

# HAITI

## HAITIANS FORCIBLY RETURNED TO HAITI

**Profiles, migration experience and intentions of Haitians  
returned in 2023**

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The data collection was conducted by IOM staff and GARR, a national Haitian Non-Governmental Organization.

Cover: Registration of Haitians forcibly returned by the Bahamas to the town of Cap Haitien © IOM Haiti / March 2024

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## KEY FINDINGS

### RETURNEES BY ALL COUNTRIES

### RETURNEES BY MAIN SENDING COUNTRIES

|                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  <p><b>90%</b> of persons were returned alone<br/><b>10%</b> with their family members</p>                                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dominican Republic: 89% alone vs 11% with family members</li> <li>Turcs and Caicos: 96% alone vs 4% with family members</li> <li>Bahamas: 96% alone vs 4% with family members</li> <li>United States: 91% alone vs 9% with family members</li> </ul>                                                                            |
|  <p><b>41%</b> of returnees were single</p>                                                                                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dominican Republic: 37% were single</li> <li>Turcs and Caicos: 54% were single</li> <li>Bahamas: 63% were single</li> <li>United States: 62% were single</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                             |
|  <p><b>43%</b> only attended primary school<br/><b>14%</b> had no education level</p>                                         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dominican Republic: 48% attended primary school vs 16% had no education level</li> <li>Turcs and Caicos: 69% attended high school vs 6% had no education level</li> <li>Bahamas: 54% attended high school vs 4% had no education level</li> <li>United States: 64% attended high school vs 1% had no education level</li> </ul> |
|  <p><b>10%</b> were employed before leaving Haiti<br/><b>15%</b> were employed after leaving Haiti</p>                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dominican Republic: 7% before vs 17% after</li> <li>Turcs and Caicos: 25% before vs 5% after</li> <li>Bahamas: 14% before vs 9% after</li> <li>United States: 16% before vs 8% after</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                 |
|  <p><b>97%</b> were born in Haiti<br/><b>3%</b> in Dominican Republic</p>                                                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dominican Republic: 96% born in Haiti and 4% in DR</li> <li>Turcs and Caicos: 100% born in Haiti</li> <li>Bahamas: 100% born in Haiti</li> <li>United States: 99% born in Haiti and 1% in DR</li> </ul>                                                                                                                         |
|  <p><b>57%</b> had an Identity Document (ID)<br/><b>25%</b> of these had a Haitian passport</p>                               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dominican Republic: 62% had an ID (26% of these had a passport)</li> <li>Turcs and Caicos: 21% had an ID (42% of these had a passport)</li> <li>Bahamas: 35% had an ID (50% of these had a passport)</li> <li>United States: 53% had an ID (72% of these had a passport)</li> </ul>                                             |
|  <p><b>78%</b> left Haiti alone<br/><b>22%</b> in group</p>                                                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dominican Republic: 82% left alone vs 18% in group</li> <li>Turcs and Caicos: 56% left alone vs 44% in group</li> <li>Bahamas: 66% left alone vs 34% in group</li> <li>United States: 75% left alone vs 25% in group</li> </ul>                                                                                                 |
|  <p><b>82%</b> left Haiti by Land<br/><b>14%</b> by Sea<br/><b>4%</b> by Air</p>                                           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dominican Republic: 97% by Land, 2% by Air, 1% by Sea</li> <li>Turcs and Caicos: 93% by Sea, 5% by Air, 2% by Land</li> <li>Bahamas: 51% by Sea, 48% by Air, 1% by Land</li> <li>United States: 45% by Sea, 36% by Air, 19% by Land</li> </ul>                                                                                  |
|  <p><b>51%</b> spent more than 6 months out of Haiti before being forcibly returned</p>                                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dominican Republic: 57% out of Haiti for more than 6 months</li> <li>Turcs and Caicos: 78% out of Haiti for less than 2 weeks</li> <li>Bahamas: 47% out of Haiti for more than 6 months</li> <li>United States: 51% out of Haiti for more than 6 months</li> </ul>                                                              |
|  <p><b>84%</b> left Haiti to seek job opportunities abroad</p>                                                              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dominican Republic: 82% left for job opportunities</li> <li>Turcs and Caicos: 92%</li> <li>Bahamas: 82%</li> <li>United States: 80%</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|  <p>Average spending for the trip to leave Haiti:<br/><b>401 USD</b></p>                                                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dominican Republic: 190 USD</li> <li>Turcs and Caicos: 919 USD</li> <li>Bahamas: 3,758 USD</li> <li>United States: 6,087 USD</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|  <p>Main departments of origin in Haiti:<br/>West (37%), Centre (18%),<br/>South-East (15%)</p>                             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dominican Republic: West (42%), Centre (21%), South-East (18%)</li> <li>Turcs and Caicos: North (45%), North-West (19%), West (10%)</li> <li>Bahamas: North-West (54%), North (20%), Artibonite (13%)</li> <li>United States: North-West (30%), West (26%), Artibonite (17%)</li> </ul>                                         |
|  <p><b>23%</b> have been Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Haiti in the past (<b>63%</b> of these due to violence)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dominican Republic: 23% have been IDPs (63% due to violence)</li> <li>Turcs and Caicos: 33% have been IDPs (all of them due to violence)</li> <li>Bahamas: 67% have been IDPs (all of them due to violence)</li> <li>USA: 18% have been IDPs (50% due to violence and 50% due to natural disaster)</li> </ul>                   |
|  <p><b>44%</b> intended to leave again Haiti during the following 6 months after their forced return</p>                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dominican Republic: 44%</li> <li>Turcs and Caicos: 39%</li> <li>Bahamas: 39%</li> <li>United States: 67%</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                             |

## INTRODUCTION

Forced returns of Haitians to Haiti is one of the main human mobility trends in the country. In search of a better life, many Haitians attempt to leave the country through regular or irregular pathways. In addition to risking their lives, those who engage in irregular pathways are often forcibly returned to Haiti by their destination or transit countries. In 2023, more than 216,000 people were returned to Haiti by different countries.

Many are returned after living several months or years outside Haiti and face challenges reintegrating into their communities. Furthermore, security and socioeconomic conditions in Haiti exacerbate these reintegration challenges. Hence, even after being forcibly returned in the country, many people engage again, sometimes multiple times, in irregular migration, in search of a better life out of Haiti.

This report provides insights on the profiles of Haitians who were forcibly returned in 2023. It presents their socio demographic and economic profiles, their migration experiences and their migration intentions. Information was collected through individual surveys conducted with a sample of returnees. Surveys were conducted upon their arrival in the country (please refer to the last section of the report for more information on methodology).

The goal of this research is to inform the development or adjustment of migration governance policies as well as transition and development strategies to ensure that migration is a choice, rather than the consequence of a constraint, and that once engaged, it is safe and carried out with human dignity, and contributes to the socio-economic development and well-being of migrants and their community of origin and of destination.

Figure 1. Haitians forcibly returned to Haiti in 2023 by sending country and number of interviewed among them

|                                                                                    |                          | <u>Number of returnees<sup>1</sup></u> | <u>Number of returnees interviewed</u> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
|   | Dominican Republic       | 208,169 (96%)                          | 7,409 (83%)                            |
|  | Turks and Caicos         | 3,338 (2%)                             | 897 (10%)                              |
|  | Bahamas                  | 2,021 (1%)                             | 219 (2%)                               |
|  | United States of America | 1,862 (1%)                             | 220 (2%)                               |
|  | Cuba                     | 751 (<1%)                              | 58 (1%)                                |
|  | Turkey                   | 463 (<1%)                              | 72 (1%)                                |
|  | Jamaica                  | 73 (<1%)                               | 24 (<1%)                               |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                                                       |                          | <b>216,677 (100%)</b>                  | <b>8,899 (100%)</b>                    |

1. More details on trends and figures of forced returns can be found [here](#)

Figure 2. Distribution of Haitians forcibly returned to Haiti in 2023 by sending country: 216,677 returnees

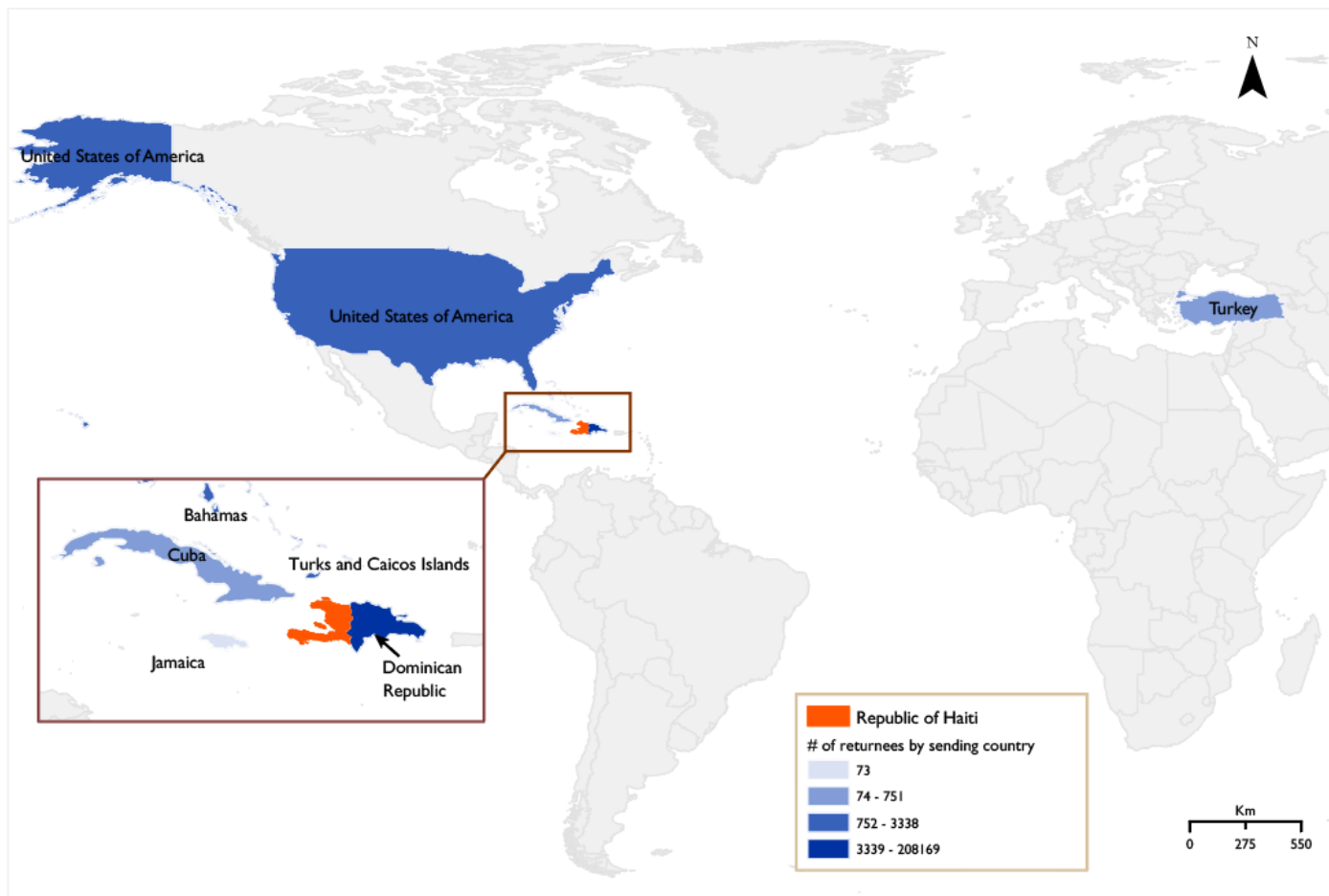
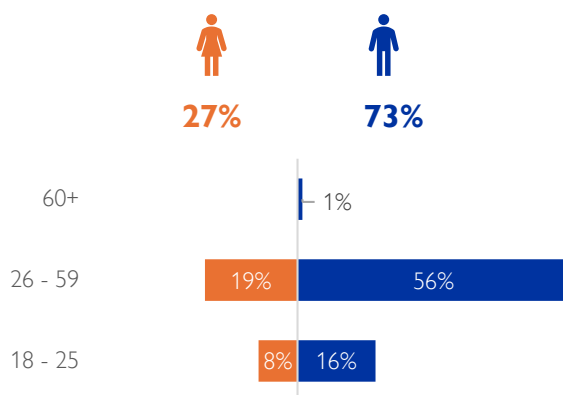
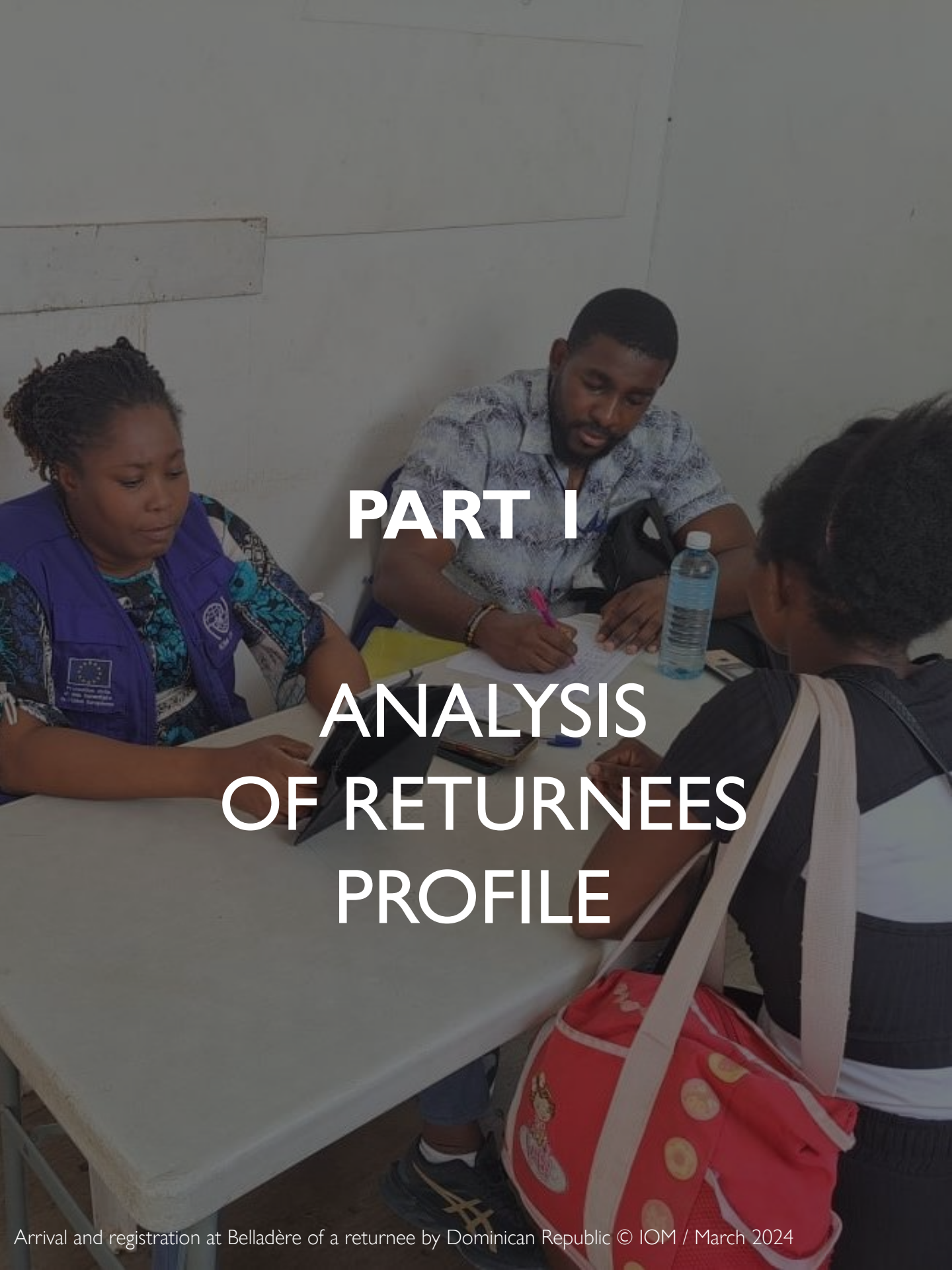


Figure 3. Distribution of respondents by age and sex (8,899 respondents)





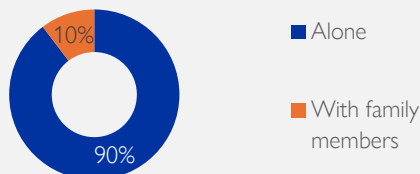
# PART I ANALYSIS OF RETURNEES PROFILE

## 1.1. SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

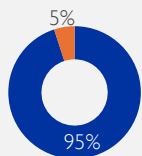
Most persons (90%) were returned alone and 10% with their family's members. This latter percentage was higher for returnees by Dominican republic: 11% were returned with their family's members (vs. 5% for returnees by other countries). For those who were returned with their families, children represented 38% of all family members and 42% were women.

Figure 4. « Were you returned alone or with family members? »

Returnees from all countries



Returnees from all countries except Dominican Republic



Returnees from the Dominican Republic

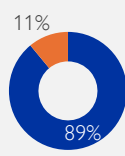
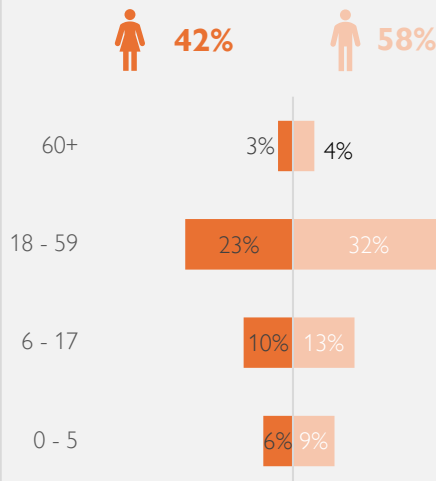
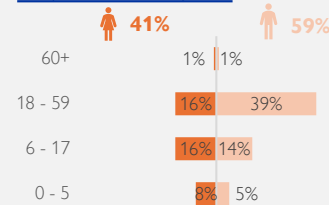


Figure 5. Disaggregation by sex and age of persons returned with family members

Returnees from all countries



Returnees from all countries except Dominican Republic



Returnees from the Dominican Republic

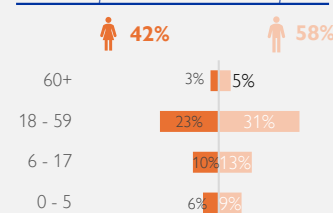


Figure 6. Observable vulnerabilities (on interviewees or their family members)



3% of returnees were breastfeeding women

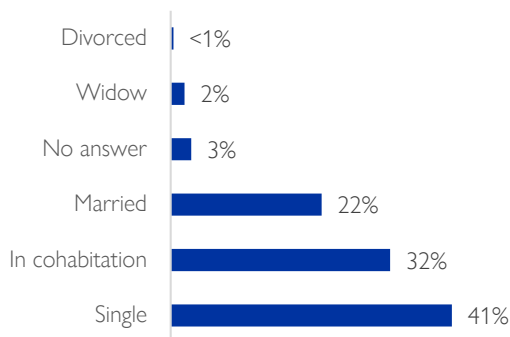


4% of returnees were pregnant women



1% of returnees were in serious medical conditions

Figure 7. Marital status



Two-fifth of returnees were single and 32% were living in cohabitation with a partner, while 22% were married.

