

This report is produced by OCHA Haiti in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the period from 1 to 14 July 2021 and is based on the information and data available to date.

HIGHLIGHTS

- The situation in Haiti is tense and unpredictable following the assassination of President Jovenel Moïse during the night of 6-7 July.
- While the situation remains relatively calm, a resurgence of gang violence was observed over the last four days.
- Humanitarian response activities have been delayed and are slowed down by the ongoing political and security challenges.
- Humanitarian partners are working closely with government authorities on the implementation of the government's relocation and rehousing strategy.



KEY FIGURES

1.5M people affected	1.1M people in need of assistance	214K targeted for emergency assistance	19K internally displaced
1.1M Martissant, Bas-Delmas, Saint-Martin, Bel'Air, Cité Soleil	15.5K IDPs since June 2021	5.3K IDPs in organized sites	Bel'Air: 1,242 (IOM, Aug 2020) from Tabarre Issa: 2,160 (IOM, Mar 2021) Since June 2021: Toussaint Brave: 413 (IOM) Carrefour (Sports Centre): 855 (IOM) Eglise Saint Yves: 1,110 (IOM) Delmas 103: 315 (IOM) Delmas 2 (Salvation Army): 1,357 (tbc) Delmas 2 (Ecole Komiked): 1,000 (tbc) Delmas 4: 1,500 (tbc) Saint Martin/Delmas 2: 2,500 (tbc) ¹ Miragoâne: 32 (tbc) People separated from families: 940 (IOM) ² Others: 5,110 (estimates within host families and other departments) Cité Soleil: 450 (tbc)
400K in southern departments	1.1M people without access to essential services in Martissant, Bas-Delmas, Saint Martin, Bel'Air, Cité Soleil	2.5K IDPs in spontaneous sites	
		206.2K people without access to essential services in Martissant, Bas-Delmas, Saint Martin, Bel'Air, Cité Soleil areas	

¹ The around 1,500 IDPs identified in a spontaneous site in Delmas 4 on 29 June (tbc) have been deducted from the 4,000 IDPs in host communities in Delmas 2.

² This represents the total number of people that have been separated from their families, who are staying in one of the displacement sites without them. These people are not currently staying at one of the sites.

SITUATION OVERVIEW

During the night of 6-7 July, the Haitian President, Jovenel Moïse, was assassinated at his private residence in Port-au-Prince, during an attack in which the First Lady, Martine Moïse, was also severely injured. The next morning, Claude Joseph announced his leadership as Interim Prime Minister and issued an executive order instating a state of siege for 15 days, as well as a national mourning from 8 to 22 July. He also declared the application of article 149 of the constitution that states that the Council of ministers ensures the continuity of the state. Operations to arrest suspects and investigations on the case are ongoing.

At the same time, Mr. Ariel Henry, appointed by Jovenel Moïse prior to his passing as the incoming Prime Minister, also presented himself as leader of the government. Engagements between Henry and Joseph are ongoing to identify a solution to the current political situation.

The international airport Toussaint Louverture, public and private institutions, commercial banks and other businesses were all closed on 7 and 8 July. During the day of July 7, shootings, burning tires and roadblocks were reported in several parts of the country, including Pétion-Ville, the commune where the president was assassinated. On 8 July, the Dominican Republic closed its borders to Haiti.

While the situation has been relatively calm, the security situation remains precarious. Ongoing gang violence is a persistent concern. Tensions and shootings in the metropolitan area of Port-au-Prince have resurfaced. On 10 and 11 July, two separate gang-related incidents took place in Fontamara and Bas Delmas, resulting in the injury and death of an unconfirmed number of people and new displacements. Delivery of key commodities, such as available fuel stocks from ports to gas stations, is hindered by the continued gang-related insecurity.

Pursuant to the current situation, increases in food prices, the availability of fresh produce in the markets, and the impact on the supply chain of goods, i.e. shortages of gasoline and diesel have worsened. The closure of the Dominican Republic border with Haiti following the president's assassination further exacerbated the situation.

Meanwhile, the resurgence of COVID-19 remains a threat to the population. According to the Ministry of Health (MSPP), as of 6 July, 19,374 cases have been officially reported with 487 associated deaths since the beginning of the pandemic. Although the number of positive cases related to the third wave is slowly starting to decrease and a slight decrease in the number of hospitalizations is reported, the capacity to detect and treat COVID-19 cases remains limited, and is sometimes restricted by movement restrictions due to ongoing gang violence and insecurity. Delays in reporting new cases are also expected due to technical problems with testing supplies.

As outlined in a separate situation report issued on 4 July, Tropical Storm Elsa, which risked weakening response capacities on the ground, did not hit Haiti as hard as expected. The storm, temporarily upgraded to a Category 1 hurricane, brought some strong wind and rain gusts to Haiti's southern peninsula. However, no casualties were reported. Three injuries, destruction of agricultural land and roofs of houses, downed trees and power lines were the only damages reported.

