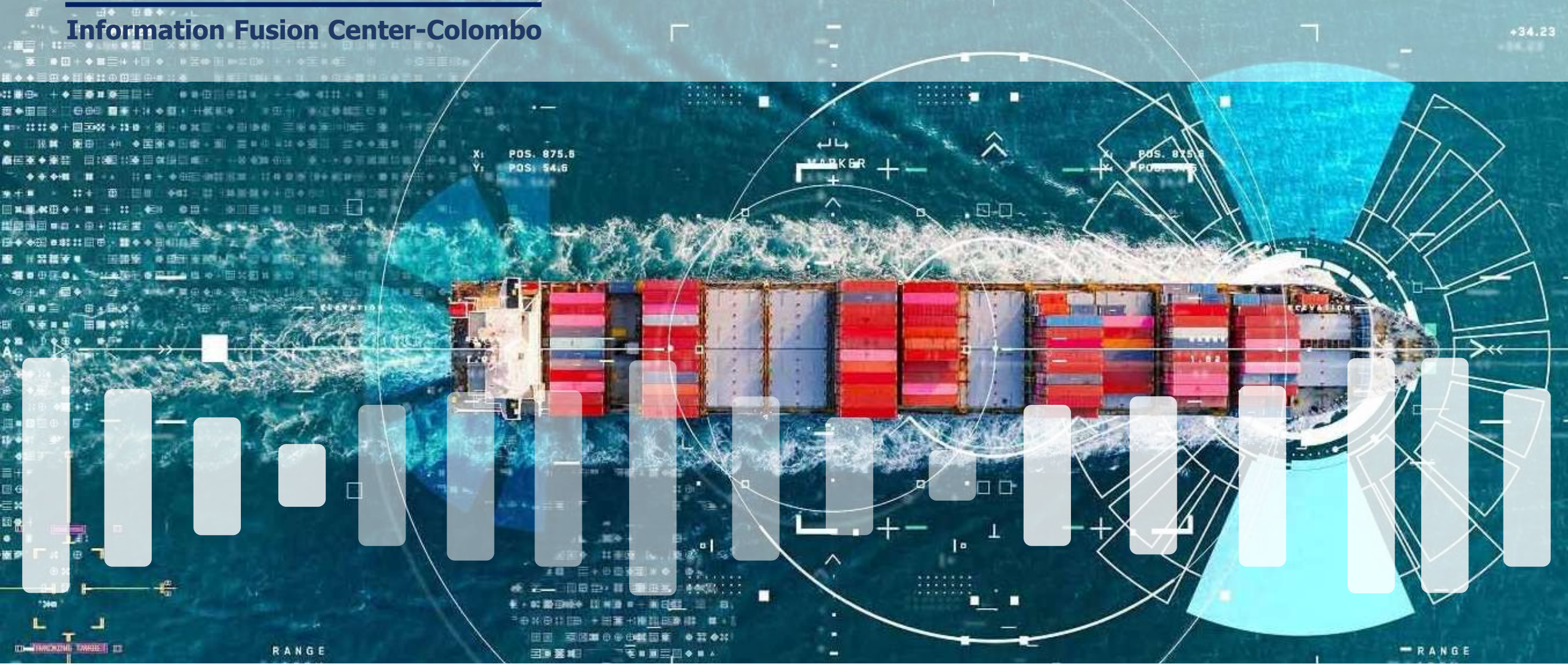


WEEKLY MARITIME INCIDENT UPDATE

Information Fusion Center-Colombo



Information Fusion Center
Colombo
Sri Lanka

Week 38

From 2026.09.21 TO 2026.09.27



SUMMARY OF THE WEEK 38

Executive Summery

Global Maritime Incidents



• Maritime incident	:-	16
• Piracy and Armed Robbery	:-	04
• Smuggling	:-	06
• IUU Fishing	:-	00
• Narcotics	:-	05
• Irregular Human Migration	:-	02
• Maritime Environment Pollution	:-	01
• Other Incidents	:-	03

Total Maritime Incidents 37

Global Weather Incident



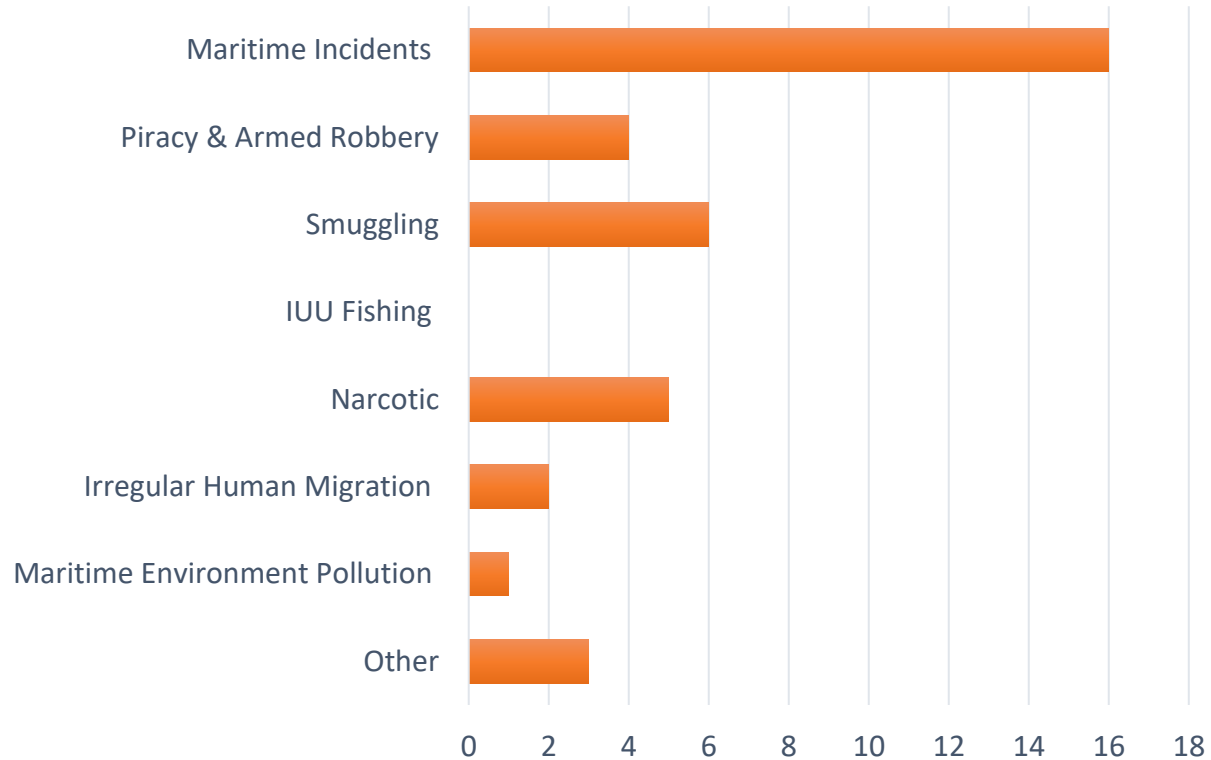
• Tropical Cyclone	:-	03
• Earthquake	:-	02