In terms of level of education, most returnees had not achieved a high level of education: almost half of them (43%) only attended primary school and 14% had no level of education at all.

Figure 8. Education level

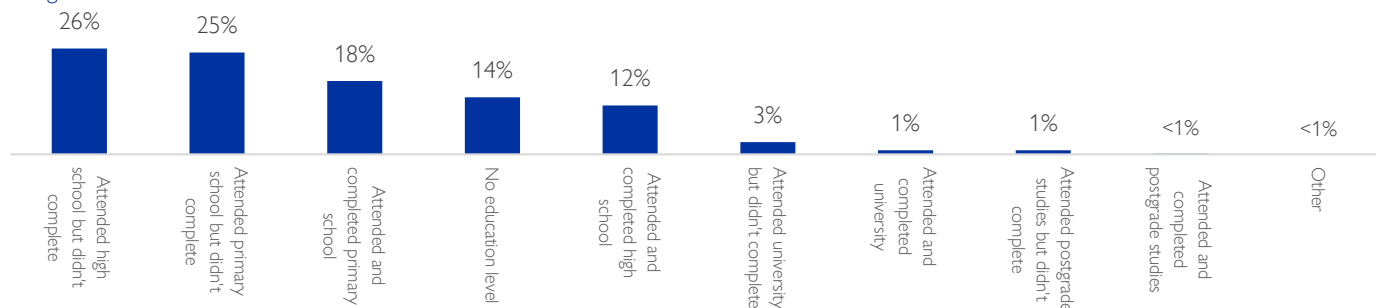
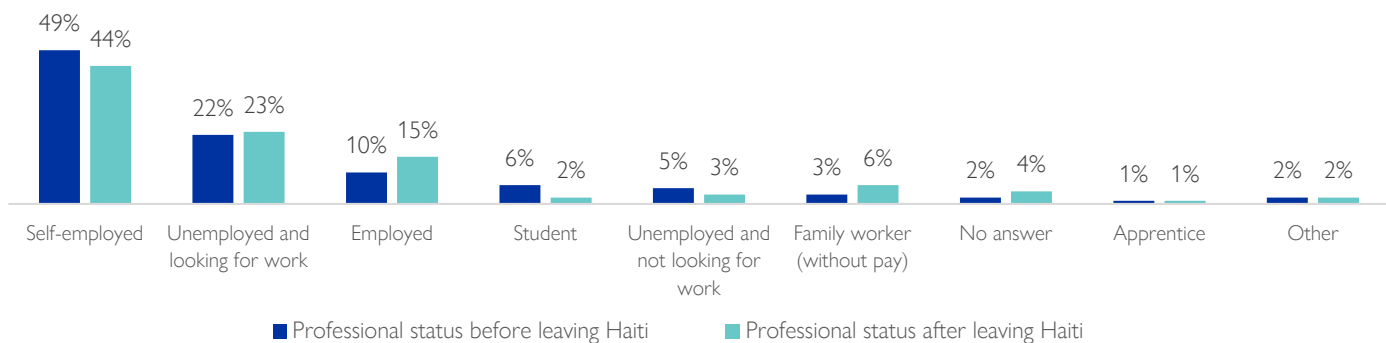


Figure 9. Professional status before and after leaving Haiti



Half of the returnees (49%) were self-employed before leaving Haiti and only 10% were employed. The latter percentage increased to 15% when returnees were outside Haiti.

Agriculture, construction and trade were the three main employment sectors, both when in Haiti and after leaving the country. It should be noted that the percentage of people working in construction increased from 22% when in Haiti to 29% outside Haiti

Figure 10. Top 5 areas of work for returnees before leaving Haiti (self-employed, employed or apprentices)

|                                                                                     |               |     |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|-----|
|  | Agriculture   | 41% |
|  | Construction  | 22% |
|  | Trade         | 19% |
|  | Fishing       | 3%  |
|  | Manufacturing | 2%  |

Figure 11. Top 5 areas of work for returnees when out of Haiti (self-employed, employed or apprentices)

|                                                                                     |                                     |     |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----|
|  | Agriculture                         | 38% |
|  | Construction                        | 29% |
|  | Trade                               | 15% |
|  | Manufacturing                       | 4%  |
|  | Accommodation and catering services | 2%  |

## I.2. MIGRATION EXPERIENCE

Figure 12. Native country

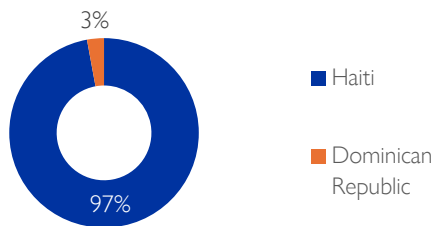
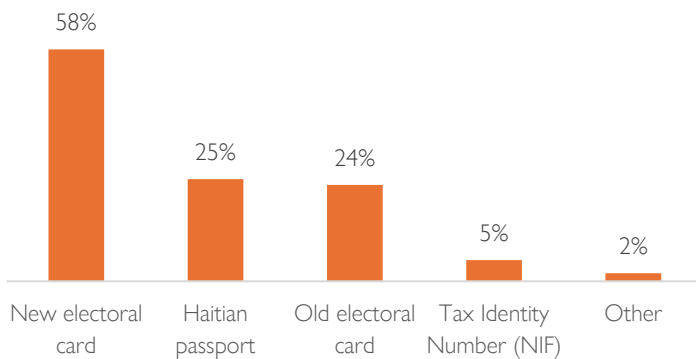


Figure 14. Type of IDs (Multiple choice)



Three-quarters of returnees traveled alone when they left Haiti (78%).

Those who traveled in groups were mainly accompanied by family members: 23% were accompanied by siblings or cousins; 17% by their spouse or partner; 14% by their children, 7% by their entire family and 4% by their fathers or mothers.

A good proportion (42%) were traveling with non-family members.

Among returnees who left Haiti with family members, 30% indicated that other family members remained outside Haiti.

Figure 17. « Are there any family members you originally emigrated with who have remained abroad? »

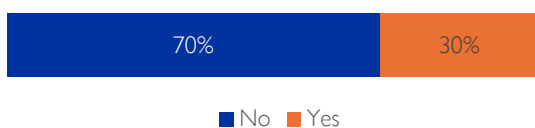
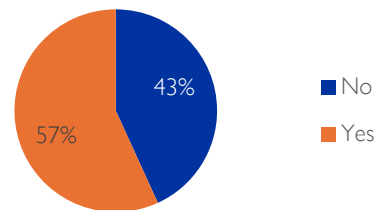


Figure 13. Possession of Identity Documents (IDs)



Almost all returnees were born in Haiti (97%) and 3% in the Dominican Republic.

The majority of them (57%) had an identity document (ID). The new electoral card was the document that most of them had. Only a quarter of those who possessed an ID had a passport.

It should be noted that possession of an ID is based on returnees' declarations and not on a check of identity documents by IOM's teams.

Figure 15. « When you left Haiti, did you travel alone or in a group? »

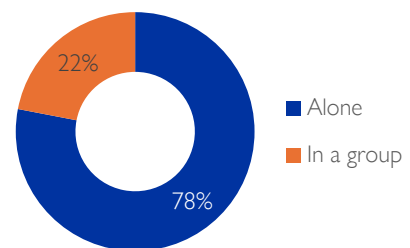
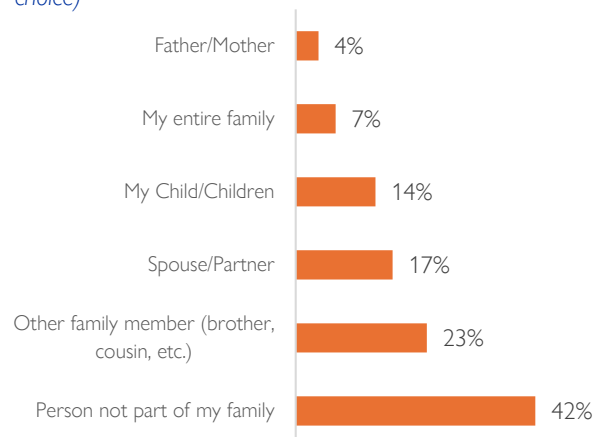


Figure 16. « If in a group, with whom did you travel? » (Multiple choice)



Analysis of the returnees' origin was carried out separately for those returned by the Dominican Republic and those returned by other countries because the proximity of Haiti and Dominican Republic has an impact on returnees' origin. Data shows that people who were returned by the Dominican Republic mostly originated from areas bordering the two countries, while those returned by other countries mainly came from areas close to the sea.

83% of returnees from the Dominican Republic originated from four Haitian's departments, all bordering Haiti and the Dominican Republic: West (42%; especially the municipalities of Cornillon Grand Bois and Fonds-Verrettes), Centre (21%; mostly Belladère and Savanette), South-East (18%; mainly Anse-à-Pîtres) and North-East (2%); see figures 18, 21, 23 and 25 for more details.

*Figure 18. Top 5 municipalities of origin for returnees from the Dominican Republic*

| <b>Municipality</b>                     | <b>District</b> | <b>% of returnees</b> | <b># of security incidents in 2023</b><br>(source: ACLED) |
|-----------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| Cornillon / Grand Bois                  | West            | 23%                   | 0                                                         |
| 7 municipalities of the capital (PAPMA) | West            | 7%                    | 986                                                       |
| Fonds-Verrettes                         | West            | 7%                    | 0                                                         |
| Anse-à-Pîtres                           | South-East      | 5%                    | 0                                                         |
| Belladère                               | Centre          | 4%                    | 0                                                         |
| Savanette                               | Centre          | 4%                    | 0                                                         |

Returnees from other countries originated mostly from the Northern part of Haiti: 34% from the department of North, especially from the municipalities of Cap-Haitien and Borgne; and 26% from North-West, mostly from Port-de-Paix, Saint-Louis du Nord La Tortue and Jean Rabel: see figures 19, 20, 22 and 24.

*Figure 19. Top 5 municipalities of origin for returnees from other countries else than the Dominican Republic*

| <b>Municipality</b>                     | <b>District</b> | <b>% of returnees</b> | <b># of security incidents in 2023</b><br>(source: ACLED) |
|-----------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| 7 municipalities of the capital (PAPMA) | West            | 9%                    | 986                                                       |
| Cap-Haitien                             | North           | 7%                    | 42                                                        |
| Port-de-Paix                            | North-West      | 7%                    | 9                                                         |
| Borgne                                  | North           | 6%                    | 2                                                         |
| La Tortue                               | North-West      | 5%                    | 0                                                         |
| Saint-Louis du Nord                     | North-West      | 5%                    | 4                                                         |
| Port-Margot                             | North           | 5%                    | 0                                                         |

Figure 20. Origin of people returned by countries other than the Dominican Republic – Department level (admin 1)

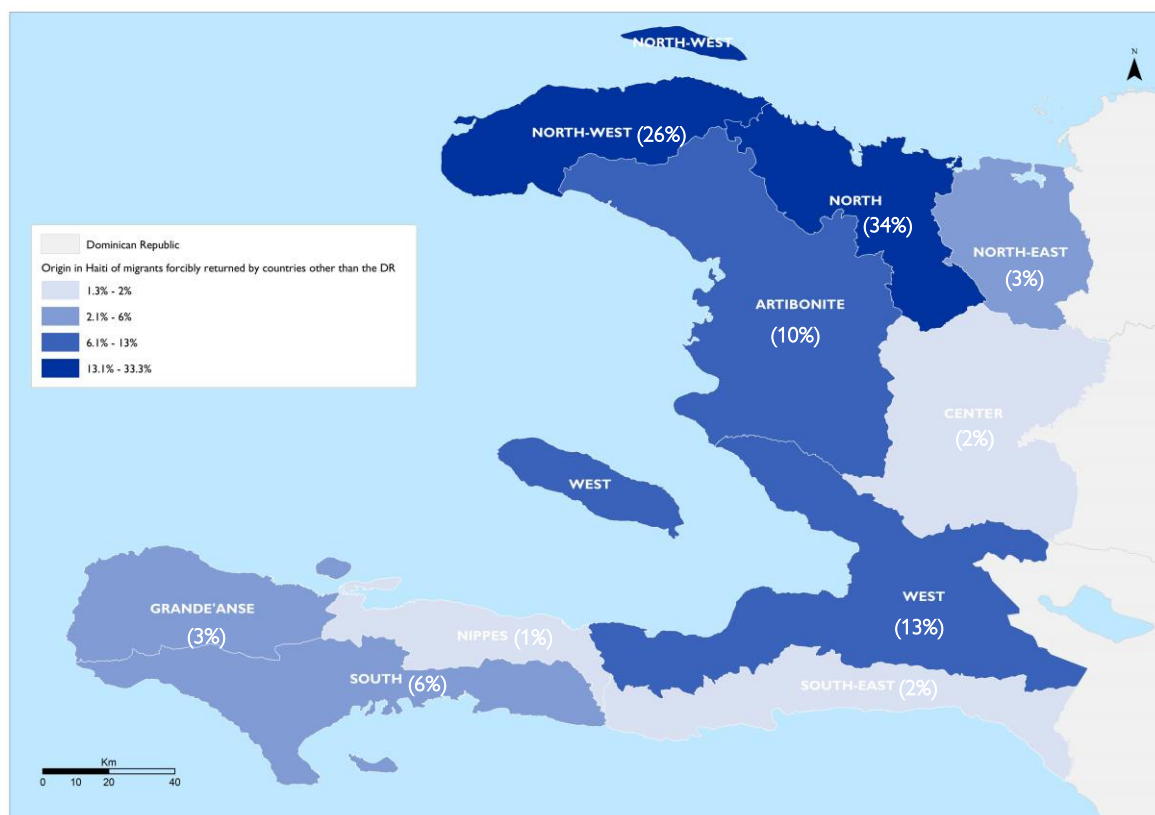


Figure 21. Origin of people returned by the Dominican Republic - Department level (admin 1)

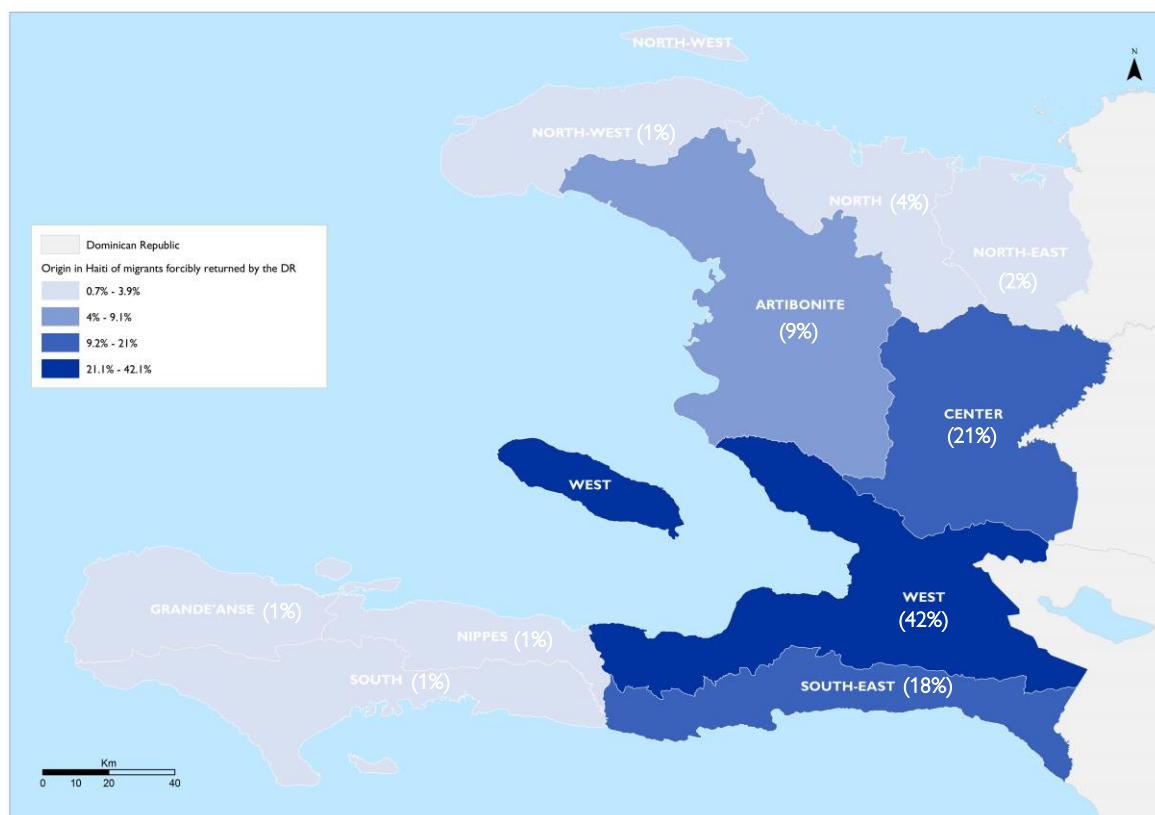


Figure 22. Origin of people returned by other countries other than the Dominican Republic – Municipality level (admin 2)

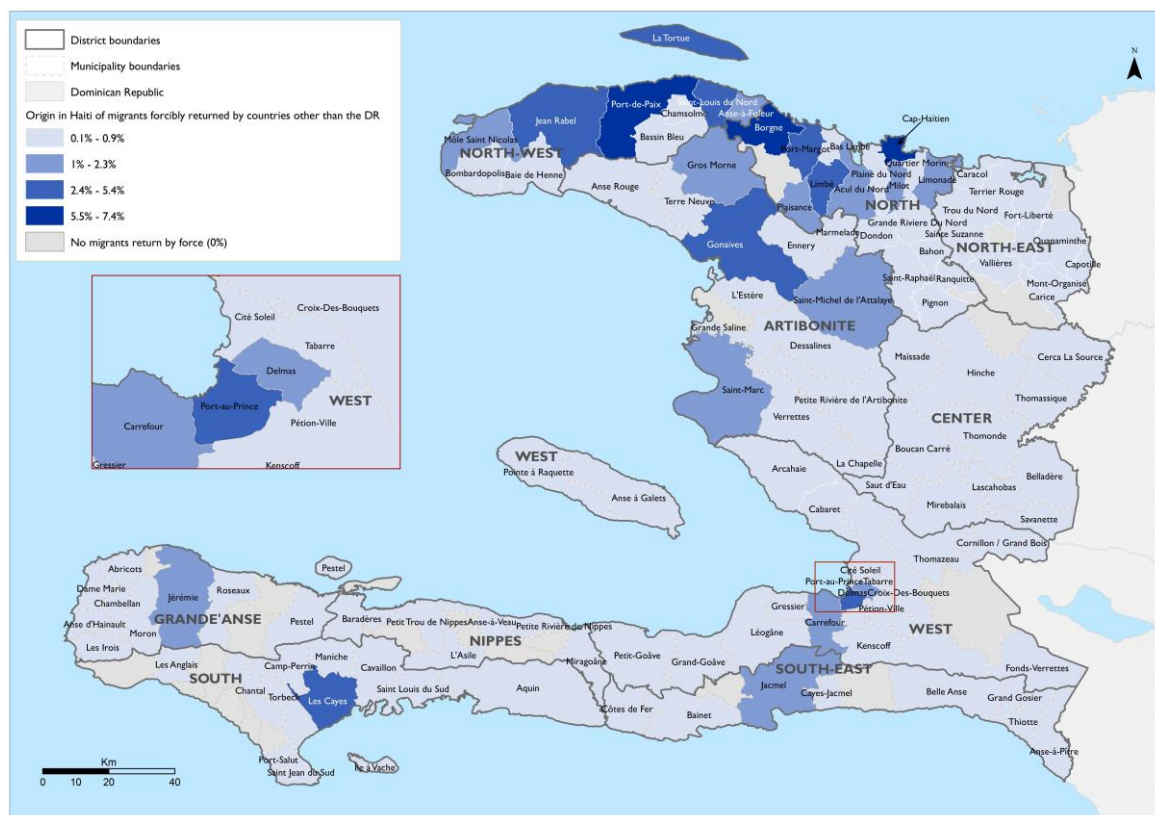


Figure 23. Origin of people returned by the Dominican Republic - Municipality level (admin 2)

