



UKMTO QUARTERLY MARITIME SECURITY REPORT

Q2 2021

APR – JUN

8 Jul 21

United Kingdom Maritime Trade Organisation

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Executive Summary

UKMTO received reports of 5 maritime security events within the Voluntary Reporting Area (VRA) during Q2 2021 compared to 1 event during Q2 2020.

In Q2 of both 2020 and 2021 UKMTO received more reports of non-piracy related activity than piracy-related activity.

UKMTO reporting rates remain steady at around 95% of traffic within the VRA.

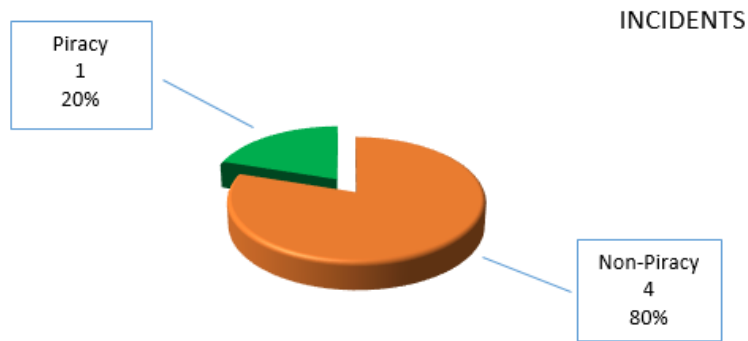
UKMTO issued five maritime security alerts during the period of which one was recorded as the lowest category of piracy-related activity (sighting), and four were attributed to non-piracy related activities.

UKMTO Classifications	
Piracy	Any robbery or other violent action, for private ends and without authorisation by public authority, committed on the seas outside the normal jurisdiction of any state
Non-Piracy	Often related to conflict overspill, geopolitical instability or illegal smuggling/trafficking in the maritime domain

Regional Maritime Security Overview

Red Sea, Gulf of Aden, Arabian Sea and Arabian Gulf

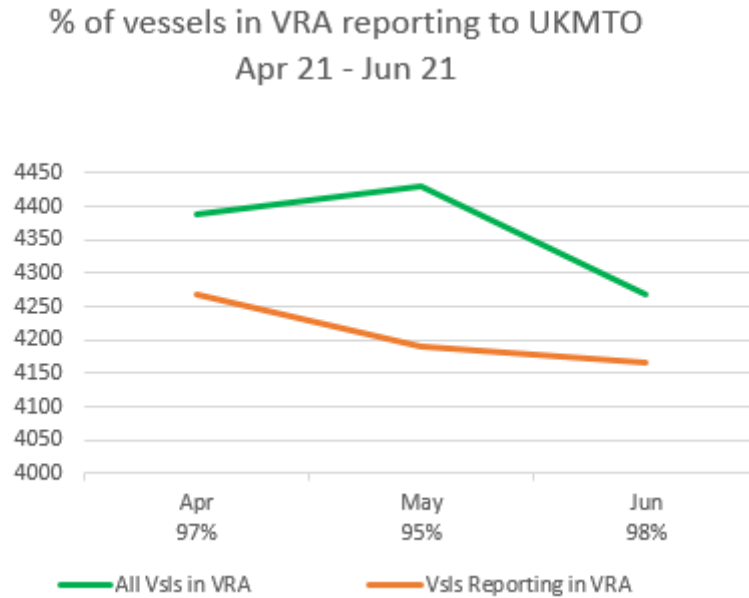
During the period 1 April 21 to 30 June 21 UKMTO received information relating to five maritime security events within the UKMTO Voluntary Reporting Area (VRA).



Piracy is widely acknowledged to be suppressed but not eradicated within the region. It is strongly recommended that all vessels within the UKMTO VRA adhere to the guidance within Best Management Practice Edition 5 (BMP5) and report maritime security events and suspicious activity to UKMTO.

Reporting Rates

In Q2 2021 an average of 96% of vessels within the UKMTO Voluntary Reporting Area (VRA) reported to UKMTO as recommended in BMP5. This remained comparable to the same period of 2020 despite a minor reduction in overall traffic which is believed to be due to the impact of the global pandemic.



UKMTO Maritime Security Alerts

Warnings	Classification	Definition	Details	Vessel Type
W/001/04	Non-Piracy	NA	Explosion and fire in vicinity of Yanbu, KSA oil terminal	Oil Tanker
W/001/05	Non-Piracy	NA	Approach by two small craft, 6 POB each, subsequently identified as Yemeni national coast guard	LNG Tanker

Advisories	Classification	Definition	Details	Vessel Type
A/001/04	Non-Piracy	NA	Explosion while at anchor in International Waters	Cargo Vessel
A/002/04	Piracy	Sighting	Two small vessels sighted ivo Point B IRTC, speeds up to 70kts, third larger craft, speeds up to 20kts	Oil/Chemical Tanker
A/003/04	Non-Piracy	NA	Explosion while at anchor off Fujairah	Vehicle Carrier

Piracy Events

Sighting

The single piracy-related event recorded was categorised as a sighting - the lowest level of piracy-related activity.

The sighting was reported as occurring with the vicinity of Point B of the Internationally Recognised Transit Corridor (IRTC) and included reports of two small craft manoeuvring at speeds of up to 70 knots, with a third larger craft at speeds of up to 20 knots (UKMTO Advisory 002/04 refers).



