

# THE STATE OF MARITIME PIRACY 2014

ASSESSING THE ECONOMIC AND HUMAN COST

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



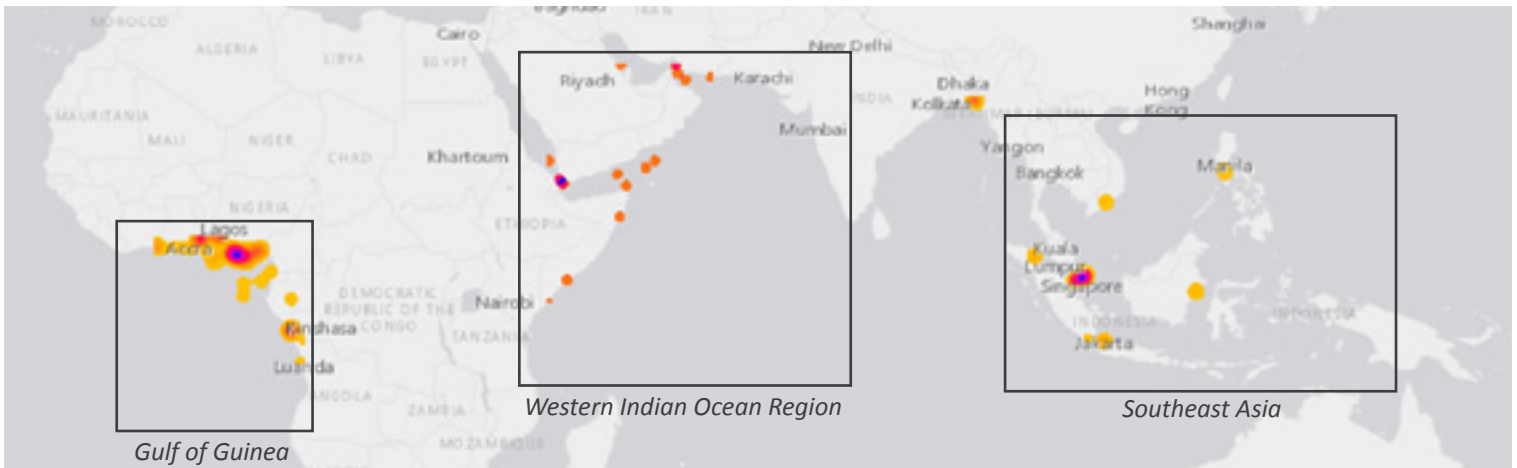
OCEANS BEYOND PIRACY

a project of the One Earth Future Foundation

[www.oceansbeyondpiracy.org](http://www.oceansbeyondpiracy.org)



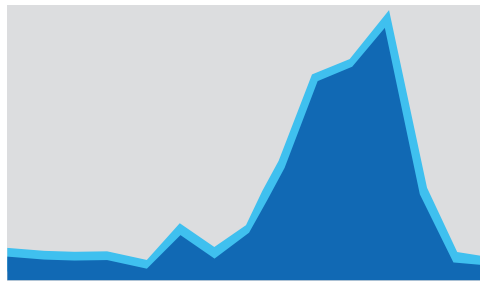
STATE OF MARITIME PIRACY 2014 AREAS OF INTEREST:



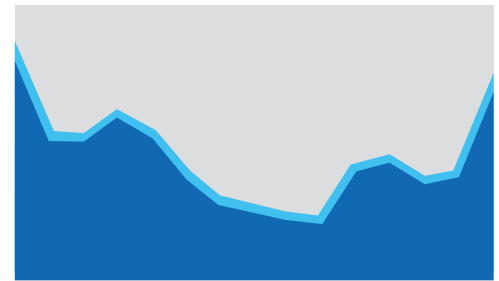
REGIONAL PIRACY TREND COMPARISON:



Gulf of Guinea  
(Attacks 2000-2014)



Western Indian Ocean Region  
(Attacks 2000-2014)



Southeast Asia  
(Attacks 2000-2014)