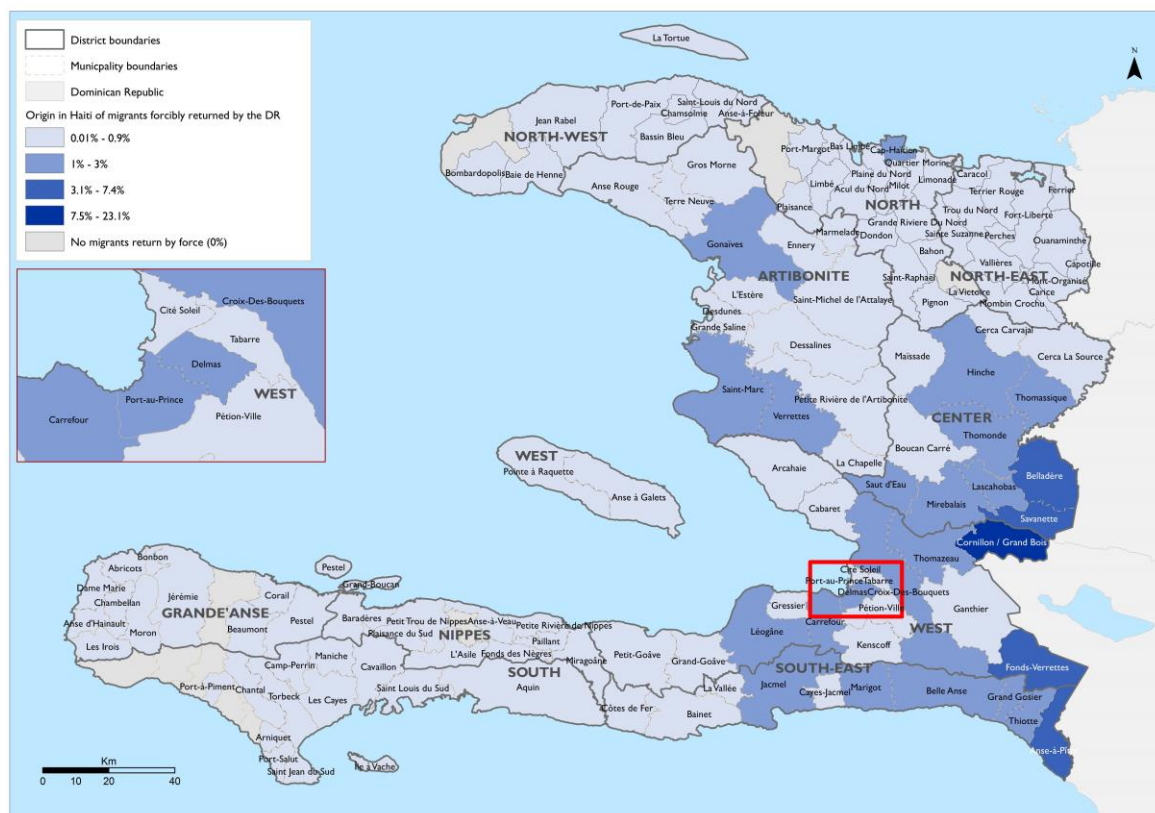
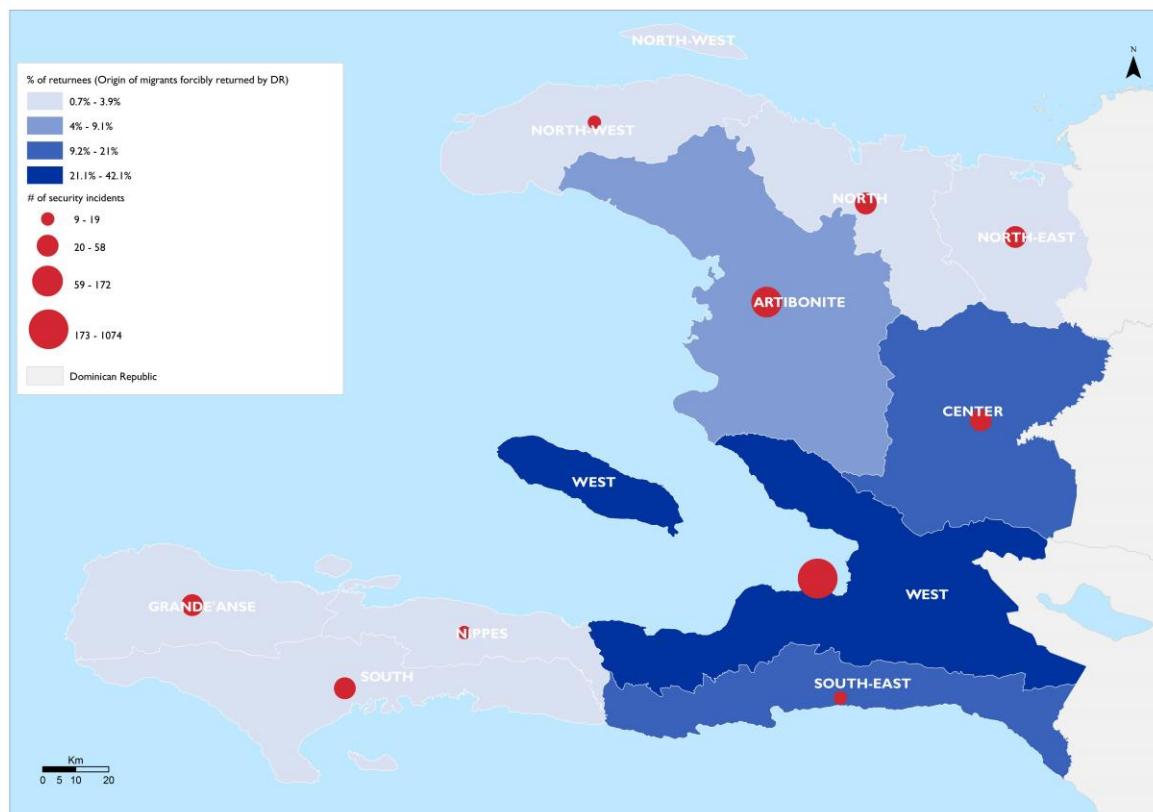


Figure 24. Origin of people returned by countries other than the Dominican Republic and security incidents in Haiti in 2023 (source of information on security incidents: ACLED) - Department level (admin 1)



Figure 25. Origin of people returned by the Dominican Republic and security incidents in Haiti in 2023 (source of information on security incidents: ACLED) - Department level (admin 1)



## FOOD INSECURITY AND ORIGINS OF RETURNEES

Food insecurity data used in this report comes from the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC), a multi-stakeholder initiative to improve analysis and decision-making on food security and nutrition. Using the IPC classification and analytical approach, governments, UN agencies, NGOs, and other stakeholders work together to determine the severity and extent of acute and chronic food insecurity and acute malnutrition situations within countries, according to internationally recognized standards<sup>2</sup>. On the scale of Acute Food Insecurity, the latest IPC analysis in Haiti classified that, from March to June 2024, all areas in the country are either in Phase 3 – Crisis<sup>3</sup> or Phase 4 – Emergency<sup>4</sup>, which shows how serious the food security situation is in the country.

Among returnees by Dominican Republic, 32% were from Phase 4 areas and 68% from Phase 3 areas (see figures 27 and 29), while 11% and 89% of returnees by other countries originated respectively from Phase 4 areas and Phase 3 areas (see figures 26 and 28).

Figure 26. IPC phase of returnees' areas of origin: returnees from countries other than the Dominican Republic' (% of returnees)

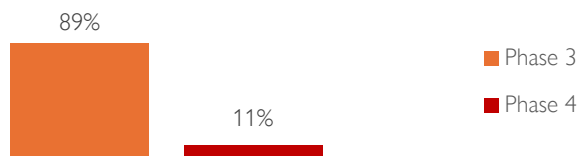


Figure 27. IPC phase of returnees' areas of origin: returnees by Dominican Republic (% of returnees)

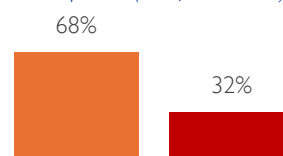


Figure 28. Food insecurity and origin of returnees by countries other than the Dominican Republic (admin 2 level)

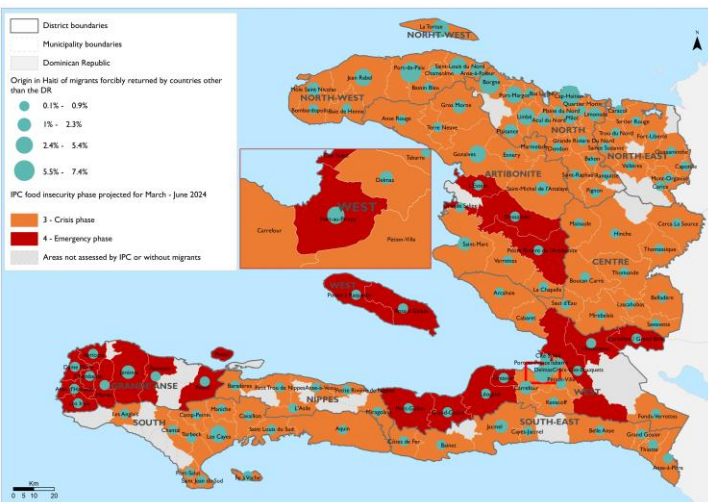
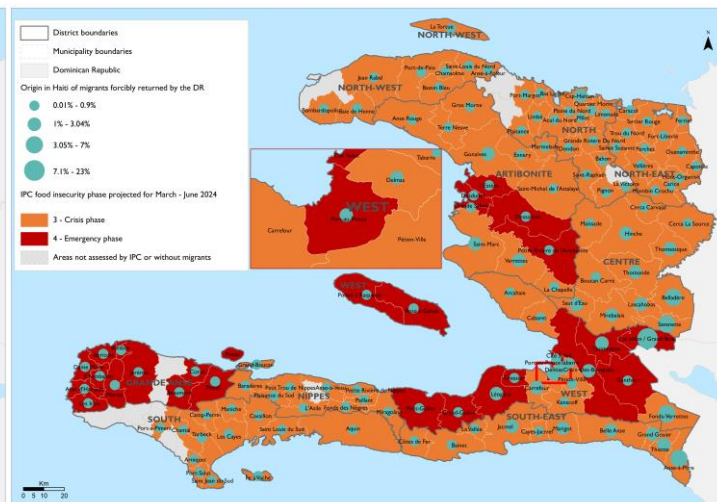


Figure 29. Food insecurity and origin of returnees by Dominican Republic (admin 2 level)



2. Further information on the IPC can be found on <https://www.ipcinfo.org>

3. There are 5 phases, the first being the least serious and the fifth the most one. The Phase 3 implies that households either: • Have food consumption gaps that are reflected by high or above-usual acute malnutrition; or • Are marginally able to meet minimum food needs but only by depleting essential livelihood assets or through crisis coping-strategies

4. The Phase 4 implies that Households either: • Have large food consumption gaps which are reflected in very high acute malnutrition and excess mortality; or • Are able to mitigate large food consumption gaps but only by employing emergency livelihood strategies and asset liquidation

# DEFORESTATION/LAND DEGRADATION AND ORIGINS OF RETURNEES

Deforestation and land degradation data comes from the World Overview of Conservation Approaches and Technologies (WOCAT), a global network on Sustainable Land Management (SLM) that promotes documentation, sharing and use of knowledge to support adaptation, innovation and decision-making in SLM<sup>5</sup>. Data shows that North-West is the department which has suffered greater deforestation and land degradation (77% of its land is degraded). This department is the area of origin for 26% of the returnees from countries other than the Dominican Republic. The second most land-degraded department is the West (65%) which is the area of origin for 42% of the returnees from the Dominican Republic (see figures 30 to 32 below).

Figure 30. Deforestation/land degradation and origin of returnees

| Department  | Size (Km2) | Degradation (Km2) | % of degradation | Origins of returnees by other countries else than DR (% of returnees) | Origins of returnees by Dominican Republic (% of returnees) |
|-------------|------------|-------------------|------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| West        | 4,980.64   | 3,225.39          | 64.76%           | 13%                                                                   | 42%                                                         |
| Artibonite  | 4,861.75   | 2,328.07          | 47.89%           | 10%                                                                   | 9%                                                          |
| Centre      | 3,466.93   | 1,698.43          | 48.99%           | 2%                                                                    | 21%                                                         |
| North West  | 2,093.47   | 1,602.02          | 76.52%           | 26%                                                                   | 1%                                                          |
| South       | 2,649.22   | 1,503.76          | 56.76%           | 6%                                                                    | 1%                                                          |
| South East  | 2,040.94   | 1,226.9           | 60.11%           | 2%                                                                    | 18%                                                         |
| North East  | 1,630.55   | 940.195           | 57.66%           | 3%                                                                    | 2%                                                          |
| North       | 2,105.32   | 910.357           | 43.24%           | 34%                                                                   | 4%                                                          |
| Nippes      | 1,225.81   | 512.376           | 41.80%           | 1%                                                                    | 1%                                                          |
| Grande'Anse | 1,912.82   | 380,724           | 19.90%           | 3%                                                                    | 1%                                                          |
| Total       | 26,967.45  | 14,328.22         | 53.13%           | 100%                                                                  | 100%                                                        |

Figure 31. Deforestation/land degradation and origin of returnees by other countries other than Dominican Republic

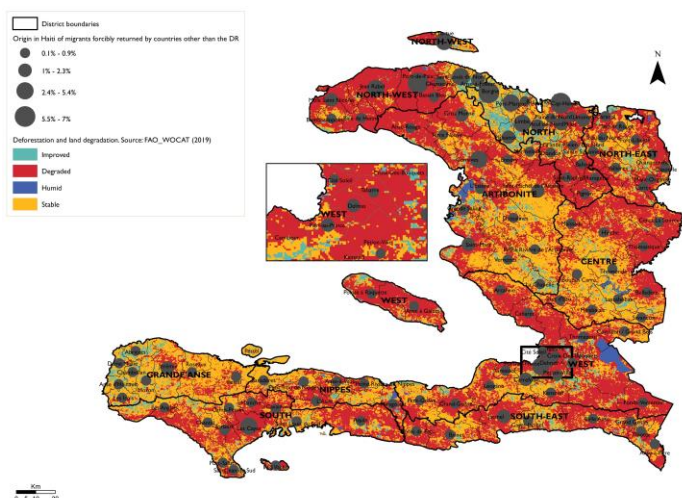
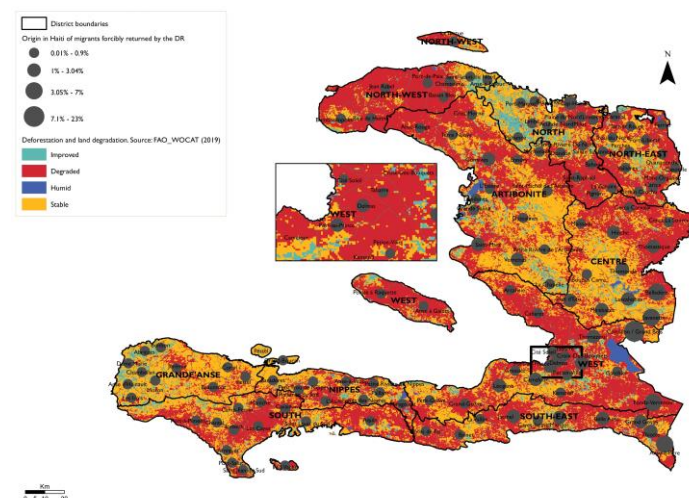


Figure 32. Deforestation/land degradation and origin of returnees by the Dominican Republic



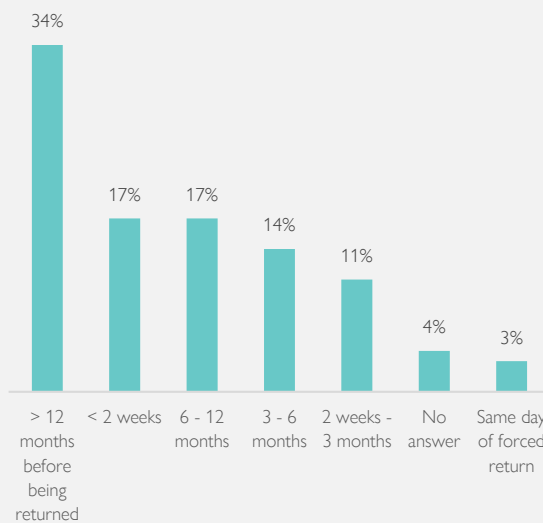
5. Further information on the WOCAT can be found on <https://www.wocat.net/en/>

Figure 33. Reasons for leaving Haiti

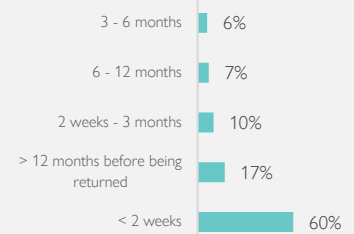


Figure 34. « When did you last leave the country before this forced return? »

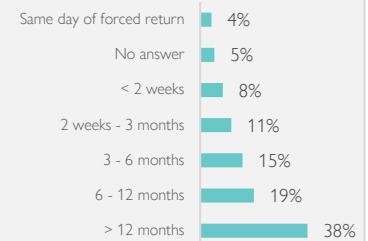
Returnees from all countries



Returnees from countries other than the Dominican Republic



Returnees from the Dominican Republic



Half of the returnees (51%) spent more than 6 months out of Haiti before being returned. However, this percentage was higher for returnees by Dominican Republic (57%) than by other countries (24%). Indeed, the majority of returnees from other countries spent less than 2 weeks out of Haiti before being returned.

The search for job opportunities was the main reason returnees left Haiti (84%).

Returnees from the Dominican Republic left Haiti in vast majority by land, passing through areas bordering the two countries, especially Belladère (25%), Cornillon Grand Bois (18%), Anse-à-pitres (16%), Savanette (11%), Ouanaminthe (9%) and Fonds-Verrettes (8%); see figures 35 and 37.

