



OVID Programme Survey 2024/25

Summary Report



Introduction and objectives

OCIMF has commissioned a series of surveys to gather feedback from users of its Offshore Vessel Inspection Database (OVID) vessel inspection regime, a web-based inspection tool and database of inspection reports for offshore vessels. OVID enables project and marine assurance teams to assess the safety and operational performance of a vessel using a uniform and accredited inspection regime. Unlike SIRE, OCIMF's sister programme for tanker inspections, OVID has not been 'digitalised' and remains a paper-based regime with a static questionnaire.

The objective of the OVID surveys is to collate feedback on users' experience with, and opinions of, the programme to understand user satisfaction and identify potential areas for improvement. The surveys were last conducted in 2022/2023 and are performed on a 2-year cycle.

The OVID surveys have been structured to provide feedback across four (4) key areas:

- Overall programme quality (report accuracy, communications and IT helpdesk support)
- Tools and services (questionnaire, database, and services)
- Programme integrity (feedback on Inspectors, policies and procedures)
- Improvements to the OVID programme

All four user groups of the OVID programme – Submitting Companies, Programme Recipients, Vessel Operators and Inspectors – have been surveyed about the aspects of the programme that apply to their use and interaction with the inspection regime.

Research methodology

The research was conducted by a third-party communications and research agency on behalf of OCIMF. The research and analysis were conducted in accordance with the Market Research Society (MRS) Code of Conduct regarding respondent anonymity and in compliance with the Data Protection Act.

As the use of the programme differs somewhat for each stakeholder group, a unique survey was created for each group. This means four separate surveys have been conducted for OVID programme users. Where appropriate, questions have been replicated across respondent groups for the purposes of comparison. The surveys are in keeping with the format of previous years.

The survey links were distributed by OCIMF through the OVID Portal in early April 2025 and closed for responses eight (8) weeks later, in late May 2025. The surveys were completed anonymously and are quantitative. Each question has an option to provide additional written comments in the response, allowing respondents to qualify or provide further detail.

A comprehensive written report has been provided to OCIMF's Programmes team. The headline details and findings are included in this Summary Report.

Respondent profile

The total target sample were all registered users within the OVID Portal – these are active users of the inspection programme.

In total, 453 respondents participated in the OVID survey in the 2024/25 data collection period. This compares to 624 total respondents in 2022/2023, the last time the survey was conducted. Where possible, results (based on percentages of respondents answering each question) are compared within this report.

It is important to note that the response rates differ considerably between respondent groups. For Submitting Companies and Programme Recipients in particular, the response rates are low and as such the statistical significance of results and analysis for these two user groups is less robust, and in the case of Programme Recipients, not significant enough to draw firm conclusions beyond the purposes of this report.

The most significant drop in participation year-on-year was from Vessel Operators. The same pattern of lower response rates amongst Submitting Companies and Programme Recipients was witnessed in the 2022/23 research study and in the Ship Inspection Report Programme (SIRE) survey, the sister programme for tanker vessels, which ran concurrently.

Executive Summary

Overall, respondents were asked to either rate their agreement with statements (from *Strongly Agree* through to *Strongly Disagree*) or to rate (from *Very Good* to *Very Poor*) their use of key tools and processes within the OVID inspection regime that are most relevant to them. Because users do not engage with the tool in the same manner or have access to the same tools or functionalities, questions were customised to reflect their experiences and involvement with the programme.

Overall, the OVID programme continues to receive robust overall support from its key stakeholders: Submitting Companies, Programme Recipients, Vessel Operators, and Inspectors.

Among Vessel Operators, who represented the largest respondent group with 228 participants, 56.58% rated the overall quality of the OVID programme as *High*, and a further 25.44% rated it as *Very High*. This strong endorsement was tempered slightly by a minority view, with only 0.88% rating the programme as *Very Low*. Submitting Companies, comprising 44 respondents, also expressed confidence, with 65.91% rating the programme as *High* and an additional 11.36% giving it a *Very High* rating. Programme Recipients, although a smaller group of only 9 respondents, showed similarly positive sentiment, with 55.56% rating the programme *High* and 22.22% rating it *Very High*.

When assessing the accuracy of OVID reports, the data further underscored stakeholder trust. Among Submitting Companies, 81.82% either *Agreed* or *Strongly Agreed* that OVID reports accurately described safety and operational conditions, with 72.73% *Agreeing* and 9.09% *Strongly Agreeing*. Among Programme Recipients, 55.56% *Agreed* and 22.22% *Strongly Agreed* with the same statement, while no respondents expressed *Disagreement*. Vessel Operators mirrored this confidence, with 80.45% affirming that OVID reports reflect the actual condition of their vessels or fleets.

The OVID programme was also widely credited with contributing to improved operational standards. Among Vessel Operators, 84.14% believed that the programme enhances the operating standards of their vessels, with 49.34% *Agreeing* and 34.80% *Strongly Agreeing*. Inspectors were similarly aligned, with 87.06% expressing *Agreement* or *Strong Agreement*.

