

Repatriated migrants in Haiti by air and sea in 2022

Profiles and needs



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OVERVIEW

Introduction

Since end of 2021, thousands of Haitian migrants have been repatriated in Haiti. From **January to December 2022**, a total of **22,444 migrants were repatriated** in Haiti by air and sea¹. IOM provides assistance to repatriated migrants upon their arrival and also conducts surveys in order to understand their **profiles and needs** and ultimately **inform migration governance strategies and policy making**. In 2022, IOM conducted these **surveys on 11,011 repatriated households**. This report provides key results of these surveys.

Key findings:

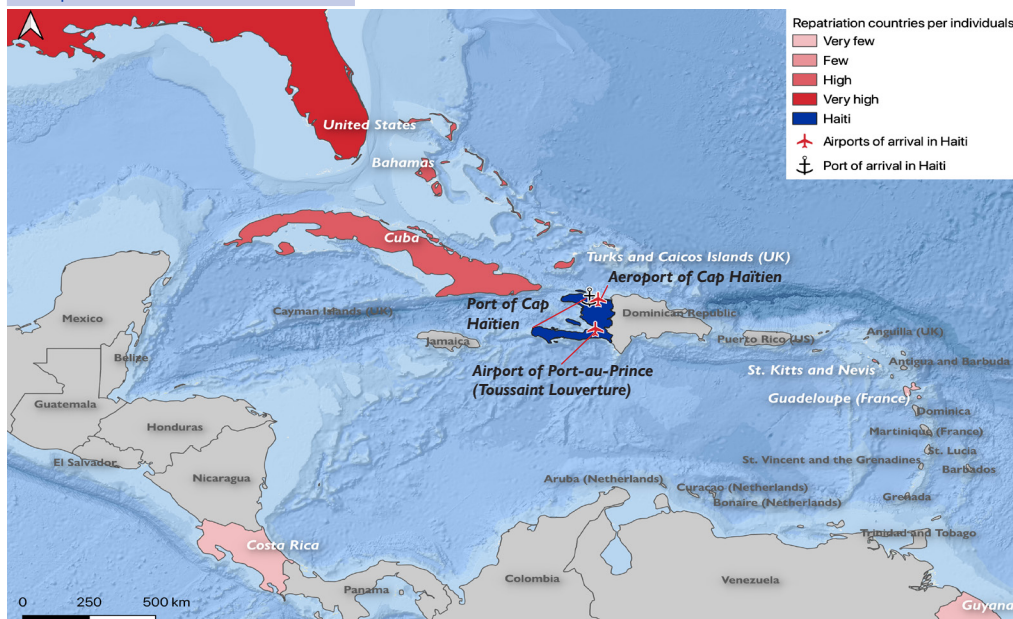
- **46%** of migrants were repatriated by the United States, **20%** by Cuba and **18%** by Bahamas
- **65%** of repatriated migrants were **men** and **35%** were **women**.
- **20%** of migrants were **children**
- **Insufficient income (27%)** and **lack of employment (23%)** were the main reasons

for leaving Haiti

¹ it should be noted that repatriations are also done by land from the Dominican Republic but this report only focuses on those done by air and sea as in 2022 IOM conducted surveys on migrants arriving by these means only.

- **34%** of migrants indicated the will to try again to leave Haiti in the following 6 months after data collection, due to **violence and insecurity in the country**
- **67%** of migrants reported that they could not leave Haiti again if they found an **employment**
- The basic needs of interviewed repatriated migrants differed by their district of origin. However, households tend to agree on three main needs which are firstly **financial support (mentioned by 72% of migrants)** of, then **employment (32%)** and finally **safety and security (32%)**.

