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Chapter 1

103

1.1 103.guide

Texified version of data for Haiti.

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Haiti

1.2 103.guide/Haiti

Haiti

Geography (Haiti)
 People (Haiti)
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 Economy (Haiti)
 Economy (Haiti 2. usage)
 Communications (Haiti)
 Defense Forces (Haiti)

1.3 103.guide/Geography (Haiti)

Geography (Haiti)

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Location:

in the northern Caribbean Sea, about 90 km southeast of Cuba

Map references:

Central America and the Caribbean, Standard Time Zones of the World

Area:

total area:

27,750 km²

land area:

27,560 km²

comparative area:

slightly larger than Maryland

Land boundaries:

total 275 km, Dominican Republic 275 km

Coastline:

1,771 km

Maritime claims:

contiguous zone:

24 nm

continental shelf:

to depth of exploitation

exclusive economic zone:

200 nm

territorial sea: 12 nm

International disputes:

claims US-administered Navassa Island

Climate:

tropical; semiarid where mountains in east cut off trade winds

Terrain:

mostly rough and mountainous

Natural resources:

bauxite

Land use:

arable land:

20%

permanent crops:

13%

meadows and pastures:

18%
 forest and woodland:
 4%
 other:
 45%
 Irrigated land:
 750 km2 (1989 est.)
 Environment:
 lies in the middle of the hurricane belt and subject to severe storms from
 June to October; occasional flooding and earthquakes; deforestation; soil
 erosion
 Note:
 shares island of Hispaniola with Dominican Republic (western one-third is
 Haiti, eastern two-thirds is the Dominican Republic)

1.4 103.guide/People (Haiti)

People (Haiti)

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Population:
 6,384,877 (July 1993 est.)
 Population growth rate:
 1.68% (1993 est.)
 Birth rate:
 40.77 births/1,000 population (1993 est.)
 Death rate:
 18.88 deaths/1,000 population (1993 est.)
 Net migration rate:
 -5.04 migrant(s)/1,000 population (1993 est.)
 Infant mortality rate:
 109.5 deaths/1,000 live births (1993 est.)
 Life expectancy at birth:
 total population:
 45.45 years
 male:
 43.88 years
 female:
 47.11 years (1993 est.)
 Total fertility rate:
 6.05 children born/woman (1993 est.)
 Nationality: noun:
 Haitian(s)
 adjective:
 Haitian
 Ethnic divisions:
 black 95%, mulatto and European 5%
 Religions:
 Roman Catholic 80% (of which an overwhelming majority also practice Voodoo) ↔
 Protestant 16% (Baptist 10%, Pentecostal 4%, Adventist 1%, other 1%), none
 1%, other 3% (1982)
 Languages:

French (official) 10%, Creole
 Literacy:
 age 15 and over can read and write (1990)
 total population:
 53%
 male:
 59%
 female:
 47%
 Labor force:
 2.3 million
 by occupation:
 agriculture 66%, services 25%, industry 9%
 note:
 shortage of skilled labor, unskilled labor abundant (1982)

1.5 103.guide/Government (Haiti)

Government (Haiti)

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Names:

conventional long form:

Republic of Haiti

conventional short form:

Haiti

local long form:

Republique d'Haiti

local short form:

Haiti

Digraph:

HA

Type:

republic

Capital:

Port-au-Prince

Administrative divisions:

9 departments, (departements, singular - departement); Artibonite, Centre, Grand'Anse, Nord, Nord-Est, Nord-Ouest, Ouest, Sud, Sud-Est

Independence:

1 January 1804 (from France)

Constitution:

27 August 1983, suspended February 1986; draft constitution approved March 1987, suspended June 1988, most articles reinstated March 1989; October 1991, government claims to be observing the Constitution

Legal system: based on Roman civil law system; accepts compulsory ICJ ↔ jurisdiction

National holiday:

Independence Day, 1 January (1804)

Political parties and leaders:

National Front for Change and Democracy (FNCD), including National Congress of Democratic Movements (CONACOM), Victor BENOIT, and National Cooperative

