OVERVIEW

This document presents a summary snapshot of monitoring activities conducted by IOM and its partners at the border between Haiti and the Dominican Republic (DR). The monitoring was put in place in June 2015, in the weeks leading up to the expiration of the registration component of the DR’s National Plan for the Regularization of Foreigners (PNRE1 in Spanish). IOM’s monitoring network covered all official and unofficial border crossing points (BCPs) from July 2015 to September 2016 and has covered half since then due to budget restrictions.

CUMULATIVE HIGHLIGHTS: JULY 2015 -JUNE 2017

General:
- 128,615 households (204,911 individuals) have crossed the border into Haitian territory.
- 32.7% were female while 67.3% were male.
- Presumed unaccompanied and separated children: 3,558 presumed unaccompanied and separated children were identified.

Spontaneous and Forced Migration:
- 121,309 individuals declared having returned spontaneously.
- 33,601 individuals claimed to have been deported.
- 49,442 individuals were officially deported and voluntarily registered at the three official BCPs.

Completed IOM activities:
- IOM Dominican Republic facilitated the Assisted Voluntary Returns and Reintegration (AVRR) of 218 households (559 individuals) in four stages:
  - February 25th: 169 individuals
  - June 8th: 181 individuals
  - September 20th: 102 individuals
  - May 17th: 107 individuals
- IOM Haiti assisted a total of 579 households (2,320 individuals) who had settled in six (6) settlements in Anse-à-Pitres via the rental subsidy program.

WEEKLY REPORT:

General:
- 1,278 individuals were observed crossing the border into Haitian territory; this is below the average of 1,867 per week. Of these, 1,120 individuals were voluntarily registered.
- Presumed unaccompanied and separated children (UASC):
  - 58 UASC were identified, which is above the average of 32 individuals. 36 were officially deported into Haitian territory and subsequently referred to the relevant authorities.

Composite Deportations and Spontaneous Returns:
- 386 individuals declared having returned spontaneously to Haiti; this is below the average of 1,108 spontaneous returnees.
- 63 individuals claimed to have been deported into Haitian territory; this is below the average of 151 claimed deportations.
- A reported 829 individuals were officially deported into Haitian territory this week; this is above the average of 754 individuals.
- 671 official deportees were voluntarily registered.5
- 63 individuals interviewed at unofficial BCPs claimed to have been deported directly into Haitian territory; 4 claimed to have spent time in a detention center before being forcefully returned Haiti.

Graph 1: Total returnees this week

Graph 2: Returnee Flows from July 2015

1 Plan Nacional de Regularización de los Extranjeros
2 The figures of official deportations are as of 15th August 2015 and are the total number of individuals that agreed to be registered voluntarily by IOM’s network of enumerators along the border.
3 The difference in figures between the current and previous SitRep is because the data reflects the date of entry into Haiti and not the date of the entry into the database, with the exception of Belladère.
4 The total weekly figures are comprised of all spontaneous returns and all deportations including the officially deported individuals who did not agree to be registered but were still counted.
5 For definitions please see the bottom of page 2.
Age and Gender Distribution of all returnees
The majority of the returnee population reported being between the ages of **18-49 years old**, representing **69.1%** of the overall returning population. A reported **25.6%** are aged **0-17 years old** and **5.3%** are **50 years and above**.

Claimed Occupation
The most common occupation held by returnees from the DR is in **Agriculture (58,555 households)**, followed by **Construction (34,293 households)** and **Commerce (14,530 households)**. Other common declared occupations include the transportation, hospitality, maintenance, security and education sectors.

Vulnerabilities
Border enumerators are trained to identify potential protection cases who may need help or tailored assistance upon re-entering Haiti. Returnees in need are referred to partner organizations such as UNICEF and UNHCR after the initial interview with IOM staff. Most often, protection-related cases deal with unaccompanied and separated children who have crossed into Haiti through official or unofficial means.

Presumed unaccompanied and Separated Children (UASC)
Among the persons crossing the border, the network encountered **3,558 cases of UASC**. After referral to the relevant government authorities (IBERS) and their partners (UNICEF), **1,232** were identified as UASC and the appropriate actions were taken to assist them:

- 769 were reunited with their parents
- 229 were reunited with other relatives
- 2 are still awaiting family reunification.

