

Comparing disasters: Chile vs. Haiti

In 2010, earthquakes occurred in Chile and Haiti with vastly different results. The earthquake in Chile was 500 times stronger than the Haitian earthquake.

Indicator	Haiti	Chili
Magnitude of the earthquake on the Richter scale	7.0	8.8
Number of deaths	more than 200,000	more than 795
Number of buildings destroyed	280,000	500,000
Period of time required to obtain a construction permit to build a basic warehouse	1,179 days	155 days
Country ranking on the worldwide corruption index	168	25
Hours before the affected country's president made the first post-quake address	168	2
Hours before the country accepted foreign assistance	0	48
Pace of World Vision United States aid	\$3.9 M in the first 48 hours, or \$81,250/hour	\$220,000 in the first 48 hours, or \$4,583/hour
Number of news articles within the first 48 hours after the earthquake	2,596	400
Citizen's average annual income	\$1,300	\$14,700
Population of country	9 million	16 million
Population living below the poverty line	80%	18.2%
Life expectancy	61 years	77 years

Source: Kurczy, Stephen, Leigh Montgomery, and Elizabeth Ryan, "Chile earthquake facts: Chile vs. Haiti, in numbers," *Christian Science Monitor Global News Blog*, March 2, 2010. www.csmonitor.com/World/Global-News/2010/0302/Chile-earthquake-facts-Chile-vs.-Haiti-in-numbers.