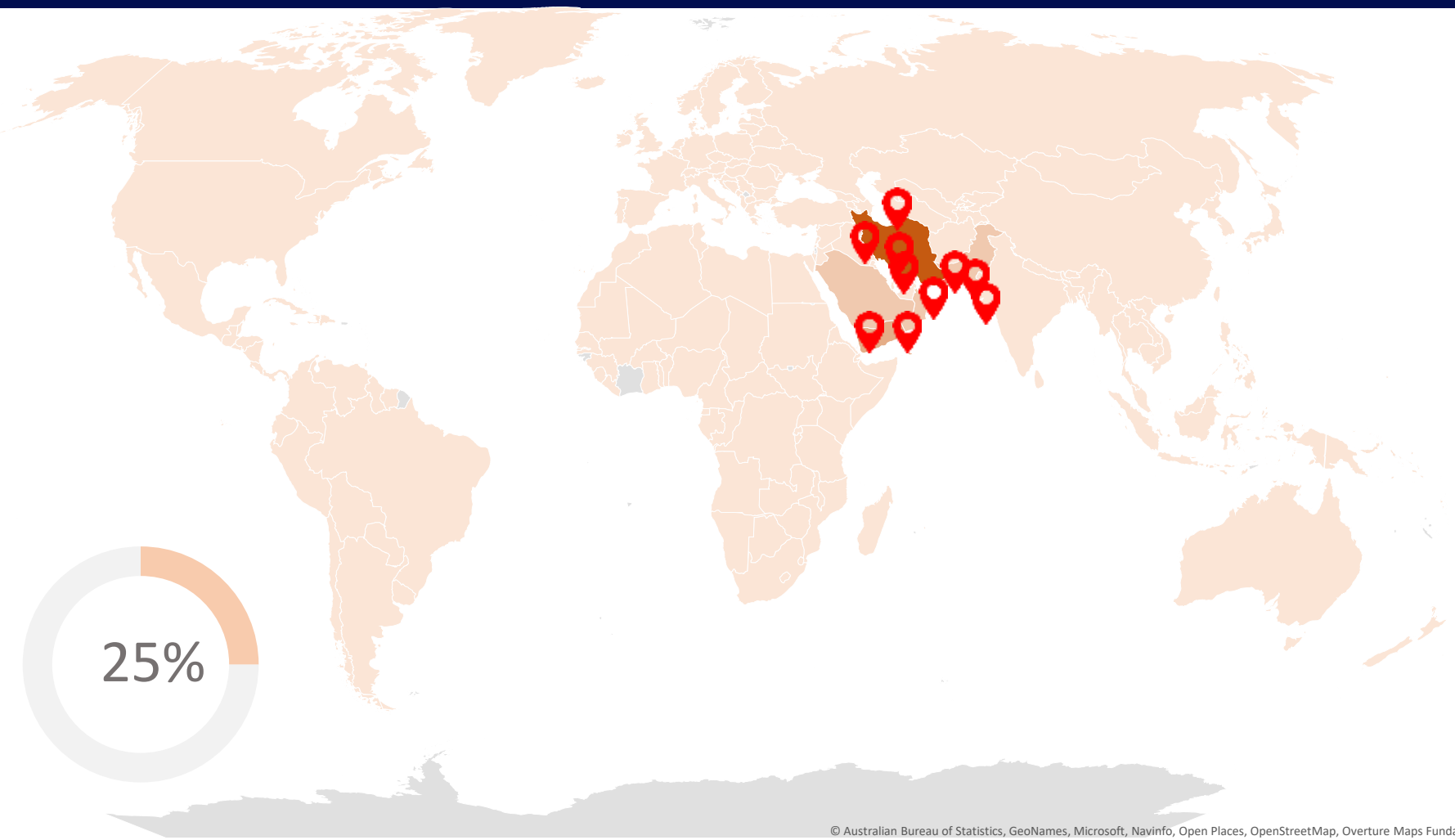
Source -: https://x.com/IndiaCoastGuard/status/2109931244545081355?s=46&t=WvNUTX9eIufcugowTJ5T1g
Source -: https://www.tbsnews.net/world/south-asia/13-children-drown-boat-capsizes-indias-ganges-1572186
Source -: https://ambon.antaranews.com/berita/346893/tim-sar-evakuasi-empat-penumpang-longboat-hilang-kontak-akibat-kabut
Source -: https://www.marinerescuensw.com.au/marine-rescue-nsw-urges-boaters-to-carry-lifesaving-equipment-after-vessel-overturns-46km-offshore/
Source -: https://www.detik.com/bali/nusra/d-8706354/pinisi-feronia-tenggelam-di-tn-komodo-baru-dua-bulan-berlayar?utm_source=chatgpt.com
Source -: https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/new-updates/iranian-fishermen-searching-for-fish-find-floating-iphones-luxury-perfumes-in-hormuz/articleshow/135014642.cms?from=mdr

MARITIME INCIDENTS

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUBCATEGORY	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.10.17	Philippine	waters off Wedge Island in San Vicente, Palawan	Search and Rescue (SAR)	Name –FBCA SUPER NOLJENN Type-Fishing Vessel	The Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) conducted search and rescue operations in coordination with the Municipal Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office, successfully rescuing both individuals aboard a fishing boat following an incident.
2026.10.18	Iran	Strait of Hormuz	Fire/Flooding/Explosion	Type- Oil Tanker	IRGC reported that a tanker was on an unauthorized route and had turned off its navigation systems. Details about the vessel's identity, crew status, casualties, damage extent, and any oil leakage were not provided.