OPERATIONAL ENVIRONMENT: CONSEQUENCES AND CHALLENGES

Humanitarian operations have been significantly impacted by the ongoing political and security situation. New escalating conflicts in the metropolitan area of Port-au-Prince have forced more families to flee their homes. For example, the Salvation Army IDP site in Delmas 2 recorded an increase from 500 to 1357 IDPs from 10-11 July alone, following security incidents over the weekend. Latest estimates bring the total number of IDPs in the metropolitan area of Port-au-Prince close to 19,000, of which 15,500 were displaced since the beginning of June. The number of IDPs staying at organised shelters is estimated at 5,300, and 2,500 others in spontaneous sites.

Against a backdrop of growing needs, the operating environment is increasingly becoming challenging. Safety and security of staff remains a key concern, with increasing attacks affecting aid workers, assets and facilities. On 5 July, a nurse aboard a medical ambulance was shot dead in Martissant. This incident follows the targeted attack on Doctors without Borders (MSF) Belgium emergency centre in the same area on 26 June, resulting in a one-week temporary closure of the MSF facility in Martissant which remains closed. Humanitarian partners across the different sectors have reported a slowdown and delay in the implementation of planned activities due to the volatile situation, particularly over the last few weeks. Some operational partners have closed their offices on ground until further notice and are operating remotely. Consequently, effective monitoring of population movements is challenged by limitations of staff presence.

Humanitarian access remains a major challenge, especially in the southern parts of the country and neighbourhoods controlled by gangs in Port-au-Prince. ICRC and the Red Cross movement issued¹ a statement on 9 July calling for the protection of civilians and aid workers across the country.

In the same vein, the Humanitarian Coordinator and the Humanitarian Country Team continue to stress that attacks on aid workers and facilities are an attack on the population. These incidents come at a time when humanitarians are expected to step up their activities due to the impact of COVID-19, increased displacement and other humanitarian needs. Attacks on the population, health care providers and health facilities undermine the ability of humanitarian actors to reach people in need of life-saving assistance.

Port operations have also been impacted, reducing the access and release of incoming relief supplies. The limited access to the seaport terminals of Thor, Varreux and Lafito – located in Port-au-Prince’s metropolitan area – also impedes the distribution of fuel and other commodities at national level.

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE & GAPS

Despite operational challenges, humanitarian partners continue to exercise flexibility to adapt to the quickly evolving situation in order to provide assistance. In this context, full funding of response activities will be vital. As of early July, USD 71 million had been received against the USD 235.6 million required to meet the needs of 1.5 million people in 2021 in the Humanitarian Response Plan. Additional funds and donor flexibility in repurposing funds will be particularly important in the coming months as the situation deteriorates.

Relocations and rehousing

In line with the government’s priorities, the UN and humanitarian partners are working closely with the government-led taskforce to develop a joint relocation strategy for the urgent rehousing of 1,166 Households from three IDP sites (Delmas 103, Saint-Yves Church and Carrefour Sports Centre) within the next three months. Partners are also under pressure from the Director of Delmas 103 school and the priest of Saint-Yves church to identify an alternative site for the IDPs. It is recalled that these sites are not conducive for providing dignity assistance anyway due to their configuration.

The relocation of IDPs from Bel-Air is ongoing, although activities have slowed down due to recent events. For example, verification of potential houses to relocate IDPs has been suspended until 13 July due to insecurity. IOM, in collaboration with its partners, will continue home visits to relocate more families from Bel-Air, raise awareness on relocation to IDPs in Camp LaPiste, St. Yves Church, Delmas 103.

Camp coordination and camp management

Site coordination and management activities have been impacted by the difficulty of monitoring the movement of people and their humanitarian and protection needs. As a result, case management of a suspected case of COVID-19 and a woman with a difficult pregnancy at the Carrefour Sports Centre became more complicated. Despite these difficulties, remote monitoring mechanisms have been established in collaboration with various communal committees (CCPC) involved in the response. IOM has put in place measures to continue to coordinate the registration at IDP sites. Focal points will be present in all sites and support the coordination efforts of the Civil Protection (DGPC) to facilitate the different interventions of partners. The rental market survey in the West Department is still ongoing.

Food Security

The nearly 7,800 people sheltered in organised and spontaneous IDP sites depend on food assistance from partners, such as WFP and the Fund for Economic and Social Assistance (FAES), to receive at least two meals a day. For the facilitation of food distributions in Bas Delmas, a new partnership with a local NGO is currently being discussed. The delivery of food and cash to 17,500 households (approximately 87,500 people) in several departments of the country has been delayed by the interruption of WFP operations between 7 and 12 July.

