

**Sustainable Community Development and STEAM Fields:
What We Can Learn from a Changing Cuba.**

The Changing Face of Cuba

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Cuban population

- The Cuban population is made up of 11,238,661 people distributed in 15 provinces and 168 municipalities.
- The sex ratio is 993 men per 1,000 women.
 - In absolute numbers, 36,853 more women than men, for a slight but persistent trend to population feminization, since 2012



A wide-angle photograph of a calm, deep blue ocean stretching to the horizon. The sky is a clear, vibrant blue with wispy white clouds. On the left side, a bright sun is partially visible, creating a shimmering, multi-colored reflection on the water's surface. The overall scene is serene and expansive.

EDUCATION

Education

- It is a right of all citizens.
- The right to education is free.
- It is mandatory until the 9th grade of schooling.



Challenges for education in Cuba

- Infrastructure and material conditions in schools
- Use of communication technologies, mainly in Higher Education
- Deficit technical resources in special schools
- Emerging sectors of the economy better paid than teachers.



Current and novel aspects of Cuban education

Private lessons (prepare students to have better knowledge) to improve performance in exams

Private language schools

Private day-care centers

(All these new figures pay taxes imposed by the job offer).

Context in which the current Cuban youth has grown:

Complexity at both the national and international stage:

- Collapse of the socialist block,
- Special Period,
- Dual currency,
- Opening to tourism,
- Openness to new technologies,
- Openness to sexual diversity
- Increasing inequalities,
- World crisis
- Update immigration policy
- Cuba-US relationships



Public Health

Public health

It is the most sensitive dimension of human welfare:

- facilitates the integration and participation of healthy citizens in their society
- properly cares for the family so they can study, work, develop their skills and perform various social functions.

Therefore, indicators are goals of social development.
Social policies are essential for success.

Public Health in Cuba has among its main functions the promotion, prevention, recovery-healing and rehabilitation.

Public health is a right of all citizens and one of the strategic objectives in the development process.

Cuba is making great efforts for the radical transformation of public health and raising the quality of service.

Primary health care is the guiding principle of the Cuban model, expressed through polyclinics and family medicine clinics; the latter consists of an interdisciplinary team *par excellence*, with the doctor and family nurse as fundamental elements and where, in addition to healing and rehabilitation, prevention and health promotion, *health education* is a priority.



Principles that characterize Public Health in Cuba.

- Health promotion to prevent the outbreak of disease and to eliminate the root causes, whenever possible.
- Socialist nature of the state.
- General accessibility and gratuity.
- A unique system of health services, subordinate to a single core group.
- Planned development.
- Unity of science, teaching and medical practice.
- Mass participation.
- International collaboration

Health workers

- Cuba has 495,609 health workers, representing 6.8% of the population of working age.
 - 70.6% are women.
- The rate of population per doctor is 127, with 78.4 doctors per 10,000 inhabitants.
 - Inhabitants per stomatologist: 640 and 15.6 dentists per 10,000 inhabitants.

Medical institutions in Cuba

Hospitals	151
Intensive care units	109
Intensive areas municipal	120
Polyclinics	451
Dental clinics	110
Maternity homes	136
Research institutes	12
Medical library	707
Nursing homes	147
Seniors centres (“grandparents houses”)	265
Geriatric services	49
Educational psychology centers.	30
Comprehensive rehabilitation services	450 rooms in primary health care.

Human resources dedicated to health training

Universities	13
Medical Faculties	25
Faculties of Stomatology	4
Faculties of Nursing	1
Faculties of Health Technology	1
Faculty of Technology and Nursing	3
Medical Science Subsidiaries	15
Latin American School of Medicine	1
National School of Public Health	1
Cojimar Preparatory School	1

Reproduction of the Cuban population

- The reproduction rate of the Cuban population is low. In 2015 the number of births increased by 2,421 compared to 2014.
- The birth rate is 11.1 live births per 1,000 inhabitants for a 1.8 percent increase over the previous year.
- 19.4% of people are aged 60 and older.

Infant mortality rate

- For eight consecutive years, the rate has remained below 5.0: in 2015 a rate of 4.3 deaths under one year per 1,000 live births.
- The mortality rate of under-five years is 5.7 per 1,000 live births and the percentage of survival at that age is 99.4%.

- The immunization program protects against 13 diseases, with 100% vaccination coverage in all population groups.
- Fourteen infectious diseases are eliminated, nine others are not significant health problems with rates below 0.1 per 100,000 inhabitants and five diseases have incidence rates at very low levels.

