

Facts About Haiti



Demographics

- Haiti is the poorest and least developed country in the Western Hemisphere, with 80% of the population living under the poverty line and 54% in abject poverty. Two-thirds of all Haitians depend on the agricultural sector, mainly small-scale subsistence farming, and remain vulnerable to damage from frequent natural disasters, exacerbated by the country's widespread deforestation.
- Population – 8,924,553.
- Capital City – Port Au Prince.
- French & Creole are the official languages.
- There are no free public schools in Haiti.
- The unemployment rate is over 80%.
- More than half of Haitians live on less than a dollar a day.
- There are few paved roads, an inadequate supply of potable water, electricity reaches less than 5% of the land area, and depleted forests (97%.)
- Less than 20% of Haitians age 15 and over can read and write.
- Fewer than 75% of children attend school.
- 40% of the Haitian population does not have access to primary health care.
- The United Nations estimates 6% of Haitians are infected with HIV/AIDS. The highest rate in the Western Hemisphere. An estimated 30,000 people die of AIDS every year.
- One in twenty Haitians is infected with HIV/AIDS and there are over 150,000 AIDS orphans.
- The Haitians are a proud, beautiful, creative and colorful people gifted in art and music, filled with courage, faith and personal dignity.