Source -: https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/2325923/2-rescued-from-partially-submerged-fishing-boat-off-palawan
Source -: https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/2325923/2-rescued-from-partially-submerged-fishing-boat-off-palawan

PIRACY & ARMED ROBBERY



COUNTRY /REGION	NO
Iran	05
Oman	01
Yemen	02
Pakistan	01
Saudi Arabia	01

Total Incidents

10

PIRACY & ARMED ROBBERY

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUBCATEGORY	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.10.11	Oman	Sohar Anchorage	Attacked in High-risk areas	Name-PETRO DOLPHIN Type-Tanker	The Indian Ministry of External Affairs urged an immediate halt to attacks on commercial vessels, seafarers, and civilian infrastructure, cautioning that these incidents could heighten regional tensions.
2026.10.11	Iran	Strait of Hormuz	Attacked in High-risk areas	-	UKMTO is observing increased geopolitical tensions, highlighted by over 20 suspected Iranian attacks in a month, causing a reduction in ballast voyage tanker traffic into the Gulf of Oman. At least 10 VLCCs and several Suezmaxes are diverting to Fujairah, a significant U.S.-backed export transfer location.
2026.10.11	Pakistan	Near Jiwan	Assault violations	-	The recent arrest in Gwadar and the weapon recovery near Gabd–Jiwani highlight the significance of intelligence-led operations to uncover suspected terrorist networks and concealed arms. These actions are part of a broader security initiative in Balochistan aimed at dismantling such networks and preventing future attacks.
2026.10.13	Yemen	Port of Ras Issa	Assault violations	Name - Vikan	Two air strike campaigns targeted Yemeni oil storage tanks at Ras Isa port and an oil station in the Houthi-controlled Hodeidah province.
2026.10.14	Iran	Coast of Sirik	Attacked in High-risk areas	Fishing vessel	Three individuals sustained injuries when an unidentified drone hit a fishing boat off Southern Iran's coast, according to local authorities.

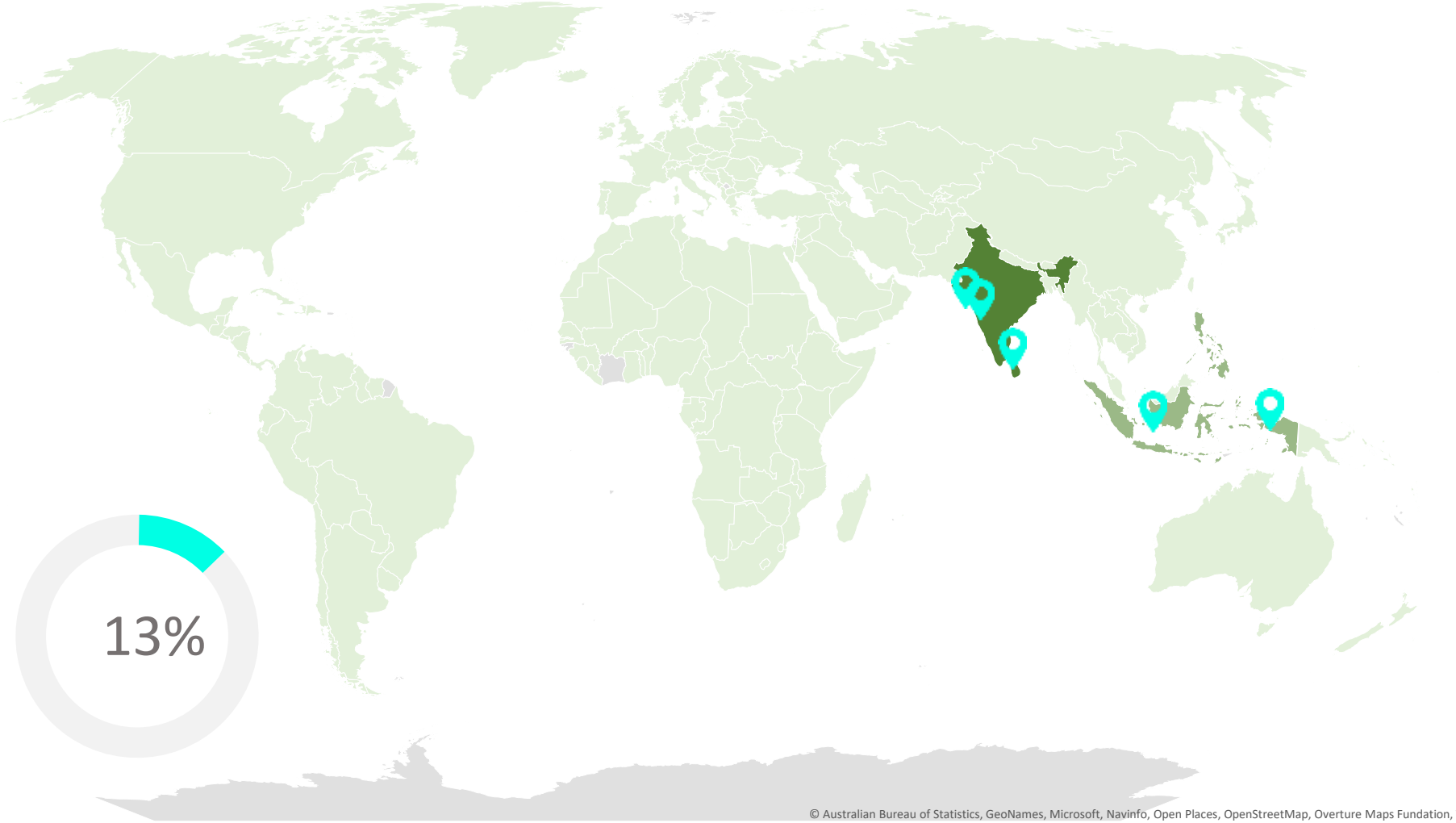
Source -: https://www.marinetraffic.com/en/maritime-news/15/maritime-security/2026/13295/two-seafarers-missing-after-drone-attack-on-tanker-at-sohar-
Source -: https://maritime-executive.com/article/ukmto-reports-third-strike-in-a-day-on-a-tanker-in-the-mideast
Source -: https://balochistanpulse.com/jiwani-ambush-foiled-28-bla-terrorists-killed-gwadar/
Source -: https://www.vesseltracker.com/de/Ships/Vikan-9116644.html
Source -: https://www.aa.com.tr/en/middle-east/3-injured-in-unidentified-drone-attack-on-fishing-boat-off-southern-iran/4088309

