

# PART E Local Wages

- **Currency:**

The official currency of Haiti is the gourde, which has a variable exchange rate and is currently set at 41.366 gourdes to the U.S. dollar. Most establishments in Haiti price items in an unofficial currency known as the Haitian dollar, which has historically made one Haitian dollar equivalent to five gourdes. Others give prices in gourdes or even in U.S. dollars.



- **Wages:** According to: Cesar Vincent, Engineer, St. Marc, Haiti

The minimum wage per day in Haiti is set at 125 Gourdes per day, which translates to \$3.11 per 8 hour work day. Typically unskilled Haitian workers will earn around \$50 HT per day, which translates to \$6.25 US a day. Skilled workers, i.e. plumbers or electricians, will earn between \$80-100 HT (~\$10-12.50 US) per day.



Professionals usually take commission, a percentage of the total construction cost. For engineers this translates to a 10-20% commission and for architects, about 5-7%.

*CIA World Factbook. Central America and Caribbean: Haiti. Page last updated on May 27, 2010. Retrieved June 13, 2010.*

*Wong, Mo. "Commentary: Haiti's Minimum Wage Battle" Tuesday, August 25, 2009. Retrieved June 13, 2010.*

*<http://www.caribbeanetnews.com/news-18428--6-6--.html>*

*<http://www.montrealgazette.com/business/farming+save/3114696/story.html>*