

# JMIC Weekly Dashboard for the Middle East



*Accurate and timely information for the protection of Mariners*

**Week 08 - 2026**  
**(16 to 22 Feb)**



*Combined Maritime Forces*

# JMIC Weekly Assessment for the Middle East Region

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## Guidance for Vessels transiting the High Threat Area

Houthi forces have paused maritime strikes, consistent with their previous pattern of linking ops to developments in Gaza. Should the ceasefire collapse, the Houthis would HIGHLY LIKELY resume attacks against Israel and non Israel-affiliated interests. 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 sustained rhetoric from the Houthis, warning that, any attack on Iran would turn all US ships and interests in the region into legitimate targets.

NAVTEX / Coastal warning notes may be promulgated by Iranian authorities on short notice. All mariners are encouraged to report receipt of NAVTEX messages to UKMTO.

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) transiting the RS, BAM and GoA. The axis of resistance, comprising of Hezbollah and the Houthis, continues to voice support for Iran, with sustained rhetoric from the Houthis warning that any attack on Iran would render US ships and interests in the region as legitimate targets.

Given the sustained volatility in the region, Houthi intent to resume attacks against shipping they deem legitimate targets could change rapidly. The current threat level reflects risks to all shipping in the region, irrespective of flag state, ownership, or recent port calls, particularly in light of the time elapsed since the Gaza ceasefire.

## Other Disruption Threats

Levels of GNSS interference in the Arabian Gulf (AG) are assessed as **SUBSTANTIAL**, including in the Arabian Gulf, Gulf of Oman, and Central Red Sea.

There have been sustained and increased levels of EMI in the Strait of Hormuz (SoH) over the past seven days.

In the context of heightened regional tensions and increased IRGC military activity in vicinity of SoH, the harassment threat level in the SoH is assessed as **SUBSTANTIAL**, while the threat level for a SoH blockade has been increased to **MODERATE**.

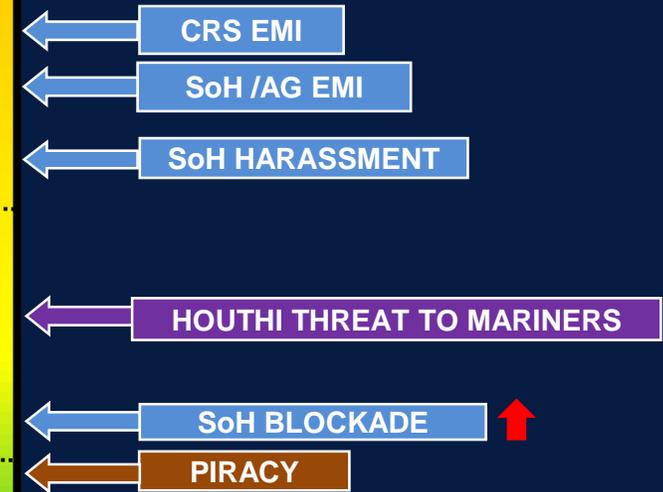
## CMF Assessment - Piracy Threat

The piracy threat is assessed as **LOW** in the Somali Basin. Weather conditions are expected to remain largely permissive for small boat operations, with conditions improving as the monsoon season draws to a close.

The presence of foreign fishing vessels (FFVs) operating within the Somali EEZ increases opportunities for piracy-related activities. Hijacked vessels may be held for ransom or used as motherships to target FFVs further offshore in areas of dense shipping traffic.