PIRACY & ARMED ROBBERY

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUBCATEGORY	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.10.13-14	Iran	Strait of Hormuz	Attacked in High-risk areas	Name - GFS Pride, GFS Giselle Type - Container Ship Flag - Singapore	The Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore expressed deep concern over attacks on commercial shipping, deeming them unprovoked and a violation of international law.
2026.10.16	Strait of Hormuz	Strait of Hormuz	Attacked in High-risk areas	Type-Tanker Flag-Marshall Islands	Indian authorities were overseeing the incident and collaborating with the vessel's management to ensure the crew's safety and well-being.
2026.10.16	Iran	Strait of Hormuz	Attacked in High-risk Areas	Name-SPIRIT OF TOULOUSE Type-RoRo cargo vessel	UKMTO has warned that numerous attacks on merchant vessels in the Strait of Hormuz are unreported, complicating the assessment of maritime security threats in the region.
2026.10.17	Saudi Arabia	68 nautical miles northeast of Jubail	Attacked in High-risk areas	Type-Oil tanker	The supertanker carrying over 2 million barrels of crude oil struck a mine while attempting to transit the Strait of Hormuz via an unauthorized route, leading to an explosion and a massive fire.
2026.10.17	Yemen	Arabian Sea – Gulf of Aden	Attacked in High-risk areas	Type-LNG Tanker	The United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations (UKMTO) has reported an incident involving an unidentified small boat, urging vessels in the area to exercise caution and report any suspicious activity. Authorities are currently investigating the situation.

Source -: https://www.channelnewsasia.com/singapore/vessels-singapore-registered-struck-strait-hormuz-6459176
Source -: https://www.marinetraffic.com/en/maritime-news/15/maritime-security/2026/13319/two-tankers-involved-in-separate-incidents-all-24-indian-sea
Source -: https://gcaptain.com/fog-of-war-deepens-in-hormuz-as-ukmto-says-most-ship-attacks-go-unreported/
Source -: https://en.mehrnews.com/news/248637/An-oil-tanker-targeted-near-Saudi-Arabia-UKMTO
Source -: https://www.voiceofemirates.com/en/news/2026/10/17/british-maritime-authority-gunfire-directed-at-an-lng-tanker-southeast-of-yemen/

