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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  
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Geography (Haiti)  
People (Haiti)  
Government (Haiti)  
Government (Haiti 2. usage)  
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 km<sup>2</sup>  
land area:  
27,560 km<sup>2</sup>  
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:

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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  
 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.)