Regarding the programme's role in reducing repeat inspections, 70.45% of Submitting Companies and 66.66% of Programme Recipients *Agreed* that OVID reduces inspection redundancy. Of these, 25.00% of Submitting Companies and 33.33% of Programme Recipients *Strongly Agreed*.

Key tools and services within the OVID platform also received broad approval, however, it is clear that a number of the tools within the platform are not being used, which is of concern. Regarding the inspection questionnaires themselves, most stakeholders believe that the Offshore Vessel Particulars Questionnaire (OVPQ) and the Offshore Vessel Inspection Questionnaire (OVIQ) are practical tools. Among Submitting Companies, 86.36% *Agreed* or *Strongly Agreed* that the OVIQ template contains appropriate questions and guidance. For Vessel Operators, 91.19% *Agreed* or *Strongly Agreed* that the OVPQ captures the necessary information of the vessels. Inspectors supported this assessment, with 89.54% stating that OVIQ contains the right questions to evaluate safety and operational performance.

However, as with previous years, some concerns have been raised regarding the tool's suitability for specific vessel types – especially specialist vessels such as mobile offshore drilling units (MODUs), lightering support vessels, and smaller fleets. However, the feedback received includes constructive recommendations for enhancing the programme and its inspection questionnaire, which are being reviewed by OCIMF.

Crucially, stakeholders also evaluated the conduct and performance of OVID inspectors. Among Submitting Companies, 83.72% rated inspector integrity as *High* or *Very High*, and 73.81% rated their experience and knowledge at the same levels. Vessel Operators echoed this sentiment with 93.39% confirming that inspectors behaved professionally and courteously and 83.70% stating that inspectors paid close attention to all questions during inspections. Additionally, 92.51% of Vessel Operators said Inspectors spent sufficient time to complete inspections thoroughly.

The question of whether improvements are needed in the OVID programme revealed a divergence in stakeholder sentiment. Among Vessel Operators, only 26.79% desired changes, while 73.21% were satisfied with the current format. Conversely, 47.62% of Submitting Companies and 55.56% of Programme Recipients believed changes were necessary. Among Inspectors, 39.02% called for improvements, compared to 60.98% who did not.

Overall programme quality

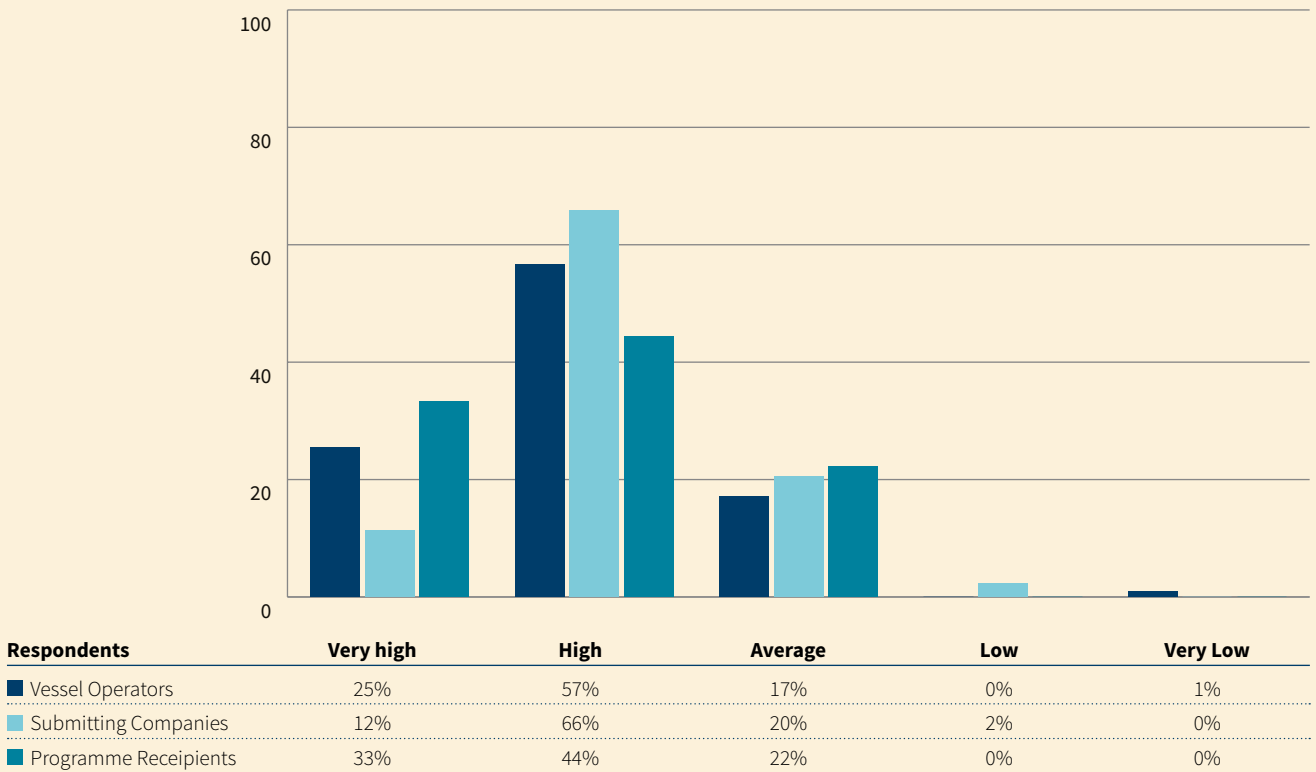
Each respondent group was asked a series of questions about their views on the quality of the OVID programme, the accuracy of OVID reports and the extent to which OVID helps to improve safe operating standards.