Total Weather Incidents 05

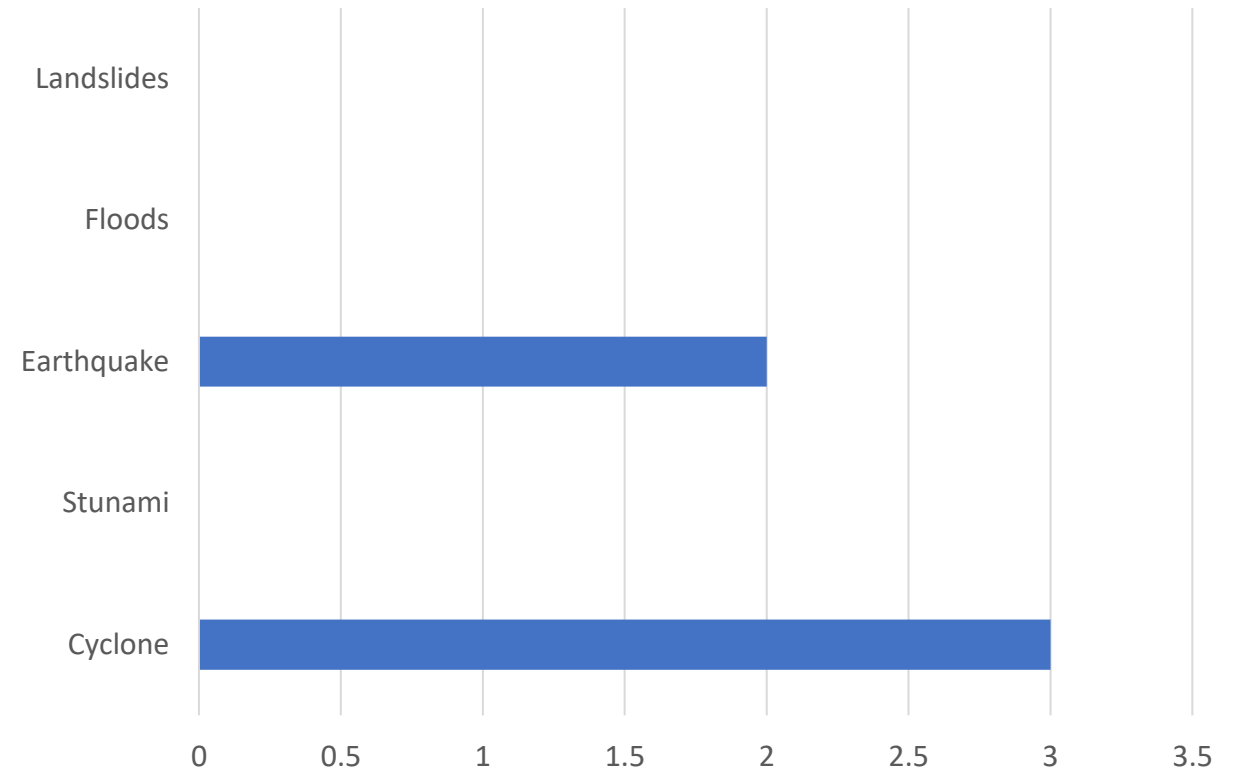


STATISTICS

Maritime Incidents

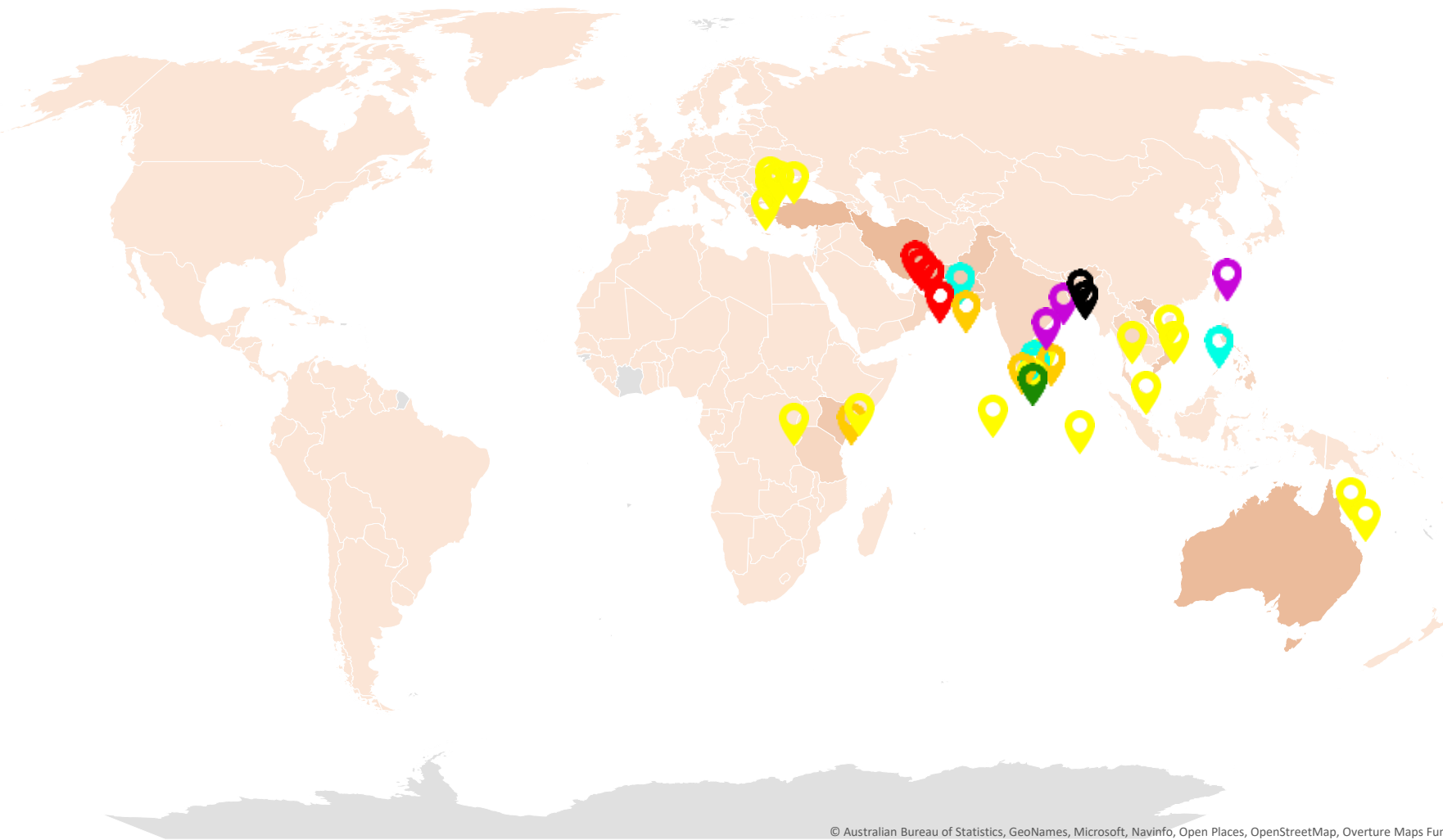


Weather Incidents





STRATEGIC OVERVIEW



CATEGORY		NO
	Maritime Incidents	16
	Piracy & Armed Robbery	04
	Smuggling	06
	IUU Fishing	00
	Narcotic	05
	Irregular Human Migration	02
	Maritime Environment Pollution	01
	Other	03

