



BORDER MONITORING SITREP | IOM HAITI

TRACKING RETURNEES FROM THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
SEPTEMBER 28, 2017

OVERVIEW

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

UPDATE

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

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

CUMULATIVE HIGHLIGHTS: JULY 2015 -17 SEPTEMBER 2017

General:

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

Presumed unaccompanied and separated children:

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

Spontaneous and Forced Migration:

- **132,995 individuals** declared having returned spontaneously.
- **37,942 individuals** claim to have been deported.
- **58,271 individuals** were **officially deported** and **voluntarily registered** at the three official BCPs.

Completed IOM activities:

IOM Dominican Republic facilitated the Assisted Voluntary Returns and Reintegration (AVRR) of **265 households (677 individuals)**, the latest carried out on **3 August 2017**.

IOM Haiti assisted a total of **579 households (2,320 individuals)** who had settled in six (6) settlements in Anse-à-Pitres via the rental subsidy program.

WEEKLY REPORT³:

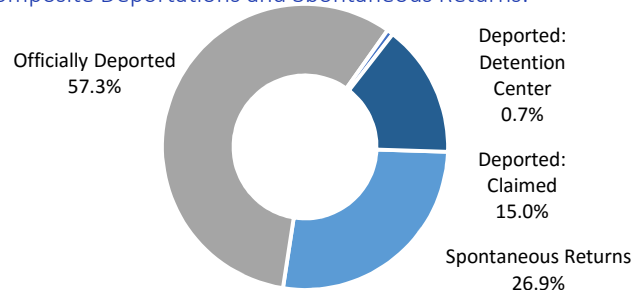
General:

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

Presumed unaccompanied and separated children (UASC):

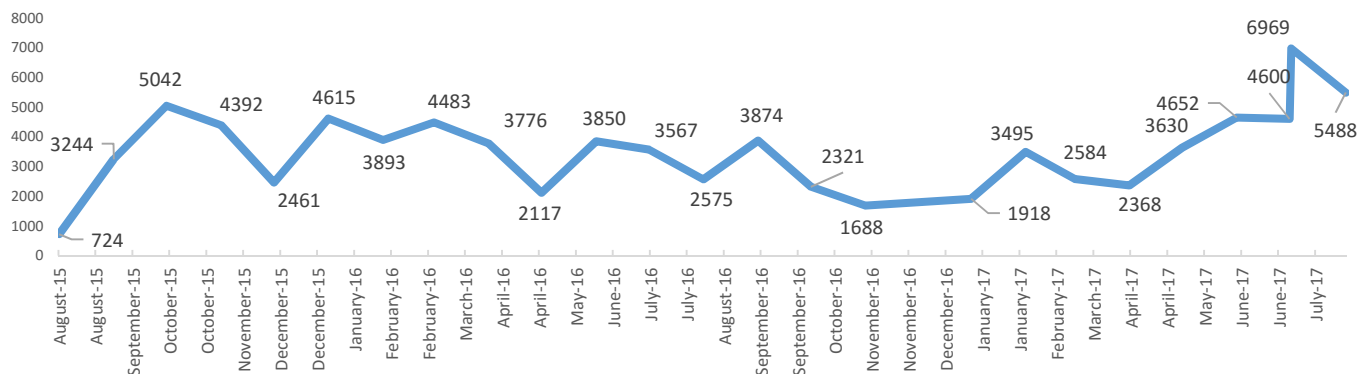
- **29 UASC** were identified, which is **below** the average of **33 individuals**. **14** were **officially deported** into Haitian territory and subsequently referred to the relevant authorities.

Composite Deportations and Spontaneous Returns:



Graph 1: Total returnees this week

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



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

¹Plan Nacional de Regularización de los Extranjeros

²The figures of official deportations are as of 15th August 2015 and are the total number of individuals that agreed to be registered voluntarily by IOM's network of enumerators along the border.