- Overall, the feedback across all respondent groups reflects a strong positive perception of the OVID programme.
- The majority of Vessel Operators expressed confidence in the programme’s quality, 82.02% rated it as *High* and *Very High*. Only a small fraction (0.88%) rated the programme as *Very Low*. For Submitting Companies 77.27% rated it as *High* and *Very High*. A smaller segment (20.45%) considered it *Average*. 77.77% of Programme Recipients rated the programme as either *High* or *Very High*.
- Submitting Companies and Programme Recipients expressed strong confidence in the accuracy of OVID reports. Among Programme Recipients, 77.78% agreed that the reports accurately reflect safety and

operational standards, with no disagreement recorded. Submitting Companies were even more decisive, with 81.82% expressing agreement and only a small minority remaining neutral.

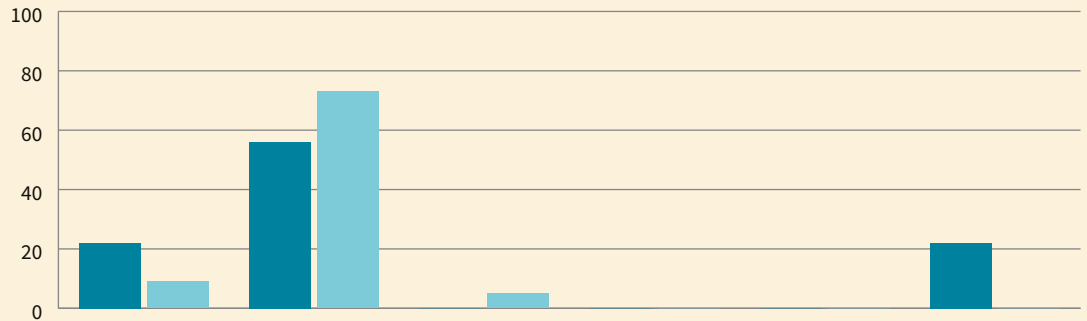
- Both Vessel Operators and Inspectors expressed strong agreement that the OVID programme helps improve operational standards. Among Vessel Operators, 84.14% responded positively, while Inspectors showed even higher support at 87.06%. Neutral and negative responses were minimal across both groups.
- Submitting Companies and Programme Recipients largely agreed that the OVID programme helps reduce repeat inspections on the same vessel. Among Programme Recipients, 66.66% responded positively, though a small portion expressed disagreement or uncertainty. Submitting Companies showed slightly higher support at 70.45%, with minimal negative feedback and no uncertainty.

How would you rate the quality of the OVID programme as a whole?



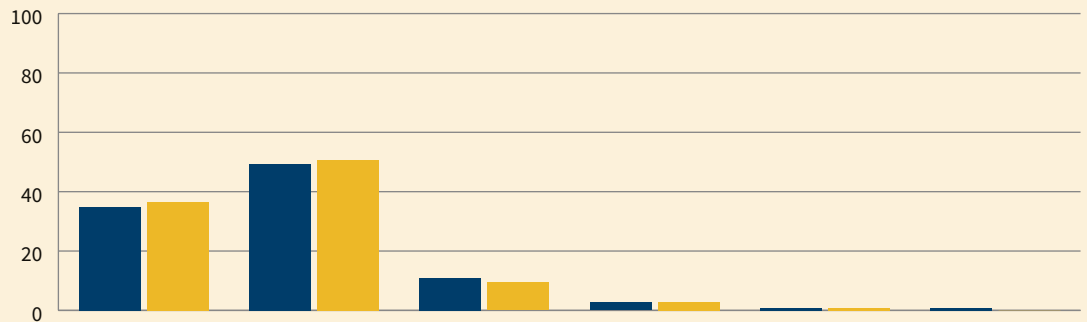
Overall programme quality

OVID reports accurately the safety and operational standards on vessels



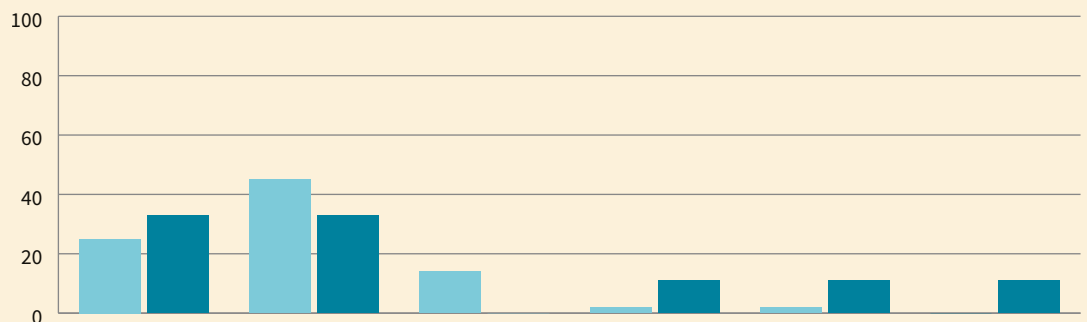
| Respondents | Strongly agree | Agree | Unsure | Disagree | Strongly disagree | No opinion |
|----------------------|----------------|-------|--------|----------|-------------------|------------|
| Programme Recipients | 22% | 56% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 22% |
| Submitting Companies | 9% | 73% | 5% | 0% | 0% | 0% |

