

# Kids Alive Dominican Republic Facts

Kids Alive began ministering to children and youth in the Dominican Republic in 1989. Today, the growing campus serves over 2,000 children daily via seven schools, three residential sites, and an Independence Program for young adults.

Our ten program sites are spread across five cities and include the following programs:



## Education

Our seven schools serve children from preschool through middle school and, in some cases, up to high school. The schools' holistic approach includes high-quality education, nutritious meals, and emotional and spiritual care to ensure children have a safe and nurturing environment where they can thrive. Our care includes outreach to the children's families.

Serving

1,672



## Independence Program

The Independence Program supports school and residential youth on their journey to becoming impact Christians. It equips them with life and job skills training, and provides vocational and university scholarships.

Serving

90



## Residential Campuses

Our residential program serves children and youth who have been removed from their homes or families due to neglect or abuse. Our staff cares for children in our ten residential homes on three campuses, working to restore them in a safe family environment. Whenever possible, we strive to reunite children with their safe biological family members.

Serving

103



## Strengthening – Family & Community

Our social workers, counselors, and safeguarding staff strengthen families to make communities safer for youth through counseling, medical and emergency assistance. We also collaborate with government agencies to address child neglect and abuse.

Serving

1,102



## Sports Programs

The youth sports program is designed to teach Christian values, promote physical activity, and keep children and youth in school. Over 500 youth participate in a Kids Alive-sponsored sports program.

Serving

510



## Health Programs

Malnourished and underweight children are provided supplemental nutrition, and about 50% of all the children receive regular dental care. Our trained counselors, psychologists, and trauma-response caregivers address children's emotional health and well-being.

Serving

1,175



2,200 children and youth impacted

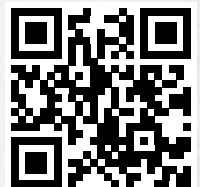
1,100 families impacted

350 staff and missionaries

\$3.1 M program budget (2022)


\$3.5 M projected annual budget (2023-2025)


To learn more about Kids Alive Dominican Republic, scan this code:





# Dominican Republic Country Facts

The Dominican Republic shares the eastern half of the island of Hispaniola with the Republic of Haiti. Christopher Columbus landed on this island in 1492, bringing it under Spanish colonial rule.

 **Capital:** Santo Domingo

 **History:** Home to the Arawak Taino people, the island's population was decimated by European diseases and Spain's brutal enslavement of the local people. Later sugarcane plantation owners trafficked people from West Africa to work as enslaved laborers.

 **Geography:** The country is usually hot with year-round tropical temperatures. The capital, Santo Domingo, hovers between 77°F and 82°F with rainfalls from May to November. The country is prone to hurricanes and earthquakes.

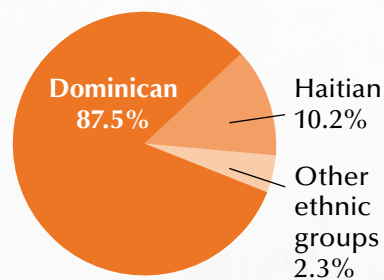
 **Economy:** Tourism has replaced agriculture (sugar cane, tobacco, coffee) as the island's primary industry. Remittances made by Dominicans working in the United States are another important source of income for many Dominican families. Dominicans suffer because of the vast economic gap between the few rich and the many poor.

 **People:**

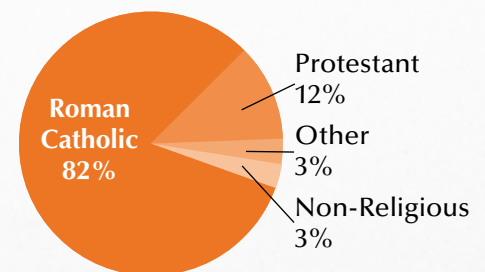
## Population





## Ethnic groups





## Religions



 **Median age:** 28, with 32% under the age of 15.

 **Education:** The government funding of education is meager (4% of the GDP), resulting in the Dominican Republic being routinely ranked among the lowest countries educationally in the Latin region. There is a notable education gap between private and public schools.

 **Health:** The country spends under 6% of its GDP on health and has only 1.45 physicians and 1.6 hospital beds per 1,000 people. Other difficulties: Teenage pregnancy rates are the highest among Caribbean nations, and child marriage remains an issue. Haitian immigrants face severe discrimination, and children lack legal documentation, access to medical care, and education.

 **Travel:** Dominican Republic, with its wide beaches and historic Spanish colonial sites, is a popular tourist destination, bringing over four million tourists annually.

