

21 October 2016

Haiti: Hurricane Matthew

Department Profile, Sud



Contents

Summary indicators	1
Overview.....	2
Hazard profile.....	2
Society and communities	3
Economy.....	3
Infrastructure.....	4
Humanitarian and development stakeholders	4
Food security and livelihoods.....	4
Health	5
Nutrition	6
WASH	6
Shelter and NFIs.....	7
Education	7
Protection	7
Key documents	7
Map.....	8

About this report

This thematic report is the first in a series of profiles on the worst affected departments in Haiti following Hurricane Matthew. It compiles and analyses existing pre-crisis data at the departmental level across a range of sectors and is intended to serve as a reference point for understanding the current humanitarian crisis. The lack of departmental level baseline information in Haiti is a major information gap.

Sud



Summary indicators

Indicator	Value	Year
Population number (last census)	627,311	2003
Population number (projection)	774,976	2015
Population growth rate	1.0%	1982-2003
Population density	240 habitants/square km	2012
Urban composition %	18.4%	2012
Average household size	5.1	2013
Age distribution (% under 15)	37.6% under 15	2012
Under-five mortality	81 deaths /1,000 live births	2012
Malnutrition prevalence (severe wasting)	1.3%	2012
People in bottom two quintiles (40%) of socio-economic well-being	51.8%	2012
Literacy rate (men/women)	76.0% /76.9%	2012

Sources: (MSPP 2012)

Overview

Sud department is the southernmost in Haiti. It covers a total of 2,794 square km, between the Hotttes mountain range in the north and the coastal plains in the south. Ten main rivers flow south from the Hotttes mountains into the sea. The terrain is steep in the south west, and flatter in the north. Approximately, 775,000 people live in the department. The largest city is Les Cayes. There are 18 communes, including the Ile a Vache, which sits off the southern coast of the mainland (DPC 2014).

Hazard profile: Sud is prone to natural disasters and has limited disaster risk reduction mechanisms. Exposure and vulnerability to hurricanes, floods, droughts, earthquakes are elevated compared even to the rest of Haiti.

Societies and communities: 775,000 people live in 18 communes. Settlements are concentrated on the coast, while population density is lower in the mountainous interior.

Economy: Over half the population lives in the bottom two quintiles of socio-economic well-being. Key economic activities include agriculture, fishing and animal husbandry.

Infrastructure is extremely limited, with only small to mid-sized ports and an underdeveloped road network. An asphalt runway is located in Les Cayes.

Humanitarian stakeholders: A disaster contingency plan was put in place in 2014. Around 15 humanitarian partners were active prior to the hurricane.

Food: Pre-crisis, Sud was forecast to be in Stressed (IPC Phase 2) food security conditions for August and September 2016. Livelihoods vary across zones, mainly due to the differing altitudes, and the vegetation and crops available.

Health: Health infrastructure is limited, although there are two hospitals. Cholera fatality rate is 1.1%, lower than many other departments.

Nutrition: 9.9% of children under five are underweight for their age.

WASH: 67.9% of families in Sud have regular access to a water point to wash their hands. Improved drinking water sources are below the national average.

Shelter and NFIs: Houses are commonly constructed in or too close to river beds, increasing their risk of flooding.

Education: Secondary school attendance is below the national average at 24.2%.

