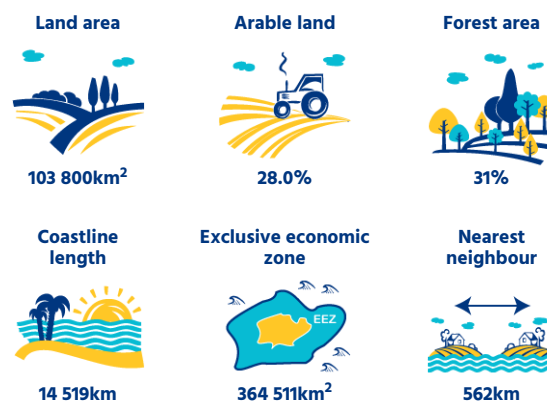




## Cuba

- > **Capital:** Havana (23°8'N, 82°23'W)
- > **International airport(s):** José Martí International Airport
- > **Official language(s):** Spanish
- > **Currency:** Cuban peso
- > **Time:** UTC -5
- > **Region:** Caribbean



### GEOGRAPHY

Cuba consists of an archipelago of islands located in the northern Caribbean Sea. Cuba is the main island, surrounded by four smaller island groups: the Colorados, the Sabana-Camagüey, the Jardines de la Reina and the Canarreos. The main island is 1 250 km long. It is the largest island in the Caribbean and 17<sup>th</sup> largest island in the world measured by land area. The Sierra Maestra mountains are located in the southeast on the main island with the highest point, "Pico Turquino" reaching 1 974 m. All in all, the country consists of more than 1 600 islands, islets and cays. The second largest individual island is the Isla de la Juventud (the Isle of Youth), which is part of the Canarreos archipelago. Havana is the largest city of Cuba and its capital. Other large cities include Santiago de Cuba and Camagüey.

### CLIMATE

Cuba has a tropical climate with a rainy season in summer. Cuba is highly vulnerable to climate variability, with rainwater its only water resource. Therefore, rain also has an important impact on agricultural activity. Average monthly temperatures range from 23 to 28 °C. The annual average rainfall is 1 376 mm. Although Cuba does not have annual hurricanes, September and October are prone to heavy rains. Monthly rainfall exceeds 150 mm from May to October. These are also the warmest months of the year. (World Bank, 2020)

### ECONOMY

Travel and tourism are important for Cuba. In 2018, over 4.7 million tourists visited Cuba (UNWTO, 2021). With few natural or mineral resources and water shortages, exacerbated by cycles of sustained drought, agriculture is mostly subsistence-level. According to the FAO (2020), over 28 per cent of the territory is classified as arable land. The soil is highly fertile, but agriculture is highly dependent on precipitation. The main crops grown include among others sugarcane, tobacco, rice, citrus fruits and potatoes. Sugar, beverages and tobacco are important export products, and the main export destinations include China, Canada and Venezuela (UNCTAD, 2021).

In 2019, agriculture accounted for about 18 per cent of employment in Cuba; roughly 24 per cent for men and 7 per cent for women. In total, two in three Cubans worked in services, four in five among women. Industry employed 10 per cent of women and 20 per cent of men. (ILO, 2020a) The Cuban economy is dominated by state-run enterprises and most people are employed by the state. Cuba is classified as an upper middle income country (World Bank, 2021a) and GDP reached US\$9 295 per capita in 2019 (UNCTAD, 2021).

### CULTURE

Music is an important part of Cuban culture and brings together influences from both Spanish and African music. The traditional music of Cuba includes cha-cha-cha, charanga, danzon, mambo, and rumba, among others. Salsa evolved from these rhythms.

In addition to music, Cuba is well known for its handmade cigars. The country produces several million cigars per year, and the International Havana Cigar Festival brings many tourists to the country

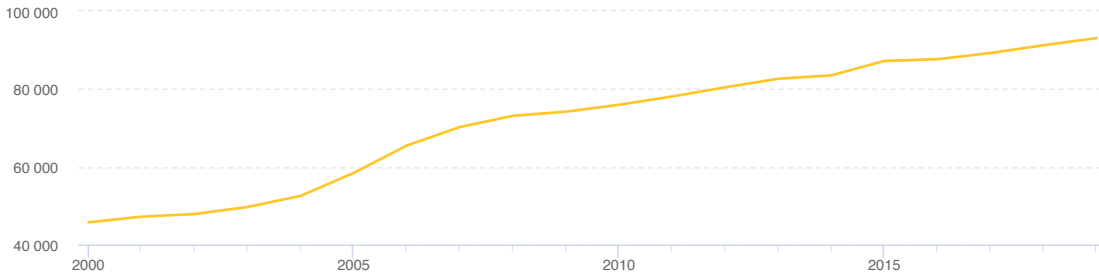
Pork is the meat of choice for traditional feasts and is often served with rice and beans. Black beans are a common ingredient and in several types of dishes. Rice with black beans is called arroz congri. Cuban cuisine uses tomatoes, cassava, lettuce, and, when afforded, chicken, beef, pork and eggs. Cuban coffee is famous, but most of its coffee is exported and Cubans themselves consume imported coffee, often from Africa.