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%



# CMF Regional Threat Level Assessment

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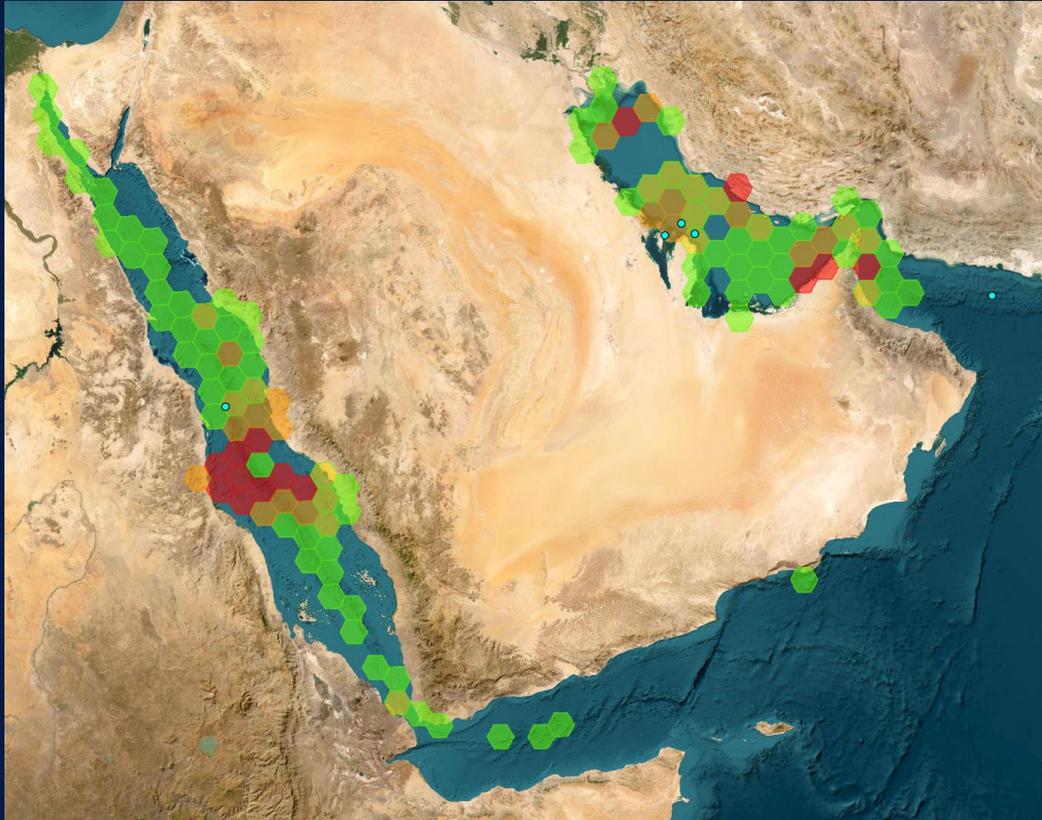


## Key Considerations

**17 Feb 2026** – As part of its “Smart Control of The Strait of Hormuz” exercise, Iran conducted a live-fire missile drill in the vicinity of SoH.

**20 Feb 2026** – There are unconfirmed reports of a projectile being fired from Yemeni territory, with the projected impact zone in the Southern Red Sea.

# Electromagnetic Interference



- Regarding Central Red Sea Region, the interference levels remain from moderate to critical, as well as moderate levels observed in the central Bab el Mandeb region.
- Within the central part of the Strait of Hormuz and Central Arabian Gulf towards the North, the levels have increased to severe upon last week, with the most critical levels detected in the vicinities of Bandar e-Pars, Dubai and Khor Fakkan to Fujairah.
- Vessels are requested to report experience of electronic interference to UKMTO, in support of keeping the broader shipping community better informed.