Repatriation countries



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Number of surveys

Total number of **surveys** conducted from January to December 2022



Households
11,011

Repatriations per month in 2022

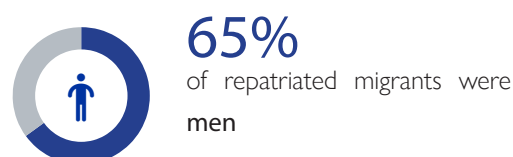
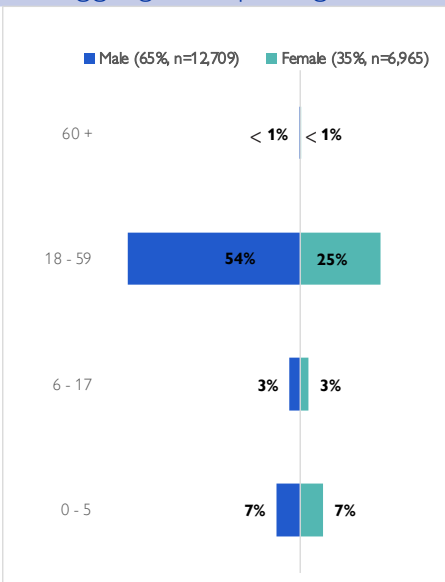


Total number of
repatriated migrants in
2022

22,444

PROFILE OF MIGRANTS FROM ALL REPATRIATION COUNTRIES

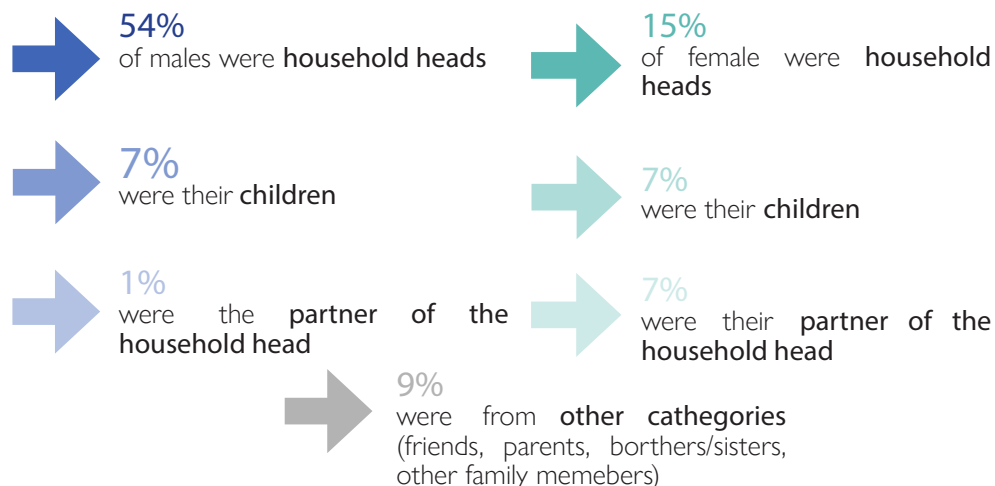
Disaggregation per age and sex



Repatriated migrants status in the household

Males

Females

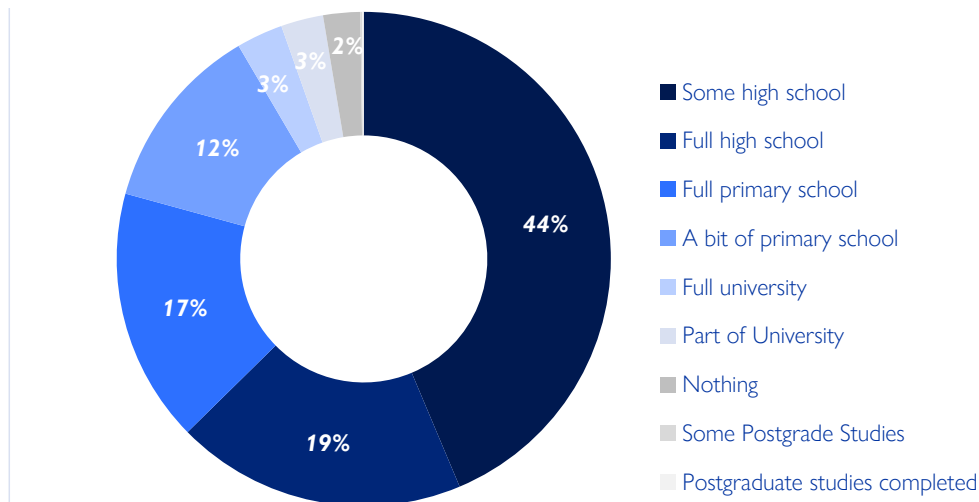


People with special needs

Individuals with various health issues	29%
Pregnant women	2%
Lactating women	2%
Individuals with chronic disease	1%
Unaccompanied children	<1%
Separated children	<1%

- Most of the migrants were **men (65%)** and were between **18 and 59 years old (79% of migrants were in this age group, of which 54% were men and 25% women)**. A significant presence of children among repatriated migrants was noted: **20 per cent** of migrants were **children**, including **14 per cent** who were between **0 and 5 years old**.
- A greater proportion of men were heads of households compared to women. Indeed while **54 percent of men** were heads of households, only **15 percent of women** were.
