Country: The Dominican Republic
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The Dominican Republic

- Sara Radtke
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Dominican Republic shares the island of Hispaniola with Haiti.

Dominican Republic occupies the Eastern two-thirds of the island.

The island is bordered by the Atlantic Ocean to the north and Caribbean Sea to the South.

Has an area of 48,730 square kilometers.

It is the second largest Caribbean nation.

More than twice the size of New Hampshire.
**Dominican Republic Makeup**

- **Population**: 10,088,598 (July 2012 est.)
- **Official Language**: Spanish
- **Poverty rate**: 40.4%
- **School Life Expectancy**:
  - Total: 12 years
  - Male: 11 years
  - Female: 13 years
- **Literacy rate**:
  - Male: 86.8%
  - Female: 87.2%
Schooling in the Dominican Republic

- Average Dominican attends school for 12 years.
- All children must attend school for 7 years.
- In many cases, schools are badly understaffed and do not offer all of the required grades.
- Due to the cost of books, the extra need for family income, and taking care of siblings, many economically disadvantaged children cannot attend school for more than a year or two.
Primary Education is officially free and compulsory for children aged 7-14.

Primary schooling is followed by a two year intermediate school and a four year secondary course.

A diploma called the *bachillerato* is awarded after completion.

Only half of the students continue on to *liceo* (high school).
Secondary Schooling

- Only 59% attend secondary schooling after their required primary schooling.
- There are nearly 1,000 secondary schools available to all children.
- Many economically advantaged children go to Europe or the United States for their Secondary and University educations.
- The only public university is the University of Santo Domingo.
Students in the Dominican Republic

- Students attend school Monday through Friday.
- Public school students attend school for four hours a day either in the morning or afternoon.
- Students attending private schools attend for six hours a day.
- **Curriculum includes:** mathematics, science, Spanish, history, government, human development, and PE.
- Each morning students sing *Himno Nacional* (national anthem)
- All Students wear uniforms to school.
  - **Public school:** uniforms consist of a blue shirt, beige slacks or a skirt, white socks, and black shoes
  - **Private School:** uniforms vary according to school colors
Teacher Qualifications

- The Trained teachers in primary education (% of total teachers) in Dominican Republic was last reported at 84.86 in 2010, according to a World Bank report published in 2012. Trained teachers in primary education are the percentage of primary school teachers who have received the minimum organized teacher training (pre-service or in-service) required for teaching in their country.

- In the past it was considered ordinary for a public school teacher to be a graduate only of one of the normal schools that trained high school graduates for two years in teaching techniques.

- Reforms have mandated that each teacher must have a licenciatura or a university five-year degree to be able to teach in the public school system. Under the Plan Decenal funds were made available for teachers to return to school to upgrade their credentials.
In February 2005, the Presidential Forum for Excellence in Dominican Education was created.

- The goals of this program were:
  - Improve and expand schools
  - Train adults in important careers
  - Provide funding for teachers
  - Raise the quality of teaching methods
  - Increase the number of years children stayed in school
  - Incorporating new advances in technology.

Dr. Leonel Fernández
President of the Dominican Republic from 1996 to 2000 and 2004 to 2012
Achieve universal literacy for the Dominican population.

Make reading the foundation of the entire educational structure.

Universal coverage of primary and secondary education.

Grow and improve the educational infrastructure, especially in rural areas.

Strengthen secondary education.

Increase the number of young people between 18 and 24 that go on to higher studies. Decrease university drop-outs.

Widen, diversify and improve curricular offerings, especially in fields related to the basic sciences and technology.

Supply teachers with initial education and continuous quality training.

Encourage scientific debate in and from the educational centers, above all in the university sphere.

Assist universities in increasing their research budgets. Link research and teaching.

Improve relations between the higher education centers and national productive sectors.
Dominican Immigration

- Dominicans are the fifth-largest population of Hispanic origin living in the United States.
- Nearly six-in-ten Dominicans (57%) in the United States are foreign born compared with 37% of Hispanics and 13% of the U.S. population overall.
- Less than half of Dominican immigrants (47%) are U.S. citizens.
- A majority (55%) of Dominicans speak English proficiently.
- There are more women than men in the Dominican population.

- The higher number of women relative to men is due to the higher number of female immigrants.
Among the five states with Dominican populations over 20,000, Rhode Island and Florida experienced the most rapid growth between 1990 and 2000.

Eight-in-ten Dominicans (79%) live in the Northeast, and nearly half (48%) live in New York.

The three states with the largest Dominican populations are New York, New Jersey, and Florida.

Between 1998 and 2002, an average of 20,000 permanent immigrants were admitted each year to the United States from the Dominican Republic.
Dominican Education in the U.S.

- One in five of all Dominicans born in the United States has at least a Bachelor’s degree.
- Dominicans born in the United States achieve a higher level of education, on average, than other native Hispanic groups.
- Dominicans have higher levels of education than the Hispanic population overall. Some 15% of Dominicans ages 25 and older—compared with 13% of all U.S. Hispanics—have obtained at least a bachelor’s degree.

Table 9.
Educational Attainment of Native Hispanics and Dominicans in the United States, Age 25 and Over: 2000

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Educational attainment</th>
<th>Hispanics (excluding Dominicans)</th>
<th>Dominicans</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>7,907,651</td>
<td>59,439</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No schooling completed</td>
<td>234,152</td>
<td>1,253</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than high school</td>
<td>2,261,232</td>
<td>10,680</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some grade school</td>
<td>788,737</td>
<td>2,637</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some high school</td>
<td>1,472,495</td>
<td>8,043</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High school diploma</td>
<td>2,176,489</td>
<td>12,955</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some college/associate’s degree</td>
<td>2,198,544</td>
<td>21,379</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor’s degree or higher</td>
<td>1,037,234</td>
<td>13,172</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor’s degree</td>
<td>705,428</td>
<td>9,290</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate degree</td>
<td>331,806</td>
<td>3,882</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000, 5% PUMS File.

- Approximately 80 percent of all Dominicans born in the United States have at least a high school degree.
Books


Internet

Works Cited

• Internet Cont.

    http://education.stateuniversity.com/pages/394/Dominican-Republic-TEACHING-PROFESSION.html#ixzz2LAvRHtYt Slide 9

    http://tech.uhsd.k12.ca.us/~jmcchristian/Classroom/Spanish_Culturegrams_files/DominicanRepublic.pdf Slides 4,5,8


• Images


  • Dominican Republic Location [Photograph]. Retrieved February 20, 2013, from: www.maps.com Slide 1


  • University of Santo Domingo. [Photograph] Retrieved February 20, 2013, from: www.localyte.com Slide 5
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- Dr. Leonel Fernandez. [Photograph]. Retrieved February 27, 2013, from: www.bacaneriamusic.net Slide 8
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