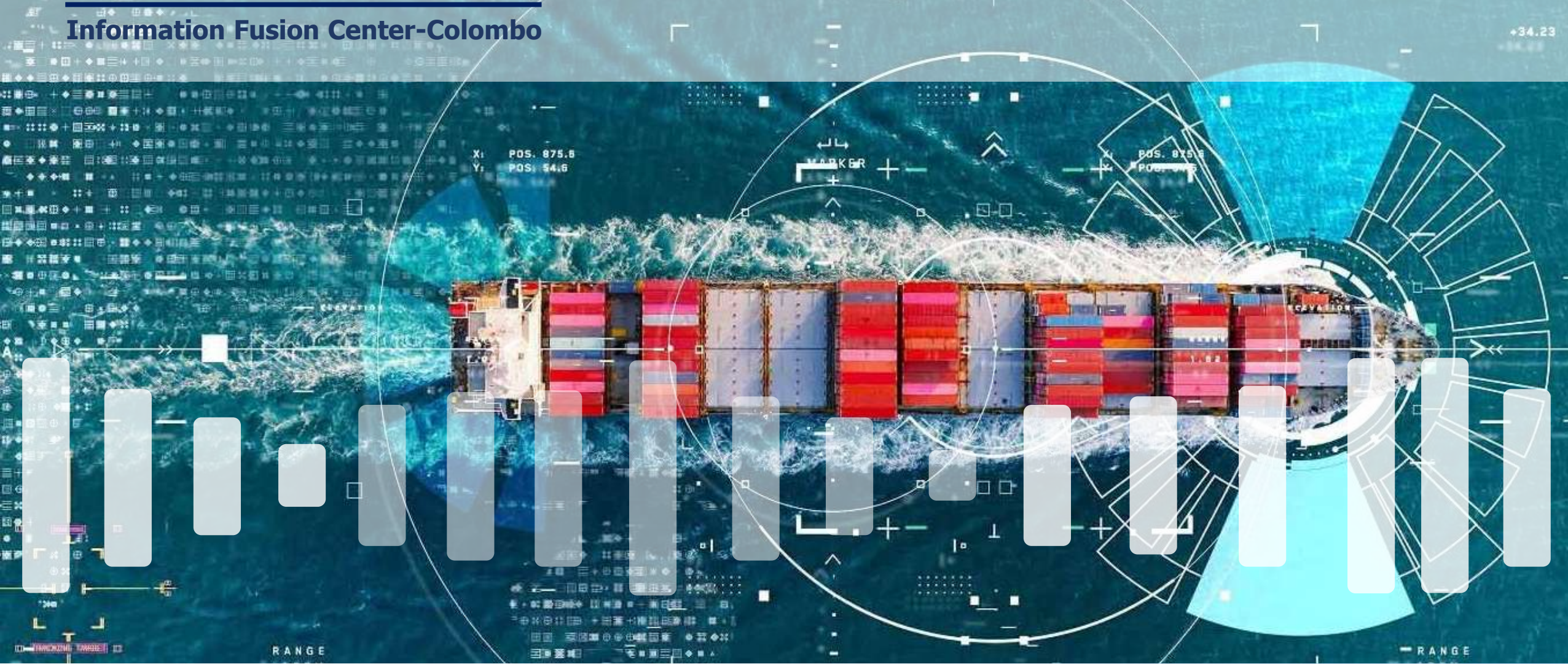


WEEKLY MARITIME INCIDENT UPDATE

Information Fusion Center-Colombo



Information Fusion Center
Colombo
Sri Lanka

Week 39

From 2026.09.28 TO 2026.10.04



SUMMARY OF THE WEEK 39

Executive Summery

Global Maritime Incidents



• Maritime incident	:-	12
• Piracy and Armed Robbery	:-	08
• Smuggling	:-	06
• IUU Fishing	:-	06
• Narcotics	:-	01
• Irregular Human Migration	:-	01
• Maritime Environment Pollution	:-	00
• Other Incidents	:-	05

Total Maritime Incidents 39

Global Weather Incident



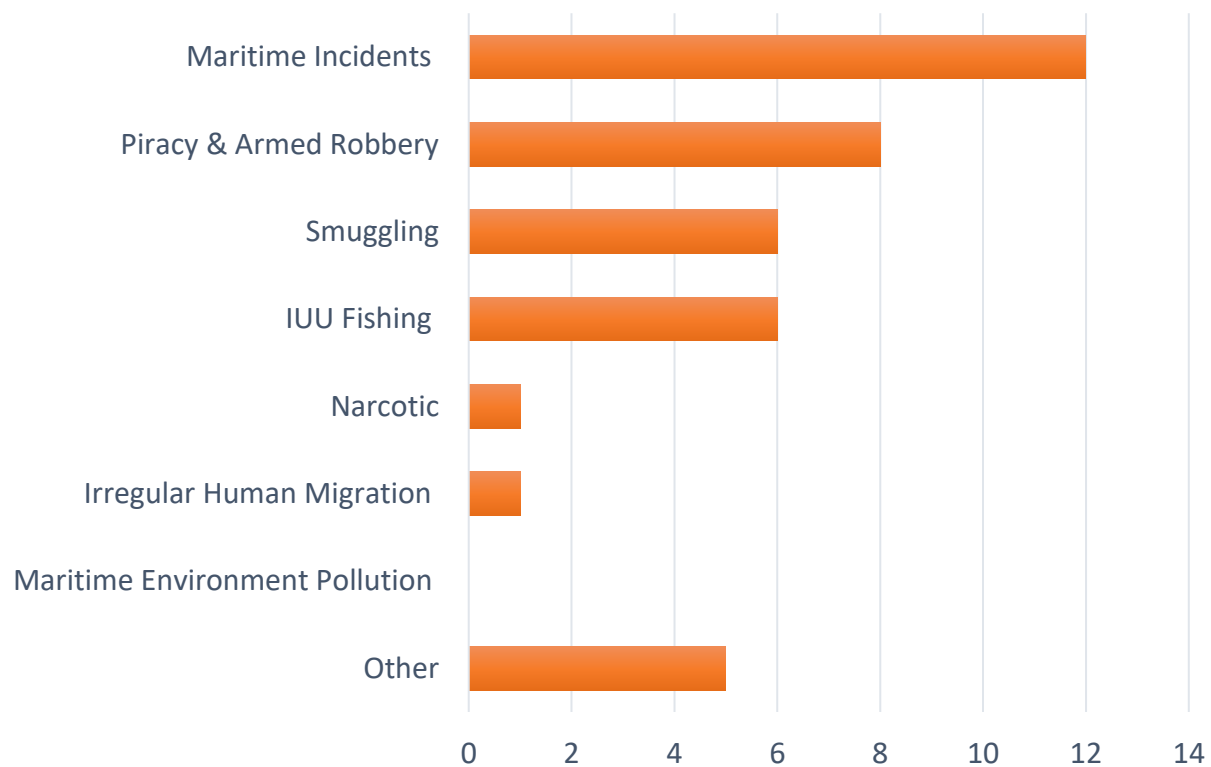
• Tropical Cyclone	:-	02
• Earthquake	:-	10

