

# HAITI: COVID-19 BORDER MONITORING

Flow Monitoring on 50 Border Crossing Points between Haiti and the Dominican Republic HAITI - 27 to 28 MARCH 2020

SITREP 5 28 March 2020 22:00 (GMT –5)



The COVID-19 outbreak first reported in China in late 2019 was declared a pandemic by the World Health Organisation (WHO) on 11 March 2020. As of 19 March, 207,855 cases had been reported in 166 countries, areas or territories according to WHO and the neighboring country Dominican Republic already reported 34 individuals infected and 2 deaths. On 20 March the first two cases have been confirmed in Haiti and the country remains at high risk of rapid contagion given the weak health system, the proximity and porous border with Dominican Republic and the limited external connections now possible. In response, the Government of Haiti has communicated many important instructions to minimize the spread of the disease, particularly: closure of schools and factories, closure of airports and ports to passengers, banning of meetings of more than 10 people, nationwide curfew between 20:00 and 5:00 and plea for social distancing guidelines to be respected.

IOM has adapted its ongoing Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) initiative along the Haiti – Dominican Republic to support the ongoing preparedness and response. The Flow Monitoring initiative is being carried out in 50 Border Crossing Points between Haiti and the Dominican Republic: 46 unofficial points and 4 official points.

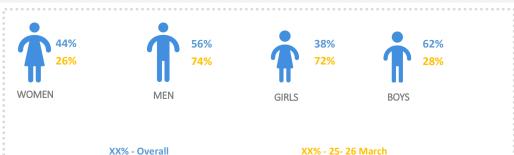
**KEY FIGURES:** 

500,522

Cumulative movements tracked by DTM Flow Monitoring Points since January 2020.

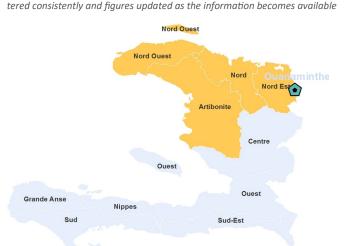
7,520

Movements tracked at the border from 26-27 March 2020.



Please note that the figures above take into account all types of movements (forced, voluntary, daily etc.) observed along the monitored entry points. They do not replace official number but rather aim to provide insight on movements trends and patterns observed at the border.

In addition, these figures represent the data entered at the time of the report. Information is being en-



Ouanaminthe: Returnees have indicated the Nord-Ouest, Nord, Nord-Est and Artibonite departments as their destination



Belladère: Returnees have indicated the Artibonite, Centre and Ouest departments as their destination.



Malpasse: Returnees have indicated the Ouest, Sud-Est and Sud departments as their destination.

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### **NORD-EST (Ouanaminthe)**

- Instruction to close the border as of 17 March 2020.
- Dominican and Haitian authorities have agreed to reopen the official border crossing point to facilitate commercial exchanges.
- Voluntary returns and deportations continue to be observed on the official Border Crossing point despite the Border's closure (an estimated 114 returns to Haiti).
- The returnees indicated being from Santiago, San Jose de la Matas and Santo Domingo in the D.R.



### **OUEST (Malpasse)**

- Instruction to close the border as of 17 March 2020.
- returns observed on the unofficial ones. No voluntary returns were reported in Malpasse.
- The bi-national market has resumed on unofficial border crossing points in the Ouest department.



#### **CENTRE** (Belladère)

- Instruction to close the border as of 17 March 2020.
- Increased movements were observed on unofficial border crossing points in the Centre department.
- Normal commercial exchanges have resumed on the official border crossing point.
- Voluntary returns have been registered at the official border crossing point of Belladère Elias Pina (an estimated 100 voluntary returns).
- The returnees indicated being from Santo Domingo in the D.R.



#### **SUD-EST (Anse-à-Pitre)**

- Instruction to close the border as of 17 March 2020..
- Increase in migratory flows were observed on unofficial border Crossing points.
- Daily commute to purchase/ sell goods continue on unofficial border crossing points despite restrictions.