

21 October 2016

# Haiti: Hurricane Matthew

## Department Profile: Grande'Anse



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### About this report

This thematic report is the second 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.

# Grande Anse



## Summary indicators

Indicator	Value	Year
Population number (last census)	337,516	2003
Population number (projection)	468,301	2015
Population growth rate	0.9%	1982-2003
Population density	245 habitants/square km	2012
Urban composition	20.5%	2012
Average household size (nationally)	4.4	2012
Age distribution (nationally)	36.1% under 15	2012
Under-five mortality	94 deaths /1,000 live births	2012
Malnutrition prevalence (severe wasting)	1.1%	2012
People in bottom two quintiles (40%) of socio-economic well-being	72.3%	2012
Literacy rate (men/women)	61.9%/60.5%	2012

Sources: (MSPP 2012)

## Overview

Grand'Anse is the westernmost department of Haiti, covering 1,912 square km of Haiti's southern peninsula, including the Grande Cayemite Island off the north coast. Sud department sits to the south, across the Hotte mountain range. Neighbouring Nippes department, to the east, split from Grand'Anse in 2003 (Statoids 2016). Around 45% of the terrain is occupied by dense agro-forestry industries, particularly coffee and cocoa, which are concentrated in the west of the department (Government 2010).

The department consists of 13 communes and has an estimated total population of around 468,000 (Geohive 2015). Around 34,000 people live in the department's biggest city, Jérémie, which has been heavily impacted by Hurricane Matthew. 84% of the department's population live in rural areas (IHSI 2009; HaitiCulture). Population density is 245 habitants per square km (MSPP 2012).

**Hazard profile:** Hurricanes, earthquakes and floods pose major threats to Grand'Anse. 44% of Haiti's past hurricanes have hit Grande'Anse department. Around 103,000 people lived in zones at risk of flooding in 2016.

**Economy:** 72.3% of people are in the bottom two quintiles of socio-economic well-being. Agriculture, animal husbandry and fishing are the main industries.

**Infrastructure:** Grande'Anse is remote and lacks infrastructure. Insecurity along main roads has been a problem in recent years.

**Humanitarian stakeholders:** Prior to Hurricane Matthew, at least 25 humanitarian organisations were carrying out humanitarian activities in Grand'Anse.

**Food:** Pre-crisis, Grand'Anse was facing Stressed (IPC Phase 2) food security conditions for August and September 2016.

**Health:** Child and maternal health coverage is among the lowest in Haiti.

**Nutrition:** 14.5% of children under five are underweight for their age, compared to 11.4% nationally. Severe wasting among children is at 1.1%.

**WASH:** As of 2014, only 35% of the population had access to improved water source.

**Shelter and NFIs:** Poorly constructed homes in Grande'Anse are vulnerable to natural hazards.

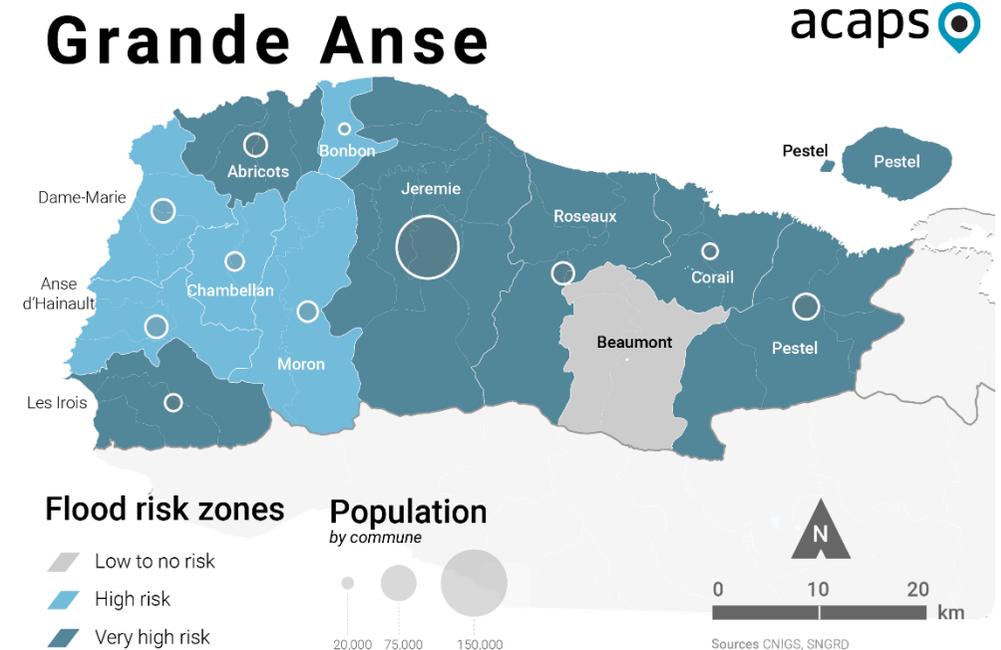
**Education:** Secondary school attendance is below the national average at 13.5%.