Action Movement (MKN), Volvick Remy JOSEPH; Movement for the Installation of
 of
 Democracy in Haiti (MIDH), Marc BAZIN; National Progressive Revolutionary
 Party (PANPRA), Serge GILLES; National Patriotic Movement of November 28
 (MNP-28), Dejean BELIZAIRE; National Agricultural and Industrial Party
 (PAIN), Louis DEJOIE; Movement for National Reconstruction (MRN), Rene
 THEODORE; Haitian Christian Democratic Party (PDCH), Joseph DOUZE; Assembly
 of Progressive National Democrats (RDNP), Leslie MANIGAT; National Party of
 Labor (PNT), Thomas DESULME; Mobilization for National Development (MDN),
 Hubert DE RONCERAY; Democratic Movement for the Liberation of Haiti
 (MODELH), Francois LATORTUE; Haitian Social Christian Party (PSCH), ←
 Gregoire
 EUGENE; Movement for the Organization of the Country (MOP), Gesner COMEAU
 and Jean MOLIERE

Other political or pressure groups:
 Democratic Unity Confederation (KID); Roman Catholic Church; Confederation
 of Haitian Workers (CTH); Federation of Workers Trade Unions (FOS);
 Autonomous Haitian Workers (CATH); National Popular Assembly (APN)

Suffrage:
 18 years of age; universal

Elections:
 Chamber of Deputies:
 last held 16 December 1990, with runoff held 20 January 1991 (next to be
 held by December 1994); results - percent of vote NA; seats - (83 total)
 FNCD 27, ANDP 17, PDCH 7, PAIN 6, RDNP 6, MDN 5, PNT 3, MKN 2, MODELH 2, ←
 MRN
 1, independents 5, other 2

President:
 last held 16 December 1990 (next election to be held by December 1995);
 results - Rev. Jean-Bertrand ARISTIDE 67.5%, Marc BAZIN 14.2%, Louis DEJOIE
 4.9%

1.6 103.guide/Government (Haiti 2. usage)

Government (Haiti 2. usage)

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Senate:
 last held 18 January 1993, widely condemned as illegitimate (next to be ←
 held
 December 1994); results - percent of vote NA; seats - (27 total) FNCD 12,
 ANDP 8, PAIN 2, MRN 1, RDNP 1, PNT 1, independent 2

Executive branch:
 president, Council of Ministers (cabinet)

Legislative branch:
 bicameral National Assembly (Assemblée Nationale) consisting of an upper
 house or Senate and a lower house or Chamber of Deputies

Judicial branch:
 Court of Appeal (Cour de Cassation)

Leaders:
 Chief of State:
 President Jean-Bertrand ARISTIDE (since 7 February 1991), ousted in a coup
 in September 1991, but still recognized by international community as Chief

of State
 Head of Government: de facto Prime Minister Marc BAZIN (since NA June ←
 1992)
 Member of:
 ACCT, ACP, CARICOM (observer), CCC, ECLAC, FAO, G-77, GATT, IADB, IAEA,
 IBRD, ICAO, IDA, IFAD, IFC, ILO, IMF, IMO, INTELSAT, INTERPOL, IOC, ITU,
 LAES, LORCS, OAS, OPANAL, PCA, UN, UNCTAD, UNESCO, UNIDO, UPU, WCL, WFTU,
 WHO, WIPO, WMO, WTO
 Diplomatic representation in US:
 chief of mission:
 Ambassador Jean CASIMIR
 chancery:
 2311 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20008
 telephone:
 (202) 332-4090 through 4092
 consulates general:
 Boston, Chicago, Miami, New York, and San Juan (Puerto Rico)
 US diplomatic representation:
 chief of mission:
 Special Charge d'Affaires Charles REDMAN
 embassy:
 Harry Truman Boulevard, Port-au-Prince
 mailing address:
 P. O. Box 1761, Port-au-Prince
 telephone:
 [509] 22-0354, 22-0368, 22-0200, or 22-0612
 FAX:
 [509] 23-9007
 Flag:
 two equal horizontal bands of blue (top) and red with a centered white
 rectangle bearing the coat of arms, which contains a palm tree flanked by
 flags and two cannons above a scroll bearing the motto L'UNION FAIT LA ←
 FORCE
 (Union Makes Strength)

