<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Definition/classification of piracy:</th>
<th>Categories used:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| UNCLOS       | “Piracy” consists of any of the following acts:  
(a) any illegal acts of violence or detention, or any act of depredation, committed for private ends by the crew or the passengers of a private ship or a private aircraft, and directed:  
i. on the high seas, against another ship or aircraft, or against persons or property on board such ship or aircraft;  
ii. against a ship, aircraft, persons or property in a place outside the jurisdiction of any State;  
(b) any act of voluntary participation in the operation of a ship or of an aircraft with knowledge of facts making it a pirate ship or aircraft;  
(c) any act of inciting or of intentionally facilitating an act described in subparagraph (a) or (b). | |
| IMO Resolution A.1025(26), 18 January 2010 | “Armed robbery against ships” means any of the following acts:  
• any illegal act of violence or detention or any act of depredation, or threat thereof, other than an act of piracy, committed for private ends and directed against a ship or against persons or property on board such a ship, within a State’s internal waters, archipelagic waters and territorial sea;  
• any act of inciting or of intentionally facilitating an act described above. | |
| BIMCO, NATO Shipping centre, International Chamber of shipping, INTERTANKO, INTERCARGO | Typical Pirate Attacks: (Taken from Interim Guidelines For Protection Against Piracy in the Gulf of Guinea)  
• Armed Robbery  
  o “For the most part the intention is to take valuables from the safe, IT equipment, and personal effects.”  
• Cargo theft  
  o “Vessels are hijacked for several days and cargo is transferred to a smaller vessel.”  
• Kidnapping  
  o “Robbery is often the prime objective but occasional kidnapping of crew members can occur.”  
NOTE:  
• Because the description of Cargo theft explicitly involves hijacking, it has been tallied as such. | |
| Best Management Practices Signatories (BMP4): | BMP4 ➔ produced and supported by BIMCO, ICS, IMB, INTERCARGO, INTERTANKO, CMF, INTERPOL, MARLO, NSC, among others.  
The following definitions distinguish between the differing levels of pirate activity:  
• Pirate attacks: A piracy attack as opposed to an approach is where a vessel has been subjected to an aggressive approach by a pirate craft AND weapons have been discharged.  
• Hijack: A hijack is where pirates have boarded and taken control of a vessel against the crew’s will. | |
- Illegal boarding: An illegal boarding is where pirates have boarded a vessel but HAVE NOT taken control. Command remains with the Master. The most obvious example of this: the Citadel scenario.

It provides a more practical definition of piracy, and has a significant difference in terms of **jurisdiction** (is NOT restricted to the high seas):

A pirate attack may include, but is not limited to, actions such as the following:
- The use of violence against the ship or its personnel, or any attempt to use violence
- Attempt(s) to board the vessel where the Master suspects the persons are pirates
- An actual boarding whether successful in gaining control of the vessel or not
- Attempts to overcome the Ship Protection measures by use of (1) ladders (2) grappling hooks (3) weapons deliberately used against or at the vessel.

Note on jurisdiction:
- BMP4: "For the purposes of the BMP, the term ‘piracy’ includes all acts of violence against ships, her crew and cargo. This includes armed robbery and attempts to board and take control of the ship, wherever this may take place."

### EU Naval Force - Somalia
Categories taken from **Key Facts and Figures**:  
- Suspicious Events  
- Total Attacks  
- Of Which Pirated  
- Disruptions

Note: EU-NAVFOR also keeps track of vessels and hostages currently held

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Types of attacks</th>
<th>Boarding</th>
<th>Hijacked</th>
<th>Pirate attack</th>
<th>Petty theft/low level robbery</th>
<th>Suspicious activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Suspicious Events</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Attacks</td>
<td></td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Of Which Pirated</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disruptions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✔️</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### International Maritime Bureau (IMB)
The IMB Piracy Reporting Centre follows the UNCLOS piracy definition & Armed Robbery definition as per IMO Resolution A.1025 (26), 18 January 2010

Types of attacks (taken from **2013 Annual IMB Piracy Report**):
- Attempted  
- Boarded  
- Fired Upon  
- Hijack

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Types of attacks</th>
<th>Boarding</th>
<th>Hijacked</th>
<th>Kidnap for Ransom</th>
<th>Oil Theft</th>
<th>Boarded</th>
<th>Fired Upon/attempted boarding</th>
<th>Pirate attack</th>
<th>Petty theft/low level robbery</th>
<th>Suspicious activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attempted</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boarded</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Fired Upon</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hijack</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✔️</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
IMB Piracy & Armed Robbery Attack Report Form:

- Asks for type of attack (categories)
  - (1) Boarded
  - (2) Fired upon
  - (3) Attempted

- Asks consequences for crew, ship and cargo
  - Injuries
  - Fatalities
  - Items/cash stolen

- Asks details of raiding party:
  - Number of pirates
  - Duration of attack
  - Aggressive/violent

- Details of weapons used and damage caused:
  - Weapons cited?
  - Weapon type
  - Weapon used?
  - Damage caused? Details?
  - Ladder sighted?
  - Other boarding equipment sighted?

