



Haiti



Background In 1697, Spain ceded to the French the western third of the island of Hispaniola, which later became Haiti. The French colony, based on forestry and sugar-related industries, became one of the wealthiest in the Caribbean. Currently the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere, Haiti continues to experience bouts of political instability.

Capital name: Port-au-Prince

Government type semi-presidential republic

Area total : 27,750 sq km
land: 27,560 sq km
water: 190 sq km

Climate tropical; semiarid where mountains in east cut off trade winds

Natural resources bauxite, copper, calcium carbonate, gold, marble, hydropower, arable land

Population total: 11,753,943 (2024 est.)

Population growth rate 1.23% (2024 est.)

Ethnic groups Black 95%, mixed and White 5%

Religions Catholic 55%, Protestant 29%, Vodou 2.1%, other 4.6%, none 10% (2018 est.)

Languages French (official), Creole (official)

Executive branch chief of state: President (vacant)

head of government: Prime Minister Alix Didier FILS-AIMÉ (since 10 November 2024)

Diplomatic representation in the US chief of mission: Ambassador (vacant); Chargé d'Affaires Louis Harold JOSEPH (since 15 May 2023)

Diplomatic representation from the US chief of mission: Ambassador Dennis HANKINS (since 3 May 2024)

Economic overview small Caribbean island economy and OECS-member state; extreme poverty and inflation; enormous income inequality; ongoing civil unrest due to recent presidential assassination; US preferential market access; very open to foreign direct investment

Real GDP (purchasing power parity) \$34.406 billion (2023 est.)
\$35.059 billion (2022 est.)
\$35.659 billion (2021 est.)

Real GDP per capita \$3,000 (2023 est.)
\$3,000 (2022 est.)
\$3,100 (2021 est.)

Exports	\$1.095 billion (2023 est.) \$1.355 billion (2022 est.) \$1.272 billion (2021 est.)
Exports - partners	USA 82%, Canada 4%, Mexico 2%, France 2%, India 2% (2023)
Exports - commodities	garments, essential oils, scrap iron, industrial acids/oils/alcohols, bedding (2023)
Imports	\$5.303 billion (2023 est.) \$5.451 billion (2022 est.) \$5.048 billion (2021 est.)
Imports - partners	USA 31%, Dominican Republic 23%, China 14%, Indonesia 4%, India 3% (2023)
Imports - commodities	refined petroleum, rice, garments, cotton fabric, plastic products (2023)

Population Pyramid

