

A Rare Look Inside Cuban Society: A New Survey of Cuban Public Opinion

Conducted and funded by NORC at the University of Chicago

Interviews: 10/3-11/26/2016

840 Cuban adults

Margin of error: +/- 3.8 percentage points at the 95% confidence level among all adults

NOTE: All results show percentages among all respondents, unless otherwise labeled.

A01. When you think about how things are going in your life in general, would you say you are very happy, somewhat happy, neither happy nor unhappy, somewhat unhappy, or very unhappy?

	AP-NORC 10/3- 11/26/2016
Very/Somewhat happy NET	57
Very happy	17
Somewhat happy	40
Neither happy nor unhappy	32
Somewhat/Very unhappy NET	11
Somewhat unhappy	8
Very unhappy	3
DON'T KNOW	-
REFUSED	-

N=

840

A02. Generally speaking, would you say that things in this country are headed in the right direction or in the wrong direction?

	AP-NORC 10/3- 11/26/2016
Right direction	53
Wrong direction	36
DON'T KNOW	7
REFUSED	4

N=

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A03. Please tell me if you have a favorable, unfavorable or neither favorable nor unfavorable view of each of the following people and institutions? If you have never heard of a person or institution, please tell me and we will move on.

	Strongly/ Somewhat favorable NET	Strongly favorable	Somewhat favorable	Neither favorable nor unfavorable	Strongly/ Somewhat unfavorable NET	Somewhat unfavorable	Strongly unfavorable	Never heard of	DK/ REF
The United Nations	59	26	33	25	6	4	2	8	2
The Catholic Church	69	36	34	18	8	5	3	3	1
U.S. President Barack Obama	75	34	41	20	3	1	1	1	1
Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin	47	9	38	22	16	12	3	13	2
Pope Francis	81	52	29	12	5	3	2	1	1
Mexican President Enrique Peña Nieto	40	8	33	25	16	11	5	17	2
Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro	69	23	46	19	8	4	4	3	1

N=840

A04. For each of the following countries, please tell me if you have a favorable, unfavorable or neither favorable nor unfavorable view of each of these countries?

	Strongly/ Somewhat favorable NET	Strongly favorable	Somewhat favorable	Neither favorable nor unfavorable	Strongly/ Somewhat unfavorable NET	Somewhat unfavorable	Strongly unfavorable	DK/ REF
Jamaica	24	10	14	26	38	19	19	12
Haiti	19	5	14	27	44	24	21	9
The Dominican Republic	31	8	24	38	23	17	6	8
Mexico	58	12	46	28	9	7	2	5
The United States of America	77	36	40	18	4	3	1	2
Brazil	67	29	38	20	9	7	1	4
Guatemala	20	4	16	33	37	18	19	9
Colombia	37	10	27	40	18	13	5	6
Canada	66	27	38	23	8	6	2	3
The United Kingdom	44	11	33	30	14	10	4	12
Russia	67	29	38	21	8	6	2	3
Germany	65	23	42	25	6	4	2	5
China	85	47	37	10	3	2	1	2

N=840

A05. Overall, do you think the normalization of relations between the governments in Cuba and The United States of America will be mostly good for Cuba, mostly bad for Cuba, or do you think it will not have much of an impact on Cuba?

	AP-NORC 10/3- 11/26/2016
Mostly good for Cuba	55
Mostly bad for Cuba	3
Will not have an impact	26
DON'T KNOW	13
REFUSED	3

N=

840

If “mostly good” in A05

A05A. And, why would you say the normalization of relations between the governments in Cuba and the United States of American will be mostly good for Cuba?