- Further details:
  - Action taken by master/crew?
  - Action taken by authorities?
  - Anti-piracy measures employed?
  - PMSC embarked?
  - Number of crew

The IMO follows the UNCLOS piracy definition & Armed Robbery definition as per IMO Resolution A.1025 (26), 18 January 2010

From IMO West and Central Africa Strategy (2014):
"For the purposes of the Code of Conduct, transnational organized crime in the maritime domain consists of any of the following acts when committed at sea:
- Money laundering
- Illegal arms and drug trafficking
- Piracy and armed robbery against ships
- Illegal oil bunkering
- Crude oil theft
- Human trafficking
- Human smuggling
- Maritime pollution

- Pirate attack
- Petty theft/low level robbery
- Suspicious activity
- IUU fishing
- Illegal dumping of toxic waste.”

From IMO Reports on Acts of Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships (March 2014)
- The summary of reports of maritime crime include a distinction between acts of piracy and acts of armed robbery against ships (annex 1) and attempted attacks (annex 2).
- The Secretariat has, since July 2002, classified separately any reported incidents of piracy and armed robbery at sea (international or territorial waters) vis-à-vis acts of armed robbery allegedly committed in port areas, as well as attempted acts of armed robbery

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Categories: (from weekly piracy reports)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vessels Hijacked</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boarding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vessels Fired Upon/attempted boarding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kidnapping (only a category for GoG, not HoA)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Piracy Levels:**
- High: More than 5 piracy incidents in this one-week period
- Moderate: 2–4 piracy incidents in this one-week period
- Low: 0–1 piracy incidents in this one-week period

**Terminology:**
- Attempted Boarding – Close approach or hull-to-hull contact with report that boarding paraphernalia were employed or visible in the approaching boat
- Blocking – Hampering safe navigation, docking, or undocking of a vessel as a means of protest
- Boarding – Unauthorized boarding of a vessel by persons not part of its complement without successfully taking control of the vessel
- Firing Upon – Weapons discharged at or toward a vessel
- Hijacking – Unauthorized seizure and retention of a vessel by persons not part of its complement
- Kidnapping – Unauthorized forcible removal of persons belonging to the vessel from it
- Robbery – Theft from a vessel or from persons aboard the vessel
- Suspicious Approach – All other unexplained close proximity of an unknown vessel

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Categories taken from Piracy Statistics:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Suspicious Activity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o Any piracy related event that is suspicious enough to warrant consideration and sharing with the merchant shipping community, but does not have sufficient weight to constitute an approach, attack, or Pirated/Hijacked vessel.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Approach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o Any piracy event that is suspicious enough to warrant consideration and includes actions by a suspicious vessel closing on a steady bearing, having a very close CPA, and/or weapons clearly seen on display as a show of force or threat against the vessel but have not yet been discharged against the merchant vessel.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
An Approach is not an attack, or Pirated/Hijacked Vessel.

- **Attack**
  - Any piracy event that has been clearly deemed as a threat against a merchant vessel. An attack may have escalated from Suspicious Activity and Approach, but it is clear that weapons have been discharged against the merchant vessel, or a clear attempt to board the vessel has been made. This is determined by the attacking vessel(s):
    - a) Discharging weapons fire against
    - b) Making contact with, and/or
    - c) Having illegally boarded (but have not gotten control of both propulsion and steerage of) the merchant vessel.
  - An Attack is not an approach or pirated/hijacked vessel.

- **Pirated/Hijacked Vessel**
  - An attack where the vessel has been boarded by pirates and the master/crew has lost control of both steerage and propulsion.

- **Disruption**
  - Any of the above categories that have been confirmed as having been interrupted by Military intervention.

### NYA International (NYA)

Categories of incidents taken from [Q2 2014 Piracy Assessment – West Africa](#)

- **Attempt**
- **Attack**
- **Robbery**
- **Hijack**

Note: NYA also makes a threat assessment, and analyzes the following:

- Pirates modus operandi
- Pirate areas of operation
- Hijackings
- Crew kidnapping
- Violence against crew
- Regional Response
- International Response
- PMSCs in Nigerian Waters

### Oceans Beyond Piracy (OBP)

Three models of piracy, taken from [State of Piracy Report 2013](#):