The OVID programme improves the operating standards of my vessel/fleet



| Respondents | Strongly agree | Agree | Unsure | Disagree | Strongly disagree | No opinion |
|------------------|----------------|-------|--------|----------|-------------------|------------|
| Vessel Operators | 35% | 49% | 11% | 3% | 1% | 1% |
| Inspectors | 36% | 51% | 9% | 3% | 1% | 0% |

The OVID programme helps reduce the number of repeat inspections on the same vessel



| Respondents | Strongly agree | Agree | Unsure | Disagree | Strongly disagree | No opinion |
|----------------------|----------------|-------|--------|----------|-------------------|------------|
| Submitting Companies | 25% | 45% | 14% | 2% | 2% | 0% |
| Programme Recipients | 33% | 33% | 0% | 11% | 11% | 11% |

Tools and services

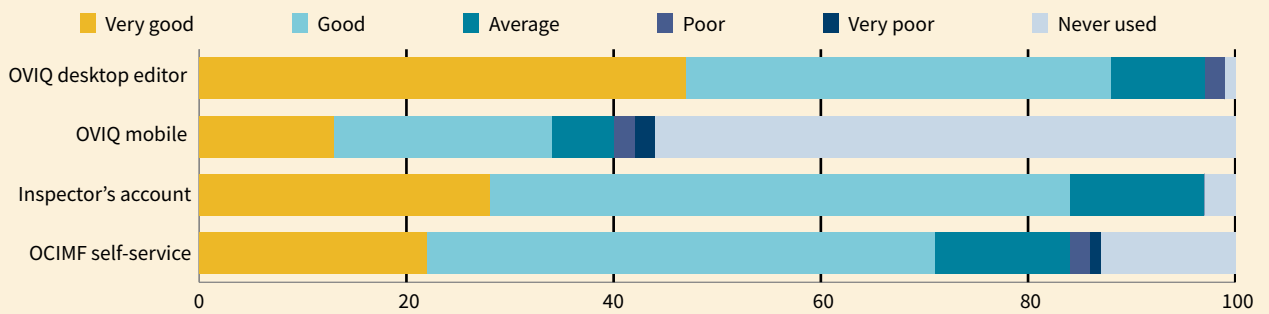
Respondents were asked to rate (from *Very Good* to *Very Poor*) their use of key tools/processes within the OVID inspection regime that are most pertinent to them, as not all users interact with the tool in the same way or have access to the same tools or functionality.

Inspectors were asked different questions due to their access to specific tools: the OVIQ desktop report editor, OVIQ mobile device report editor, Inspector’s account home page, and OCIMF Self-Service Knowledge Base.

- The OVIQ desktop editor was widely used and highly rated, with 87.57% rating it *Very Good* or *Good*, and only 1.78% never having used it. The Inspector’s account home page also performed strongly, earning 84.02% positive ratings and just 4.14% reporting no use.

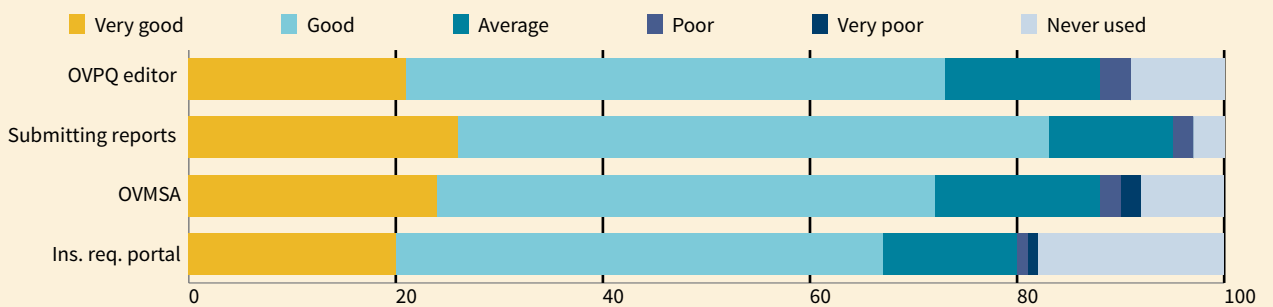
- The OVIQ mobile editor was the least used, with 56.55% never using it and only 33.33% giving positive feedback. The OCIMF Knowledge Base received 70.83% positive ratings, though 13.69% had never used it.
- The OVPQ Editor Software earned 73.33% positive feedback, with 8.89% never using it. The Process of Submitting Comments to Inspection Reports was the highest-rated feature (83.63% positive, minimal negative feedback). The OVMSA tool received 72.69% positive ratings, though 16.74% rated it *Average*. The Vessel Inspection Request Portal had 68.14% positive feedback, with 17.26% never using it.

