SMHI

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METEOROLOGISKA INSTITUTET
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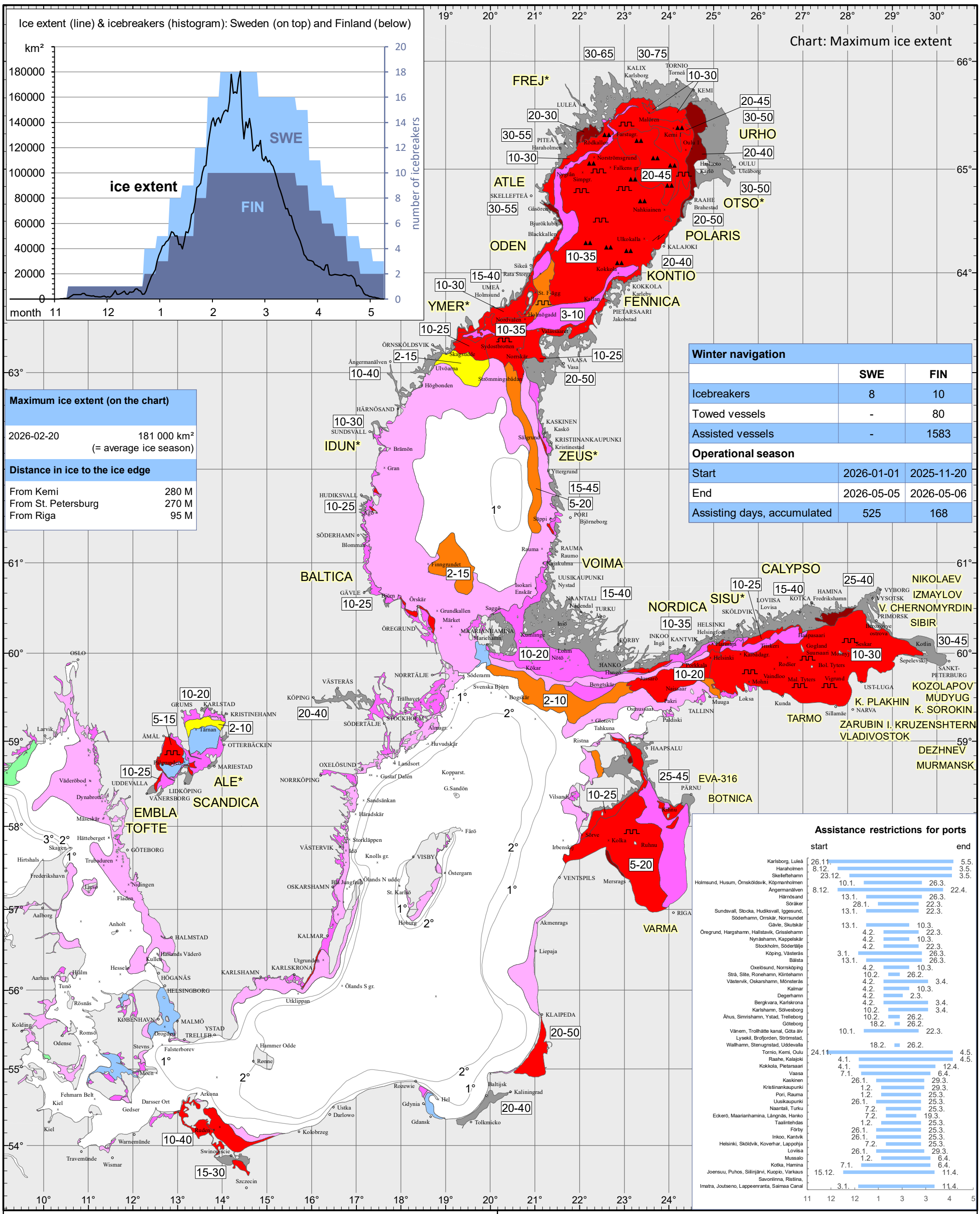
ICE SEASON 2025–2026

SWEDISH MARITIME ADMINISTRATION

Finnish Transport Infrastructure Agency



Maximum ice extent (on the chart)

2026-02-20	181 000 km² (= average ice season)

Distance in ice to the ice edge

From Kemi	280 M
From St. Petersburg	270 M
From Riga	95 M

Winter navigation

	SWE	FIN
Icebreakers	8	10
Towed vessels	-	80
Assisted vessels	-	1583
Operational season		
Start	2026-01-01	2025-11-20
End	2026-05-05	2026-05-06
Assisting days, accumulated	525	168

Assistance restrictions for ports

Ice type and concentration

Ice free	-	Very open ice	1–3/10	Close ice	7–8/10	New ice (< 5 cm)	7–10/10
Open water	< 1/10	Open ice	4–6/10	Very close or compact ice	9–9+/10	Nilas, grey ice (5-15 cm)	9–10/10
				Consolidated ice	10/10	Fast ice	10/10

Symbols

		Brash ice barrier		Strips and patches	20-40	Ice thickness (cm)
Fracture		Rafted ice		Floebit, floeberg	ATLE*	Icebreaker (* coordinating)
Fracture zone		Ridged or hummocked ice			2°	Water temperature isotherm (°C)