Baseball is the most popular sport in Cuba, though other sports also play an important role in Cuban society. In the warm local climate, Cubans often wear cool and relaxed clothing with a tradition of simplicity. Guayabera is the most famous traditional clothing worn by men as a classic linen or cotton shirt, usually in white, and women wear Guayabera dresses.

**ECONOMIC TRENDS**

**Gross domestic product**

US dollars at constant prices (2015) in millions



**GDP per capita**  
**2019**



**US\$9 296**

**Productive Capacity Index**  
**2018**



**30.6**

**Economic and environmental vulnerability index**  
**2019**



**28**

**Consumer Price Index growth**  
**2019**



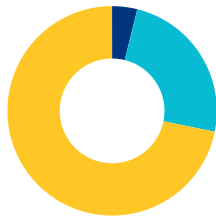
**5.4%**

**Unemployment rate**  
**2018**



**Total 1.7%**  
**Female 1.8%, Male 1.6%**

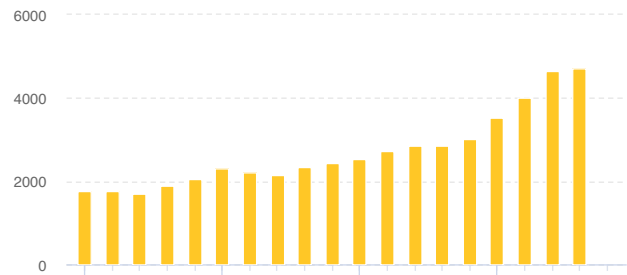
**Main economic sectors, 2019**  
Percentage of GDP



- Services
- Industry
- Agriculture, hunting, forestry, fishing

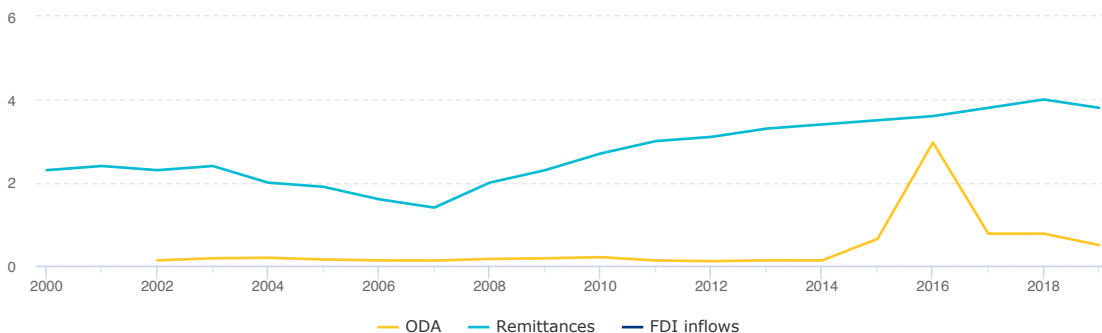
**Tourist arrivals**

Thousands of tourists, percentage of GDP



Number of tourists    Percent of GDP

**External financial resources**  
Percentage of GDP



**Public debt as % of GDP**  
**2018**



**78.2%**

**MARITIME TRANSPORT**

**Fleet size**

Number of ships

Ship type	2011	2019
Total fleet	1 407	1 407
Oil tankers	264	266
Bulk carriers	311	333
General cargo	161	77
Container ships	52	49
Other types of ships	619	682

**Port performance**

Ranked by 2019 data within SIDS group

Indicators	2019	SIDS Ranking
Number of port calls	1 933	10
Median time in port (days)	2.5	3
Average age of vessels	17	14
Average size (GT) of vessels	16 520	19