Primary Care System (APS)

It is a fundamental feature of the National Health System of Cuba, which is designed structurally and functionally to solve about 80% of the health problems of the population and provide the promotion and protection of health.

Countries in which Cuba provides health cooperation, by region. 2015

AMERICAS	24
AFRICA SOUTH OF SAHARA	28
MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA	2
EAST ASIA AND THE PACIFIC	9
CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE	2
Total	65

Challenges for Cuban Public Health

- Overloading of health personnel in family doctors' offices, staffed by more than 60% women, many of whom also experience reproductive duties in a society where daily life has many complications and reconciling domestic lives and public roles is very difficult.
- The lack of materials and resources that affect quality of care, specifically drug shortages.
- Construction and repair of public health facilities.
- Support for staff working in public health.
- Accelerated aging of Cuban society.

Necessary changes in the Public Health System

(adopted Guidelines for Economic and Social Policy of the Sixth Congress of the Communist Party of Cuba)

- Achieve a reorganization of health services
- Greater efficiency and rational use of resources
- Maximum use of existing services in the territory, delivering medical care with the highest quality and the lowest possible cost.





Other key aspects of Cuban society



Self-employment (private sector)

Self-employment (private sector)

- August 1, 2010: the State announced the decision to expand the private work, for use as an alternative employment of surplus workers.
- October 8, 2010, Resolution No. 32: regulates the activity, in order to temper this to the changes that were being made in the country.

Around 502 000 400 people across the country are exercising self-employment. The provinces of Havana, Matanzas, Villa Clara, Camaguey, Holguin and Santiago de Cuba grouped as much self-employment with 65 percent of the total.



Currently self-employment needs to be promoted through the following efforts:

- Encourage entrepreneurship (training, promoting new business ideas, supporting project design, etc).
- Creating a favorable business environment (creating regulations that facilitate and promote the process).
- Education is the main thing. It is important that society recognizes personal initiative as positive and should be improved.



International Tourism

International tourism

At the close of July 2016, it registered a growth of 11.8% to reach the country 2,449,274 visitors, meaning 259,250 more than in the same period last year.

In July, Cuba received 301,376 visitors, representing 13.0% more than in the same month of 2015 - 34,655 more than in the same period last year.

Arrival of international visitors by countries.

Fuente: ONEI, julio de 2016.

Countries	2015	2016	2016/2015%
Visitors	266 721	301 376	113,0
Canada	72 329	73 681	101,9
Cuban community abroad	41 556	43 287	104,2
United States of America	14 658	21 082	143,8
England	13 304	15 472	116,3
Mexico	12 211	15 434	126,4
Spain	12 527	14 885	118,8
France	10 752	14 496	134,8



Cuba-US relations

Cuba-US relations



On December 17, 2014 United States and Cuba after a dialogue between representatives of both nations began talks to restore diplomatic relations.

Cuba-US joint actions

- On August 31, 2016 Anthony Fox, Secretary of Transportation of the United States, traveled to Cuba coinciding with the arrival of the Airbus A-320 of airline JetBlue, which activates regular flights between the two countries. These were interrupted by more than half a century.
- In September 8-9, Cuba was visited by a delegation of the United States, led by Daniel Marti, coordinator of the Executive Office of the President of that country for Intellectual Property issues.
- Officials from Cuba and the United States held meetings in September 12 in Washington to begin the Bilateral Economic Dialogue.
- On 15 September 2016, the first meeting on cooperation in criminal matters between the authorities of Cuba and the United States was held in the Cuban capital.

Adonia cruise will have two new outlets to Cuba by strong demand.

Fathom, the only cruise line US reaching Cuban ports, announced that it will add two new outlets to the island in the wake of strong demand. Itineraries will also be a week and additional leave on October 9 and November 6. The itineraries on board Adonia -700 passengers- depart from Miami and visit the ports of Havana, Cienfuegos and Santiago de Cuba.



The Starwood Hotels and Resorts Worldwide become pioneers of the American presence in the Cuban hotel industry and plan to expand its presence in August 2016, when the hotel reopens Inglaterra under the Starwood Luxury Collection.



Four Points hotel by Sheraton in Havana, first administered by US network in more than five decades. June 28, 2016.



We must continue to work together to:

- Eliminate the blockade against Cuba, it is a flagrant violation of human rights of the Cuban people.
- To ensure that the American people can travel to Cuba whenever they want.
- Increase collaborative links between universities, other institutions and agencies.