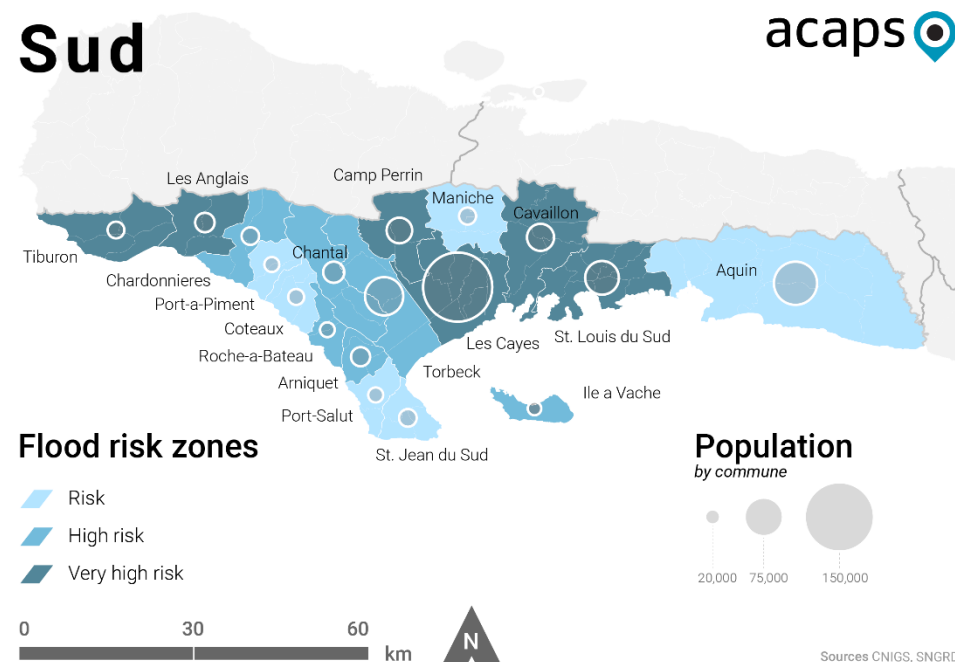
Protection: Prevalence of physical and sexual violence are major protection concerns, as is child labour.

Hazard profile

Haiti's Sud department is prone to natural disasters, but lacks adequate disaster risk reduction mechanisms, and is particularly ill-prepared for rare but catastrophic events (PreventionWeb/INFORM 2015; OCHA 12/2012). 59% of Haiti's past hurricanes have hit Sud (DPC 20/07/2016). Les Cayes was badly damaged by fire in 1908 and a hurricane in 1954 (EB). Across the southern peninsula, exposure and vulnerability to hurricanes, floods, droughts, earthquakes are elevated compared even to the rest of Haiti (IFAD 03/08/2012). Lack of construction regulation, poor agriculture practices, deforestation, impacts of climate change and poverty exacerbate vulnerability to shocks (DPC 2014).

12 of the 18 communes in Sud are at high or very high risk of flooding. 103,633 people live in the eight most at risk communes (DPC 2014; OCHA 12/2014). Annual rainfall is around 1,500 mm on average, most of which is concentrated in two rainy seasons, from March to early June, and from August to October (IFAD 03/08/2012). There are 169 rivers in Sud, ten of which run north-south. When flooded, they pose major access constraints, cutting off traffic between communes and hampering prevention and intervention efforts. Despite efforts to mitigate risks by improving flood protection both up- and down-stream, multiple communes remain in danger (OCHA 12/2014).

Communes prone to flooding, Sud



Society and communities

Sud consists of 18 communes. Approximately 80% of the population live in rural areas. Settlements tend to be concentrated along the coast, due to the steep inland terrain. Population density is lower at higher elevations, where agricultural plots and family land parcels are located, and higher towards the plains around and urban centres of Les Cayes and Port Salut (UNEP 2013). Overall, population density is 240 habitants per square km. (UNDP 2014).

The average household size in the southwest communes of Sud department is 5.1 – higher than the national rural average of 4.7. Urban household sizes are lower, such as in Port Salut, where it is 4.4. In the southwest, 39% of households are female headed. 112 men live in the department for every 100 women. 44% of the population are under 18 years old, and the resultant youth bulge means dependency ratios are high: for every ten workers, there are eight dependents (UNEP 2013).

Economy

For more in-depth economic and market analysis of Haiti at the national level, please refer to ACAPS' Multi-sector market environment analysis of 13 October.