³The difference in figures between the current and previous SitRep is because the data reflects the date of entry into Haiti and not the date of the entry into the database. Data entry is continuous.

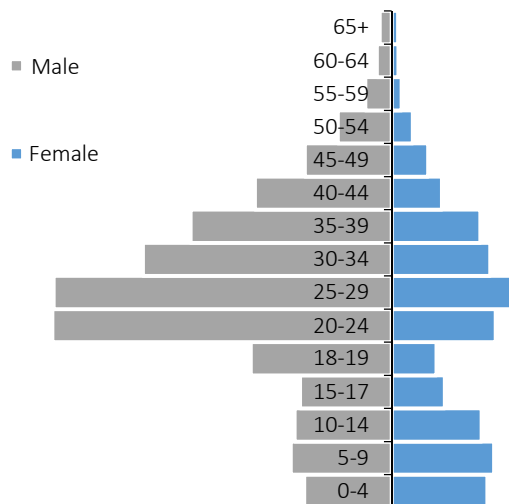
⁴The total weekly figures are comprised of all spontaneous returns and all deportations including the officially deported individuals who did not agree to be registered but were still counted.

⁵For definitions please see the bottom of page 2.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Age and Gender Distribution of all returnees

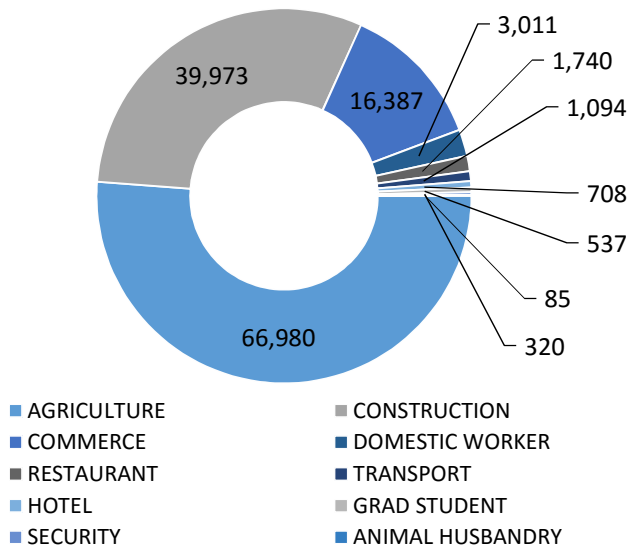
The majority of the returnee population reported being between the ages of **18-49 years old**, representing **70.1%** of the overall returning population. A reported **24.7%** are aged **0-17 years old** and **5.2%** are **50 years** and above.



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

Claimed Occupation

The most common occupation held by returnees from the DR is in **Agriculture (66,980 households)**, followed by **Construction (39,973 households)** and **Commerce (16,387 households)**. Other common declared occupations include the transportation, hospitality, maintenance, security and education sectors.



Graph 4: Claimed Occupations of Returnees

VULNERABILITIES

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

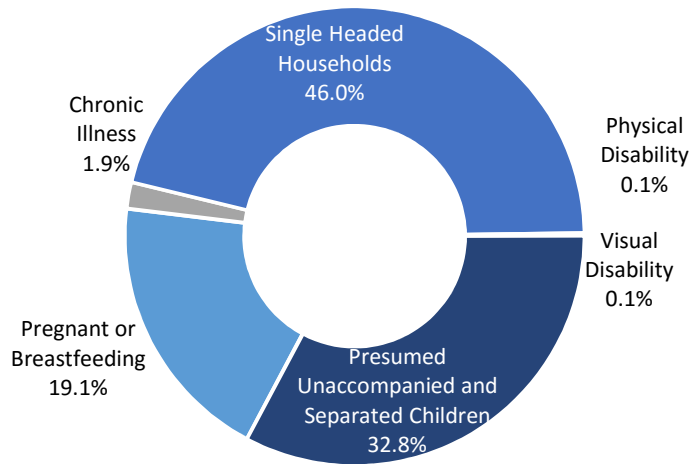
Presumed unaccompanied and Separated Children (UASC)

Among the persons crossing the border, the network encountered **4,167 cases of UASC**. After referral to the relevant government authorities (IBESR) and their partners (UNICEF), **1,232** were identified as UASC and the appropriate actions were taken to assist them:

- **769** were reunited with their parents
- **229** were reunited with other relatives

2 are still awaiting family reunification.