**Container port throughput**

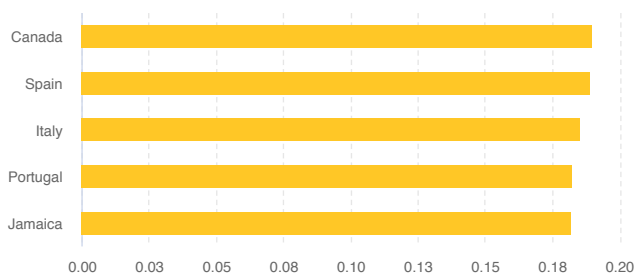
2019



**340 950 TEU**

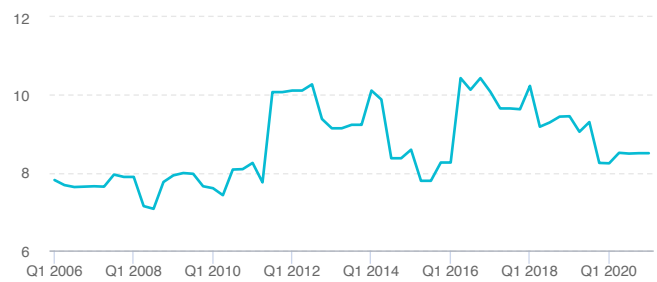
**Bilateral connectivity index, 2019**

Top 5 partners



**Liner shipping connectivity index**

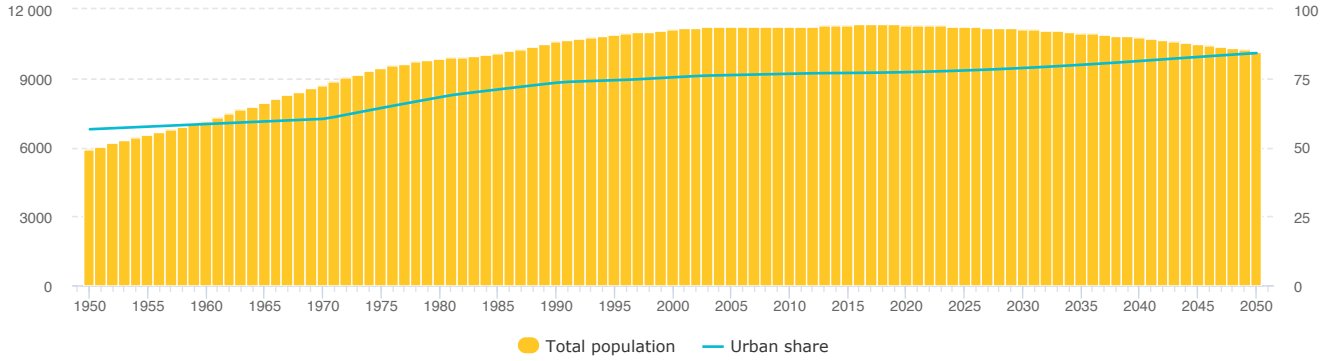
Maximum China Q1 2006=100



**POPULATION**

**Total population**

Thousands of people, share of urban population



**Population development indicators**

Indicators	Period	Value
Poverty headcount (% of population)	..	..
Human development index	2018	0.8
Human assets index	2020	98
Adult literacy rate (15+ years, both sexes %)	..	..
Gender inequality index	2019	0.3

