



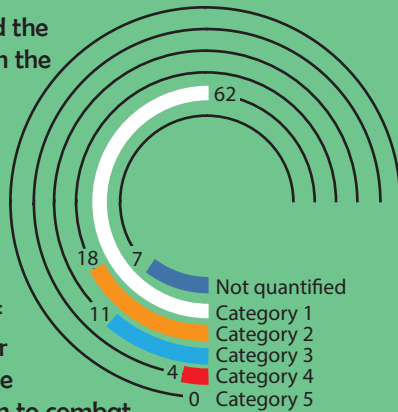
The nine countries bordering the North Sea work together within the Bonn Agreement to undertake aerial surveillance using specially equipped aircraft and specialised personnel to detect spills of oil and other harmful substances and enforce international environmental regulations.

Colour key - Oil Spill volume

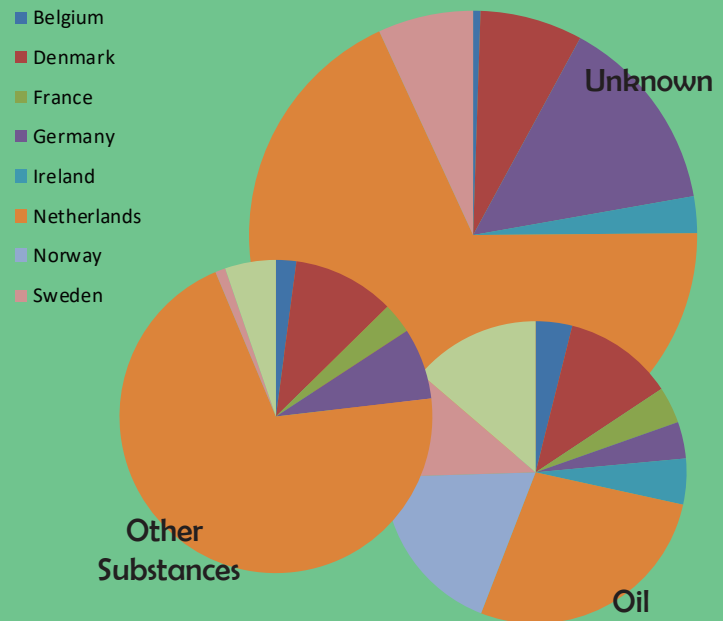


Oil spills per category

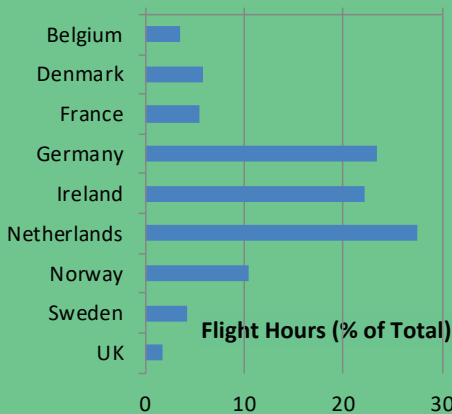
In 2018, Contracting Parties reported the estimated volumes for 102 oil slicks in the Bonn Agreement area. The figure opposite shows the oil slicks subdivided into different size categories by amount, including spills where volume was not estimated. No spills over 100m³ were reported during 2018, with the largest being 50,3m³. The number of confirmed detections was 53% higher than in 2017. Most slicks were in a size category that did not warrant action to combat them, since they would evaporate, dissolve and disperse naturally.



Spills per category by country (relative sizing)



Information on spills



50,3m³
Largest reported oil spill

396
Total number of detections

98 Number of "other substances" detected

195 ?
Number of "unknown" detections

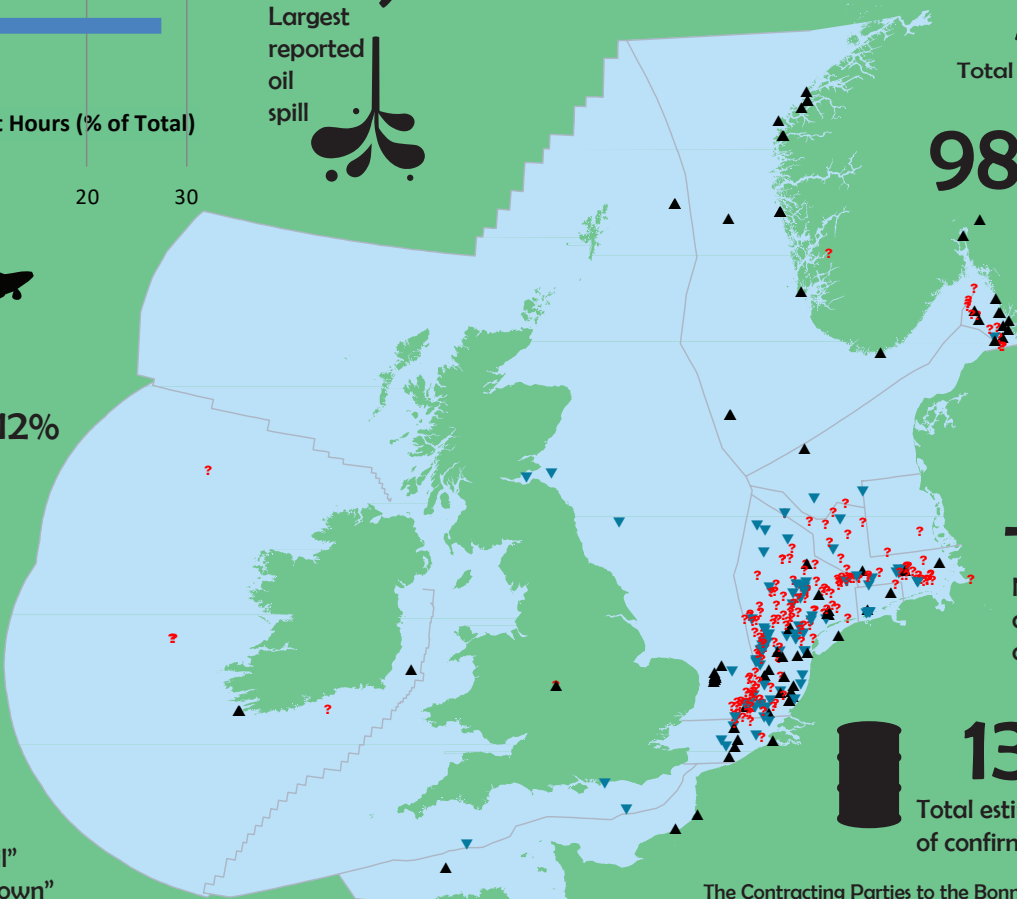
+53%
Number of detections confirmed as mineral oil compared to 2016

136,90³
Total estimated volume of confirmed/observed spills

4631 +12%
Number of flight hours (% compared to 2017)

102
Number of detections confirmed or observed as mineral oil

56
Number of "mineral oil" detections from "unknown" sources



▲ Oil ▼ Other Substance ? Unknown

The Contracting Parties to the Bonn Agreement consider the aerial surveillance data currently available to be too sparse and too diverse to allow for a reliable overall annual estimation of oil inputs in the entire Bonn Agreement area and that such estimates should be interpreted as indicative only.