



Regional marine incident summaries

5. Regional marine incident summaries

This section looks at each Maritime Safety Queensland region in terms of its features, geography and recent marine incident history and trends.

A map is included for each region showing spatially where marine incidents occurred in the region since 2004. Incidents are depicted according to their severity.

5.1 Gold Coast region

Table 13: Key characteristics—Gold Coast region

Mainland coast	189 km		
Island coast	266 km		
Rivers and creeks	210 km		
Major inland waterways	Tidal limits of the Logan, Pimpama, Coomera and Nerang Rivers, Tallebudgera and Currumbin Creeks		
	Hinze and Maroon Dams		
	Lake Moogerah		
	Residential canal developments		
Offshore waters	Pacific Ocean from Jumpinpin Bar at the northern end of South Stradbroke Island to Point Danger on the Queensland/New South Wales border.		
Major harbours	Southport Broadwater (recreational boating, hire and drive, tourism, jet skis)		
	Gold Coast Seaway		
	Coomera marine precinct (boat building, recreational boating, hire and drive, tourism)		
Registered recreational vessels 2007	29 860	Growth 2006-07	5.5%
Registered commercial vessels 2007	982	Growth 2006-07	5.1%
Reported marine incidents 2007	103	Fatalities	0
		Serious injuries	8

The Gold Coast region experienced a high rate of growth in vessel registrations in 2007 with both commercial and recreational vessel registration increasing by more than five percent. The 5.1 percent increase in commercial vessel registrations on the Gold Coast is noteworthy given a state-wide growth rate of just 1.3 percent.

In 2007 13.6 percent of the registered recreational vessels in Queensland were located in the Gold Coast region.

103 marine incidents were reported in the Gold Coast region in 2007, an increase of 15.7 percent from 2006. The number of reported marine incidents in the region has been gradually increasing over the past five years with the number of incidents in 2007 being the highest number recorded (see Figure 33).

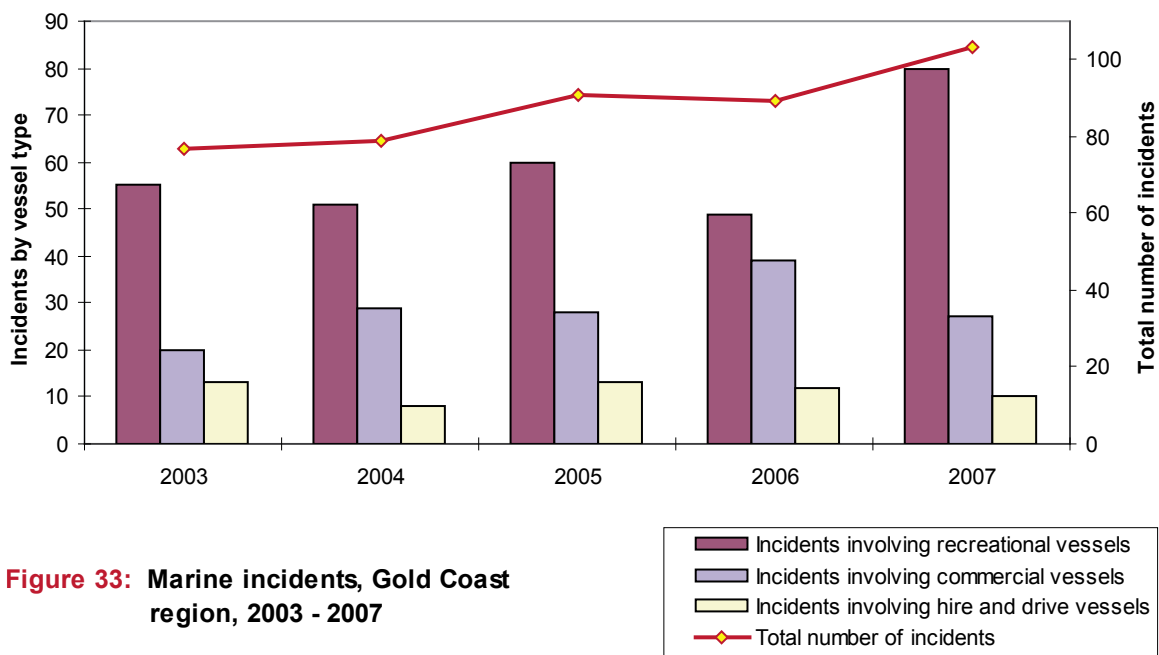


Figure 33: Marine incidents, Gold Coast region, 2003 - 2007

The increase in the overall number of reported marine incidents in 2007 has been driven by a large increase in the number of incidents involving recreational vessels. In 2007 there were 80 reported incidents involving recreational vessels in the Gold Coast region. This represents a 63.3 percent increase from 2006 and is 48.1 percent above the preceding four-year average of 54 incidents per annum.

Recreational speedboats were the most frequently involved vessels in reported marine incidents in the Gold Coast region, representing 42.6 percent of all vessels involved. Commercial vessels were involved in 27 incidents in 2007, a decrease from the 39 incidents recorded in 2006 and marginally below the previous four-year average of 29 incidents. Hire and drive vessels were involved in 10 incidents in 2007, two less than in 2006.

Figure 34 shows the top five reported incident types in the Gold Coast region in 2007. Collision between ships was the most frequent incident type in 2007 accounting for 38.8 percent of all incidents in the region. This is well above the whole of Queensland average of 19.9 percent for this incident type. There were an additional ten incidents involving collisions with fixed objects and collisions with floating objects. In combination, collision incidents represented 48.5 percent of reported incidents in the region for 2007.

