

Change a Life in Kenya

According to the CIA World Factbook, the Republic of Kenya on the continent of Africa has been weighed down by political turmoil for decades. This turmoil has made economic growth difficult for the country along with “weak commodity prices, endemic corruption, and low investment.” While the international finance institutions and donors had resumed lending, economic growth was slowed due to post-election violence and effects of the global finance crisis on remittance and exports. In 2008 it was estimated that 40% of the population is unemployed and 50% live below the poverty line.

Kenya has been severely affected by the years of drought according to UNICEF. Malnutrition is extremely high. Enrollment in the school system has risen, but many drop out. The political turmoil and lack of resources has caused a heightening of violence forcing many children to flee their homes and become prostitutes to provide for themselves.

For every 1,000 live births in Kenya, there are 54.7 infant deaths. Of the population of 39,002,772, 9.72 in every 1,000 die each year 150,000 of those deaths are due to HIV/AIDS as estimated in 2003. Kenyans are at a high risk for infectious diseases bacterial and protozoal diarrhea, hepatitis A, typhoid fever malaria and Rift Valley fever, schistosomiasis and rabies.