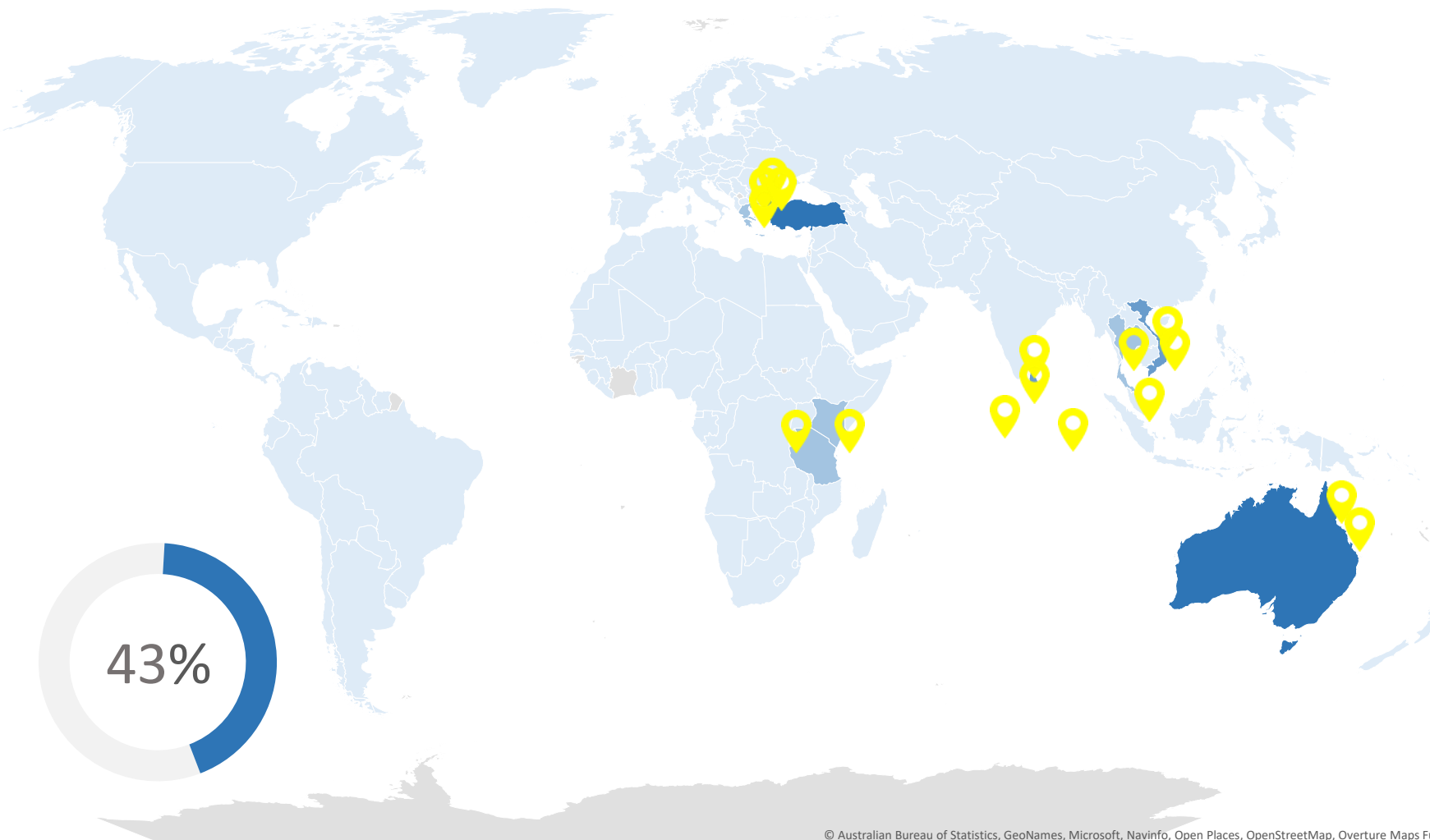
Total Incidents

37

Powered by Bing
© Australian Bureau of Statistics, GeoNames, Microsoft, Navinfo, Open Places, OpenStreetMap, Overture Maps Foundation, TomTom, Zenrin



MARITIME INCIDENTS



COUNTRY /REGION	NO
Australia	03
Greece	01
Kenya	01
Maldives	01
Singapore	01
Sri Lanka	02
Tanzania	01
Thailand	01
Turkey	03
Vietnam	02

Total Incidents

16

© Australian Bureau of Statistics, GeoNames, Microsoft, Navinfo, Open Places, OpenStreetMap, Overture Maps Fundation, TomTom, Zenrin



MARITIME INCIDENTS

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUBCATEGORY	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.09.18	Australia	Off Gladstone	Grounding/Stranding	Name: CAPE FALCON Type: Cargo IMO: 9916202	The Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB) is investigating the incident and will detain the vessel after it is refloated. Investigators will conduct interviews and collect evidence, while authorities will inspect the vessel's seaworthiness before allowing it to sail.
2026.09.18	Vietnam	Approximately 15 NM off Dung Quat Port, Quang Ngai Province	Capsizing/Sinking	Name-Merchant Mariner Type -Bulk Carrier	Quang Ngai Maritime Port Authority, in collaboration with the Dung Quat Port Border Guard Station, responded to a distress call from a vessel, with emergency services dispatched and a tugboat on standby. The crew took measures to stabilize the vessel and shut fuel-tank valves to mitigate pollution risks. The damage to the hull was not yet assessed.
2026.09.21	Turkey	Büyükdere anchorage area	Mechanical breakdown/Engine Failure/No Communication	Name-ANISTAR Type -Cargo Vessel	The Istanbul Vessel Traffic Services Centre successfully responded to a distress call by dispatching a pilot captain and tugboats Kurtarma 6 and Kurtarma 3.
2026.09.21	Sri Lanka	Talaimannar, Mannar	Search and Rescue (SAR)	One-day fishing trawler	MRCC Colombo initiated a search operation with the Northern and North Central Naval Commands after receiving a notification from the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources. The Navy located a drifting trawler North of Talaimannar, rescued two fishermen, towed the trawler back, and provided humanitarian aid.

Source - : <https://www.marinetraffic.com/no/maritime-news/14/accidents/2026/13258/bulk-carrier-remain-aground-aground-off-australia-recovery-e>
Source - : <https://www.marinetraffic.com/en/maritime-news/14/accidents/2026/13254/bulk-carrier-develops-water-ingress-and-lists-near-dung-quai>
Source - : <https://www.marinetraffic.com/en/maritime-news/14/accidents/2026/13255/cargo-vessel-towed-to-safety-after-machinery-failure-in-ista>
Source - : <https://news.navy.lk/operations-news/2026/september/navy-rushes-to-aid-of-2-distressed-fishermen-off-mannar.html>



MARITIME INCIDENTS

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUBCATEGORY	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.09.22	Vietnam	East of Vietnam	Search and Rescue (SAR)	Name- MSC Hermes III	MRCC Singapore is working with the Vietnamese MRCC to ensure the safe return of the rescued crew members to shore.
2026.09.22	Thailand	Off Chon Buri	Search and Rescue (SAR)	Name- S. Kanchanawari 888	Chon Buri MP Thanathorn Pramuanphong is overseeing the rescue operation following the sinking of a vessel located at 11°56.93' N, 100°50.30'E roughly 40 nm from Laem Pu Chao mountain. Maritime authorities are conducting an investigation.
2026.09.22	Australia	Australian SRR	Search and Rescue (SAR)	Indonesian Fishing Vessel	The 25 Indonesian fishermen rescued by MV MOONSTONE were reported to be in good health. MV MOONSTONE is scheduled to arrive at Colombo OPL at 0400hrs on 24 Sep 26.
2026.09.23	Maldives	Maldives SRR	Search and Rescue (SAR)	Indonesian Fishing Vessel	Incident was reported to MRCC Colombo and it was immediately informed to MRCC Maldives
2026.09.23	Singapore	Singapore Strait	Collisions	Name-First Margaux Flag -Panama Name-Lu Qing Yuan Yu Type -Fishing Vessel	The Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA) is investigating the collision on 17 Sep 26 between the vessel First Margaux and a China-registered fishing vessel, Lu Qing Yuan Yu, as announced in a press release on 22 Sep 26.

Source -: <https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/mpa-coordinates-rescue-of-25-crew-members-from-container-vessel-off-vietnams-coast>
Source -: <https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/general/3324185/fishing-boat-sinks-off-chon-buri-3-dead-4-missing>
Source -: MRCC COLOMBO
Source -: MRCC COLOMBO
Source -: <https://www.philstar.com/headlines/2026/09/24/2558614/40-pinoy-seafarers-safe-singapore-strait-ship-collision>



MARITIME INCIDENTS

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUBCATEGORY	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.09.23	Kenya	Off Lamu	Capsizing/Sinking	Name: MV SHUKRANI	Authorities are intensifying search and rescue operations in response to rising incidents of vessel capsizing along the coast, attributed to rough waters. Investigations into the causes of these incidents are also underway at the coast amid calls for caution because of the rough waters.
2026.09.24	Sri Lanka	Port of Colombo	Search and Rescue (SAR)	Indonesian Fishing Vessel	The fishermen were handed over to the Indonesian Embassy for further necessary action
2026.09.24	Australia	Gladstone on Australia's East coast	Grounding/Stranding	Name- Cape Falcon Flag - Liberian Type - Cargo	The Cape Falcon which was constructed in 2022 ran aground in the Gladstone area on 18 Sep 26 while approaching a designated bunkering anchorage at the port.
2026.09.25	Greece	north of Mykonos	Fire/Folding/Explosion	Name; BLUE CARRIER 2 Type: Cargo IMO: 9125384	The operation emphasizes firefighting and preventing marine pollution, with nearby ports having anti-pollution equipment ready for action.
2026.09.25	Turkey	off Darica	Mechanical breakdown/Engine Failure /No Communication	Name; NS SPIRIT Type: Cargo IMO: 9088263	Subsequently, the vessel was towed by a tugboat, coordinated by the Izmit Ship Traffic Services Center, and anchored safely at the Eskihsar Anchorage Area.