Logistics

The UN humanitarian air service (UNHAS) helicopter was grounded on 7 and 8 July due to the events in the country and only resumed on 9 July following the reopening of the international airport. Special flights to the South and the North of the country were organised on 9 and 10 July to repatriate humanitarian personnel that were stranded outside of Port-au-Prince. UNHAS continues to support humanitarian partners with air transport to Gressier to supply the Carrefour Sports Centre with the necessary food and NFIs. Last week, some medicines and vaccines were transported on behalf of international NGOs operating in the health sector.

¹ [Haïti: protection de la mission médicale | CICR \(icrc.org\)](https://www.icrc.org/fr/fr/actualites/2021/07/09/ha%CC80iti%CC80protection-de-la-mission-m%CC80dicale)

Protection

Protection partners report a worrying increase in the risk of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), including adolescent prostitution (sex for money) around IDP sites. However, the establishment of mobile clinics, convening of community meetings, and the procurement and distribution of medical inputs have been postponed due to concerns around the growing insecurity.

The identification of people living with disabilities and their needs is ongoing, with a view to provide them with adapted equipment in coordination with the BSEPH and local NGOs. The protection sector has been asked by its partners to advocate with relevant authorities on the need to address concerns raised by persons with disabilities in the Delmas 103 site and prioritize their needs.

Separately, partners continue to operate the 840 information and complaints hotline and are scaling up efforts to assist IDPs in obtaining identity documents.

Health

Health services have equally been impacted by recent events, mainly by the suspension of active COVID-19 search and screening activities at the Carrefour site. Other activities planned for last week have been slowed down, such as the setting up of the isolation area for COVID-19 positive cases at the Sports Centre. Screening of suspected cases, isolation and management of cases with minor symptoms, and the referral of major cases will resume the coming days.

UN agencies are supporting two public hospitals in Carrefour for the continuity of primary health care and have increased the frequency of the Mobile Clinics and psychosocial support services from 2 to 3 days per week. A vaccination awareness campaign is ongoing. Vaccines for scabies, flu symptoms, and tetanus are being administered. HIV testing and prenatal consultations are also being offered. Medical referrals have been organised for pregnant women. Medical supplies are planned to be delivered to the Arcachon 32 hospital and health kits and Personal Protective Equipment (PPEs) to the Petit Goâve hospital Carrefour site.

These planned activities may be compromised in the event of any further road blockages. In addition to the logistical constraints, the insecurity is posing challenges around patient referrals and suspension of hospital activities.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

The provision of WASH services across IDP sites have been constrained by recent events. In Carrefour, the volatile security situation and limited access to the site has led to a deterioration of the sanitation and hygiene conditions. The disruption of the availability of gasoline also delayed the emptying of latrines. In Delmas 103, the provision of safe drinking water and water for domestic use as well as waste collection were disrupted for a few days. The construction of the showers and the installation of seven latrines have been delayed in Saint Yves church. Despite the challenging situation, UNICEF, the National Directorate of Drinking Water and Sanitation (DINEPA) and partner NGOs continued to monitor remotely and stayed in contact with service providers which allowed them to relaunch the provision of the services on July 11.

In the next few days, with the support from UNICEF, Solidarités International will accompany and MSF Holland, with support from UNICEF, will begin the construction of showers and installation of latrines at the Saint Yves church. A latrine dislodging system will be put in place in close collaboration with DINEPA. In addition, hygiene promotion activities will be strengthened in Carrefour to reduce recurrent hygiene and sanitation issues. A hygiene committee will be set up and strengthened in Delmas 103 to ensure regular waste management and cleaning of sanitary facilities.

Education/child protection

The security situation is constraining students from accessing classrooms to prepare for State Exams. In light of the ongoing situation across the country, the Ministry of Education has postponed official examinations throughout the country until 19 July and is administering distance learning support by publishing course materials on several TV stations. Education partners are also carrying out exam preparation activities for students across IDP sites and violence affected areas in Port-au-Prince. With a key objective to prevent massive drop out, actors and donors in the education sector are actively seeking additional funds in order to support the 2021-2022 school year, as it is expected to be extremely difficult for many vulnerable families.

Approximately 500 children (250 girls; 248 boys, including 2 children with mental disabilities) are benefiting from psychosocial activities at Carrefour and Delmas sites. Child protection awareness activities and sensitisation for parents and communities are ongoing in the two sites. The needs of nearly a dozen special cases, including unaccompanied and/or separated children, are being addressed by child protection partners.

Nutrition

Nutrition activities, including screening and management of acute malnutrition continue at the Carrefour Sports Centre. To date, 29 children suffering from acute malnutrition (4 Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) and 25 Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) cases) have been admitted for treatment. Children suffering from complicated SAM, requiring hospitalisation will be referred to and cared for at the Nutritional Stabilisation Unit of the Hospital in Arcachon 32.

Weekly nutritional monitoring is ongoing at the mobile clinic site. On 13-14 July, an active nutrition screening session was conducted for children aged 6 to 59 months at the displaced site in Carrefour. At the Bas-Delmas and Delmas 103 sites, active screening is planned to be carried out with the partner GHESKIO next week.