JMIC Weekly Dashboard for the Middle East

Accurate and timely information for the protection of Mariners

Week 22 – 2026
(25 May to 31 May)

Combined Maritime Forces (CMF)

JMIC Weekly Assessment for the Middle East Region.

Guidance for Vessels transiting the High Threat Area

The maritime security environment across the Arabian Gulf, Gulf of Oman, and SoH remains **CRITICAL**, driven by recent attack patterns, continued navigation interference, and persistent operational disruption, including impacts to port activity. Despite the 8 Apr 26 US-Iran ceasefire, commercial traffic remains limited, with constrained transits and continued routing uncertainty. Measures requiring prior coordination with port authorities, together with alternative routing overlays on established TSS, continue to complicate navigation. Enforcement actions since mid-Apr have further restricted vessel movements, while anchorages remain congested and operators report limited clarity on transit protocols.

In contrast, the RS, BAM, and GoA remain assessed as **MODERATE** threat levels, with no confirmed maritime incidents and vessel movements continuing without significant disruption. Nonetheless, regional tensions persist and conditions may change with little warning. Across the region, operators should anticipate short-notice navigation warnings, continued GNSS/GPS and AIS interference in key areas, and elevated risk in congested waterways. Transit of the TSS and adjacent waters should be considered extremely hazardous until mine locations are verified and threats to transiting ships mitigated. Vessel traffic has been observed transiting via Omani territorial waters, which remain the preferred route for minimising exposure to the suspected hazard area. While no confirmed maritime infrastructure attacks have been reported, risk remains **SUBSTANTIAL**. Operators should obtain the latest port and advisory updates, maintain vigilance, and report anomalies to relevant authorities.

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 **SUBSTANTIAL** in the GoA, Somali Basin, and the Indian Ocean.
- JMIC continues to monitor reports of suspicious approaches in the region and will issue Information Notes for confirmed pirate activity.

Arabian Gulf, Strait of Hormuz and Central Red Sea

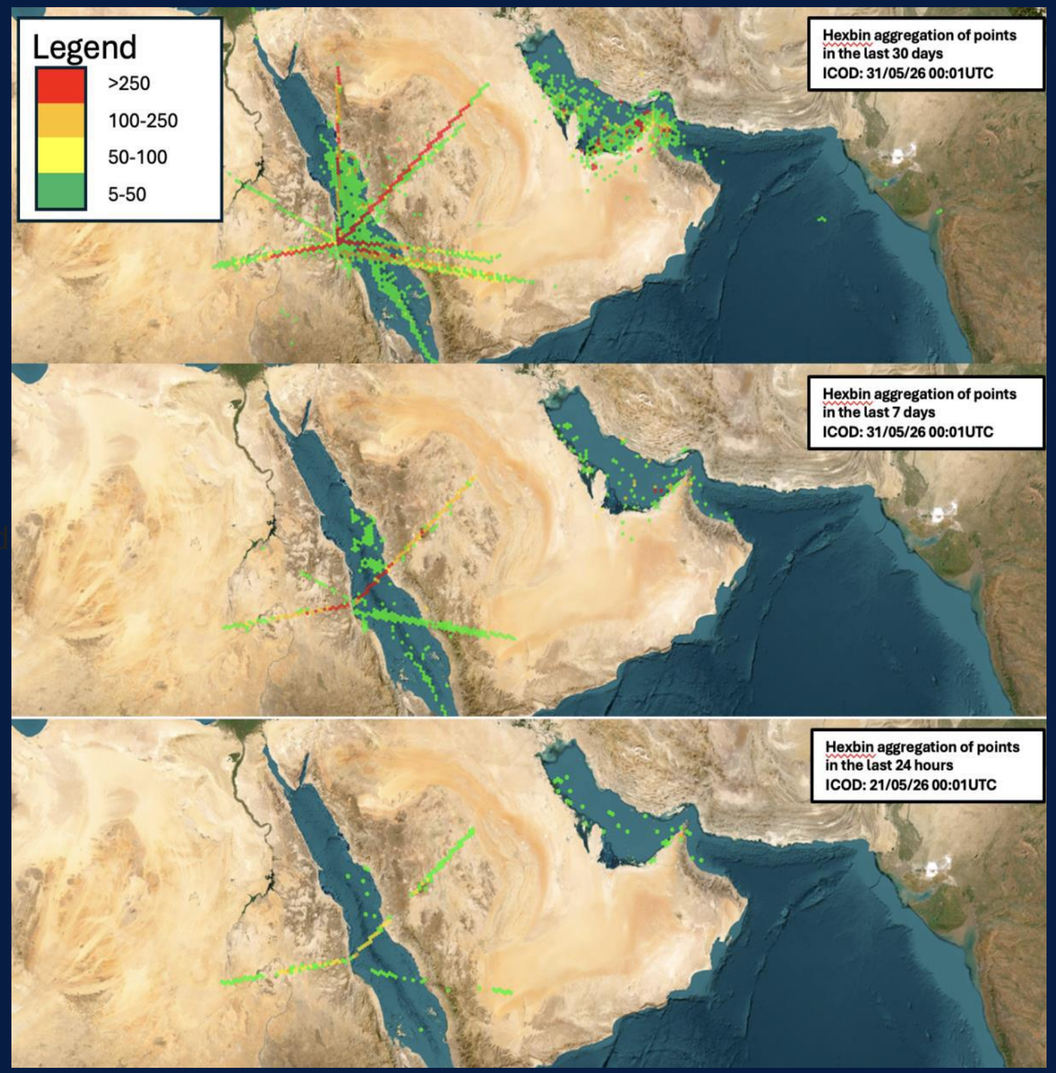
- **MODERATE** EMI
- Maintain awareness on small crafts operating in the BAM area, but be aware that not all small crafts have hostile intentions.

