



MARINE CASUALTIES AND INCIDENTS

**PRELIMINARY ANNUAL OVERVIEW
OF MARINE CASUALTIES
AND INCIDENTS 2014-2019**

March 2020

Foreword

Based on reports received from the national accident investigation bodies of the EU, 2019 was a positive year for maritime safety, with a 9% reduction in the overall number of accidents and a 40% reduction in the number of fatalities, when compared with the average over the past six years. There was also a 10% reduction in the number of persons injured.

While the number of passenger vessels involved in marine accidents remained stable in 2019, the number of ships in all other categories of accidents fell. This was particularly significant for cargo ships, which experienced a 17% drop compared to 2018.

Over the period 2014-2019, almost half the casualties to ships were navigational in nature, including contact, collision and grounding or stranding.

About one third of all the marine casualties recorded were occupational accidents, i.e. affecting only persons. Of these, the main cause was stumbling and falling, which accounted for 35% of all cases.

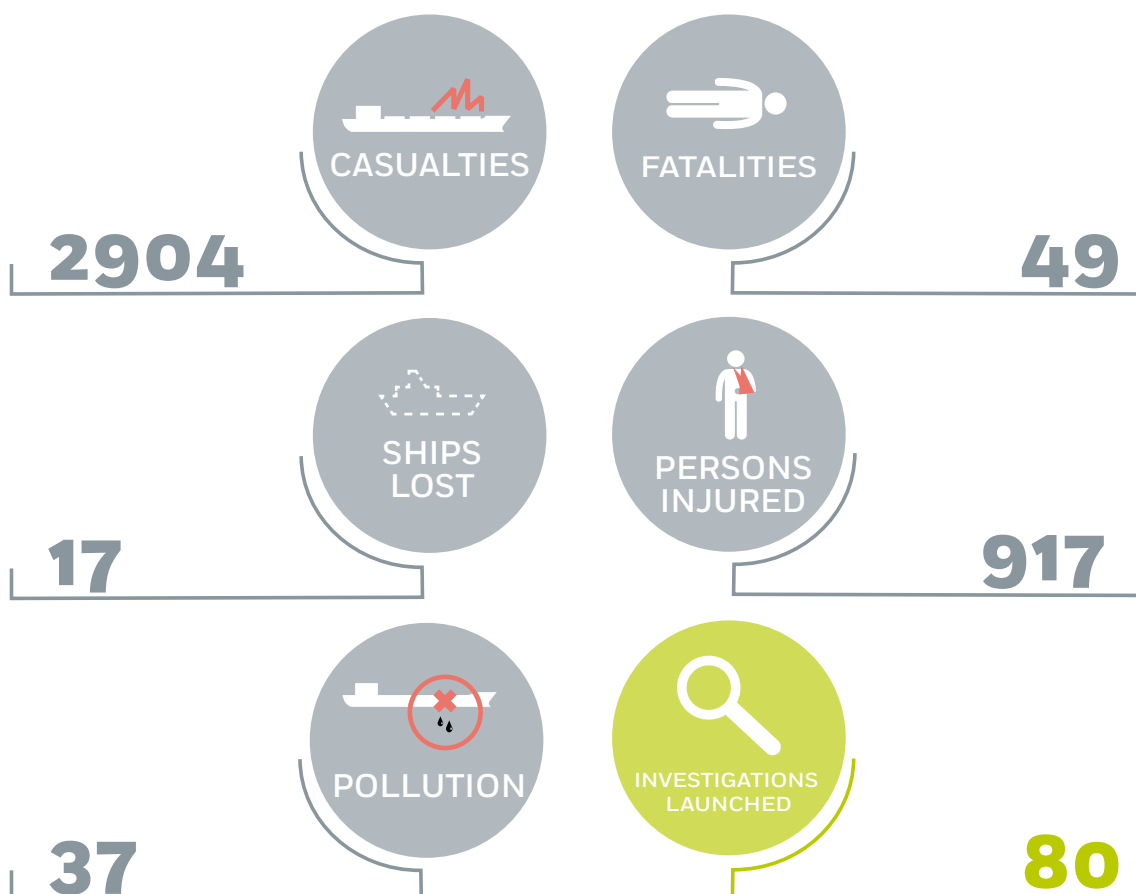
57% of the ships lost over the period were fishing vessels.