Those from other countries left Haiti in majority by sea (75%), notably by the Port of Cap Haitian (33%), Borgne (14%) and La Tortue (10%), see figures 36 and 38. The airports of Port-au-Prince (6%) and Cap Haitian (10%) were also important exit points. In this case, persons usually take charter flights towards countries which do not require visas for Haitians. For instance, between August and October 2023, more than 31,000 Haitians left the country by charter flights towards Nicaragua<sup>6</sup>.

Figure 35. Exit way when leaving Haiti (for returnees from the Dominican Republic)



Figure 36. Exit way when leaving Haiti (for returnees from other countries)



Figure 37. Exit point when leaving Haiti (for returnees from the Dominican Republic)

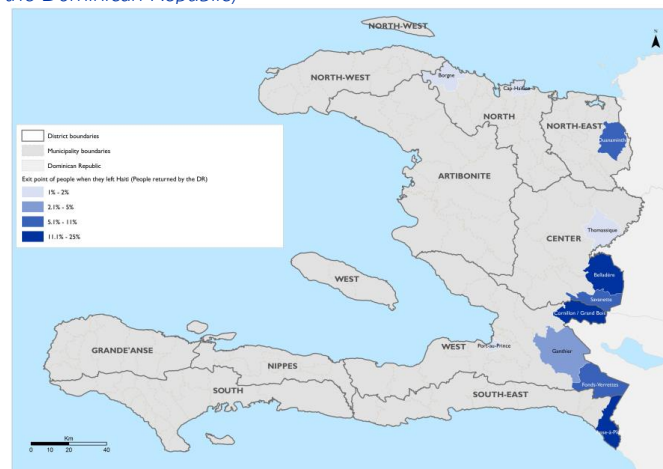


Figure 38. Exit point when leaving Haiti (for returnees from other countries)

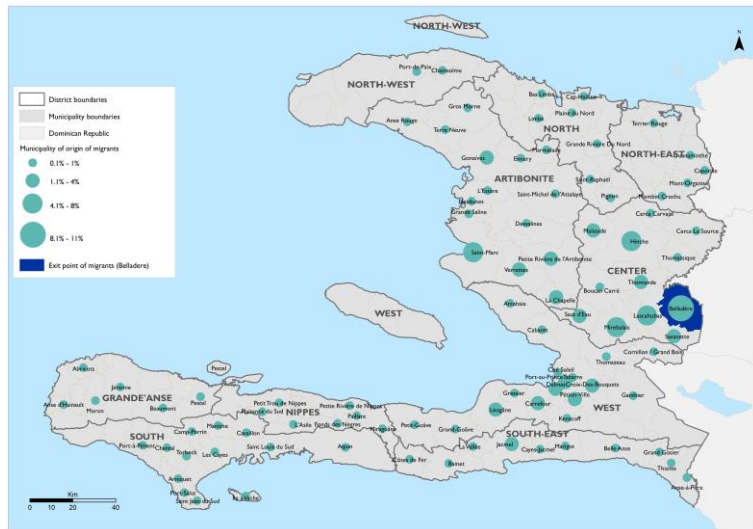


6. Haiti Libre, <https://www.haitilibre.com/article-40963-haiti-politique-13e-jours-de-suspension-des-vols-vers-le-nicaragua.html>

## DISTANCE BETWEEN MAIN EXIT POINTS AND ORIGIN OF RETURNEES

Returnees from the Dominican Republic – 3 main exit points and origin of returnees

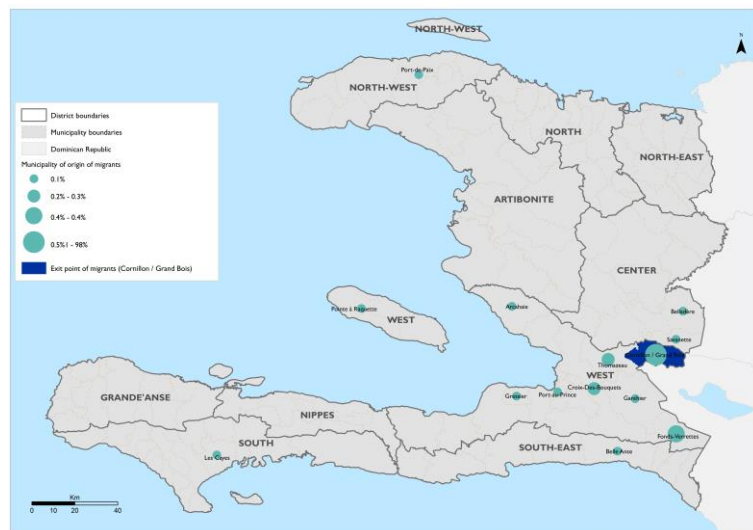
Figure 39. Exit point 1: Belladère



Almost half of those who left Haiti via **Belladère** (46%) originated from areas in the same department of Centre, where Belladère is located, while almost all (98%) of those who left through **Cornillon Grand Bois** originated from the same municipality of Cornillon Bois, in the department of West.

Persons who left by **Anse-à-Pitres** were in majority (89%) from areas in the same department (30% originated locally from Anse-à-Pitres).

Figure 40. Exit point 2: Cornillon Bois



Thus, Belladère was the most diverse exit point in terms of origins of migrants who left the country through it since a little more than half (54%) came from areas of the country not located in the Center department: 22% came from the Artibonite department and 20% from the West, including from the Metropolitan Zone of Port-au-Prince, the capital city (13%).

Figure 41. Exit point 3: Anse-à-Pitres



## DISTANCE BETWEEN MAIN EXIT POINTS AND ORIGIN OF RETURNEES

Returnees from other countries– 4 main exit points and origin of returnees

Figure 42. Exit point 1: Cap Haitian (Port and airport)



Figure 43. Exit point 2: Borgne



Figure 44. Exit point 3: La Tortue

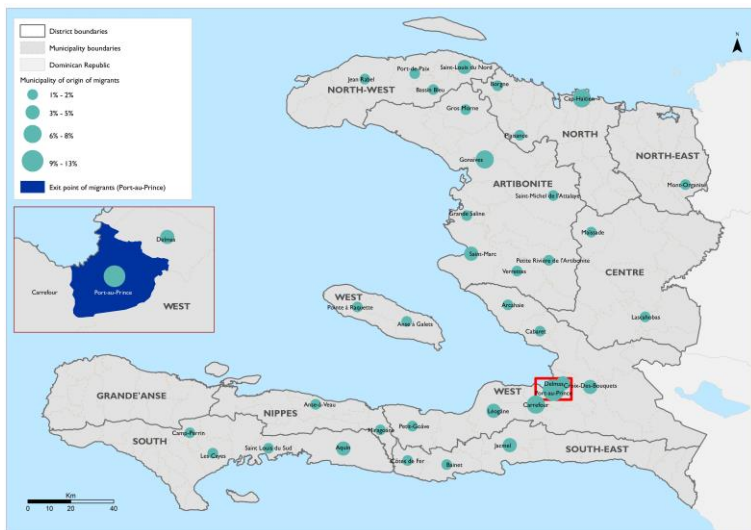


Almost half of those who left Haiti via **Cap Haitian** (43%) originated from the same department of North, where Cap Haitian is located. The remaining 57% came from other departments: 23% from the neighboring department of North-West, 10% from the West department (mainly from the capital, 7%), and 9% from the four departments in Southern Haiti, located on the opposite side of the country (especially from the South department, 5%).

Among people who left via **Borgne**, 46% originated from the same department (North). Among those who came from other departments, 24% were from North-West, 16% were from the departments in Southern Haiti (especially from the South department, 11%) and 9% from the West department, mainly from the capital (6%).

Half of those who left via **La Tortue** originated from the same North-West department (30% originated locally from La Tortue), 28% from the North department and 8% from the Artibonite department.

Figure 45. Exit point 4: Airport of Port-au-Prince



42% of returnees who left the country via the airport of Port-au-Prince were from the West department, where the airport is located, including from the Port-au-Prince Metropolitan Area, the capital city (30%) : the municipalities of Port-au-Prince (13%), Carrefour (8%), Croix-des-Bouquets (5%) and Delmas (4%) were the most represented municipalities.

The Artibonite (17%), North (10%) and North West departments (9%) were also important areas of origin for returnees having left by the airport of Port-au-Prince.



Arrival and registration at Ouanaminthe of a returnee by Dominican Republic © IOM / March 2024

## TRAVEL EXPENSES



Average spending by people returned by Dominican Republic: 190 USD

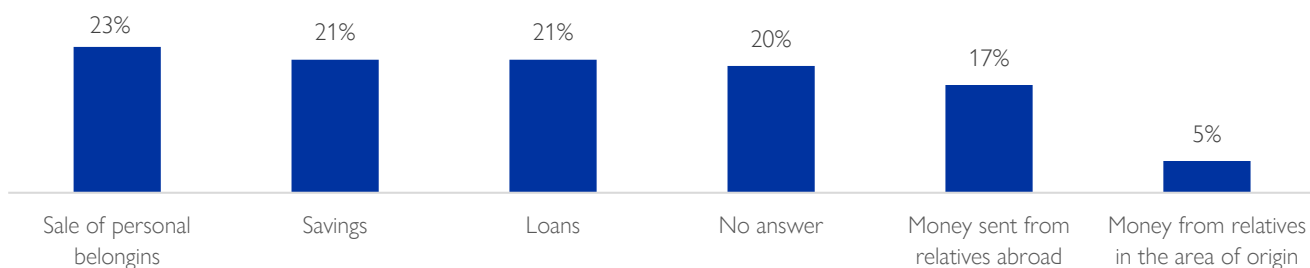
Average spending by people returned by other countries: 2,308 USD

On average, Haitians returned by the Dominican Republic spent 190 USD for their entire trip to leave Haiti while those returned by other countries paid 2,308 USD. Expenses include transportation, acquisition of documents, accommodation during the trip, smugglers' payments and other related costs.

The much lower amount spent by the returnees from the Dominican Republic is due to the proximity to Haiti. Those returned by other countries traveled longer distance, paying boats, charter flights, accommodations, etc. (see Part 2 for more further analysis by main sending countries).

In order to fund their trips, 23% of returnees sold their belongings, 21% used savings, 21% received loans and 17% received money from their relatives abroad. A fifth of all respondents did not want to answer this question

Figure 46. Source of funding for the trip (Multiple choice)



## CHALLENGES FACED DURING THE TRIP

42% of returnees indicated that they faced particular challenges during their trip. Hunger and Thirst were the main ones, mentioned by 61% of returnees who declared facing challenges.

Figure 47. Challenges faced by returnees during their trip (Multiple choice)

| Challenges                                     | % of returnees |
|------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Hunger / Thirst                                | 61%            |
| Arrests                                        | 32%            |
| Problems related to lack of identity documents | 15%            |
| Attacks / Assaults                             | 13%            |
| Financial problems                             | 12%            |
| Lack of shelter                                | 7%             |
| Problems at sea                                | 5%             |
| Diseases                                       | 5%             |
| Lack of correct travel information             | 4%             |
| Injury                                         | 2%             |

## HISTORY OF INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT

Figure 48. « Have you ever been forced to flee your residence in Haiti to take refuge in another location within the country? »

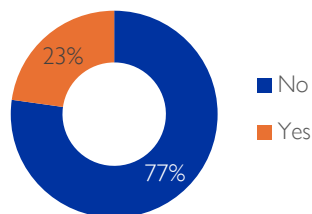
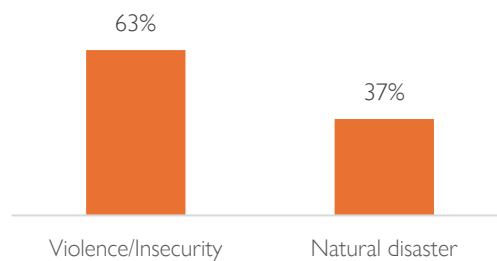


Figure 49. « If yes, for which reason? »



Almost a quarter of returnees indicated to have been internally displaced in Haiti mainly for violence related reasons.



Arrival and registration at Cap Haitien of returnees by Bahamas © IOM / March 2024

### I.3. MIGRATION INTENTIONS

#### INTENDED FINAL DESTINATION WHEN LEAVING HAITI

Figure 50. Intended final destination of Haitians returned by other countries when they left Haiti

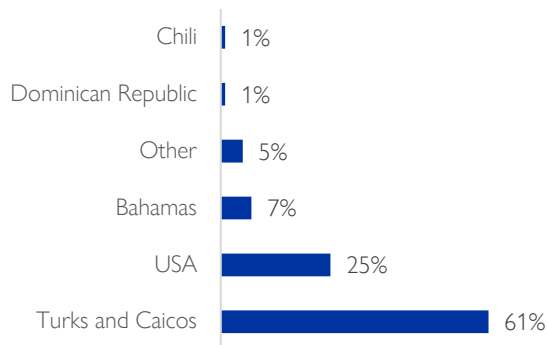
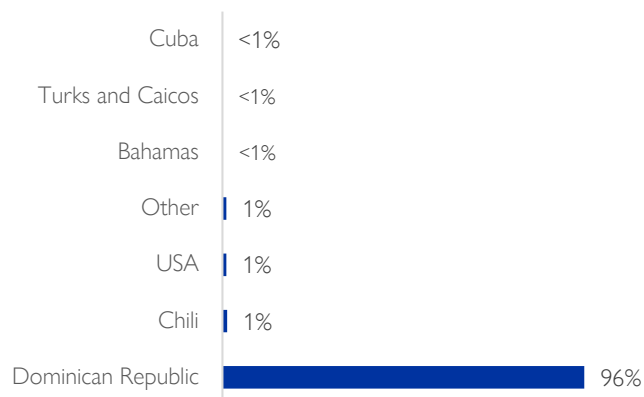


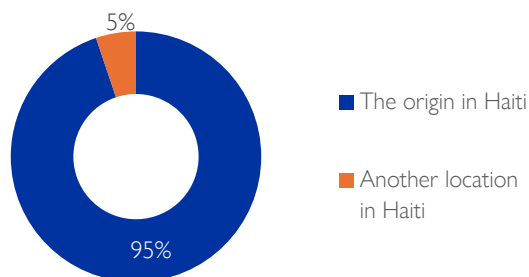
Figure 51. Intended final destination of Haitians returned by Dominican Republic when they left Haiti



Most of respondents stated that the country they were returned from was their intended final destination. In particular, 96% of those returned by DR intended to stay in this country (see Part 2 for more further analysis by main sending countries).

#### INTENDED DESTINATION AFTER THEIR FORCED RETURN TO HAITI

Figure 52. Intended destination in Haiti after their forced return



The vast majority of returnees (95%) intended to return to their place of origin in Haiti upon their forced return.

## FUTURE MIGRATION INTENTIONS

Figure 53. « How many times have you or a member of your household been forcibly returned to Haiti? (including the current forced return)? »

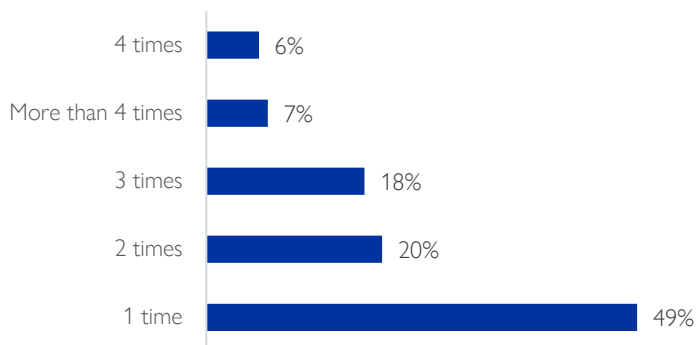


Figure 54. « Do you intend to leave Haiti during the following 6 months after the current forced return? »

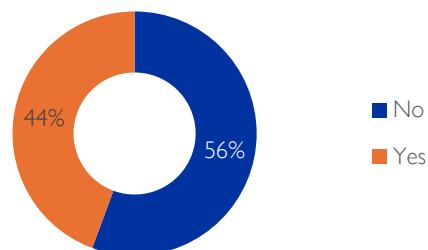


Figure 55. « If yes, for which country? »

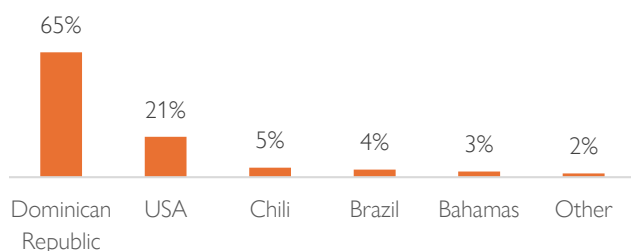
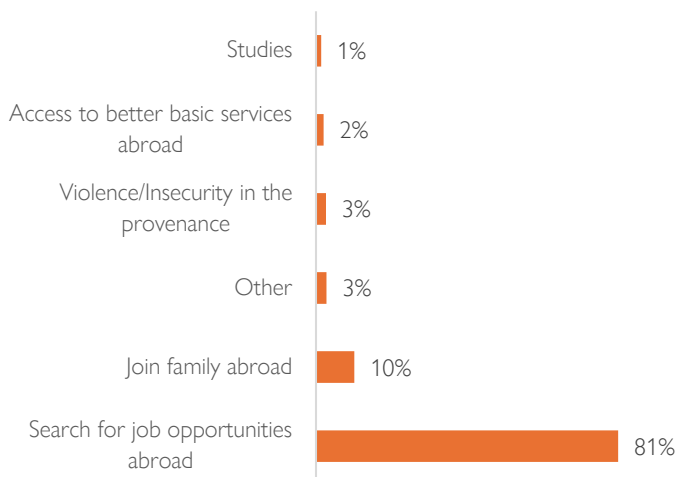


Figure 56. « If yes, why? »



Half of respondents have been forcibly returned to Haiti more than once (51%).

When asked about their intentions to leave Haiti during the 6 months following their forced return, 44% of all respondents indicated they would try to leave again, mostly to go to the Dominican Republic (65%) and to the USA (21%). Looking for job opportunities was the main reason for doing so. It should be noted that this motive was also the main reason for which the majority of persons initially left Haiti before being forcibly returned (see figure 33 on the page 17).

A photograph of three people sitting around a white table in a room with white walls. On the left, a woman with dark curly hair is wearing a purple vest over a patterned shirt. In the center, a man with a beard is wearing a light blue patterned shirt and is writing on a piece of paper with a pink pen. On the right, a person is seen from the back, wearing a dark shirt and a red bag with yellow polka dots. A clear plastic water bottle is on the table. The text 'PART II' is overlaid in white, bold, sans-serif font in the center of the image.