(UNICEF Flash Update on Bi-National situation – 31 October 2016)



Graph 5: Most commonly identified vulnerabilities

Key Definitions

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

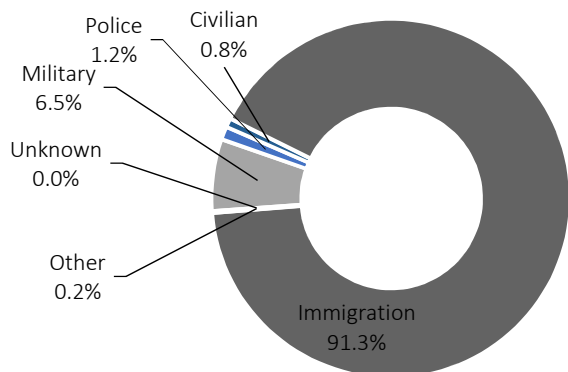
CLAIMED AND OFFICIAL DEPORTATION PROFILES

A total of **93,549 persons** have been officially deported at the official BCPs of **Belladère, Malpasse and Ouanaminthe** - of which **58,271 persons (57,279 households)** have been voluntarily registered.

Official BCPs	Households Deported	Individuals Deported
Belladère	18,778	18,838
Malpasse	14,285	14,439
Ouanaminthe	24,209	24,994

Table 1: Official deportations per official BCP

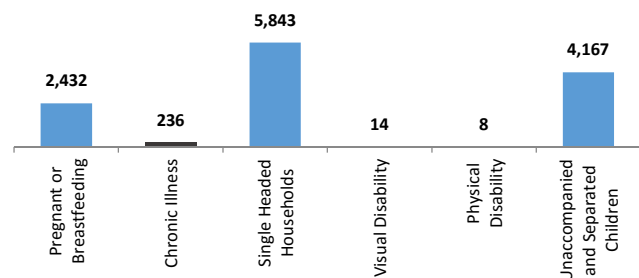
Of all **229,885** individuals interviewed, **132,995 individuals** declared having returned spontaneously to Haiti. While **37,942 individuals claimed** to have been **deported** into Haitian territory by various DR authorities (Immigration, CESFRONT, Military etc.), **58,271 individuals** have been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



Graph 6: Total returns per Authority (Claimed and Official Deportation)

Vulnerabilities Assessed among Officially Deported

Among the people officially deported, **4,167** were **presumed unaccompanied and separated children**. These UASC were referred to the relevant government authority (IBERS) and their partners for appropriated care and status determination.

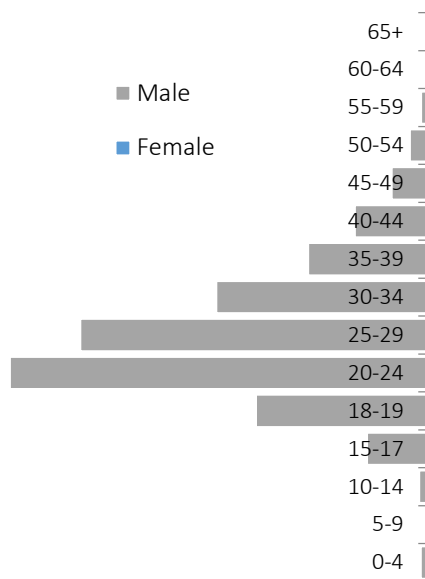


Graph 7: Most common vulnerabilities among officially deported individuals

Age and sex breakdown of official deportees

Of all the 51,890 individuals officially deported and registered, **93.7% were male** and **6.3% were female**.