Source -: <https://www.the-star.co.ke/news/2026-09-27-four-missing-after-boat-capsizes-off-lamu-coast>
Source -: MRCC COLOMBO
Source -: <https://www.marineinsight.com/giant-bulker-cape-falcon-refloated-after-six-days-aground-off-australia/>
Source -: <https://www.marinetraffic.com/no/maritime-news/14/accidents/2026/13264/fire-breaks-out-aboard-ro-ro-vessel-off-greek-island-crew-ev>
Source -: <https://www.marinetraffic.com/no/maritime-news/14/accidents/2026/13263/cargo-vessel-disabled-off-turkey-safely-towed-to-anchorage>
Source -: <https://www.marineinsight.com/41-people-dead-after-boat-capsizes-on-lake-tanganyika-in-democratic-republic-of-the-congo/>



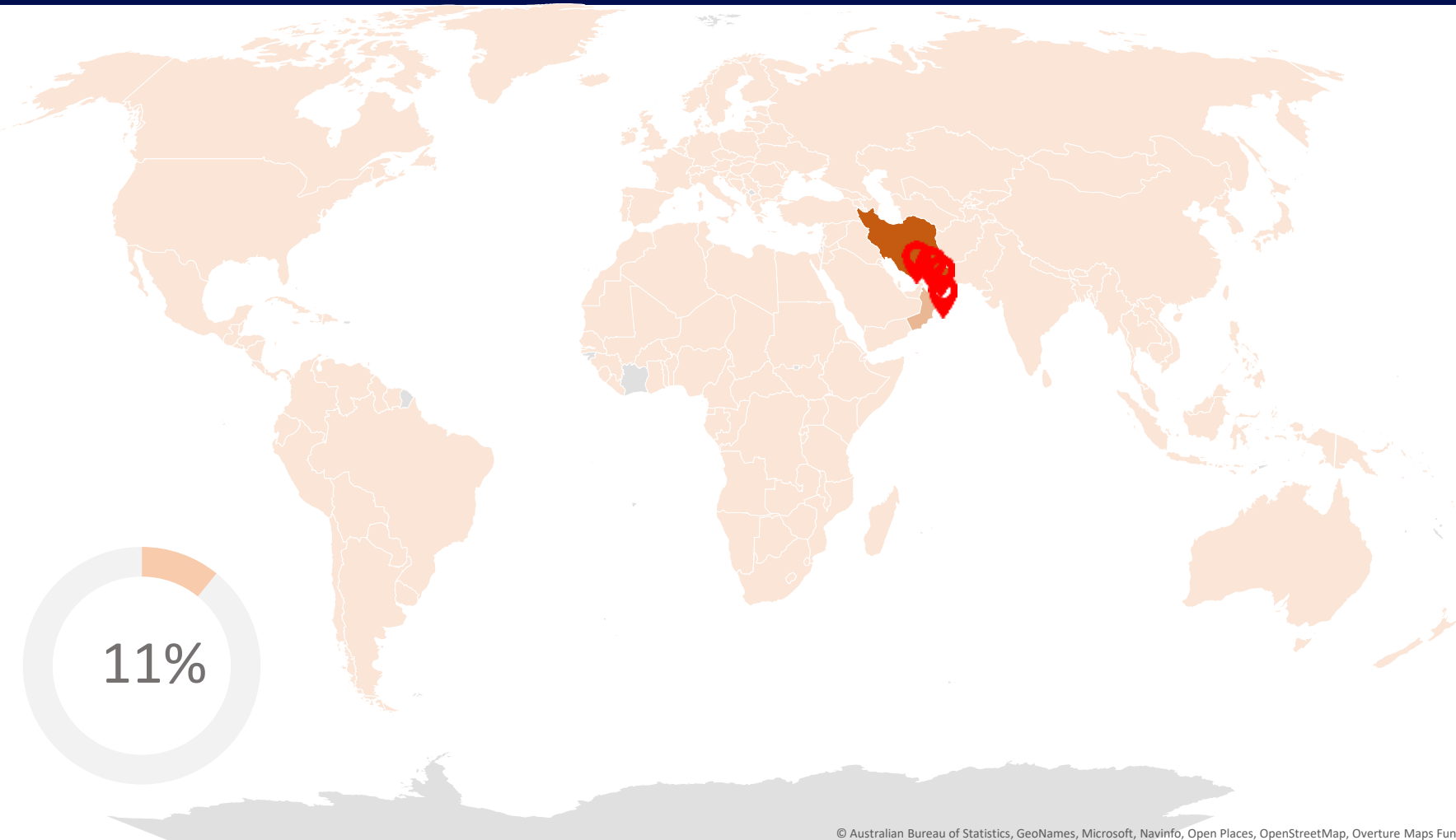
MARITIME INCIDENTS

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUBCATEGORY	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.09.25	Tanzania	Tanganyika lake	Capsizing/Sinking	-	Annie Moyoni, rescued by authorities, reported that passengers awoke around 0100 hrs. to find their vessel dangerously tilting, leading to panic and chaos. Authorities are investigating the cause of the incident, noting that fatalities have occurred in similar situations before.
2026.09.26	Turkey	Off Nara	Mechanical breakdown/Engine Failure /No Communication	Name: BALTIC STAR Type: Tanker IMO: 9327396	Baltic Star has safely anchored in the Dark Harbor Anchorage Area of Canakkale following an incident.

Source -: <https://www.marineinsight.com/41-people-dead-after-boat-capsizes-on-lake-tanganyika-in-democratic-republic-of-the-congo/>
Source -: <https://www.marinetraffic.com/no/maritime-news/14/accidents/2026/13266/oil-tanker-towed-after-machinery-failure-in-turkish-strait>



PIRACY & ARMED ROBBERY



COUNTRY /REGION		NO
 Iran		03
 Oman		01

Total Incidents

04

Powered by Bing
© Australian Bureau of Statistics, GeoNames, Microsoft, Navinfo, Open Places, OpenStreetMap, Overture Maps Foundation, TomTom, Zenrin



