OVERVIEW

In June 2015, in response to the increased tensions between Haiti and the Dominican Republic, and following a request of the Ministry of Interior and Territorial Communities, IOM together with its International and National Civil Society partners established the Border Monitoring Network and Displacement Tracking Mechanism. The Border Monitoring Network focuses on the identification, and profiling of persons crossing the Dominican-Haiti border as well as supporting the management and provision of assistance to vulnerable individuals. Currently IOM’s border monitoring activities covers 50 BCPs. 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).

UPDATE

A total of 2,924 individuals were officially deported from September 1st to 20th. This constitutes a decrease of 56% compared to the previous period (5,488 individuals deported in August).

The decrease observed during the month of September can be attributed to the passage of Hurricane Irma and hurricane Maria which had greatly affected the Northern part of the Dominican Republic.

CUMULATIVE HIGHLIGHTS: JULY 2015 -17 SEPTEMBER 2017

General:

- 147,168 households (229,885 individuals) have been voluntarily registered by the border monitoring network while they crossed the border into Haitian territory.
- 32.0% were female while 68.0% were male.

Presumed unaccompanied and separated children:

- 4,167 presumed unaccompanied and separated children were identified.

Spontaneous and Forced Migration:

- 132,995 individuals declared having returned spontaneously.
- 37,942 individuals claim to have been deported.
- 58,271 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 265 households (677 individuals), the latest carried out on 3 August 2017.

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 REPORT3:

General:

- 2,3414 individuals were observed crossing the border into Haitian territory; this is below the average of 1,882 per week.
- Of these, 1,412 individuals were voluntarily registered.

Presumed unaccompanied and separated children (UASC):

- 29 UASC were identified, which is below the average of 33 individuals. 14 were officially deported into Haitian territory and subsequently referred to the relevant authorities.

Composite Deportations and Spontaneous Returns:

- 663 individuals declared having returned spontaneously to Haiti; this is below the average of 1,075 spontaneous returns.
- 307 individuals claimed to have been deported into Haitian territory; this is above the average of 150 claimed deportations.
- A reported 1,371 individuals were officially deported into Haitian territory this week; this is above the average of 786 individuals.
- 442 official deportees were voluntarily registered.5

Graph 1: Total returnees this week

| Deported: Detention Center | 0.7% |
| Deported: Claimed          | 15.0% |
| Spontaneous Returns       | 26.9% |

Graph 2: Monthly figures for official deportations from August 2015 to August 2017

1Plan Nacional de Regulación de los Extranjeros
2The figures of official deportations are as of 31st August 2015 and are the total number of individuals that agreed to be registered voluntarily by IOM’s network of enumerators along the border.
3The different 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. Data entry is continuous.
4The total weekly figures are comprised of all spontaneous returns and all deportations including the officially deported individuals who did not agreed to be registered but were still counted.
5For 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 70.1% of the overall returning population. A reported 24.7% are aged 0-17 years old and 5.2% are 50 years and above.

Claimed Occupation
The most common occupation held by returnees from the DR is in Agriculture (66,980 households), followed by Construction (39,973 households) and Commerce (16,387 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 4,167 cases of UASC. After referral to the relevant government authorities (IBESR) 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 93,549 persons have been officially deported at the official BCPs of Belladère, Malpasse and Ouanaminthe - of which 58,271 persons (57,279 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>18,778</td>
<td>18,838</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malpasse</td>
<td>14,285</td>
<td>14,439</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ouanaminthe</td>
<td>24,209</td>
<td>24,994</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1: Official deportations per official BCP

Of all 229,885 individuals interviewed, 132,995 individuals declared having returned spontaneously to Haiti. While 37,942 individuals claimed to have been deported into Haitian territory by various DR authorities (Immigration, CESFRONT, Military etc.), 58,271 individuals have been officially deported by DR Immigration (DGM). 677 individuals were Assisted Voluntary Returns (AVR) carried out by IOM (Dominican Republic).

Age and sex breakdown of official deportees

Of all the 51,890 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 92.8% of the deported population. A reported 5.5% 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:

- 53,057 individuals apprehended in the street
- 2,910 were apprehended in their residence
- 2,091 were apprehended in their place of employment.

Vulnerabilities Assessed among Officially Deported

Among the people officially deported, 4,167 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.
INDIVIDUALS BORN IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

12,853 households (48,378 individuals) have at least one member who claims to have been born in the DR. Of these, 26,283 individuals claimed to have been born in the DR, and 15,301 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.

(UKHRC Statistical Update – 15 May 2017)

FAMILY REMAINING IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

138,604 individuals indicated they still have family members remaining in the DR.

Further questioning revealed of that 76.1% are Haitians without visa, 14.3% are Haitians with visa and 5.6% are Dominican citizens or have a Resident status.

29,776 officially deported individuals registered indicated they still have family members living in the DR. They have indicated the following:

- 24,740 have relatives remaining
- 2,705 have children (daughter/son) remaining in DR
- 2,196 have their spouse (husband/wife) still in DR

DOCUMENTATION

The majority 64.9% (149,126 individuals) did not possess any type of documentation. Of those in possession of some sort of document, 33.5% (76,934 individuals) reported having Haitian documentation and 1.7% (3,825 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 75.2% of the individuals with documentation. The second most common document is the Haitian ID (CIN or NIF) which represents 18.7%.
DESTINATION AND RETURN INTENTIONS

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

- Cornillons/Grand Bois: 13,437 households
- Anse-à-Pitres: 7,293 households
- Fonds Verettes: 8,331 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 (75.7%)
- Intention to rent a house (11.4%)
- Intention to stay with Friends (7.2%)
- Having nowhere to go (2.4%)

COMPOSITE RETURNS PER DEPARTMENT:
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