## **PART II**

# **ANALYSIS BY MAIN SENDING COUNTRIES**

## II.1. PEOPLE RETURNED BY DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

IOM HAITI

26

## SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

Figure 57. « Were you returned alone or with family members? »

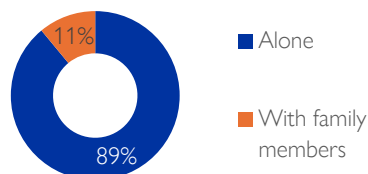


Figure 58. Disaggregation by sex and age of people returned with family members

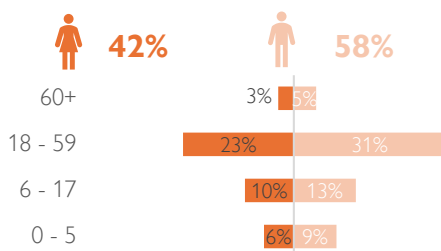


Figure 59. Observable vulnerabilities (on interviewees or their family members)

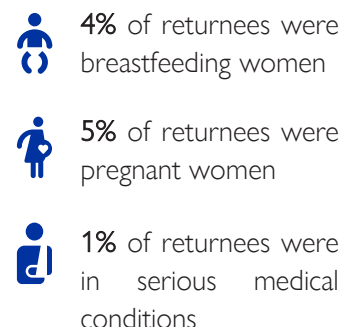


Figure 60. Marital status

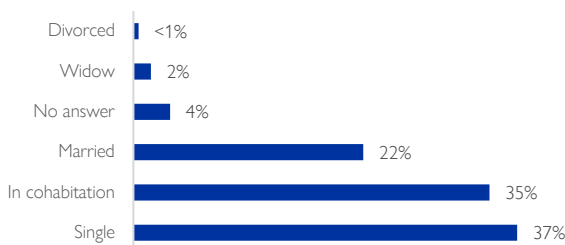


Figure 61. Education level

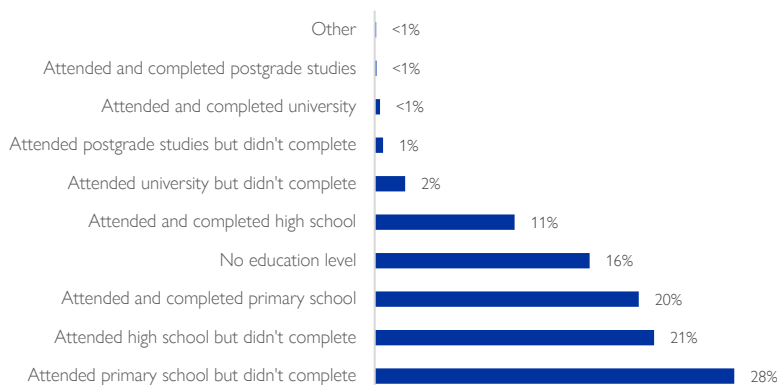


Figure 62. Professional status before and after leaving Haiti

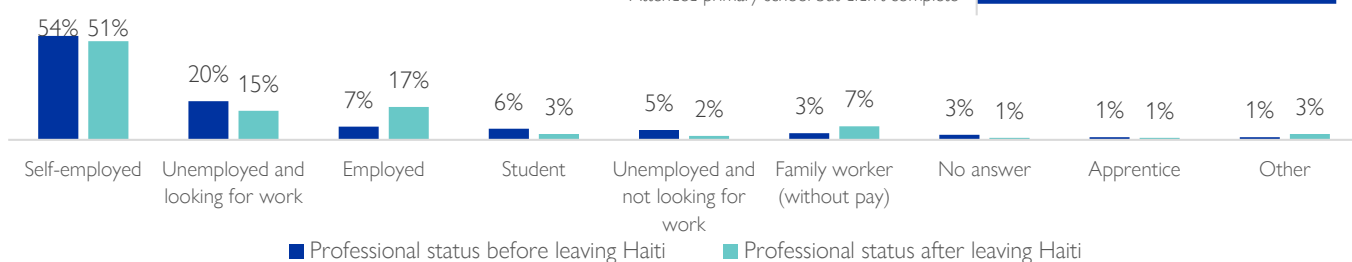


Figure 63. Top 5 areas of work for returnees before leaving Haiti (for self-employed, employed or apprentices)

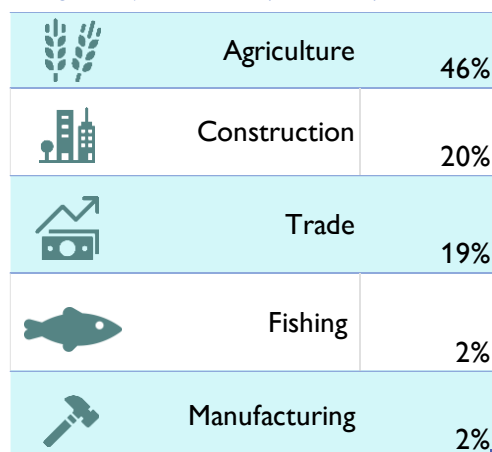
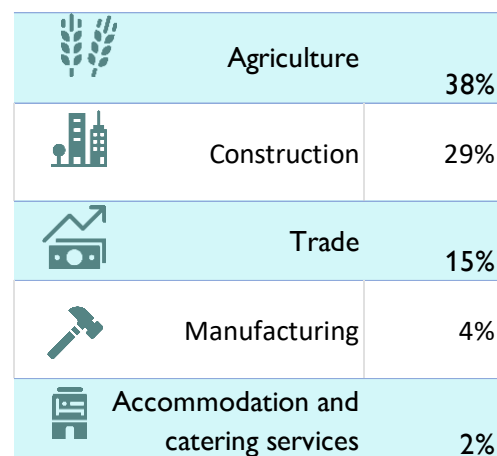


Figure 64. Top 5 areas of work for returnees when out of Haiti (for self-employed, employed or apprentices)



## HISTORY OF MIGRATION

Figure 65. Native country

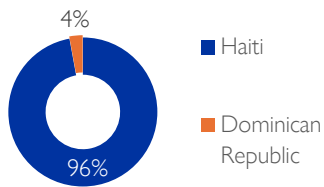


Figure 66. Possession of Identity Documents (IDs)

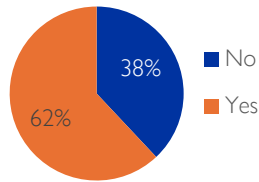


Figure 67. Type of IDs (Multiple choice)

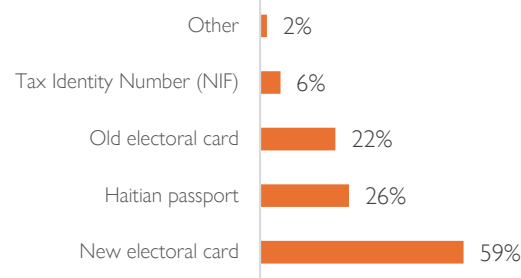


Figure 68. « When did you last leave the country before this forced return? »

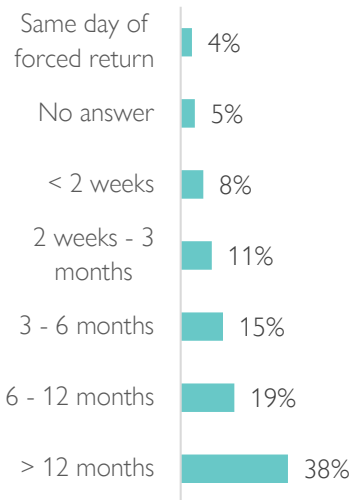


Figure 69. « When you left Haiti, did you travel alone or in a group? »

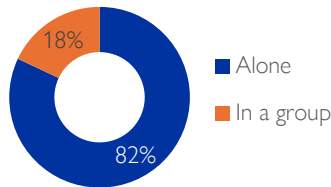


Figure 70. « Are there any family members you originally emigrated with who have remained abroad? »

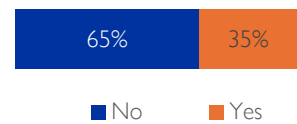


Figure 29. Exit way when leaving Haiti

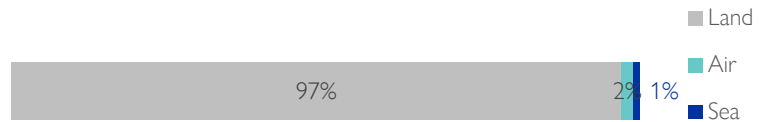


Figure 71. Reasons for leaving Haiti

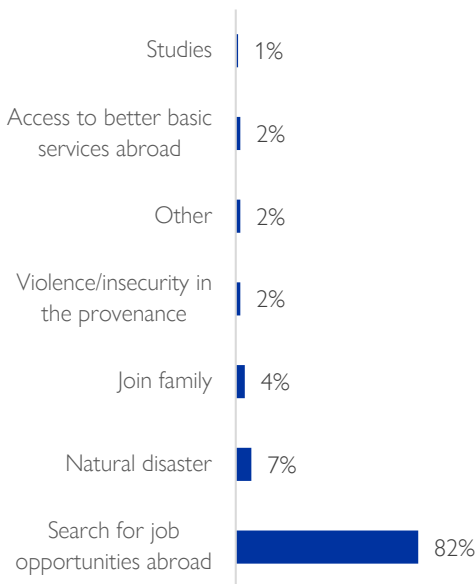
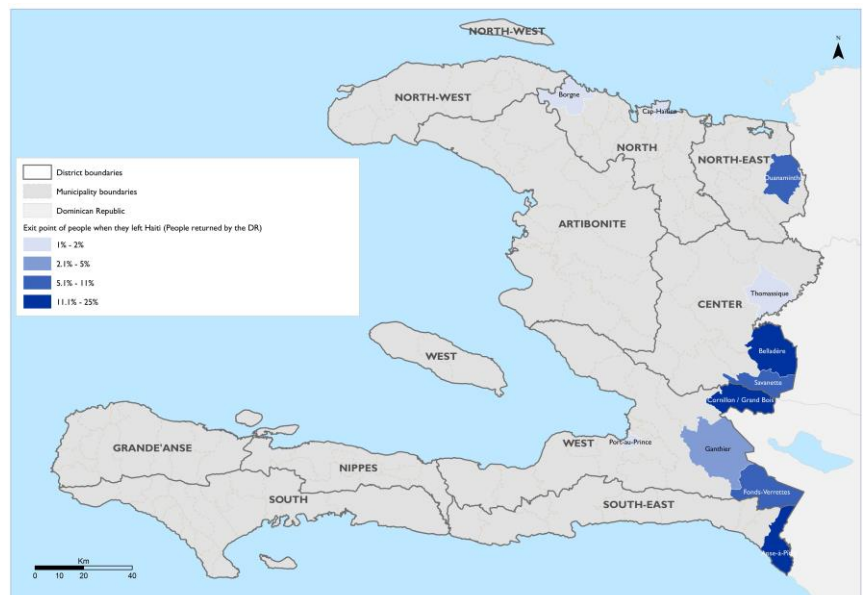


Figure 72. Exit point when leaving Haiti before being returned



## PLACE OF ORIGIN FOR PEOPLE RETURNED BY DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Figure 73. Origin of returnees from the Dominican Republic - Department level (admin 1)

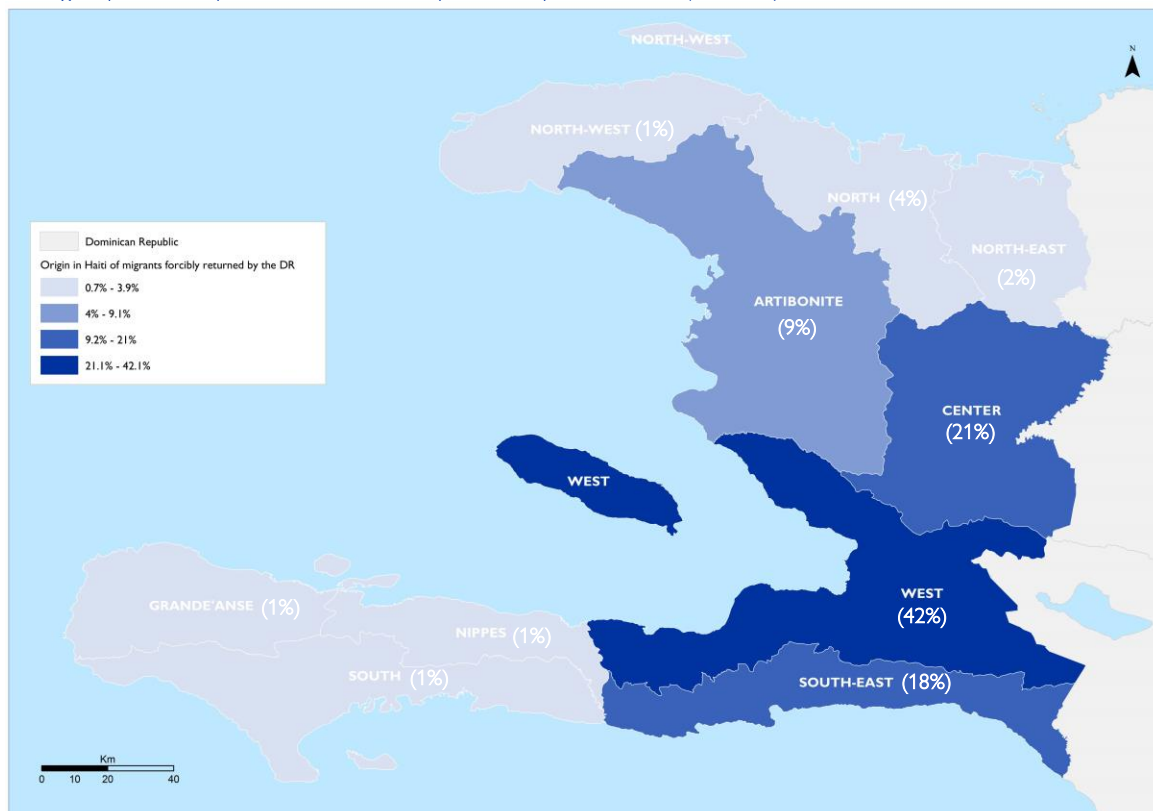
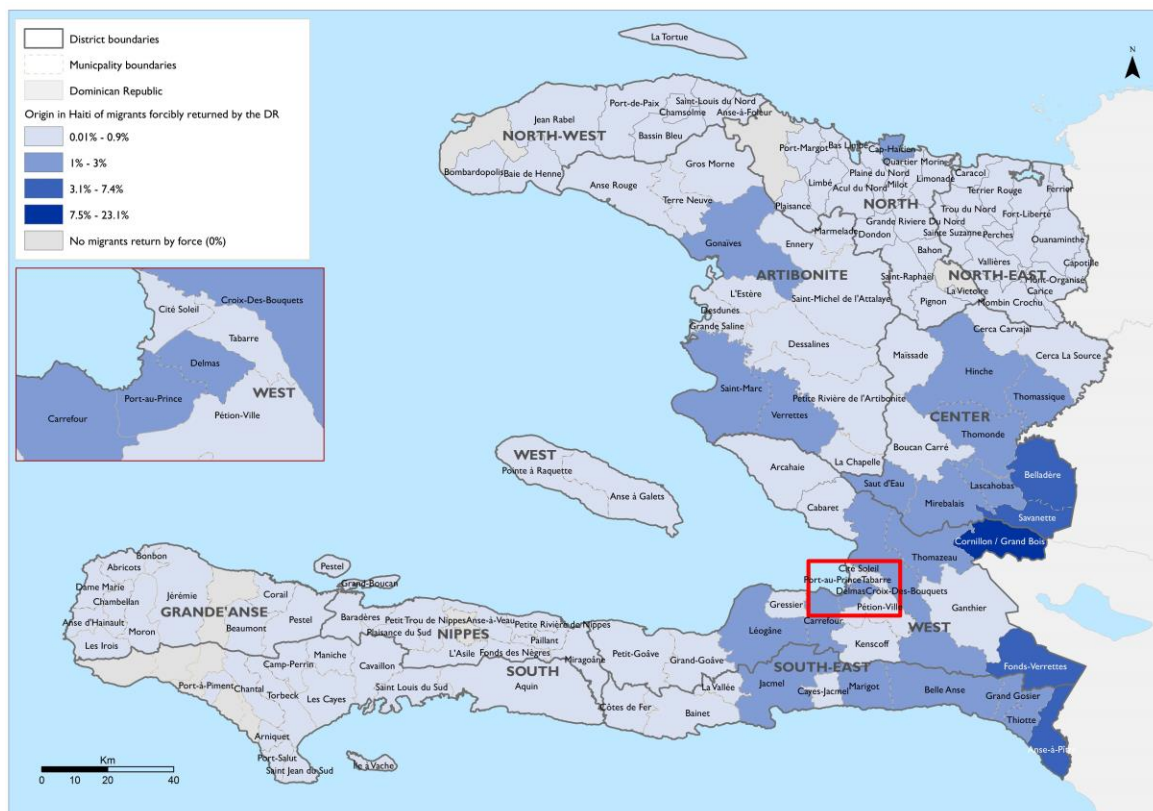


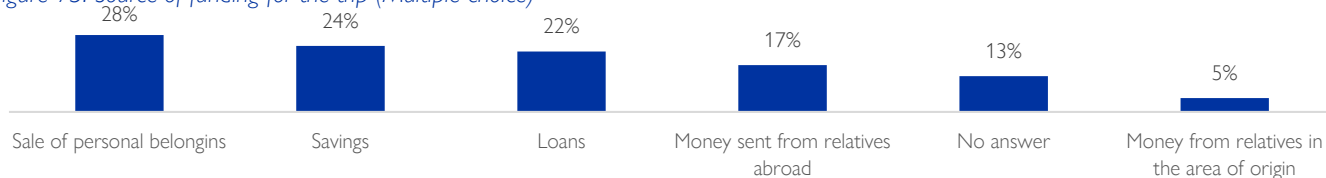
Figure 74. Origin of returnees from the Dominican Republic - Municipality level (admin 2)



## TRAVEL EXPENSES

 Average spending by people returned by Dominican Republic: 190 USD

Figure 75. Source of funding for the trip (Multiple choice)



## HISTORY OF INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT

Figure 76. « Have you ever been forced to flee your residence in Haiti to take refuge in another location within the country? »

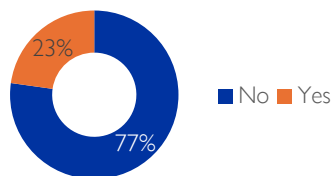
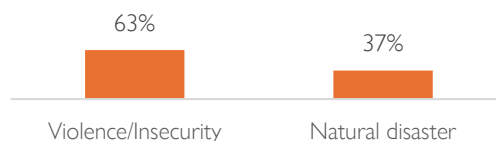


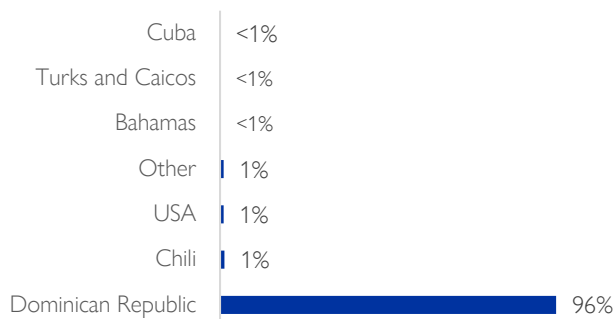
Figure 77. « If yes, for which reason? »



## MIGRATION INTENTIONS

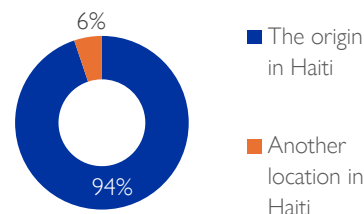
### INTENDED FINAL DESTINATION WHEN LEAVING HAITI