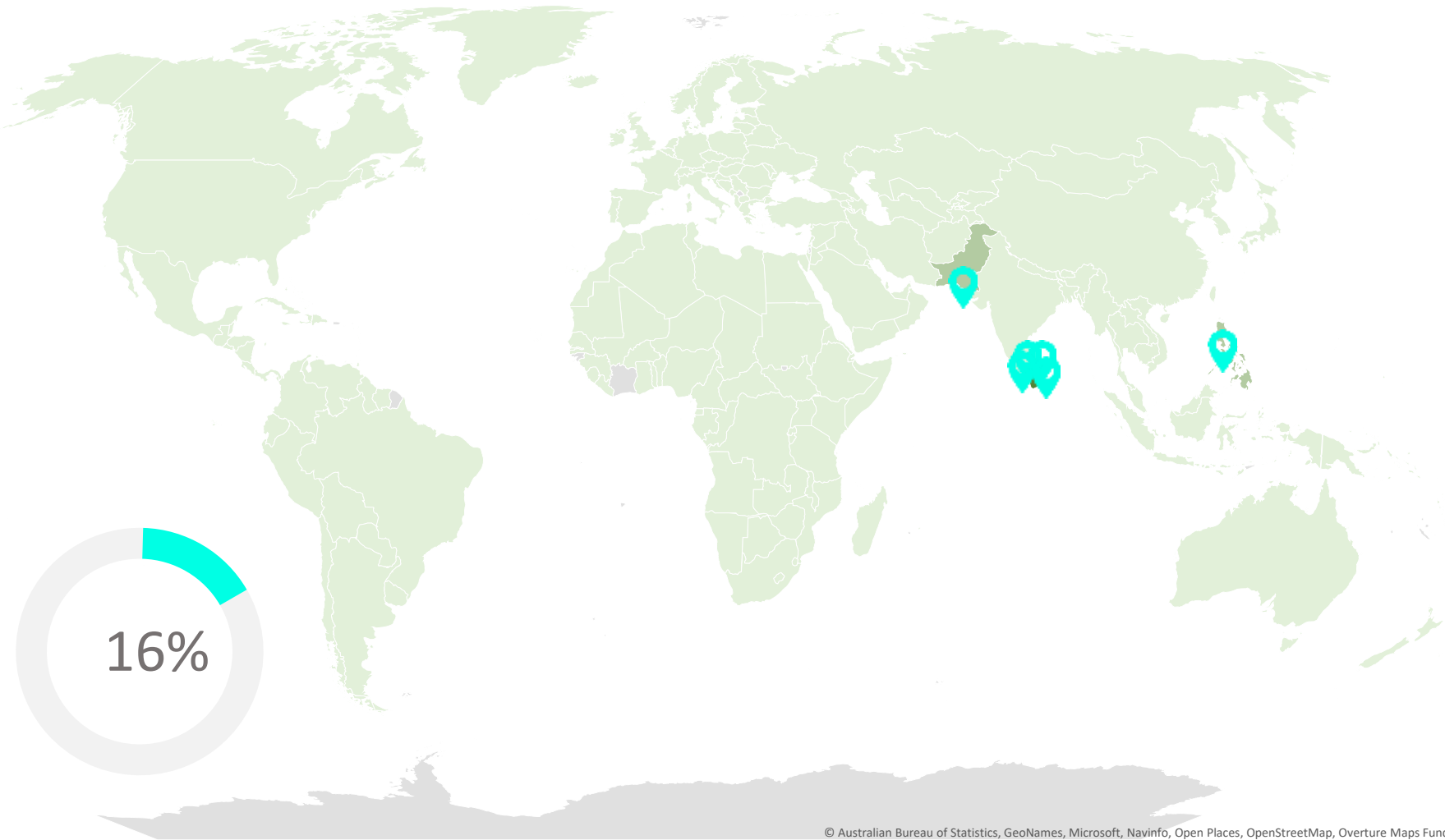
PIRACY & ARMED ROBBERY

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUBCATEGORY	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.09.20	Iran	Strait of Hormuz	Attacked in High-risk areas	Name- MT AL MARYAH Flag-Liberia Type-LPG Tanker	All 19 crew members were reported safe after a drone strike, and the vessel's main engine and power systems remained operational. Authorities are monitoring commercial vessels and Indian seafarers in the Persian Gulf and Strait of Hormuz.
2026.09.21	Iran	Strait of Hormuz	Attacked in High-risk areas	Name- LR STEPHANIE Flag- Barbados Type- Tanker	Two crew members were injured when an "unknown projectile" struck a tanker in the Strait of Hormuz amid ongoing conflict in the Middle East, according to a maritime agency.
2026.09.23	Iran	Strait of Hormuz	Attacked in High-risk areas	Name- CAPE DAO	The mission is working with Omani authorities and the vessel's recruitment agency, maintaining contact with the deceased's family. UKMTO reported two casualties, and an investigation is underway, with no environmental impact noted.
2026.09.23	Oman	off Oman	Attacked in High-risk areas	Name-CAPE DAO Type: Cargo IMO: 9219020	India's Ministry of External Affairs has condemned the ongoing attacks on commercial shipping, describing the situation as "deeply worrisome." The Indian Embassy has confirmed the death of one Indian sailor and is working with Omani authorities for the safety and repatriation of the remaining crew..

Source -: <https://www.marineinsight.com/lpg-tanker-carrying-9-indian-seafarers-hit-by-drone-near-strait-of-hormuz/>
Source -: <https://www.newindianexpress.com/world/2026/Sep/21/two-wounded-as-projectile-hits-tanker-in-hormuz-maritime-agency>
Source -: <https://gcaptain.com/seafarer-killed-in-hormuz-attack-as-trump-pushes-iran-deal-at-un/>
Source -: <https://www.marinetraffic.com/th/maritime-news/15/maritime-security/2026/13262/indian-crew-member-killed-in-attack-on-bulk-carrier-off-oman>



SMUGGLING



COUNTRY /REGION		NO
	Pakistan	01
	Philippines	01
	Sri Lanka	04

Total Incidents

06

Powered by Bing
© Australian Bureau of Statistics, GeoNames, Microsoft, Navinfo, Open Places, OpenStreetMap, Overture Maps Fundation, TomTom, Zenrin



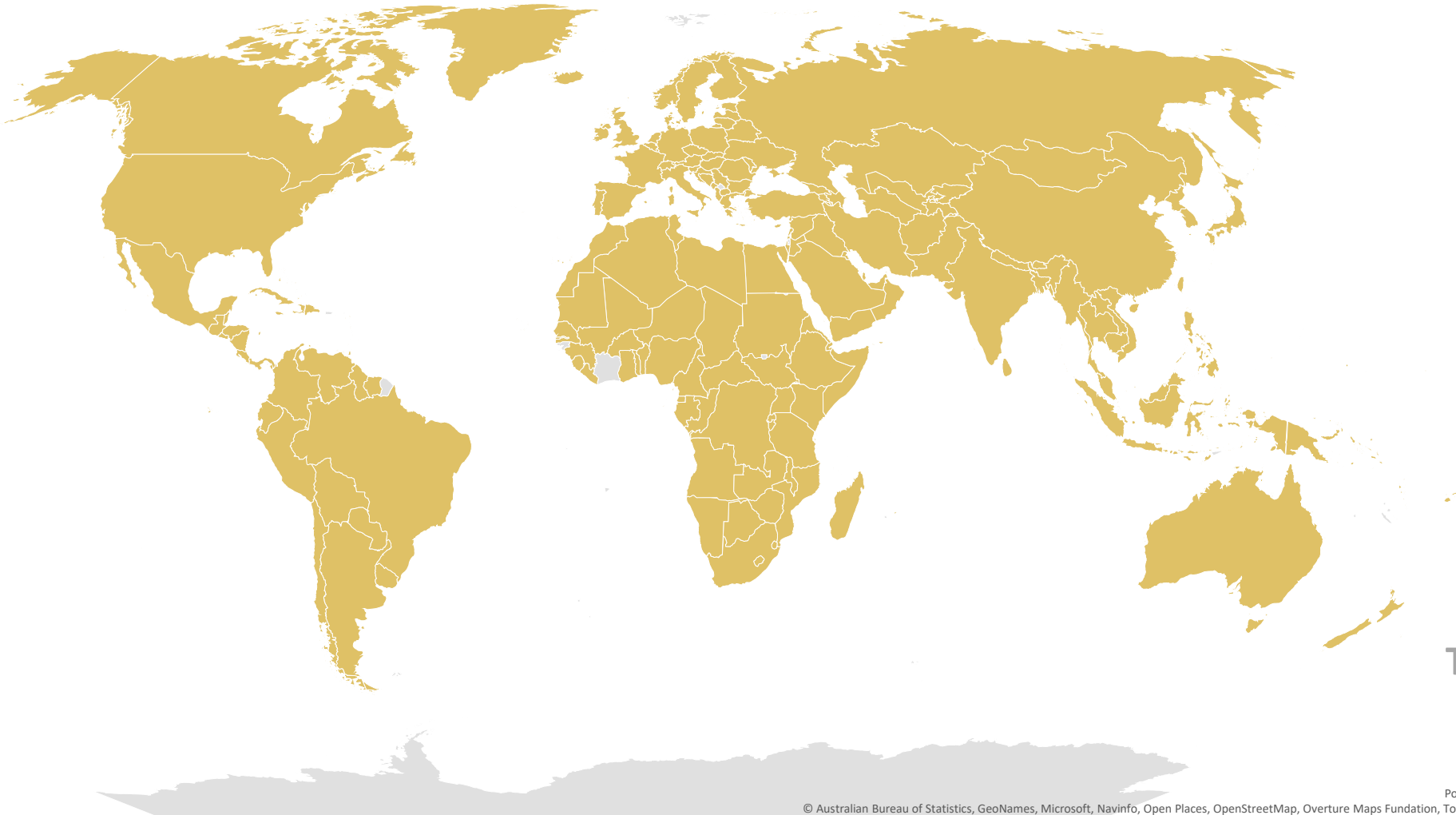
SMUGGLING

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUBCATEGORY	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.09.20	Sri Lanka	Baththalangunduwa sea area, Kalpitiya	Contraband/Goods smuggling	Multiday fishing trawler	Naval personnel aboard SLNS Edithara II intercepted a suspicious fishing trawler in the Baththalangunduwa sea area, recovering nine sacks suspected to contain cardamom and ginger. The suspects, trawler, and confiscated items were brought ashore for legal proceedings.
2026.09.21	Sri Lanka	Kudamaduwella beach	Contraband/Goods smuggling	-	The gross street value of Kendu leaves seized in this operation exceeds 2.8 million.
2026.09.21	Sri Lanka	Puttalam	Contraband/Goods smuggling	Two dinghies	The suspects, the dinghies, and the Kendu leaves were transferred to the Puttalam office of the Excise Department for legal proceedings.
2026.09.23	Sri Lanka	Puttalam	Contraband/Goods smuggling	-	The seized consignment of Kendu leaves was handed over to the Puttalam Excise Station for further legal proceedings.
2026.09.23	Pakistan	Pishukan area	Contraband/Goods smuggling	-	The joint operation led to the confiscation of a significant amount of liquor and illegal medicines, which were then handed over to the Pakistan Coast Guard for legal action.
2026.09.23	Philippines	Zamboanga shore	Contraband/Goods smuggling	Motorboat	The information led to the recovery of abandoned suspected smuggled cigarettes and a motorboat linked to the contraband.

