

JMIC Weekly Dashboard for the Middle East



Accurate and timely information for the protection of Mariners

Week 06 - 2026
(2 to 8 Feb)



Combined Maritime Forces

JMIC Weekly Assessment for the Middle East Region

Guidance for Vessels transiting the High Threat Area

The commencement of the second phase of the ceasefire agreement demonstrates that the broader peace pact remains intact. Houthi forces have HIGHLY LIKELY paused maritime strikes, consistent with their previous pattern of linking ops to development in Gaza. Should the ceasefire collapse, the Houthis would HIGHLY LIKELY resume attacks against Israel and non Israel-affiliated interests. Houthi-linked rhetoric remains elevated, including threats to resume maritime attacks should Iran be targeted.

The threat level remains at **MODERATE** for any merchant vessel (MV) when transiting the RS, BAM and GoA. The axis of resistance group Hezbollah and Houthi have voiced strong support for Iran with an observed increase in rhetoric from the Houthis, warning that, any attack on Iran would turn all US ships and interests in the region into legitimate targets.

JMIC continues to monitor reports of suspicious approaches in the region and will issue Information Notes for confirmed pirate activity. No active PAGs are noted at time of this report assessed possibly due to unfavourable weather conditions.

Risk mitigation measures and resources include:

1. BMP-Maritime Security
2. JMIC Bridge Emergency Reference Cards
3. Register for ASPIDES protection via [EUNAVFOR ASPIDES website](#)

Specific Events

Indian Ocean and Coast of Somalia

- The piracy threat is currently assessed as **LOW** in the Gulf of Aden, Somali Basin and the Indian Ocean.

Arabian Gulf, Strait of Hormuz and Central Red Sea

- **SUBSTANTIAL** EMI
- Maintain awareness on small crafts operating in the Bab-al-Mandeb area, but be aware that not all small crafts have hostile intentions. There is a large presence of fishermen operating small crafts in BAM and GoA from Nov to Feb due to Yellowfin Tuna Season.



CMF Regional Threat Level Assessment



Houthi Threat

The threat level remains at **MODERATE** for any merchant vessel (MV) or shipping company (inc. fleet) when transiting the RS, BAM and GoA. The axis of resistance group Hezbollah and Houthi have voiced strong support for Iran with an observed increase in rhetoric from the Houthis, warning that, any attack on Iran would turn all US ships and interests in the region into legitimate targets.

Given the increasing volatility in the region, Houthi intent to resume attacks against shipping they deem as a legitimate target could change quickly. The threat level currently reflects threats to all shipping in the region, irrespective of flag state, ownership or recent port calls, due to the time elapsed since the Gaza ceasefire.

Other Disruption Threats

Levels of GNSS interference in the Arabian Gulf (AG) have presented as **SUBSTANTIAL** in the Arabian Gulf, Gulf of Oman and Central Red Sea. There have been sustained levels of EMI in the Strait of Hormuz (SoH) over the past 7 days. However, this is not deemed to have a significant impact on ships navigation or safety.

With increased deployment of Iranian fast attack boats and hailing of US Flagged tanker on 3 Feb 26 in SoH, the threat level for SoH Harassment is assessed to be **SUBSTANTIAL**.

CMF Assessment - Piracy Threat

The piracy threat is assessed as **LOW** in the Somali Basin. The Northeast Monsoon season weather conditions remain marginal and mostly permissive for small boat operations.

There has been a single uncorroborated report of an armed group operating off the coast of Somalia. There have been no reported suspicious approaches.

The presence of foreign fishing vessels (FFVs) operating within the SOM EEZ increases the opportunity for piracy related activities. Hijacked vessels can either be held for ransom or used as motherships to target FFV further offshore in dense shipping traffic.

CRITICAL

SEVERE

SUBSTANTIAL

MODERATE

LOW

Attack Probability	Definition
Low	There is a remote chance of an attack. <10%
Moderate	An attack is unlikely. <25%
Substantial	There is a realistic possibility of an attack. ~50%
Severe	An attack is highly likely. ~75%
Critical	An attack is almost certain. >90%

CRS EMI

SoH /AG EMI

SoH HARASSMENT

HOUTH THREAT TO MARINERS

SoH BLOCKADE

PIRACY



Key Considerations

01 Feb 2026 - Iranian parliament announced that Iran now considers “EU armies” to be terrorist organisations.

03 Feb 2026 - US aircraft shot down an Iranian drone that “aggressively approached” the US aircraft carrier in the Arabian Sea.