Total Weather Incidents 12

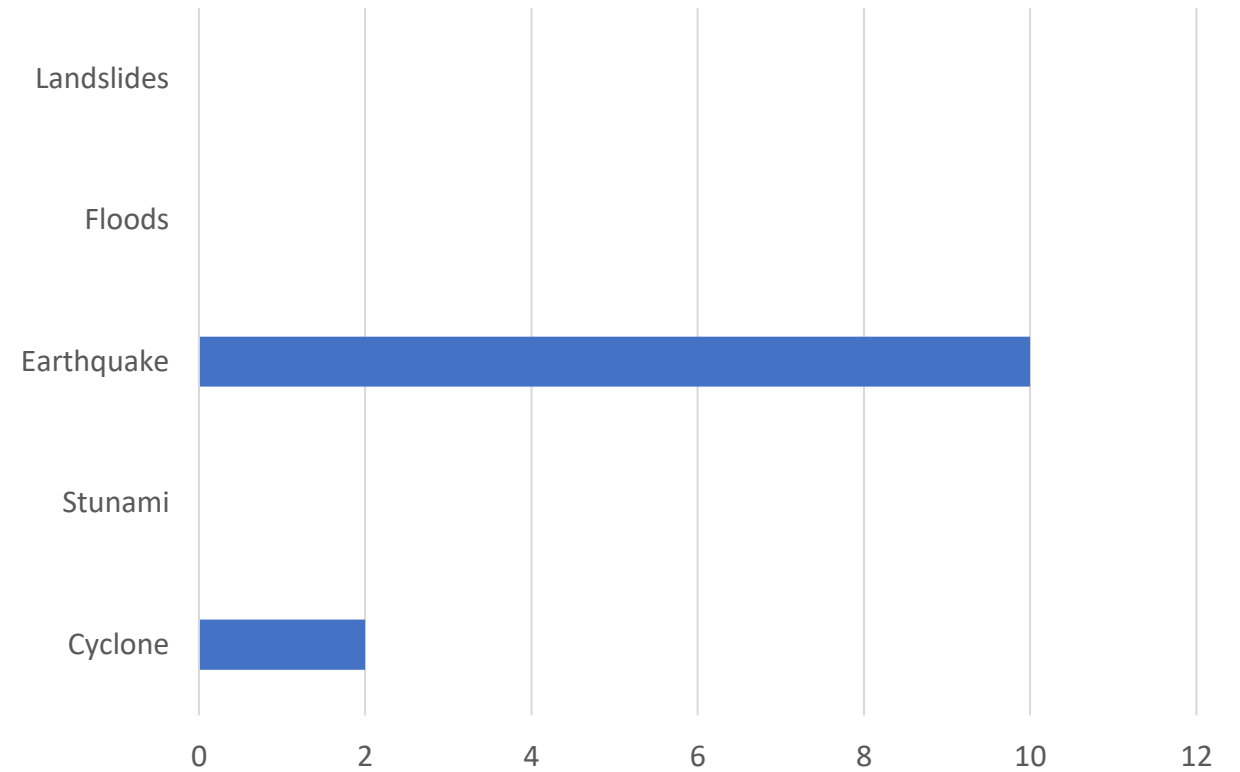


STATISTICS

Maritime Incidents

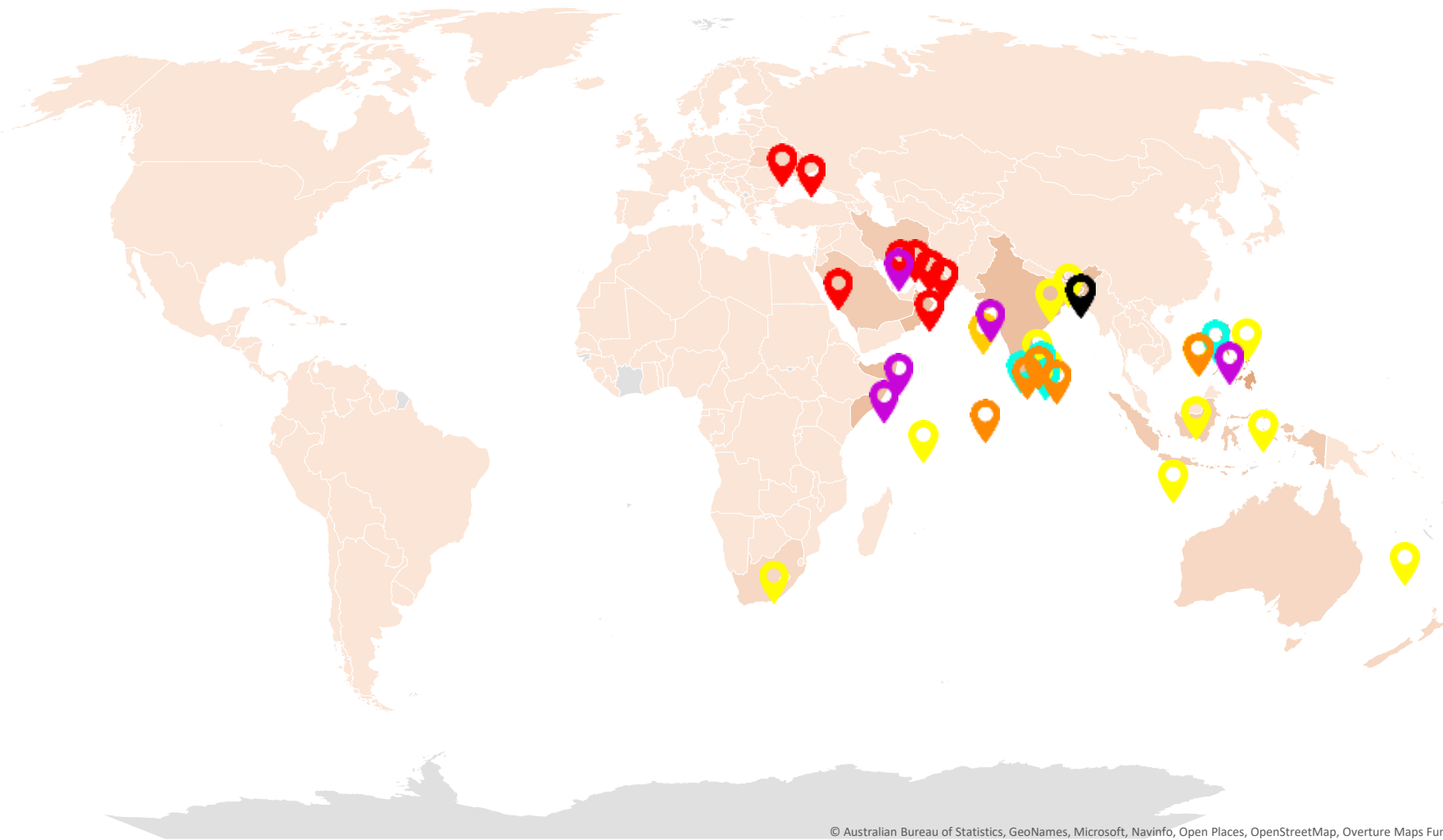


Weather Incidents





STRATEGIC OVERVIEW



CATEGORY	NO
 Maritime Incidents	12
 Piracy & Armed Robbery	08
 Smuggling	06
 IUU Fishing	06
 Narcotic	01
 Irregular Human Migration	01
 Maritime Environment Pollution	00
 Other	05