Source - : <https://news.navy.lk/operations-news/2026/september/navy-thwarts-smuggling-attempt-consignment-of-spices-seized-with-5-suspects-in-kalpitiya-seas.html>
Source - : <https://news.coastguard.gov.lk/news/2026/09/22/202609221025/#prettyPhoto>
Source - : <https://news.navy.lk/operations-news/2026/september/navy-seizes-821kg-of-smuggled-kendu-leaves-in-puttalam.html>
Source - : <https://news.navy.lk/operations-news/2026/september/navy-seizes-over-900kg-of-smuggled-kendu-leaves-in-puttalam.html>
Source - : <https://www.brecorder.com/news/amp/40440921>
Source - : <https://balita.com/p14-m-smuggled-cigarettes-recovered-in-zamboanga-city>



IUU FISHING



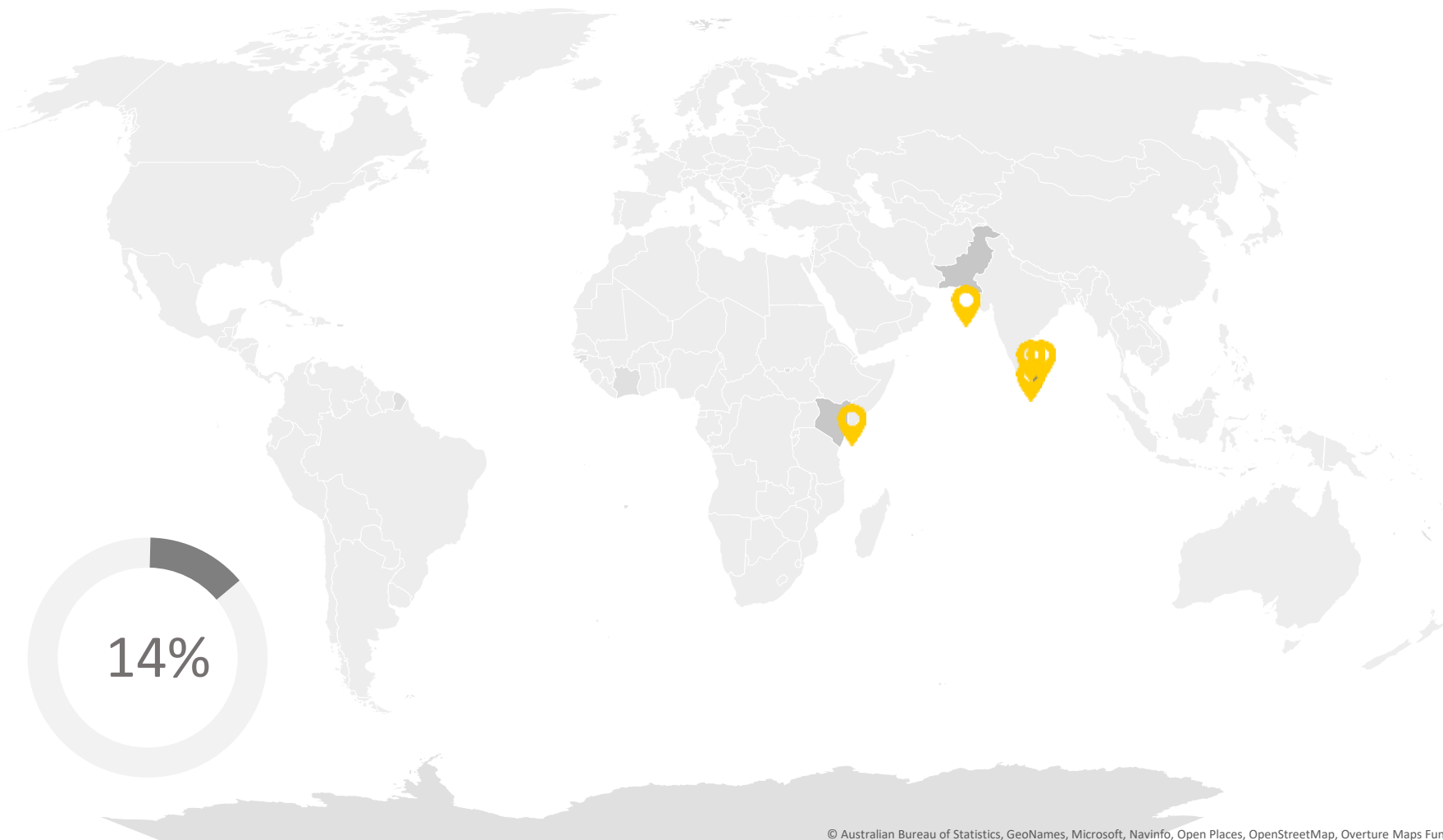
Total Incidents

0

Powered by Bing
© Australian Bureau of Statistics, GeoNames, Microsoft, Navinfo, Open Places, OpenStreetMap, Overture Maps Foundation, TomTom, Zenrin



NARCOTIC



COUNTRY /REGION		NO
	Kenya	01
	Pakistan	01
	Sri Lanka	03

Total Incidents

05

Powered by Bing
© Australian Bureau of Statistics, GeoNames, Microsoft, Navinfo, Open Places, OpenStreetMap, Overture Maps Foundation, TomTom, Zenrin



NARCOTIC

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUBCATEGORY	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.09.23	Kenya	Mombasa	Sea based Drugs Trafficking/Crystal methamphetamine/Cocaine	MV Mashallaah	The total weight of the narcotics reached 1,024 kilograms, marking a record haul for the region. The National Police Service estimated the street value at KSh 8.2 billion, connecting the shipment to advanced international trafficking networks along the Indian Ocean maritime routes.
2026.09.23	Sri Lanka	off Gurnagar	Sea based Drugs Trafficking/Crystal methamphetamine/Cocaine	-	The suspect, seized cannabis and the dinghy were subsequently handed over to the the Jaffna Police Division Crime Detective Bureau for onward legal action.
2026.09.26	Sri Lanka	Northern Sea and Arabian Sea	Seizure of narcotics	-	During recent operations, the Navy intercepted over 1,080 kg of heroin, 590 kg of crystal methamphetamine, and 256 kg of cocaine. Additionally, they confiscated over four million narcotic pills, 51 kg of hashish, and 55 tones of smuggled beedi leaves. An operation in the Gurnagar lagoon also detected around 800 kg of cannabis.
2026.09.26	Pakistan	Arabian Sea	Seizure of narcotics	Name- HUNAIN Name- YARMOOK Type - Military	The Pakistan Navy has reiterated its commitment to maritime security and tackling illicit trafficking at sea. President Asif Ali Zardari commended Navy personnel for their effective counter-narcotics operation in the Arabian Sea.
2026.09.27	Sri Lanka	Kusumanthurei	Seizure of narcotics	One dinghy	The narcotics consignment, suspect, and dinghy were transferred to the Jaffna Police Narcotic Bureau for legal proceedings.

