



5.6 Cairns region

Table 18: Key characteristics—Cairns region

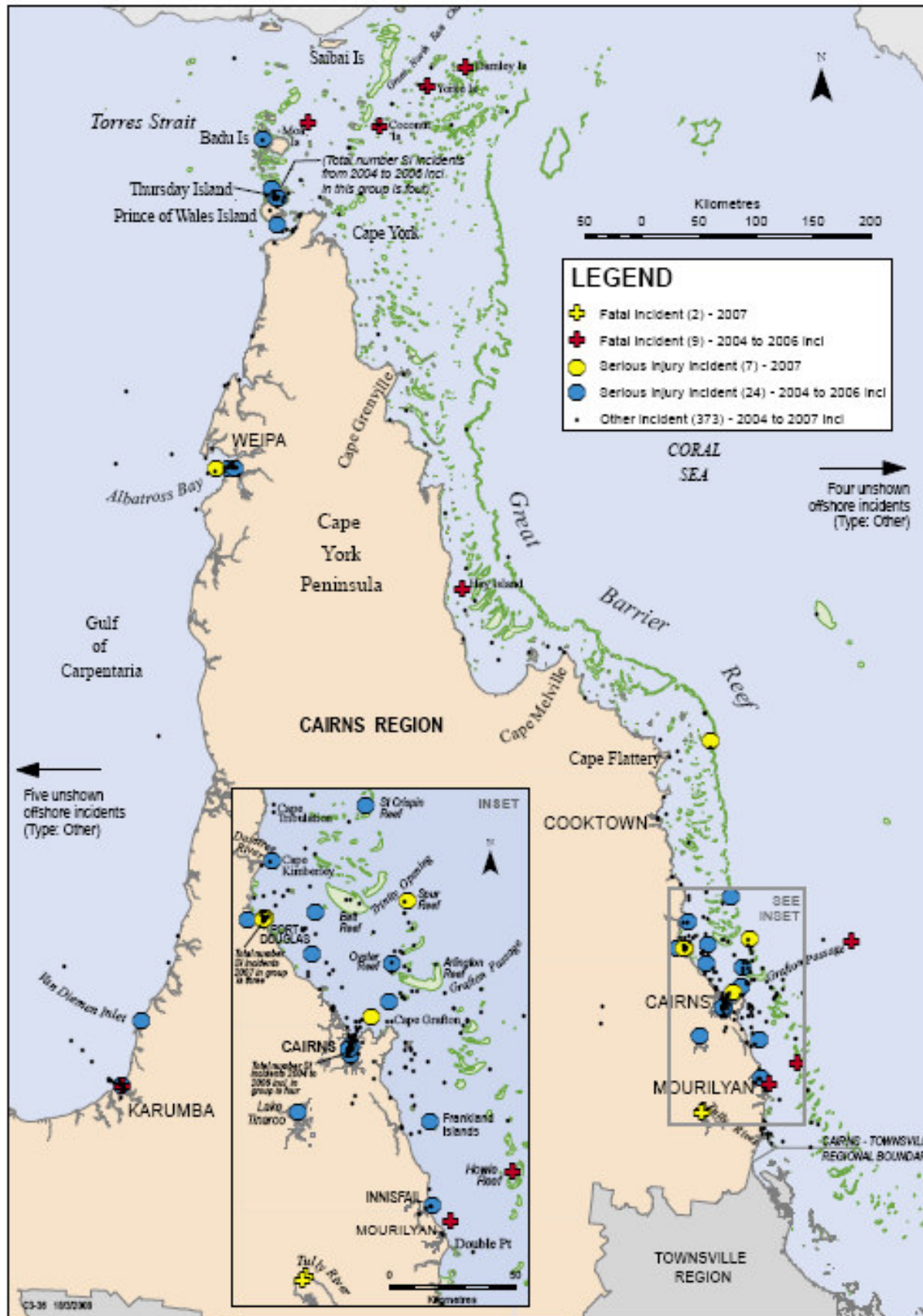
| | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|------------------|------|
| Mainland coast | 3 000km | | |
| Island coast | 2 267km | | |
| Rivers and creeks | 6 434km | | |
| Major inland waterways | Lake Tinaroo | | |
| | Barron and Tully Rivers | | |
| | Koombooloomba Dam | | |
| Major harbours | Mission Beach (tourism) | | |
| | Port of Mourilyan (raw sugar and molasses wharf) | | |
| | Innisfail (fishing) | | |
| | Cairns (sugar loading, tourism, fishing, general shipping) | | |
| | Port Douglas (tourism, fishing) | | |
| | Port of Cape Flattery (silica export) | | |
| | Port of Weipa (cattle and bauxite export) | | |
| | Port of Karumba (zinc export, fishing, tourism) | | |
| Registered recreational vessels 2007 | 19 030 | Growth 2006-07 | 5.0% |
| Registered commercial vessels 2007 | 1 138 | Growth 2006-07 | 0.7% |
| Reported marine incidents 2007 | 114 | Fatalities | 2 |
| | | Serious injuries | 7 |

Recreational registrations in the Cairns region grew by 5.0 percent in 2007, marginally higher than the state-wide growth rate of 4.8 percent. Commercial registrations in the region showed only marginal growth, increasing just 0.7 percent compared to the state-wide growth rate of 1.3 percent.