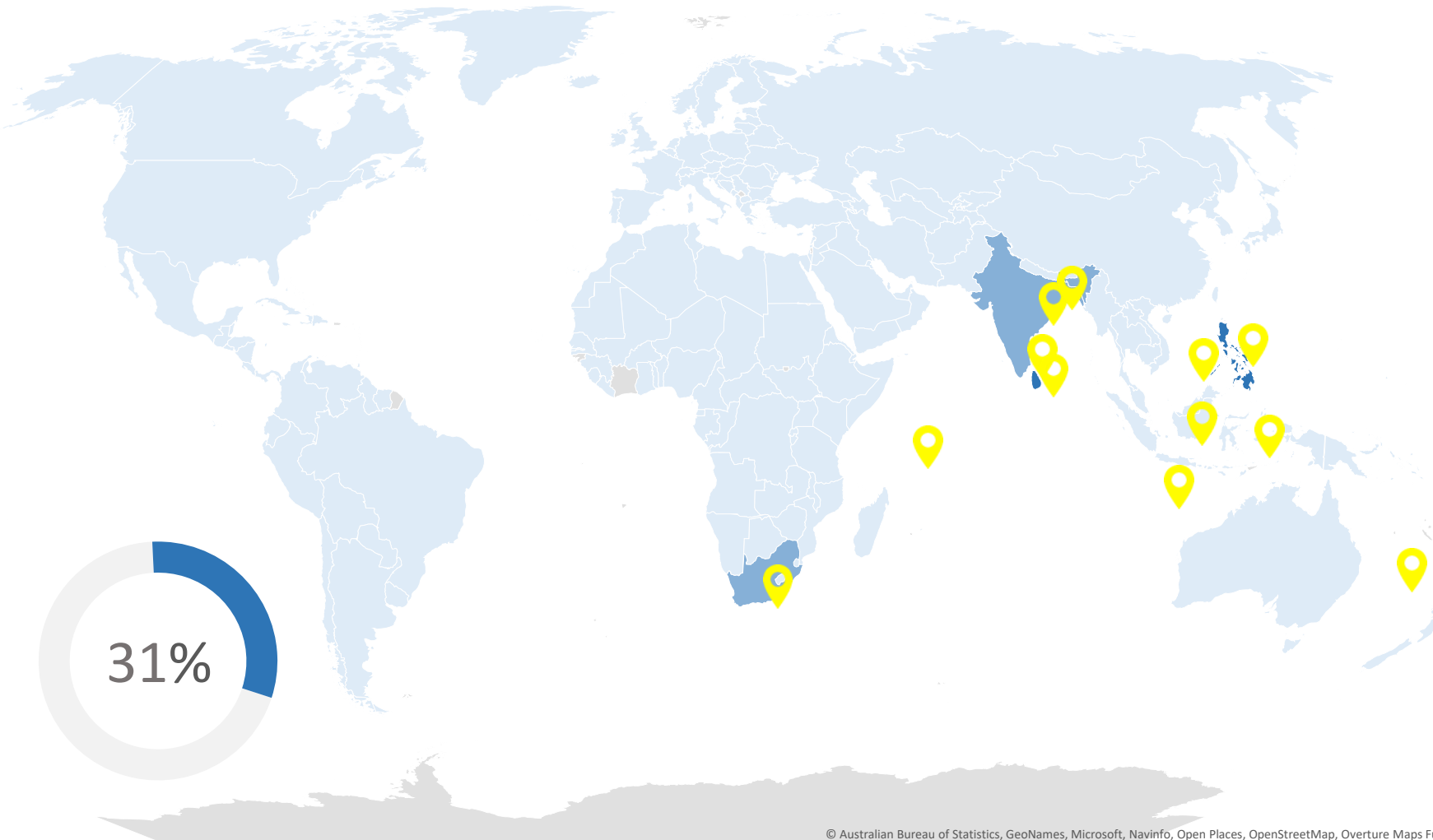
Total Incidents

39

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MARITIME INCIDENTS



COUNTRY /REGION	NO
 Australia	01
 Bangladesh	01
 India	01
 Indonesia	02
 New Zealand	01
 Philippine	02
 Seychelles	01
 South Africa	01
 Sri Lanka	02

Total Incidents

12

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MARITIME INCIDENTS

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUBCATEGORY	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.09.26	New Zealand	off Norfolk Island	Search and Rescue (SAR)	Name- Tai Tam Type - Yacht Flag - Australia	On Saturday at around 1pm local time, the Rescue Coordination Centre (RCCNZ) received an alert and subsequently rescued four sailors from a life raft near Norfolk Island.
2026.09.27	India	Approximately 37 NM from Paradip, Odisha,	Mechanical Breakdown/Engine Failure	Name-MT Sea Gull 9 Type –Tanker	MT Sea Gull 9 experienced main-engine failure and ballast-tank flooding 37 NM from Paradip. The Indian Coast Guard performed damage control and dewatering operations, stabilizing the tanker before towing it to Paradip for repairs.
2026.09.29	Bangladesh	Chittagong Port	Collisions	MV APJ Shirin MV HG Sydney	HG Sydney collided with APJ Shirin while a lighter vessel was positioned between the two bulk carriers, as reported by CPA officials and shipping agents.
2026.09.30	Australia	southeast of Christmas Island	Search and Rescue (SAR)	-	The sailor was alerted at night when water flooded the starboard hull through an escape hatch. The flooding quickly destabilized the vessel, leading to its sinking. The sailor abandoned the catamaran and was later rescued by the Australian Navy in the remote Indian Ocean.
2026.09.30	South Africa	Approximately 47 NM south of Mossel Bay	Search and Rescue (SAR)	-	The MRCC Cape initiated a SAR operation with help from NSRI and SAPS, resulting in the recovery of three deceased victims, while two individuals remain missing.

Source -: <https://au.news.yahoo.com/crew-on-aussie-yacht-forced-to-jump-ship-after-unfortunate-incident-with-ocean-giant-002137649.html>

Source -: <https://www.marinetraffic.com/en/maritime-news/14/accidents/2026/13269/indian-coast-guard-performs-damage-control-on-product-tanker>

Source -: <https://www.marineinsight.com/3-ships-damaged-in-two-separate-collisions-at-bangladeshs-chittagong-port/>

Source -: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/17-indian-fishermen-rescued-by-seychelles-india-expresses-gratitude/articleshow/134623495.cms>

Source -: <https://maritime-executive.com/article/rescue-operation-off-south-africa-turns-tragic-as-rescuers-are-killed>



MARITIME INCIDENTS

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUBCATEGORY	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.09.30	Philippines	Port of Calaca	Fire/Folding/Explosion	Name-MALAPASCUA Type: Law Enforce	The fire in the superstructure was put out by the evening of 30 September, but smoke persisted from the ship's interior. An inquiry by the Maritime Safety Investigation Unit is underway to investigate the fire's cause and evaluate damage to the superstructure.
2026.10.01	Seychelles – Western Indian Ocean	Off the coast of Seychelles	Search and Rescue (SAR)	-	Authorities in Seychelles promptly assisted a distressed vessel, ensuring the safety of fishermen amid challenging conditions due to engine failure.
2026.10.01	Sri Lanka	off the east coast	Search and Rescue (SAR)	Fishing trawler	The Navy is prepared, in collaboration with MRCC Colombo, to offer immediate assistance to maritime and fishing communities in distress in Sri Lanka's maritime search and rescue area.
2026.10.01	Indonesia	Maluku / Aru Islands	Search and Rescue (SAR)	Type-Longboat Flag-Indonesia	The two passengers were found safe around 1625 hrs and were transported back to Dobo City, where they were reunited with their families.

Source -: <https://www.marinetraffic.com/en/maritime-news/14/accidents/2026/13275/two-injured-in-motor-tanker-fire-at-port-of-calaca-in-the-ph>
Source -: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/17-indian-fishermen-rescued-by-seychelles-india-expresses-gratitude/articleshow/134623495.cms>
Source -: <https://news.navy.lk/operations-news/2026/october/navy-evacuates-injured-fisherman-from-eastern-seas.html>
Source -: <https://rri.co.id/ambon/berita-lain/2782662/longboat-mati-mesin-di-perairan-pulau-babi-dua-penumpang-berhasil-diselamatkan?utm>