On a more positive note, pollution resulting from marine casualties has also dropped significantly since 2015. It fell by almost half from 2018 to 2019.

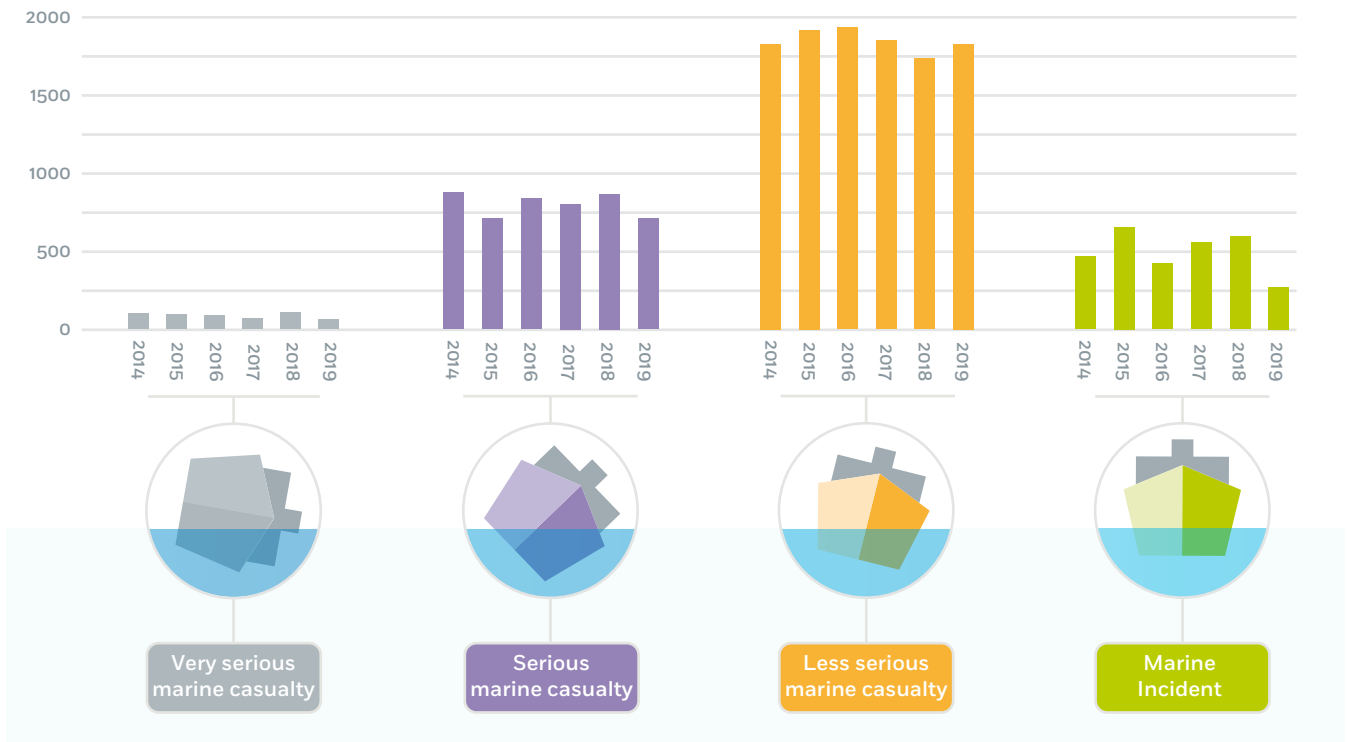
Accident investigation bodies of the EU have launched approximately 800 investigations in the past six years, of which 627 have been concluded. This has led to 1780 safety recommendations mainly targeting the area of Ship Related Procedures.

Before the end of each year, EMSA prepares the "Annual Overview of Marine Casualties and Incidents" publication, which gives much more detailed information on the statistics gathered from the accident investigation bodies of the EU.

