



CUBA



INTRODUCTION

The native Amerindian population of Cuba began to decline after the European discovery of the island by Christopher COLUMBUS in 1492 and following its development as a Spanish colony during the next several centuries. Fidel CASTRO led a rebel army to victory in 1959 and his authoritarian regime continues to rule.

GOVERNMENT

Chief of State

President Miguel DIAZ-CANEL Bermudez

Head of Government

Prime Minister Manuel MARRERO Cruz

Government Type

communist state

Capital

Havana

Legislature

unicameral National Assembly of People's Power or Asamblea Nacional del Poder Popular (605 seats)

GEOGRAPHY

Area

Total: 110,860 sq km
Land: 109,820 sq km
Water: 1,040 sq km

Climate

tropical; moderated by trade winds; dry season (November to April); rainy season (May to October)

Natural Resources

cobalt, nickel, iron ore, chromium, copper, salt, timber, silica, petroleum, arable land

ECONOMY

Economic Overview

still largely state-run planned economy, although privatization increasing under new constitution; widespread protests due to lack of basic necessities and electricity; massive foreign investment increases recently; known tobacco exporter; unique oil-for-doctors relationship with Venezuela; widespread corruption

GDP (Purchasing Power Parity) \$137 billion (2017 est.)

GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity) \$12,300 (2017 est.)

Industries - petroleum, nickel, cobalt, pharmaceuticals, tobacco, construction, steel, cement, agricultural machinery, sugar

Agricultural products - sugarcane, cassava, vegetables, plantains, sweet potatoes, tomatoes, milk, pumpkins, mangoes/guavas, rice

Exports \$2.63 billion (2017 est.)

cigars, raw sugar, nickel products, rum, zinc (2019)

partners: China 38%, Spain 11%, Netherlands 5%, Germany 5% (2019)

Imports \$11.06 billion (2017 est.)

poultry meat, wheat, soybean products, corn, concentrated milk (2019)

partners: Spain 19%, China 15%, Italy 6%, Canada 5%, Russia 5%, US 5%, Brazil 5% (2019)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY

Population

11 million (July 2021 est.)

Population Growth

-0.23% (2021 est.)

Ethnicity

White 64.1%, Mulatto or mixed 26.6%, black 9.3% (2012 est.)

note: data represent racial self-identification from Cuba's 2012 national census

Language

Spanish (official)

Religion

Christian 58.9%, folk religion 17.6%, Buddhist <1%, Hindu <1%, Jewish <1%, Muslim <1%, other <1%, none 23.2% (2020 est.)

