Impact of the Haiti crisis on mobility
Relocations from the Metropolitan Area of Port-au-Prince.
Part 1 | Focus on the last 3 months: February 2024 to April 2024

Key observations (February 2024 to April 2024)

1. The population of the Metropolitan Area of Port-au-Prince (ZMPP) dropped to under 3 million in April 2024. This is lower than during the 2020 COVID-19 restrictions, when about 50,000 people had left the ZMPP for more rural areas.

2. 17,370 more people moved out of the ZMPP than into from February to April 2024. Main destinations: West department (Kenscoff, Gressier and Léogâne), Les Cayes, Jacmel and Cap Haïtien.

3. Since January 2024, relocations out of the ZMPP have been increasing while relocations into the ZMPP from the rest of the country have been decreasing.

4. Decreases in population within the ZMPP are in 1re Section Turgeau (Port-au-Prince), 10e Section Thor (Carrefour) and 3e Section Bellevue (Tabarre), but we observe increases in 1re Section St Martin (Deimais) and 2e Section Morne l'Hôpital (Port-au-Prince).

Data used: monthly estimates of population per communal section (admin3) and estimates of population relocating between communal sections each month (change in dominant monthly location) - derived from anonymous mobile phone data, weighted using survey data and based on baseline population estimates in Haiti (methods: see the data at https://haits.mobility-dashboard.org)

Disclaimer: The magnitude of most relocations we report are likely underestimate (and e.g. the population of the ZMPP may have decreased by more than 17,370 people since February), we will revise them by September 2024 but relative trends over time will remain unchanged.

The 10 largest net outflows from the Metropolitan Area of Port-au-Prince (ZMPP) from February to April 2024 were to these communal sections

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Commune</th>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Net outflow from ZMPP (estimated number of people)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3e Section Sourailles</td>
<td>Kenscoff</td>
<td>Ouest</td>
<td>960</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1re Section Boudet</td>
<td>Les Cayes</td>
<td>Sud</td>
<td>710</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1re Section Bas Cape Rouge</td>
<td>Jacmel</td>
<td>Sud Est</td>
<td>590</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3e Section Petit Bocan</td>
<td>Gressier</td>
<td>Ouest</td>
<td>570</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3e Section Grande Rivière</td>
<td>Léogâne</td>
<td>Ouest</td>
<td>490</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2e Section Haut du Cap</td>
<td>Cap-Haïtien</td>
<td>Nord</td>
<td>480</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3e Section Petite Rivière</td>
<td>Léogâne</td>
<td>Ouest</td>
<td>440</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11e Section Ravine Sèche</td>
<td>Petit Goave</td>
<td>Ouest</td>
<td>440</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1re Section Desirouciers</td>
<td>Léogâne</td>
<td>Ouest</td>
<td>350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1re Section Montagne Noire</td>
<td>Pétonville</td>
<td>Ouest</td>
<td>320</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

More people moved out of the ZMPP than into, from February to April 2024. The main destinations (net relocation outflows) are West department (Kenscoff, Gressier and Léogâne), Les Cayes, Jacmel and Cap Haïtien.

Net relocation outflows from the ZMPP - outflows from ZMPP minus inflows to ZMPP

-17,370

The map shows that, between February and April 2024, more people moved out of the ZMPP than into. This resulted in a decrease of 17,370 people in the estimated population of the ZMPP (the map shows net outflows (negative net flows) from the ZMPP to each communal section).

Our data show that for each communal section, more people arrived from the ZMPP than moved there (there were no net inflows to the ZMPP from any communal section for this time period).

For most communal sections, the number of people moving in from the ZMPP and moving out of those sections to the ZMPP is similar (the numbers of inflows and outflows to/from the ZMPP are similar), so the netflows from these communal sections to the ZMPP are close to 0 (light blue on the map).

However, we note that for 100+ communal sections, more people moved into these sections from the ZMPP than moved to the ZMPP from these sections (there are net outflows from the ZMPP to the sections displayed in green, brown and purple on the map). The main destinations are to other parts of West (Kenscoff, Léogâne, and Gressier), and to the Greater South (Les Cayes and Jacmel) (see purple areas).