03 Feb 2026 - A US flagged vessel was hailed on VHF by numerous small-armed fast attack craft; the vessel ignored the request to stop, increased speed and continued on its planned route. Please see JMIC information note 128 for further details.

05 Feb 2026 - Reports that IRGC (N) seized two vessels IVO Farsi Island in the Arabian Gulf who were allegedly part of a fuel smuggling network. This is common law enforcement from the IRGC (N) within the Arabian Gulf.

05 Feb 2026 - Single uncorroborated report of armed group operating off the coast of Xaafoon, Somali. Details suggest a small fishing vessel was hijacked and has been taken to the Durdura region, Somalia.

06 Feb 2026 - IRGC (N) deployed approximately 40 fast attack boats in the international waters of SoH, roughly 14NM off the Iranian Coast. This was likely a training serial.

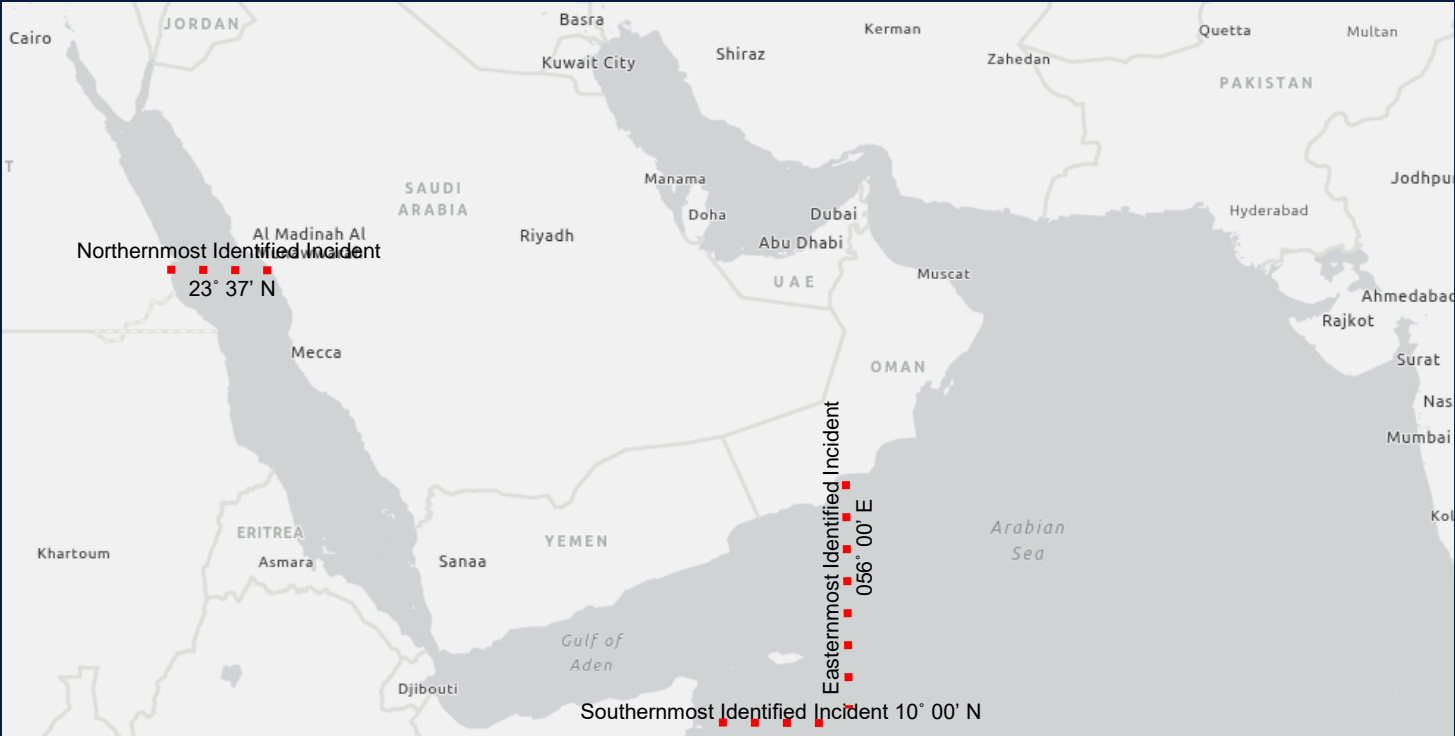
08 Feb 2026 - Sea conditions are generally moderate with manageable wave heights in the Somali Basin, though wind conditions vary.