**Protection:** Prevalence of physical and sexual violence is above the national average.

## Hazard profile

Grande'Anse 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). Natural disasters have devastated parts of Grand'Anse in the past. In addition to the 2010 earthquake, 44% of Haiti's past hurricanes have hit Grande'Anse department, second only to Sud department (59%) (DPC 20/07/2016). Hurricane Sandy affected the department in 2012 (UNDP 2015).

Hurricanes, earthquakes and floods continue to pose major threats to Grand'Anse (UNDP 2015; DPC 2016). Environmental hazards, particularly deforestation, and epidemics, including cholera, HIV/AIDS, and tuberculosis are also concerns (Cordaid 08/2013; Government 03/2010). Mangroves and forests covered a total of 4,320 ha in 1998, but they have been receding due to deforestation (Government 2010). Drought is a risk, particularly at higher altitudes reliant on agriculture, including in Jérémie, Pestel and Roseaux communes. Insect infestations pose a regular problem to agricultural production (OCHA 12/2014). Rainfall is heavy from March to early June, and from August to October (IFAD 03/08/2012). Most of the department faces high flood risks, with Corail, Irois, Abricots, Pestel, Jérémie, and Roseaux most at risk (DPC 2014). Around 103,000 people lived in zones at risk of flooding in 2016 (DPC 20/07/2016).



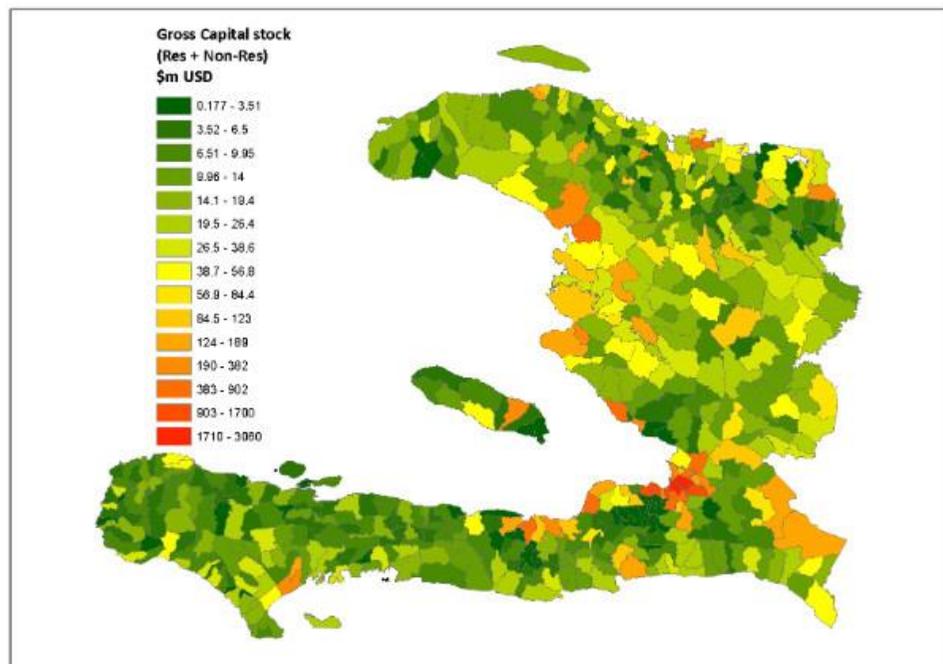
## Economy

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 Grande'Anse department, and only slightly higher around the urban port of Jérémie (CEDIM 14/10/2016). Poverty is widespread in Grande'Anse, due in part to its remote location. 72.3% of people are in the bottom two quintiles of socio-economic well-being as measured by the EMMUS study, compared to 51.8% in neighbouring Sud and 64% in Nippes (MSPP 2012).