[MULTIPLE RESPONSES ACCEPTED; EACH RESPONSE WAS CODED]

	AP-NORC 10/3- 11/26/2016
It is a developed country/world power	2
Its help is indispensable	1
Increase in trade/Commercial ties/Commercial development/Foreign Investment'	12
Reconciliation/Family closeness	6
Meeting of cultures	1
Cuba is the key to the Pacific for the United States	*
Changes in government would benefit Cuba/Development	3
The relationship between countries improves	10
Benefit for Cuba/Better opportunities	12
Better access to technology	5
Cuba would undergo a political change	*
The ports of entry and exit are open to travel	19
There would be a change in sports	*
More products would arrive	4
Communications would improve	2
The economy would increase/Financial development	37
Hospital infrastructure would improve	*
Medicine would improve	1
With Castro in power, relations will be slow	1
The blockade would be eliminated	13
Strategy to do away with offenses	*
The standard of living would improve	12
Jobs would increase	2
Transport would improve	1
See development in Cuba	3
Death at high sea would be prevented	1
Tourism increases	1
Benefit for both countries	1
It only favors the government	*
More opportunities for young people	1

A Rare Look Inside Cuban Society: A New Survey of Cuban Public Opinion

We would have equality in the country	1
REFUSED	*
N=	488

If “mostly bad” in A05

A05A. And, why would you say the normalization of relations between the governments in Cuba and the United States of American will be mostly bad for Cuba?

[MULTIPLE RESPONSES ACCEPTED; EACH RESPONSE WAS CODED]

	AP-NORC 10/3- 11/26/2016
Increase in trade/Commercial ties/Commercial development/Foreign Investment'	3
The relationship between countries improves	3
The economy would increase/Financial development	3
With Castro in power, relations will be slow	5
There will be no peace between governments	8
Strategy to do away with offenses	4
Increase in weapons	4
Prostitution increases	4
We would lose the country/Take over Cuba	24
We have nothing to offer and vice versa	3
Increase in corruption / Drugs	12
It only favors the government	14
They want to change everything in their own way	12
REFUSED	9
N=	19

A6. How would you rate the condition of this country's economy today? Is it excellent, good, fair, poor, or very poor?

	AP-NORC 10/3- 11/26/2016
Excellent/Good NET	13
Excellent	3
Good	10
Fair	35
Poor/Very poor NET	46
Poor	34
Very poor	11
DON'T KNOW	4
REFUSED	3

N=

840

A7. Compared to 3 years ago, would you say that the condition of this country's economy is better, worse, or about the same today as it was then?

	AP-NORC 10/3- 11/26/2016
Much/Somewhat better NET	25
Much better	4
Somewhat better	21
About the same	54
Somewhat/Much worse NET	16
Somewhat worse	13
Much worse	3
DON'T KNOW	3
REFUSED	2

N=

840

A8. Looking ahead 3 years from now, do you think the condition of this country's economy will be better, worse, or about the same then as it is today?

	AP-NORC 10/3- 11/26/2016
Much/Somewhat better NET	30
Much better	8
Somewhat better	22
About the same	47
Somewhat/Much worse NET	8
Somewhat worse	7
Much worse	1
DON'T KNOW	13
REFUSED	2

N=

840

A9. How would you rate the condition of your family's finances today? Are they excellent, good, fair, poor, or very poor?

	AP-NORC 10/3- 11/26/2016
Excellent/Good NET	18
Excellent	2
Good	16
Fair	57
Poor/Very poor NET	24
Poor	21
Very poor	3
DON'T KNOW	*
REFUSED	*

N=

840

A10. Compared to 3 years ago, would you say that the condition of your family's finances is better, worse, or about the same today as it was then?

	AP-NORC 10/3- 11/26/2016
Much/Somewhat better NET	26
Much better	5
Somewhat better	21
About the same	66
Somewhat/Much worse NET	6
Somewhat worse	5
Much worse	1
DON'T KNOW	1
REFUSED	*

N=

840

A11. Looking ahead 3 years from now, do you think the condition of your family's finances will be better, worse, or about the same today as it is today?

	AP-NORC 10/3- 11/26/2016
Much/Somewhat better NET	26
Much better	9
Somewhat better	17
About the same	57
Somewhat/Much worse NET	4
Somewhat worse	3
Much worse	1
DON'T KNOW	13
REFUSED	1

N=

840

A12. How serious of a problem are each of the following in this country today? For each one, please tell me if it is an extremely serious problem, very serious, somewhat serious, not too serious, or not at all serious of a problem. How about...

