

**June 2023 Unicef reported escalating violence and criminal acts in the capital city of Haiti have caused the displacement of thousands of people.**

About 650,000 people are currently affected by displacement in Haiti, with 500,000 in the metropolitan area of Port-au-Prince. A survey conducted by UNICEF in May reveals that one in five young people in Haiti believes that violence prevents children from going to school, and nearly one in two reports that fear is the main effect of violence on children.

**August 2023 CNN reports Gang violence is tearing Haiti apart.** More than 1,000 people were taken hostage for ransom in the first six months of the year, according to United Nations figures. Conflict in the capital has meanwhile choked the rest of the nation's supply lines, causing the price of food and energy to spike in other parts of the country.

**PORT-AU-PRINCE, Sept 27 (Reuters)** - More than 10,000 people have fled their homes in parts of Haiti's central department, the United Nations' migration agency said on Wednesday, after a series of gang attacks in recent days including in a hospital north of the capital. Under-resourced police have struggled with heavily armed gangs who gained territory and massively expanded their influence over the past year, forming powerful alliances notably in the capital Port-au-Prince.

**Sept. 2023 AFP News Reports Violence, Rape, Impunity Grow Worse In Haiti, UN Chief Warns** - Gang-plagued Haiti is sinking further into bloodshed and lawlessness, the United Nations chief warned in a report Wednesday, urging the international community to provide security and financial aid to the troubled Caribbean nation.

Brutal gangs are tightening their grip on Haiti, with snipers shooting indiscriminately from rooftops and people burned alive, which prompts vigilante groups to respond with more violence.

"Gang-related violence has continued to increase in intensity and brutality, with gangs expanding their control within and beyond Port-au-Prince," UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said in a report published Wednesday.

"Sexual violence, including collective rape, continue to be used by gangs to terrorize populations under the control of rival gangs," he added.

The report comes as members of the UN Security Council debate the mandate of an international security mission, requested by Haitian authorities, to support the underfunded and understaffed police force, which will be led by Kenya.

Nearly 2,800 murders were recorded between October 2022 and June 2023, including nearly 80 targeting minors, according to the report.

Kidnappings for ransom are also on the rise, with nearly 1,500 people abducted over the past year, including 55 minors, the report said, adding that the true number could be even higher as families don't always report such crimes to the authorities, preferring to negotiate directly with kidnappers.

**PBS Reports on Sept 15 023 -Dominican Republic closes all borders with Haiti in escalation of diplomatic crisis.....**The Dominican Republic shut all land, air and sea borders with Haiti on Friday over a dispute about construction of a canal on Haitian soil, as armed Dominican soldiers patrolled entry points and military planes roared overhead...The closure is a deep economic hit for both countries that share the island of Hispaniola, although Haiti is expected to feel it more acutely.....“It’s really a very drastic measure that doesn’t make sense economically for either the Dominican Republic or Haiti,” said Diego Da Rin with the International Crisis Group. “This will clearly have very bad consequences economically in the Dominican Republic, and it will very likely worsen the humanitarian situation mostly in the areas close to the border.”