1.7 103.guide/Economy (Haiti)

Economy (Haiti)

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Overview:

About 75% of the population live in abject poverty. Agriculture is mainly
 small-scale subsistence farming and employs nearly three-fourths of the ←
 work

force. The majority of the population does not have ready access to safe
 drinking water, adequate medical care, or sufficient food. Few social
 assistance programs exist, and the lack of employment opportunities remains
 one of the most critical problems facing the economy, along with soil
 erosion and political instability. Trade sanctions applied by the
 Organization of American States in response to the September 1991 coup
 against President ARISTIDE have further damaged the economy.

National product:

GDP - exchange rate conversion - \$2.2 billion (1991 est.)

National product real growth rate:
 -4% (FY91 est.)

National product per capita:
 \$340 (1991 est.)

Inflation rate (consumer prices):
 20% (FY91 est.)

Unemployment rate:
 25-50% (1991)

Budget:
 revenues \$300 million; expenditures \$416 million, including capital expenditures of \$145 million (1990 est.)

Exports:
 \$146 million (f.o.b., 1991 est.)
 commodities:
 light manufactures 65%, coffee 19%, other agriculture 8%, other 8%
 partners:
 US 84%, Italy 4%, France 3%, other industrial countries 6%, less developed countries 3% (1987)

Imports:
 \$252 million (f.o.b., 1991 est.)
 commodities:
 machines and manufactures 34%, food and beverages 22%, petroleum products 14%, chemicals 10%, fats and oils 9%
 partners:
 US 64%, Netherlands Antilles 5%, Japan 5%, France 4%, Canada 3%, Germany 3% (1987)

External debt:
 \$838 million (December 1990)

Industrial production:
 growth rate -2.0% (1991 est.); accounts for 15% of GDP

Electricity:
 217,000 kW capacity; 480 million kWh produced, 75 kWh per capita (1992)

Industries:
 sugar refining, textiles, flour milling, cement manufacturing, tourism, light assembly industries based on imported parts

Agriculture:
 accounts for 28% of GDP and employs around 70% of work force; mostly small-scale subsistence farms; commercial crops - coffee, mangoes, sugarcane, wood; staple crops - rice, corn, sorghum; shortage of wheat ← flour

Illicit drugs:
 transshipment point for cocaine

Economic aid:
 US commitments, including Ex-Im (1970-89), \$700 million; Western (non-US) countries, ODA and OOF bilateral commitments (1970-89), \$770 million

Currency:
 1 gourde (G) = 100 centimes

1.8 103.guide/Economy (Haiti 2. usage)

Economy (Haiti 2. usage)

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Exchange rates:

gourdes (G) per US\$1 - 8.4 (December 1991), fixed rate of 5.000 through second quarter of 1991)

Fiscal year:

1 October - 30 September

1.9 103.guide/Communications (Haiti)

Communications (Haiti)

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Railroads:

40 km 0.760-meter narrow gauge, single-track, privately owned industrial line

Highways:

4,000 km total; 950 km paved, 900 km otherwise improved, 2,150 km ← unimproved

Inland waterways:

negligible; less than 100 km navigable

Ports:

Port-au-Prince, Cap-Haitien

Airports:

total:

13

usable:

10

with permanent-surface runways:

3

with runways over 3,659 m:

0

with runways 2,440-3,659 m:

1

with runways 1,220-2,439 m:

3

Telecommunications:

domestic facilities barely adequate, international facilities slightly better; 36,000 telephones; broadcast stations - 33 AM, no FM, 4 TV, 2 shortwave; 1 Atlantic Ocean INTELSAT earth station

1.10 103.guide/Defense Forces (Haiti)

Defense Forces (Haiti)

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Branches:

Army (including Police), Navy, Air Force

Manpower availability:

males age 15-49 1,289,310; fit for military service 695,997; reach military

age (18) annually 60,588 (1993 est.)
Defense expenditures:
exchange rate conversion - \$34 million, 1.5% of GDP (1988 est.)