- Different vulnerabilities were identified among repatriated migrants, especially **health issues** (reported by **29%** of repatriated migrants). Most health issues were difficulties to eat, getting clothed by oneself, taking a shower, walking and seeing. In addition, **2%** of migrants were **pregnant women**, **2%** were **lactating women** and **1%** was **unaccompanied or separated children**.

Education



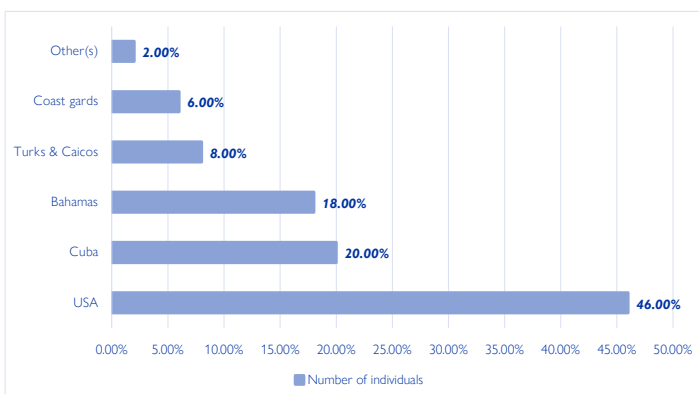
- 63 % of households heads attended high school but only 19 % graduated. Only 2% among them reported having no level of education

Origin of repatriation



82%

of repatriated migrants reported that they were intercepted on their way to a foreign country and 16% were intercepted while already arrived in a foreign country



- The majority of migrants was repatriated from United States (46%), Cuba (20%) and Bahamas (18%).

Possession of Haitian identity documents



83%

of repatriated migrants were born in Haiti. Another 10% were born in Chile, and 4% in Brazil.



28%

of interviewed individuals had no Haitian documentation.¹

¹Data collected on the possession of identity documents is based on migrants' declaration. For this data collection, IOM doesn't ask migrants to provide proof of possession of the documents they declared to have.

Type of Haitian documents held by repatriated migrants

75%

had a Haitian passport

16%

had a new electoral card

3%

had an old electoral card

2%

had a Tax Registration Number

1%

had a birth certificate

Members of repatriated migrants living abroad



2%

of households declared having at least one member living abroad.