- **Robbery**
  - Defined as any incident in which the intent is to board the vessel and steal ship stores, equipment, and/or the crew’s personal effects
- **Kidnap for Ransom**
  - Occurs when pirates carry out an attack with the explicit intent to hijack the vessel and hold the crew hostage while they negotiate a ransom payment.
- **Oil theft**
  - Vessels carrying refined oil product are targeted and attacked specifically for the value of the oil cargo
they are carrying. Once the vessel is hijacked the crew is often forced to navigate the vessel to an unknown location where the cargo can be lightered either to another vessel or to a storage facility on land.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OCEANUSLive</th>
<th>Piracy incident categories (taken from 2014 weekly maritime situational report)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hijacks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Unsuccessful attacks/robberies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Other incidents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Suspicious activity</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Office of Naval Intelligence (ONI)</th>
<th>Maritime OPINTEL Report: note that the report largely resembles MARLO reports, and the report states that they get their information from various sources, one of which is MARLO</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Categories:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Vessels Hijacked</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Kidnapping (only a category for GoG, not HoA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Note that they also appear to be keeping track of “suspicious activity”, but only on the maps of reported incidents, not in their tables.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Piracy Levels:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>High: More than 5 piracy incidents in this one-week period</td>
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</table>

-6-
control of the vessel
- Firing Upon – Weapons discharged at or toward a vessel
- Hijacking – Unauthorized seizure and retention of a vessel by persons not part of its complement
- Kidnapping – Unauthorized forcible removal of persons belonging to the vessel from it
- Robbery – Theft from a vessel or from persons aboard the vessel
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### Overseas Security Advisory Council (OSAC)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Categories: (from e-mail)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hijacked</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fired upon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robbery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boarded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attempted boarding or robbery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kidnapping</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia (ReCAAP)

**Piracy and Armed Robbery Against Ships in Asia Annual Report 2013**

Piracy is defined in accordance with UNCLOS & Armed Robbery as per IMO Resolution A.1025 (26), 18 January 2010

Beyond piracy & armed robbery, ReCAAP includes **petty theft**
- Definition: whoever, intending to dishonestly take any moveable property out of the possession of any person/vessel without the person/owner’s consent, moves that property for private gains, is said to commit theft.
- For purpose of classifying an incident as petty theft, the classification methodology is adopted with the following pre-requisites:
  a. Incident meets the criteria to be considered as an act of armed robbery against ships, and
  b. Incident is categorized as a Category 3 incident, and
  c. The robbers who boarded the vessel were not armed or no reports that they were armed, and
  d. The crew of the vessel was not harmed or no reports that the crew was harmed

**Categories:**
- 1. Very significant
- 2. Moderately significant
- 3. Less significant
- Petty theft: minimum significant
Methodology in classifying incidents: (ReCAAP considers two factors):

1. **Level of violence** → three indicators used to determine this:
   - **Type of weapons used:**
     - No weapons = “generally less violent”
     - Pistols, knives, machetes and another dangerous weapons = violent
     - More sophisticated weapons = “more violent”
   - **Treatment of crew**
     - Killing/kidnapping is more violent than petty thieves who flee upon being noticed
     - Other cases include threatening crew, assault, serious injury.
   - **Number of pirates/robbers engaged in an attack.**
     - As a rule, an incident where a larger number of pirates/robbers were involved would be considered more significant as having a large capacity (as well as probability) for use of force.
     - A larger number of pirates/robbers may also indicate the involvement of gangs or organized syndicates rather than petty and opportunistic pirates who generally operate in small groups

2. **Economic factor**
   - The type of property taken from the ship
   - Cases of theft of cash or personal effects are generally less significant incidents compared to cases where the entire ship is hijacked either for the cargo onboard or theft of the vessel

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**SURITEC**

SURITEC specializes in analytics, software development, systems integration and consulting for government and commercial customers. They release monthly piracy reports for analysis of the most recent piracy incidents, robbery of ships and maritime terrorism incidents worldwide.

- Hijacking
- Kidnapping
- Political Motivated
- Robbery While Underway
- Robbery While Anchored
- Failed Attempts

---

**United Kingdom Marine Trade Operations (UKMTO)**

Categories taken from Weekly Report (5-11 July 2014)
- Attacked
- Boarded
- Hijacked
### US Counter Piracy and Maritime Security Action Plan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Three types of incidents in the GoG: (from the US Counter Piracy and Maritime Security Action Plan 2014)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Low-level robberies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Kidnap for ransom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Hijacking for cargo theft.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Note: hijacking includes oil theft.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR-UNOSAT)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The UNOSAT Global Report on Maritime Piracy (1995-2013) includes a tentative severity index, outlined below:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The typology is built on available data distributed in various fields of the database: “violence”, “assaulted crew”, “wounded crew”, “date of the ship release”, “loss of lives”, “missing crew”.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Levels of severity:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• level 4: At least 1 dead or missing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• level 3: Actual violence reported, 1 or more wounded or taken hostage, ship hijacked</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• level 2: Threat of violence, or mutiny (“crew involved”)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• level 1: No threat of violence reported</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: UNOSAT did not include the type of weapon reported in this tentative scale of severity — one could argue that carrying rocket-propelled grenades is in itself a threat of violence, but this would have to be reflected in the field “violence” instead of the descriptive “weapon” field.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Incident Type</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hijacked</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fired Upon/Attempted Boarding</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kidnap for Ransom</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boarded</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pirate Attack</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suspicious activity</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robbery</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Petty theft/low level robbery</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oil Theft</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>