HUMAN COST OF PIRACY IN 2014:

**1035**  
**SEAFARERS**  
ATTACKED  
Gulf of Guinea

**320**  
**SEAFARERS**  
ATTACKED  
Western Indian Ocean

**3654**  
**SEAFARERS**  
ATTACKED  
Southeast Asia

RISKS:

- Violent initial attack
- Opportunistic kidnap and ransom

RISKS:

- Long-term hostage taking
- Regional seafarers more vulnerable

RISKS:

- High percentage of pirate boarding
- No regard for seafarer welfare

TOTAL SEAFARERS ATTACKED  
BY PIRATES IN 2014



**5009**

ECONOMIC COSTS OF PIRACY IN 2014:

**\$983**  
**MILLION**  
Gulf of Guinea

**\$2.3**  
**BILLION**  
Western Indian Ocean Region

Economic costs of Southeast Asia were not calculated for this year's report.

# THE STATE OF MARITIME PIRACY IN SE ASIA

## OVERVIEW

### HUMAN COST KEY FINDINGS:

**OVER 3000** SEAFARERS EXPERIENCED DIRECT CONTACT WITH PIRATES

**800** SEAFARERS SUBJECTED TO VIOLENCE OR THREAT OF VIOLENCE

**51%** OF ATTACKS INVOLVED WEAPONS

- OBP estimates that 40% of the seafarers affected by piracy were from countries within the SE Asia region.
- Physical abuse of seafarers was reported in 28% of incidents.
- The kidnapping for ransom model is absent in SE Asia. Pirates show a callous disregard for seafarers.

### PIRATE ACTIVITY KEY FINDINGS:

**185** TOTAL ATTACKS

**64%** OF ATTACKS OCCURRED NEAR THE MALACCA OR SINGAPORE STRAIT

**173/185** **93%** SUCCESSFUL BOARDING RATE

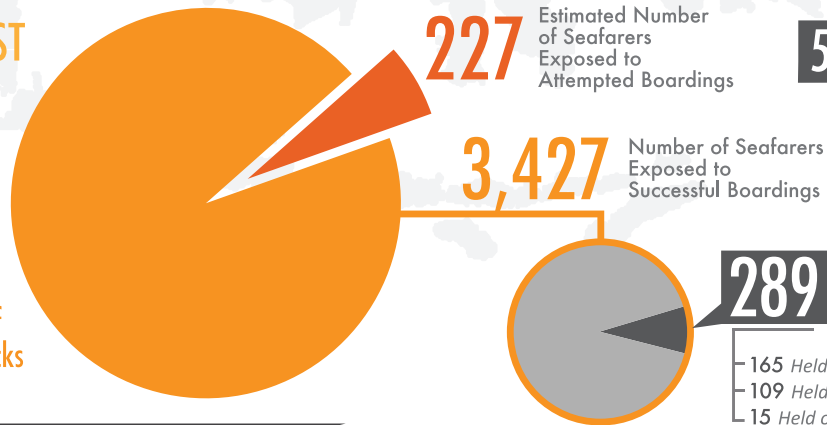
- The complex nature of maritime jurisdictions in the region presents many challenges for the reporting and classification of events.
- SE Asia recorded the highest rate of successful attacks of the three regions OBP assessed in this year's report.
- 93% boarding rate in SE Asia could be affected by reporting ambiguities and vulnerable shipping patterns.

### HUMAN COST BREAKDOWN:

2014 HUMAN COST OF PIRACY IN SE ASIA

**3,654**

Total Estimated Number of Seafarers Exposed to Attacks



**5** Seafarers Killed

**289** Known Number of Seafarers Held Hostage in 2014

- 165 Held for less than a day
- 109 Held for 2-13 days
- 15 Held of Unknown period of time