Electromagnetic Interference



- The heat-mapping graphic indicates the relative levels of electronic interference in the form of AIS anomalies during the period 28 Jan – 4 Feb 2026
- Moderate to Critical levels of Electronic Interference remain across the Central Red Sea region, dropping to lower levels in the northern and southern regions. In terms of ports, moderate to critical levels were seen in the ports of Khor Fakkan, Fujairah and towards Sohar, as well as Dubai and Abu Dhabi.
- Interference has been observed throughout the Strait of Hormuz, and within the vicinity of Bandar Abbas.
- Vessels are requested to report experience of electronic interference to UKMTO, in support of keeping the broader community better informed.

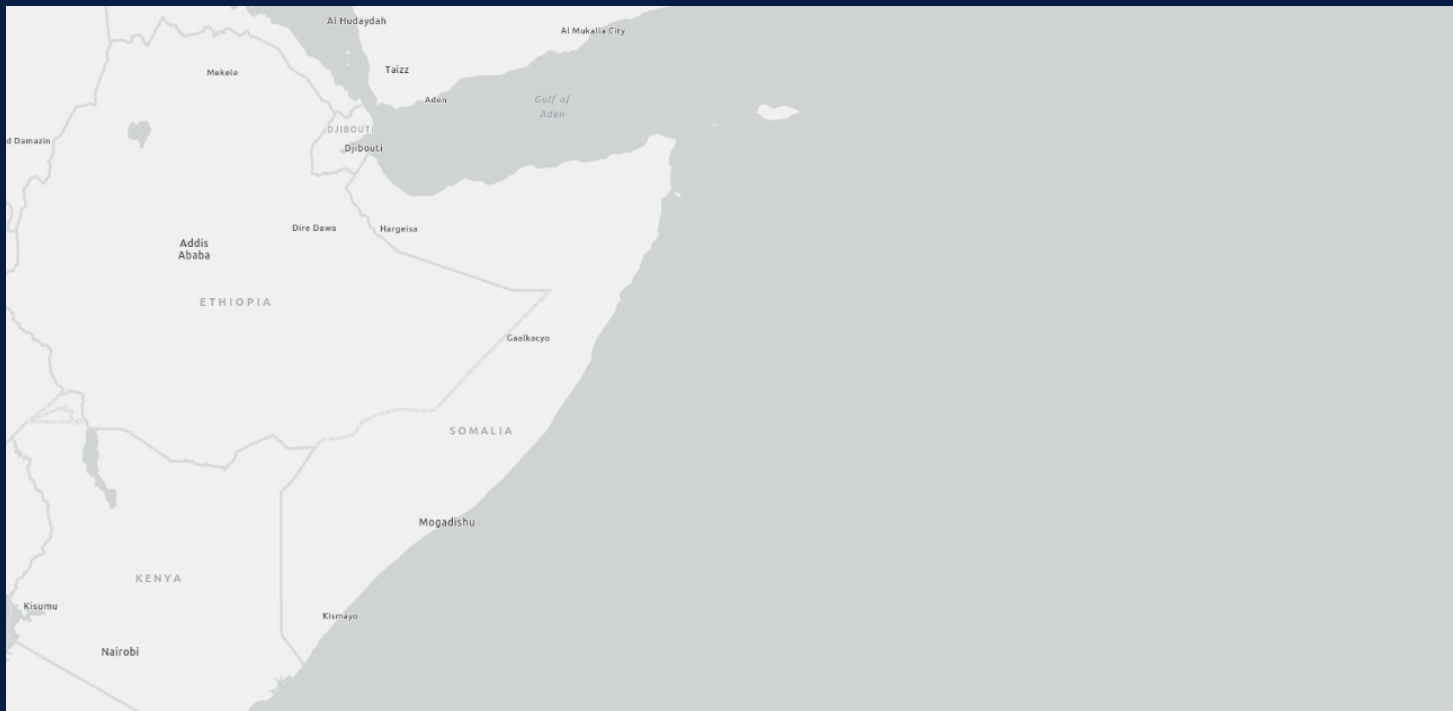
Houthi related incidents reported by UKMTO: None