65%

of households who had family members abroad, mentioned that these later were living in United States (34%), Mexico (17%) and Chile (14%)



37%

of these households declared that at least one member of their family living abroad was a child

Main reasons for migrating out of Haiti

Insufficient income in Haiti	27%	
Lack of employment opportunities in Haiti	23%	
Other reasons	12%	
Greater economical/employment opportunities abroad	11%	
Search for better living conditions	9%	
Search for possibilities to entry and settle legally in the destination country	6%	
Impossibility of obtaining identification documents in Haiti	6%	
Lack of money to buy food	6%	

Future migration intention

34%

of repatriated migrants planned to **migrate again to a foreign country** in the following 6 months after the repatriation. The **main reported reasons** were:



- 1 **27%** – violence and insecurity
- 2 **27%** – lack of income
- 3 **18%** – lack of employment opportunities
- 4 **8%** – lack of funds to buy food
- 5 **6%** – lack of funds to meet other basic needs (Health, Education, Clothes, etc.)

Migration in host countries

5 Years

Average time that a migrant spent outside Haiti before being repatriated

Four main countries where respondents lived during most recent migration out of Haiti

- 1  **24%** in Brazil
- 2  **22%** in Chile
- 3  **21%** in Cuba
- 4  **12%** in Bahamas

Main reasons to migration out of the host country

Insufficient funds	28%	
Lack of employment opportunities	23%	
Better employment/economical opportunities abroad	11%	
Search for better living conditions	9%	
Search for possibilities to entry and settle legally in the destination country	6%	

Insufficient income (27%) and lack of employment opportunities in Haiti (23%) were the reasons for leaving the country for most of repatriated migrants. The average time spent outside of Haiti was approximately 5 years, with the majority spending more time in Brazil (24%), Chile (22%) and Cuba (21%). Many migrants tried to leave their initial host countries towards others and the main reasons for leaving the host country correspond more or less to those that initially prompted these people to leave Haiti, which were the **lack of funds and lack of employment/economical opportunities**. This result indicates that migrants keep engaging in migration movements until finding a better economic situation.

It should be noted that violence and insecurity were not among the reasons that initially prompted people to initially leave Haiti in the first place. However, this reason became the main one for people who plan to migrate again out of Haiti as the security situation in Haiti keeps worsening. Indeed, repatriated migrants who reported the intention to leave again the country during the following 6 months after data collection (34%), mentioned **violence and security** among the top reasons, in addition to socio-economic situations.

Origin in Haiti of repatriated migrants and intended destination in Haiti after repatriation



95%

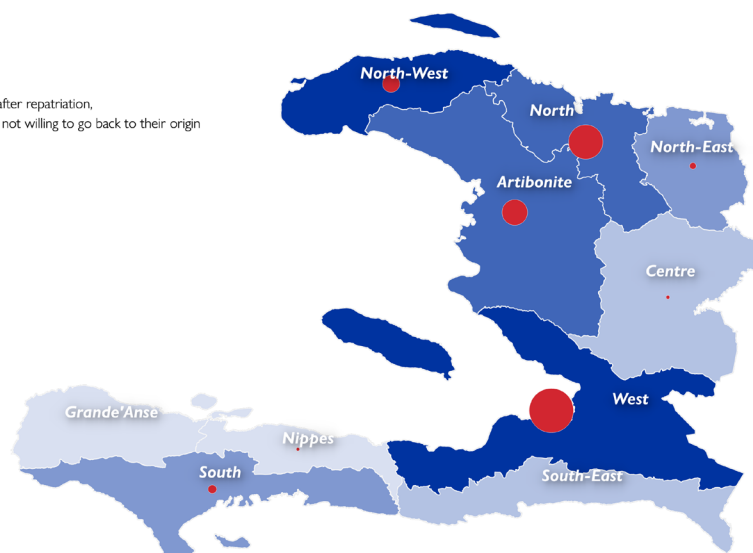
of the repatriated migrants planned to **return to their district of origin**

Districts of origin of surveyed repatriated households

57 - 147
147 - 186
186 - 663
663 - 1522
1522 - 3305

Districts of destination after repatriation, of surveyed households not willing to go back to their origin

28%
24%
19%
14%
10%
5%



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Violent events during 2022



922

violents events happened in Haiti in 2022 and most of them (79%) in the **Western district** ([ACLED](#)).