Inspectors: Questionnaire & Database Reporting



| Tools and services | Very good | Good | Average | Poor | Very poor | Never used |
|---------------------|-----------|------|---------|------|-----------|------------|
| OVIQ desktop editor | 46% | 41% | 9% | 1% | 0% | 2% |
| OVIQ mobile | 13% | 21% | 6% | 2% | 2% | 57% |
| Inspector's account | 28% | 56% | 12% | 0% | 0% | 4% |
| OCIMF self-service | 22% | 49% | 13% | 2% | 1% | 14% |

Vessel Operators: Questionnaire & Database Reporting



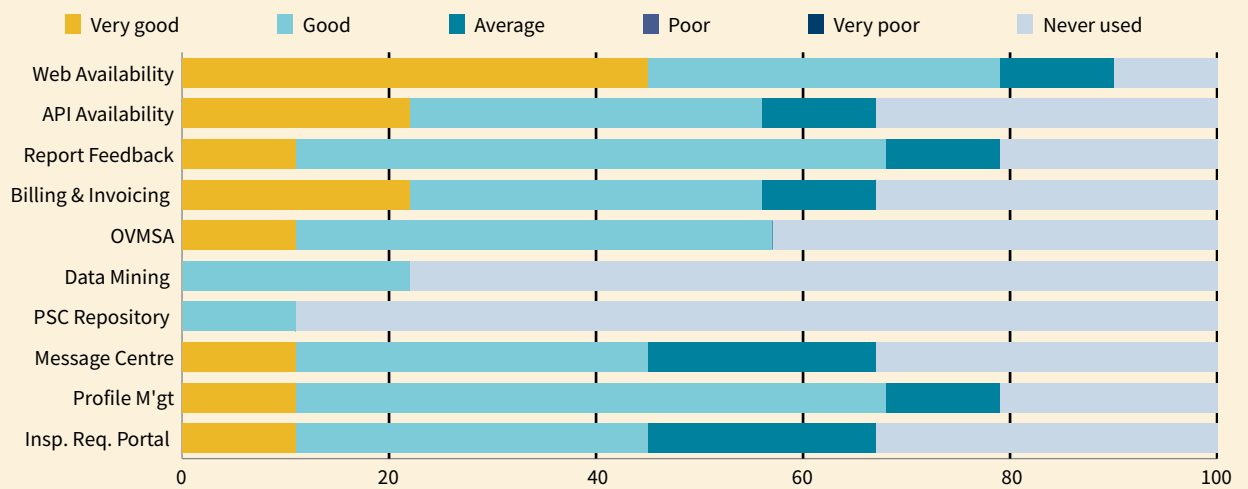
| Tools and Services | Very good | Good | Average | Poor | Very poor | Never used |
|--------------------|-----------|------|---------|------|-----------|------------|
| OVPQ editor | 21% | 52% | 15% | 3% | 0% | 9% |
| Submitting reports | 27% | 57% | 12% | 2% | 0% | 3% |
| OVMSA | 24% | 48% | 17% | 1% | 1% | 8% |
| Insp. req. portal | 20% | 48% | 13% | 1% | 1% | 17% |

Tools and services

Programme Recipients were generally satisfied with OVID’s core interface and feedback tools, though technical and external reporting features were often underused.

- The OVID website was the top-rated service, with 77.77% positive feedback. The User Profile Management Page also performed well (66.67% positive). Report Feedback Functionality received 67% positive ratings, with 22.22% never using it.
- Billing and Invoicing, as well as Web Services/API Availability, had one-third of respondents unfamiliar with them but otherwise received fairly strong ratings. The least-used services were Data Mining (77.78% *Never Used*) and the Port State Control Report Repository (88.89% *Never Used*).

Programme Recipients: Questionnaire & Database Recipients



| Tools and Services | Very good | Good | Average | Poor | Very poor | Never used |
|---------------------|-----------|------|---------|------|-----------|------------|
| Web Availability | 44% | 33% | 11% | 0% | 0% | 11% |
| API Availability | 22% | 33% | 11% | 0% | 0% | 33% |
| Report Feedback | 11% | 56% | 11% | 0% | 0% | 22% |
| Billing & Invoicing | 22% | 33% | 11% | 0% | 0% | 33% |
| OVMSA | 11% | 44% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 44% |
| Data Mining | 0% | 22% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 77% |
| PSC Repository | 0% | 11% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 89% |
| Message Centre | 11% | 33% | 22% | 0% | 0% | 33% |
| Profile M'gt | 11% | 56% | 11% | 0% | 0% | 22% |
| Insp. Req. Portal | 11% | 33% | 22% | 0% | 0% | 33% |