Figure 78. Intended final destination of returnees when they left Haiti



### INTENDED DESTINATION AFTER THEIR FORCED RETURN TO HAITI

Figure 79. Intended destination in Haiti after their forced return



### FUTURE MIGRATION INTENTIONS

Figure 80. « How many times have you or a member of your household been forcibly returned to Haiti? (including the current forced return)? »

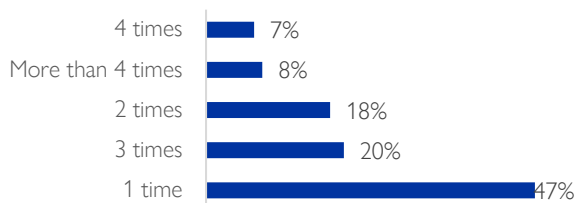


Figure 81. « Do you intend to leave Haiti during the following 6 months after the current forced return? »

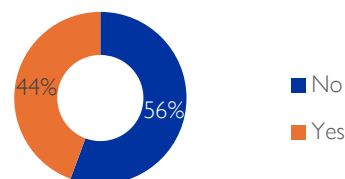


Figure 82. « If yes, for which country? »

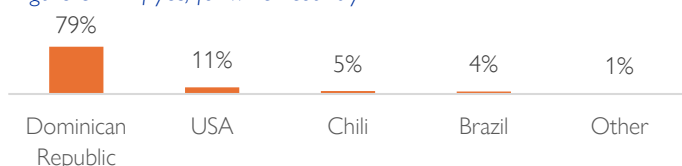
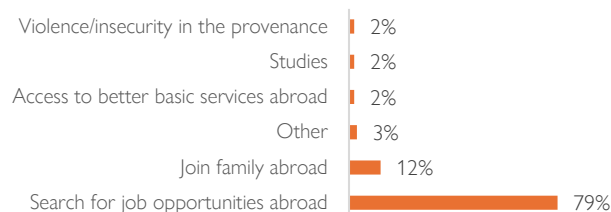


Figure 83. « If yes, why? »



## II.2. PEOPLE RETURNED BY TURKS AND CAICOS

IOM HAITI

30

## SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

Figure 84. « Were you returned alone or with family members? »

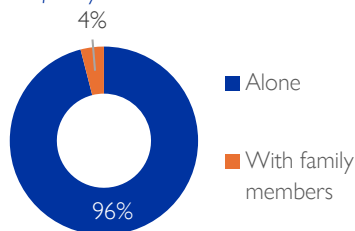


Figure 85. Disaggregation by sex and age of persons returned with family members

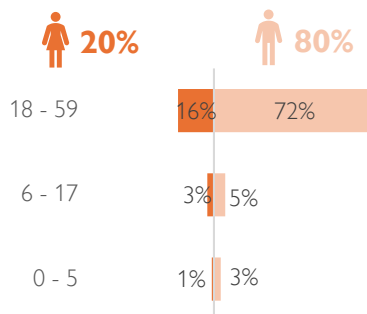


Figure 86. Observable vulnerabilities (on interviewees or their family members)

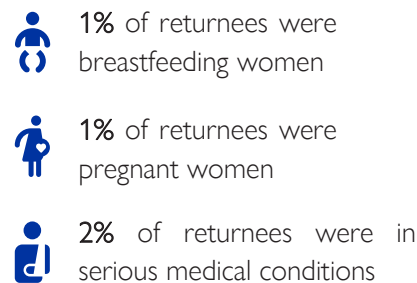


Figure 87. Marital status

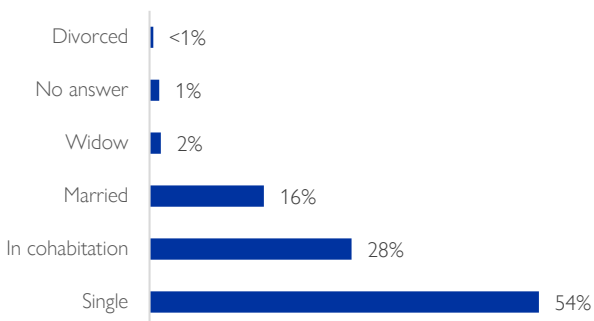


Figure 88. Education level

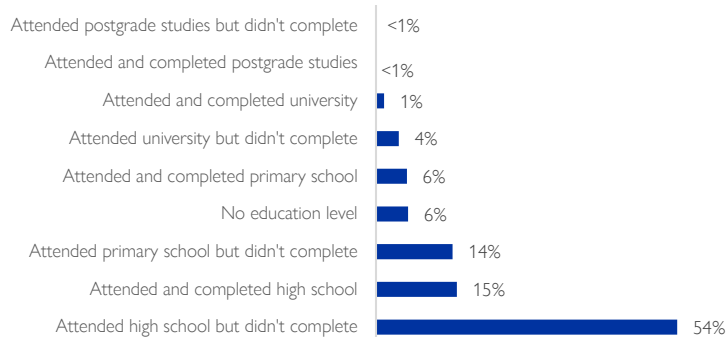


Figure 89. Professional status before and after leaving Haiti

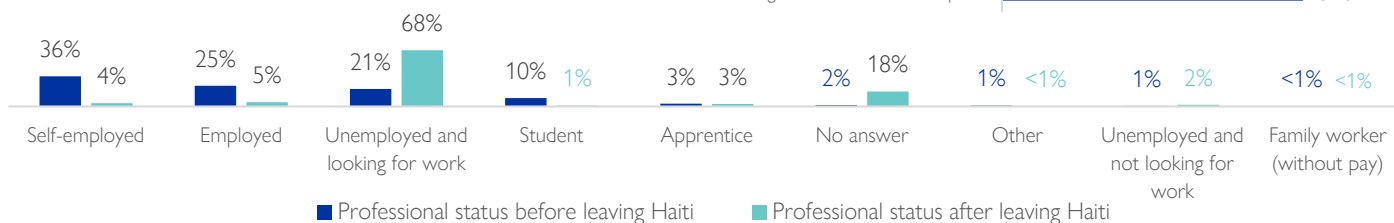


Figure 90. Top 5 areas of work for returnees before leaving Haiti (for self-employed, employed or apprentices)

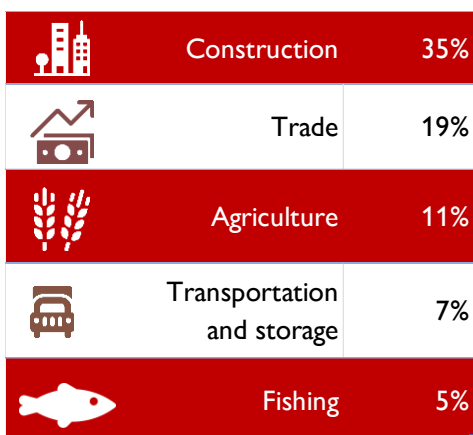
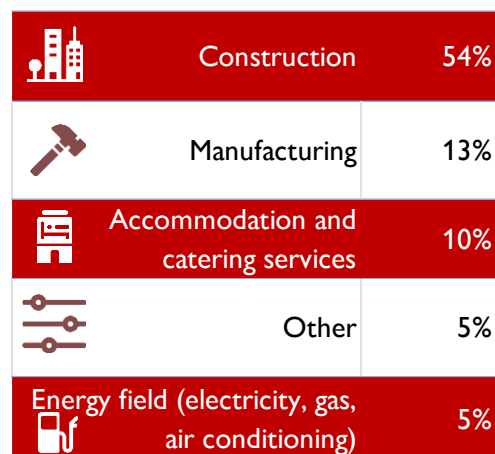


Figure 91. Top 5 areas of work for returnees when out of Haiti (for self-employed, employed or apprentices)



## HISTORY OF MIGRATION

**100% of returnees from Turks and Caicos were born in Haiti**

Figure 92. Possession of Identity Documents (IDs)

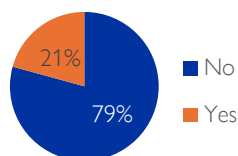


Figure 93. Type of IDs (Multiple choice)

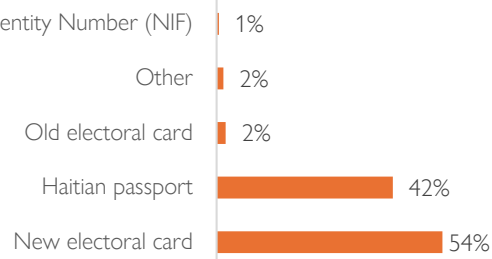


Figure 94. « When did you last leave the country before this forced return? »

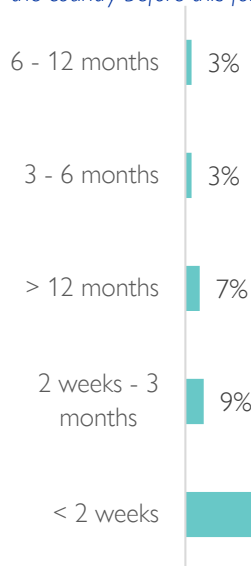


Figure 95. « When you left Haiti, did you travel alone or in a group? »

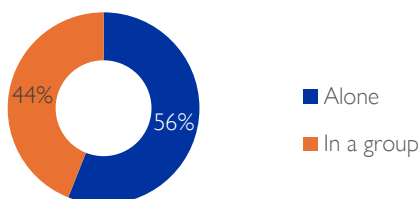


Figure 96. « Are there any family members you originally emigrated with who have remained abroad? »

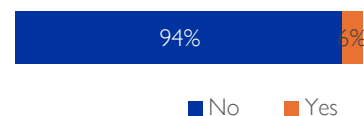


Figure 97. Exit way when leaving Haiti

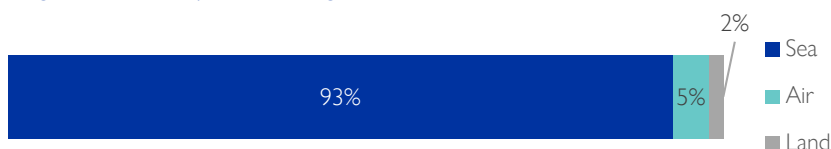


Figure 98. Reasons for leaving Haiti

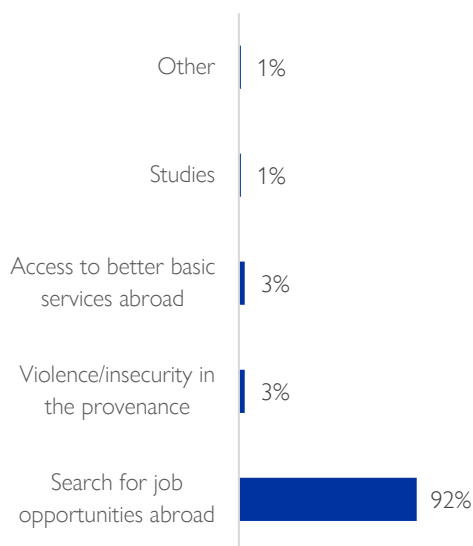
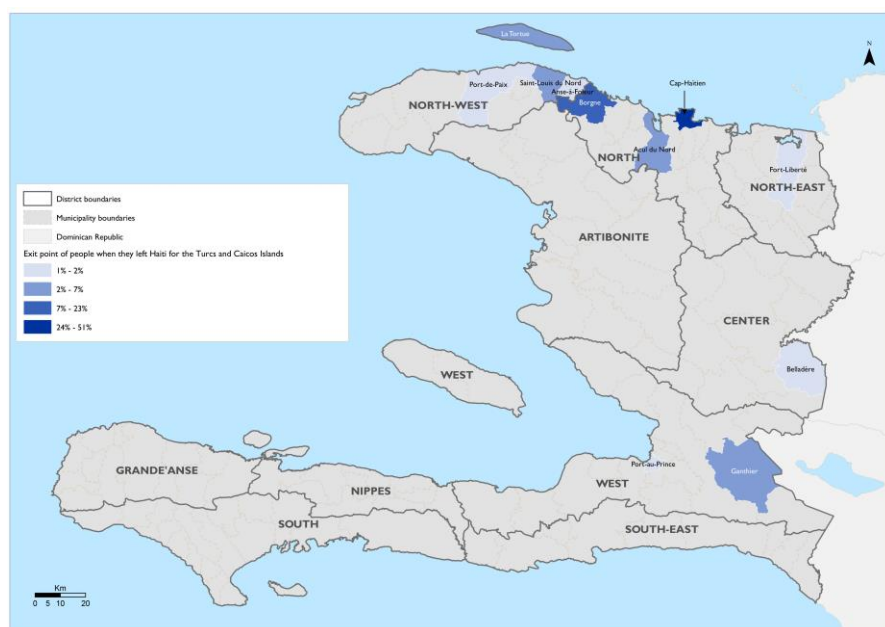


Figure 99. Exit point when leaving Haiti before being returned



## PLACE OF ORIGIN FOR PEOPLE RETURNED BY TURKS AND CAICOS

Figure 100. Origin of returnees from Turks and Caicos - Department level (admin 1)

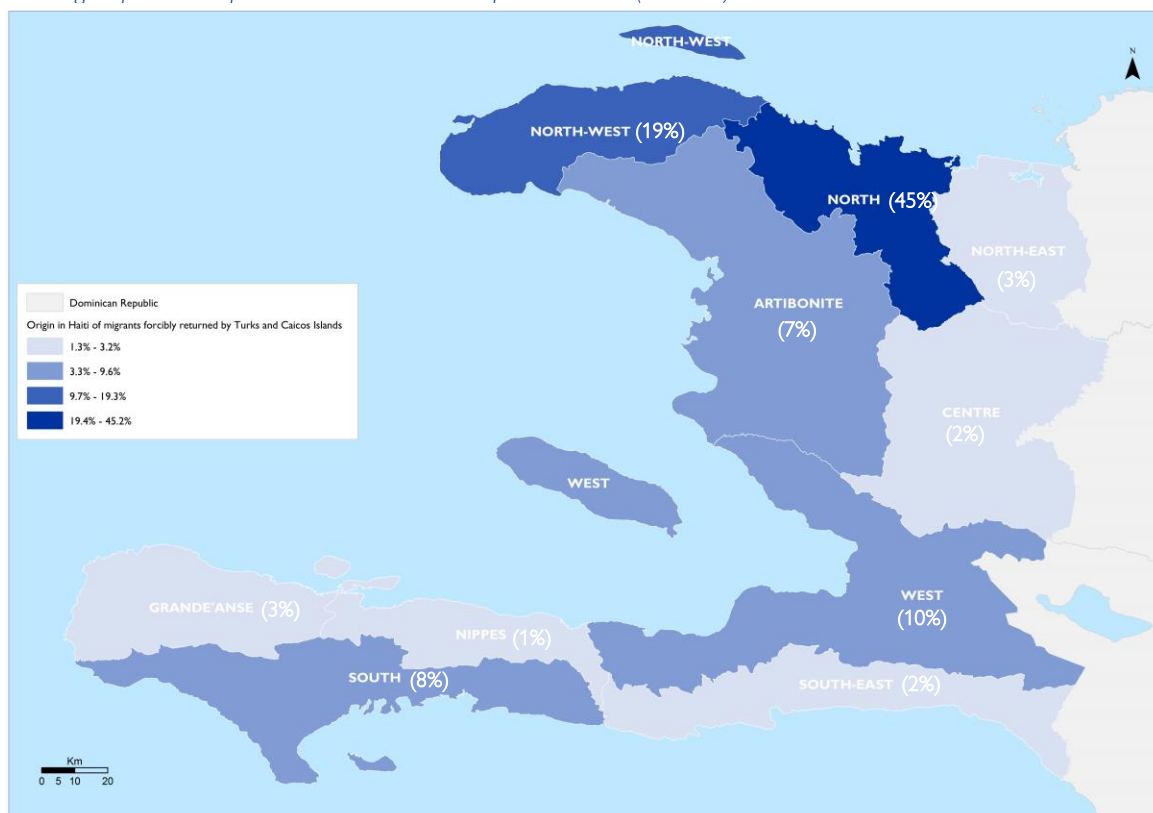
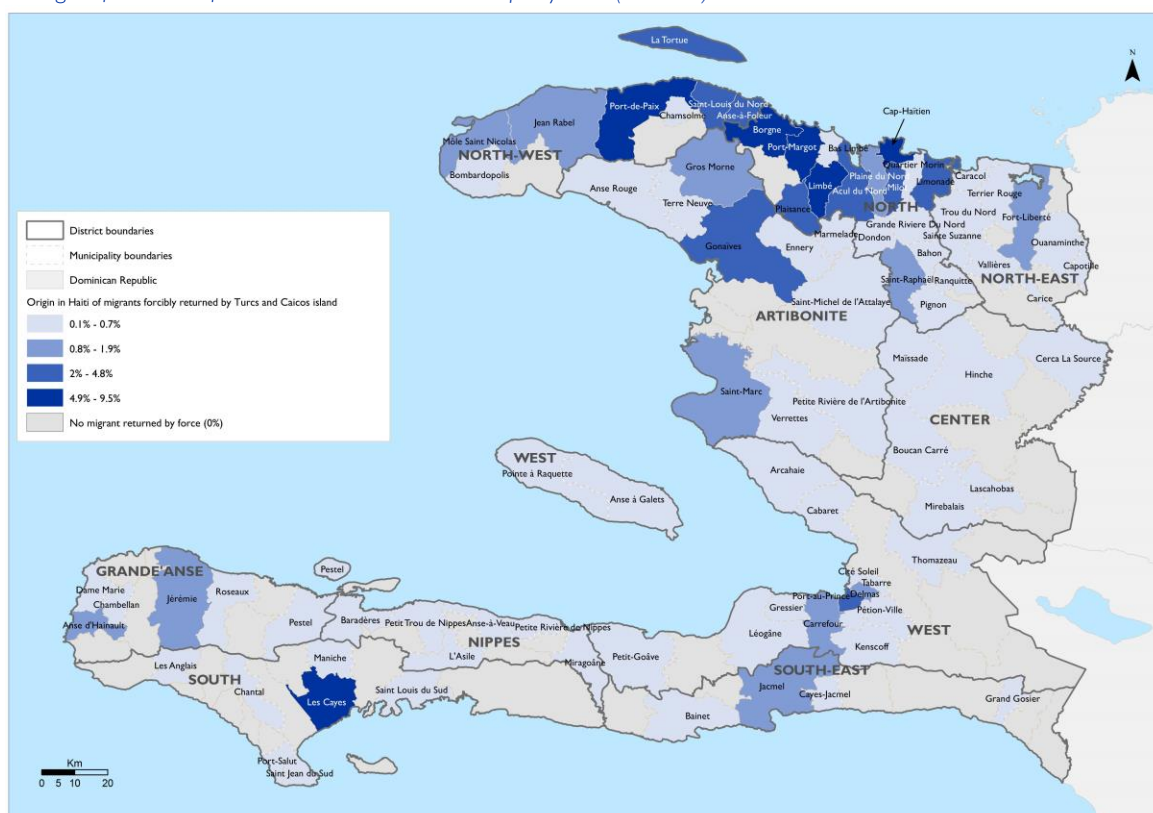


Figure 101. Origin of returnees from Turks and Caicos - Municipality level (admin 2)

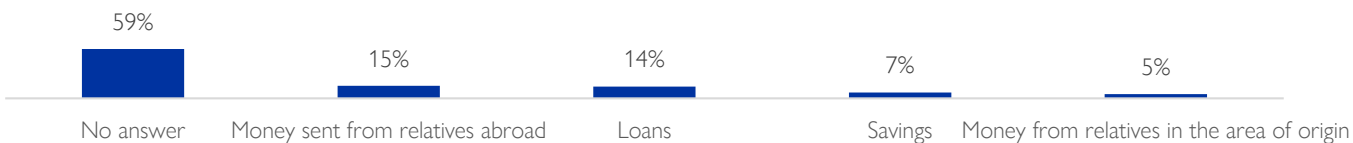


## TRAVEL EXPENSES



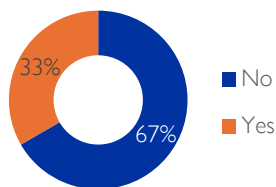
Average spending by people returned by Turks and Caicos: 919 USD

Figure 102. Source of funding for the trip (Multiple choice)



## HISTORY OF INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT

Figure 103. « Have you ever been forced to flee your residence in Haiti to take refuge in another location within the country? »

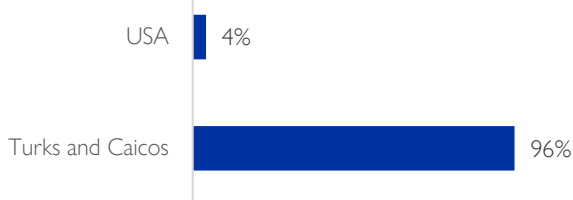


100% of returnees from Turks and Caicos who had been internally displaced in Haiti, were such for violence related reasons

## MIGRATION INTENTIONS

### INTENDED FINAL DESTINATION WHEN LEAVING HAITI

Figure 104. Intended final destination of returnees when they left Haiti



### INTENDED DESTINATION AFTER THEIR FORCED RETURN TO HAITI

100% of returnees from Turks and Caicos intended to go back to their place of origin after their forced return in Haiti.

