

# MIGRANT RETURNS AND RECEPTION ASSISTANCE IN HAITI | AIR & SEA | 2021 SUMMARY



## OVERVIEW

In 2021, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in Haiti provided reception and post-arrival assistance to nearly 20,000 adult and child migrants repatriated to Haiti by both air and sea to Port-au-Prince and Cap-Haïtien. The vast majority were returned by flight from the United States, while smaller proportions were returned by other countries and territories in the region, mainly the Bahamas, Cuba, Mexico and the Turks and Caicos Islands. A small number of migrants were returned after being intercepted at sea by the United States Coast Guard.

Most returned migrants assisted by IOM were previously residing in Chile or Brazil - where several child returnees were born - and were returned by the United States after journeying northward. Smaller proportions of returnees migrated more recently, particularly through sea routes in the Caribbean. Those departing Haiti more recently reported leaving due to a combination of factors, including lack of income and job opportunities, insufficient access to basic services, the impact of natural disasters (including the earthquake of 14 August 2021, which strongly impacted Haiti's southern departments), violence and insecurity, political instability and more.

## KEY STATISTICS IN 2021

- Total # of migrants returned

**19,629**

- Total # of migrants returned **by air**

**18,676**

- Total # of migrants returned **by sea**

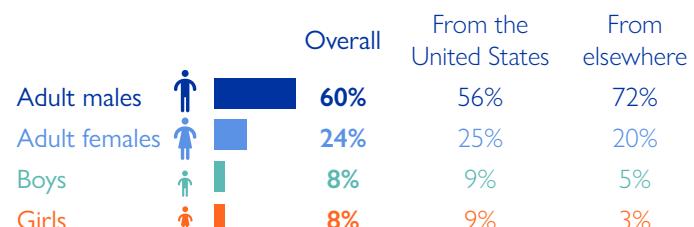
**953**



IOM staff providing reception assistance to returnees at the Toussaint Louverture International Airport in the capital, Port-au-Prince (© IOM Haiti, 10 October 2021).

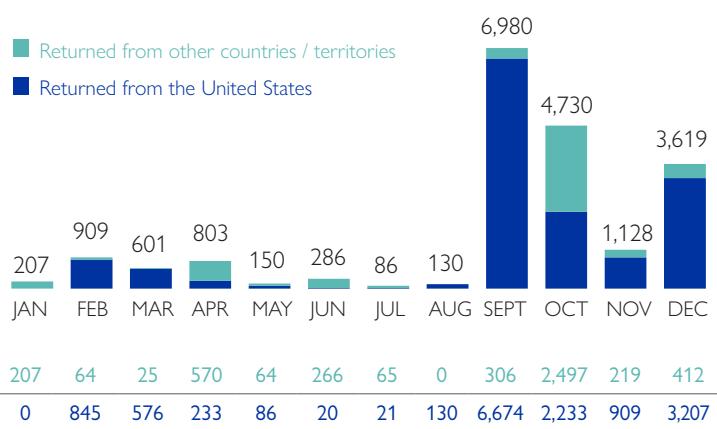
## PROFILE OF RETURNEES

- % of migrants returned by air and sea, by sex and age group



## RETURNS BY MONTH

- # of migrants returns by air and sea, per month and per quantity returning from the United States vs. from elsewhere



## RETURNS BY REPATRIATING COUNTRY

- Of all migrants returned by air and sea in 2021, total (left) and % (right) by repatriating country / territory

1		United States	14,934 <sup>1</sup>	<b>76.1%</b>
2		Bahamas	1,997	<b>10.2%</b>
3		Cuba	1,362	<b>6.9%</b>
4		Turks and Caicos Islands	750	<b>3.8%</b>
5		Mexico	546	<b>2.8%</b>
6		Others <sup>1</sup>	40	<b>&lt;1%</b>

<sup>1</sup> A total of **12,835** migrants were returned from the United States between 19 September and 31 December 2021. **Others** include Costa Rica, Guadeloupe, Guyana and Martinique.