38%

Violence against civilians

Intensity of violence level
Very low
Low
Some
High
Very high

Number of victims or displacement
9-51
32-100
100 - 516
517 - 700



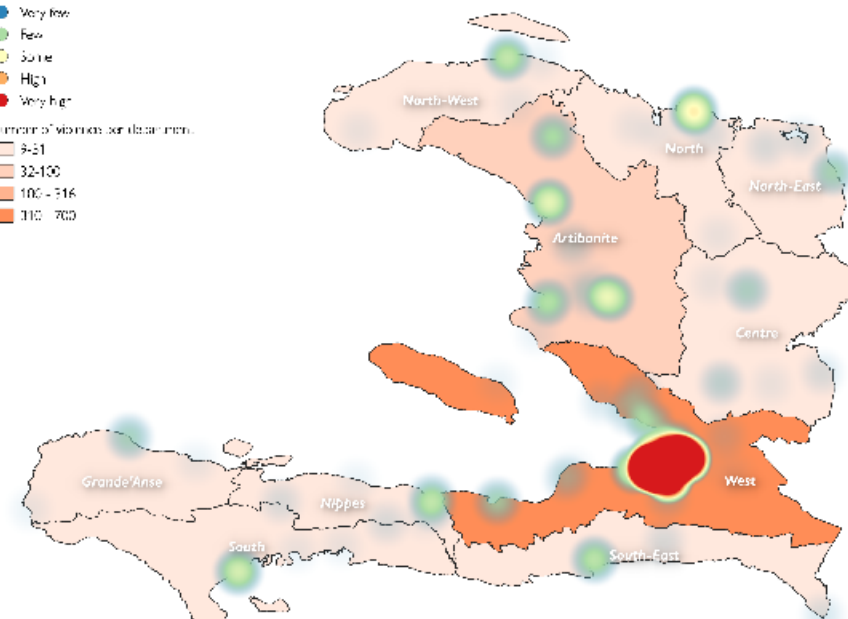
31%

Battles (inter-gang clashes)



22%

Riots



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- The majority of repatriated migrants were from the **North-West district** (31% of migrants were from this district, especially from the municipalities of Port de Paix, La Tortue and Saint-Louis du Nord), the **Western district** (27%, especially from Port-au-Prince, Croix-Des-Bouquets and Delmast), **Artibonite** (20%, particularly from Gonaives and Saint-Marc) and the **Northern district** (12%, especially from Cap-Haitien).
- In the majority of cases (95%), repatriated migrants intended to **return to their place of origin** after their repatriation. However 4%¹ of them were hoping to relocate to another place, especially towards the **Western and Northern district**. it's interesting to note that although most of violent events happened in the Western district (79% of violent events in 2022), it remained the main destination of repatriated migrants after their repatriation, either because it was their origin, in the vast majority of cases, but also the majority of those who reported the intention to go to a different place than their origin (4%) intended to go towards this district.

1

1% of respondents did not want to reply or did not know where they will go after their repatriation

Work situation in Haiti



67%

of repatriated migrants reported that if they could find **employment** in Haiti, it would impact their decision **not to migrate again** out of the country

Work situation in the host country



49%

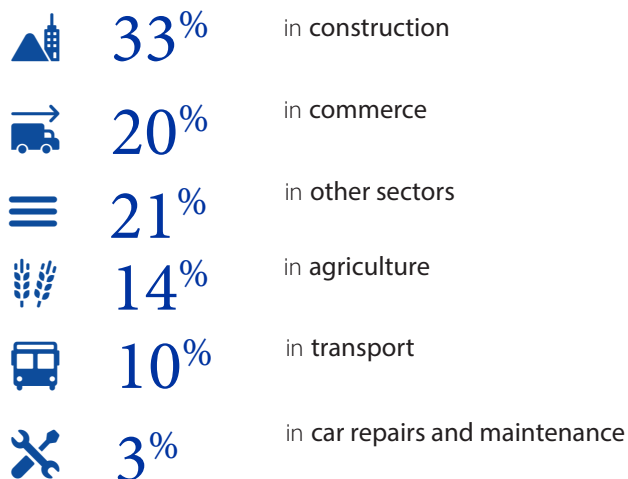
of repatriated migrants reported that the **household head** was **working to earn an income** while living in the host country