SMUGGLING



COUNTRY /REGION	NO
India	02
Indonesia	01
Sri Lanka	02

Total Incidents

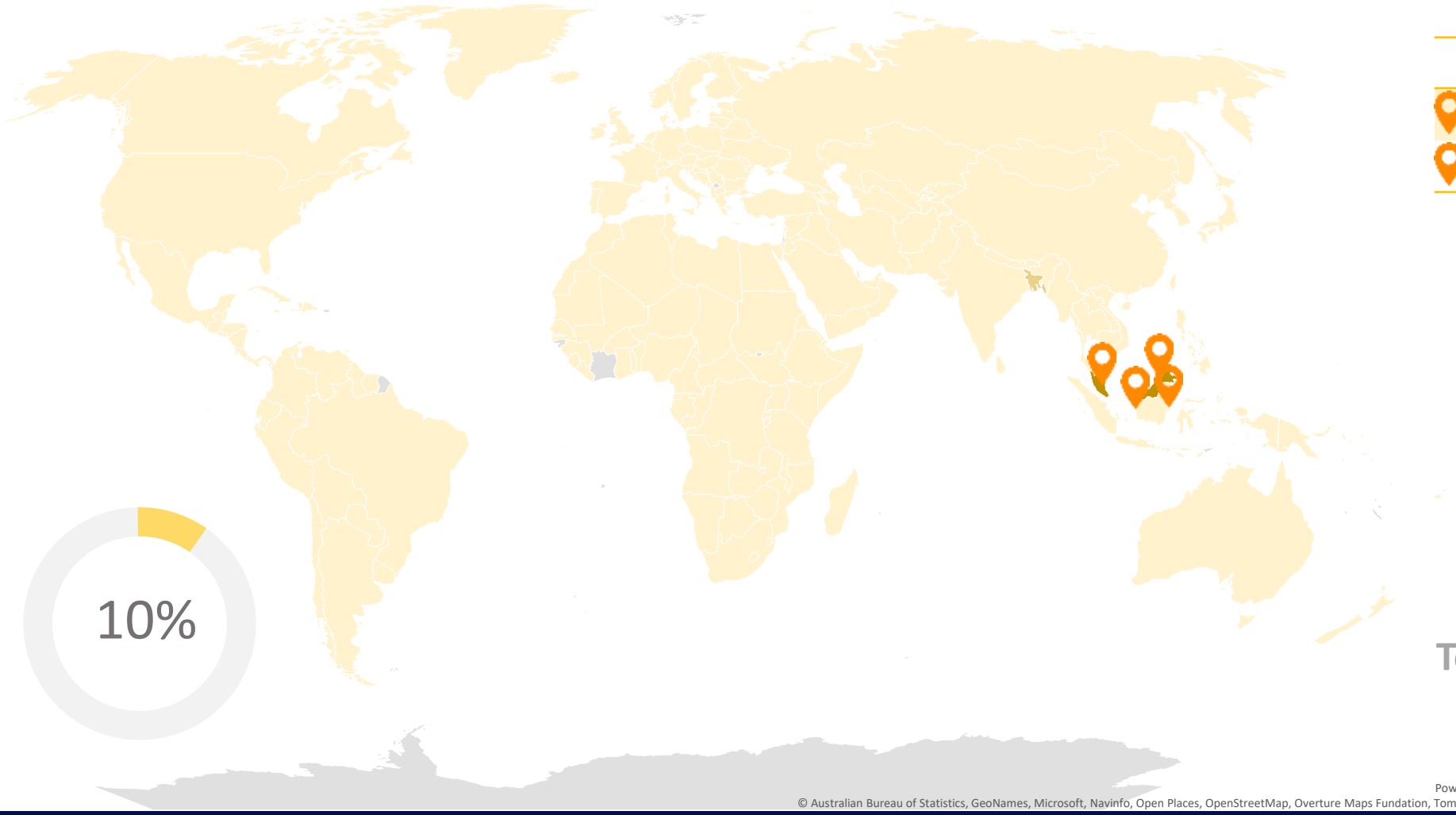
05

SMUGGLING

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUBCATEGORY	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.10.12	India	off Mumbai	Contraband/Goods smuggling	-	Upon being challenged on the VHF maritime channel, the IFB did not respond, ignored warnings, and attempted evasive maneuvers. The ICG ship then initiated a hot pursuit, successfully apprehending the vessel.
2026.10.12	India	Off Felda Sahabat	Contraband/Goods smuggling	-	Dzulfikhar reported that a vessel and its goods, valued at RM50,000, were confiscated and taken to the Felda Sahabat Maritime base for investigation under the Control of Supply Act 1961 and the Customs Act 1967.
2026.10.13	Sri Lanka	Off Kalpitiya Sea Area	Contraband/Goods smuggling	-	The seized consignment will be handed over to the Kalpitiya Police for onward legal action.
2026.10.13	Indonesia	Bali	Wild life and endangers species smuggling	-	Two of the 22 turtles found on a deserted boat are still ill and need treatment before their release. The turtles, protected species in Indonesia, were discovered alive while the suspected smugglers escaped. Gusti Agung Purnama Wirahadi expressed hope for no further attempts to capture or trade these animals.
2026.10.14	Sri Lanka	eriyapadu coastal area, Puttalam	Contraband/Goods Smuggling	-	Sri Lanka Navy and Coast Guard personnel seized approximately 125 kg of suspected smuggled Kendu leaves in Puttalam.

Source -: https://news.navy.lk/operations-news/2026/october/navy-seizes-consignment-of-smuggled-dry-ginger-off-kalpitiya.html
Source -: https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/indian-coast-guard-apprehends-fishing-boat-suspected-of-mid-sea-diesel-smuggling-off-mumbai-coast-101791891838682.html
Source -: https://www.dailyexpress.com.my/news/289875/mmea-foils-attempt-to-smuggle-motorcycle-petrol-off-felda-sahabat/
Source -: https://apnews.com/article/indonesia-green-sea-turtles-smuggling-release-59ea1574cd61427628d51b4152e3f994
Source -: https://news.navy.lk/operations-news/2026/october/duplicate-of-suspect-arrested-with-30-foreign-electronic-cigarettes.html

