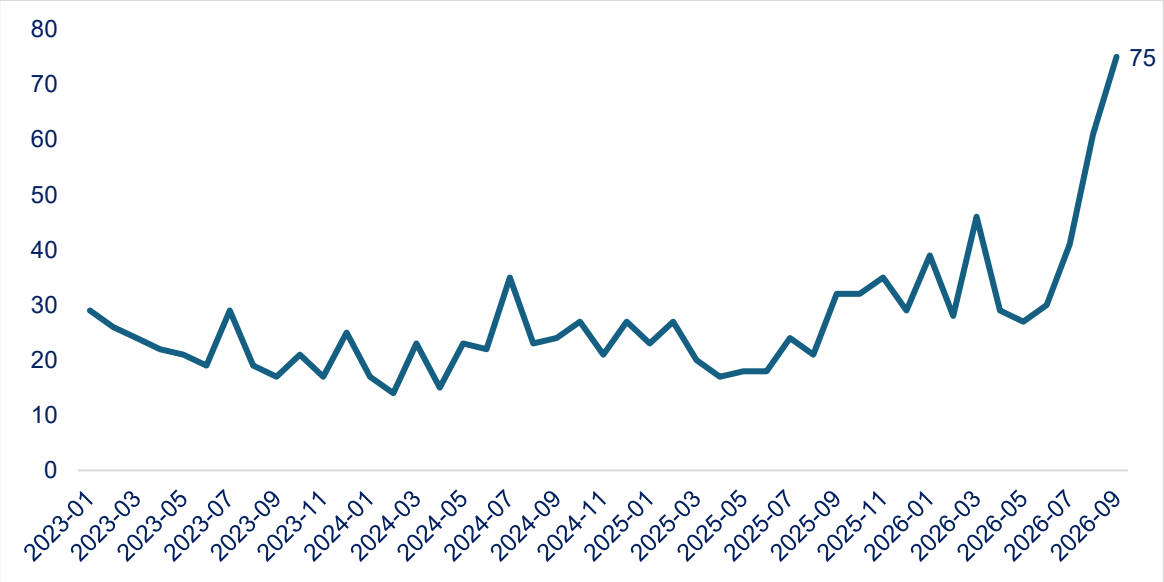
More Russian-flagged cargo vessels sail through Danish waters

The number of passages by Russian-flagged cargo vessels past Skagen has increased significantly. From January through September 2026, a total of 376 passages were recorded, already substantially exceeding the 296 passages recorded throughout 2025. That is already significantly more than the 296 passages in all of 2025. The increase has been particularly pronounced over the summer. In September, 75 passages were recorded, which is the highest monthly number during the period examined from January 2023 to September 2026.

This development contrasts with previous years. Throughout 2023 and 2024 the number of passages ranged between 15 and 30 in most months. This level continued into the first half of 2025. Meanwhile from the second half of 2025 the number of passages started to increase. This development has continued throughout 2026 and accelerated in recent months with 41 passages in July, 61 in August and 75 in September.

Furthermore, the numbers indicate more than a one-time monthly fluctuation. Since the second half of 2025, there has been a significant increase in the number of passages by Russian flagged cargo vessels past Skagen, with the increase becoming significantly more pronounced in recent months.

Passages by Russian-flagged cargo vessels past Skagen



Sources: S&P Maritime Portal and own calculations.

Methods: The analysis is based on data on recorded vessel passages past Skagen from the S&P Maritime Portal. The IMO number of each passing vessel has been matched with the vessel's registered flag status at the beginning of the month in which the passage took place. This method makes it possible to identify the vessel's flag close to the time of passage but also introduces a degree of uncertainty. If a vessel changed flag during the month, its registered flag status at the beginning of the month may differ from its actual flag status on the day of passage. The analysis includes cargo vessels only. Other Russian-flagged vessels, such as fishing vessels and tugboats, are excluded. The figures should therefore not be interpreted as the total number of passages by Russian-flagged vessels past Skagen.

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