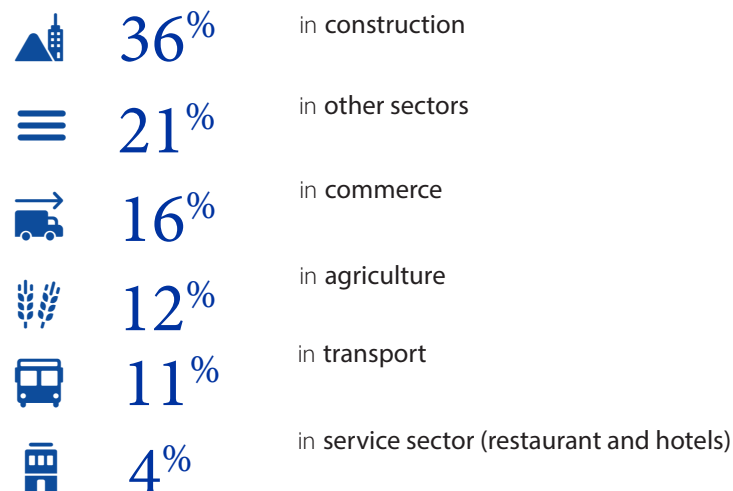
3%

of repatriated migrants reported that **another member other than the household head** was **working to earn an income** while living in the host country

Main areas of work desired by repatriated migrants



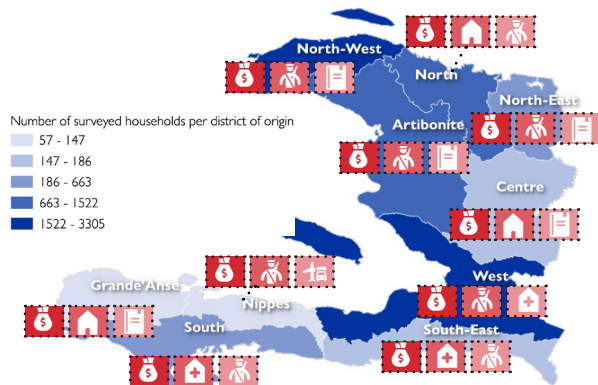
Main areas of work in host countries



• Although **34 per cent** of migrants reported that they intended to migrate again out of the country in the following 6 months after data collection (see page 6), the majority of them (64%) reported that if they would **find an employment in Haiti**, it would impact their decision **not to leave Haiti**. The main areas of employment desired by them were **construction (33%), commerce (20%) and agriculture (14%)**. These were similar to areas of work they were employed in **while outside of Haiti** : (49% of households heads were employed when they were outside Haiti and among them 36% were in construction, 16% in commerce and 12% in agriculture).