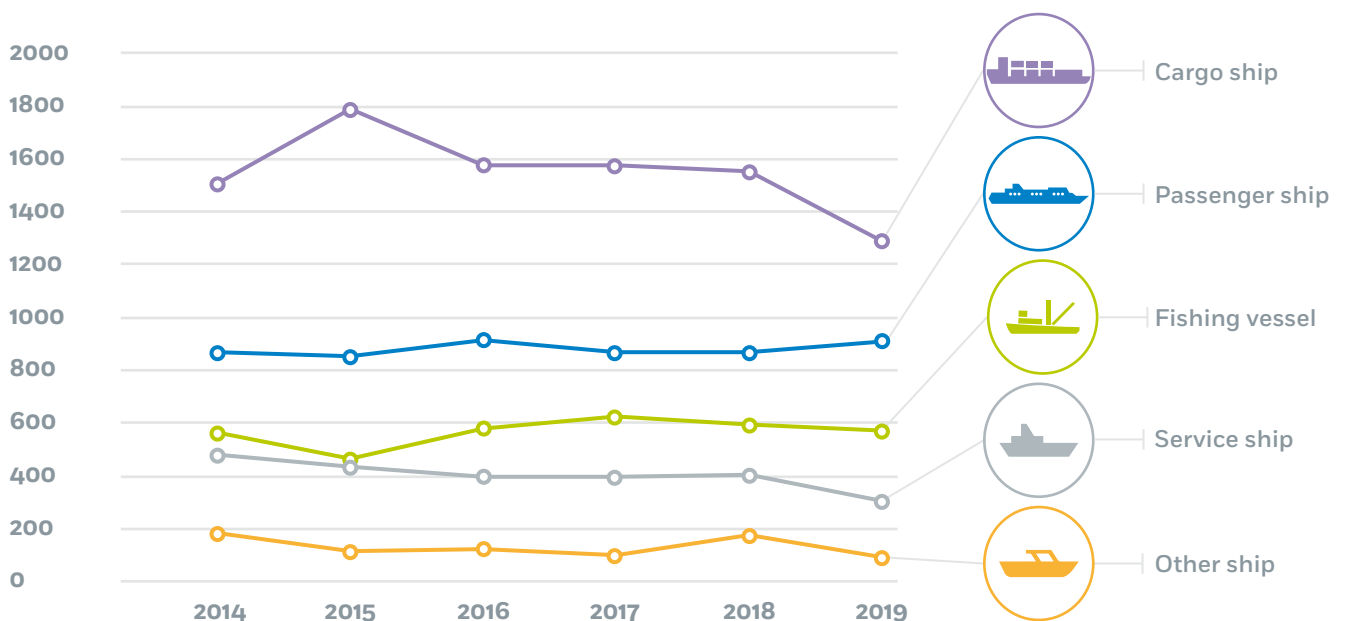
Overview of key figures for 2019