Given its remoteness, insecurity along the road linking Grande'Anse to the rest of the peninsula has a particularly negative effect on the local economy. Perceptions of insecurity limit trade and availability of key commodities. (FEWSNET 2014).

### Map of gross capital stock values, Haiti



Source: CEDIM 14/10/2016

Agriculture, animal husbandry and fishing are the main industries in Grande'Anse departments, like in much of Haiti's peninsula. Men dominate the agricultural sector (73%), whereas women work more commonly in small business or at home. High proportions of young adults report being students. Only 3% of the population has a full-time salaried job (UNEP 2013)

## Infrastructure

### Transportation and energy

Infrastructure is extremely limited in the southern peninsula, especially in Grande'Anse. Most earthquake reconstruction projects have focused on short-term interventions, rather than enhancing core infrastructure (PRI 28/06/2012).

**Airports:** There is a small airport at Jérémie in Grande'Anse (CIA 2013; Global Security). Medical supplies were brought into Jérémie airport following the 2010 earthquake (NYT 04/02/2010).

**Roadway:** National Route 7 links Les Cayes to Jérémie, north-south across the mountains. The west of Grande-Anse department is accessible by route 72 which crosses the interior. Coastal roads serve settlements along the north coast (Log Cluster). Insecurity along main roads has been a problem in recent years (FEWSNET 2014).

**Ports:** Coastal towns possess some basic port facilities but are not capable of handling heavy volumes. (Global Security). The main port is at Jérémie (WPS).

**Electricity and fuel:** Only 15% of rural areas nationwide are electrified, and rural areas in the southern peninsula are similarly poorly connected. By comparison, 72% of urban areas are electrified (CIA 2013; MSPP 2012). 47.2% of Haitians use wood as their main cooking fuel and 45.4% use charcoal. (MSPP 2012).

### Media and communication

**Telecommunications:** 70% of people have access to a mobile phone in Haiti, and access is growing (CIA 2015). Digicel is the dominant service provider.

**Internet** is available on cellular networks, but is not otherwise widely available in rural areas (UNEP 2013).

**Print, television and radio:** Radio is the most widely accessed form of media in Grande'Anse, and most people listen to it at least once per week, particularly men (MSPP 2012).

Form of media	Grand'Anse		National	
	(male)	(fem)	(male)	(fem)
Newspaper once a week	8.3%	12.7%	21.0%	19.8%
Television once a week	10.8%	10.4%	40.4%	38.8%
Radio once a week	62.1%	49.0%	81.2%	69.3%
All once a week	1.8%	2.8%	22.2%	30.7%
No form of media	35.4%	46.7%	16.3%	24.4%

Source: MSPP 2012

## Humanitarian and development stakeholders

Grande'Anse had the largest presence of humanitarian organisations on the southern peninsula prior to Hurricane Matthew, with around 25 humanitarian organisations carrying out food security and nutrition, preparedness, and health activities (OCHA 2014).

The most recent national contingency plan was finalised in July 2016. Under this plan, Grande'Anse had 116 emergency shelters capable of accommodating 7,000 people (DPC 20/072016). Urban disaster risk reduction plans have been elaborated in six priority communes of Grande'Anse (UNDP 2015). No military presence was stationed in Grande Anse as of 2014 (DPC 2014).