PRIMARY NEEDS

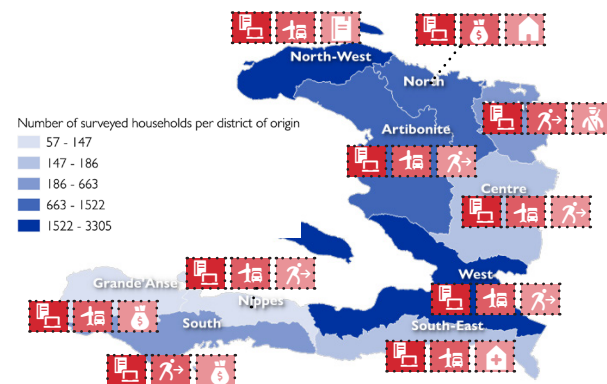
Priority number 1



1	Financial support	72%	💰
2	Security/ Safety	8%	🛡️
3	Health support	6%	🏥
4	Shelter	4%	🏠
5	Education	4%	📖

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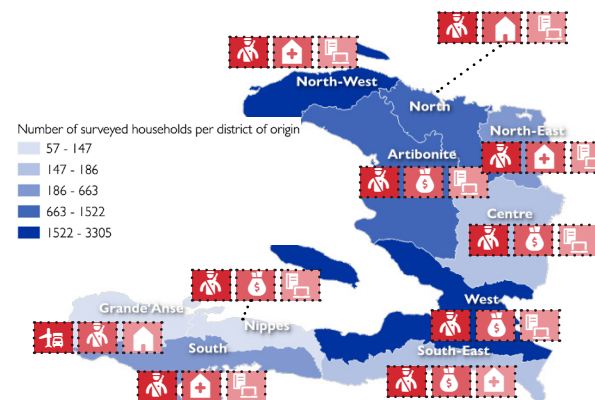
Priority number 2



1	Employment	32%	💼
2	Transport to commute	13%	🚗
3	Financial support	9%	💰
4	Education	8%	📖
5	Security/ Safety	8%	🛡️

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Priority number 3



1	Security/ Safety	32%	🛡️
2	Employment	12%	💼
3	Health support	11%	🏥
4	Transport to commute	9%	🚗
5	Shelter	6%	🏠

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- Overall, first priority needs reported by migrants were **financial support** (mentioned by 72% of them), **security and safety** (8%) and **health support** (6%). Although some variations were observed per district of origin, financial support and security/safety were among the first main needs of repatriated migrants originating from almost every district of the country.

In addition, **Employment** was the top need among the category of second priority needs and **Security/Safety** was the top among the third ones.

PROFILE OF REPATRIATED MIGRANTS FROM THE USA



Repatriated migrants



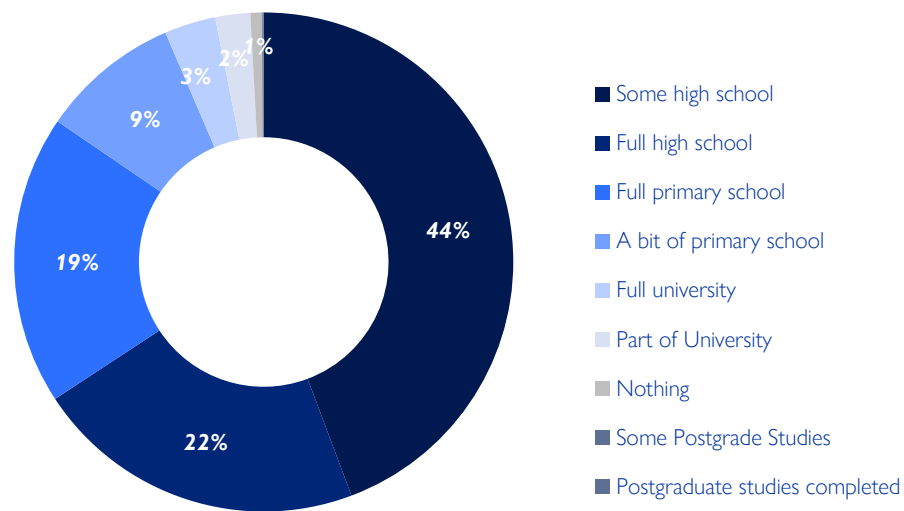
from January to December 2022



46%

of interviewed households were repatriated from the United States

Education level



During migration



59%

of repatriated migrants from the US were intercepted in the US and 41% of them on their way to the US.