## FUTURE MIGRATION INTENTIONS

Figure 105. « How many times have you or a member of your household been forcibly returned to Haiti? (including the current forced return)? »

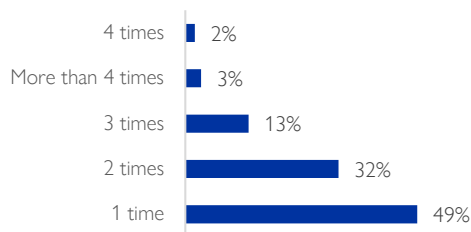


Figure 106. « Do you intend to leave Haiti during the following 6 months after the current forced return? »

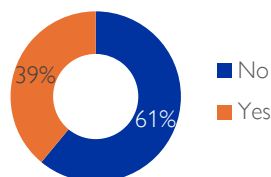


Figure 107. « If yes, for which country? »

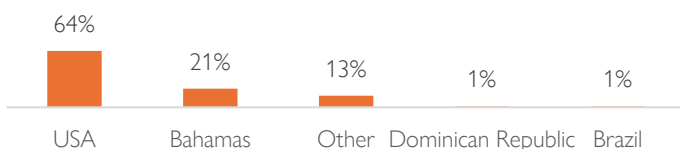
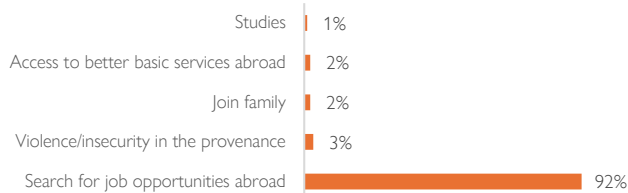


Figure 108. « If yes, why? »



## II.3. PEOPLE RETURNED BY BAHAMAS

IOM HAITI

34

## SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

Figure 109. « Were you returned alone or with family members? »

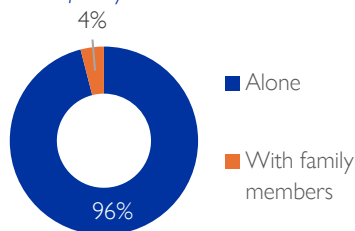


Figure 110. Disaggregation by sex and age of persons returned with family members

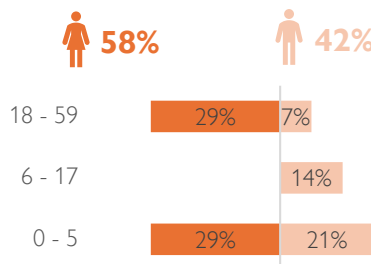


Figure 111. Observable vulnerabilities (on interviewees or their family members)

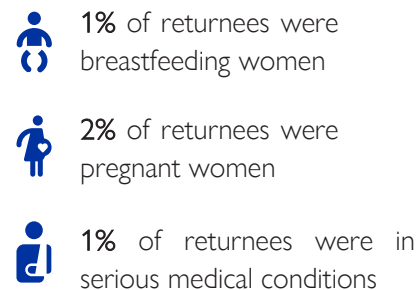


Figure 112. Marital status

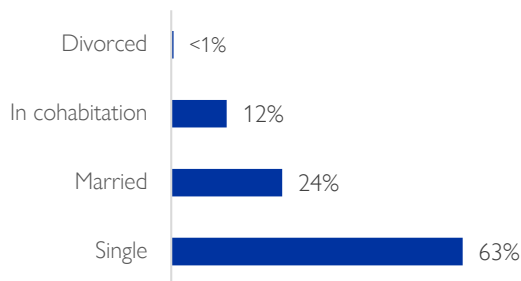


Figure 113. Education level

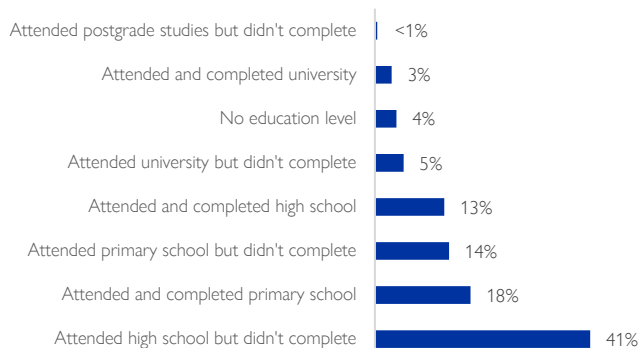


Figure 114. Professional status before and after leaving Haiti

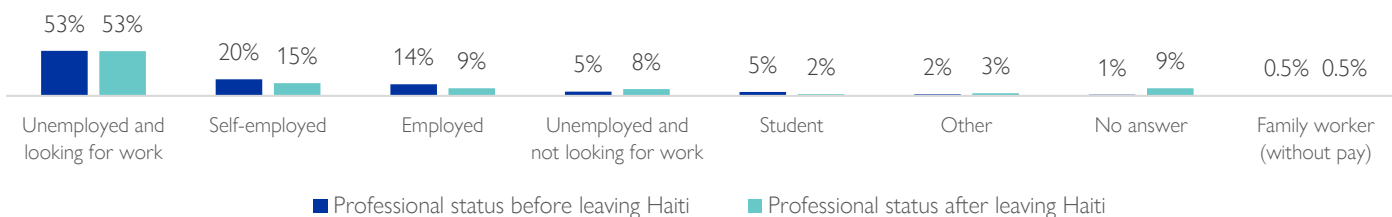


Figure 115. Top 5 areas of work for returnees before leaving Haiti (for self-employed, employed or apprentices)

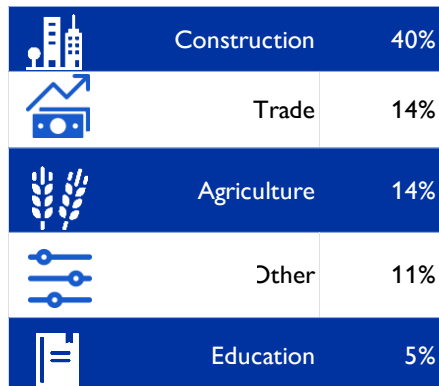
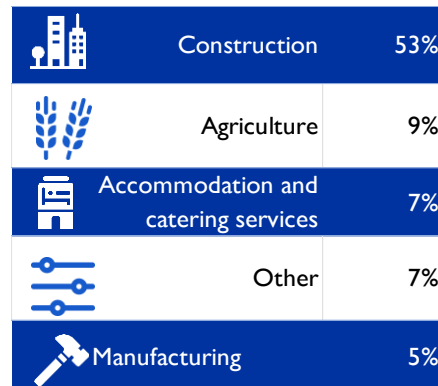


Figure 116. Top 5 areas of work for returnees when out of Haiti (for self-employed, employed or apprentices)





## PLACE OF ORIGIN FOR PEOPLE RETURNED BY BAHAMAS

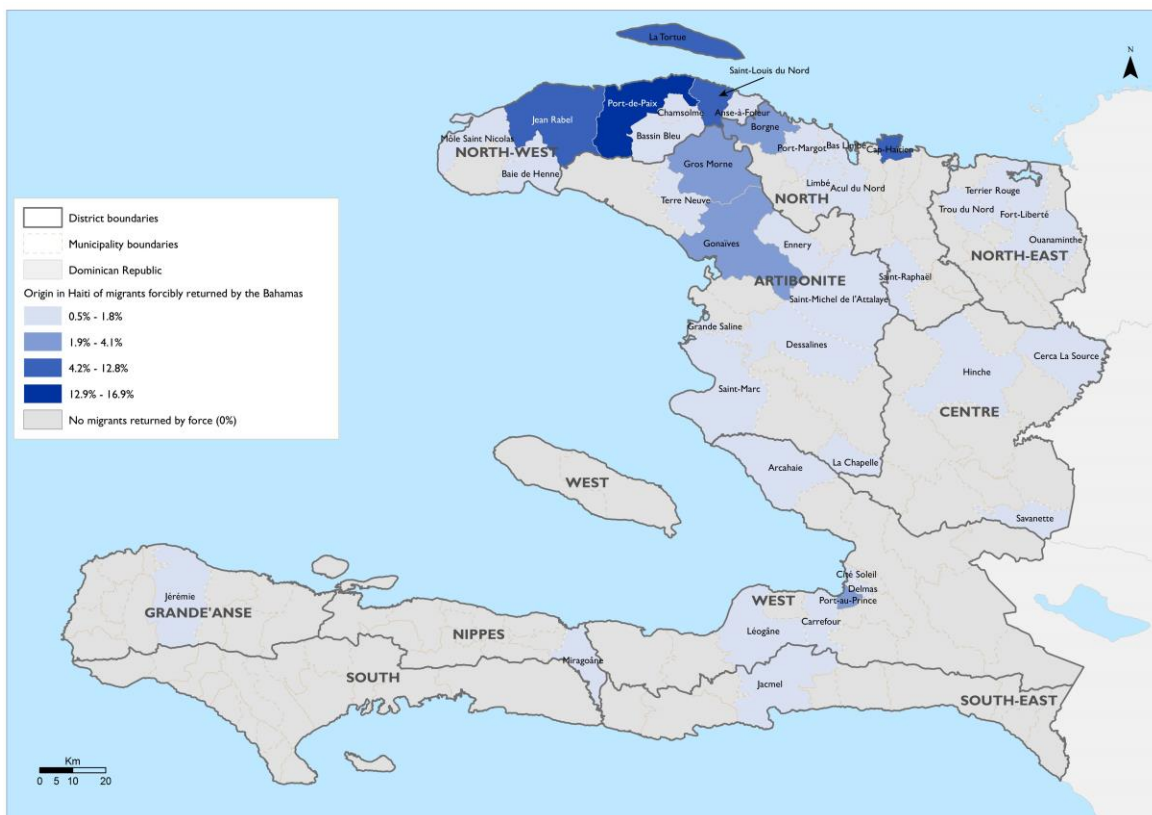
Figure 125. Origin of returnees by Bahamas - Department level (admin 1)

IOM HAITI

36



Figure 126. Origin of returnees from Bahamas - Municipality level (admin 2)



## TRAVEL EXPENSES



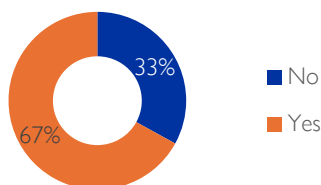
Average spending by people returned by Bahamas: 3,758 USD

Figure 127. Source of funding for the trip (Multiple choice)



## HISTORY OF INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT

Figure 128. « Have you ever been forced to flee your residence in Haiti to take refuge in another location within the country? »

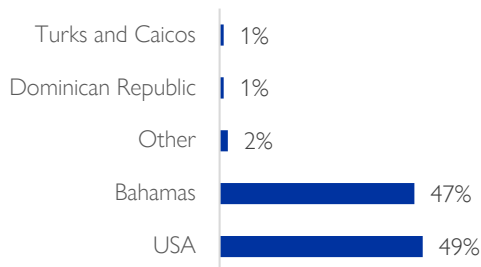


100% of returnees from Bahamas who had been internally displaced in Haiti, were such for violence related reasons

## MIGRATION INTENTIONS

### INTENDED FINAL DESTINATION WHEN LEAVING HAITI

Figure 129. Intended final destination of Haitians returned by Dominican Republic



### INTENDED DESTINATION AFTER THE FORCED RETURN TO HAITI

100% of returnees from Bahamas intended to go back to their place of origin after their forced return in Haiti

### FUTURE MIGRATION INTENTIONS

Figure 130. « How many times have you or a member of your household been forcibly returned to Haiti? (including the current forced return)? »

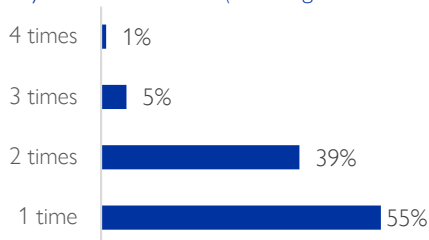


Figure 132. « If yes, for which country? »

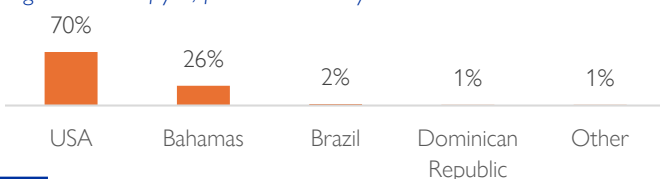


Figure 131. « Do you intend to leave Haiti during the following 6 months after the current forced return? »

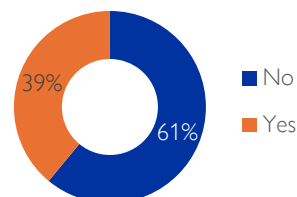
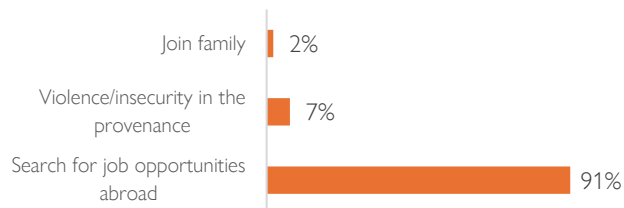


Figure 133. « If yes, why? »



## II.4. PEOPLE RETURNED BY UNITED STATES

IOM HAITI 38

## SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

Figure 134. « Were you returned alone or with family members? »

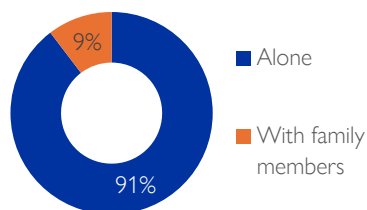


Figure 135. Disaggregation by sex and age of persons returned with family members

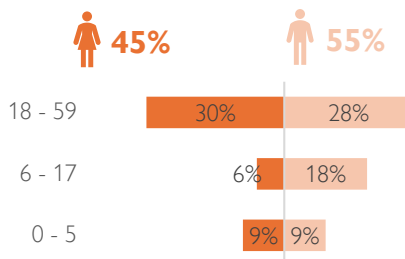


Figure 136. Observable vulnerabilities (on interviewees or their family members)

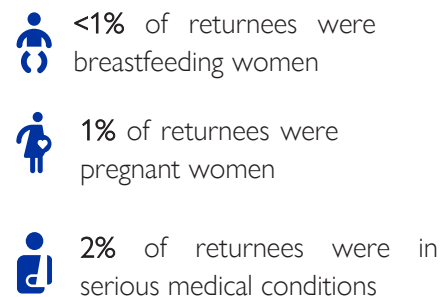


Figure 137. Marital status

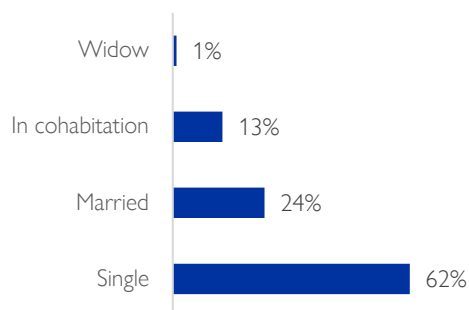


Figure 138. Education level

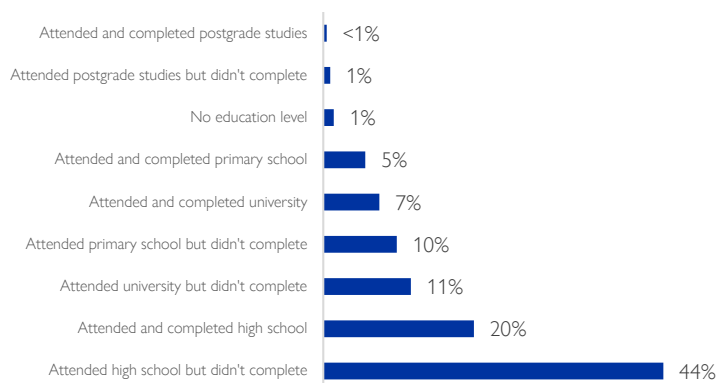


Figure 139. Professional status before and after leaving Haiti

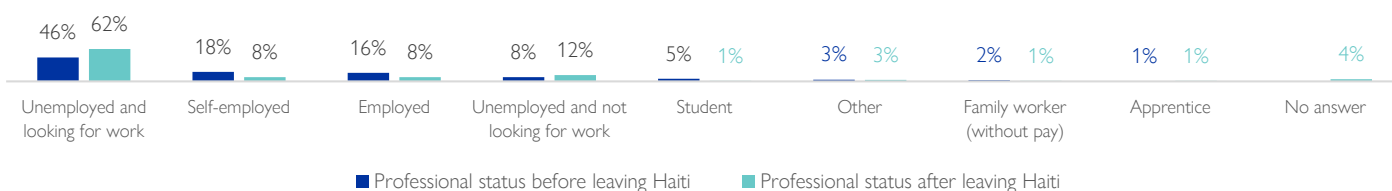


Figure 140. Top 5 areas of work for returnees when in Haiti (for self-employed, employed or apprentices)