Graph 3: Age and Gender Distribution of Returnees (cumulative)

Graph 4: Claimed Occupations of Returnees

Graph 5: Most commonly identified vulnerabilities

Key Definitions
1. **Spontaneous (migration) return**: An individual or groups who initiate and proceeds with their migration plans without any outside assistance. (Glossary on Migration, p 62, IOM)
2. **Deportation**: The act of a State in the exercise of its sovereignty in removing an alien from its territory to a certain place after refusal of admission or termination of permission to remain (Glossary on Migration, p 18, IOM)
   a. **Official Deportations**: Government organized returns which are carried out at the official Border Crossing Points between the hours of 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM (border schedule). Before official deportations, relevant returnees receive an official notification regarding the impending deportation. Furthermore, information regarding the time and point of deportation are communicated to the Haitian authorities (Haitian Embassy/consulate). Official deportations are mostly carried out by the DR Immigration (DGM).
   b. **Other Deportations**: Any forceful return which does not follow the aforementioned guidelines of Official Deportations.
CLAIMED AND OFFICIAL DEPORTATION PROFILES

A total of 73,681 persons have been officially deported at the official BCPs of Belladère, Malpasse and Ouanaminthe - of which 49,442 persons (48,633 households) have been voluntarily registered.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Official BCPs</th>
<th>Households Deported</th>
<th>Individuals Deported</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Belladère</td>
<td>14,817</td>
<td>14,875</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malpasse</td>
<td>12,583</td>
<td>12,630</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ouanaminthe</td>
<td>21,233</td>
<td>21,937</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1: Official deportations per official BCP

Of all 204,911 individuals interviewed, 121,309 individuals declared having returned spontaneously to Haiti. While 33,601 individuals claimed to have been deported into Haitian territory by various DR authorities (Immigration, CESFRONT, Military etc.), 49,442 individuals have been officially deported by DR Immigration (DGM). 559 individuals were Assisted Voluntary Returns (AVR) carried out by IOM (Dominican Republic).

Age and sex breakdown of official deportees
Of all the 47,346 individuals officially deported and registered, 93.7% were male and 6.3% were female.

The majority of the officially deported individuals have reported being between the ages of 18-49 years representing 92.9% of the deported population. A reported 5.3% are aged between 0-17 years old and a mere 1.7% falls into the 50 year plus category. The average age of officially deported individuals is 26.88 years old.

Location where official deportees were apprehended
When questioned about the location from which they were deported, the respondents have indicated the following:
- 44,814 individuals apprehended in the street
- 2,517 were apprehended in their residence
- 1,917 were apprehended in their place of employment.

Vulnerabilities Assessed among Officially Deported
Among the people officially deported, 3,558 were presumed unaccompanied and separated children. These UASC were referred to the relevant government authority (IBERS) and their partners for appropriated care and status determination.

Graph 9: Location of apprehension
INDIVIDUALS BORN IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

11,828 households (44,879 individuals) have at least one member who claims to have been born in the DR. Of these, 24,435 individuals claimed to have been born in the DR, and 14,308 were born before January 26th 2010, which means they fall under UNHCR’s mandate. Of the 1,961 cases (5,807 individuals) verified by UNHCR, 2,710 individuals were placed within UNHCR’s care.

FAMILY REMAINING IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

124,349 individuals indicated they still have family members remaining in the DR.

Further questioning revealed that 76.0% are Haitians without visa, 14.2% are Haitians with visa and 5.7% are Dominican citizens or have a Resident status.

25,749 officially deported individuals registered indicated they still have family members living in the DR. They have indicated the following:

- 21,275 have relatives remaining
- 2,338 have children (daughter/son) remaining in DR
- 1,916 have their spouse (husband/wife) still in DR

Family in the DR:

Graph 12: Status of official deportees’ family in the DR

DOCUMENTATION

The majority 65.8% (134,743 individuals) did not possess any type of documentation. Of those in possession of some sort of document, 32.6% (66,743 individuals) reported having Haitian Documentation and 1.7% (3,425 individuals) reported having Dominican documentation.

Types of documentation:

The most common ID document returnees claim to possess continues to be the Haitian Birth Certificate, corresponding to 73.8% of the individuals with documentation. The second most common document is the Haitian ID (CIN or NIF) which represents 19.9%.
DESTINATION AND RETURN INTENTIONS

When questioned regarding their intended destination, the following three communes were most commonly indicated by returnees:

- Cornillons/Grand Bois: **11,962 households**
- Anse-à-Pitres: **6,829 households**
- Fonds Verettes: **7,299 households**

Irrespective of the type of returns, the trends observed during previous Sitreps remain the same. The returnees have, most commonly, provided the following answers:

- Intention to stay with relatives (**74.3%**)
- Intention to rent a house (**12.0%**)
- Intention to stay with friends (**7.5%**)
- Having nowhere to go (**2.6%**)

COMPOSITE RETURNS PER DEPARTMENT:

Graph 15: Living arrangement intentions of returnees
The following maps indicate primary return destinations for deportees per border crossing point. An overall trend is that most destinations are more commonly located in departments adjacent to the BCPs. The Ouest is a common destination for returnees at every BCP, while the Sud, Grande Anse, and Nippes areas are significantly less common. Details include that:

- For **Ouanaminthe**, the most common destinations are in the Nord-Est and Nord, as well as Artibonite departments.
- For **Belladère**, the most common destinations are in the Centre, Ouest, and Artibonite departments.
- For **Malpasse** the most common destinations are in the Ouest and Sud-Est departments.
- For **Anse-a-Pitres** the most common destinations are in the Sud-Est and Sud-Est departments.

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For more information please contact dtmhaiti@iom.int or consult http://haiti.iom.int/dtm-documents