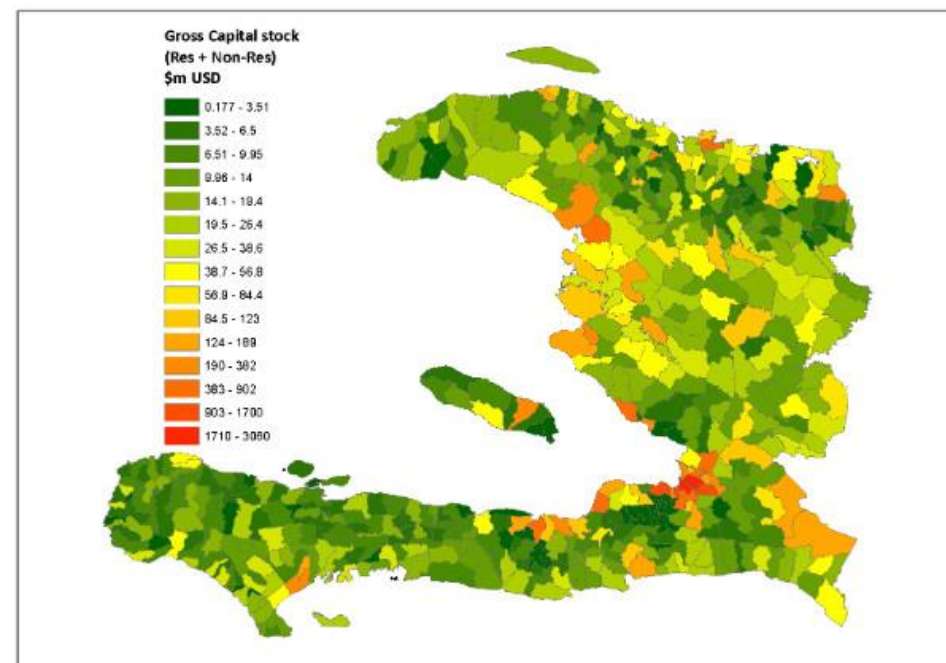
The areas worst affected by Hurricane Matthew are also among the poorest in the country. Gross capital stock is low across most of Sud department, except in the urban port of Les Cayes (CEDIM 14/10/2016). In Sud, 51.8% of the population are in the bottom two quintiles of socio-economic well-being as measured by the EMMUS study (MSPP 2012). According to a UNEP wealth index based on 2011-12 survey data, households in the western communes of Sud department were more likely to be poor than households in the east of the department and Les Cayes, its main urban area (UNEP 2013).

Agriculture, animal husbandry and fishing are the main industries in Sud department. Petty trade is also an important source of income in both urban and rural areas (DPC 2014). Men dominate the agricultural sector (73%), whereas women work more commonly in small business or in the home. High proportions of young adults report being students. Only 3% of the population has a full-time salaried job (UNEP 2013)

Due to its underlying poverty and lack of easily exploitable economic potential, Haiti's southern peninsula had become a focus for sustainable development and resilient economic growth in the years before Hurricane Matthew. A strategy to promote green growth was released in mid-2016, focusing on sustainable development of honey, cocoa, cashew, castor oil, and mango sectors. The region was declared a World

Biosphere Reserve in 2016 and Haiti's first protected marine and coastal areas were established in Macaya Park in 2013 (UNEP 12/07/2016) .

Map of gross capital stock values, Haiti



Source: CEDIM 14/10/2016

Gender: 40% of the formal workforce in the southwest are women, but only 5% of all employees are formally employed. In the southwest, primary education levels are similar among girls and boys. About 25% of women engage in community organisations in southwest. 40% of the formal workforce in the southwest (only 5% of all employees) are women. (UNEP 2013)

Informal economy: The informal economy is widespread in Sud department. Many children are also engaged in informal labour, which can be detrimental to their health and school performance (but not necessarily attendance rates) (US DOL 09/2012).

Remittances: In Sud department, remittances account for some 18% of annual income, with an estimated half of all households receive some form of remittances each year (UNEP 2013).

On average, only 15% of households have a bank account, a figure which is as low as 8% in Tiburon and Port-a-Piment. For most rural people in Sud department, traditional banks are too far from home and formal banking systems unfamiliar. Mobile money systems have been growing since 2011 following the earthquake, but remain limited in rural areas (UNEP 2013).