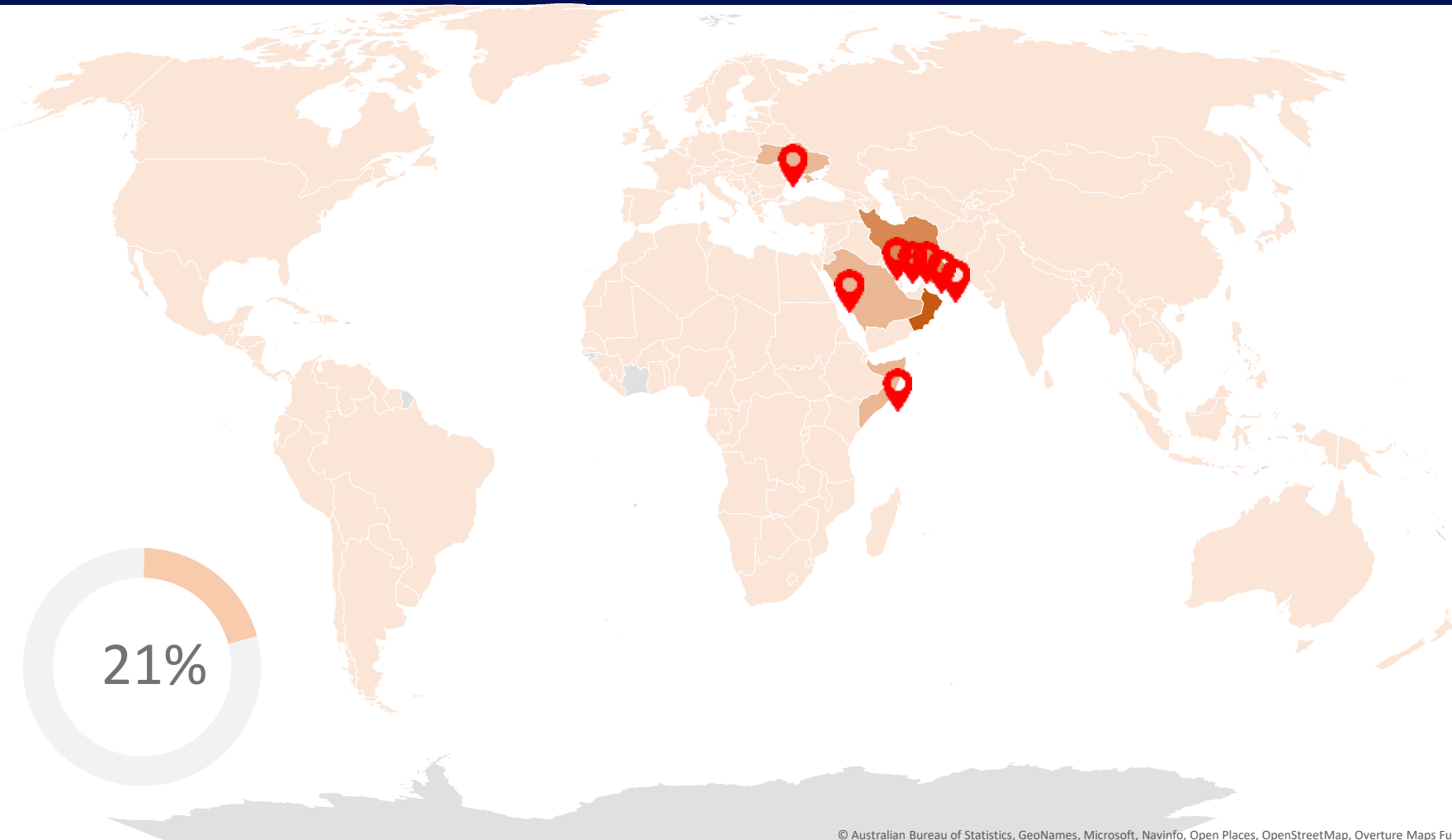
MARITIME INCIDENTS

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUBCATEGORY	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.09.30	Philippine	Port in Calaca City, Batangas	Fire/Folding/Explosion	Name- Gindara Type- Tanker	Two crew members were injured in a fire that occurred in the engine room of the tanker Gindara at Balayan Distillery Inc. Port in Calaca City, Batangas, Philippines, on September 30, according to the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG).
2026.10.02	Indonesia	Waters of Banggai Laut Regency, Central Sulawesi	Patient Onboard (POB)	Name- MV SM LUMINA Type- Merchant Vessel	KN SAR Bhisma arrived at Lalong Port, Banggai Regency around 2155 hrs and promptly transferred the patient to Luwuk Regional General Hospital for medical treatment.
2026.10.03	Sri Lanka	Off the east coast	Patient Onboard (POB)	Fishing trawler	The fisherman received initial first aid after being transferred from the fishing trawler to P 460. He was then transported to Trincomalee Harbour and subsequently transferred to Trincomalee District General Hospital for further medical attention.

Source -: <https://www.marineinsight.com/fire-breaks-out-in-engine-room-of-motor-tanker-at-philippine-port-2-injured/>
Source -: <https://kalbar.antaranews.com/berita/714218/sar-evakuasi-nakhoda-kapal-yang-depresi-di-perairan-banggai-laut?utm>
Source -: <https://news.navy.lk/operations-news/2026/october/navy-brings-ashore-seriously-ill-fisherman-in-eastern-seas-for-medical-attention.html>



PIRACY & ARMED ROBBERY



COUNTRY /REGION		NO
	Iran	02
	Oman	03
	Saudi Arabia	01
	Somalia	01
	Ukraine	01

Total Incidents

08

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PIRACY & ARMED ROBBERY

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUBCATEGORY	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.09.27	Ukrainian	Kyiv and Odessa regions	Assault violations	-	The ministry announced that on Sunday, it conducted additional strikes targeting two data centers in Kyiv, a logistics hub in Odessa, and another cargo vessel en route to Odessa.
2026.09.29	Somalia	Puntland coastal waters	Piracy	Name-MT Honour 25 IMO-1099735 Type –Tanker	Puntland Maritime Police Forces rescued the MT Honour 25, which had been held by pirates for over five months, along with its 17-member crew. The operation resulted in two pirates being wounded and several others detained.
2026.09.29	Oman	Omani waters	Attacked in High-risk areas	-	A commercial vessel was hit by an unidentified projectile in Omani waters during its passage through the Strait of Hormuz, causing a fire onboard. This incident is part of a series of recent attacks on commercial vessels in the same area.
2026.09.30	Iran	Strait of Hormuz	Assault violations	Name-AL Ruwais, mersin Prosperity, sinbad Type -Three Tankers Flag -Three Liberia	Three Liberia-flagged oil tankers were struck by unidentified projectiles in the Strait of Hormuz, causing fires on the vessels.
2026.10.01	Iran	Strait of Hormuz	Assault violations	Name- Kazimah III Flag -kuwait	The ongoing attacks on commercial shipping in the Strait of Hormuz have intensified as a Kuwaiti VLCC is reported to be on fire.

Source -: <https://www.bairdmaritime.com/amp/story/security/incidents/acts-of-war/russia-attacks-ukrainian-port-infrastructure-ships-with-drones>
Source -: <https://maritime-executive.com/article/somali-forces-free-second-tanker-held-by-pirates-for-five-months>
Source -: <https://todaypress.tv/en/world/hormuz-bogazinda-daha-bir-gemiye-zerbe-endirildi>
Source -: https://ws15.marinelink.com/news/three-oil-tankers-fire-strait-hormuz-543387?utm_source=chatgpt.com
Source -: <https://www.seatrade-maritime.com/security/tanker-catches-fire-after-first-hormuz-attack-in-october>