Tools and services

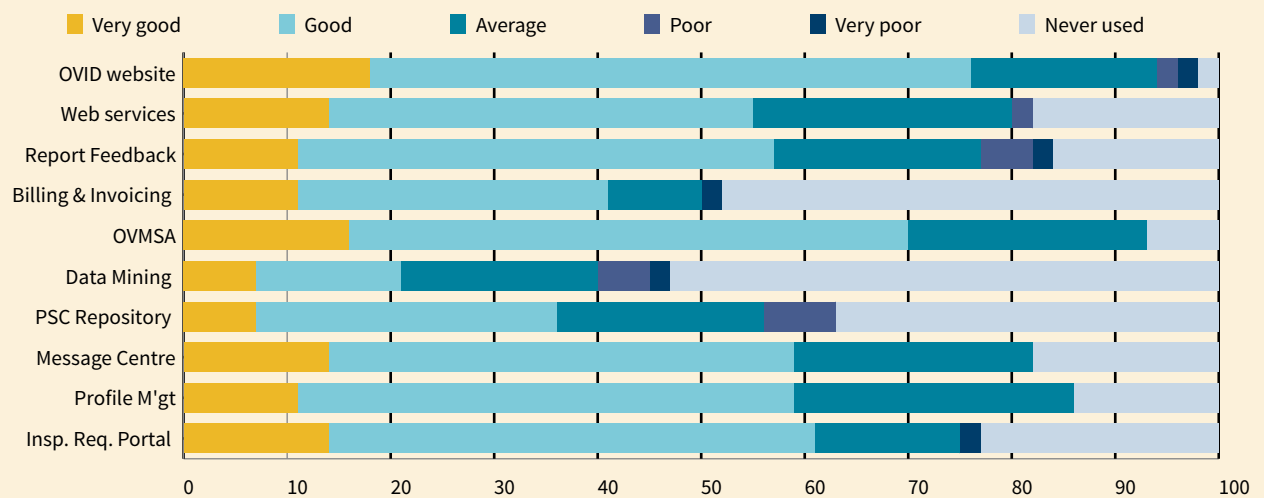
Submitting Companies rated various OVID services.

- The OVID website (75% positive) and OVMSA Reports (70.46% positive, no negative ratings) were the top performers. The Message Centre (45.45% Good) and User Profile Management Page (47.73% Good) also scored well.
- Moderate feedback was seen for Report Feedback Functionality (45.45% Good, 20.45% Average) and Web

Services/API Availability (40.91% Good, 18.18% Never Used). The Inspection Request Portal earned 61.37% positive ratings, though 22.73% had never used it.

- Least-used features included Billing and Invoicing (47.73% Never Used), Data Mining Services (53.49% Never Used), and the Port State Control Report Repository (39% Never Used), each receiving relatively low positive feedback.

Submitting Companies: Questionnaire & Database Recipients



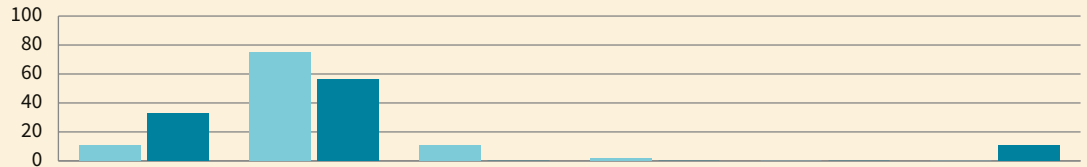
| Tools and Services | Very good | Good | Average | Poor | Very poor | Never used |
|---------------------|-----------|------|---------|------|-----------|------------|
| OVID website | 18% | 57% | 18% | 2% | 2% | 2% |
| Web Services | 14% | 41% | 25% | 2% | 0% | 18% |
| Report Feedback | 11% | 45% | 20% | 5% | 2% | 16% |
| Billing & Invoicing | 11% | 30% | 9% | 0% | 2% | 48% |
| OVMSA | 16% | 55% | 23% | 0% | 0% | 7% |
| Data Mining | 7% | 14% | 19% | 5% | 2% | 53% |
| PSC Repository | 7% | 30% | 20% | 7% | 0% | 39% |
| Message Centre | 14% | 45% | 23% | 0% | 0% | 18% |
| Profile M'gt | 11% | 48% | 27% | 0% | 0% | 14% |
| Insp. Req. Portal | 14% | 48% | 14% | 0% | 2% | 23% |

Questionnaire feedback

Across the survey, questions were asked about the Offshore Vessel Particulars Questionnaire (OVPQ) and Offshore Vessel Inspection Questionnaire (OVIQ), which

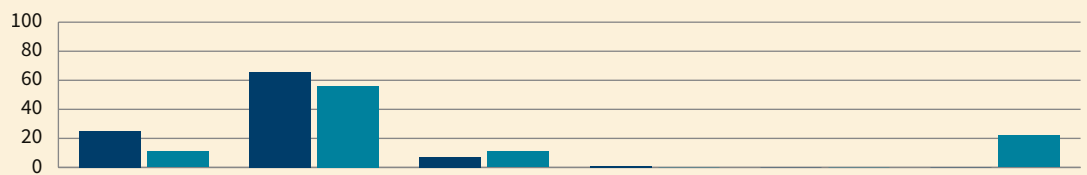
provides the template of questions Inspectors cover and accompanying guidance notes.