IUU FISHING



COUNTRY /REGION	NO
Bangladesh	01
Malaysia	03

Total Incidents

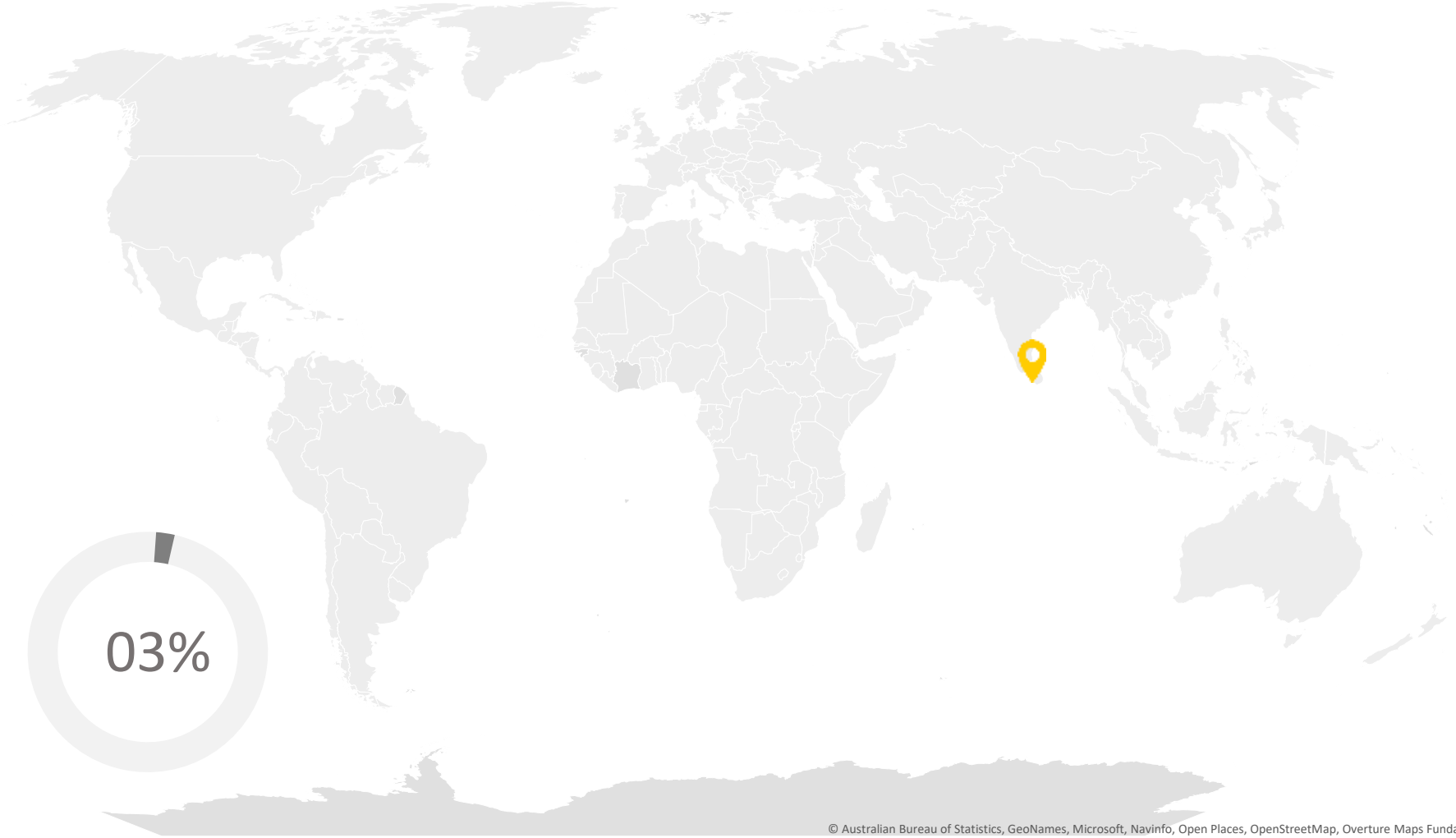
04

IUU FISHING

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUBCATEGORY	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.10.11	Bangladesh	Anandabazar, Dashadi Khal, Shahar Mali, Lalpu	Illegal Fishing Apparatus	-	The conservation operation from 8 to 29 Oct 26 prohibits the catching, transporting, storing, buying, selling, and exchanging of hilsa.
2026.10.11	Malaysia	off Selangor	Fishing without license	-	Approximately 1,450kg of mixed fish were seized, and the vessels were taken to the Marine Police jetty for investigation under the Fisheries Act 1985 and Immigration Act 1959/63 due to fishing license violations and document failures..
2026.10.12	Malaysia	Pulau Payar	Fishing without license	trawler	The suspects were detained under the Fisheries Act 1985 for fishing in a marine park and allegedly obstructing public officers. The case is under further investigation.
2026.10.14	Malaysia	Sandakan, Sabah	Overfishing	-	During pre-dawn operations, three fishing boats were intercepted, leading to the seizure of over two tones of marine catch, LPG cylinders, fishing equipment, and documents, all valued at around RM456,400.

Source -: https://www.bssnews.net/district/433761
Source -: https://thesun.my/news/nine-foreign-fishermen-detained-selangor-maritime/
Source -: https://www.facebook.com/mydof.kedah/posts/pfbid0eWmmTTcwMTqv6hFNKAUUmppHVwk1aSywmYfPt2TST7cGN2MeqpZGznaCDcRmGa6sl?rdid=12dpZpjsue024g1a
Source -: https://www.dailyexpress.com.my/news/289953/mmea-detains-10-seizes-over-rm508-000-in-goods-off-sandakan/?utm_source=chatgpt.com#google_vignette