CMF Regional Threat Level Assessment

Due to the ongoing conflict in the Middle East, CMF N2 is currently unable to provide the Regional Threat Level Assessment.

For updates and outlook of the respective Area of Operation (AOO), the shipping industry may refer to the JMIC Advisory Note updates.

Electromagnetic Interference



USFFwindward

- Across the central Red Sea region, the levels of interference remained at moderate levels. In the northern and southern regions, the levels have similarly decreased, as highlighted around Suez Canal and Bab el Mandeb areas.
- Compared to last week, the levels of interference observed in the vicinities of Fujairah, Khor Fakkan, Dubai, Abu Dhabi and Bandar Abbas remained at moderate levels.
- The vicinity of Bandar e-Pars remained at moderate levels. The Strait of Hormuz and Southern Arabian Gulf have also remained at moderate levels, while the Northern and Central Arabian Gulf remained at low levels.
- Vessels are requested to report experiences of electronic interference to UKMTO, in support of keeping the broader shipping community better informed.

Source: UKMTO

Houthi related incidents reported by UKMTO: None



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

Houthi activity continues to pose a MODERATE threat to maritime traffic in the Red Sea.

Merchant shipping incidents reported by JMIC/UKMTO



Date	Total number of Attacks/Near Miss/Suspicious Activity	Remarks
25 May to 31 May	1 attack (serious incident)	On 26 May, tanker Olympic Life reported an explosion on the port side of the vessel. The cause remains unknown. The crew was reported safe, and no environment impact has been observed. The vessel is proceeding to its Next Port of Call (NPOC).