	Extremely/ Very serious NET	Extremely serious	Very serious	Somewhat serious	Not too/Not at all serious NET	Not too serious	Not at all serious	DK/ REF
Unemployment	29	8	21	34	36	25	10	1
Pollution	26	7	19	25	47	35	12	1
Crime	51	15	36	29	19	14	5	1
Access to education	4	*	4	6	89	16	73	1
Access to medical care	4	1	3	6	89	22	66	1
Poverty	41	18	23	27	31	22	9	1
Terrorism	8	2	7	8	81	14	66	3
Drug abuse	25	5	20	34	39	29	11	2
Corruption	38	12	26	25	35	26	8	3
Internet access	41	26	16	24	21	16	6	13

N=840

A13. Generally speaking, would you say that most people can be trusted or that you need to be very careful in dealing with them?

	AP-NORC 10/3- 11/26/2016
Most people can be trusted	18
Need to be careful	78
DON'T KNOW	3
REFUSED	1

N=

840

**A14. People sometimes talk about what the goals of the country should be for the next ten years.
How important are each of the following goals to you personally?**

	Extremely/ Very important NET	Extremely important	Very important	Somewhat important	Not too/Not at all important NET	Not too important	Not at all important	DK/ REF
A high level of economic growth	95	52	43	4	1	*	*	*
Making sure this country has strong defense forces	67	27	41	21	8	7	1	2
Seeing that people have more say about how things are done at their jobs	62	20	42	28	8	6	2	2
Seeing that people have more say about how things are done in their communities	63	19	44	28	9	6	3	*
Trying to make the countryside more beautiful	66	27	39	22	11	10	1	*
Maintaining stability in the country	87	46	41	10	3	2	1	1

N=840

A15. Should there be more private ownership of business and industry, or should there be more government ownership of business and industry?

	AP-NORC 10/3- 11/26/2016
More private ownership	65
More government ownership	29
DON'T KNOW	4
REFUSED	1

N=

840

A16. Should incomes be made more equal, or are larger income differences okay as incentives for people to work harder?

	AP-NORC 10/3- 11/26/2016
Incomes should be made more equal	42
Larger income differences are okay as incentives for people to work harder	49
DON'T KNOW	7
REFUSED	1
<i>N=</i>	<i>840</i>

A17. Which comes closer to your view?

	AP-NORC 10/3- 11/26/2016
Competition is good. It stimulates people to work hard and develop new ideas.	68
Competition is harmful. It brings out the worst in people.	25
DON'T KNOW	6
REFUSED	1
<i>N=</i>	<i>840</i>

A18. Some people believe Cuba should encourage more tourism to the country while others believe tourism should be limited. Which comes closer to your view of tourism in Cuba?

	AP-NORC 10/3- 11/26/2016
Tourism should be expanded	84
Tourism should stay the same	13
Tourism should be limited	3
DON'T KNOW	1
REFUSED	*
<i>N=</i>	<i>840</i>

A19. If tourism in Cuba were expanded, how likely or unlikely would it be for each of the following to happen?

	Very/ Somewhat likely NET	Very likely	Somewhat likely	Neither likely nor unlikely	Somewhat/ Very unlikely NET	Somewhat unlikely	Very unlikely	DK/ REF
An improvement in the country's economy	96	74	22	3	1	*	*	1
More jobs for local workers	87	45	42	9	4	3	*	1
Increased crime	36	14	23	26	30	15	15	8
More foreign influence over the nation's culture	63	28	35	22	11	8	3	4

N=840

**A20. What are your main sources of news about what is going on in this country and in the world?
Please select all that apply.**

	AP-NORC 10/3- 11/26/2016
State-owned TV stations	94
Foreign news sources	21
State-owned newspapers	54
Radio stations based in Cuba	52
Radio stations based in other countries	4
Family, friends, and/or neighbors	56
Internet	8
DON'T KNOW	*
REFUSED	-

N=

840

A21. On this list are various groups of people. Could you please point out any that you would not like to have as neighbors?

	AP-NORC 10/3- 11/26/2016
Drug addicts	55
People with a criminal record	26
People who have HIV/AIDS	16
Heavy drinkers	46
Emotionally unstable people	19
Homosexuals	21
People of a different race/ethnicity	7
Immigrants/foreign workers	8
Muslims	25
None	32

N=

840

A22. If you were given the opportunity, would you like to leave Cuba and live in another country or not?