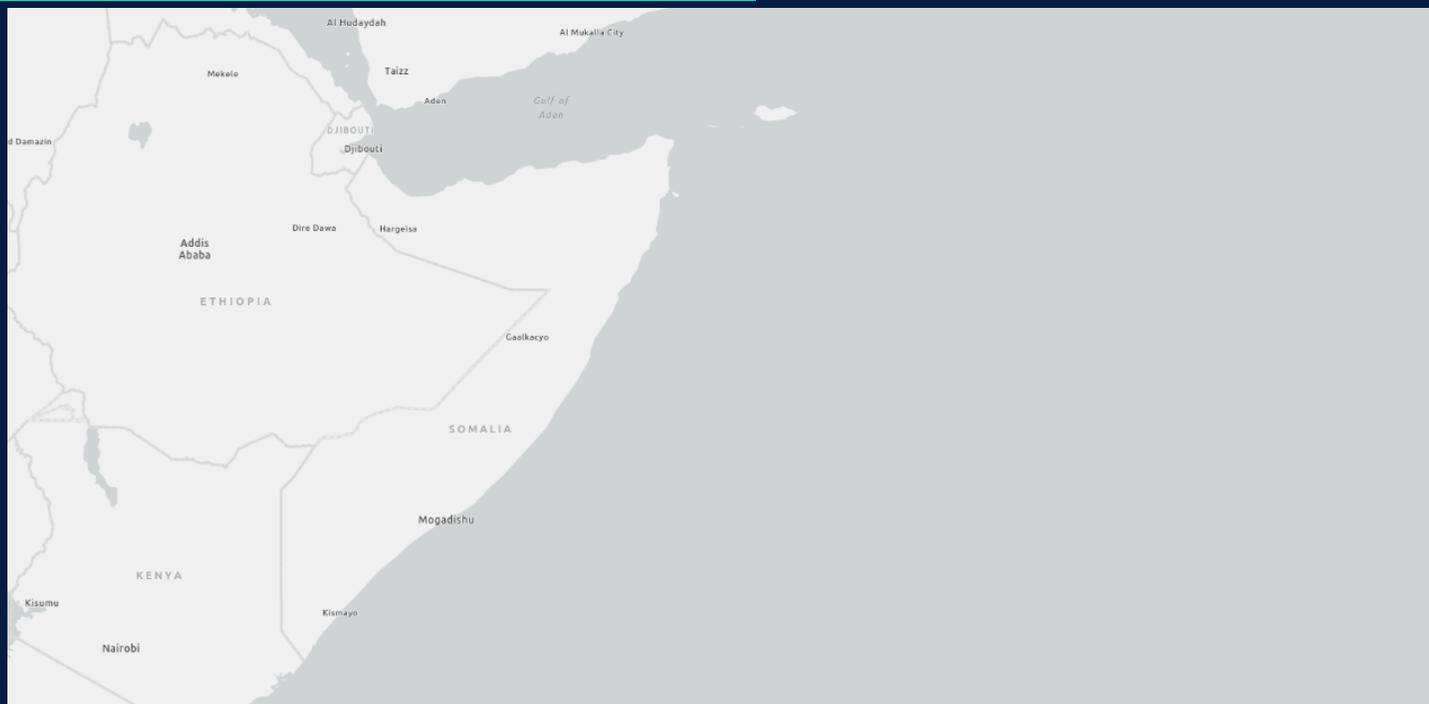
# Houthi related incidents reported by UKMTO: None



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



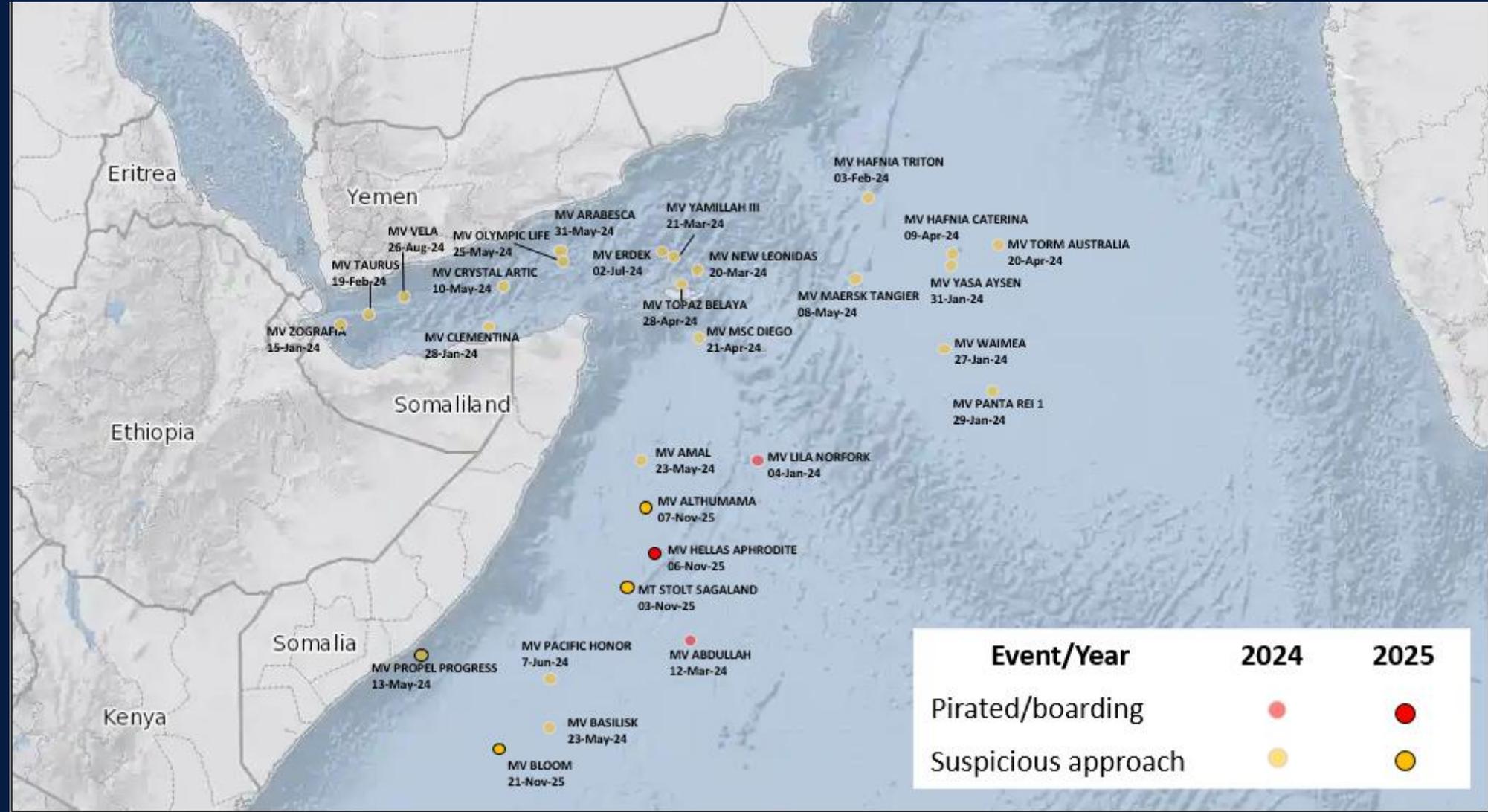
# Piracy incidents reported by UKMTO: None



