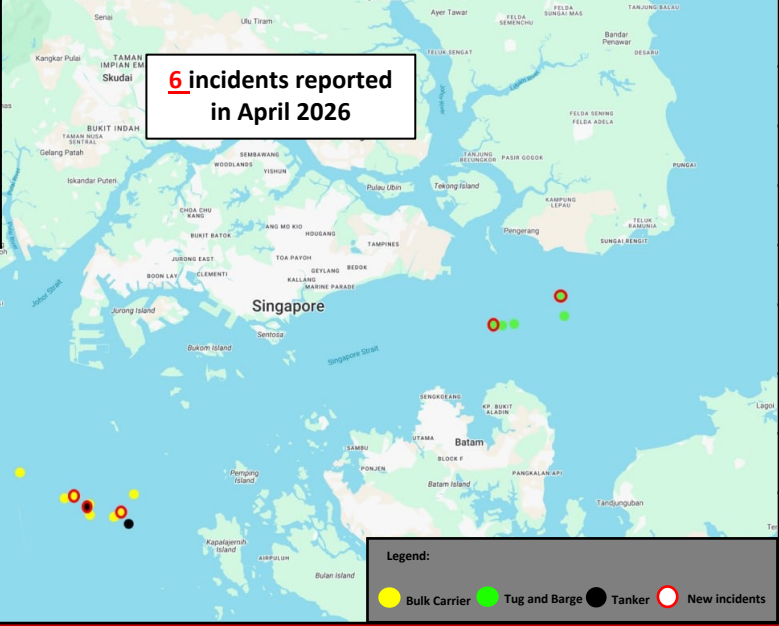


Number of Incidents & Vessel Types

Incidents Occurred in Mar	
S/N	Date, Time
1	9 Apr, 0340 (UTC+8)
2	13 Apr, 2130 (UTC+8)
3	19 Apr, 1000 (UTC+8)
4	20 Apr, 0358 (UTC+8)
5	20 Apr, 1630 (UTC+8)
6	22 Apr, 0040 (UTC+8)

6 incidents reported in April 2026



This Year to Date

Vessel Types	#	Incident Location	#
Bulk Carrier	8	Phillip Channel	11
Tanker	2	Eastbound Lane of TSS	5
Tug and Barge	6	Westbound Lane of TSS	-
Container Vessel	-		
Incident Types		#	
Boarding		16	
Attempted Boarding		-	
Total Number of Incidents		#	
Singapore Strait		16	

Key Observations & Assessments

- Total **6** incidents were reported in April 2026 – four (4) in the Phillip Channel and two (2) in Eastbound Lane of Traffic Separation Scheme (TSS). None involved confrontation or injury to crew.
 - Phillip Channel: Four (4) incidents involving two (2) Bulk Carriers, one (1) Tug and Barge, and one (1) Tanker. Items stolen included scrap metal, engine spares and ship stores.
 - Eastbound Lane of TSS: Two (2) incidents involving Tugs and Barges. Scrap metal were reportedly stolen in both incidents.
- Of note, two perpetrators that boarded a Barge on 20 Apr were arrested by the Indonesian authorities. Stolen items were recovered, and equipment confiscated.
- With the Northeast Monsoon abating and weather conditions becoming more favourable for fishing activities, we can expect overall incident numbers to remain low in the coming quarter. Notwithstanding, risks of incidents occurring remain, particularly in known hotspots. All vessels are thus strongly advised to maintain heightened vigilance and adhere to recommended security actions when transiting.

Modus Operandi: Remains Largely Consistent With Petty Crime

- Perpetrators are assessed to remain opportunistic and non-confrontational, with no incidents in April reporting violence or crew injury. This indicates a continued preference for low-risk boarding and rapid withdrawal upon detection.
- Perpetrators typically operate in small groups (4–8 Pax) using small boats, targeting slow-moving vessels (7–12 knots) with low to medium freeboard, primarily during hours of darkness to reduce detection risk. Target selection remains consistent with vessel vulnerability - Bulk Carriers, Tankers and Tug & Barge in the Phillip Channel, while Tug & Barge dominate in the eastbound TSS, reflecting predictable routes and exposure.
- Items stolen were low-value and easily removable, including scrap metal, engine spare parts and ship stores, reinforcing assessment of petty theft rather than organized activity. Incidents remain isolated and opportunistic, with no signs of organized activity.

Recommended Actions for All Transiting Vessels

- Always remain vigilant, particularly when transiting known areas of concern in the Phillip Channel, and waters off Bintan and Batam. Prompt reporting to local authorities is important to enable timely responses, and can help prevent subsequent boardings on other transiting vessels.
- Adopt Ship Protection Measures recommended in the Regional Guide 2 to Counter Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships in Asia, e.g., (1) turn on weather deck lighting around the accommodation block and rear facing lighting on the poop deck, (2) maintain an all-round lookout at an elevated position with focus on suspicious small craft(s) approaching or in proximity to the ship's aft, and (3) sound ship's alarm when suspicious small craft(s) sighted.
- All are highly encouraged to capture and share CCTV footage taken during the incidents with the regional authorities to support investigations and arrests.
- To guard against successive boarding attempts by perpetrators, transiting vessels are encouraged to stay informed by participating in Voluntary Community Reporting as depicted in 1st Edition MARSEC Charts Q6112 and Q6113 (dated 14 Nov 2024). Upon sighting of suspicious activities or perpetrators onboard, immediately report to local authorities and inform the IFC; do not confront perpetrators.

Contact IFC at +65 6594 5705 / 9626 8965 or information_fusion_centre@defence.gov.sg