

Impact of progressively increasing wave height

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In the seven days preceding the day of the incident, we observed that the vessels that had heavy-weather related claim off South Africa in the period between January 2022 till September 2024, experienced a steady deterioration in weather conditions, as indicated in the graph below. Average maximum wave heights doubled during this period, from 4 meters to nearly 8 meters (corresponding to force 9 on the Beaufort scale). This increase was particularly pronounced in the 24 hours before the incident day. It's important to note that these are average of the maximum wave heights experienced by vessels with claims. Many individual vessels experienced worse conditions for significantly longer durations. On the day of the incident, the maximum wave heights encountered by vessels ranged from 10 to 14 meters.



Source: Gard, Windward

To know more about the impact of progressively increasing wave height, please refer to our insight [High waves, high claims: New study on container losses.](#)