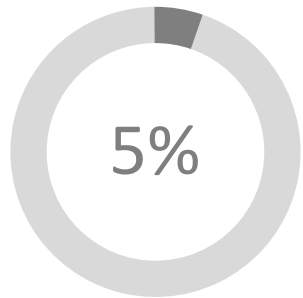
Source -: <https://streamlinefeed.co.ke/news/kenya-destroys-ksh-8-2-billion-methamphetamine-haul-following-major-indian-ocean-interception>
Source -: <https://news.navy.lk/operations-news/2026/september/navy-seizes-foreign-cannabis-worth-rs.-38-million-in-jaffna.html>
Source -: <https://www.dailymirror.lk/breaking-news/Northern-Sea-Arabian-Sea-used-as-key-drug-smuggling-routes-to-Sri-Lanka/108-351175>
Source -: <https://tribune.com.pk/story/2631500/pakistan-navy-seizes-narcotics-worth-750m-in-major-arabian-sea-operation>
Source -: <https://www.lankapress.com/sri-lanka-navy-seizes-45-5kg-of-ice-and-35-7kg-of-heroin-in-northern-coast-raid/>



IRREGULAR HUMAN MIGRATION



COUNTRY /REGION	NO
 Bangladesh	02



Total Incidents

02

Powered by Bing
© Australian Bureau of Statistics, GeoNames, Microsoft, Navinfo, Open Places, OpenStreetMap, Overture Maps Fundation, TomTom, Zenrin



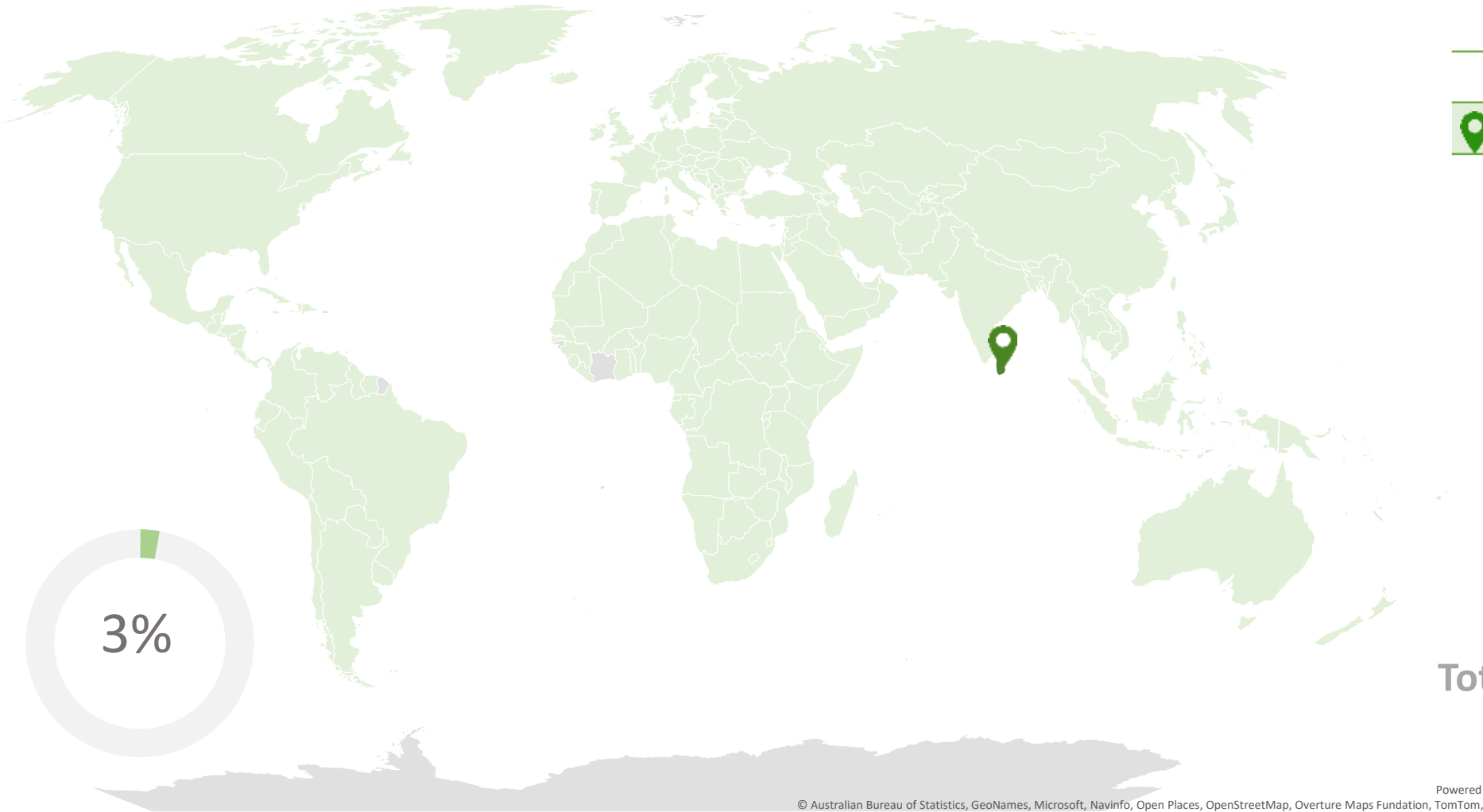
IRREGULAR HUMAN MIGRATION

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUBCATEGORY	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.09.22	Bangladesh	off the Teknaf coast	Search and Rescue (SAR)	-	Two Bangladeshi nationals were among the 16 survivors of a boat that sank near the shore after apparently colliding with an object. They were reportedly returning to Bangladesh after serving prison terms in Myanmar, according to Mohammad Abu Sayeed, inspector and in-charge of the Baharchhara Investigation Centre.
2026.09.25	Bangladesh	Cox's Bazar	Detention of Migrations	-	Preliminary investigations into a maritime human smuggling syndicate have revealed key leads. The identities of the suspects remain undisclosed, while 17 rescued individuals have been sent to the Teknaf Model Police Station for legal processing.

Source -: <https://asianews.network/child-woman-die-as-boat-carrying-rohingya-refugees-sinks-off-bangladeshs-teknaf/>
Source -: <https://www.narinjara.com/news/detail/6ab718fdcf96b026e1a90904>



MARITIME ENVIRONMENT POLLUTION



COUNTRY /REGION	NO
 Sri Lanka	01

Total Incidents

01

Powered by Bing
© Australian Bureau of Statistics, GeoNames, Microsoft, Navinfo, Open Places, OpenStreetMap, Overture Maps Fundation, TomTom, Zenrin