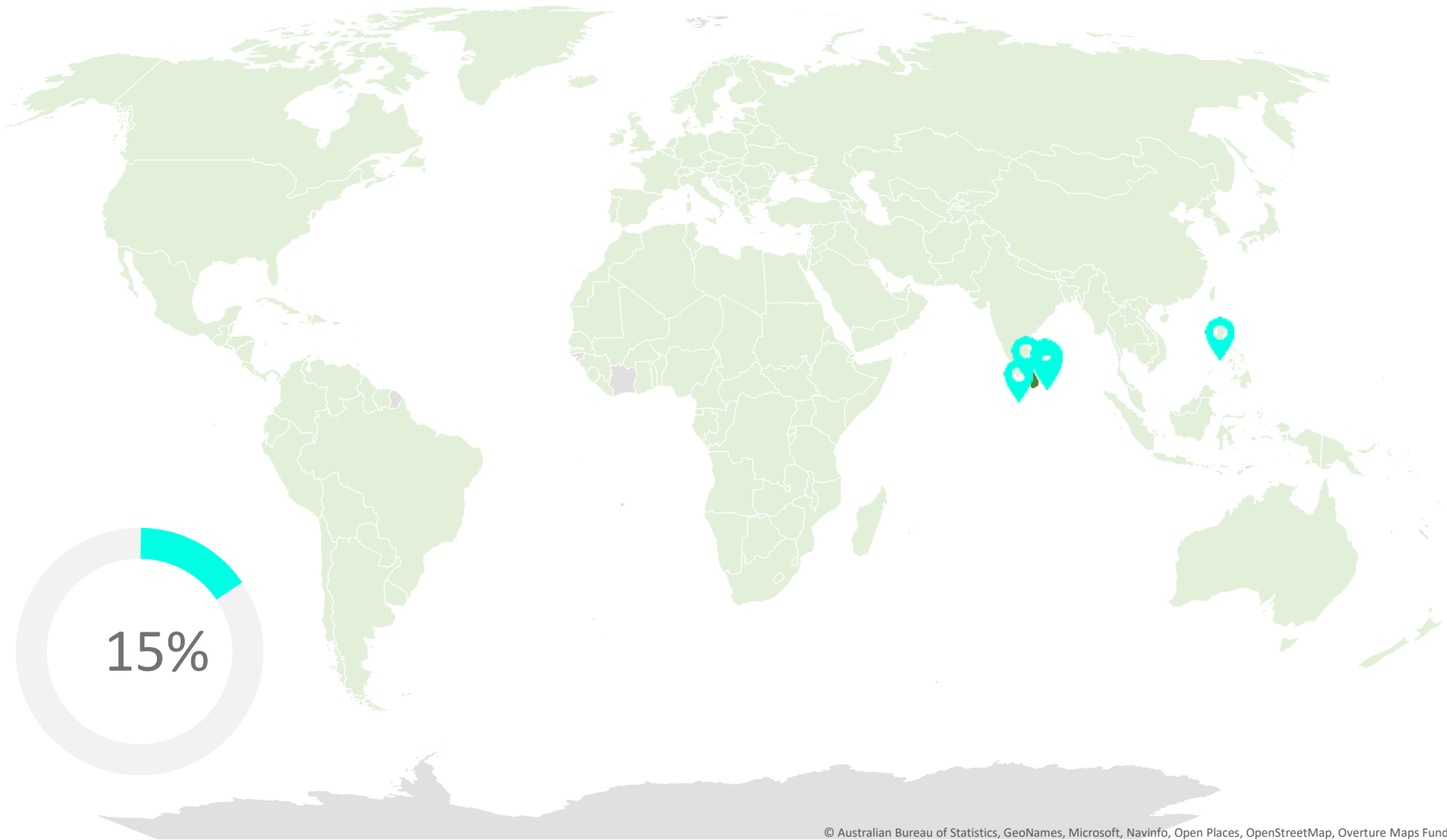
PIRACY & ARMED ROBBERY

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUBCATEGORY	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.10.01	Saudi Arabia	Yanbu port	Assault violations	Tanker Vessel	An unidentified projectile struck Saudi Arabia's Yanbu port on Oct. 1, igniting a fire, as reported by maritime intelligence company Clearwater Dynamics.
2026.10.03	Oman	Strait Hormuz	Assault violations	Two Tanker	Two oil tankers were reportedly attacked by unidentified projectiles near the Strait of Hormuz, according to a report from the UK Maritime Trade Operations (UKMTO).
2026.10.04	Oman	Strait Hormuz	Assault violations	Tanker Vessel	The United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operation (UKMTO) reported that a tanker in the Strait of Hormuz was damaged in its engine room by an unknown projectile.

Source -: <https://www.marineinsight.com/unknown-projectile-hits-saudi-arabias-yanbu-port-causing-fire-halting-tanker-loading/>
Source -: <https://www.marineinsight.com/two-oil-tankers-hit-by-unidentified-projectiles-near-strait-of-hormuz/>
Source -: <https://en.mehrnews.com/news/248298/A-tanker-struck-by-an-unknown-projectile-in-Hormuz-UKMTO>



SMUGGLING



15%

COUNTRY /REGION		NO
	Philippines	01
	Sri Lanka	05

Total Incidents

06

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SMUGGLING

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUBCATEGORY	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.09.27	Philippines	off Palawan	Contraband/Goods smuggling	-	Authorities seized a motor launch reportedly transporting 38,041 reams of illegal cigarettes valued at P47.93 million and approximately 900 litres of suspected smuggled diesel worth around P106,200, according to the PNP.
2026.09.27	Sri Lanka	Puttalam Lagoon and Negombo Lagoon	Contraband/Goods smuggling	-	The Kendu leaves confiscated in Puttalam were delivered to the Kalpitiya Police Station, while those seized in Negombo were sent to the Katunayake Customs Preventive Office for legal action.
2026.09.29	Sri Lanka	Ilanthadiya Coastal Area	Contraband/Goods smuggling	-	The Sri Lanka Navy seized suspected smuggled goods, including dried turmeric, cardamom husks, and conch shells, during a search in the Ilanthadiya coastal area of Kalpitiya. The items have been handed over to Kalpitiya Police for legal proceedings.
2026.09.30	Sri Lanka	Palliyawatta, Wattala; Pitipana Lagoon, Negombo; Kayakkuli, Silavathurai	Contraband/Goods Smuggling	-	The Palliyawatta operation, supported by Wattala Police, resulted in seized consignments being transferred to the appropriate authorities for legal action.
2026.09.30	Sri Lanka	Kalaaru sea area off Baththalangunduwa	Contraband/Goods smuggling	-	The Kendu leaves that were seized were transferred to the Kalpitiya Police Station for legal proceedings.

Source -: <https://tribune.net.ph/2026/09/28/nearly-p48-m-illicit-cigarette-shipment-seized-off-palawan>
Source -: <https://news.navy.lk/operations-news/2026/september/navy-seizes-over-898kg-of-smuggled-kendu-leaves-in-separate-operations.html>
Source -: <https://news.navy.lk/operations-news/2026/september/navy-seizes-suspected-smuggled-spices-and-conch-shells-in-kalpitiya.html>
Source -: <https://news.navy.lk/operations-news/2026/september/navy-seizes-more-than-2,360kg-of-smuggled-kendu-leaves.html>
Source -: <https://news.navy.lk/operations-news/2026/october/navy-seizes-over-1,270kg-of-smuggled-kendu-leaves-in-kalaaru-seas.html>