	AP-NORC 10/3- 11/26/2016
Yes	54
No	43
DON'T KNOW	2
REFUSED	1

N=

840

If "yes" in A22

A23. In which country would you most like to go to live?

	AP-NORC 10/3- 11/26/2016
The United States	67
Spain	11
Italy	8
Canada	5
France	2
Venezuela	1
Other (specify)	5
DON'T KNOW	*
REFUSED	-

N= 471

A24. Do you personally have family members living in another country right now or not?

	AP-NORC 10/3- 11/26/2016
Yes	64
No	36
DON'T KNOW	*
REFUSED	*

N= 840

If "yes" in A24

A25. In which countries do you have family members living? Please select all that apply.

	AP-NORC 10/3- 11/26/2016
The United States	76
Spain	18
Italy	10
Canada	2
France	3
Venezuela	3
Other (specify)	8
DON'T KNOW	*
REFUSED	-

N= 543

If "yes" in A24

A26. How often, on average, do you communicate with family members who live outside of Cuba?

	AP-NORC 10/3- 11/26/2016
Daily	4
Once a week	6
Several times a month	33
Once a month	12
A few times a year	27
Less than once a year	8
DON'T KNOW	2
REFUSED	7
N=	543

A27. Do you receive any money from friends or family members who live outside of Cuba, or not?

	AP-NORC 10/3- 11/26/2016
Yes	47
No	53
DON'T KNOW	-
REFUSED	*
N=	840

If "yes" in A27

A28. Thinking about the friends or family members who send you money from other countries, how are they related to you personally?

	AP-NORC 10/3- 11/26/2016
Brother/Sister	53
Father/Mother	13
Son/Daughter	24
Husband/Wife	10
Aunt/Uncle	14
Friend	14
Other (specify)	13
DON'T KNOW	-
REFUSED	-
N=	405

A29. Thinking about the next 5 years, which of these goals, if any, would you like to achieve for you or your family?

	AP-NORC 10/3- 11/26/2016
Travel abroad	67
Start your own business	56
Purchase a car	56
Purchase a house	36
Enroll in college	7
Reconnect with relatives living abroad	9
Get access to the Internet	17
DON'T KNOW	5
REFUSED	3
N=	840

If "travel abroad" in A29

A30. To which countries would you most like to travel to in the next 5 years?

	AP-NORC 10/3- 11/26/2016
The United States	81
Spain	43
Italy	36
Canada	28
France	27
Venezuela	10
Other (specify)	14
DON'T KNOW	*
REFUSED	-
N=	581

A31. Do you feel that you can always express yourself freely or do you feel you must be careful in what you say sometimes?

	AP-NORC 10/3- 11/26/2016
I can always express myself freely	21
I must be careful in what I say	76
DON'T KNOW	2
REFUSED	1
<i>N=</i>	<i>840</i>

The following questions are for classification purposes only. Be assured that your responses will be combined with those of other participants to this survey.

Z1. Respondent's gender

	AP-NORC 10/3- 11/26/2016
Male	49
Female	51
<i>N=</i>	<i>840</i>

Z2. In which of the following groups does your age fall in?

	AP-NORC 10/3- 11/26/2016
18-24	12
25-29	8
30-34	6
35-39	9
40-44	10
45-49	13
50-54	10
55-59	7
60-64	7
65 and older	18
DON'T KNOW	-
REFUSED	-
<i>N=</i>	<i>840</i>

Z3. Which of the following durables (goods) does your household own?

	AP-NORC 10/3- 11/26/2016
Air conditioner	25
Car	9
Hi-fi stereo with CD/VCD/DVD (any kind of disc)	54
Radio cassette without CD/VCD/DVD	48
Computer	24
Telephone (landline)	26
Cellular phone	56
Refrigerator	94
Gas or electric cooker	83
Bike	47
Washing machine	73
DON'T KNOW	-
REFUSED	-

N=

840

Z4. Do you have any way to access to the internet or not?