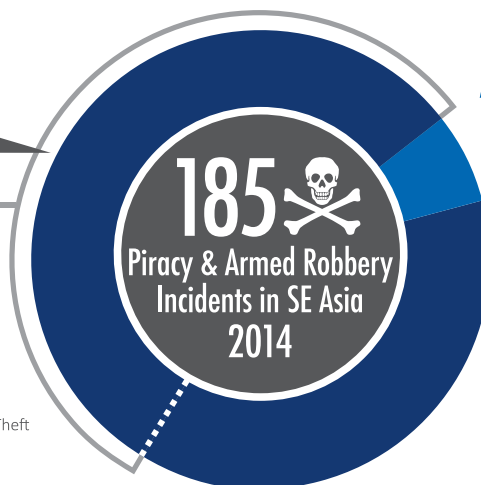
### PIRATE ACTIVITY BREAKDOWN:

**BOARDINGS**

**93% 173**

Once onboard the vessel **103 OF 173** Resulted in a successful attack

- 22 Involved Theft
- 69 Involved Aggravated Robbery
- 12 Involved Hostage-Taking and Cargo Theft



Attempted (Unsuccessful) Boarding

**7% 12**

# THE STATE OF MARITIME PIRACY IN THE WESTERN INDIAN OCEAN REGION

## OVERVIEW

### ECONOMIC COST KEY FINDINGS:

**\$2.3** BILLION  
TOTAL COST  
DOWN 28% COMPARED TO 2013

**64%** OF COSTS  
BORNE BY INDUSTRY

**2.5%** OF TOTAL COST  
ATTRIBUTED TO  
LONG-TERM INVESTMENT

- International navy coalition mandates remain unchanged, but fewer assets have been committed to the missions.
- The International Bargaining Forum's High Risk Area was adjusted in mid-2014, reducing the estimated number of transits - and therefore seafarers - eligible for hazard pay by 50%.
- Industry Best Management Practices (BMP), the defined High Risk Area (HRA) and the Joint War Committee (JWC) Listed Area for war risk insurance have not changed since 2012, but re-routing and observed speeds continue to decline and insurance premiums have dropped steadily since the height of the piracy crisis.
- Percentage of vessels employing armed guards remained stable, but teams are getting smaller and more diverse due to cost pressures.

### HUMAN COST KEY FINDINGS:

**320** SEAFARERS  
SUBJECTED TO ATTACKS

**18** HOSTAGES  
RELEASED  
IN 2014

**26** HIGH RISK  
HOSTAGES  
REMAIN IN CAPTIVITY  
HELD OVER 1,150 DAYS

- Accounts from released hostages in 2014 (11 hostages from *MV Albedo* held for 1,288 days & 7 hostages from *MV Asphalt Venture* held for 1,492 days) revealed the full extent of torture and mistreatment inflicted on seafarers.
- 26 hostages (all taken from *FV Naham 3* - hijacked 26 March 2012) remain at very high risk due to poor conditions of confinement ashore and slow negotiations.

### PIRATE ACTIVITY KEY FINDINGS:

**18** PIRATE ATTACKS

**2** DHOWS  
SUCCESSFULLY HIJACKED

**0** COMMERCIAL VESSELS HIJACKED

- Reports of "Suspicious Activity" are still common, accounting for 87% of all reported pirate activity in the Western Indian Ocean Region (WIOR); they are often classified as "False Alarms" by reporting centers.
- Restrictive reporting definitions and frameworks could mask important warning indicators and precursors.
- Incident reports for regional vessels are unreliable due to intimidation and lack of local reporting agencies.



# WESTERN INDIAN OCEAN OVERVIEW

## ECONOMIC COST BREAKDOWN:

**Total Economic Cost of Piracy  
in the  
WESTERN INDIAN OCEAN REGION  
2014**

**\$2.2 – \$2.3 Billion**

Government & Civil Society Costs  
\$805 Million

**36%**

- Naval Operations
- Ransoms & Associated Payments
- Prosecutions & Imprisonment
- Counter-Piracy Organizations