Severity of marine casualties and incidents

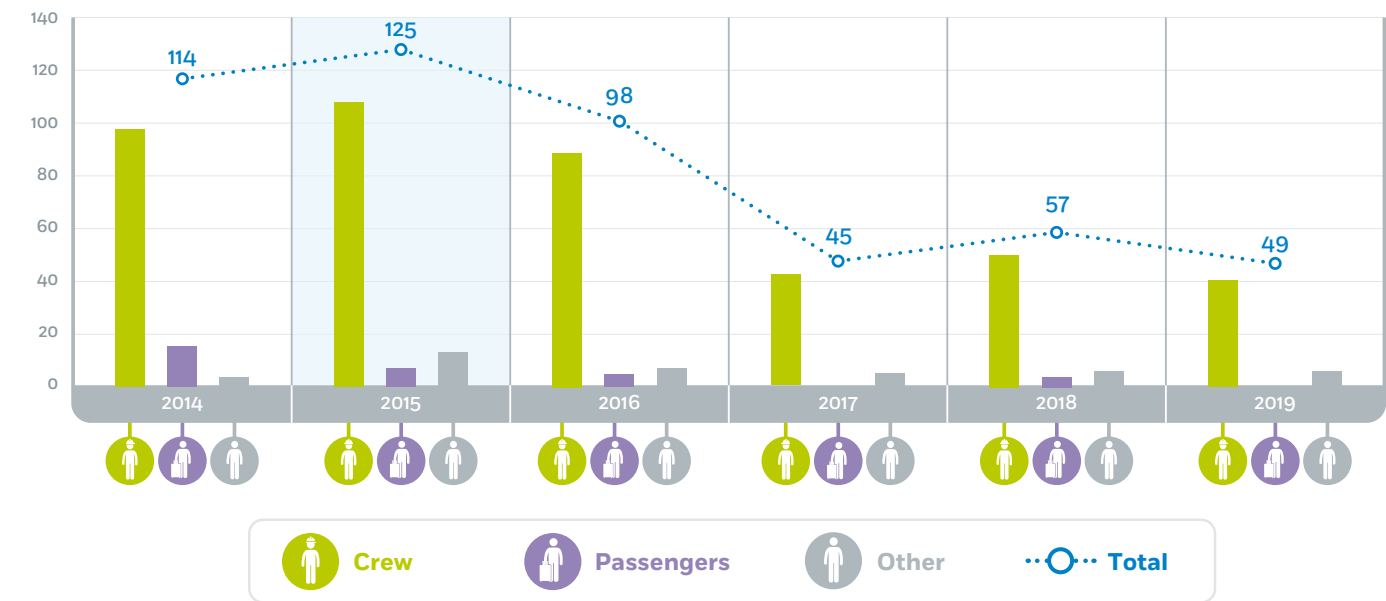


Ship types involved