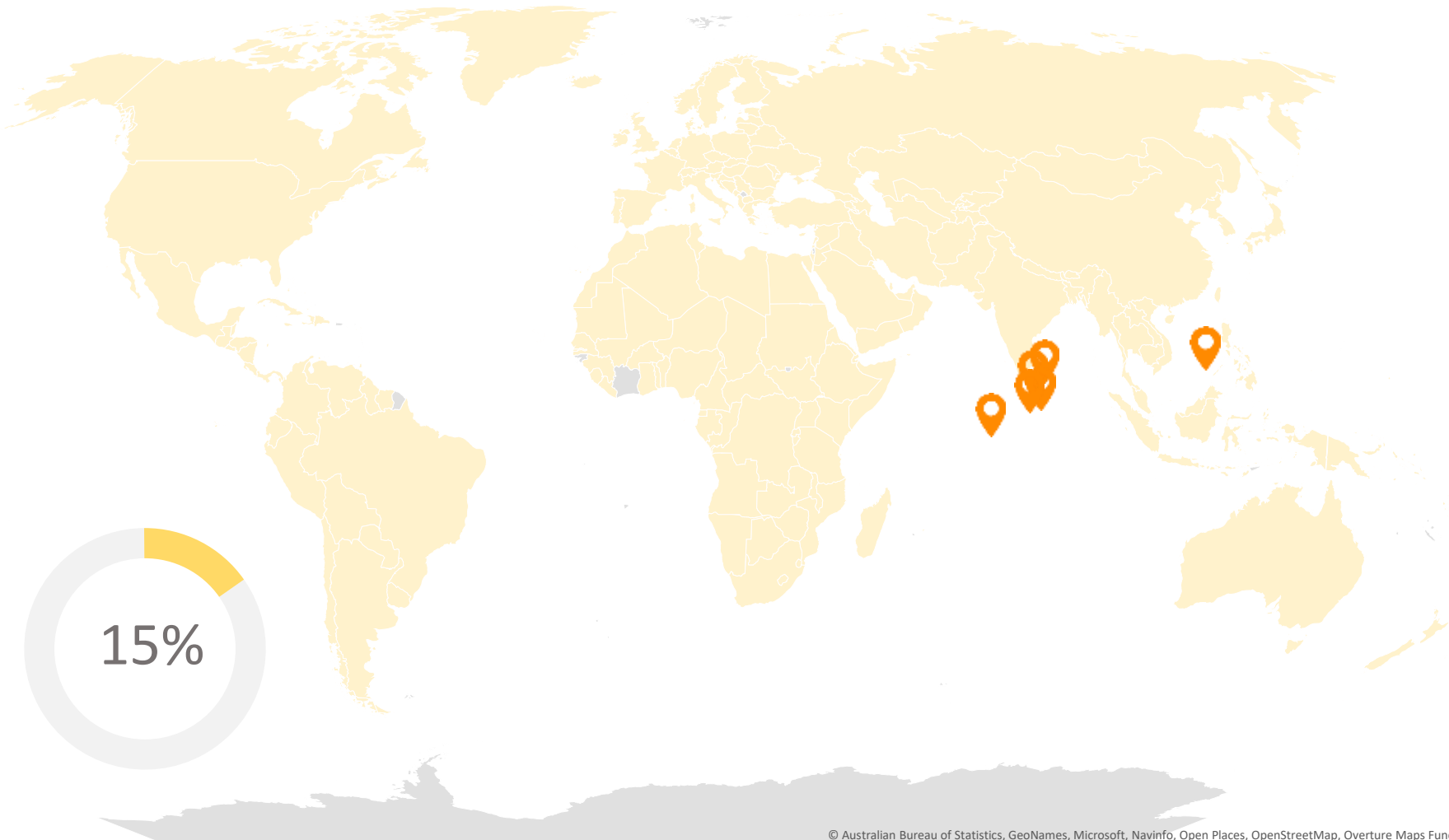
SMUGGLING

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUBCATEGORY	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.10.02	Sri Lanka	Keerimundalama Beach	Contraband/Goods smuggling	-	The seized consignment of Kendu leaves has been transferred to the Kalpitiya Police for further legal action.

Source -: <https://news.navy.lk/operations-news/2026/october/navy-seizes-approx.-336kg-of-smuggled-kendu-leaves.html>



IUU FISHING



COUNTRY /REGION		NO
	Maldives	01
	Philippines	01
	Sri Lanka	04

Total Incidents

06

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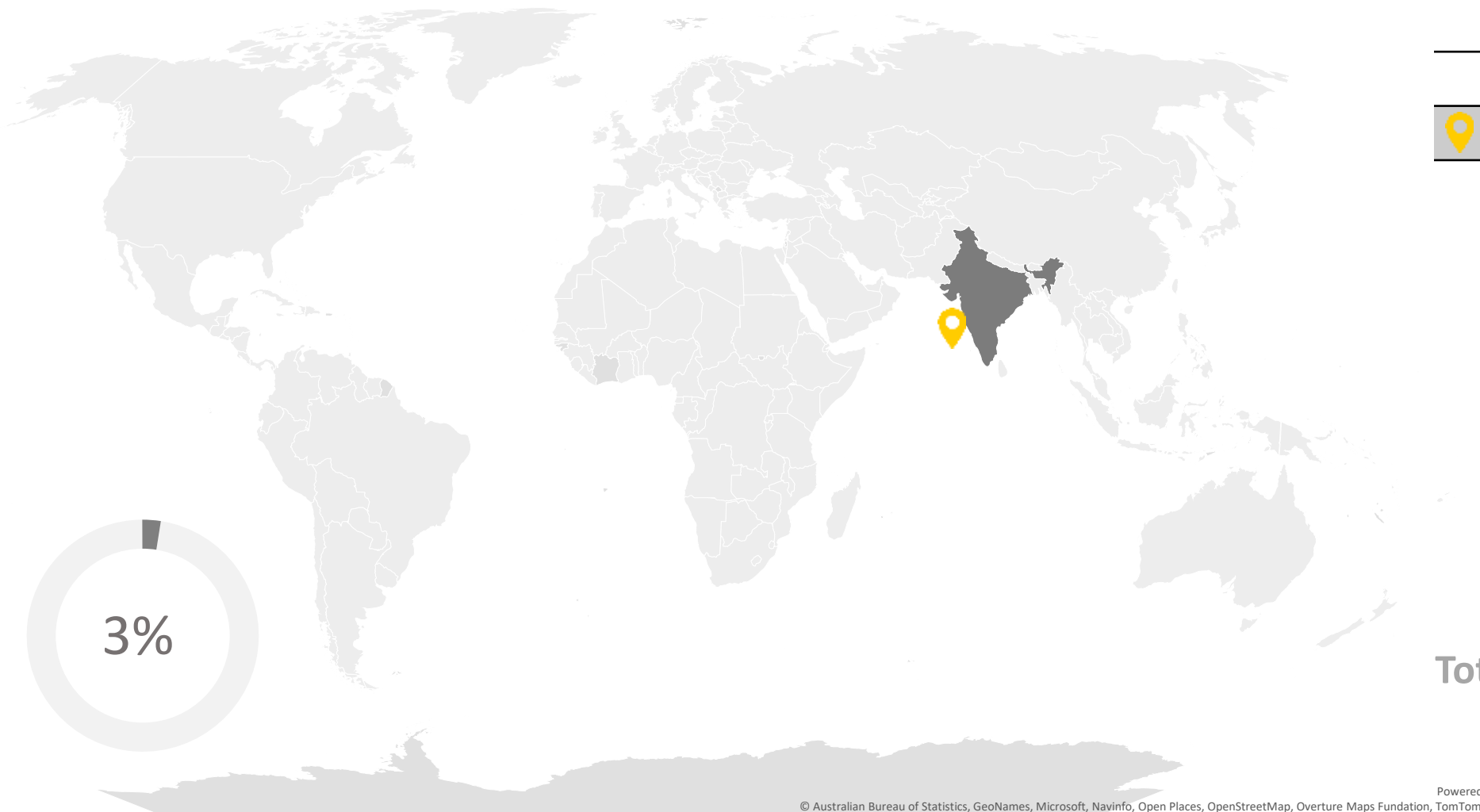
IUU FISHING

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUBCATEGORY	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.09.28	Sri Lanka	South Bar Lagoon Area, Mannar	Illegal Methods	-	The three suspects, aged 20 to 64, were residents of Mannar and were handed over to the Assistant Directorate of Fisheries along with the boat and fish catch for legal action.
2026.09.28	Philippine	Kota Island	Poaching /Maritime boundary violations	-	A five-member PCG team challenged the vessels, which withdrew after ignoring radio communications and responding through hand signals. All coast guard personnel returned safely without incident.
11 to 30 Sep 26	Sri Lanka	Around Sri Lanka	Illegal Methods	23 dinghies	The Sri Lanka Navy apprehended 59 persons and seized 23 dinghies during search operations carried out in multiple coastal areas across the island between 11 and 30 Sep 26.
2026.09.30	Maldives	46 NM northwest of HA. Thuraakunu	Poaching / Maritime Boundary Violations	-	The MNDF Coast Guard intercepted a vessel during a special operation, and it is currently being transported to H.Dh. Kulhudhuffushi for further action. The vessel's name, registration, and nationality have not been disclosed.
2026.10.03	Sri Lanka	South of Delft Island	Poaching /Maritime boundary violations	Indian Fishing Trawler	SLNS Samudura intercepted one Indian fishing trawler and apprehended nine fishermen during the operation.
2026.10.01	Sri Lanka	Wellamankaraya fishery harbour	Fishing for endangers species/Prohibited species	-	The suspects, along with the seized dried shark fish, fins, and fishing vessel, were transferred to the Fisheries Inspector's office in Wellamankaraya for further legal proceedings.

