



# The Neptune Declaration

## Crew Change Indicator

Second Quarter 2023

### Overview

The Neptune Declaration Crew Change Indicator (hereafter “Neptune Indicator”) provides reliable data regarding crew change issues. Based on data from 10 ship managers, who are collectively responsible for more than 100,000 seafarers across all the major segments, the Neptune Indicator, has been published monthly since May 2021. Beginning in July 2022, the monthly report now functions as a quarterly indicator.

In May 2023, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared the end of COVID-19 as a global health emergency, marking the end of the pandemic. Therefore, the publication of the Neptune Indicator for Q2 2023 shall be the last in its current form. The Global Maritime Forum shall consult with relevant partners and stakeholders to review learnings from this initiative and explore the need for Neptune 2.0 with a new set of indicators focused on seafarer wellbeing. The outcome of the consultations will be communicated in due course.

The indicator for the second quarter of 2023 shows that the number of seafarers from the sample who are onboard vessels beyond the expiry of their contract has decreased from 2.2% to 1.9% since April 2023. The number of seafarers onboard for over 11 months has decreased from 0.2% to 0.1% since April 2023.

The Crew Change Indicator shows that the aggregate percentage of seafarers from the sample who have been vaccinated has risen from 96.3% to 96.5% in the past quarter, which is an increase of 0.2 percentage points since April 2023.

### Section 1: Overdue Crew Changes

	Percentage of seafarers onboard beyond the expiry of their contracts		Percentage of seafarers onboard for over 11 months	
	Monthly percentage	Percentage point change from previous month	Monthly percentage	Percentage point change from previous month
July 2023*	<b>1.9%</b>	<b>-0.3</b>	<b>0.1%</b>	<b>-0.1</b>
April 2023*	<b>2.2%</b>	<b>-0.5</b>	<b>0.2%</b>	<b>0</b>
January 2023*	<b>2.7%</b>	<b>-0.6</b>	<b>0.2%</b>	<b>-0.1</b>
October 2022*	<b>3.3%</b>	<b>-0.9</b>	<b>0.3%</b>	<b>0</b>
July 2022	<b>4.2%</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>0.3%</b>	<b>0</b>
June 2022	<b>4.3%</b>	<b>-0.2</b>	<b>0.3%</b>	<b>0</b>
May 2022	<b>4.5%</b>	<b>+0.3</b>	<b>0.3%</b>	<b>-0.1</b>
April 2022	<b>4.2%</b>	<b>-0.8</b>	<b>0.4%</b>	<b>0</b>
March 2022	<b>5.0%</b>	<b>+0.8</b>	<b>0.4%</b>	<b>0</b>
February 2022	<b>4.2%</b>	<b>+0.5</b>	<b>0.4%</b>	<b>0</b>
January 2022	<b>3.7%</b>	<b>-1</b>	<b>0.4%</b>	<b>-0.3</b>

December 2021	<b>4.7%</b>	<b>-2.4</b>	<b>0.7%</b>	<b>-0.3</b>
November 2021	<b>7.1%</b>	<b>-0.8</b>	<b>1.0%</b>	<b>0</b>
October 2021	<b>7.9%</b>	<b>-1.0</b>	<b>1.0%</b>	<b>-0.2</b>
September 2021	<b>8.9%</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>1.2%</b>	<b>-0.1</b>
August 2021	<b>9.0%</b>	<b>+0.2</b>	<b>1.3%</b>	<b>+0.3</b>
July 2021	<b>8.8%</b>	<b>+1.6</b>	<b>1.0%</b>	<b>+0.6</b>
June 2021	<b>7.2%</b>	<b>+1.4</b>	<b>0.4%</b>	<b>0</b>
May 2021	<b>5.8%</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0.4%</b>	<b>-</b>

The data reflects the situation on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the preceding month.

\*Quarterly data reflects the situation on the last day of the preceding month.

The majority of contributing ship managers did not report any significant developments that impacted crew changes in the last quarter. One contributing ship manager indicated that the impact of COVID-19 on seafarers' crew change is decreasing, and the situation is almost back to pre-pandemic conditions.

## Section 2: Seafarer Vaccinations

The Neptune Declaration Crew Change Indicator provides the aggregated percentage of seafarers from the sample who have been vaccinated and provides an overview of seafarer vaccination trend, as well as the pace at which this increases periodically (monthly up to July 2022; quarterly from October 2022).

The indicator from the second quarter of 2023 shows that 96.5% of seafarers from the sample have been vaccinated.<sup>1</sup> This corresponds to an increase of 0.2 percentage points since April 2023.

	Percentage of seafarers from the sample who have been vaccinated	
	Monthly percentage	Percentage point change from previous month
July 2023*	<b>96.58%</b>	<b>+0.3</b>
April 2023*	<b>96.3%</b>	<b>+0.7</b>
January 2023**	<b>95.6%</b>	<b>+2.7</b>
October 2022*	<b>92.8%</b>	<b>+3.5</b>
July 2022	<b>89.3%</b>	<b>+3.1</b>
June 2022	<b>86.2%</b>	<b>+2.8</b>

<sup>1</sup> The data has been collected from leading ship managers who have made great efforts in addressing the crisis. It is expected the percentage is likely to overestimate the actual proportion of vaccinated seafarers.

May 2022	<b>83.6%</b>	<b>+6.4</b>
April 2022	<b>77.2%</b>	<b>+4.4</b>
March 2022	<b>72.8%</b>	<b>+6</b>
February 2022	<b>66.8%</b>	<b>+7</b>
January 2022	<b>59.8%</b>	<b>+10.3</b>
December 2021	<b>49.5%</b>	<b>+8.5</b>
November 2021	<b>41%</b>	<b>+9.9</b>
October 2021	<b>31.1%</b>	<b>+9.2</b>
September 2021	<b>21.9%</b>	<b>+6.6</b>
August 2021	<b>15.3%</b>	<b>-</b>

The data reflects the situation on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the preceding month.

\*Quarterly data reflects the situation on the last day of the preceding month.

\*\*The vaccination data for Q4 of 2022 includes data from 9 out of 10 ship managers.

Seafarer vaccination rates remain higher than the share of the population fully vaccinated against COVID-19 in many large shipping nations.<sup>2</sup> Consider, however, that national percentages are based on the full population and include children, who in most countries are not offered vaccines, so the numbers are not fully comparable.

Most contributing ship managers did not highlight any challenges in vaccinating seafarers. However, one ship manager highlighted that some vaccinations are not being accepted due to reduced effectiveness against the COVID-19 virus.

The data is based on monthly reporting by the following ship managers: Anglo-Eastern Univan Group, Bernhardt-Schulte Ship Management, Columbia Shipmanagement, Fleet Management, OSM, Synergy Group, Thome, V. Group, Wallem and Wilhelmsen. The Global Maritime Forum is responsible for collecting and processing the data and publishing the indicator. More detail is available [here](#).