Date	Type of Incident Source	Vessel Name Flag / IMO / Location	Reports
NTR	-	-	-



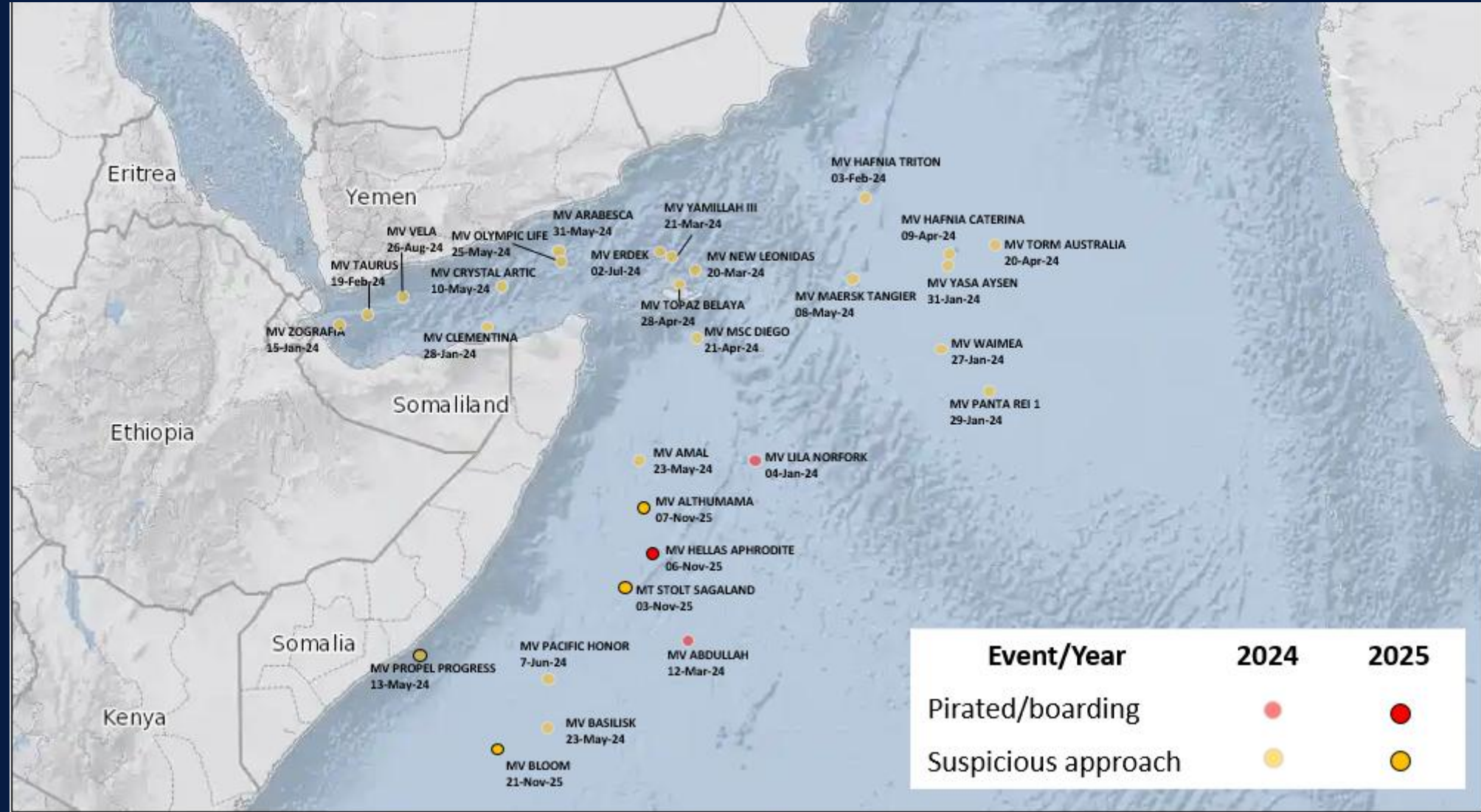
Piracy incidents reported by UKMTO: None