Industry-Employed  
Vessel Protection Measures  
\$1.2 Billion

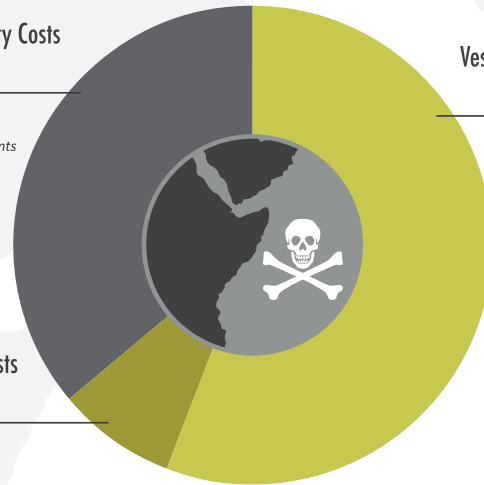
**56%**

- Armed Guards
- Security Equipment
- Increased Speed
- Rerouting

Other Industry Costs  
\$175 Million

**8%**

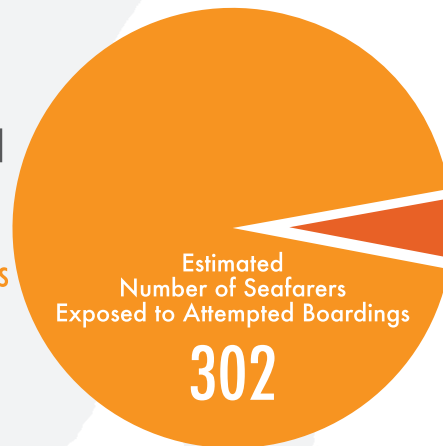
- Insurance
- Labor



## HUMAN COST BREAKDOWN:

**2014 HUMAN COST  
OF PIRACY IN THE  
WESTERN INDIAN OCEAN REGION**

**320** Total Estimated Number of Seafarers Exposed to Attacks



**18** Number of Seafarers Exposed to Successful Boardings



## PIRATE ACTIVITY BREAKDOWN:

Suspicious Activity

**124** **87%**

Pirate Attacks

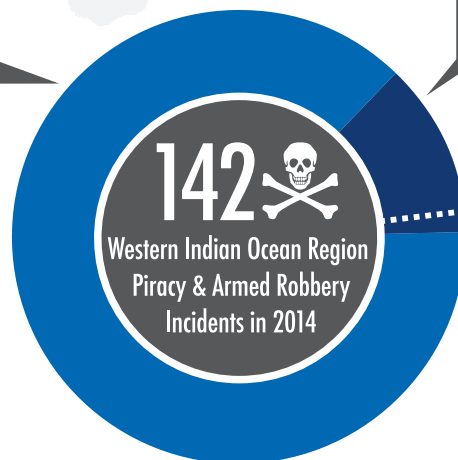
**18** **13%**

Successful Hijackings

**2** **1%** **11%** RATE OF SUCCESS

Note: Both successful hijackings were dhows

**ZERO** MERCHANT VESSELS  
Successfully Pirated in 2014



# THE STATE OF MARITIME PIRACY IN THE GULF OF GUINEA

## OVERVIEW

### ECONOMIC COST KEY FINDINGS:

**\$983**  
MILLION  
TOTAL COST

**\$314**  
MILLION SPENT ON  
VESSEL PROTECTION MEASURES

**47%** OF COSTS  
BORNE BY INDUSTRY

- Region significantly increased priority for developing its maritime security infrastructure, but capacity still lacking.
- Over half of the total economic cost attributed to military operations.
- Ransom costs estimated at \$1.6 Million, but confidential systems of payment make true cost difficult to obtain.
- OBP estimations show 29% of total costs attributable to regional states.

### HUMAN COST KEY FINDINGS:

**1035**  
SEAFARERS  
SUBJECTED  
TO ATTACKS

**170** SEAFARERS  
DETAINED  
OR HELD HOSTAGE

**55%** OF ATTACKS  
INVOLVED WEAPONS

- Information related to the impact of piracy attacks on seafarers is limited due to reporting challenges.
- Seafarer awareness and advocacy more challenging in the Gulf of Guinea.
- Regional seafarers at greater risk due to intimidation from local perpetrators.
- No piracy prosecutions/No accountability for criminals.