Source -: [https://news.navy.lk/operations-news/2026/september/three-\(3\)-suspects-arrested-for-illegal-fishing-in-south-bar-mannar.html](https://news.navy.lk/operations-news/2026/september/three-(3)-suspects-arrested-for-illegal-fishing-in-south-bar-mannar.html)
 Source -: <https://www.abs-cbn.com/news/nation/2026/9/29/pcg-drives-away-chinese-maritime-militia-vessel-24-boats-fishing-near-kota-island-1040>
 Source -: <https://news.navy.lk/operations-news/2026/october/navy-apprehends-59-persons-for-involvement-in-illegal-fishing-activities.html>
 Source -: <https://english.sun.mv/109164?utm>
 Source -: <https://www.dailymirror.lk/breaking-news/Navy-seizes-Indian-trawler-arrests-nine-fishermen/108-351714>
 Source -: <https://news.coastguard.gov.lk/news/2026/10/02/202610021155/>



NARCOTIC



COUNTRY /REGION		NO
 India		01

Total Incidents

01

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NARCOTIC

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUBCATEGORY	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.09.30	India	Arabian Sea	Sea based Drugs Trafficking/Crystal methamphetamine/Cocaine	Iranian boat	The Indian Coast Guard successfully thwarted a significant maritime narcotics smuggling attempt in the Arabian Sea, west of Lakshadweep, seizing drugs worth over ₹3,000 crore in the international market.

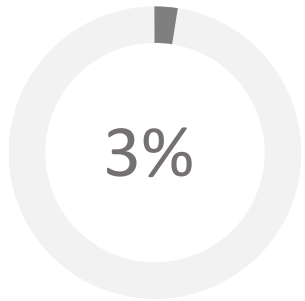
Source -: <https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/iranian-boat-pakistani-crew-held-with-drugs-worth-rs-3-000-crore-as-coast-guard-busts-smuggling-bid-arabian-sea-101790735009134.html>



IRREGULAR HUMAN MIGRATION



COUNTRY /REGION	NO
 Bangladesh	01



Total Incidents

01

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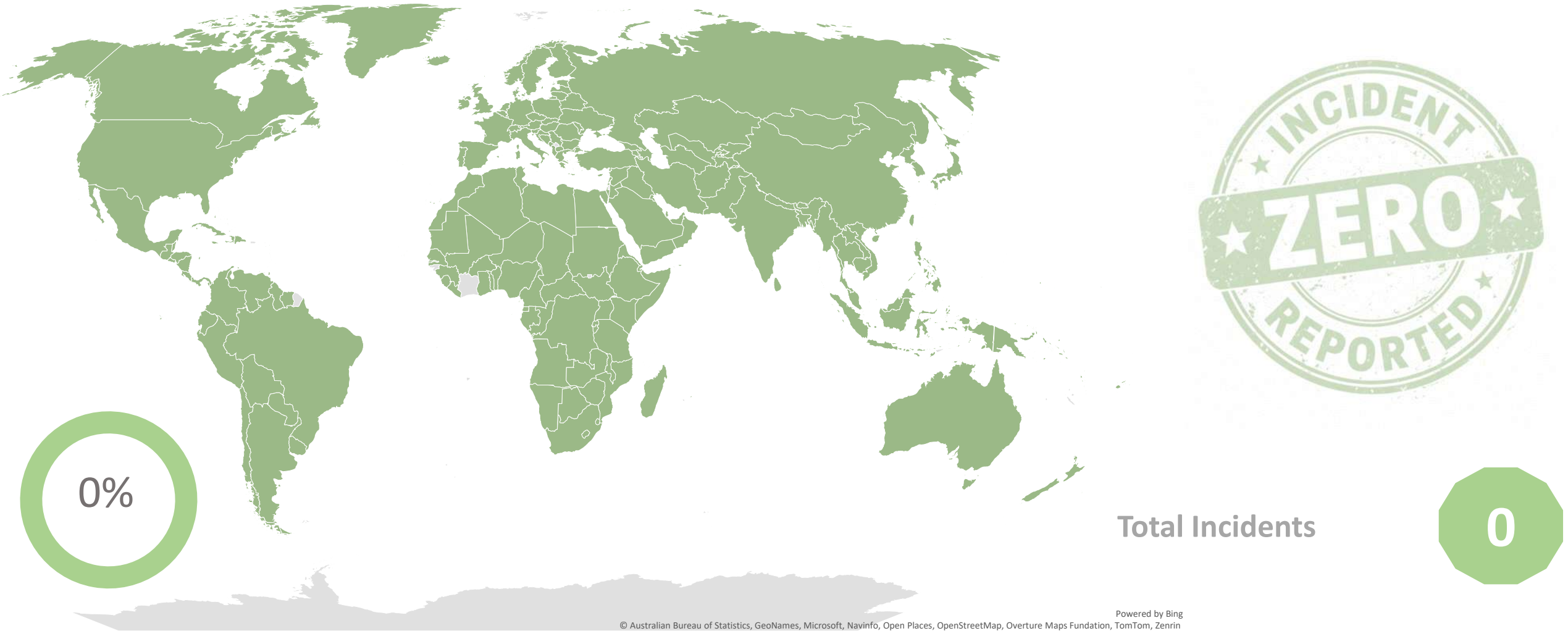
IRREGULAR HUMAN MIGRATION

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUBCATEGORY	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.10.01	Bangladesh	Approximately 81 NM off St. Martin's Lighthouse	Detention of Migrations	Fishing Trawler	Preliminary interrogation revealed that 65 victims were allegedly deceived with false job offers in Malaysia, with some being abducted and held captive in isolated areas of Teknaf before being transported by sea.

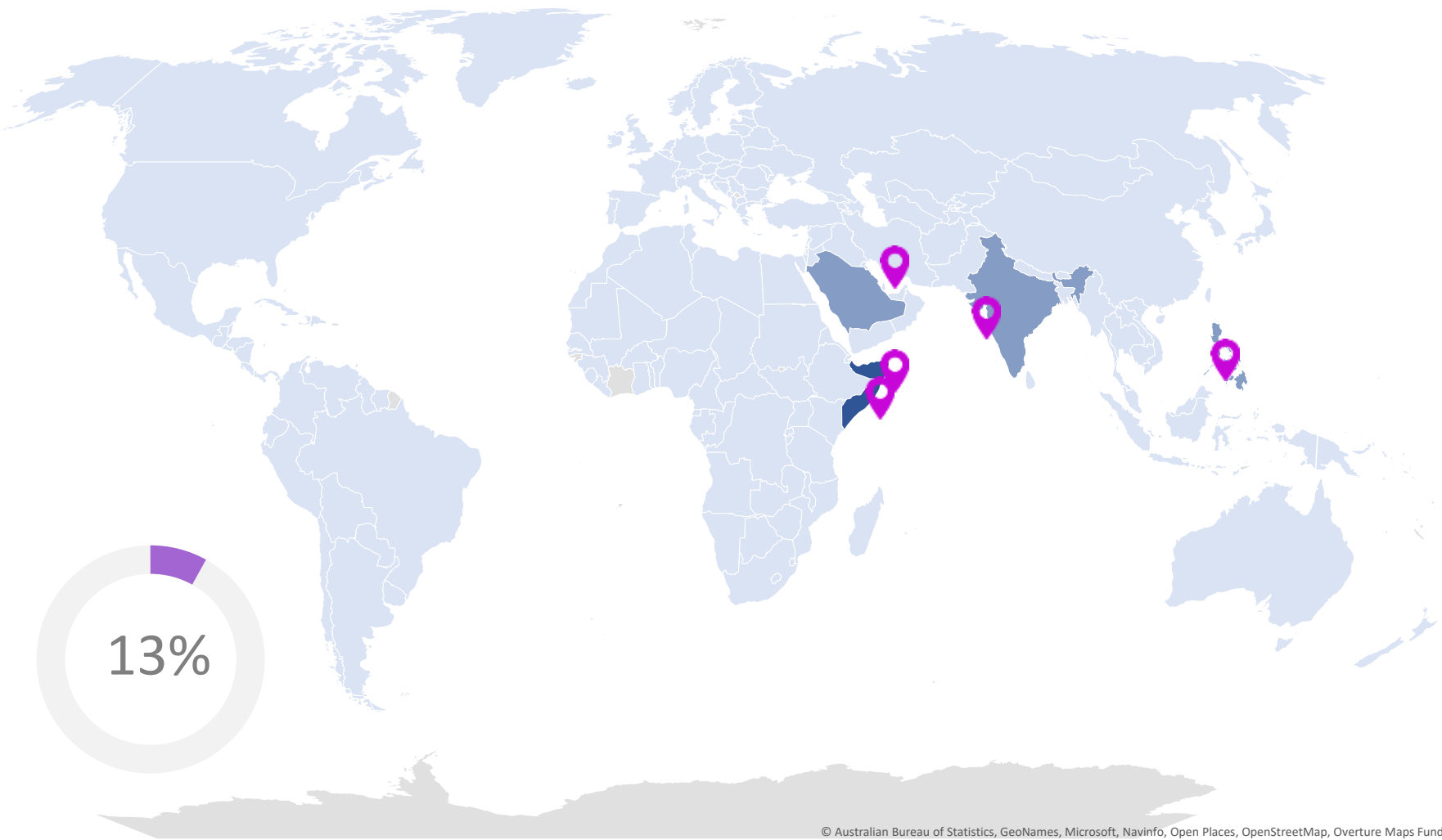
Source -: <https://observerbd.com/news/596936>