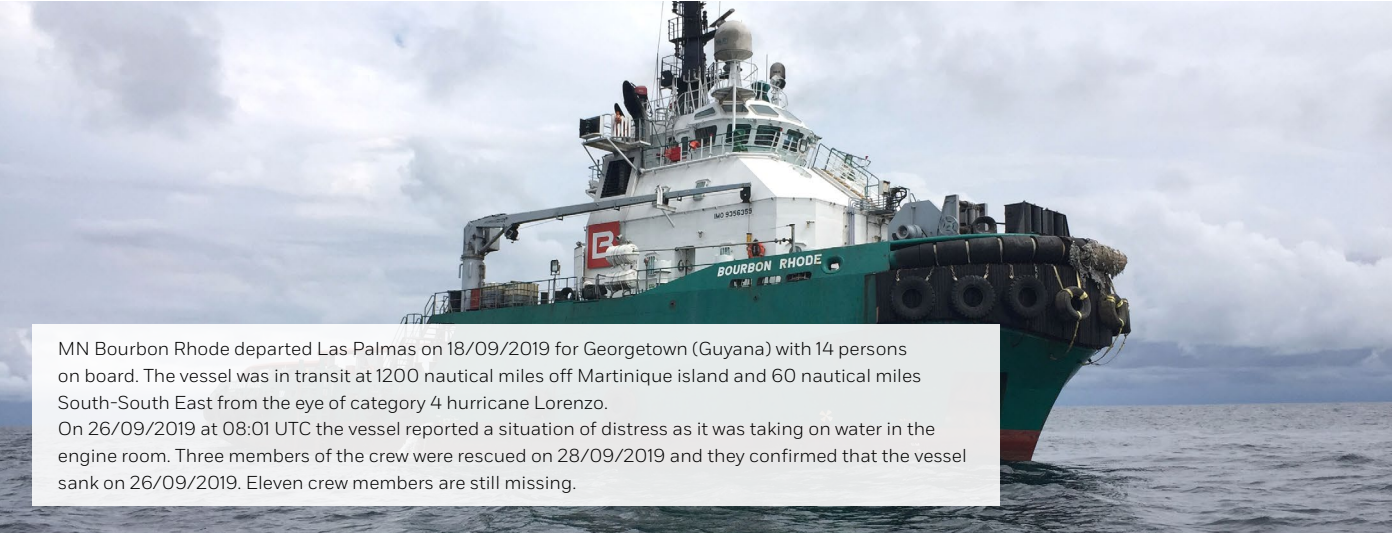
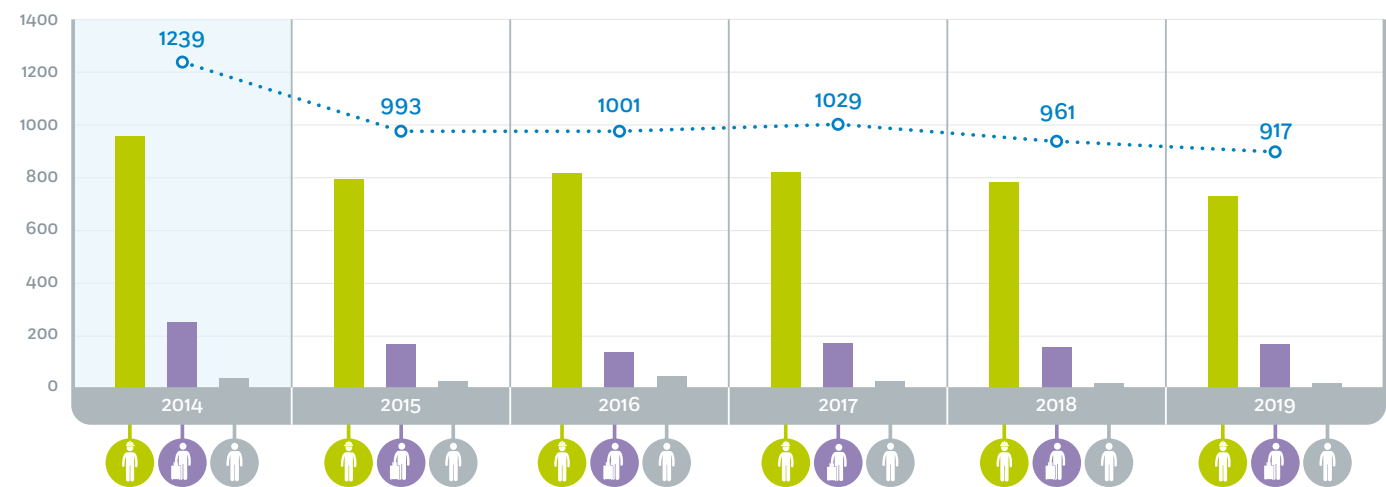