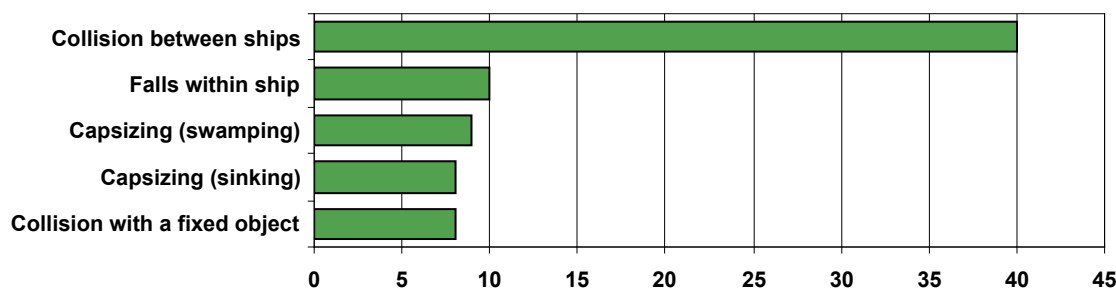
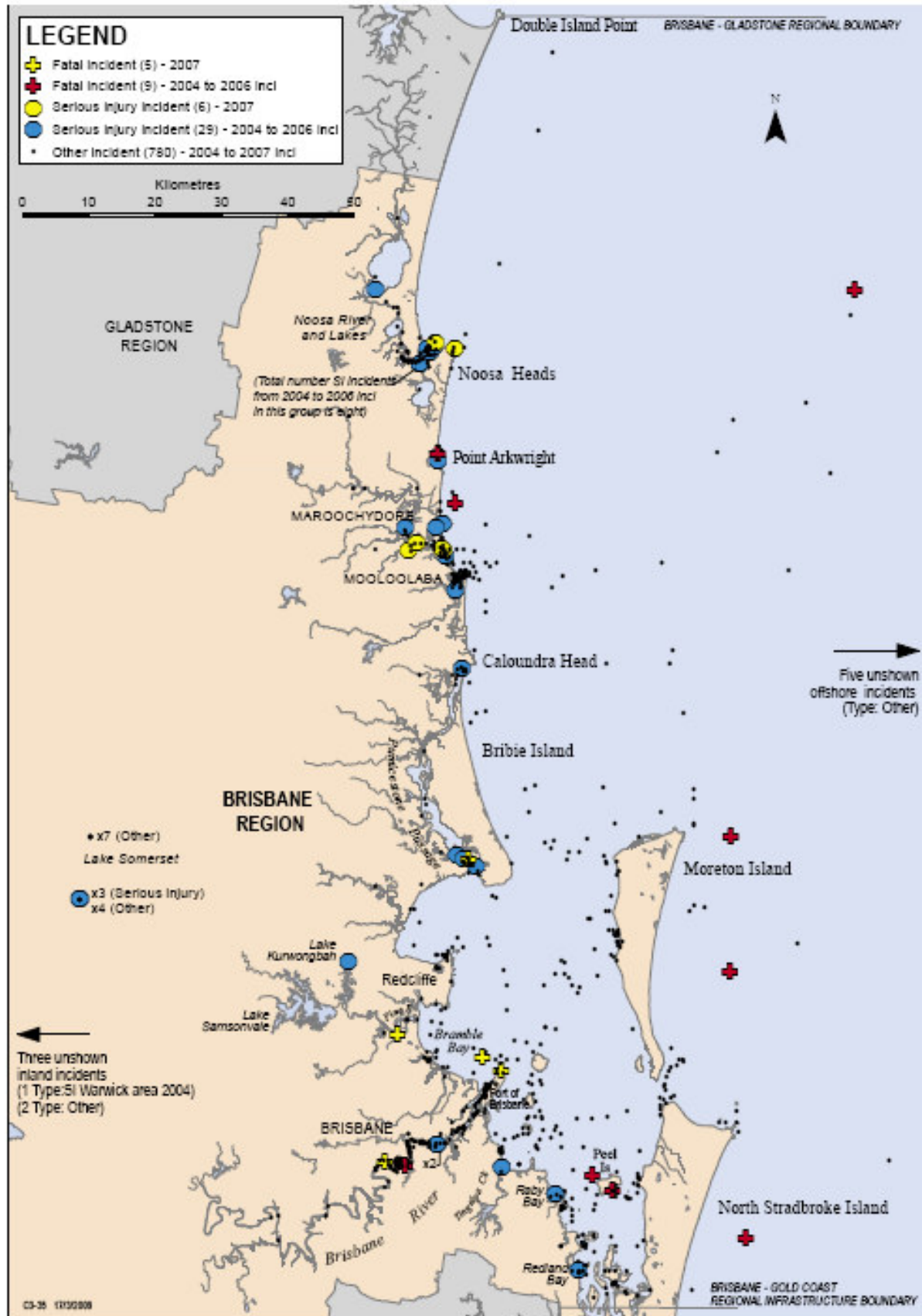


Figure 34: Marine incidents by incident type (Top 5), Gold Coast region, 2007

Eight people were seriously injured in reported incidents in the Gold Coast region in 2007. There were no recorded marine incident fatalities on the Gold Coast in 2007.



Map 3: Marine incidents by highest level of personal injury, Brisbane Region 2004 to 2007