

HAITI



Key Figures



4.6 million

in need of humanitarian assistance



3.7 million

need urgent food assistance



Over 59%

of Haiti lives below the poverty threshold of less than \$2.41 a day



Over 100%

of GDP losses and damages in the immediate aftermath of the 2010 earthquake



32%

of GDP losses and damages from Hurricane Matthew in 2016

Struggling to recover from the natural disasters of the past decade, Haiti faces a dire situation as political unrest and shortages in fuel, food, water, and medical supplies threaten the lives of its most vulnerable populations.

Country Context

Ranked the 4th most affected by extreme weather events country in the world, Haiti is still contending with the setbacks caused by the earthquake in 2010 and Hurricane Matthew in 2016. Weak public institutions and state capacity to provide basic services hinder progress, and increasing food insecurity exacerbates the situation. Development efforts and aid delivery have recently become more challenging due to political unrest. Protesters are calling for the resignation of President Jovenel Moïse due to allegations of his involvement in a corruption scandal and his failure to address a stagnating economy, which faces rising inflation and fuel shortages.

How is the U.S. Involved?

The U.S. has made a long-term commitment to helping Haiti rebuild. Development efforts focus on infrastructure and energy; food and economic security; health and democracy; and the rule of law. In 2019, the U.S. released 2,000 metric tons of emergency food stocks and \$20 million in emergency food assistance in response to the current situation.

On-the-Ground Perspective

- Protests have grown violent, and police have used excessive force and live ammunition against protesters. At least 35 deaths have been documented, with at least nine at the hands of police.
- A fuel shortage has intensified the political unrest and interrupted water supplies. Roadblocks make roads around Port-au-Prince impassable, causing most schools and businesses to close.
- NGOs, such as the World Food Programme, have been forced to suspend many of their operations.
- Hospitals are short on staff and medicine. Some major medical facilities have temporarily closed.

Responses and Actions

- The Kore Lavi program, implemented in 2013 by USAID, CARE, World Vision, and Action Against Hunger has benefited 525,000 Haitians. This figure includes 173,000 mothers with young children who were provided with food support to combat malnutrition.
- In 2018, UNICEF provided safe water to over 240,000 people affected by cholera and the October earthquake. It also reached 14,500 children under five and 26,100 children aged six to 23 months with micronutrient powder.

References available at [interaction.org/2020globalsituationreport](https://www.interaction.org/2020globalsituationreport).