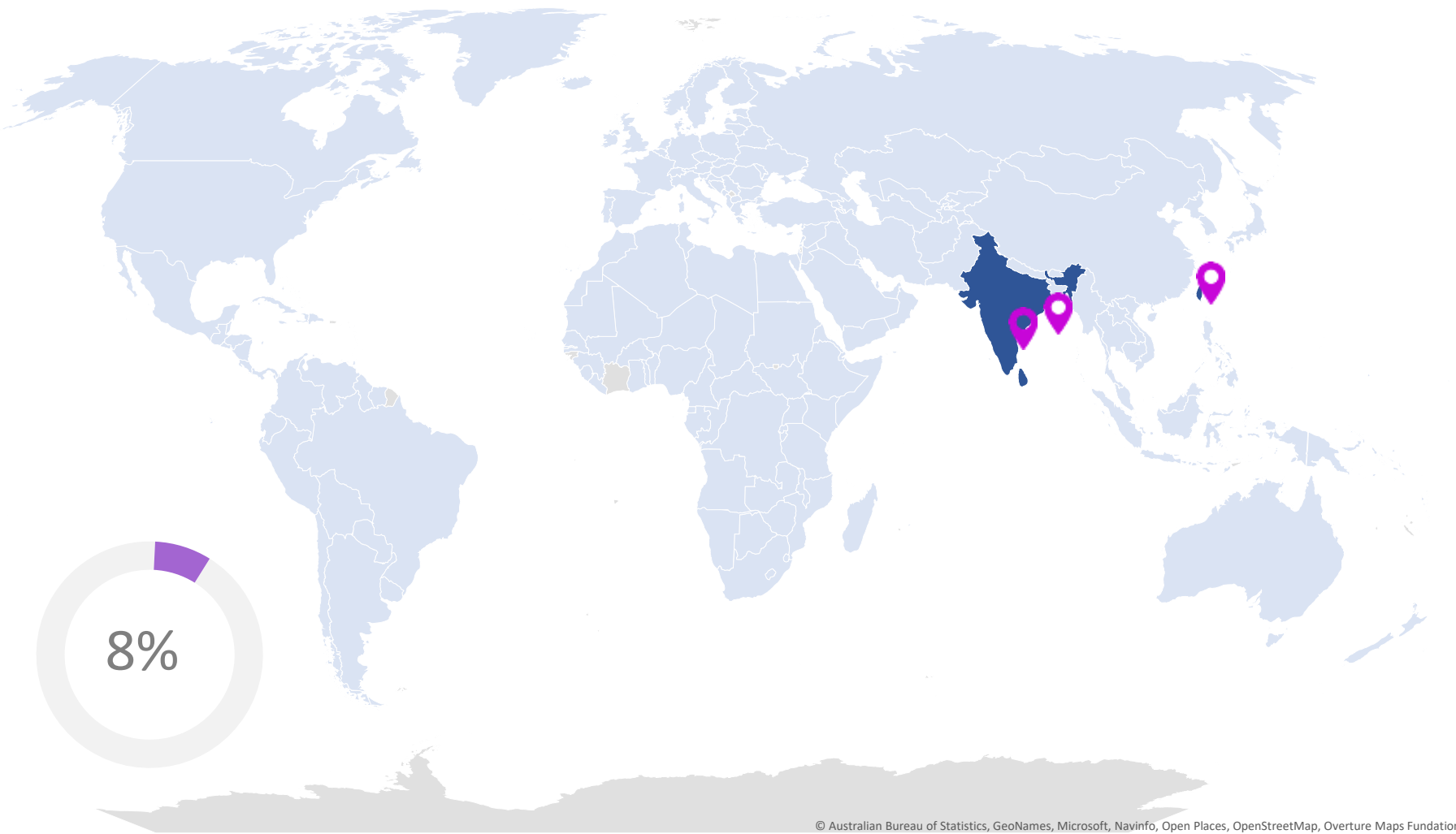
MARITIME ENVIRONMENT POLLUTION

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUBCATEGORY	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.09.24	Sri Lanka	Dikovita Harbour	Oil Spill	Name- TROPIC FISHERY 102	The containment and skimming operations are still in progress.

Source -: <https://news.coastguard.gov.lk/news/2026/09/26/202609261400/#prettyPhoto>



OTHER



COUNTRY /REGION		NO
	India	01
	Sri Lanka	01
	Taiwan	01

Total Incidents

03

Powered by Bing
© Australian Bureau of Statistics, GeoNames, Microsoft, Navinfo, Open Places, OpenStreetMap, Overture Maps Fundation, TomTom, Zenrin



OTHER

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUBCATEGORY	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.09.18	Taiwan	Jiupeng	Naval Activities	-	John Bradford, executive director of the Yokosuka Council on Asia-Pacific Studies and a former US Navy officer, indicated that the exercise demonstrated enhanced collaboration between Taiwan's coast guard and navy.
2026.09.23	Sri Lanka	Bay of Bengal	Geography Activities	-	Merril Mendis advised residents in low-lying areas near river valleys and landslide-prone locations to stay alert, as rainy conditions are projected to persist until approximately 25 Sep 26.
2026.09.24	India	off Visakhapatnam	Naval Activities	-	The annual exercise supports India's security strategy by facilitating joint anti-piracy operations, enhancing maritime domain awareness, and ensuring open sea lines of communication..

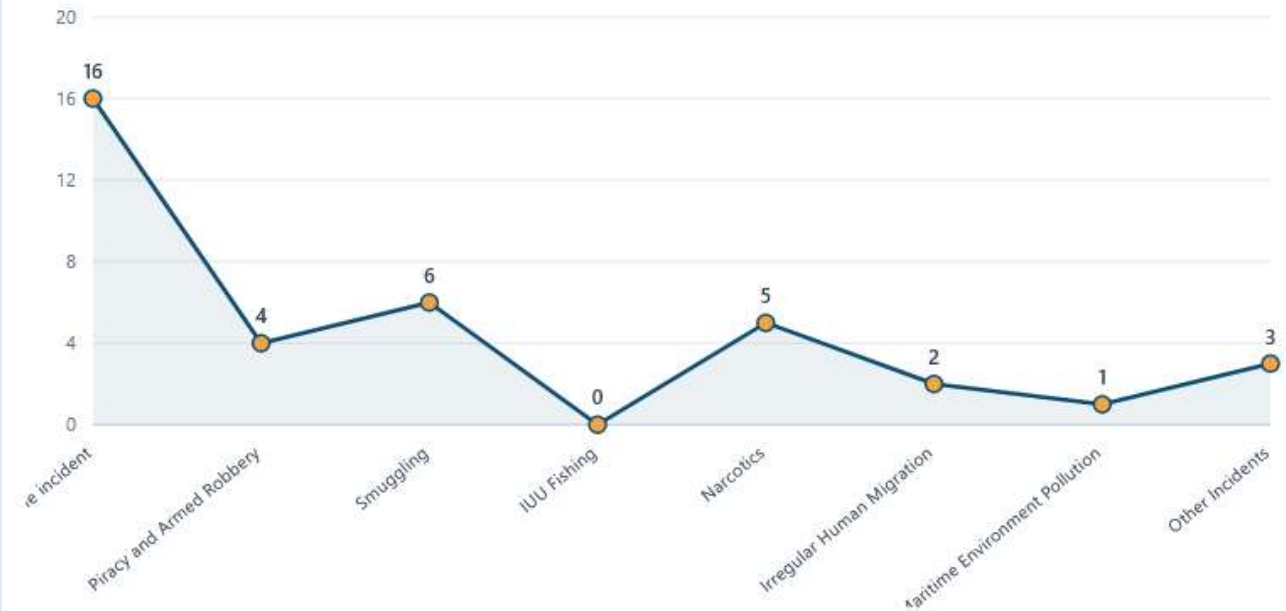
Source -: <https://www.marineinsight.com/taiwan-fires-hsiung-feng-iii-supersonic-missile-to-sink-decommissioned-navy-frigate/>
Source -: <https://www.newsfirst.lk/2026/09/21/low-pressure-system-in-bay-of-bengal-expected-to-develop-further>
Source -: <https://adaderana.lk/news/cmuf16ds2000b356p9ul7bfmj>

WEEKLY ANALYSIS

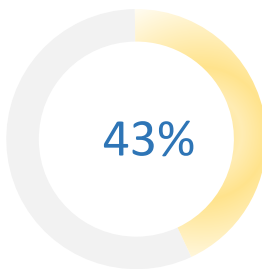
During Week total of 37 maritime incidents were reported globally, comprising 16 maritime incidents, 04 piracy and armed robbery, 06 smuggling, IUU fishing reported nil, 05 narcotics-related incidents, 02 irregular human migration, 01 maritime environmental pollution, and 03 other incidents. In addition, 05 weather-related incidents were recorded, including 03 tropical cyclones and 02 earthquakes. Piracy and armed robbery incidents were reported in the Strait of Hormuz and off Oman, including drone and projectile attacks on commercial vessels. One Indian seafarer was reported killed and two crew members injured during these attacks. Sri Lanka recorded 04 smuggling-related incidents, involving cardamom, ginger and Kendu leaves, while nil IUU fishing incidents were reported. Sri Lankan authorities also reported 03 narcotics incidents, including significant seizures of heroin, crystal methamphetamine, cocaine and cannabis in the northern and Arabian Sea areas. A maritime pollution incident involving an oil spill from TROPIC FISHERY 102 was reported at Dikovita Harbour, with containment and skimming operations ongoing.

Recommendations:

Strengthen AIS monitoring, coastal radar, satellite surveillance and real-time intelligence sharing, particularly around the Strait of Hormuz, Gulf of Oman, Arabian Sea and wider Indian Ocean. Enhance vessel-security measures against drone and projectile attacks and maintain close monitoring of high-risk shipping routes. Strengthen Sri Lankan maritime surveillance against smuggling and narcotics trafficking, particularly along the northern and western coastal areas. Maintain effective SAR preparedness and maritime pollution-response capabilities, while closely monitoring regional naval and 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.

The Officer Incharge
Information Fusion Centre
Colombo 01,
Sri Lanka.
+94 11 719 480 6
+94 74 120 4829
ifccolombo@navy.lk
ifc.cbo@gmail.com