	AP-NORC 10/3- 11/26/2016
Yes	47
No	51
DON'T KNOW	1
REFUSED	1

N=

840

If “yes” in Z4

Z5. From where do you access the internet?

	AP-NORC 10/3- 11/26/2016
Internet café	4
Connection at work	8
Connection at school	1
Connection at home	6
Connection through cellular towers	90
DON'T KNOW	*
REFUSED	-

N=

440

If “yes” in Z4

Z6. How often do you access the internet?

	AP-NORC 10/3- 11/26/2016
Every day	9
Several times a week	11
Several times a month	40
Once a month or less	34
DON'T KNOW	5
REFUSED	2

N=

440

Z7. Please let me know your current occupation.

	AP-NORC 10/3- 11/26/2016
Self-employed	13
Blue collar worker	21
White collar worker	6
Agricultural worker	5
Professional (lawyer, doctor, teacher)	7
Manager/Deputy manager	1
General director/Director/Deputy director	1
Housewife	19
Student	8
Retired	11
Unemployed and looking for work	4
Unemployed and not looking for work	3
DON'T KNOW	-
SKIP/REFUSED	*

N=

840

Z8. What is the highest level of education you have completed?

	AP-NORC 10/3- 11/26/2016
No formal education	*
Elementary school incomplete	*
Finished elementary school	1
Secondary school incomplete	3
Finished secondary school	17
Vocational school/training incomplete	20
Finished vocation school/diploma	37
Some university or college – incomplete	7
University or college degree – complete	11
Post graduate work or degree	1
DON'T KNOW	*
SKIP/REFUSED	1

N=

840

Z9. Please let me know which of the following categories your yearly personal income falls into.

	AP-NORC 10/3- 11/26/2016
Less than 1,000 CUP per year	11
1,000-2,000 CUP per year	7
2,001-3,000 CUP per year	8
3,001-4,000 CUP per year	7
4,001-5,000 CUP per year	7
5,001-6,000 CUP per year	7
6,001-7,000 CUP per year	4
7,001-8,000 CUP per year	3
8,001-9,000 CUP per year	6
9,001-10,000 CUP per year	7
Over 10,000 CUP per year	13
DON'T KNOW	8
SKIP/REFUSED	12

N=

840

Z10. What is your religion, if any?

	AP-NORC 10/3- 11/26/2016
Catholic	28
Santeria or Order of Osha	17
Evangelical	1
Protestant	*
Christian (other)	6
Jewish (Judaism)	-
Muslim (Islam)	-
Buddhist	-
Atheist	1
Believe in god but do not belong to a particular religion	22
None of the above	24
Other (specify)	1
DON'T KNOW	*
SKIP/REFUSED	*

N=

840

Methodology

This survey, funded by NORC at the University of Chicago, was conducted by NORC with fieldwork by GfK Latin America.

The poll was conducted in Spanish with in-person interviews of 840 adults. The survey featured a national random route-sample of adults 18 years and older in Cuba. Preliminary fieldwork was conducted between April 9 and April 24, 2016. Very minor changes were made to the instrument, and these interviews were retained. The main field period was October 3 through November 26, 2016. The sample coverage excluded several areas in Eastern Cuba (with about 15 percent of the national population) that were damaged by Hurricane Matthew, which occurred in October 2016 in the midst of the survey fieldwork.

At the first stage, the population was stratified into three groups, based on population size, for each of three different regions of the country (Western, Central, and Eastern). At the second stage, secondary sample units were randomly selected from a full list of settlement districts. At the third stage, a starting address point was assigned for each district. Within-household selection was based on the sex and gender quotas.

Interviewers selected and visited 4,623 addresses where they had a contact. Among those contacted, 29 percent responded. Including non-contacts, the cumulative response rate is 18 percent. The overall margin of error +/- 3.8 percentage points at the 95 percent confidence level (including the design effect). Poststratification variables included age, sex, and urban or rural type of settlement. The data are weighted to reflect the Cuban population based on the 2012 Census.

All differences reported between subgroups of the Cuba population are at the 95 percent level of statistical significance, meaning that there is only a 5 percent (or lower) probability that the observed differences could be attributed to chance variation in sampling.

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