## REPATRIATION EVENTS

- % and total # of repatriation events by land and sea, 2021

**Total # of** repatriation events

**199**

% and total # of **repatriations by flight** **96% | 192**

% and total # of **repatriations by boat<sup>2</sup>** **4% | 7**

**Average # of migrants** per repatriation event

**99**

<sup>2</sup> **4 of 7** repatriation events by boat were conducted by the United States Coast Guard

## IOM ASSISTANCE

Many returning migrants, which include unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) as well as pregnant and nursing women, arrive to Haiti in highly vulnerable situations with few if any resources. Returnees are often in immediate need of humanitarian assistance, having faced a series of health and protection concerns during their journeys. IOM offers the following on-site services at airports upon arrival:



Food and beverage during the registration process



Unconditional and multipurpose cash assistance for each returnee (up to USD 120 per person)



Phones to contact friends and relatives



A hygiene kit for each person, including dignity items for women and girls and specific items for babies



Psychosocial support and counselling services provided by trained IOM psychologists



First aid by an IOM doctor and referral for medical assistance when needed



Support for family reunification for UASCs alongside the Institute for Social Welfare and Research (IBESR)



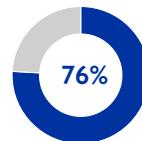
Protection screenings by trained staff to identify vulnerable returnees and referral to special services

**840**

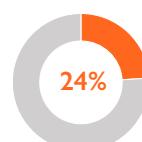
Availability of feedback and complaint mechanisms, through IOM's free hotline 840

These activities are implemented jointly by IOM and the National Migration Office (ONM, by its acronym in French) in Haiti, with funding provided by:

## ARRIVAL LOCATION



of returned migrants arrived to **Port-au-Prince**

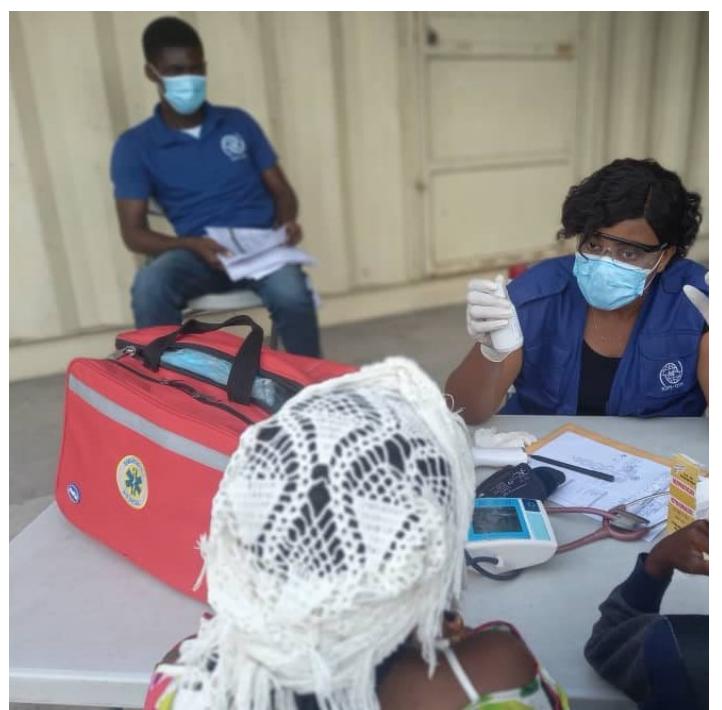


of returned migrants arrived to **Cap-Haïtien**

- # of repatriation events by arrival location

**153** flights arrived to **Port-au-Prince**

**46** flights and boats arrived to **Cap-Haïtien**



An IOM medical doctor conducts a consultation with returnees at the Toussaint Louverture International Airport in Port-au-Prince (© IOM Haiti, 07 December 2021).

► See [here](#) for additional IOM publications on returnees in Haiti.



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