NARCOTIC



COUNTRY /REGION	NO
Sri Lanka	01

Total Incidents

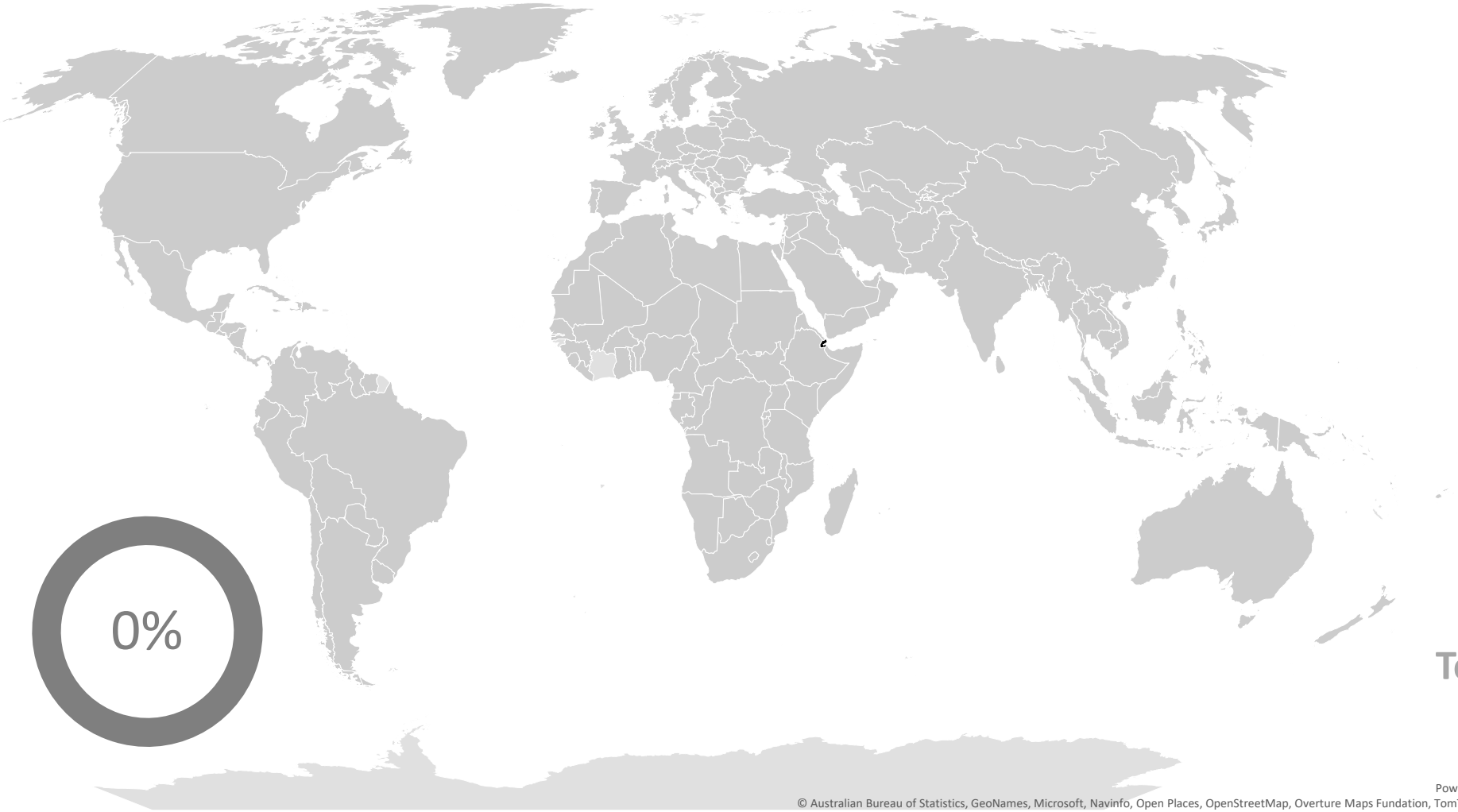
01

NARCOTIC

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUBCATEGORY	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.10.15	Sri Lanka	Kapparathota coastal area	Seizure of narcotics	-	Meanwhile, five suspects detained by the Navy were transferred to the PNB for legal action. The Sri Lanka Navy, supported by the public and fishing community, is dedicated to anti-narcotic operations as part of the national initiative 'A Nation United', targeting coastal areas across the island.

Source -: https://news.navy.lk/operations-news/2026/october/six-(6)-sacks-of-suspected-narcotics-seized-from-kapparathota-coastal-area-in-weligama.html

IRREGULAR HUMAN MIGRATION



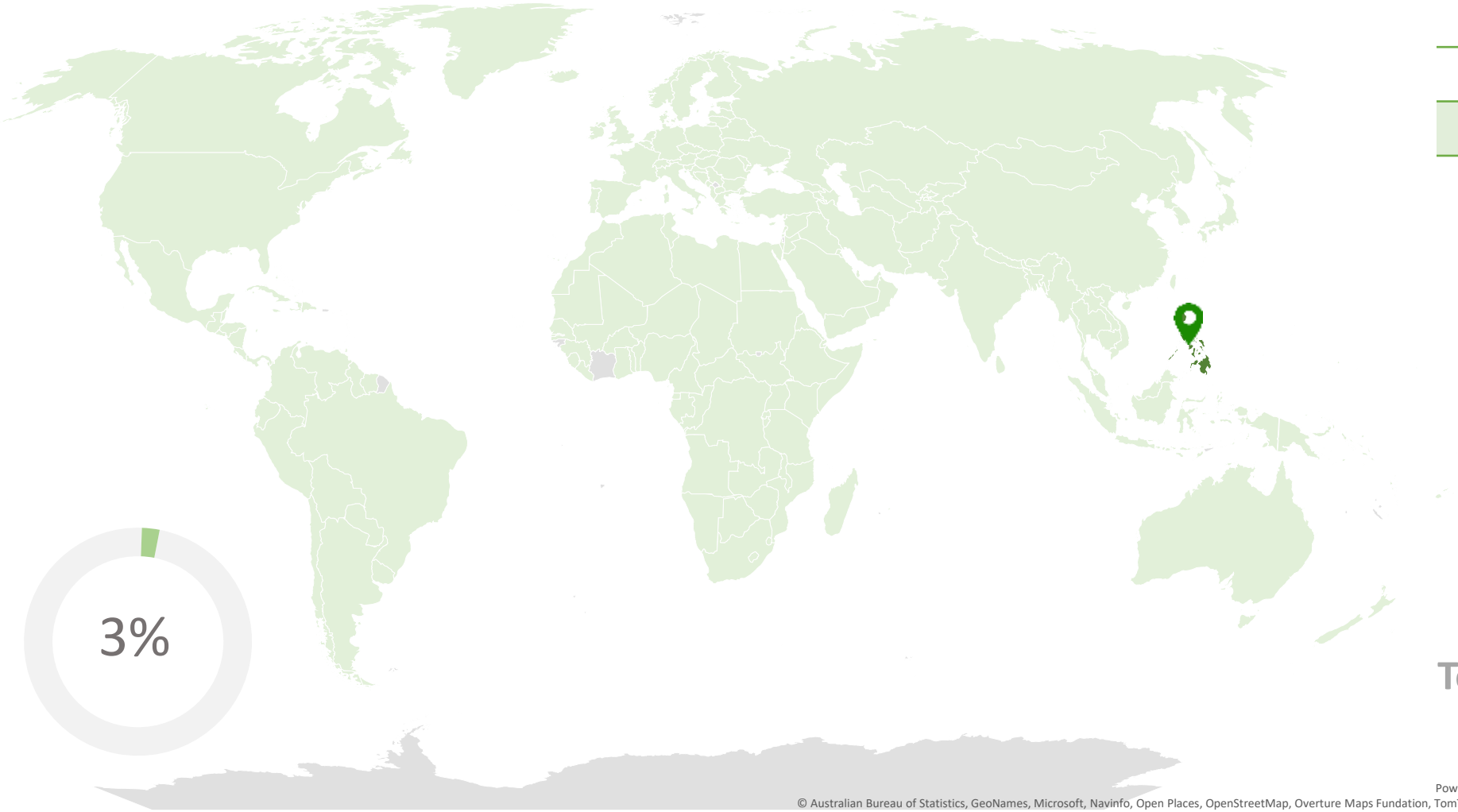


Total Incidents

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MARITIME ENVIRONMENT POLLUTION



