

# The Use of Heavy Fuel Oil in Arctic Shipping

In 2015 in the Arctic

**889** HFO-fueled ships

travelled  
**3.6M**  
nautical  
miles

carried  
**830K**  
tonnes  
of fuel  
onboard

consumed  
**250K**  
tonnes  
of HFO



**Heavy Fuel Oil (HFO)** is the residual waste of the petroleum refining process. It is extremely viscous and virtually impossible to clean up in the case of a spill.



**Black Carbon (BC)** is a critical contributor to human-induced climate warming, especially in the Arctic, and the combustion of HFO produces high levels of BC emissions.

**HFO-fueled  
Arctic ships include:**



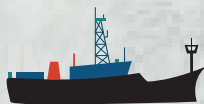
cargo ships



container ships



bulk carriers



fishing vessels



oil tankers



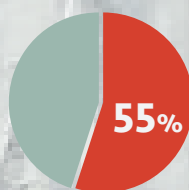
cruise ships

In 2015

**HFO  
consumption**  
Top 3 ship types



**134,000 tonnes  
consumed**



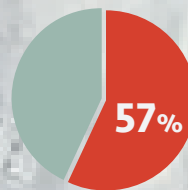
Cargo ships, oil tankers, and cruise ships consumed 55% of the HFO used by ships in the Arctic in 2015

In 2015

**HFO  
onboard**  
Top 3 ship types



**248,000 tonnes  
of HFO onboard**



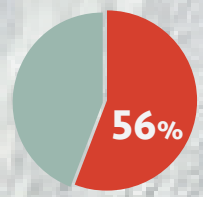
Bulk carriers, container ships, and oil tankers carried 57% of the HFO used by ships in the Arctic in 2015

In 2015

**Distance-weighted  
fuel carried\***  
Top 3 ship types



**2074 million t-nm  
of HFO**



Cargo ships, oil tankers, and fishing vessels accounted for 56% of the distance-weighted fuel carriage by ships in the Arctic in 2015

\*product of HFO carriage and distance the ship sailed (tonne-nautical miles)

# Predominant Flag States in the Arctic

In 2015 in the Arctic

Ships flew **65 flags**

Top 3 flags by distance-weighted HFO carriage:



Flag states carrying the most HFO in their bunker tanks (top 5):



Ships operating on HFO in the Arctic in 2015 registered to:



Arctic states

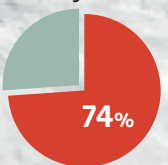


Non-Arctic states

HFO use

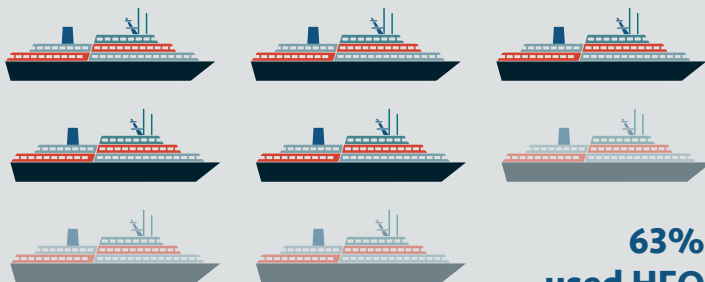


HFO carriage as fuel



A focus on cruise ships

63 cruise ships operated in the Arctic in 2015.



● Arctic states  
○ Non-Arctic states

**Most** of the HFO-fuelled cruise ships operating in the Arctic in 2015 were registered to **non-Arctic states**.



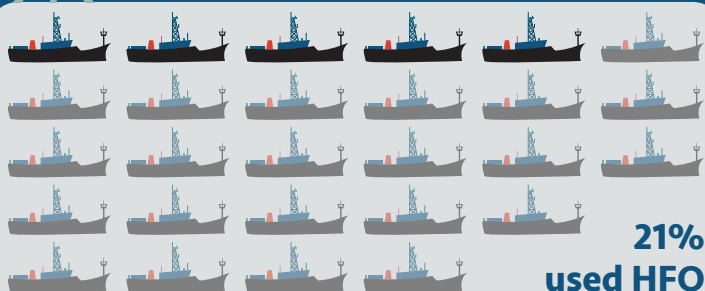
Bahamian-flagged cruise ships consumed nearly **10,000 tonnes** of HFO and emitted **over 5 tonnes** of BC.

○ Bahamas



A focus on fishing vessels

755 fishing vessels operated in the Arctic in 2015.



● Arctic states  
○ Non-Arctic states

Of the 17 flag states fishing the Arctic, **only 6 were Arctic states**