Piracy incidents reported by UKMTO: None



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

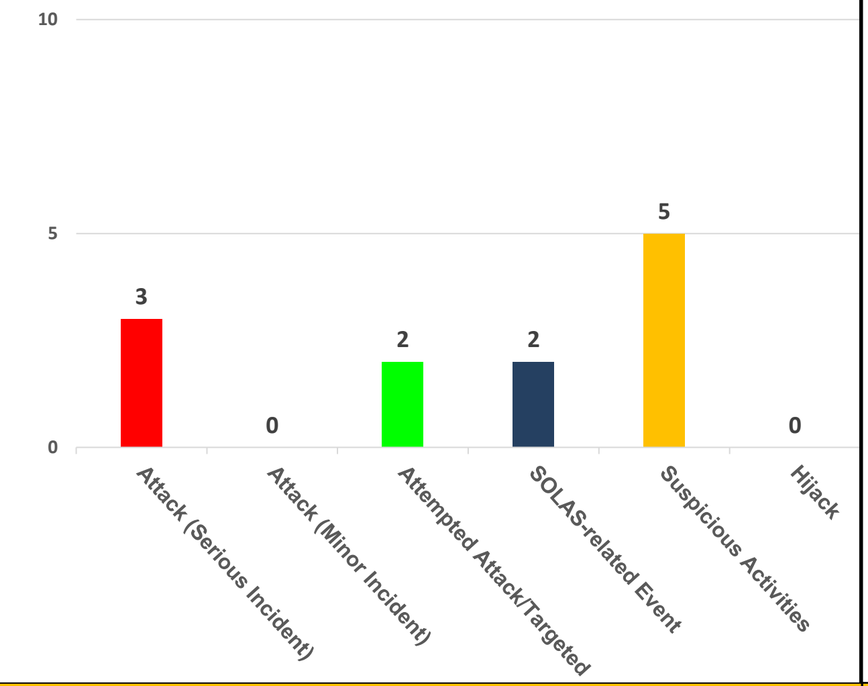
Piracy incidents 2024 2025 Comparison



JMIC Investigated Incidents

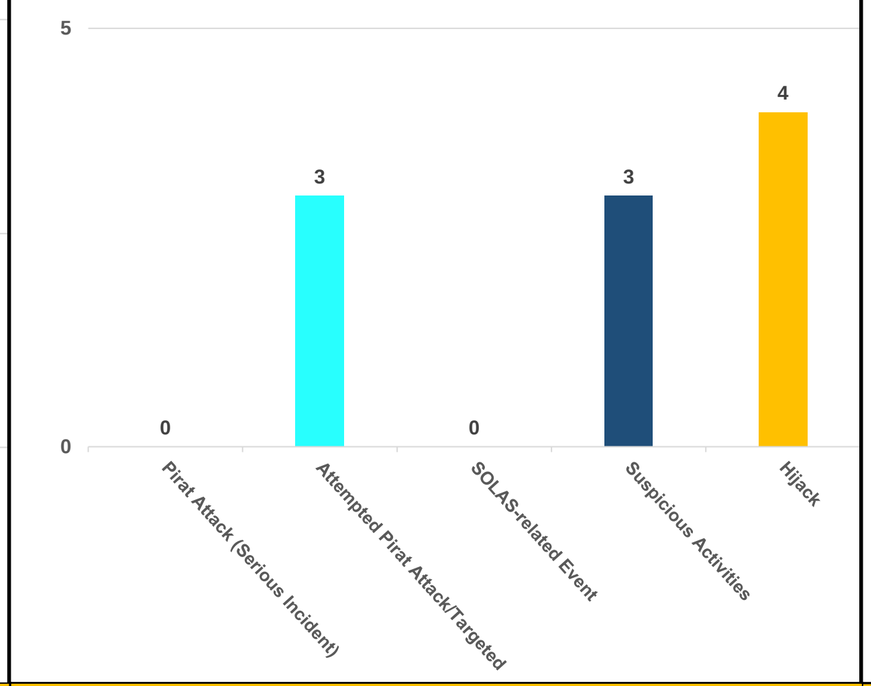
Total number of Incidents *(excluding coalition engagements)*	**180** (1 new this week)
Days since last incident / incident type	05 days / attack (serious incident) (since 26 May 26)