In 2007, 114 marine incidents were reported in the Cairns region, a decrease from the 123 incidents in 2006 but above the previous four-year average of 102 incidents per year.

Of the 134 vessels involved in reported marine incidents in the region in 2007, 39 were recreational vessels. While the involvement of recreational vessels has been steadily increasing since 2004, commercial vessels continue to have the highest level of involvement. The number of commercial vessels involved in reported marine incidents has been more than twice that of recreational vessels for each of the past five years (see Figure 43).

Commercial vessels were involved in 79 marine incidents in the region in 2007, a decrease from 94 in 2006. Commercial passenger ships had the highest level of involvement in reported incidents comprising 25.4 percent of all vessels involved. The involvement of commercial fishing vessels declined from 31 in 2006 to 17 in 2007.



Map 7: Marine incidents by highest level of personal injury, Cairns Region 2004 to 2007

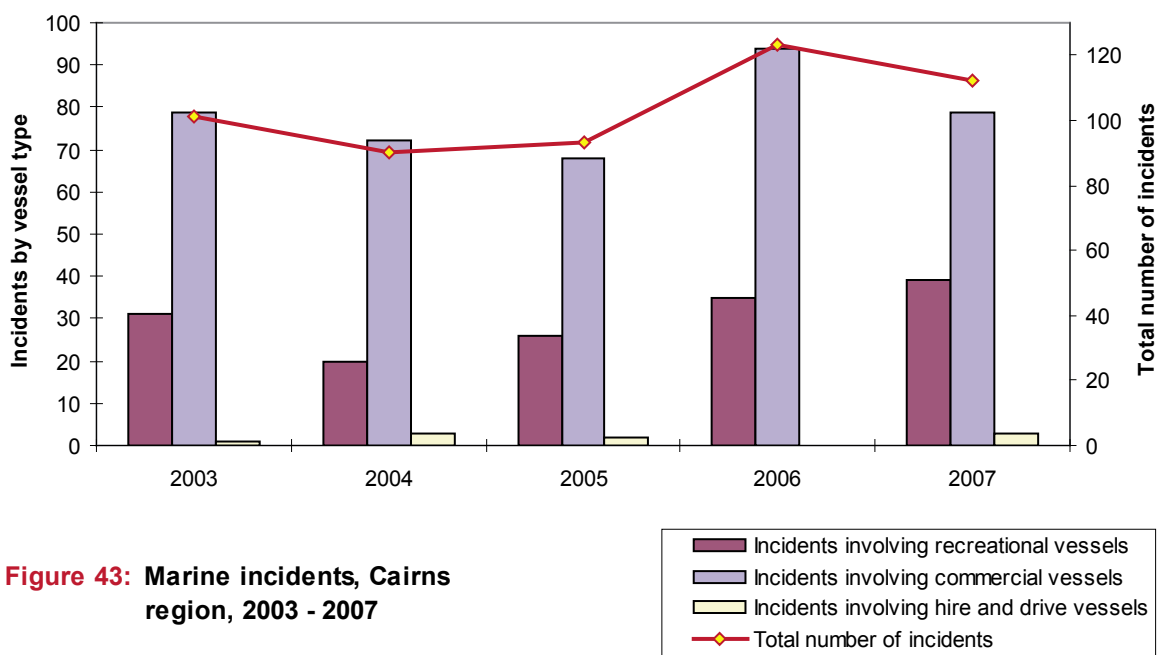


Figure 43: Marine incidents, Cairns region, 2003 - 2007

Collision between ships was the most frequently occurring incident type in the Cairns region in 2007 (see Figure 44).

Fatal and serious injury incidents in the Cairns region declined in 2007. In 2006, 16 incidents in the Cairns region resulted in seven fatalities and 10 people being seriously injured. In 2007, there were nine incidents that resulted in two fatalities and seven people being seriously injured. The two fatalities occurred in separate white water rafting incidents (see Section 6.1).

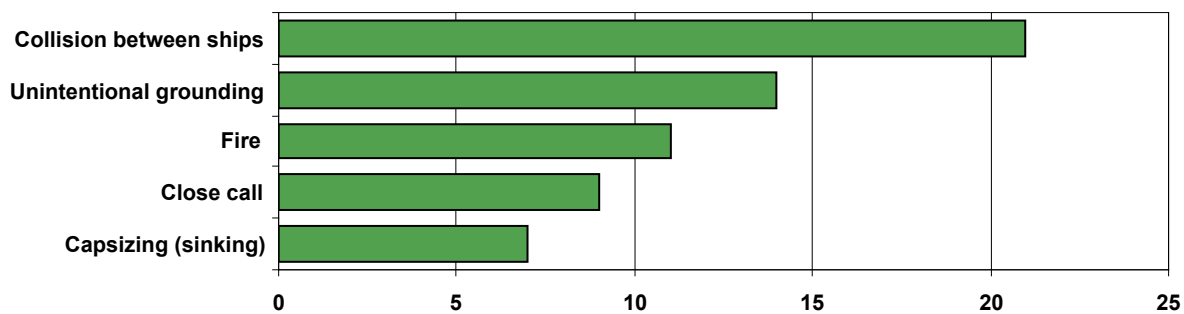


Figure 44: Marine incidents by incident type (Top 5), Cairns region, 2007