
Haiti

**Total area:**

27,750 km²

Population:

10,604,000 (2015)

Literacy:

48%

Official languages:

Haitian Creole, French

GDP (PPP) per capita:

\$1,819 (2017 est.)

Life expectancy:

62 years

Religions:

80% Catholic, 16% Protestant, 4% other religions

Prayer points

Political instability in Haiti affecting vulnerable children

Please pray for political stability in Haiti. Recent protests and strikes have meant that Haiti Christian Schools have struggled to source food and supplies, and when they have, prices have been inflated. Currently, they feed 130 children each day, so this is a huge concern for them. (WorldShare - October 2019)

Natural disasters and the stress to children

Haiti is the poorest country in the Western hemisphere and has still not recovered from the devastating earthquake back in 2010. More recently, Hurricane Matthew struck which directly affected more than 2 million Haitians, including 55,000 who were previously living in tents and had to find shelter during the hurricane. Many children are struggling with stress caused by the natural disasters and also violence, hunger, and illness. Please pray for the Haitian Bible Society as they provide New Testaments to these children. Pray that the children will know God's peace and love in their lives. (Scottish Bible Society - June 2019)

Haiti Christian Schools

In the poorest country in the Western hemisphere, Haiti Christian Schools are meeting the significant need for education in the area. In the aftermath of the 2010 earthquake, three Christian schools on the island of La Gonâve banded together to ensure a brighter future for children in the area. The schools aim to increase the children's literacy, maths and problem-solving skills and help to build a future of healthy and productive residents. Pray for the schools as they work to provide quality education, spiritual development and vocational training for both children and teachers. (WorldShare - July 2018)

Heartening After Hurricane Matthew

Haiti is once again experiencing one of its darkest moments, after the devastating Hurricane Matthew. Thousands of victims living in hard-to-reach areas are still waiting for the arrival of any humanitarian aid, particularly food, drinking water and housing. A member of the Christian radio station there, Radio Lumière, commented, "five of our installations were severely damaged or destroyed, as were the houses and possessions of our 24 employees in these areas. And of course after this kind of a catastrophic event there's stress, trauma, and often even emotional damage and scars." Please stop and pray for these people who have lost so much but who continue to sing, 'Our God still reigns!' (Reach Beyond - February 2017)

Hurricane Matthew

Hurricane Matthew is the worst hurricane to hit Haiti since 1954 and has caused catastrophic damage including widespread flooding, debris and landslides. Cases of cholera have already been reported, along with enormous water infrastructure damage. Haiti remains highly vulnerable after the 2010 earthquake and is one of the poorest nations in the world. Tragically, at least 1000 lives have been lost and, according to the latest government figures 1.4 million people are in need of humanitarian aid. At least 61,537 have been evacuated or displaced and are housed in temporary shelters. Please pray for those suffering and the work of relief agencies in the area. (Tearfund - November 2016)

Christian voice on radio

Christian station Radio Lumière recently celebrated its 56th anniversary with a number of special events, where many listeners spoke and gave testimony to their love and attachment to the station. One listener wrote: "I am a young Haitian girl. I currently live in Brazil where life is very difficult for us. A number of my girlfriends have fallen into prostitution in order to live. I thank the name of my God who gave me a special gift in Radio Lumière. It is my companion... and helps me stay faithful to biblical principles in spite of the difficult circumstances." Pray for continuing fruit from this powerful gospel voice. (Reach Beyond - May 2015)

Communities continue rebuilding

"We're not poor anymore," said the Haitian man. The missionary engineer was confused. The clean water project in his remote community was still under way. How could this man, living in Haiti, the most impoverished country in the Western Hemisphere, think he was no longer poor? "Because now we have the power to build a water system ourselves," responded the man. The project working alongside the community of La Bruyère in northern Haiti showed that poverty is much more than a lack of physical resources. It is also about people lacking the power to make their own decisions and control their lives. Pray for communities continuing to rebuild their lives after the 2010 earthquake. (Reach Beyond - May 2014)

Stronger than before

Nan Figue was a poor community even before Hurricane Sandy devastated the village in 2012. The storm destroyed much in its path, including the local church building – a crucial source of hope and practical support for many local people. Responding to this disaster, Tearfund partner World Concern provided the community with the financial and technical support it needed to rebuild the church themselves. Now the church is fully equipped to re-start its life-changing work in the community. Plus the new church building is better and stronger than before - built to withstand future storms. Four years on from the 2010 earthquake, please continue pray for the people of Haiti - praise God for the progress that's been made and ask for protection from future disasters. (Tearfund - March 2014)

Starving to death

Having survived the earthquake, cholera and hurricanes, now Haitians are starving to death. At the end of 2012, an estimated 400,000 Haitians were still in deteriorating tents or temporary housing, with no prospect of improvement and minimal chance to feed themselves and their families. Repeated natural disasters have destroyed crops and swept away workplaces. People who were trying

to better themselves have lost hope. Statistics indicate that 50% of Haitian children die before the age of 15 and the same number never have the chance to attend school. Please pray for a renewed effort from the international community to offer help. (WorldShare - May 2013)

A lifeline

For people in Haiti, radio is a lifeline. The Christian radio stations in the country present the gospel message, but they also provide programming about essential healthcare and family life. Funds are currently being raised to send 1,000 radios to Haiti. These durable radios are solar powered, and pre-tuned to the signal of the local Christian radio station. Pray that lives will be changed as these radios bring the light of Christ to communities. (Reach Beyond - March 2011)

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