A RARE LOOK INSIDE CUBAN SOCIETY: A NEW SURVEY OF CUBAN PUBLIC OPINION

Cuba is an island nation located about 90 miles from Key West, Florida, with a population of approximately 11 million. In spite of Cuba’s close proximity, much is unknown about the Cuban public due to more than five decades of severed economic and diplomatic ties between the United States and Cuba dating back to the early Cold War. Though the trade embargo remains intact, the United States and Cuba officially restored diplomatic relations in 2015.

NORC at the University of Chicago has undertaken a major study on the attitudes and opinions of the Cuban public. This survey provides new insights into Cuban life and culture, the economic views of the Cuban people, and how Cubans view the rest of the world.

Most Cubans say the normalization of relations between the governments of the United States and Cuba will be good for Cuba.

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<th>Mostly good</th>
<th>Mostly bad</th>
<th>Of no impact</th>
<th>Don’t know</th>
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<td>55</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>26</td>
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Access to foreign news sources shapes how Cubans perceive the world around them.

In Cuba, the government owns the mainstream media outlets and highly regulates the content. 1 in 4 Cubans say they get news from foreign news sources, radio stations based outside of Cuba, or the internet.

Most Cubans have family living abroad.

Sixty-four percent of Cubans say they have family members living in another country.

Where in the world are Cubans moving?

By far, more Cubans have family living in the United States than in any other country.

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<th>United States</th>
<th>Spain</th>
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<tr>
<td>76%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>10%</td>
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France Venezuela Canada

3% 3% 2%

Over half of Cubans say they’d like to leave Cuba if given the opportunity.

Say they would leave Cuba 54% Say they would not leave Cuba 43%

The nationally representative survey of Cubans age 18 and older was conducted by NORC at the University of Chicago between October 3 and November 26, 2016 with in-person interviews of 840 respondents. The results have a margin of sampling error of ± 3.8 percentage points.