Consequences to persons

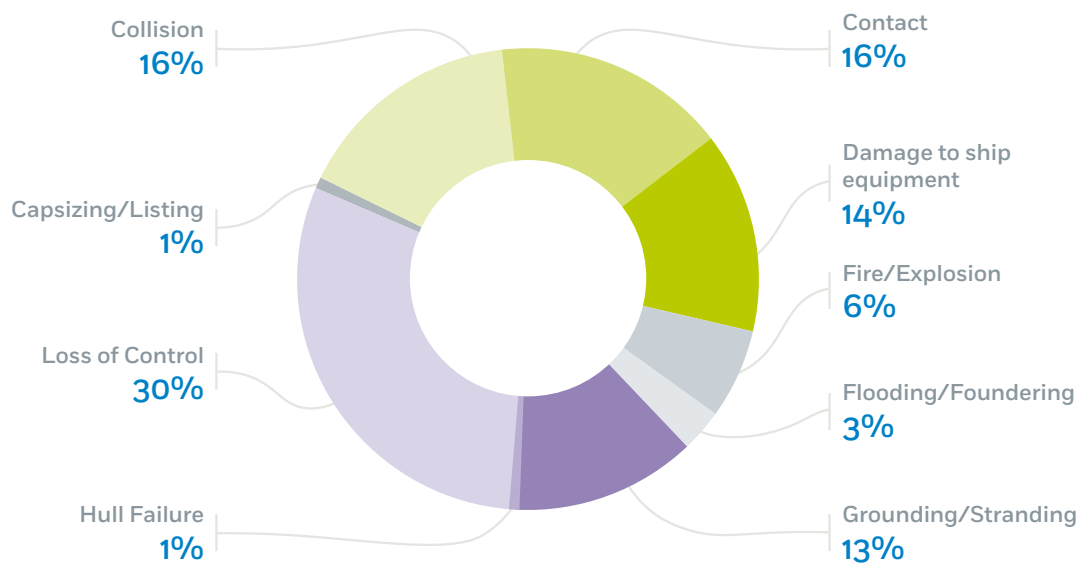
Fatalities



Injuries



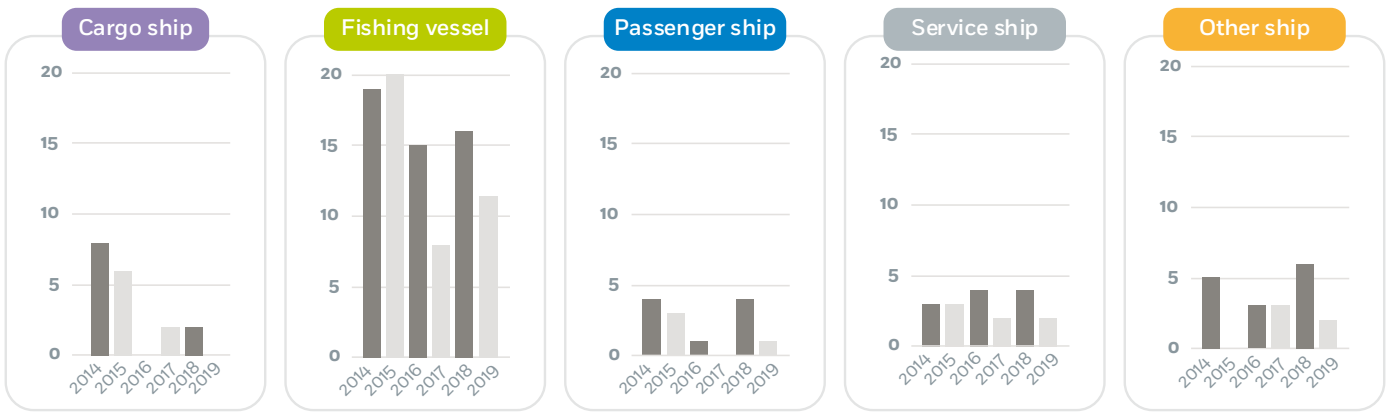
Causes of accidents to ships



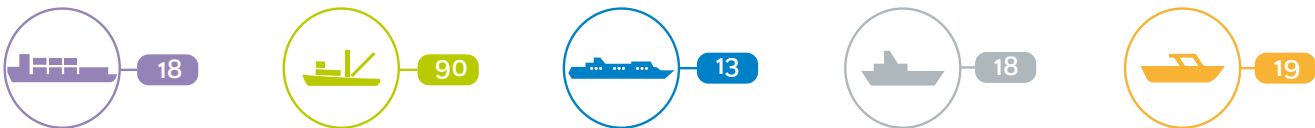
Causes of accidents to persons

		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	
Body movement under or with physical stress		68	62	84	87	131	103	↓
Body movement without any physical stress		237	289	281	216	221	267	↑
Breakage, bursting, splitting, fall, collapse of material agent		110	102	76	80	80	69	↓
Deviation by overflow, overturn, leak, flow, vaporisation, emission		56	68	48	35	43	37	↓
Deviation due to electrical problems, explosion, fire		21	23	21	10	14	7	↓
Loss of control of machine, means of transport, handling equipment		227	224	195	237	194	135	↓
Slipping - Stumbling and falling - Fall of persons		544	552	555	591	537	437	↓
Other / Unspecified		115	156	189	201	165	182	↑

