Dominican Republic at a glance:

Location: On the island of Hispaniola, part of the Greater Antilles archipelago in the Caribbean region.

Climate: The climate of the Dominican Republic is mostly tropical. The annual average temperature is 25 °C (77 °F).

Area: 18,704 sq mi

Population: 9,445,281 (2010 census)

Ethnic groups: 45% multiracial
               40% black
               15% white

Literacy: 87%

Official language: Spanish

Capitol: Santo Domingo  Government type: Unitary representative democratic republic

National Holiday: February 27 Independence Day

Economy: $9,286 in USD

Unemployment: 14.7%

Religion: 68.9% Roman Catholic,
           18.2% Evangelical
           10.6% with no religion
           2.3% other

Communication: Land lines – 678,901
               Cell phones - 6,807,831

Currency: Peso (DOP)

Currency exchange rate: $1.00 (USD) = 40.98 (DOP) (April 18, 2013)

Time Zone: The Dominican Republic is 1 hour later than Houston, TX