COUNTRY /REGION	NO
Philippines	01

Total Incidents

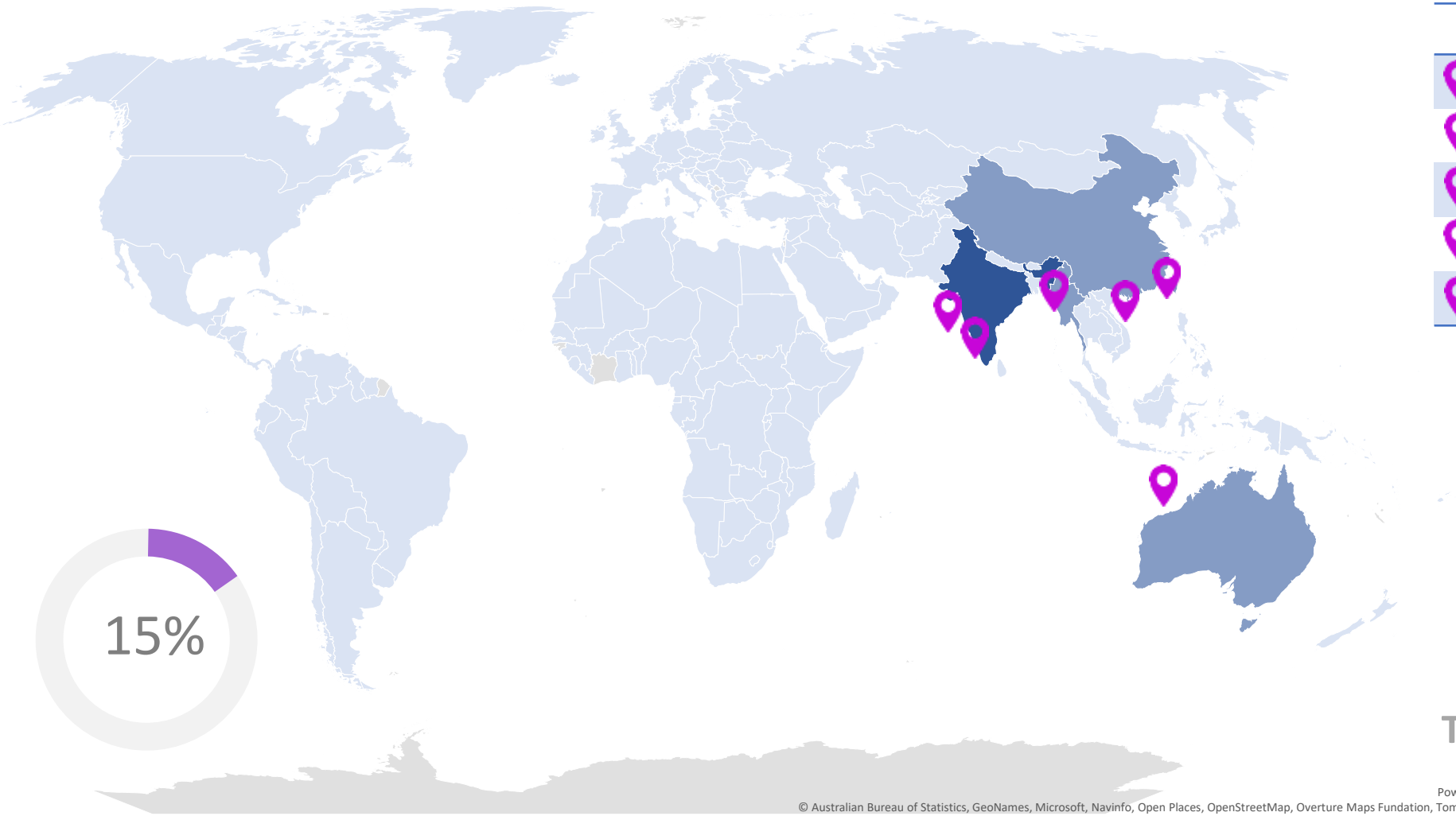
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MARITIME ENVIRONMENT POLLUTION

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUBCATEGORY	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.10.17	Philippines	El Nido, Palawan	Plastic and Waste Pollution	-	The activity promoted underwater cleanups and environmental awareness to protect marine habitats and maintain the health of El Nido's coastal waters.

Source -: https://palawan-news.com/el-nido-divers-collect-underwater-waste-highlight-transboundary-marine-pollution/

OTHER



COUNTRY /REGION	NO
Australia	01
China	01
India	02
Myanmar	01
Thiwan	01

Total Incidents

06

OTHER

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUBCATEGORY	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.10.12	India	Mumbai	Naval Activities	Name - INS Mangrol Type - Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Craft	Built by Cochin Shipyard Limited, the vessel showcases India's defense shipbuilding capabilities and emphasizes the Navy's commitment to maritime preparedness.
2026.10.12	Reunion Island	seas of the Indian Ocean	Naval activities	Name- DF Peak Type- Tanker	The French Navy conducted a boarding operation on 12 October 2026, following international maritime law, targeting a tanker linked to suspected illicit activities associated with Russia in the Indian Ocean.
2026.10.14	China	Qingdao Beihai Shipyard	Foreign affairs	Name - Mineral Europa Flag - Belgium	The ammonia-powered bulk carrier, Mineral Europa, has commenced its inaugural voyage to Australia. This vessel, with a deadweight of 210,000 tones, is notable for being the world's first ammonia-fueled ship, constructed at Qingdao Beihai Shipyard in China.
2026.10.15	Australia	Cairns, Queensland	Naval activities	Name - HMAS Leeuwin vessel Flag - Australia	Defence Minister Richard Marles condemned the incident and initiated an investigation to identify those responsible, noting that the vessel reportedly did not sail following complaints.
2026.10.16	Myanmar	Ngapye Island, near Pauktaw, Rakhine State	Naval Activities	-	The strikes targeted Arakan Army positions near Pauktaw, but casualties and damage have not been confirmed, and no formal statements have been issued by Myanmar's military authorities or the Arakan Army.