5

Years

Average time spent in the USA before going back to Haiti

Main areas of work in the USA



36%

in construction



21%

in other sectors



16%

in commerce



13%

in agriculture



10%

in transport



4%

in service sector (restaurant and hotels)

REPATRIATED MIGRANTS FROM CUBA



Number of surveys



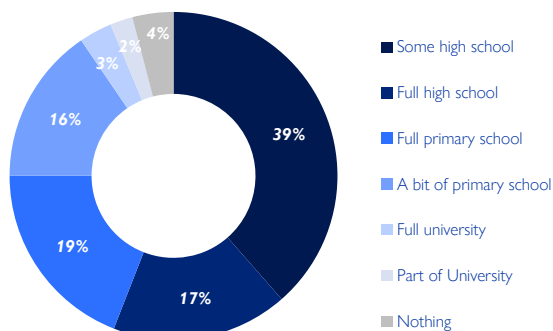
from January to December 2022



20%

of assessed households were repatriated from **Cuba**

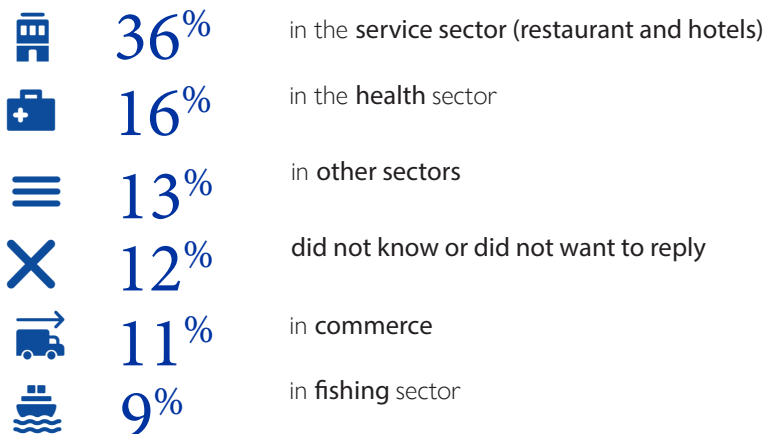
Education level



4
Years

Average time spent in
Cuba before going back to
Haiti

Main areas of work in Cuba



REPATRIATED MIGRANTS FROM BAHAMAS



Number of surveys



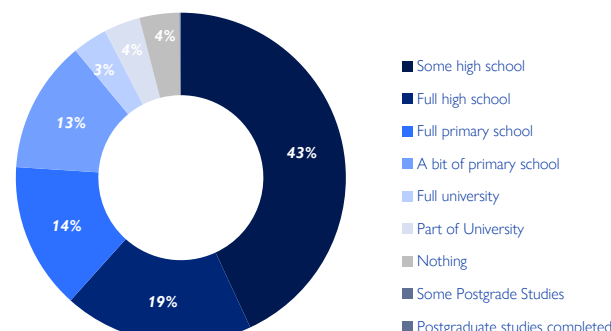
from January to December 2022



18%

of assessed households were repatriated from the
Bahamas

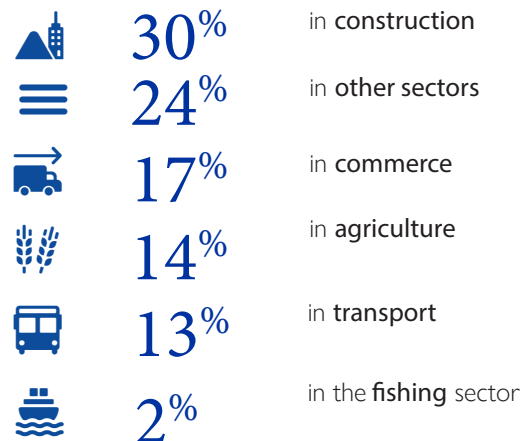
Education level



5
Years

Average time spent in the
Bahamas before going back to
Haiti

Main areas of work in the Bahamas





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