Red Sea / GoA Incidents



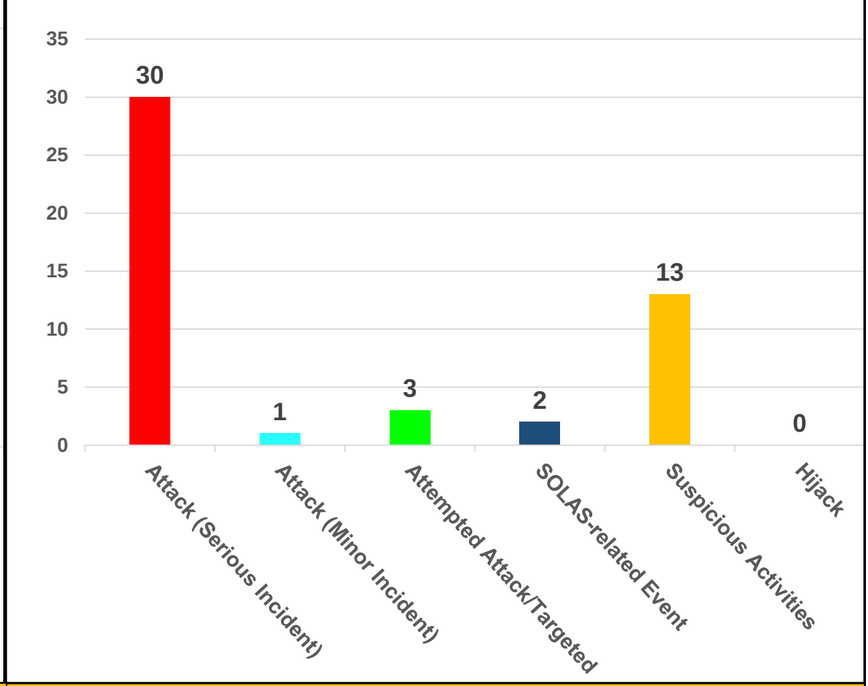
Last incident info:
Date: 17 FEB 2026
Type: SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY
Ship: TUG

Indian Ocean and Coast of Somalia



Last incident info:
Date: 30 APR, 01 MAY, 02 MAY
Type: HIJACKED, SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY
Ship: OIL PRODUCT TANKER, GENERAL CARGO, BULK CARRIER, TANKER