Submitting Companies & Programme Recipients: Are the questions and guidance notes in the OVID inspection report template adequate and appropriate?



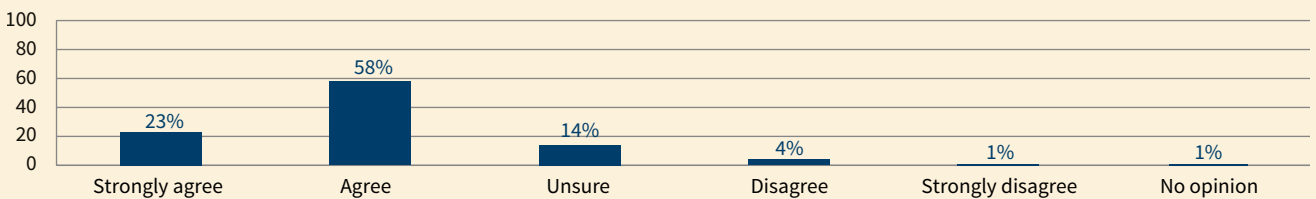
| Respondents | Strongly agree | Agree | Unsure | Disagree | Strongly disagree | No opinion |
|----------------------|----------------|-------|--------|----------|-------------------|------------|
| Submitting Companies | 11% | 75% | 11% | 2% | 0% | 0% |
| Programme Recipients | 33% | 56% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 11% |

Vessel Operators & Programme Recipients: The Offshore Vessel Particulars Questionnaires (OVPQQ) captures information necessary to evaluate vessels for assurance

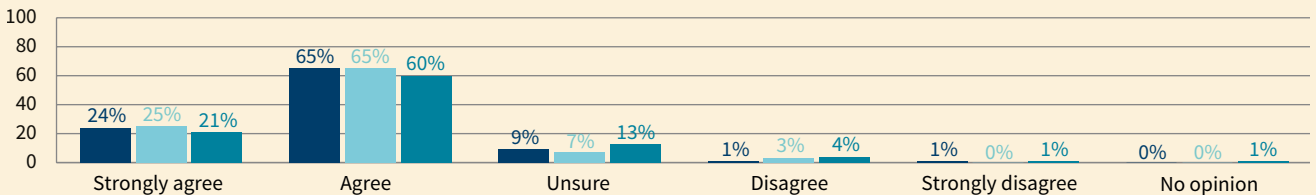


| Respondents | Strongly agree | Agree | Unsure | Disagree | Strongly disagree | No opinion |
|----------------------|----------------|-------|--------|----------|-------------------|------------|
| Vessel Operators | 25% | 66% | 6% | 1% | 0% | 1% |
| Programme Recipients | 11% | 56% | 11% | 0% | 0% | 22% |

Vessel Operators: The Offshore Vessel Inspection Questionnaire (OVIQ) covers the correct scope to evaluate vessels



Inspectors' perception of SIRE 2.0 and programme effectiveness



- The Offshore Vessel Inspection Questionnaire (OVIQ) has the right questions to enable the inspector to report on how critical safety equipment and activities such as navigation, cargo operations and engineering are managed on board vessels
- The content format of the OVIQ enables the inspector to fully report on the actual safety and operational conditions of vessels.
- The Offshore Vessel Particulars Questionnaire (OVPQ) provides sufficient information to assist the inspector in carrying out the inspection.

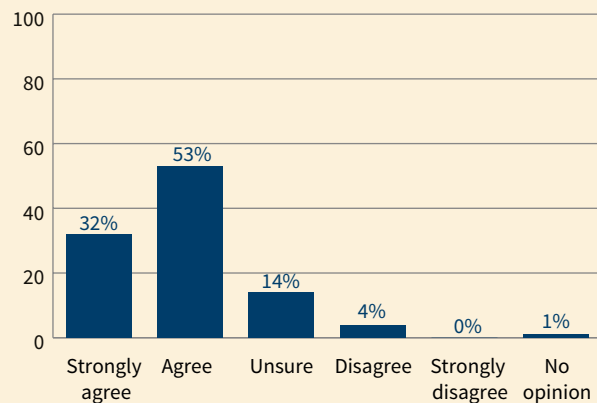
OVID Improvements

Programme users were asked to share their opinions on the knowledge, integrity and conduct of participating groups as well as their views and experiences relating to issues

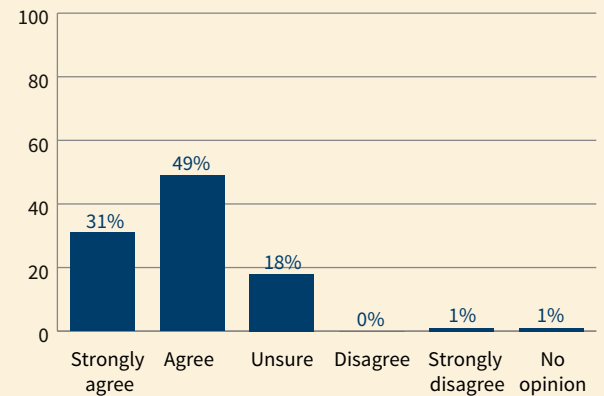
of misconduct. Overall feedback amongst the participant groups was positive and complimentary, with some issues raised for further exploration and improvement actions.