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

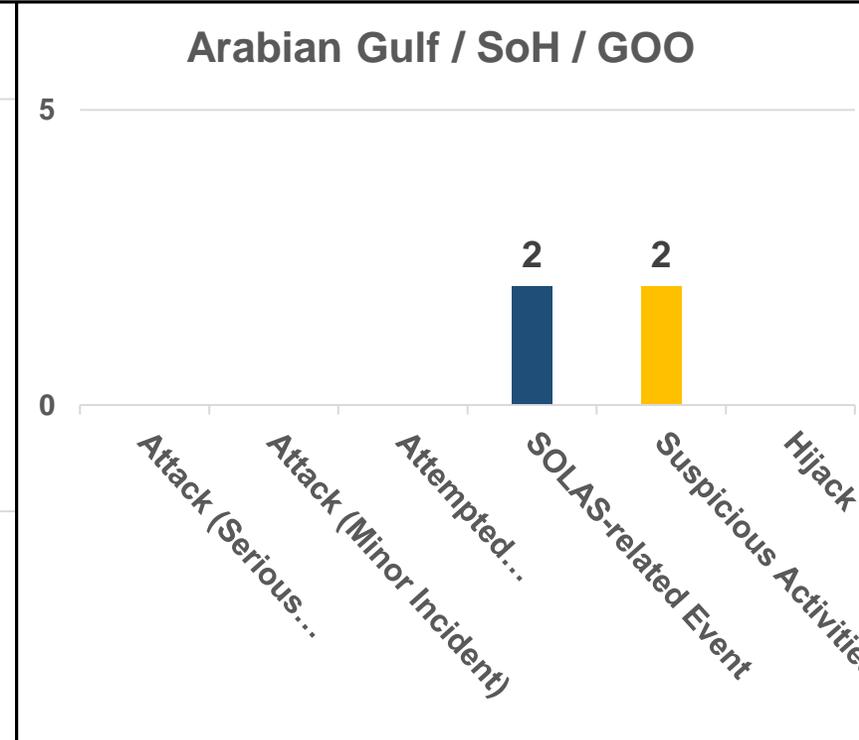
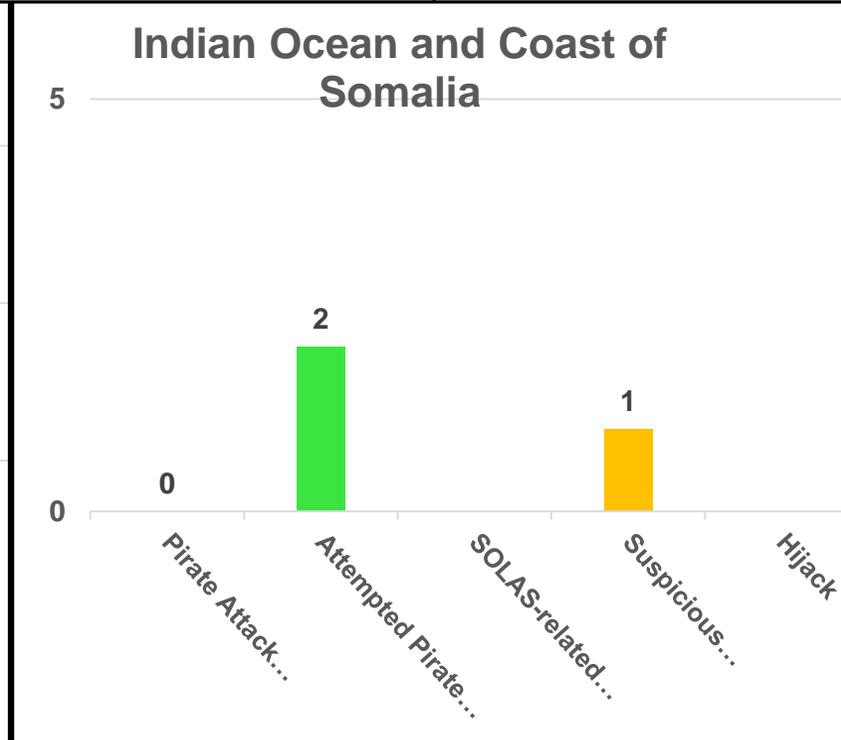
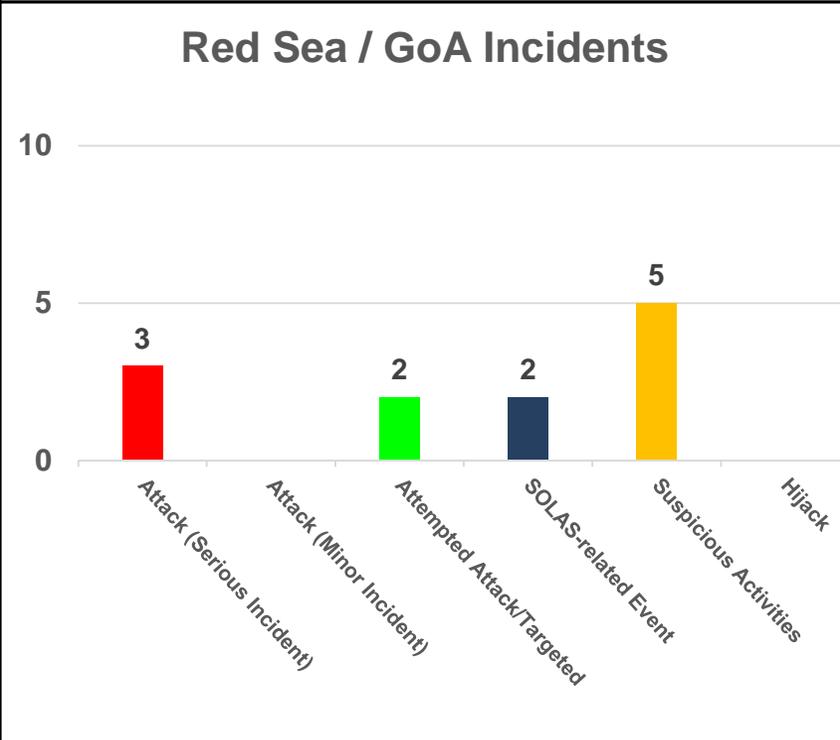


# Piracy incidents 2024 2025 comparison



# JMIC Investigated Incidents

<b>Total number of Incidents</b> <i>(excluding coalition engagements)</i>	<b>128</b> <b>(1 new this week)</b>
<b>Days since last incident / incident type</b>	06 days / Suspicious Activities (since 17 Feb 26)



**Last incident info:**  
 Date: 17 FEB 2026  
 Type: SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY  
 Ship: TUG

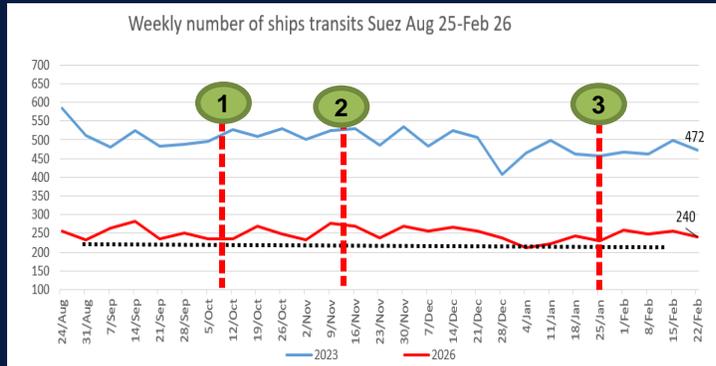
**Last incident info:**  
 Date: 07 NOV 2025  
 Type: ATTEMPTED PIRATE ATTACK  
 Ship: TANKER