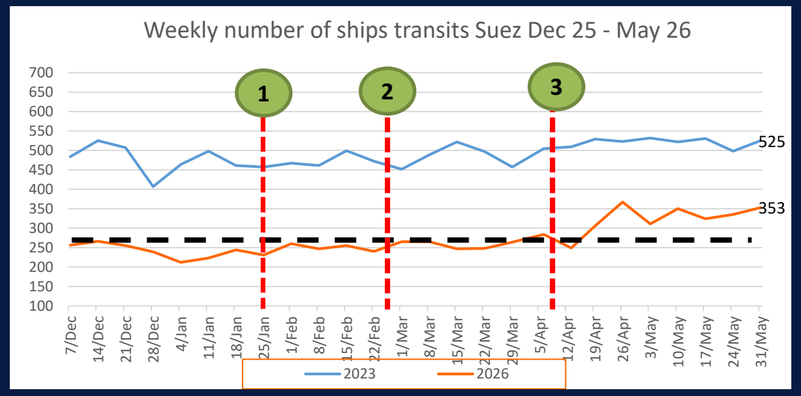
Arabian Gulf / SoH / GOO



Last incident info:
Date: 26 MAY
Type: ATTACK (SERIOUS INCIDENT)
Ship: TANKER

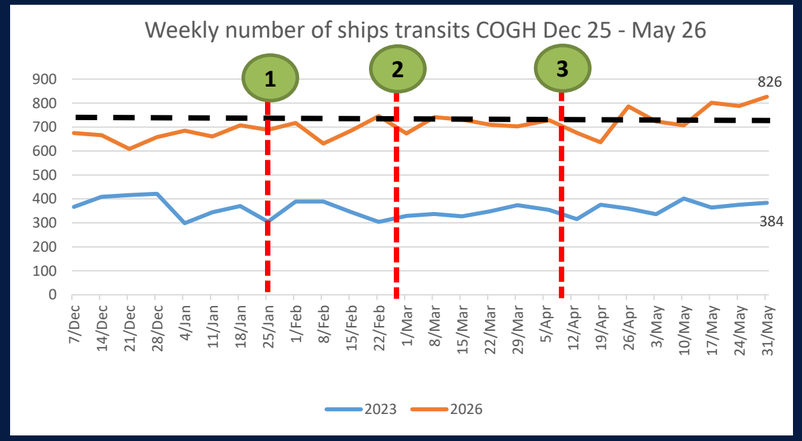
Weekly Transits

Suez



5.4% Increase last week

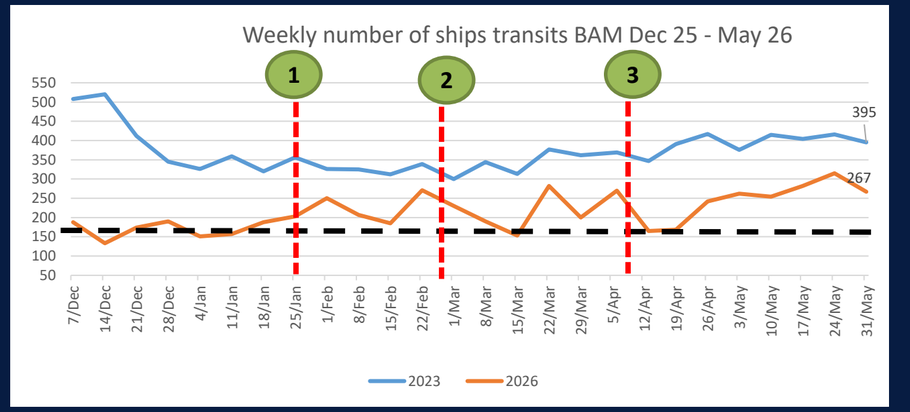
Cape of Good Hope (CoGH)



4.8% Increase last week

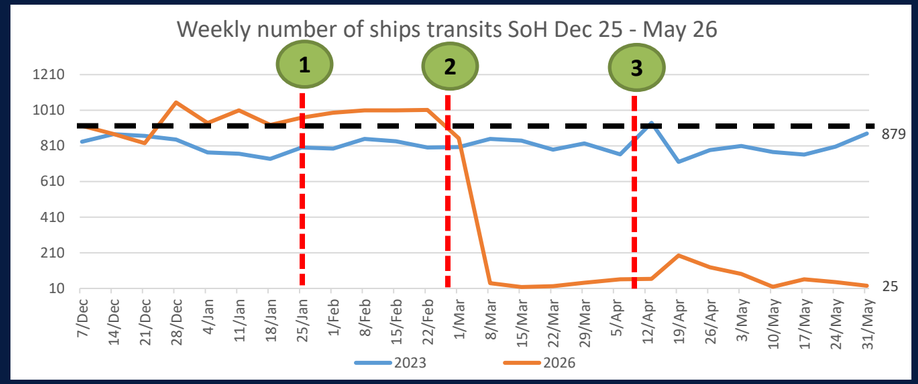
1. Houthi announcement on the retalitionary maritime attack if strikes in the region 25 JAN 2026
2. Outbreak of regional hostilites in the Middle East 28 FEB 2026
3. US-Iran Ceasefire 08 APR 2026

Bab al-Mandeb (BAM)



15.2% Decrease last week

Strait of Hormuz (SoH)



44.4% Decrease last week

*The statistics presented in this report are based solely on cargo caring 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.

Data Source: S&P Global

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 either a miss or 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	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. • 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 https://www.ukmto.org/contact-us

Additional Resources on Industry Guidance:
BMP – MARITIME SECURITY
BMP-MS-March 2025 https://www.maritimeglobalsecurity.org/media/lx4jmieu/bmp-ms-2025-final-hi-res.pdf

Industry Transit Advice for Southern Red Sea and Gulf of Aden (25th of September 2024)
Industry Transit Advice https://www.maritimeglobalsecurity.org/media/xm1jsgjg/2024-09-24-interim-industry-transit-advice-srs-goa.pdf

Industry Guidance On The Safe Management of Vessel Transit through the Strait of Hormuz (May 2026)
https://www.maritimeglobalsecurity.org/media/vkaa3pjr/2026-05-20-guidance-strait-of-hormuz.pdf

MSCIO
MSCIO Website https://www.mscio.eu/
EUNAVFOR ASPIDES Support Request https://reporting.mscio.eu/supportrequest

JMIC
Info Notes, Advisories, Weekly Summary, Monthly Statistic, and Bridge Emergency Reference Cards:
JMIC Products (ukmto.org) https://www.ukmto.org/partner-products/jmic-products
JMIC Advisory https://www.ukmto.org/partner-products/jmic-products/jmic-advisories
Pleas also visit LinkedIn page https://www.linkedin.com/company/jmic/