



Four months since the start of "Bwa Kale" (April 24, 2023) disaggregated statistics on homicides by category in Haiti

I. Summary

1. Since the emergence of the "Bwa Kale" phenomenon on April 24, 2023, as a response to the population grappling with extreme gang violence (killings, kidnappings, rapes, looting, property fires...), the Center for Analysis and Research in Human Rights (CARDH) regularly publishes statistics followed by analyses to better understand and address this phenomenon.

2. In this publication, CARDH also discloses statistics from January to date on homicides by category (peaceful citizens/police officers/suspected criminals...) as well as their causes (gang violence, police operations, family conflicts, relationship issues...), totaling 1287:

- "Bwa kale": 270, or 20.97%;
- Early signs of "Bwa Kale": 53, or 4.11%;
- Summary executions (Government Commissioner Jean H. Muscadin): 10, or 0.77%;
- Presumed bandits halted by the police: 71, or 5.51%;
- Citizens murdered by gangs: 747, or 58.04%;
- Others: 104, or 8.08%;
- Murdered and missing police officers: 32, or 2.48%.

3. These data, not exhaustive, can be updated in CARDH's annual report (State of Human Rights in Haiti)¹. This categorization aligns with the logic of the report, aiming to promote a better understanding of homicides and violent deaths in Haiti.

¹ www.cardh.org



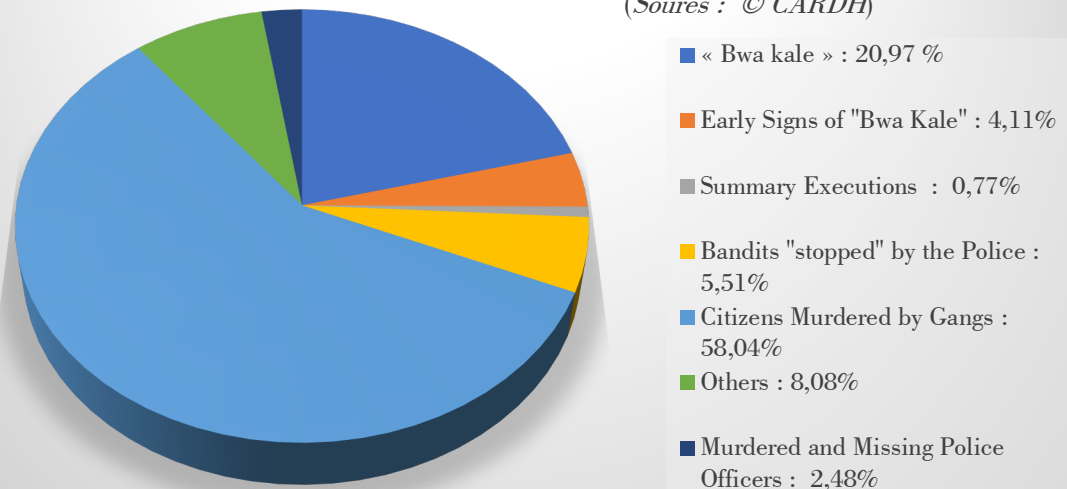
II. Table and Graph

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Summary table of homicides in Haiti by category and their causes from Jan. 1 to Aug. 24, 2023 (Sources: © CARDH)		
I. « Bwa Kale »		
Total	270	
II. Early Signs of "Bwa Kale"		
Total	53	
III. Summary Executions by Government Commissioner of Miragoâne, Jean Ernest Muscadin		
Total	10	
IV. Presumed Bandits "stopped" by the Police		
Total	71	
V. Citizens Murdered by Gangs		
Total	747	
VI. Others		
Total	104	
VII. Murdered and Missing Police Officers		
	Murdered	Missing
	18	14
Total	32	
Total		1287

Homicides in Haiti by category from Jan. 1 to Aug. 24, 2023

(Sources : © CARDH)





III. "Bwa Kale"

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4. The popular reaction "Bwa Kale" emerged on the morning of April 24, 2023, following the lynching of 14 suspected members of the Laboule gang (led by the late Carlo Petit-Homme, alias "Ti Makak") in front of the Canapé-Vert sub-police station, and it spread automatically to other neighborhoods, including Debussy, Pacot, and Turgeau, amidst attacks by the Gran Ravin gang and its allies. It later spread to seven departments: Artibonite; Grand'Anse; Centre; South; Southeast; North; Northeast.

5. This movement drastically impacted the "kidnapping market" (decline for the second quarter of 2023), as well as other gang modus operandi (killings, kidnappings, rapes, looting, property fires...), and subsequently weakened, resulting in the resurgence of gang violence (cause-and-effect relationship).

6. Two reports were published on May 24 and June 24, 2023, by CARDH, presenting statistics followed by analyses of "Bwa Kale" to better understand it and limit its potential excesses. The second quarter bulletin from the Crime Observation Unit (COC) on kidnapping takes it into account as a main factor explaining the decline.

7. From April 24 to August 24, 2023, 270 presumed gang members were executed in eight departments of the country: 204 in the West; 38 in Artibonite; 17 in Grand'Anse; five (5) in the Centre; one (1) in the South; two (2) in Southeast; one (1) in the North; two (2) in Northeast.

IV. Early Signs of "Bwa Kale"

8. Before the official advent of "Bwa Kale" on April 24, 2023, citizens in certain neighborhoods had attempted to establish this practice to counter gang violence (see the 1st CARDH report on "Bwa Kale," May 24, 2023). From January to April 23, 2023, 53 cases were recorded: five (5) in Roseaux (Grand'Anse commune), on March 9, 2023; three (3) in Moulin Sable (Pétion-Ville), on March 19, 2023; at least 20 in Haut Bel-Air, Delmas 24, and Solino, between February 28 and March 1, 2023; at least 15 in Kokoye (a locality between Gantier and Thomazeau), between January and March 2023; at least 10 in Source-Matelas (Cabaret), between January and March 2023.



V. Summary Executions by Government Commissioner Jean Ernest Muscadin

9. Government Commissioner of Miragôane, Jean Ersnt Muscadin, publicly engages in summary executions as part of his fight against banditry in that commune. Any presumed bandit or suspected individual intercepted is executed by the commissioner. His slogan is: "depatman Nip la se simetyè pou bandi" (the department of Nippes is the cemetery of bandits). From January to date, at least 10 presumed bandits have been executed.

VI. Presumed Bandits "Halted" by the Police

10. Many presumed gang members have been "halted" by the national police during its operations or in other circumstances: exchanges of fire, foiled kidnapping attempts, collaboration in the "Bwa Kale" movement... From January to date, CARDH has recorded 71 cases. These figures are not exhaustive, as not all police operations are known.

VII. Individuals Murdered by Gangs

11. From January to date, the Center for Analysis and Research in Human Rights (CARDH) has documented 747 individuals murdered by gangs. This indicates an increase compared to the previous year.

VIII. Others

12. The category "others" concerns cases recorded that are not related to gang violence. They are relationship issues, family disputes, unknown causes... In this category, 104 cases have been recorded.

IX. Murdered and Missing Police Officers

13. From January to date, the Center for Analysis and Research in Human Rights (CARDH) has documented 18 murdered police officers (two lynched) and 14 missing, totaling 32.

Port-au-Prince, August 24, 2023