**Life expectancy at birth**  
2019



**Population density**  
2019

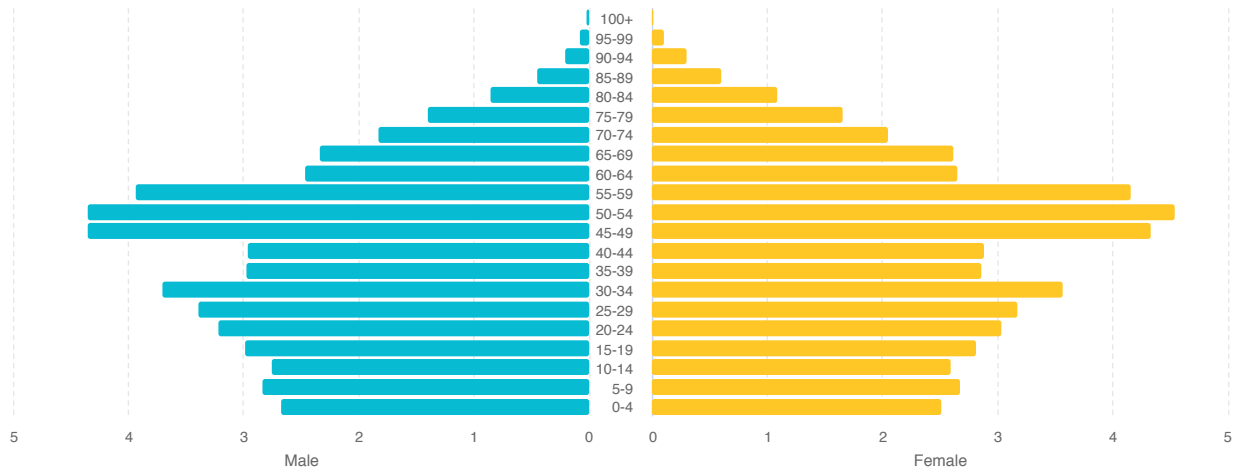


**Dependency ratio**  
2019



**Age structure by gender, 2019**

Percentage of total population



**INTERNATIONAL TRADE**

**Merchandise and services trade**

US dollars in millions

Indicators	2005	2010	2015	2019	2019 (% of GDP)
Merchandise exports	2 319	4 914	3 350	2 062	2
Merchandise imports	8 084	11 496	11 702	9 901	9.4
Services exports	7 075	10 546	11 369	0	0
Services imports	1 015	1 923	2 035	0	0

**Trade openness**  
Goods and services  
**2018**



**14% of GDP**

**Export concentration index**  
**2019**



**0.24**

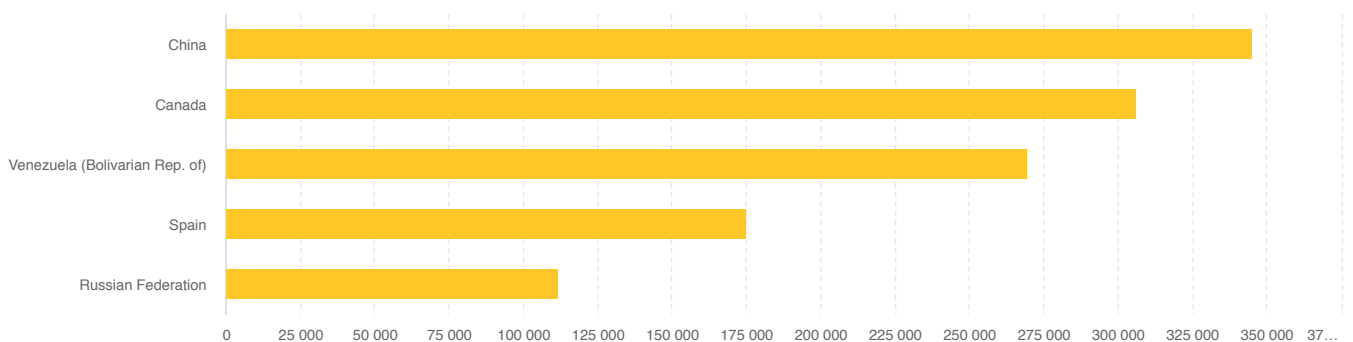
**Food import dependency**  
Average  
**2015-2019**



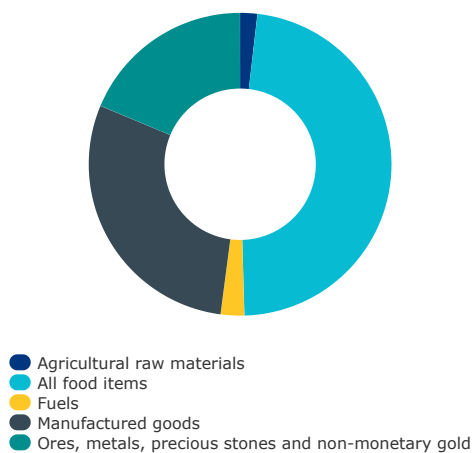
**15.76**

**Top 5 partners in merchandise trade, 2019**

Exports in millions US dollars



**Merchandise exports by product group, 2019**

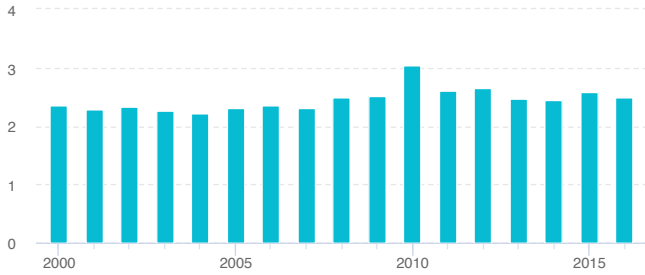


**Services exports by category, 2019**

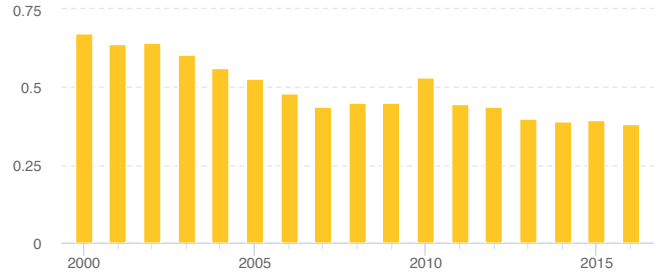


**ENVIRONMENT**

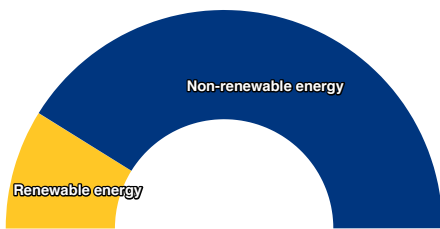
**CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per capita**  
Kg per capita



**CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per GDP**  
Kg per 2010 US\$ of GDP



**Renewable energy share in total energy consumption, 2017**  
Percentage of total energy consumption



**Material footprint per capita**  
2016



**Terrestrial protected area**  
2018



**Marine protected area**  
2018



**Disasters indicators**

Data not available

**INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY**

**Trade in ICT goods**  
2006



Exports: 0.7%  
Imports: 2.1%

**Trade in ICT services**  
..



Exports: ..%  
Imports: ..%

**Share of internet users**  
2017



57%

**Fixed broadband vs Mobile broadband subscriptions**  
Number of subscriptions per 100 people



## Sources

Source of data: UNCTAD (2021) except indicators listed below.

- Adult literacy rate: UNESCO Institute for Statistics (2021)
- Arable land: World Bank (2021b) <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/AG.LND.ARBL.ZS>
- CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per capita: World Bank (2021b) <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/EN.ATM.CO2E.PC>
- CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per GDP: World Bank (2021b) <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/EN.ATM.CO2E.KD.GD>
- Distance to nearest neighbour: [NO\_PRINTED\_FORM] (Package “cshapes,” 2016) <https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/cshapes/index.html>
- Economic losses due to disasters: United Nations (2021) [https://www.sdg.org/datasets/e3adb2406c2e452b81c3654e276fc5ca\\_0](https://www.sdg.org/datasets/e3adb2406c2e452b81c3654e276fc5ca_0)
- Exclusive economic zone: Sea Around Us (2016) <http://www.seararoundus.org/>
- Fixed broadband/mobile subscriptions: ITU (2019). World telecommunication/ICT indicators database. Available at <https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Statistics/Pages/publications/wtid.aspx> (accessed 28 May 2020).
- Forest area: World Bank (2021b) <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/AG.LND.FRST.ZS>
- Gender inequality index: UNDP (2020). Gender inequality index (GII), <http://hdr.undp.org/en/content/gender-inequality-index-gii>
- Human assets index: UNESCO Institute for Statistics (2021) <http://data.uis.unesco.org/>
- Human development index: UNDP (2021) <http://hdr.undp.org/en/data#>
- Life expectancy at birth: World Bank (2021b) <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.DYN.LE00.IN>
- Marine protected area: World Bank (2021b) <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/ER.MRN.PTMR.ZS>
- Material footprint: UNEP (2021) [https://environmentlive.unep.org/indicator/index/12\\_2\\_1](https://environmentlive.unep.org/indicator/index/12_2_1)
- Number of people affected by disasters: United Nations (2021) [https://www.sdg.org/datasets/1beb260e9ca14674b391b815e4874990\\_0](https://www.sdg.org/datasets/1beb260e9ca14674b391b815e4874990_0)
- ODA: OECD (2021) <https://stats.oecd.org>
- Percentage of population in low elevated coastal zones: World Bank (2021b) <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/EN.POP.EL5M.ZS>
- Poverty headcount ratio: World Bank (2021b) <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SI.POV.DDAY>
- Renewable energy share in total energy consumption: World Bank (2021b) <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/EN.ATM.CO2E.KD.GD>
- Share of internet users: ITU (2019). World telecommunication/ICT indicators database. Available at <https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Statistics/Pages/publications/wtid.aspx> (accessed 28 May 2020).
- Terrestrial protected area: World Bank (2021b) <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/ER.LND.PTLD.ZS>
- Tourism: UNWTO (2020) Compendium of Tourism Statistics dataset [Electronic], UNWTO, Madrid, data updated on 21/09/2020.
- Unemployment rate, total/female/male: ILO (2020b) [https://www.ilo.org/shinyapps/bulkexplorer2/?lang=en&segment=indicator&id=SDG\\_0852\\_SEX\\_AGE\\_RT\\_A](https://www.ilo.org/shinyapps/bulkexplorer2/?lang=en&segment=indicator&id=SDG_0852_SEX_AGE_RT_A)
- World risk index: Bündnis Entwicklung Hilft (2020): <https://weltrisikobericht.de/download/1386/>

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