### PIRATE ACTIVITY KEY FINDINGS:

**67**  
TOTAL ATTACKS

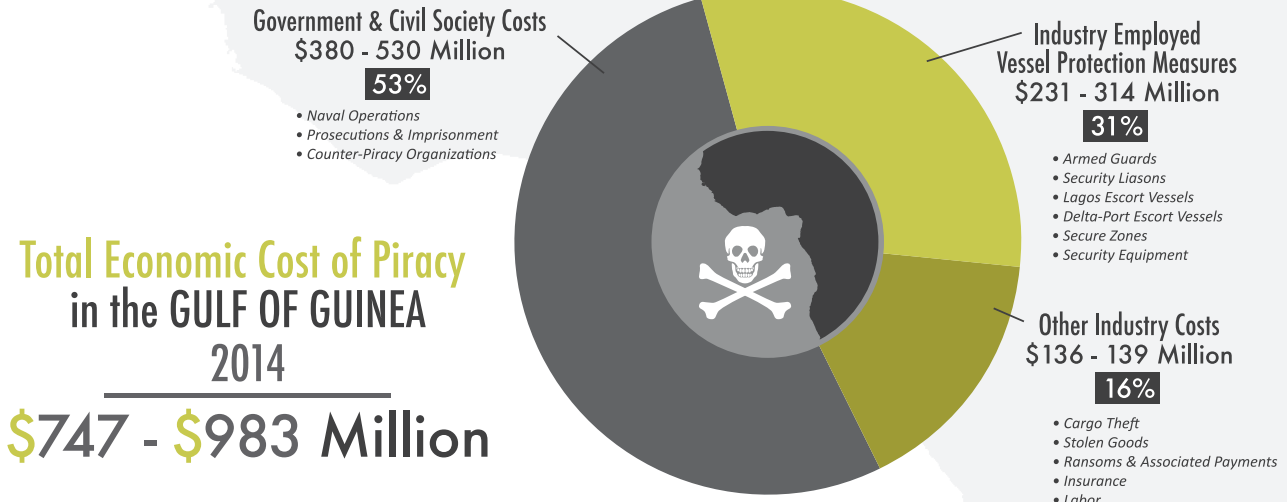
**58%** OF ATTACKS  
OCCURRED IN  
INTERNATIONAL WATERS

**26**  
**67** **39%**  
ATTACK SUCCESS RATE

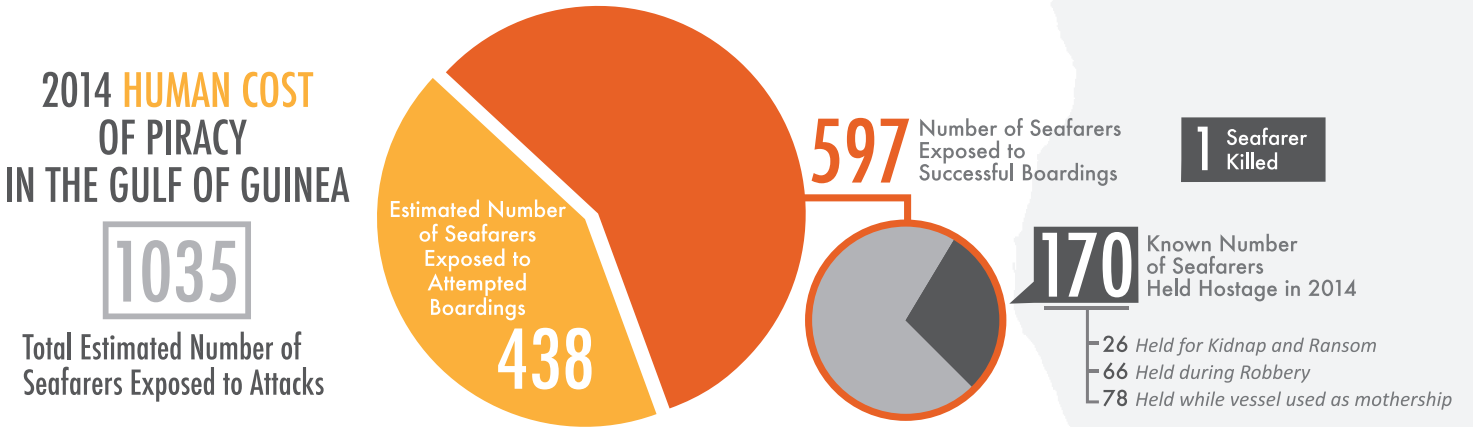
- Decline in reported attacks in 2014, but consistent with historical patterns of fluctuation in the region.
- As many as 70% of attacks go unreported (Pottengal Mukundan - Director, International Maritime Bureau - IMB).
- Increase in number of attacks in international waters represents piracy's expanding geographical range.
- 60% of piracy incidents occurred in the waters off Nigeria.