The majority of the officially deported individuals have reported being between the ages of **18-49 years** representing **92.8%** of the deported population. A reported **5.5%** are aged between **0-17 years** old and a mere **1.7%** falls into the 50 year plus category. The **average age** of officially deported individuals is **26.88 years** old.

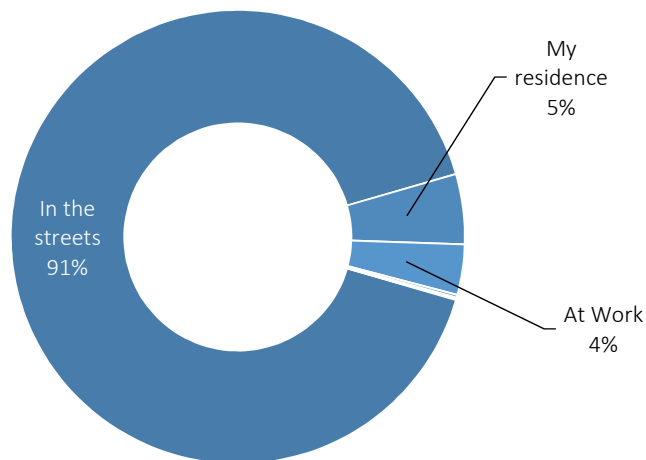


Graph 8: Age and sex breakdown of official deportees

Location where official deportees were apprehended

When questioned about the location from which they were deported, the respondents have indicated the following:

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

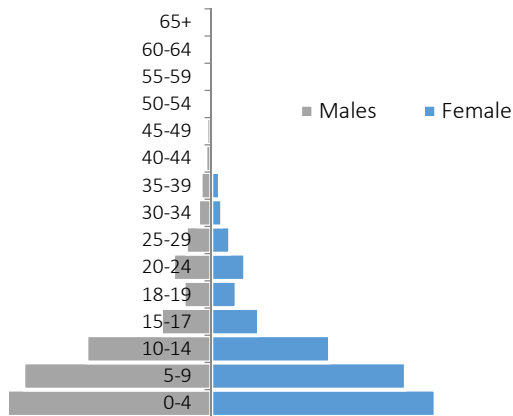


Graph 9: Location of apprehension

INDIVIDUALS BORN IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

12,853 households (48,378 individuals) have at least one member who claims to have been born in the DR. Of these, 26,283 individuals claimed to have been born in the DR, and 15,301 were born before January 26th 2010, which means they fall under UNHCR's mandate. Of the 1,961 cases (5,807 individuals) verified by UNHCR, 2,710 individuals were placed within UNHCR's care.

(UNHCR Statistical Update – 15 May 2017)