MARITIME ENVIRONMENT POLLUTION



OTHER



COUNTRY /REGION		NO
	India	01
	Philippines	01
	Saudi Arabia	01
	Somalia	02

Total Incidents

05

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OTHER

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUBCATEGORY	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.09.24	Saudi Arabia	Bab al-Mandeb Strait, the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden	Foreign affairs	-	The states affirmed their commitment to safeguarding freedom of navigation and ensuring the security of international trade and energy supply routes through the strategic maritime corridor that connects the Indian Ocean to the Mediterranean.
2026.09.25	Philippines	Subic Bay	Naval Activities	Name- INS Sahyadri Name- INS Kulish Type – Military	The harbour phase included expert discussions on peace and security, an ASEAN Navy Chiefs' Meeting, and Guidelines for Maritime Interaction, as well as senior enlisted leadership and marine environmental protection. The programme also featured sporting events, an International Day, and a cultural show.
2026.09.29	Somalia	Somalian Coast	Other Military /Coastguard activities	Name: Honour 25	On 29 September, authorities retook the captured vessel Honour 25, resulting in the deaths of five crewmembers and injuries to four others during the operation.
2026.10.03	Somalia	Off the coast of Galmudug	Other Military /Coastguard activities	-	Galmudug authorities have recently conducted regular maritime patrols to enhance surveillance along the coast and combat piracy and illegal maritime activities.
2026.10.03	India	Deendayal Port Authority (DPA), Kandla, Gujarat,	Foreign Affairs	-	Deendayal Port Authority plans to establish Kandla as a methanol bunkering hub for vessels in the Asia–Europe trade corridor.

Source -: <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2026/7/30/saudi-arabia-announces-maritime-defence-alliance-to-secure-vital-waterways>

Source -: <https://asianews.network/indian-navy-concludes-admm-plus-maritime-exercise-in-philippines/>

Source -: <https://www.marinetraffic.com/en/maritime-news/15/maritime-security/2026/13271/five-crewmembers-of-tanker-killed-before-authorities-manage->

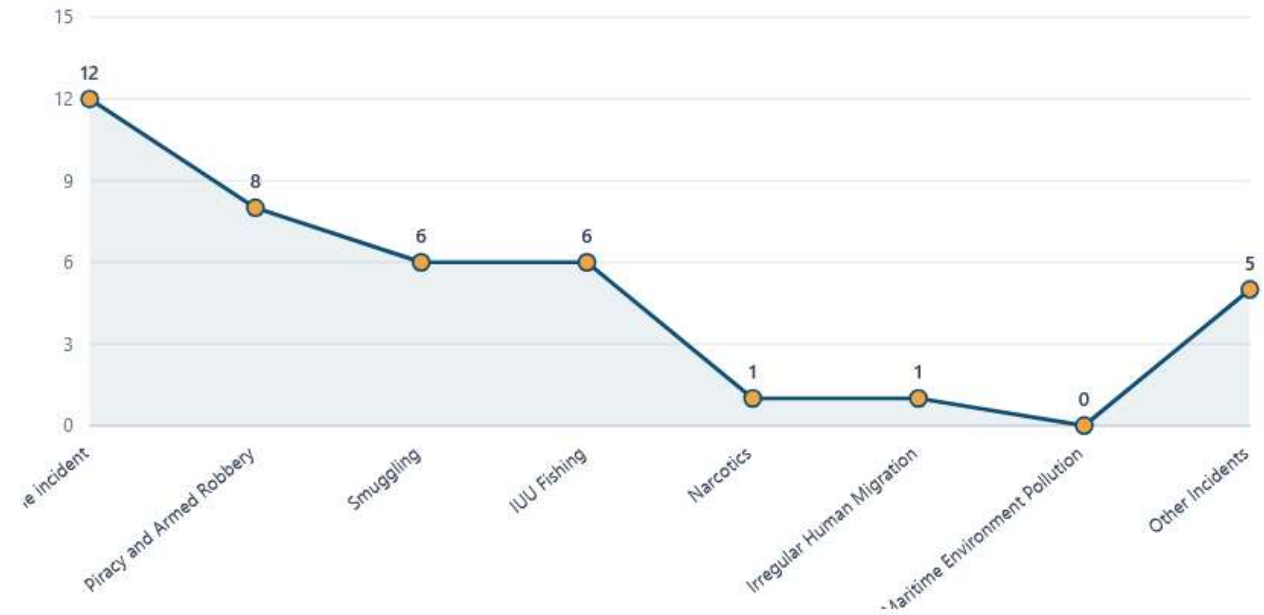
Source -: <https://www.dawan.africa/news/galmudug-detains-foreign-vessel-found-operating-with-ais-switched-off?utm>

Source -: <https://maritime-executive.com/article/india-to-get-its-first-port-based-e-methanol-production-facility>

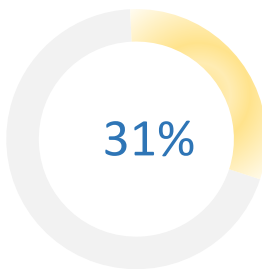
WEEKLY ANALYSIS

During Week (28 September to 04 October 2026), a total of 39 maritime incidents were reported globally, comprising 12 maritime incidents, 08 piracy and armed robbery incidents, 06 smuggling incidents, 06 IUU fishing incidents, 01 narcotics-related incident, 01 irregular human migration incident and 05 other incidents. In addition, 12 weather-related incidents were recorded, including 02 tropical cyclones and 10 earthquakes. Piracy and armed robbery incidents remained a major concern, particularly in the Strait of Hormuz and surrounding waters, where multiple commercial vessels were attacked by unidentified projectiles, causing fires and vessel damage. Sri Lanka recorded 05 smuggling incidents involving Kendu leaves, dried turmeric, cardamom husks, and conch shells, along with 04 IUU fishing incidents, including the apprehension of an Indian fishing trawler and 09 fishermen south of Delft Island. One significant narcotics seizure involving crystal methamphetamine and cocaine was reported in the Arabian Sea by Indian authorities. No maritime environmental pollution incidents were reported.

Recommendations: Strengthen maritime surveillance, intelligence sharing, and vessel-security measures along high-risk shipping routes. Enhance Sri Lankan coastal surveillance and enforcement against smuggling, narcotics trafficking, and IUU fishing, particularly in northern and western coastal areas. Maintain effective search and rescue preparedness and closely monitor 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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