



Haiti



Introduction to HAITI

THE REPUBLIC OF HAITI is a former French colony located on the western third of Hispaniola in the Caribbean. The poorest country in the western hemisphere, Haiti is also home to the only successful colonial slave revolution, which declared independence in 1804; its African heritage informs Haiti's modern culture. A devastating earthquake in the nation's capital in 2010 compounded the nation's problems, and caused shortages of food, shelter and work.

The HAITIAN people

Total population:	9,035,536
Children under 15:	3,440,300
Average Life Expectancy:	60.78 years
Per capita annual income:	\$1,300
% children in primary school:	N/A*
Average years of education:	N/A*
Literacy rate:	52.9%
Internet users:	1 million
Cell phones in use:	3.2 million
Major/official language(s):	French, Creole

Risk issues impacting children:

- Highest infant mortality rates in the western hemisphere.
- Social violence has left the country with little infrastructure and social services. Over half the population lacks any access to health care, and there are very high rates of HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and other terminal illnesses.
- Less than half of all children are in school, with only 2% finishing secondary school.

More about HAITI

Capital city:	Port-au-Prince
Type of government:	Republic
Square kilometers:	27,750
General terrain:	Mostly rough and mountainous
Major industries/jobs:	Sugar refining, flour milling, textiles, cement, light assembly based on imported parts
National motto:	"Unity makes strength"
Major airport(s):	Aéroport International Toussaint Louverture in Port-au-Prince

Reaching HAITI

Currently classified as World C: Christian

Major religions:

- Christian - 96%
- Other - 3%
- None - 1%

Christian groups:

- Roman Catholic - 74.3%
- Protestant - 20.5%
- Independent - 4%
- Anglican - 1.3%

Unreached People Groups:	1 (negligible% of pop)
Average annual Christian growth:	0.0183
Average annual baptisms:	210,851
Foreign missionaries:	1,600
Per million:	172.11
National Christian workers/pastors:	3,100
Per million:	333.47
Number of churches/congregations:	8,545

Children's ministry in HAITI

Overview: • Haiti is a predominantly Christian nation, mostly of Roman Catholic background, though a strong voodoo influence is also mixed into many people's daily religious practices.

- Due to the recent earthquake, Haiti has seen a surge in Christian relief efforts, especially in meeting the social needs of children and orphans. These include a number of excellent children's ministry organizations.
- However, one of the main challenges continues to be the church's lack of resources and training opportunities.
- There are a number denominations and churches that have recognized the importance and value of including children in ministry

Focus for Prayer

Training children's leaders for outreach in
8,545 congregations

Strategies for reaching and discipling
3,440,300 children for Christ