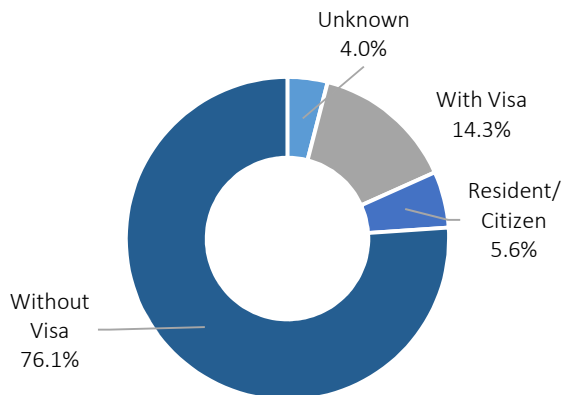


Graph 10: Age and sex breakdown of individuals born in the DR

FAMILY REMAINING IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

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

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

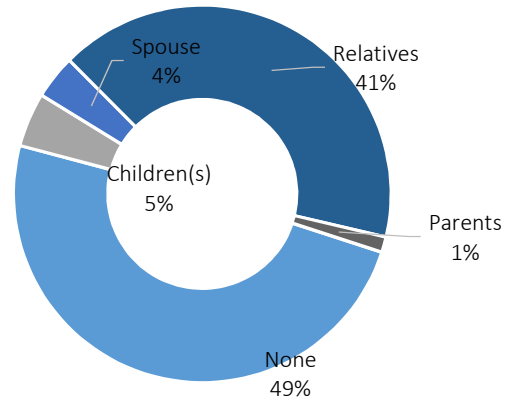


Graph 11: Status of returnee's family remaining in the DR

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

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

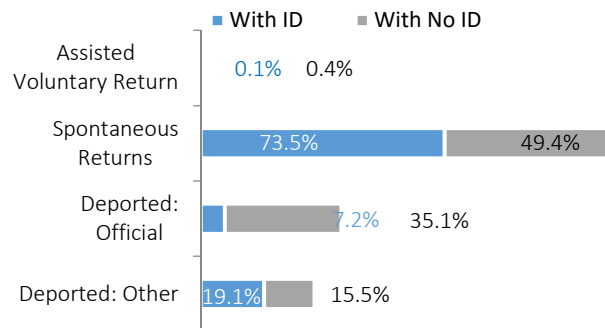
Family in the DR:



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

DOCUMENTATION

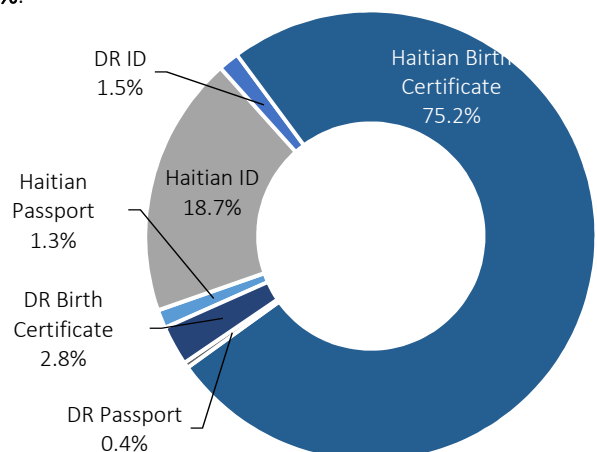
The majority 64.9% (149,126 individuals) did not possess any type of documentation. Of those in possession of some sort of document, 33.5% (76,934 individuals) reported having Haitian Documentation and 1.7% (3,825 individuals) reported having Dominican documentation.



Graph 13: Returnee Documentation Status

Types of documentation:

The most common ID document returnees claim to possess continues to be the Haitian Birth Certificate, corresponding to 75.2% of the individuals with documentation. The second most common document is the Haitian ID (CIN or NIF) which represents 18.7%.



Graph 14: Types of documents

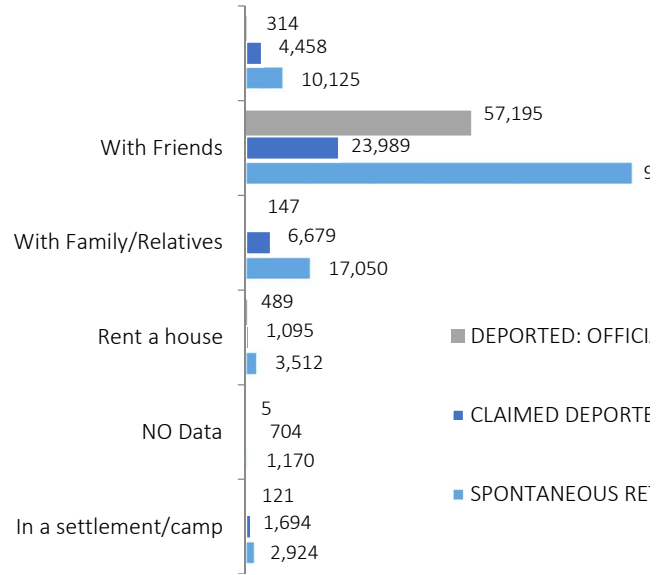
DESTINATION AND RETURN INTENTIONS

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

- Cornillons/Grand Bois: **13,437 households**
- Anse-à-Pitres: **7,293 households**
- Fonds Verettes: **8,331 households**