36% of households receive some form of credit, mostly from friends, relatives or vendors. Only 5% of households receive microcredit. Credit is most commonly used to buy food, set up business, or education. (UNEP 2013)

Infrastructure

Transportation and energy

Airports: Sud department has an asphalt runway at Antoine Simon Airport, Les Cayes. (World Aero Data; Alter Presse 09/05/2005).

Roadway: National Route 2 links Port-au-Prince to Les Cayes in Sud and is one of two main national corridors. National Route 7 links Les Cayes to Jérémie, north-south across the mountains (Log Cluster). Beyond Les Cayes, the paved road ends at Port-à-Piment, impeding trade and service provision to more remote areas. Moto-taxis are an important form of transport (DPC 2014).

Rail: Small private rail systems serve some ports in Haiti, but there is no public rail (Umanitoba).

Ports: Les Cayes port is the biggest in Sud department (WPS). Main exports from the port include sugar, coffee bananas, cotton, timber, dyewood and hides. (EB)

Electricity and fuel: Electricity is not generally available but 15 communes have access to between six and 100 hours per week (DPC 2014). Only 15% of rural areas nationwide are electrified, and rural areas in the southern peninsula are similarly poorly connected (CIA 2013; MSPP 2012). A microgrid project was launched in Les Anglais in 2012 and is being scaled up (UNEP 05/12/2014). Wood is the main source of cooking fuel (MSPP 2012).

Media and communication

Telecommunications: 70% of people have access to a mobile phone, and access is growing (CIA 2015). Digicel is the dominant service provider. In the southwest communes of Sud department, mobile phone coverage is better in coastal settlements than in mountainous inland areas, and ownership lower among women than men (UNEP 2013).

Internet is available on cellular networks, but is not otherwise widely available in rural areas. In 2012, only 1% of households reported internet usage in the past year, according to survey of Sud department's southwest communes (UNEP 2013).

Print, television and radio: There are 47 radio stations and six television stations in Sud department (DPC 2014). Media access varies between men and women.

Form of media	Sud	
	(male)	(fem)
Newspaper once a week	17.2%	19.8%
Television once a week	24.6%	26.8%
Radio once a week	74.8%	63.9%
All once a week	6.8%	8.3%
No form of media	22.2%	30.7%

Source: MSPP 2012

Humanitarian and development stakeholders

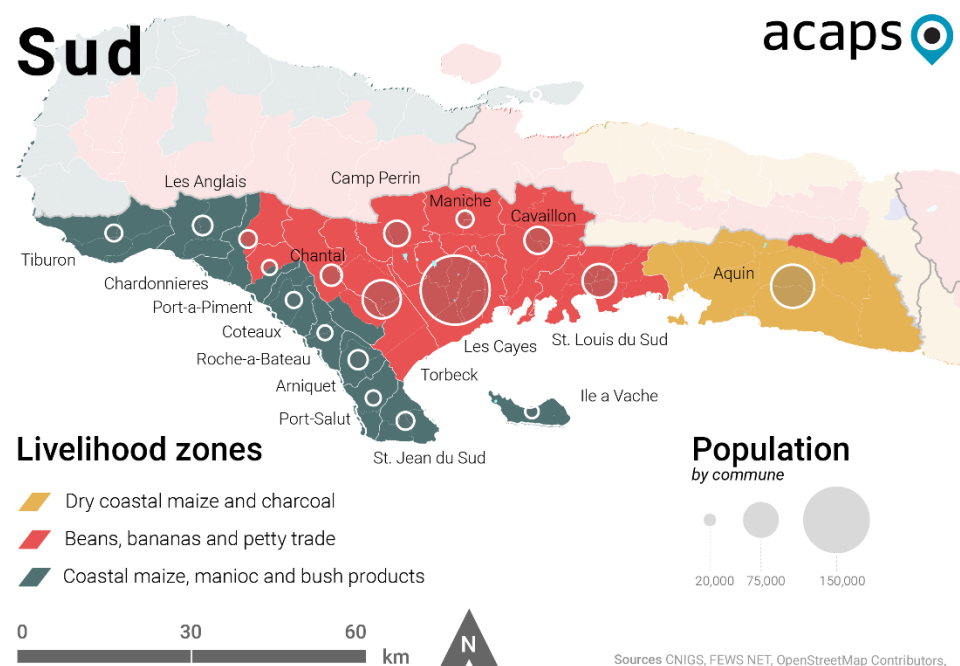
As of early 2015, prior to the hurricane, around 15 humanitarian organisations were active in Sud, focusing on food security and nutrition, preparedness and health. ACTED had the largest presence at that time, while WFP was no longer engaged in food assistance in the area. There were six cholera treatment units and 31 centres, as well as two diarrheal treatment centres (OCHA 22/01/2015). A departmental contingency plan in line with the national disaster risk management plan was put in place in 2014 by the Department of Civil Protection. However, only six of 18 communes had constructed emergency operations centres, all of which needed improvement. No military presence was stationed in Sud as of 2014 (DPC 2014).

