

Dominican Republic

Ethnicity in Dominican Republic

Power relations

There is widespread and strong social and state-led political discrimination against Haitian immigrants and their descendants (⁹⁹³). However, since Haitians in the Dominican Republic, in their great majority, constitute a group of labor migrants they are not included in the dataset in accordance with EPR coding rules – even if Haitian immigration dates back to the turn of the 20th century (⁹⁹⁴, 345).

⁹⁹³ [Minority Rights Group International, 2014]

⁹⁹⁴ [Levinson, 1998]

The rest of the Dominican population is stratified by class which, as in (probably) all Latin American countries, strongly overlaps with skin color. Like other Caribbean populations, Dominicans can be categorized into blacks (11%), mulattos (73%), and whites (16%) (numbers from ⁹⁹⁵) with the blacks forming the lowest socio-economic stratum. The ruling economic and political circle is constituted by a small number of white families (⁹⁹⁶, 345). But these class-color-based differences have not been politicized so far. Thus, ethnicity is coded as irrelevant for Dominican politics here.

⁹⁹⁵ [CIA, 2014]

⁹⁹⁶ [Levinson, 1998]

Due to a racist and xenophobic ideology towards the Afro descendant population coming up in the mid-19th century, an idealization of indigenous elements in Dominican culture took place (it were Taíno-Arawak groups that originally inhabited the island; ⁹⁹⁷). This results in ethnic perceptions that are very different from U.S. American or Europeans ones: while blacks are declared to be "indios oscuros" (dark indigenous people) most Dominicans are considered to be white ("blanco"), Indian ("indio") or a mixture of both before mentioned ethnicities ("mestizo"). It is especially the indigenous component that helped to construct a Dominican national identity – that nowadays is defined as white, Catholic and Hispanic – by distinguishing it from Spanish and Haitian culture (⁹⁹⁸, 150-151).

⁹⁹⁷ [Minority Rights Group International, 2014]

⁹⁹⁸ [Duany, 1998]

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- [Minority Rights Group International, 2014] Minority Rights Group International. (2014). Dominican Republic Overview. Retrieved on 2.12.2014 from: <http://www.minorityrights.org/2565/dominican-republic/dominican-republic-overview.html>

Political status of ethnic groups in Dominican Republic

From 1946 until 2013

Group name	Proportional size	Political status
Dominicans	1.0	IRRELEVANT

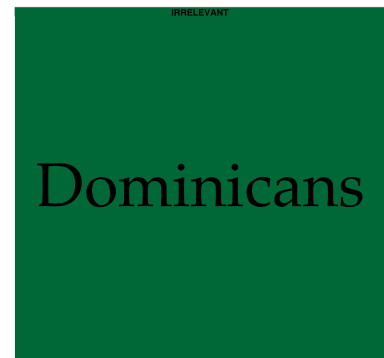


Figure 229: Political status of ethnic groups in Dominican Republic during 1946-2013.

Conflicts in Dominican Republic

Starting on 1965-04-24

Side A	Side B	Group name	Start	Claim	Recruitment	Support
Government of Dominican Republic	Military faction (constitutionalists)	Dominicans	1965-04-24	No	Yes, from EGIP	Split