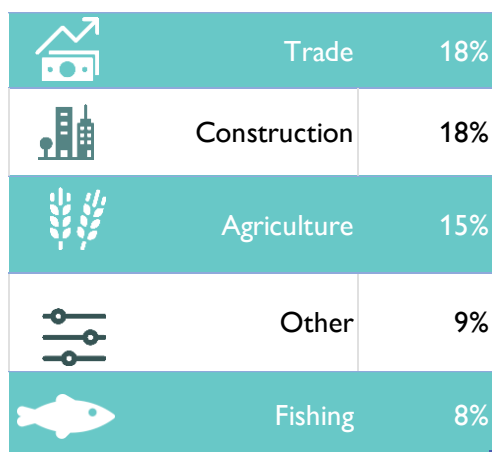
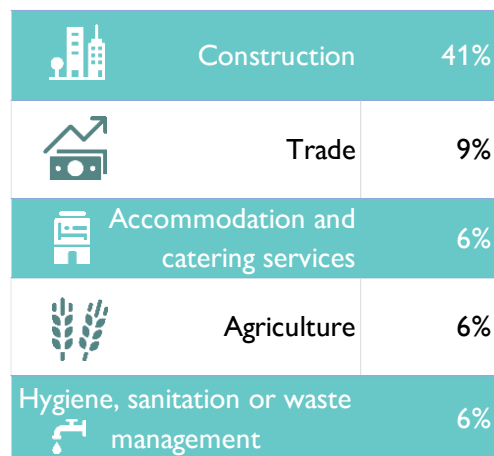


Figure 141. Top 5 areas of work for returnees when out of Haiti (for self-employed, employed or apprentices)



## HISTORY OF MIGRATION

Figure 142. Native country

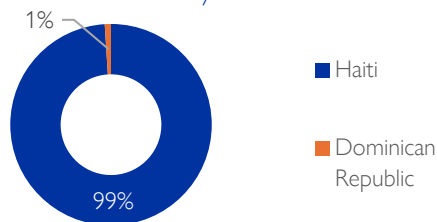


Figure 143. Possession of Identity Documents (IDs)

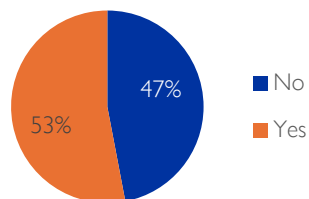


Figure 144. Type of IDs (Multiple choice)

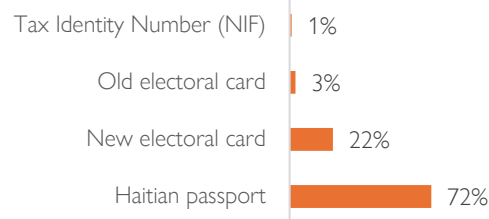


Figure 145. « When did you last leave the country before this forced return? »

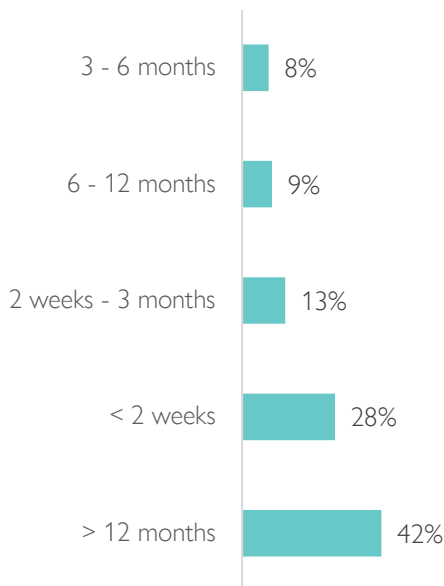


Figure 146. « When you left Haiti, did you travel alone or in a group? »

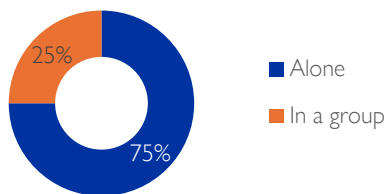


Figure 147. « Are there any family members you originally emigrated with who have remained abroad? »

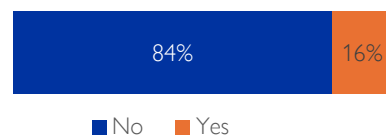


Figure 148. Exit way when leaving Haiti



Figure 149. Reasons for leaving Haiti

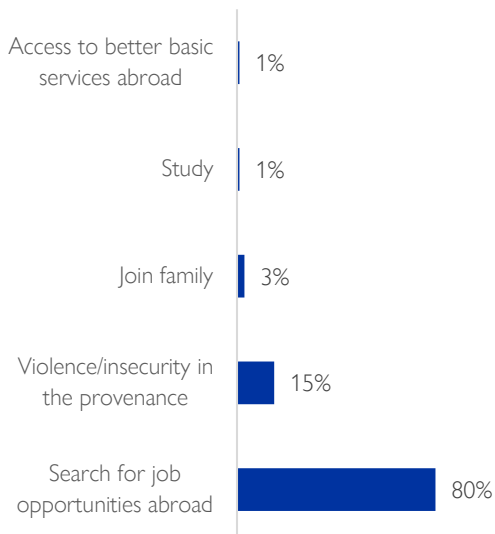
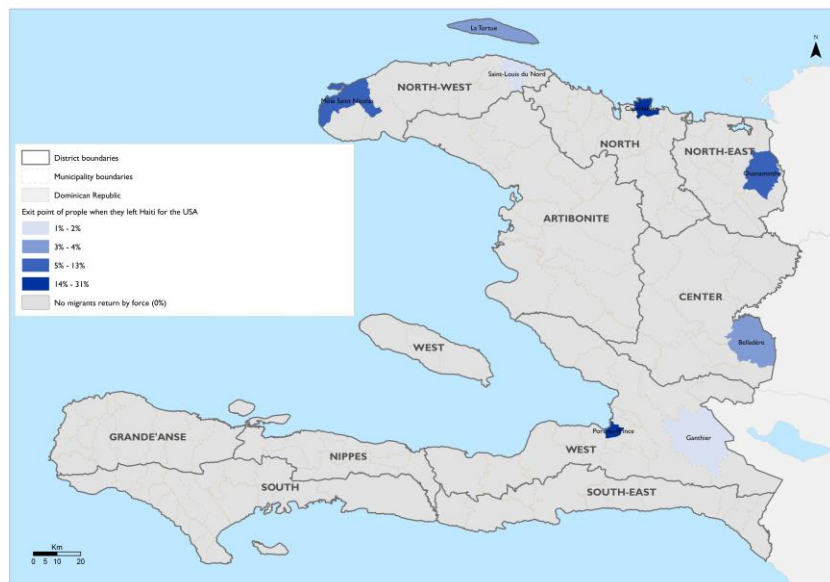


Figure 150. Exit point when leaving Haiti



## PLACE OF ORIGIN FOR PEOPLE RETURNED BY USA

Figure 151. Origin of people returned by USA - Department level (admin 1)

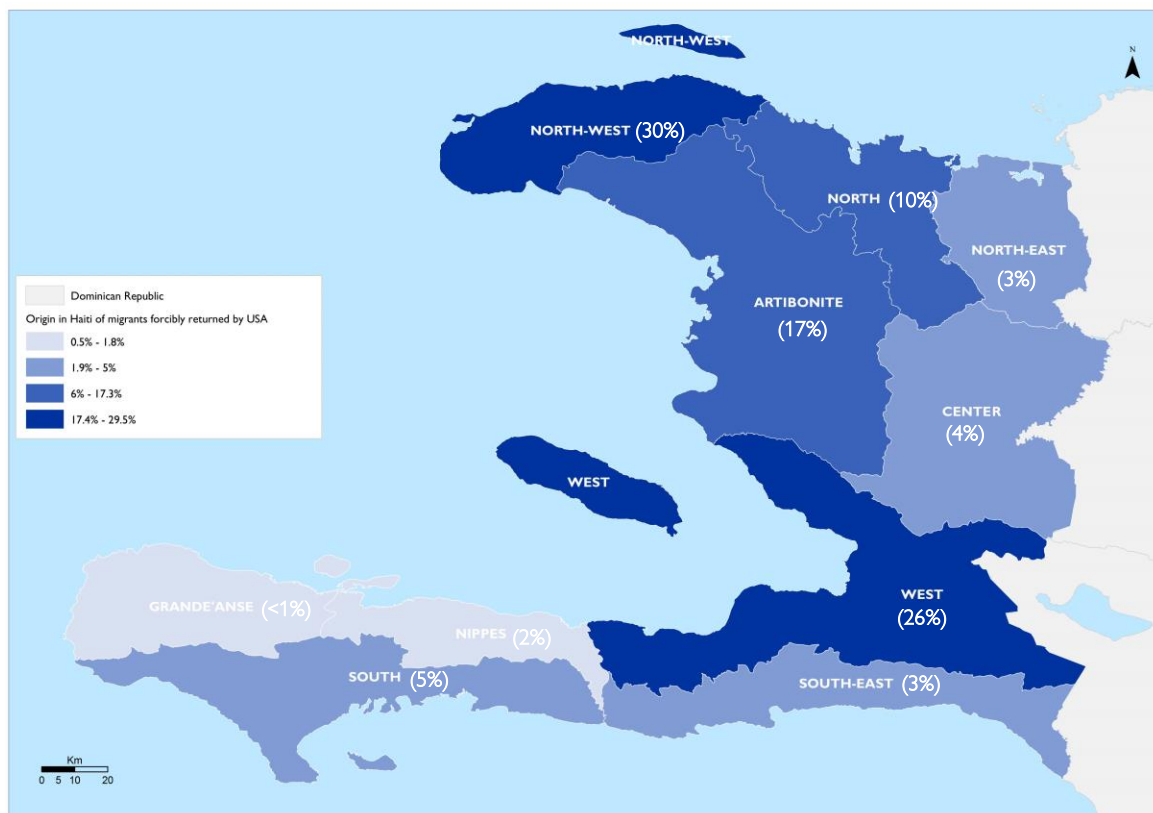
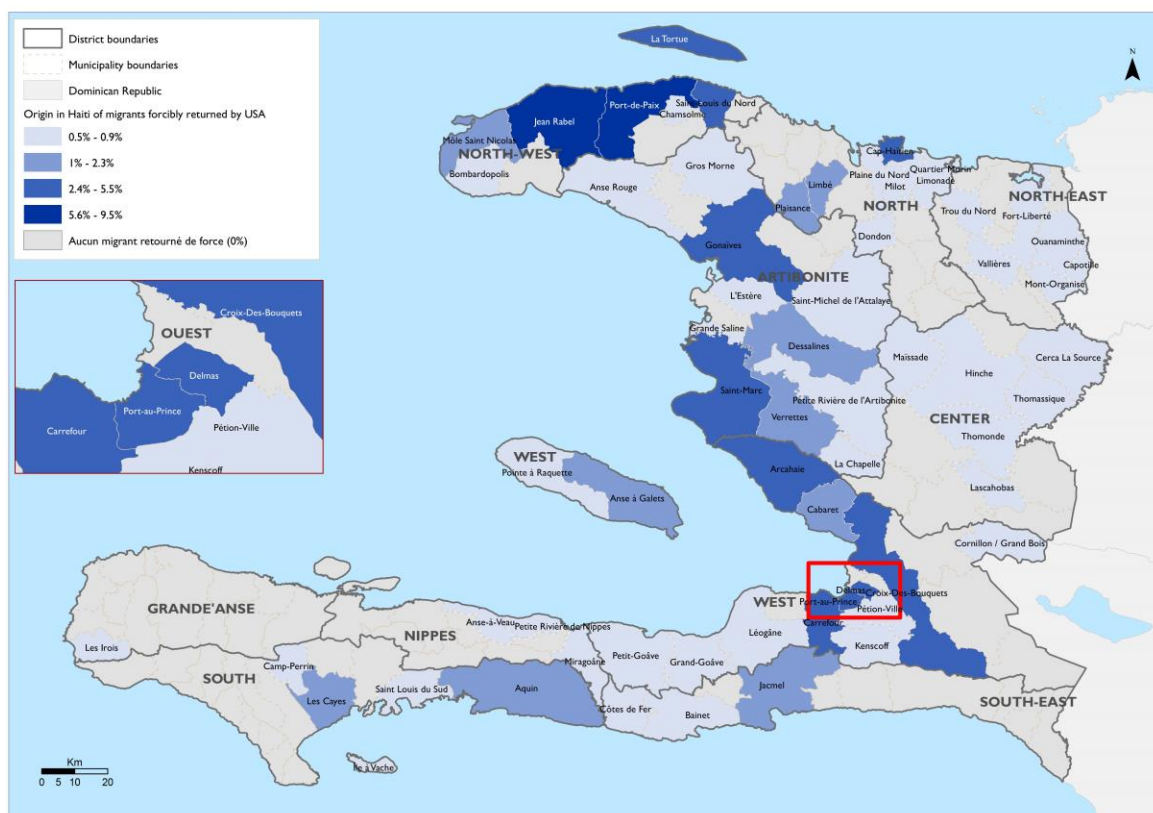


Figure 152. Origin of people returned by USA - Municipality level (admin 2)

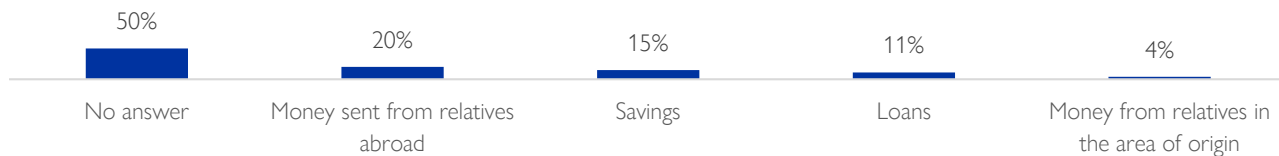


## TRAVEL EXPENSES



Average spending by people returned by USA: 6,087 USD

Figure 153. Source of funding for the trip (Multiple choice)



## HISTORY OF INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT

Figure 154. « Have you ever been forced to flee your residence in Haiti to take refuge in another location within the country? »

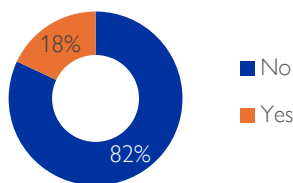


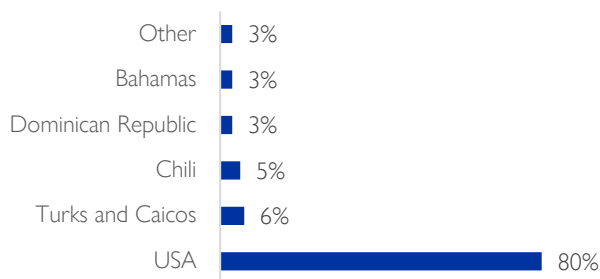
Figure 155. « If yes, for which reason? »



## MIGRATION INTENTIONS

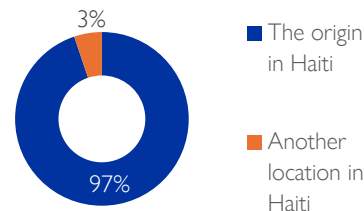
### INTENDED FINAL DESTINATION WHEN LEAVING HAITI

Figure 156. Intended final destination of Haitians returned by USA



### INTENDED DESTINATION AFTER THEIR FORCED RETURN TO HAITI

Figure 157. Intended destination in Haiti after their forced return



## FUTURE MIGRATION INTENTIONS

Figure 158. « How many times have you or a member of your household been forcibly returned to Haiti? (including the current forced return)? »

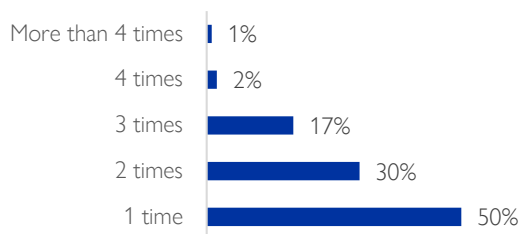


Figure 160. « If yes, for which country? »

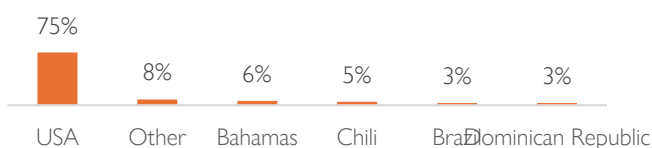


Figure 159. « Do you intend to leave Haiti during the following 6 months after the current forced return? »

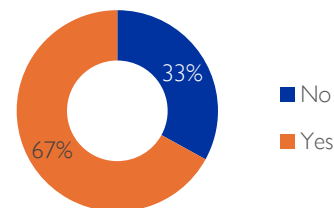
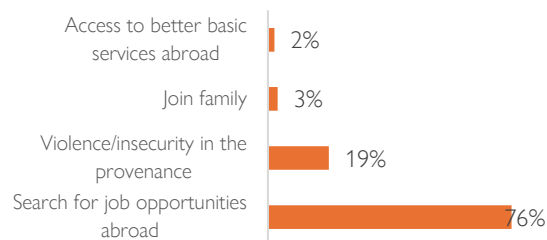


Figure 161. « If yes, why? »



## METHODOLOGY AND LIMITATIONS

This research was conducted as part of the IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM)'s Flow Monitoring framework<sup>6</sup>. Flow Monitoring aims to collect data on the number and characteristics of migrants observed through Flow Monitoring Points (FMPs). Important FMPs are identified in coordination with local authorities, partners and with DTM teams' contextual analysis. In the case of forced returns, FMPs are the returnees' arrival points in Haiti. The main points of arrival are the airport of Port-au-Prince, the airport and port of Cap Haitien and the 4 official crossing border points between Haiti and Dominican Republic (Belladère, Ouanaminthe, Anse-à-Pîtres and Malpasse). Sometimes, unofficial crossing border points between the 2 countries are also used for forced returns. In total, data collection was conducted on 33 FMPs (see figure below) including the 7 points mentioned above and 26 unofficial crossing points between Haiti and the Dominican Republic.

Two main data collection methodologies are used for each FMP: Flow Monitoring Registry (FMR) and individual surveys (FMS - Flow Monitoring Survey).

The FMR entails collecting data at the different FMPs mainly via direct observations and from key informants. Individual registration is conducted for all returnees at Port-au-Prince airport, Cap Haitien airport and Cap Haitien port.

The FMR mainly provides information on the number of returnees, date of arrival, sending country and arrival point<sup>7</sup>.

The FMS allows to collect in-depth information on migrants through interviews with a sample of returnees in order to understand their profiles, migration experience and intentions. This report is based on FMS information collected from 8,899 returnees in 2023. Migrants participating in interviews are randomly selected. Their participation is subject to their informed consent. Interviews are conducted upon returnees' arrival in the country. Data collection teams conduct interviews with as many returnees as possible.

**Limitations:** Some returnees arrive during the weekend or outside of IOM staff members' working hours. Thus, those returnees were not interviewed.

Figure 162. Data collection points



6. Further information on the Displacement Tracking Matrix framework can be found on <https://dtm.iom.int/about/methodological-framework>

7. Information on forced returns from FMR is available on <https://bit.ly/3InFQep>

**All information products from research carried out by IOM Haiti is available in the link below. For more inquiries, please contact the Data and Research unit by email:**



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