Non-Piracy Events

Of the four events classified as non-piracy, two were reported as occurring in the Southern Red Sea, one in the Central Red Sea and one in the Gulf of Oman.

Of the non-piracy events reported as occurring within the Southern Red Sea, one was subsequently deemed to be interaction with the Yemeni national coast guard authority (UKMTO Warning 001/05 refers), and the second was widely reported as an explosion onboard a vessel at anchor in International Waters (UKMTO Advisory 001/04 refers).

The non-piracy event in the Central Red Sea was reported as an explosion and fire in the vicinity of the Yanbu oil terminal, KSA (UKMTO Warning 001/04 refers).

The non-piracy event in the Gulf of Oman was reported as an explosion onboard a vessel at anchor off Fujairah (UKMTO Advisory 003/04 refers).



Comparison with Q2 2020

Regional Overview

Classification	Q2 2020	Q2 2021
Piracy	0	1
Non-Piracy	1	4
TOTAL	1	5

Piracy Events

During Q2 2020 there were 0 instances of piracy-related activity, compared to the same period in 2021 where one instance of the lowest level of piracy-related activity (sighting) was reported.

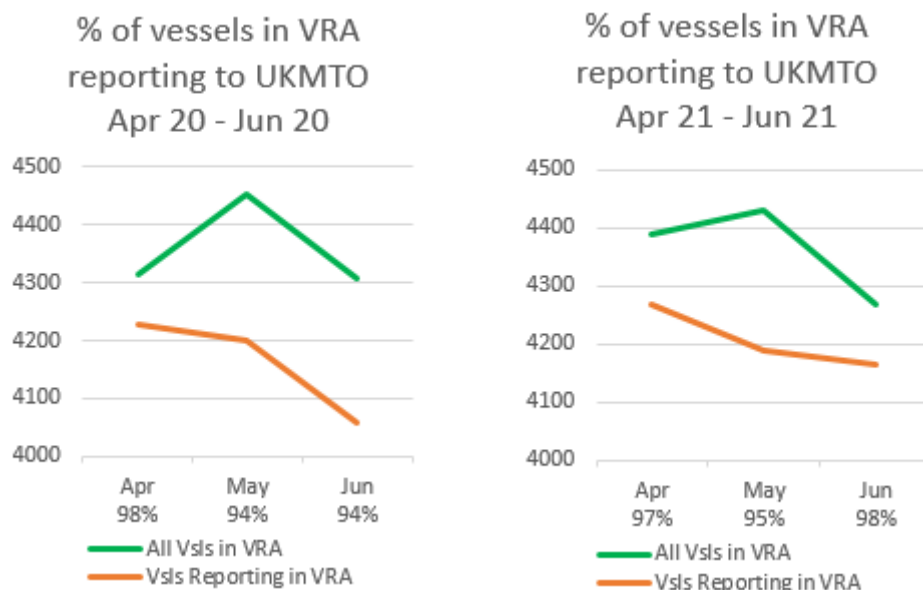
Non-Piracy Events

During Q2 2020 two non-piracy events were reported. The first was initially reported as a boarding, and subsequently reclassified as non-piracy related as reports indicated boarding and inspection activity by national authorities (UKMTO Advisory 001/Apr/2020 refers).

The second was an attack within the IRTC by 2 skiffs (one of which exploded in the vicinity of the reporting vessel) by aggressors unknown (UKMTO Warning 001/May/2020 refers).

Reporting Rates

In Q2 2020 an average of 95% of vessels within the UKMTO VRA reported to UKMTO, compared to 96% in Q2 2021.



Appendices

UKMTO Classifications

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UKMTO Maritime Security Definitions

UKMTO Maritime Security Definitions	
Hijack	Unauthorised persons have illegally boarded and taken control of the vessel against the will of the Master and crew
Boarding	Unauthorised persons have boarded but have not taken control of the vessel
Attempted Boarding	Close approach or hull-to-hull contact with report that boarding paraphernalia were employed or visible in the approaching boat, but were thwarted by BMP measures, PAST, weather conditions, lack of appropriate equipment, etc
Attack	An aggressive approach by unidentified craft and weapons have been discharged
Suspicious Approach	Definite alteration towards the ship, rapid increase in speed which cannot be accounted for in the prevailing conditions. Sudden changes in course towards ship and aggressive behaviour
Sightings and Irregular Behaviour	Suspicious activity not associated with the locality or prevailing conditions

Incident Reporting

As contained in BMP5 Section 6 Reporting.

UKMTO administers the Voluntary Reporting Scheme, under which merchant ships are encouraged to send regular reports. These include; initial reports, daily reports, final reports and reports of suspicious or irregular activity.

UKMTO Contact Details

Maritime Security Information	
UKMTO Watchkeepers (24/7 emergencies)	+44 2392 222 060 watchkeepers@ukmto.org
UKMTO Dubai (local office hours)	+971 4309 4268
UKMTO website (regional maritime security alerts)	www.ukmto.org
UKMTO on social media (regional maritime security alerts)	@UK_MTO

Other Sources of Information

Maritime Security Information	
Best Management Practice series	www.ocimf.org
Admiralty Maritime Security Charts	www.admiralty.co.uk/ukho
Maritime Security Centre Horn of Africa	www.mschoa.org
International Maritime Bureau Live Piracy Reports	www.icc-css.org

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