Source -: https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/indian-navy-commissions-ins-mangrol-amid-rising-underwater-threats-in-indian-ocean/article71575205.ece
Source https://maritime-executive.com/article/french-navy-boards-russia-linked-tanker-in-the-indian-ocean
Source -: https://www.marineinsight.com/hidden-cameras-found-in-womens-showers-aboard-australian-navy-ship/
Source -: https://www.marineinsight.com/worlds-first-ammonia-powered-dry-bulk-carrier-sets-sail-on-its-maiden-voyage-to-australia/
Source -: https://hamerintel.com/data/articles/20742?utm

OTHER

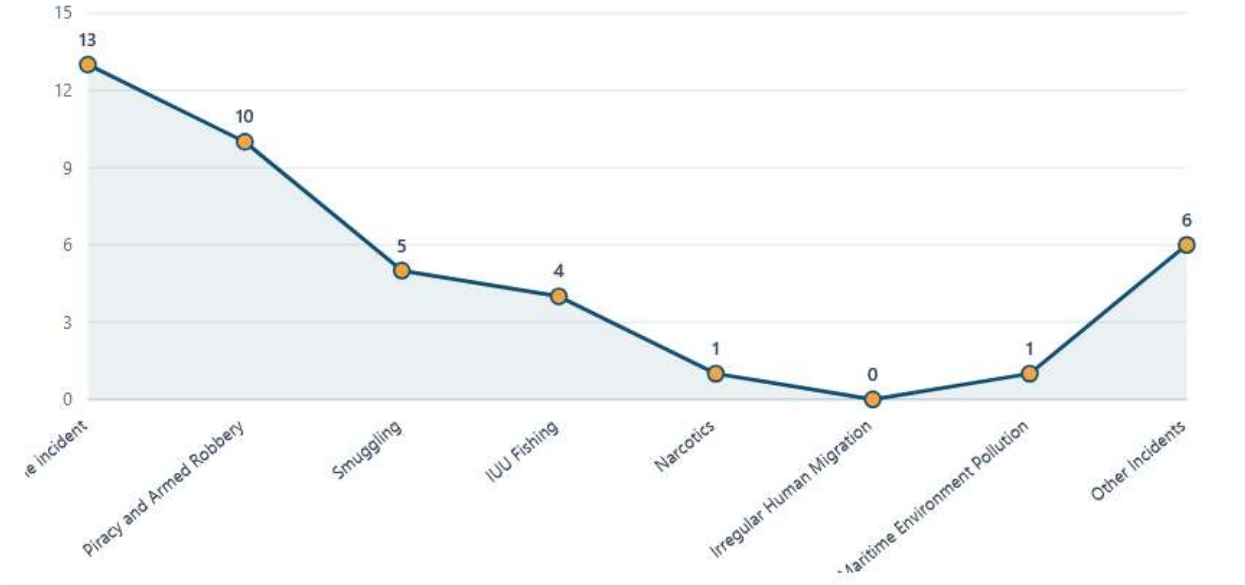
INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUBCATEGORY	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.10.18	Taiwan	Pratas (Dongsha) Island	Other Military / Coastguard Activities	-	Taiwan's Coast Guard characterized the coordinated operations as "maritime harassment" and "hybrid warfare," asserting that it promptly took action against the vessels.

Source -: https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2026/10/18/taiwan-drives-away-16-chinese-ships-accused-of-maritime-harassment

WEEKLY ANALYSIS

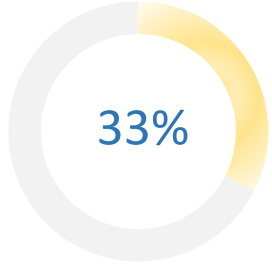
During Week 12–18 October 2026, a total of 40 maritime incidents were reported globally, comprising 13 maritime incidents, 10 piracy and armed robbery incidents, 05 smuggling incidents, 04 IUU fishing incidents, 01 narcotics-related incident, 06 other incidents, 01 maritime environmental pollution incident, and nil irregular human migration incidents. In addition, 09 weather-related incidents were recorded, including 04 tropical cyclones and 05 earthquakes. Piracy and armed robbery remained a major maritime security concern, particularly in the Strait of Hormuz and surrounding waters. Sri Lanka recorded 02 smuggling incidents involving suspected contraband, including Kendu leaves and dry ginger, in the Kalpitiya and Puttalam coastal areas. One narcotics-related incident was reported in the Kapparathota coastal area, Weligama, where the Sri Lanka Navy seized six sacks of suspected narcotics and apprehended five suspects. Four IUU fishing incidents were reported globally, involving illegal fishing activities in Bangladesh and Malaysia. One maritime environmental pollution incident was recorded in the Philippines, involving marine waste and underwater cleanup activities.

Recommendations: Strengthen maritime surveillance, AIS monitoring, and real-time intelligence sharing, particularly in the Strait of Hormuz, Gulf of Oman, Red Sea, and Arabian Sea. Strengthen Sri Lankan coastal surveillance and intelligence-led operations to counter smuggling and narcotics trafficking, particularly along the western and southern coastal areas. Maintain effective IUU fishing enforcement, search and rescue (SAR) preparedness, and maritime environmental protection capabilities, while closely monitoring regional maritime security developments.



Highest reported this week

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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