

The Statistics

Getting to know this little Caribbean nation is important for us. It aids us in understanding how to help without indifference to their culture and customs. Please note if you research statistics for any country there will be slight discrepancies from one service, but they range fairly close for the most part.

Statistics provided here are taken mainly from the CIA World Factbook. Developing countries with such extreme poverty as Haiti often have great difficulty obtaining proper statistical information. But we believe the numbers give us a good indication of the overall condition of the country. Please note also as alarming as these statistics are, the numbers are averages; the rural numbers are MUCH worse than urban ones.

Did you know Haiti is the only country in the world that successfully led a slave rebellion and won their own countries freedom? It is a fact. The mighty French armies of Napoleon were defeated and driven out of the country in 1804. Since then, one troubled leader after another has led Haiti. The nation, once rich in resources and exports such as sugar, coffee and fruit has been in extreme poverty for the past 3 decades.

[Photos of life in Haiti](#)

- Haiti is slightly smaller than Maryland
- There are almost 10 million people in Haiti (half of which are under age 18)
- According to World Bank (11/2012) per capita, Haiti is the poorest country in the world
- Life expectancy 62 years
- 120,000 people have HIV/Aids

- On average 52 children of 1000 die before their first birthday
- Due to lack of potable water and improper sanitation, Haiti has a HIGH risk of infectious disease such as cholera, bacterial infections as well as waterborne and airborne diseases.
- Half of children under 5 are malnourished.
- Over 7% of children die at birth
- For every 100,000 births, 523 women died in Haiti, compared to eight maternal deaths for every 100,000 births in Europe.
- 80 out of 1,000 Haitian children never see their first birthday
- Per capita income per year is \$700 (50% live on <\$1 per day, 80% live on <\$2 per day)
- Poverty has forced at least 225,000 Haitian children to work as *restaveks* (modern day slaves)
- Only 20% of Haitians have above a 6th grade education
- The literacy rate is 52%
- One third of girls NEVER go to school.
- Haiti currently ranks 177 of 186 countries in educational spending