



INFORMATION FUSION CENTRE

MID-YEAR REPORT MARSEC SITUATION IN IFC'S AREA OF INTEREST (JAN-JUN 2022)

THEFT, ROBBERY, AND PIRACY AT SEA

Total number
of incidents: 59
(42 in 2021)

40% ↑



Boarding



Attempted
Boarding



Hijacked



Suspicious
Approach

TYPES OF VESSELS TARGETED



Tankers (34%)



Bulk Carriers (32%)



Tugs and Barges (11%)



Fishing Vessels (7%)



Container Ships (5%)



Others (11%)

EFFECT ON SEAFARERS

No injury (96.7%) Injury (3.3%)



OBSERVATIONS

1. Slow moving vessel types with low freeboard (bulk carriers, tankers, and tugs and barges) were the most targeted vessels in the Singapore Strait.
2. Tankers and Bulk Carriers were the most targeted vessel types in anchorage areas as in Chittagong, Bangladesh and Belawan, Indonesia.
3. 16 incidents involving armed perpetrators (knives, crowbars or gun-like objects) were recorded (13 in 2021), with 2 resulting in injuries.
4. Incidents are consistent with known modus operandi of petty crime with minimal or no confrontation.

MARITIME INCIDENTS

Total number
of incidents: 592
(458 in 2021)

29% ↑

MAIN TYPES OF INCIDENTS



Sunk-Capsized: 163



Adrift: 56



Grounding: 53

LOCATION WITH MOST NUMBER OF INCIDENTS

1 Indonesia: 137 2 Malaysia: 113 3 India: 67

482 Number of
Dead/Missing

4,695 Number of
Rescued



OBSERVATIONS

1. 398 of 824 involved are fishing vessels.
2. Spike of incidents in May due to cyclones (ASANI and KARIM).
3. Notable increase of incidents involving passenger vessels. Possibly due to easing of COVID-19 measures resulting in an increase in maritime travel and tourism.

ILLEGAL, UNREGULATED, AND UNREPORTED FISHING

Total number
of incidents: 279
(176 in 2021)

58.5% ↑

LOCATION OF OCCURRENCES IN WATERS OFF

1 Malaysia: 104 4 Sri Lanka: 21
2 Indonesia: 40 5 China: 20
3 Philippines: 32

Main incident areas

Malaysia: 62

Indonesia: 33

Philippines: 32

Main poaching incident areas

Vietnam: 39

Indonesia: 19

India, China: 13



OBSERVATIONS

1. Increase in incidents are likely attributed to (a) lifting of COVID-19 restrictions, and (b) reopening of the fishing industry.
2. Waters off Malaysia and Indonesia were the most vulnerable to IUUF incidents.
3. Vietnamese fishing vessels were involved in the highest number of poaching incidents, with 39 incidents (33.6%) recorded.

MARITIME TERRORISM

Total number of incidents: 0 (1 in 2021)

100% ↓



OBSERVATIONS

1. No incident recorded in 2022.
2. Vessels and authorities are encouraged to maintain vigilance as the known terrorist groups in IFC's AOI remain active.



CONTRABAND SMUGGLING

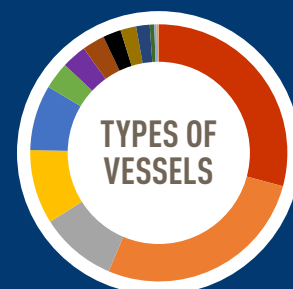
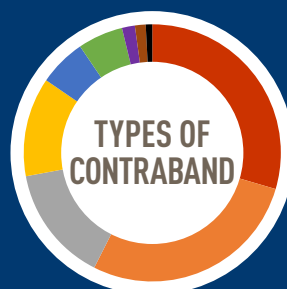
Total number of incidents: 353 (238 in 2021)

48% ↑



OBSERVATIONS

1. The top 3 areas of Incidents are (a) Malacca Strait, (b) waters off Sri Lanka and India, and (c) China.
2. Increased numbers in smuggling of drugs, fuel and tobacco, and domestic smuggling. Possibly due to the opening of borders, high demand of drugs, global inflations, and the impact of Russia-Ukraine conflict.
3. Usage of small boats, especially fishing vessels and speed boats, prevalent in contraband smuggling; perpetrators increasingly creative in adopting new methods. E.g. Tie drugs to vessel's parts underwater also known as 'underwater operation'.
4. Similar number of incidents to be expected due to the unstable of economic situation, higher demands, and global inflations in second half of the year.



CONTRABAND

IRREGULAR HUMAN MIGRATION

Total number of incidents: 137 (49 in 2021)

179% ↑

MAIN NATIONALITIES/ ETHNICITIES OF MIGRANTS INVOLVED

- 1 Indonesian
- 2 Sri Lankan
- 3 Rohingya



TOP 3 IHM ROUTES

- 1 Indonesia to Malaysia: 55
- 2 Sri Lanka to India: 16
- 3 Philippines to Malaysia: 14



OBSERVATIONS

1. Malaysia remains the destination of choice for the majority of IHM incidents (61%).
2. Significant increase in Sri Lankan migrants attempting to transit to India and Australia due to deteriorating economic situation.
3. Majority of the IHM movement will likely remain across shared maritime borders, particularly between Indonesia and Malaysia. In addition, the IFC expects the number of IHM incidents and migrants to increase significantly in the 2022 as compared to 2021.

ENVIRONMENTAL SECURITY

Total number of incidents: 23 (19 in 2021)

21% ↑

TYPES OF INCIDENTS

Marine Pollution (MARPOL): 15

Maritime Illegal Exploitation (MIE): 2

Others (i.e. Breach of Wildlife Act; Non-compliance of Regulation): 4



CYBER SECURITY

Total number of incidents: 1

1. Sole incident recorded involved ransomware attack on its IT systems in an Indian Container terminal, which had to divert ships to other ports.
2. Incidents are expected to remain low in second half of 2022 as long as organisations continue to (a) emphasise and increase education on cyber-attacks, and (b) equip and enforce against cyber-attacks.

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Information Fusion Centre

The Information Fusion Centre (IFC) serves as the regional Maritime Security (MARSEC) information-sharing hub covering most of the Indo-Pacific region. With an integrated team of more than 19 International Liaison Officers from navies/ coastguards and more than 100 worldwide linkages, the IFC facilitates MARSEC information sharing and collaboration between its partners to cue operational responses, provide maritime situational awareness and enables collaboration beyond its Area of Interest.