Date	Type of Incident Source	Vessel type / Flag	Location	Reports
NTR	-	-	-	-



Piracy incidents 2024 2025 comparison



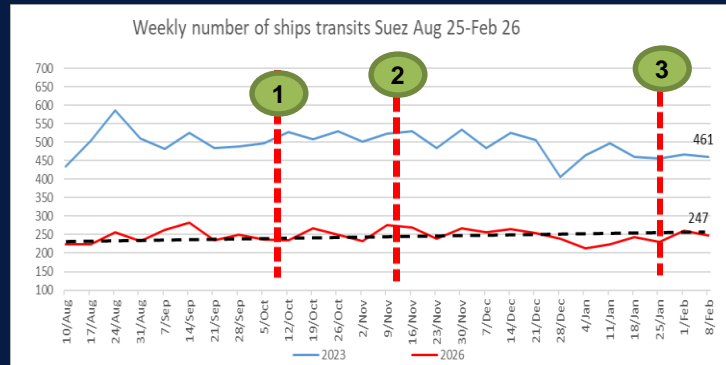
JMIC Investigated Incidents Since 01 January 2025

Total number of Incidents <i>(excluding coalition engagements)</i>		127 (0 new this week)																											
Days since last incident / incident type		63 days / Suspicious Activities (since 06 Dec 25)																											
<div>Red Sea / GoA Incidents</div> <table><tr><th>Incident Type</th><th>Count</th></tr><tr><td>Attack (Serious Incident)</td><td>3</td></tr><tr><td>Attack (Minor Incident)</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>Attempted Attack/Targeted</td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>SOLAS-related Event</td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>Suspicious Activities</td><td>3</td></tr><tr><td>Hijack</td><td>0</td></tr></table>		Incident Type	Count	Attack (Serious Incident)	3	Attack (Minor Incident)	0	Attempted Attack/Targeted	2	SOLAS-related Event	2	Suspicious Activities	3	Hijack	0	<div>Indian Ocean and Coast of Somalia</div> <table><tr><th>Incident Type</th><th>Count</th></tr><tr><td>Pirate Attack...</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>Attempted Pirate...</td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>SOLAS-related...</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>Suspicious...</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>Hijack</td><td>0</td></tr></table>		Incident Type	Count	Pirate Attack...	0	Attempted Pirate...	2	SOLAS-related...	0	Suspicious...	1	Hijack	0
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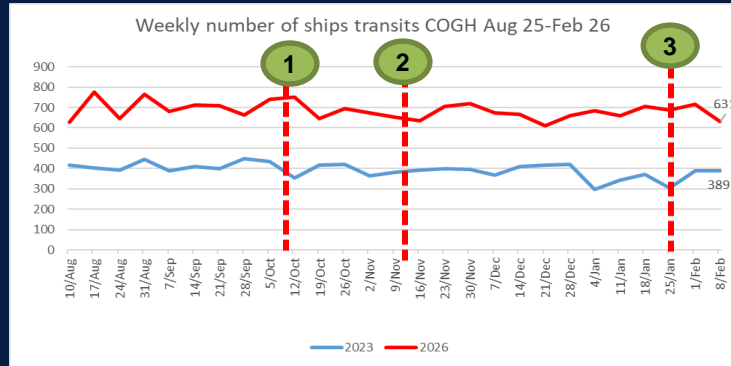
Weekly Transits

Suez



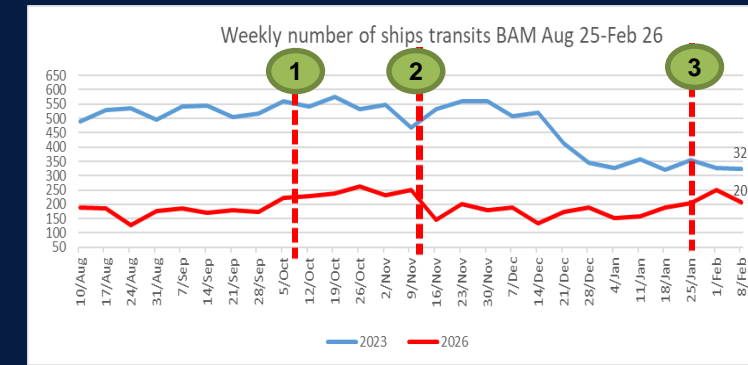
5 % Decrease in the last week

Cape of Good Hope (CoGH)



