

## DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

### General Information

- The Dominican Republic is a Caribbean country, occupying the eastern, larger portion of the island of Hispaniola, between Cuba to the west and Puerto Rico to the east.
- Hispaniola is the site of the first European colonies founded by Christopher Columbus on his voyages in 1492 and 1493 and is the 22<sup>nd</sup> largest island in the world.
- Spanish is the official language.
- The land area is 18,705 square miles (slightly smaller than West Virginia).
- Historically, the Dominican Republic has been predominantly Spanish rule for over 3 centuries, but including a time of US occupation from 1916-24. It's presently a representative democracy.
- The population is approximately 10 million people, about a million of which live in the capital city of Santo Domingo.
- Baseball is very popular. In fact, after the United States, the Dominican Republic has the second-highest number of Major League Baseball players. In 2013 the national team was undefeated in winning the World Baseball Classic.

### Challenges

- About 70% of the population is Roman Catholic with just under 20% evangelicals, leaving about 10 other or no affiliation.

### Prayer

- For purity of Christianity in Haiti.
- For effective ministry for the IMB missionaries in the Dominican Republic funded by the Lottie Moon Christmas offering.

### Reference

- [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dominican\\_Republic](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dominican_Republic)
- [http://www.imb.org/main/news/details.asp?LanguageID=1709&StoryID=8306#.Uq1hvb\\_vxFU](http://www.imb.org/main/news/details.asp?LanguageID=1709&StoryID=8306#.Uq1hvb_vxFU)