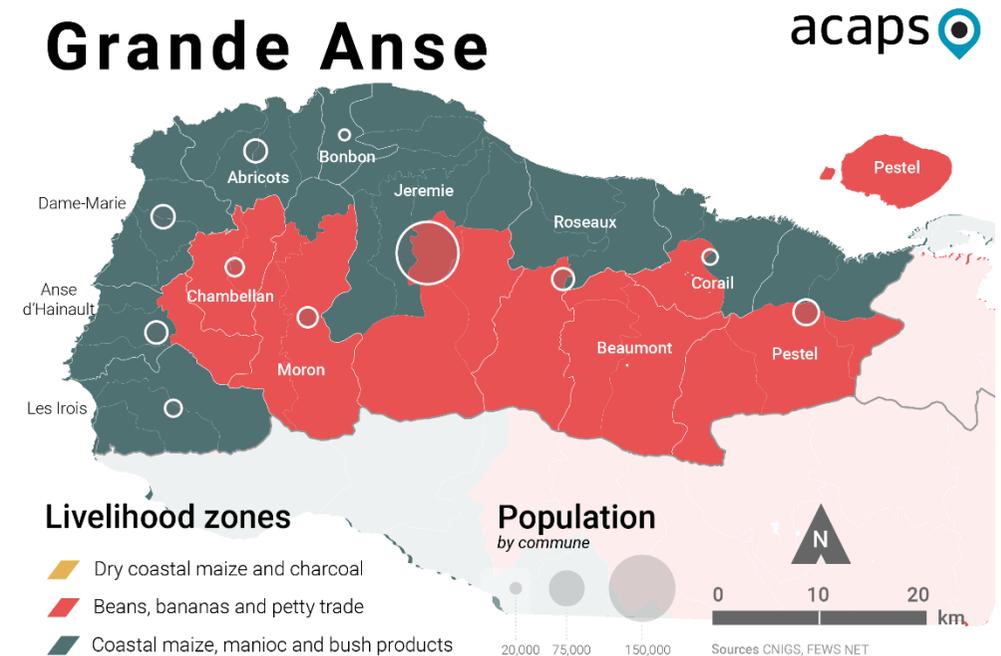
## Food security and livelihoods

**Food security:** Pre-crisis, Grand'Anse was facing Stressed (IPC Phase 2) food security conditions for August and September 2016 (CNSA 07/2016). 46% of the Grand'Anse department was moderately food insecure, and 35% marginally food insecure. 18% of families reported often missing meals. While these figures are concerning, Grand'Anse department fared slightly better than the national average on all scores. (WFP 08/2016; MSPP 2012; FEWSNET 2014).

Improved road access to Grande'Anse in recent years had contributed to better stocked markets and reduced food prices. Jérémie is the most important market in the department, particularly for the sale of local produce. In 2013, food availability was best in Jérémie, Chambellan and Moron communes, and worst in Pestel and

Corail. Root crops and maize are the staples most commonly in surplus. (FEWSNET 2014).

Map of livelihoods zones, population size, Grande'Anse department



**Livelihoods:** The predominant types of livelihoods differ between the coastal settlements and the more mountainous interior.

Agriculture is the principal source of income for 51% of the population in Grande'Anse – the highest proportion per department in Haiti. It is important both along the coast and in the mountainous interior. In the middle altitude zones of western Grande'Anse, agro-pastoral activities are also important. Other livelihoods activities include fishing, selling charcoal, and petty trade (FEWSNET 2014).

In the southern peninsula and Grande'Anse, middle-income and wealthy households engaged in agro-pastoral activities 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. Compared to other economic activities, agriculture is the least profitable, and its predominance in the area is associated with high levels of poverty (FEWSNET 2014).

## Health

There are 13 health facilities in Grand'Anse, including one major hospital, Saint-Antoine de Jérémie (Omisc Group 17/10/2016). The composite coverage index, which measures maternal and child access to health care, is at 53.5%. This is one of the lowest levels in Haiti (WHO 2012). According to the EMMUS study, challenges accessing reproductive health affect 88.3% of the female population in Grand'Anse department, compared to 81.5% nationally. In 2012, only 17.1% of women had given birth in a health center in Grand'Anse, the lowest rate in Haiti. Under five mortality was high at 94 deaths per 1000 live births (MSPP 2012).

**Cholera:** There were 103 suspected cases of cholera reported in August in Grand'Anse (OCHA 08/2016). Both the cholera attack rate (percentage of the population that contracted cholera) and the fatality rate (percentage of deaths to the total number of cases) over the last six years in Grand'Anse are relatively high at 6.8 and 3.5 respectively (PDC 2016).