| Vessel Operators' views on Inspectors | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|--|---|
| | Based on the OVID inspections of your company's vessels, did the inspector take the time to complete the inspection on all parts of the vessel? | Based on OVID inspections of your vessels, did the inspector pay close attention to all the questions and associated guidance? | Based on OVID inspections of your vessels, was the conduct of the inspector professional and courteous? |
| Yes | 92.51% | 83.70% | 93.39% |
| No | 2.20% | 6.17% | 0.88% |
| I do not know | 5.29% | 10.13% | 5.73% |

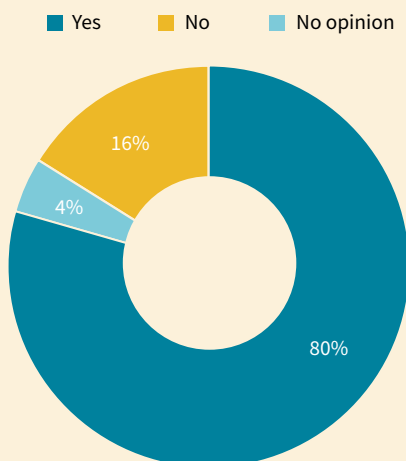
Vessel Operators: Opinions on Inspector knowledge



Vessel Operators: Opinions on Inspector impartiality



Submitting companies: Reporting issues with Inspectors

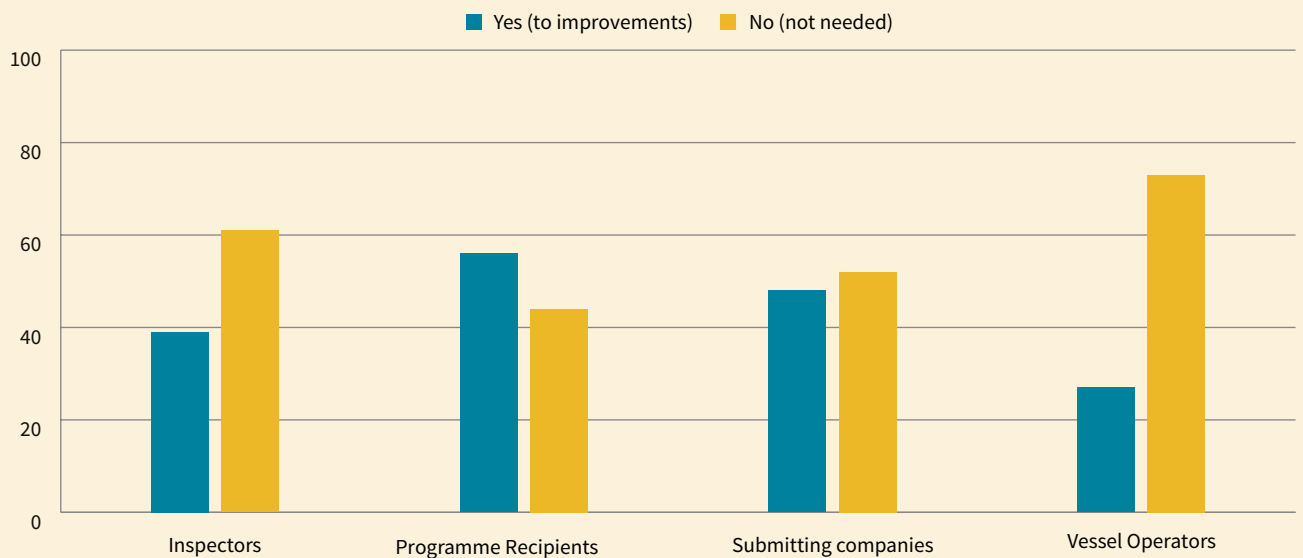


OVID improvements

This section captures feedback from all user groups on areas where the OVID programme could be enhanced. It highlights the proportion of respondents who identified a need for change, offering insight into where users see opportunities for improvement in processes, tools, and overall effectiveness.

Feedback on potential improvements showed Vessel Operators were the most satisfied, with only 26.79% seeking changes. Submitting Companies were evenly split (47.62% Yes, 52.38% No). Programme Recipients were most likely to want improvements (55.56% Yes), though from a small sample. Among Inspectors, 39.02% called for changes to the inspection process.

Improvement of OVID inspection process



Common themes across all stakeholder groups

| Theme | Summary |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Flexibility in Response Options | There is a broad call for more adaptable response options, particularly the inclusion of “Not Applicable” choices. |
| Relevance and Clarity of Questions | Questions are often viewed as outdated and there is a need to improve the questionnaire’s relevance and ensure it aligns with diverse vessel types and current practices. |
| Communication and Information Access | Stakeholders identified gaps in communication, including inconsistent updates and unclear access to version changes or guidance materials. |
| Platform Usability and Functionality | All groups expressed interest in enhancing the digital platform, including better user interface design, easier report generation, and expanded capabilities for uploading evidence such as documents and photos. |



Our vision

A global marine industry that causes no harm to people or the environment

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