**Last incident info:**  
 Date: 14 NOV 2025  
 Type: SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY  
 Ship: TANKER



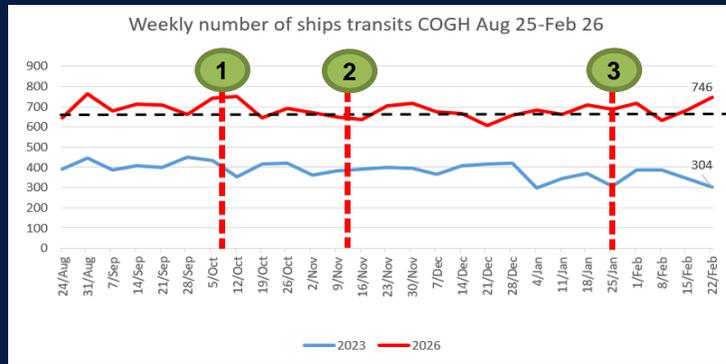
# Weekly Transits

## Suez



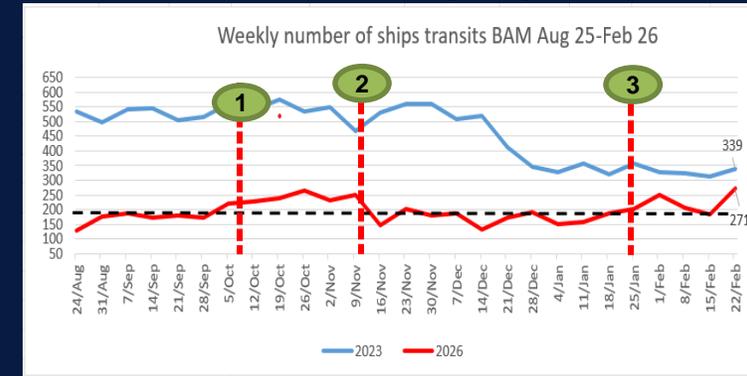
6% Decrease in the last week

## Cape of Good Hope (CoGH)



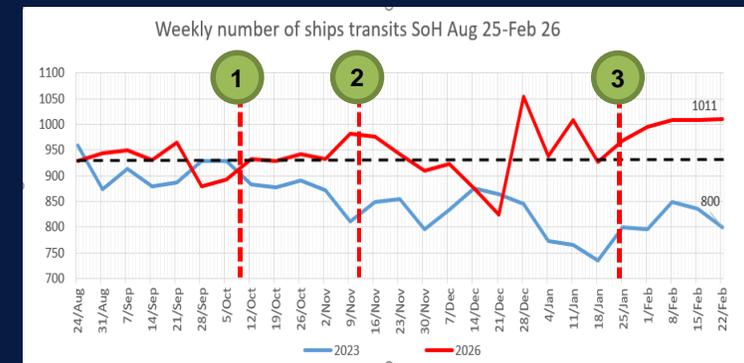
8.9% Increase in the last week

## Bab al-Mandeb (BAM)



46.5% Increase in the last week

## Strait of Hormuz (SoH)



0.2% 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
<b>Attack (Serious Incident)</b>	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.
<b>Attack (Minor Incident)</b>	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.
<b>Attempted Attack/Targeted</b>	<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"> <li>• Any use of force including but not limited to launching of weapons (i.e. missiles, drones), and/or ramming into the vessel.</li> <li>• No damage may include but not limited to missile ditching, and/or coalition warships shooting down missiles and/or drones.</li> </ul>
<b>Hijack</b>	Is where attackers have illegally boarded and taken control of a ship against the crew's will.
<b>Suspicious Activities</b>	This refers to any act of activity near the vessel that is enough to warrant suspicion. To include aerial, surface, and subsurface activities.
<b>SOLAS-related Event</b>	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

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## Additional Resources on Incident:

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

Email: [watchkeepers@ukmto.org](mailto: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 25<sup>th</sup> 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/>