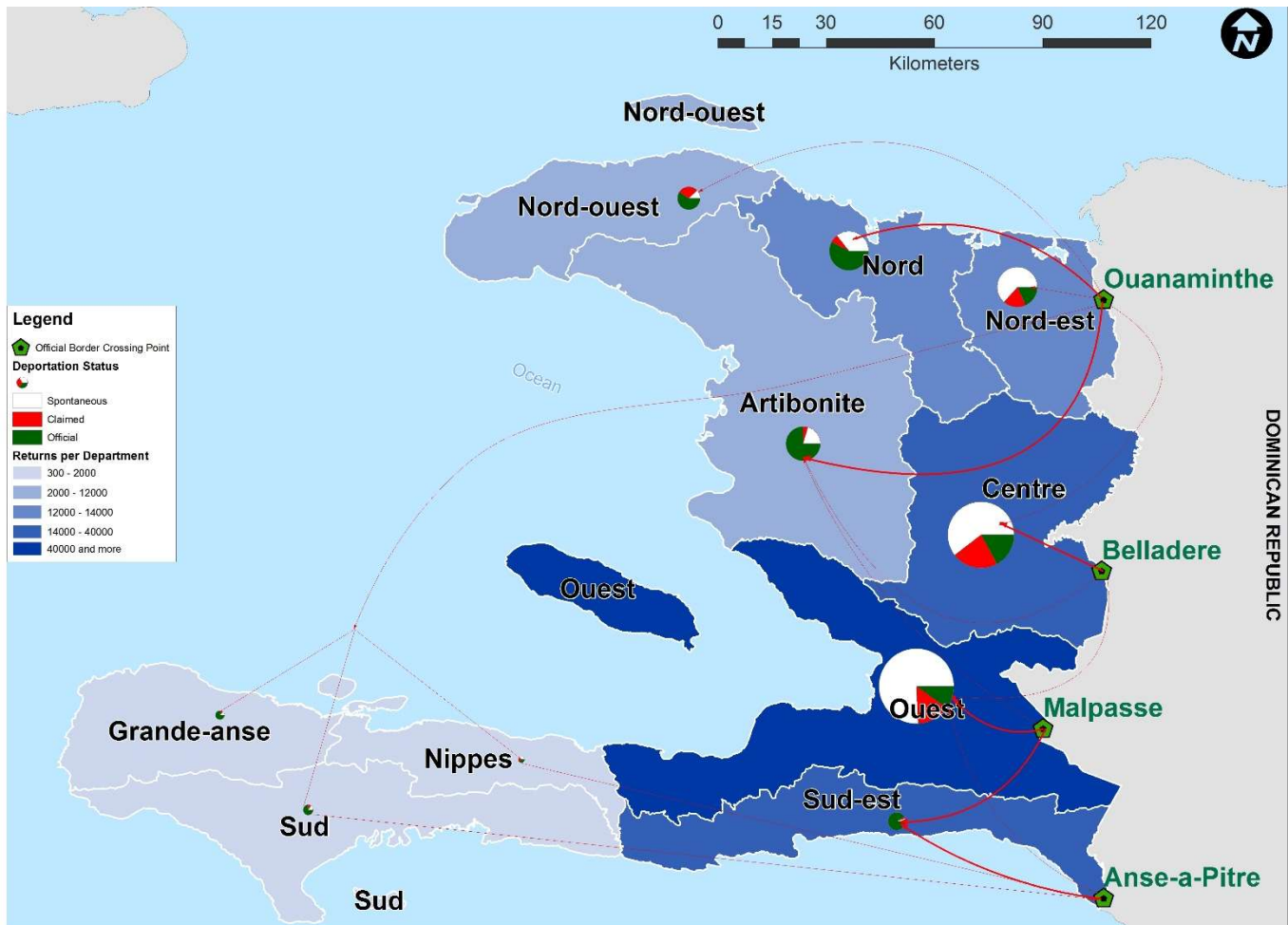
Irrespective of the type of returns, the trends observed during previous Sitreps remain the same. The returnees have, most commonly, provided the following answers:

- Intention to stay with relatives (**75.7%**)
- Intention to rent a house (**11.4%**)
- Intention to stay with Friends (**7.2%**)
- Having nowhere to go (**2.4%**)



Graph 15: Living arrangement intentions of returnees

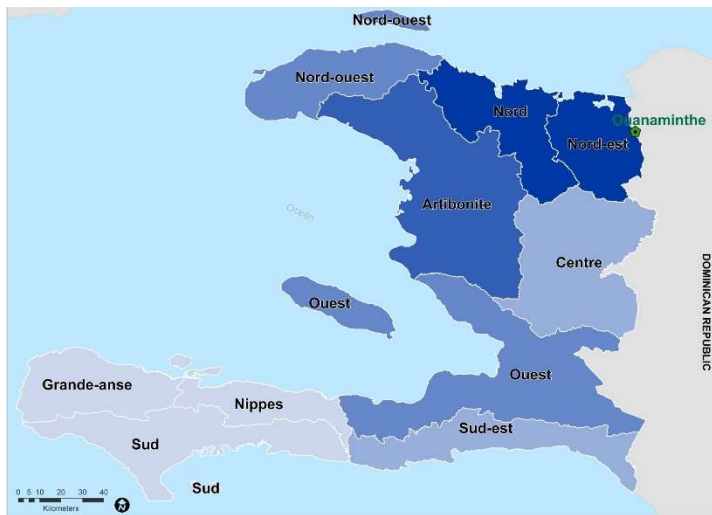
COMPOSITE RETURNS PER DEPARTMENT:



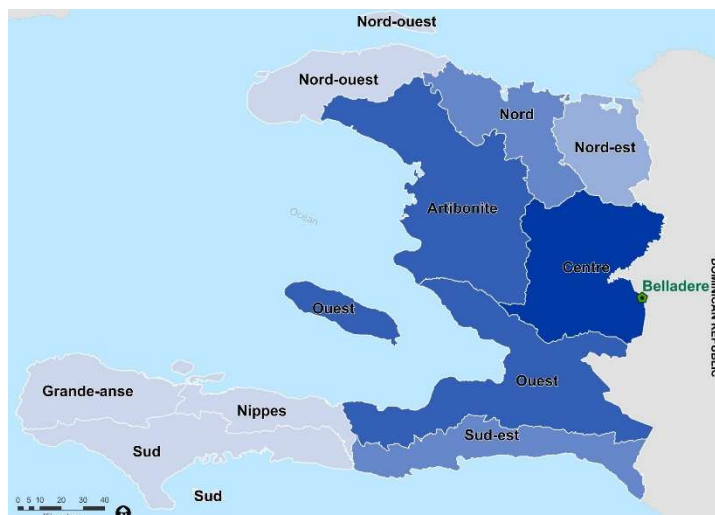
The following maps indicate primary return destinations for deportees per border crossing point. An overall trend is that most destinations are more commonly located in departments adjacent to the BCPs. The Ouest is a common destination for returnees at every BCP, while the Sud, Grande Anse, and Nippes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

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

OUANAMINTHE



BELLADERE



MALPASSE



ANSE-A-PITRES



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