There are other notable net outflows (displayed in green, brown and purple) to other towns (Donaville, St Marc, Jérémie, Hinche, Mirebalais) and also to the border points (Ouanaminthe and BélAir, Anse-a-Petites) to a lesser extent, but not to the Jimani border point.
Impact of the Haiti crisis on mobility
Relocations from the Metropolitan Area of Port-au-Prince.
Part 2 | Overview of the last 4 years: Population changes and mobility since 2020

4+ years trend in urban population due to internal mobility. The ZMPP population has, for the first time, dropped to under 3 million in April 2024 (even lower than during the 2020 COVID-19 restrictions). Population in Les Cayes has increased, and is stable in Cap Haitien.

**ZMPP population:** -0.59% a year

**Les Cayes population:** +1.9% a year

**Cap Haitien population:** +0.03% a year

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**Key observations (2020 to 2024)**

1. The population of the Metropolitan Area of Port-au-Prince (ZMPP) has generally declined since January 2021 (by 71,970 people, 0.59% a year) due to internal mobility.
2. However, we’ve observed frequent back and forth movements between the ZMPP and the rest of the country since 2020 (+/- 1% of population), due to COVID-19 restrictions and then episodes of gang violence.
3. For the first time, in April 2024, the ZMPP population has dropped to under 3 million (2,998,020 people) - this is fewer people than during the 2020 COVID-19 restrictions.

**Disclaimer:** Please see first page: the magnitude of most relocation flows we report here are underestimates (e.g. more than 7,870 people have likely left the ZMPP for other regions within Haiti since 2021). We will revise our estimates, but this will not affect the observation that the ZMPP population is lower in April 2024 than in April 2020 at the time of COVID-19 restrictions, which can serve as a comparison point.

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Since 2021, the ZMPP population has decreased by around 72,000 people due to internal mobility (this is likely an underestimate), in contrast, the population of Les Cayes has increased by nearly 2% a year since 2021, partly due to people moving in from the ZMPP.

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Part 3 | About this work: Background & considerations

About this work
Flowminder’s ‘Population Mobility Data for Disaster Management’ project aims to improve the availability and use of mobile operator data (Call Detail Records, CDR data) to derive population-scaled estimates on population mobility, density and/or displacement data among humanitarian actors, with a particular focus on Haiti. Through this project, Flowminder will enable access to, and use of reliable and user-friendly information by humanitarian organisations for disaster preparedness and response. While strengthening its CDR processing and analysis software, Flowkit, to better support humanitarian sector data needs.

Authors & funders
This report was authored by the Flowminder Foundation.

This work is made possible by the generous support of the American People through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The contents are the responsibility of the Flowminder Foundation and do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States Government. This project is led by the Flowminder Foundation.

Acknowledgements
This study was made possible thanks to the anonymised (aggregated) mobile phone usage data provided by Digicel Haiti.

Data privacy & governance
No personal data, such as an individual’s identity, demographics, location, contacts or movements, is made available to the government or any other third party at any time. All results produced by Flowminder are aggregated results (for example, subscriber density in a given municipality), which means that they do not contain any information about individual subscribers.

This data is fully anonymised. This approach complies with the European Union’s General Data Protection Regulation (EU GDPR2016/679). Data is processed on a server installed behind the mobile network operator’s firewall in Haiti, and no personal data leaves the operator’s premises.

Data considerations
The estimates shown are our best current assessment of movements. However, there are a number of uncertainties. The information should be interpreted together with other available evidence.

For more information about our methods, please read our Haiti Mobility Data indicators documentation on residents and relocation here.

Data sources
- Pseudonymised mobile phone usage data from Digicel Haiti
- Data products: Flowminder

Previous report(s)
Our most recent previous report on displacements in Haiti was published on 14 March 2024: Gang violence in downtown Port-au-Prince | Mobility situation report: Haiti (29 February - 12 March 2024)

The following citation is required when using the data and information included in this report:
Flowminder Foundation, May 2024. Impact of the Haiti crisis on mobility: Relocations from the Metropolitan Area of Port-au-Prince (01 January 2020 - 30 April 2024)