Food security and livelihoods

Food security: Pre-crisis, Sud was forecast to be in Stressed (IPC Phase 2) food security conditions for August and September 2016 (CNSA 07/2016). 31% of the Sud department was moderately food insecure, and 45% marginally food insecure. 18.5% of families reported often missing meals. While these figures are concerning, Sud department fared slightly better than the national average on all scores (WFP 08/2016; MSPP 2012; FEWSNET 2014).

The principal market of the region is Les Cayes, for both producers and consumers. Torbeck, Camp Perrin and Les Cayes are the communes most commonly with surplus food availability, while Aquin is the most commonly in deficit. Rice, beans and maize are the most commonly available staples. Poor households are vulnerable to market price increases; they buy the majority of food from markets as they produce little from their own (FEWSNET 2014).

Map of livelihoods zones, population size, Sud department



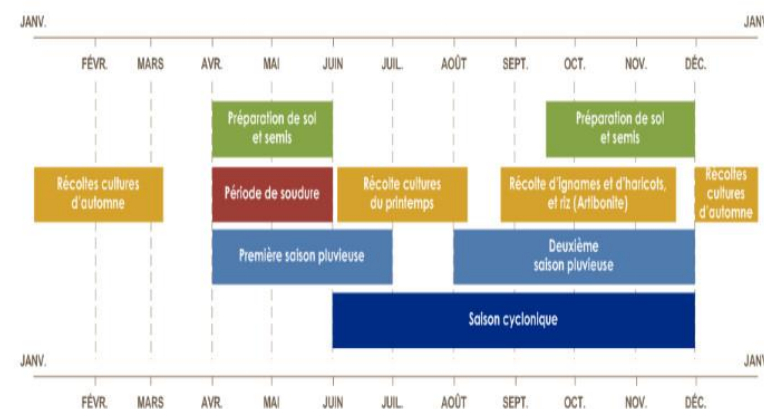
Livelihoods vary across zones, mainly due to the differing altitudes, and the vegetation and crops available.

In the middle altitude zones of Sud department, agro-pastoral activities are predominant. Middle-income and wealthy households possess on average 10–25 livestock, which include cattle, goats, pigs and horses. They trade larger livestock and agricultural products, engage in commerce, and often have access to remittances. The poorest are those without livestock, who engage predominantly in agricultural labour. Other livelihoods activities include trading in livestock, charcoal, and petty trade, which poorer households engage in (FEWSNET 2014).

In the dry zone between the humid mountains and the coastal plains, agriculture is limited due to poor soil and erosion. Poor households instead rear small livestock. Labour is the principal source of income. Sale of charcoal or fish is also common (FEWSNET 2014). When labour is in short demand, households resort to chopping trees and selling firewood, which can deteriorate soil and cause erosion (DPC 2014).

Seasonal Calendar

The spring agricultural campaign is the most important, and is dependent on good May–July rains and availability of labour (DPC 2014).