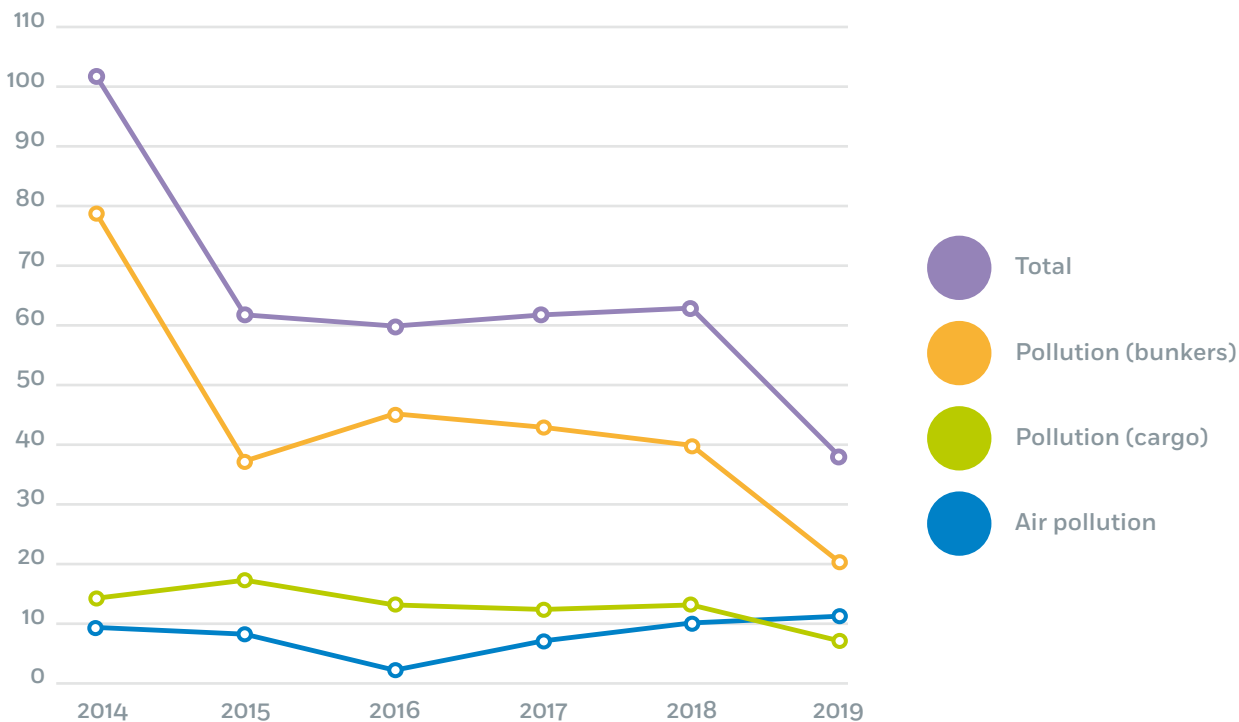
Loss of ships



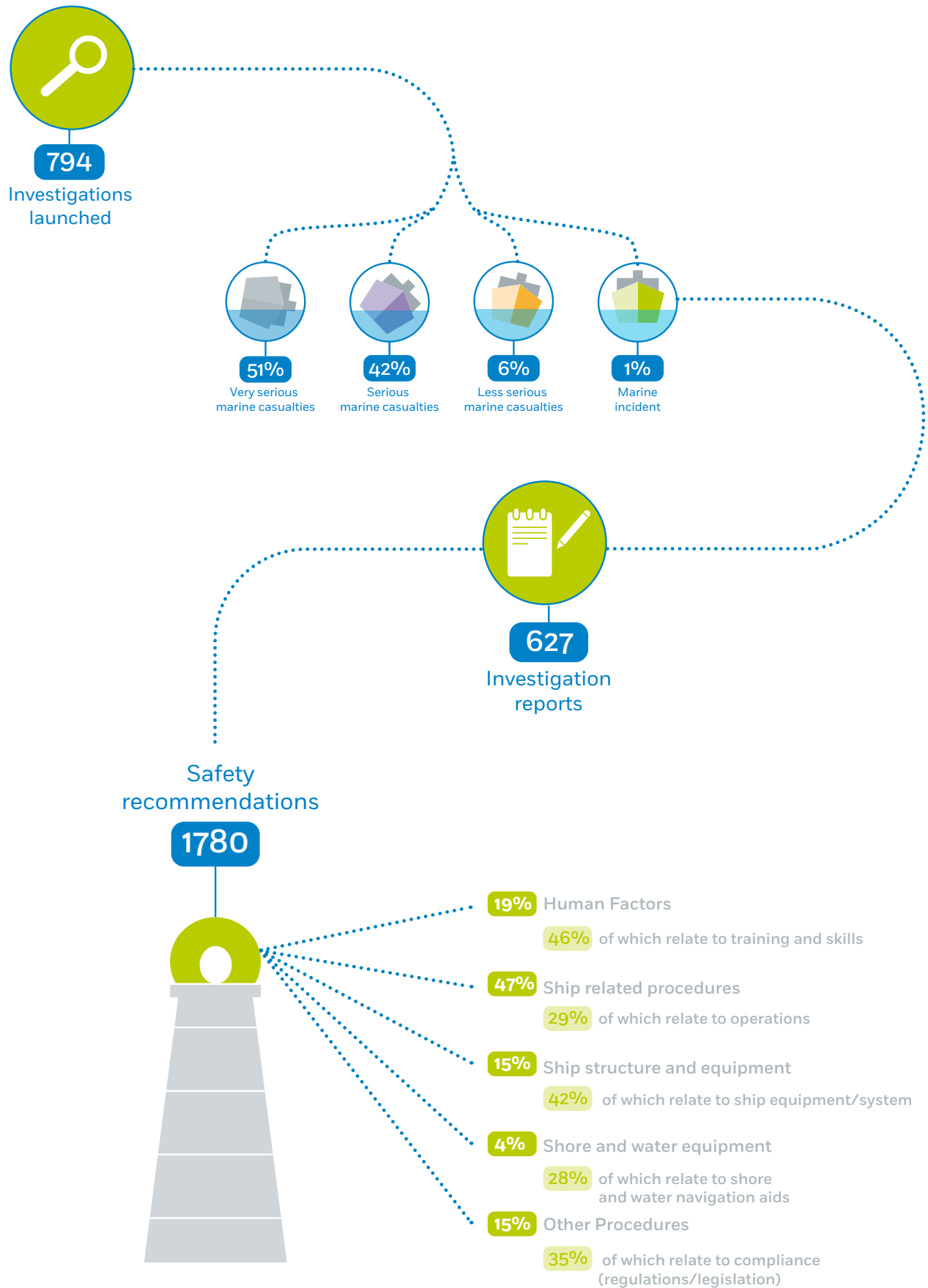
Total losses of ships 2014-2019

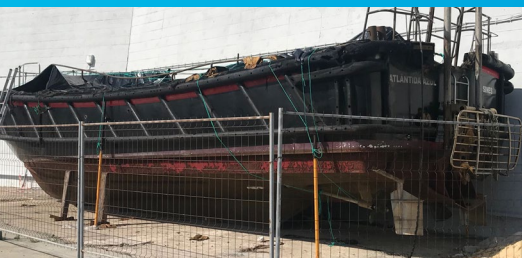


Pollutions resulting from marine accidents



Investigations launched and safety recommendations





ABOUT THE EUROPEAN MARITIME SAFETY AGENCY

The European Maritime Safety Agency is one of the European Union's decentralised agencies. Based in Lisbon, the Agency's mission is to ensure a high level of maritime safety, maritime security, prevention of and response to pollution from ships, as well as response to marine pollution from oil and gas installations. The overall purpose is to promote a safe, clean and economically viable maritime sector in the EU.

Cover image: On the night of January 1, 2019, MSC ZOE lost approximately 342 containers in heavy weather on the journey from Portugal to Bremerhaven.

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Photo credits: NL/DSB – LU/AET – PT/GAMA – Hapag Lloyd

ABOUT CASUALTY DATA AND EMCIP

This publication contains statistics on marine casualties and incidents that: involve ships flying a flag of one of the EU Member States; occur within EU Member States' territorial sea and internal waters; or involve other substantial interests of the EU Member States.

The figures presented provide a general overview of the safety of maritime transport in the scope of European interests.

More detailed information can be found at:

www.emsa.europa.eu/accident-investigation-publications.html

and at:

www.portal.emsa.europa.eu/emcip-public/#/public-occurrences

emsa.europa.eu

Get in touch for more information

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