### Cholera fatality rate in Haiti, October 2010–August 2016

Source: Pacific Disaster Center 2016



**HIV:** As of 2012, Grand'Anse had a HIV prevalence ratio of 1.5%, lower than the national level of 2.2%. In 2015, there were 174 VIH cases registered in Grand'Anse. (MSPP 03/2016)

**Chikungunya:** There were 1,823 cases of chikungunya fever in Grand'Anse up to 30 July (Red Cross 30/07/2016).

**Zika:** 6 Zika cases were reported in Grand'Anse, out of the 329 total number of cases in Haiti, representing 1.8% (Local source 11/02/2016)

**Malaria:** Grande'Anse accounted for 13% of total reported malaria cases in Haiti in 2014, the second-most affected department in Haiti. Dame-Marie (641) and Jérémie (367) had most cases (NCBI 06/2015).

**Immunisation** rates in Grande'Anse are generally below the national average.

### Child vaccine rates in Grande'Anse vs National, 2012

Vaccine	Grande'Anse	National Average
DiTePer (Diphtheria, Pertussis, Tetanus) <sup>1</sup>	59.9%	62.5%
Polio <sup>1</sup>	56.3%	58.6%
Measles	63.5%	65.1%
Tuberculosis (BCG)	82.8%	82.7%
All	45.0%	45.2%
No Vaccines	5.1%	6.9%

Source: MSPP 2012

<sup>1</sup>three doses

## Nutrition

Nutrition outcomes in Grand'Anse are worse than the national average: 14.5% of children under five are underweight for their age, compared to 11.4% nationally. Severe wasting among children is at 1.1% (MSPP 2012). In 2013, 68% children aged 6-59 months were suffering from anaemia, representing the highest percentage in Haiti (OCHA 12/2013). Moron, Pestel, Irois, Anse d'Hainaut, Abricot, Roseaux, Jérémie et Chambellan are the communes most at risk of spikes in malnutrition (OCHA 12/2014).

## WASH

As of 2014, only 35% of the population have access to an improved water source in Grande'Anse. However, use of purification tablets is relatively high in the department compared to others (FEWSNET 2014).

58% of families in Grand'Anse have regular access to a water source to wash their hands, less than the national average of 62%. However, soap is not always available (MSPP 2012).

Lack of latrines, poor access to potable water, absence of experienced partners in WASH and health, and weakness of health services are persistent problems in the WASH sector in Grand'Anse (OCHA 12/2012).

## 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).

Due to poor construction techniques, homes in Grande'Anse are vulnerable to natural hazards, including earthquakes and storms. However, efforts to train construction workers on safer techniques are ongoing (UNDP 02/2016).

## Education

In Grand'Anse department, primary school attendance is at 85.7%, above the national average of 77.2%. However, secondary school attendance is significantly below the national level of 25.4%, at a level of 13.5%. 14.7% of men and 22.9% of women have no education, compared to 13.0% and 14.8% nationally. 60.5% of women and 61.9% of men are literate (MSPP 2012).

## Protection

Prevalence of physical violence (percentage of women who have experienced physical violence at least once since the age of 15) in Grand'Anse is 28.9% (national average 28.2%). The percentage of women who have experienced sexual violence in Grand'Anse is also slightly higher than the 13.1% national level, at 13.8% (MSPP 2012).

The percentage of children aged 5-11 report working for at least one hour per month on economic activities, or 28 hours per month on domestic activities, is at 75.8%, significantly above the national level of 65.3% (MSPP 2012). Children working in agriculture are often exposed to toxic materials and dangerous tools (US DOL 09/2012).

The percentage of separated children (not living with their parents even though they are both alive) was 16.3% in Grand'Anse, above the 14.6% national level (MSPP 2012). The percentage of adults condoning corporal punishment of children were higher in Grande'Anse than the national average. (MSPP 2012).

## Key documents

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](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), 2012, *Enquête Mortalité, Morbidité et Utilisation des Services EMMUS-V*, <http://mspp.gouv.ht/site/downloads/EMMUS%20V%20document%20final.pdf>

United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, 2014, *Profil Humanitaire Départemental Haïti – Grand-Anse*, [https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/ru/system/files/documents/files/Profil%20Dep%20Grand-Anse\\_32415.pdf](https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/ru/system/files/documents/files/Profil%20Dep%20Grand-Anse_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