Source: DPC 2014

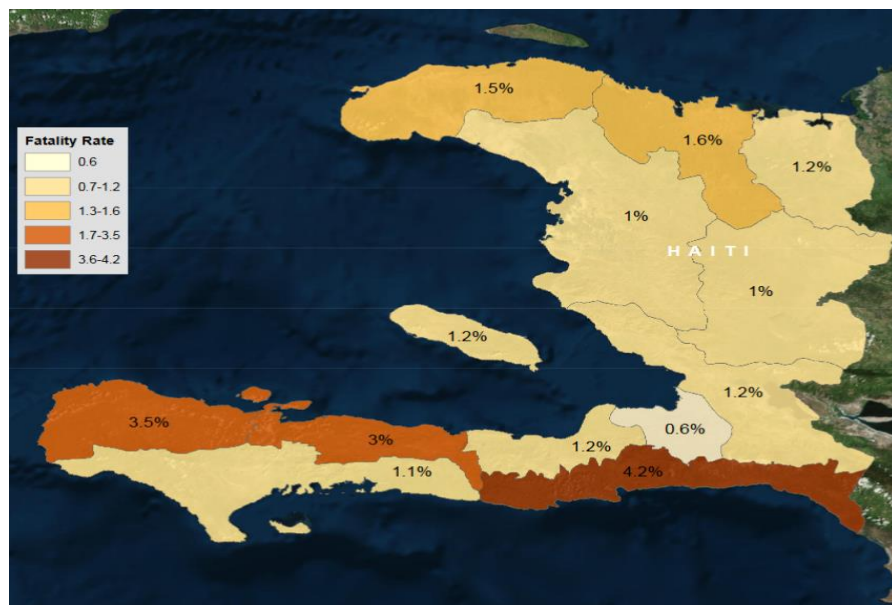
Health

Under five mortality in Sud is 81 per 1000 live births (MSPP 2012). There are 11 health facilities in Sud including two major hospitals, l'Hopital immaculee conception in Les Cayes and Hopital St Boniface Fond des Blancs (Omisc Group 17/10/2016). Cholera, malaria and diarrheal diseases, particularly among children, are important health problems (OCHA 12/2014).

Challenges with access to reproductive health affect 85.5% of the female population in Sud department, compared to 81.5% nationally (MSPP 2012). 15% of live births in ten communes in the southwest of Sud were attended by skilled health personnel (UNEP 2013).

Cholera: There were 56 suspected cases of cholera reported in August in Sud and 7,242 cases of chikungunya fever up to 30 July, with Aquin commune the most affected (OCHA 08/2016; Red Cross 30/07/2016). The case fatality rate over the last six years in Sud department is relatively low at 1.1% (PDC 2016).

Cholera fatality rate in Haiti, October 2010–August 2016



Source: Pacific Disaster Center 2016

Immunisation rates in Sud are generally above the national average.

Child vaccine rates in Sud vs National, 2012

Vaccine	Sud	National Average
DiTePer (Diphtheria, Pertussis, Tetanus) ¹	72.1%	62.5%
Polio ¹	66.3%	58.6%
Measles	64.5%	65.1%
Tuberculosis (BCG)	86.1%	82.7%
All	51.4%	45.2%
No Vaccines	5.0%	6.9%

Source: MSPP 2012

¹three doses

Nutrition

Nutrition outcomes in Sud are better than the national average: 9.9% of children under five are underweight for their age, compared to 11.4% nationally. Severe wasting among children is at 1.3% (MSPP 2012). GAM rates of 10.1% in Maniche commune and 11.8% in Saint Jean du Sud commune were closest to approaching emergency thresholds of 15% (DPC 2014).

WASH

Sud: 67.9% of families in Sud have regular access to a water point to wash their hands, compared to the national average of 62.2% (MSPP 2012). 20% of households in Sud are connected to a water distribution system, while the average in small towns and rural areas across the country was 5% (World Bank 06/2015).