# GULF OF GUINEA OVERVIEW

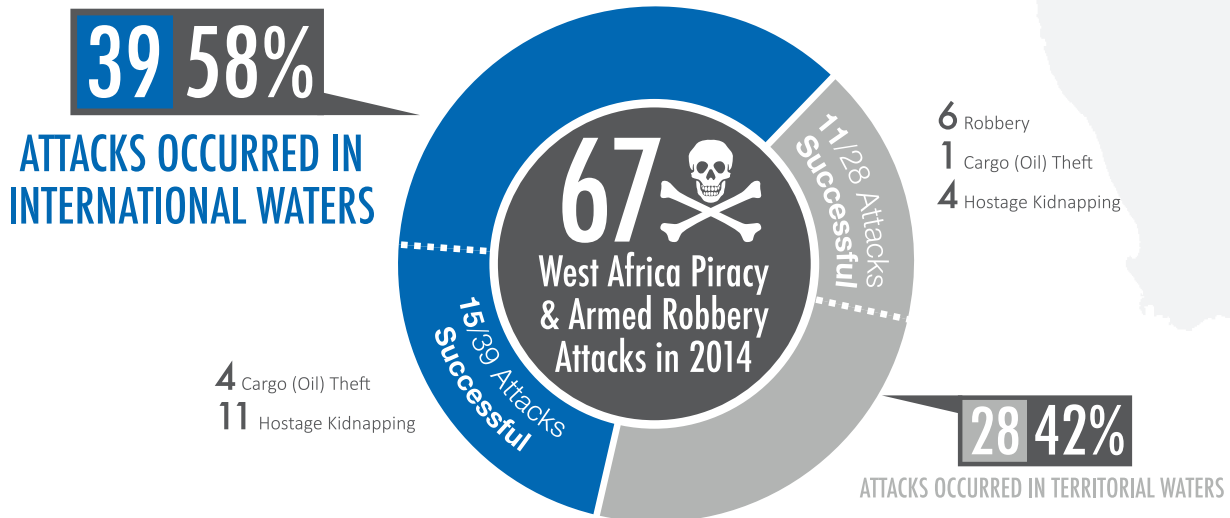
## ECONOMIC COST BREAKDOWN:



## HUMAN COST BREAKDOWN:



## PIRATE ACTIVITY BREAKDOWN:





---

[www.oceansbeyondpiracy.org](http://www.oceansbeyondpiracy.org)

---

For more information on The State of Maritime Piracy 2014 report, please contact:

**MATT WALJE**

*Project Officer, Oceans Beyond Piracy*

Office: +1 720 274 8223

Mobile: +1 913 909 1185

[mwalje@oneearthfuture.org](mailto:mwalje@oneearthfuture.org)

**JENS VESTERGAARD MADSEN**

*Senior Project Associate, Oceans Beyond Piracy*

Mobile: +1 303 709 4776

[jvmadsen@oneearthfuture.org](mailto:jvmadsen@oneearthfuture.org)