



**DTM** HURRICANE  
DORIAN,  
THE BAHAMAS



SEPTEMBER 2019



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## **INTRODUCTION, OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY**

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) presents a brief report on the current situation of Government-approved collective sites in New Providence in order to support all humanitarian actors and stakeholders involved in the Dorian Hurricane Emergency Response. The information contained in this report was collected with the generous support Hands for Hunger Bahamas during the period 13-15 September and an additional field visit to the Sir Kendall Issacs Gym collective center on 18 September. IOM plans to cover all active collective centers in the next round and involve relevant sectors to provide comprehensive needed information.

### **GENERAL OBJECTIVE:**

Provide information on the main needs of Government-approved collective centers in New Providence to support humanitarian action.

### **SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES:**

- Identify primary needs at collective shelters.
- Inform all actors to streamline data collection and information sharing.
- Determine information priorities for next rounds.

### **METHODOLOGY:**

- A. Key informant (managers and social workers) interviews at collective centers using an individual Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) Site Assessment questionnaire for each site.
- B. Observation during field visits
- C. Secondary information from NEMA, PDC and UN System reports.

# GENERAL INFORMATION

(UPDATE: 17 SEPT)

**1,985**  
PERSONS

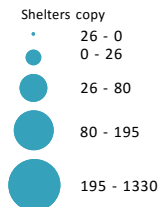
IN



COLLECTIVE  
SITES

WITH

**2,190**  
CAPACITY



Name	Estimated Population	Reported Capacity
1. Sir Kendal Issacs Gym	1,330	1,150
2. Bahamas Academy Gym	195	400
3. Fox Hill Community Center	137	205
4. Calvary Haitian Baptist Church	80	95
5. Pilgrim Baptist Church	64	100
6. All Saints Anglican Auditorium	63	200
7. Salvation Army Mackey	26	40
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,895</b>	<b>2,190</b>

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 **MOBILITY**

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ALL collective sites reported having a management committee. However, only 2 included community representatives.

ALL collective sites do registration (excel spreadsheet), but not all can provide age/ gender disaggregation. The largest center hosted 199 boys and 189 girls.

- First collective site opened on 5 September. The most recent was reportedly opened on 12 September. Evacuees were still arriving in the shelters at the time of the survey.
- In at least 6 shelters most of the population originally came from Abaco. The largest group of evacuees was composed of persons of Haitian descent.
- Social workers are present at all sites.
- 4 collective sites have a service provider contact list.

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 **PERSONS WITH SPECIAL VULNERABILITIES**

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While information is not available for all sites, the data collection allowed to identify the following individuals with specific conditions of vulnerability:

- 4 pregnant women (18 and over)
- 3 breastfeeding mothers
- 2 men with physical disabilities
- 2 people with specific communication challenges (albeit interpretation/translation are a widespread need (being addressed by a limited number of volunteer interpreters and more often by bilingual staff/evacuees)
- 9 elderly persons, 2 of which unaccompanied
- 1 person with chronic diseases or serious medical conditions
- 3 people having difficulties walking

Most commonly reported vulnerable individuals were elderly people. More specific info can be included in future rounds of DTM.

In 5 shelters, people indicated damages to houses as the main cause preventing them from going back home. In one additional shelter the indicated cause was damages to and flooding of basic infrastructure.

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 **SHELTER AND NON-FOOD ITEMS (NFI)**

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20% of the population at Sir Kendall Issacs Gym collective site were accommodated in tents outside the main structure.

Site reported sending newcomers to other shelters.

Main NFI needs:

- Hygiene kits
- Soap
- Solar lamps
- Towels
- Skincare

- Dishes and laundry
- Blankets (Sir Kendall Issacs Gym)
- Kitchen sets (particularly for Fox Hill)
- Clothing for young males/teen boys (particularly for Calvary Haitian Baptist Church)

Most collective sites are supported by Government, NGOs and faith-based organization. Some support is coming from individuals for at least one shelter.



## WATER SANITATION AND HYGIENE (WASH)

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### **ALL collective sites have access to drinking water.**

2 sites report bottled water the main source for evacuees. Particularly, Sir Kendall Issacs Gym.

Most reported need: Portable washing facilities (for laundry and dishes) and toilets (Salvation Army Mackey and Sir Kendall Issacs Gym).



## FOOD AND NUTRITION

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ALL shelters reported having daily access to on-site food and access to local markets. Fox Hill Community Center, however, relies mostly on host community donations for obtaining food and highlighted needing of dry foods and pantry items.



## HEALTH

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- None of the sites reported specific serious medical conditions.
- All evacuees have easy access to medicines and healthcare through on-site visits or mobile clinics.
- Fox Hill Community Center reported relying on volunteer nurses for healthcare provision. One of the shelters (Pilgrim Baptist) reported some stress-related episodes (hyperventilation).



## EDUCATION

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- Shelter managers at Bahamas Academy Gym, Calvary Haitian Baptist Church and Pilgrim Baptist reported lack of education services, despite having nearby schools.
- Enrollment registration activities were being carried out at Sir Kendall Issacs Gym during the 18 September visit.



## LIVELIHOOD

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- The most common previous occupation reported for females at collective sites was housekeeping. Whereas for males was gardeners, carpenters, security.
- 2 sites (Sir Kendall Issacs Gym and Fox Hill) reported access to income-generating activities. Mostly proposed by private individuals or companies.



## PROTECTION OF CHILDREN, WOMEN AND OTHER VULNERABLE PERSONS

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- ALL collective sites have security personnel from the military and/or local police. No specific security incidents are being reported, albeit some evacuees have expressed concerns over theft.
- Sir Kendall Issacs Gym, hosting almost 400 children, has a designated safe space for children activities. The Salvation Army has a dedicated space within the facility, while Pilgrim Baptist has an outdoor recreational space.
- 5 collective sites reported having adequate lighting. Additional support is recommended for the Bahamas Academy Gym.



## COMMUNICATIONS

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SMS messages, telephone and internet were reported as the preferred communication channel used by evacuees. Even though Sir Kendall Issacs Gym had available Wi-Fi connection, a test by the assessment team on 18 September showed no internet access.