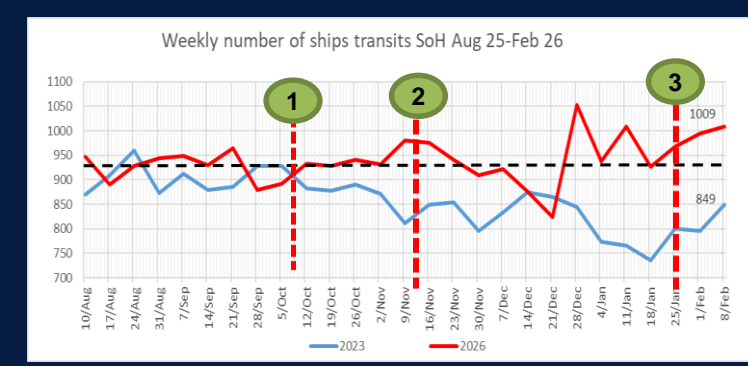
12 % Decrease in the last week

Bab al-Mandeb (BAM)



17.2 % Decrease in the last week

Strait of Hormuz (SoH)



1.4 % Increase in the last week

1

Hamas-Israel ceasefire
10 OCT 2025

2

Houthi statement
11 NOV 2025

3

Houthi announcement on the
retaliatory maritime attack if
strikes in the region
25 JAN 2026

*The statistics presented in this report are based solely on cargo carrying vessels engaged in international trade/transit. This data does not include smaller vessels such as pleasure crafts, yachts, fishing vessels, tugboats, or other types of smaller ships that operate within local or regional waters and are not involved in international shipping.



Definitions – Incident types

General Categories	Explanatory Notes
Attack (Serious Incident)	The result of a deliberate launching of weapons (i.e missiles, drones), and/or ramming into a vessel that results in serious damage to the vessel. The attack is deemed serious if any resulting damage impacts the vessel's ability to continue functioning, which requires immediate assistance. It includes a vessel deemed a total loss, and significant threat to lives.
Attack (Minor Incident)	The result of a deliberate launching of weapons (i.e missiles, drones), and/or ramming into a vessel that results in minor damage to the vessel. The attack is deemed minor if any resulting damage does not impact the vessel's ability to continue functioning and/or does not require immediate assistance.
Attempted Attack/Targeted	<p>This refers to the act of targeting a vessel with the use of force that results in a miss and no damage to the vessel.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any use of force including but not limited to launching of weapons (i.e. missiles, drones), and/or ramming into the vessel. No damage may include but not limited to missile ditching, and/or coalition warships shooting down missiles and/or drones.
Hijack	Is where attackers have illegally boarded and taken control of a ship against the crew's will.
Suspicious Activities	This refers to any act of activity near the vessel that is enough to warrant suspicion. To include aerial, surface, and subsurface activities.
SOLAS-related Event	A SOLAS event in this terms refers to a major safety related event (Including but not limited to: Fire/Flooding/Capsizing) which is not due to an attack. This is reported by JMIC solely to avoid speculations about if this was a harmful activity towards a merchant vessel or not.



Additional Resources

Additional Resources on Incident:

UKMTO Reporting Visit: <https://www.ukmto.org>

Email: watchkeepers@ukmto.org

Emergency Tel: +44 (0)2392 222060

Additional Resources on Industry Guidance:

BMP - MARITIME SECURITY

[BMP-MS-March 2025](#)

Industry Transit Advice for Southern Red Sea and Gulf of Aden from 25th of September 2024

[Industry Transit Advice - 25th September 2024](#)

MSCIO

[MSCIO Website](#)

[EUNAVFOR ASPIDES Support Request](#)

JMIC

Info Notes, Advisories, Weekly Summary, Monthly Statistics, and Bridge Emergency Reference Cards:

[JMIC Products \(ukmto.org\)](#)

[JMIC Advisory on CMF Maritime Threat Levels](#)

Please also visit our LinkedIn page <https://www.linkedin.com/company/jmic/>