In the southwest of Sud, most communes score below the national average of 55% for using an improved drinking water source (Les Anglais and Saint Jean du Sud are above average). On the other hand, most communes in the region are above the national average of 17% for improved sanitation use, with Chardonnières, Tiburon,

and Ile-a-Vache below. 1% of children in these communes sleep under a bed net (UNEP 2013).

Awareness of good hygiene practices remains a problem; 36% of those in the southwest communes of Sud do not view sewage and poor sanitation as a health risk and 23% are not worried about contaminated drinking water (UNEP 2013).

Shelter and NFIs

The majority of both rural and urban housing in Haiti consists of two-room houses made of mud walls and floors. Roofs are often thatched with grasses or palm leaves but may also be made of plastic or corrugated metal. Windows are panel-less and covered with wooden shutters (EB 09/2016). For flooring, 5% of Haitian homes use sand, 55% use cement and 3.5% use mud (MSPP 2012). The majority of shelter materials used in Sud department are distributed out of Les Cayes (PI 10/2016).

In Sud department, houses are commonly constructed in or too close to river beds, increasing their risk of flooding. Drainage systems are often adapted to redirect water to houses, heightening flood risks. Settlements along the Ravine du Sud, Constructions exist along the Ravine du Sud, l'Etang de Laborde, and the Islet, Grande Passe and Anglais Rivers are particularly vulnerable (DPC 2014).

Education

In Sud department, primary school attendance is at 79.5%, above the national average of 77.2%. However, secondary school attendance is below the national average at 24.2%. 8.5% of men and 12.2% of women have no education, compared to 13.0% and 14.8% nationally. 76.9% of women and 76.0% of men are literate (MSPP 2012).

In the southwest communes of Sud, primary school completion rates are on average 38%: Ile-a-Vache (34%), Port-Salut (32%), Amiquet (26%), Saint Jean-du-Sud (25%), Port-a-Piment (22%), Roche-a-Bateaux (22%), Tiburon (16%), Les Anglais (10%), Chardonnières (7%), and Les Coteaux (7%) (UNEP 2013).

Protection

Prevalence of physical violence in Sud department is around 28%, and of sexual violence is 14%.

Child labour rate is 68% (MSPP 2012). Children working in agriculture are exposed to toxic materials and dangerous tools (US DOL 09/2012).

Children's work in agriculture is particularly prevalent in Sud and appears to affect their welfare opportunities. They also have negative implications for their education and serious consequences for their health. While 90% were attending school at the time of a 2012 survey, 73% of children who did not attend school for a lack of financial means. Working in agriculture lowered school performance (US DOL 09/2012).

Key documents

DPC, 2014, *Plan de contingence 2014: Département du Sud*, https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/system/files/documents/files/Plan%20de%20Contingence%20Département%20du%20SUD%202014%20CDS-GRD_12%20juin%202014.pdf

Famine Early Warning Systems Network, 2014, *Haiti Sécurité Alimentaire en Bref*, USAID, http://www.fews.net/sites/default/files/documents/reports/Ha%C3%Afti_FS_Brief_2014_final_0.pdf

Ministère de la Santé Publique et de la Population (MSPP), 2013, *Enquête Mortalité, Morbidité et Utilisation des Services EMMUS-V*, <http://mspp.gouv.ht/site/downloads/EMMUS%20V%20document%20final.pdf>

United Nations Environment Programme, 2013, *Integrated Baseline Study: Ten Communes of the Southwest Coast, South Department, Haiti*, Colombia University, http://postconflict.unep.ch/publications/UNEP_Haiti_10_communes_Sud_2013_EN.pdf

United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, 2014, *Profil Humanitaire Départemental Haïti – Sud*, https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/ru/system/files/documents/files/Profil%20D%C3%A9p%20Sud_32415.pdf

World Food Programme, 2016, *Haiti Urban Food Security Assessment Preliminary Findings*, <http://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/wfp286374.pdf>

Map

Reference Map, Southern Haiti, 2016



Source: Map Action 06/10/2016