



Cuba



Introduction to CUBA

THE REPUBLIC OF CUBA, one of the largest islands in the Caribbean Sea, is located off the United States' southwest point at the mouth of the Gulf of Mexico. It was ruled by Fidel Castro from 1959 until 2008, when his younger brother Raúl took over. Cuba has famously been the site of revolutions and embargoes over the years.

The CUBAN people

Total population:	11,451,652
Children under 15:	2,098,138
Average Life Expectancy:	77.45 years
Per capita annual income:	\$9,500
% children in primary school:	98.5%
Average years of education:	16 years
Literacy rate:	99.8%
Internet users:	1.45 million
Cell phones in use:	331,700

Major/official language(s): Spanish

Risk issues impacting children:

- Accidental death is the leading cause of childhood mortality.
- There are high rates of anemia due to wide-spread iron deficiency.
- Cuba has one of the highest rates of childhood obesity in Latin America.

More about CUBA

Capital city:	Havana
Type of government:	Communist State
Square kilometers:	110,860
General terrain:	Mostly flat-to-rolling plains with rugged hills and mountains in the southeast
Major industries/jobs:	Sugar, petroleum, tobacco, construction, nickel, steel, cement, agricultural machinery, pharmaceuticals, tobacco, livestock
National motto:	"Homeland or Death"
Major airport(s):	José Martí International Airport in Havana

Reaching CUBA

Currently classified as World B: Somewhat Reached

Major religions:

Predominantly Roman Catholic
Other Christian, Judaism, Santeria and none

Christian groups:

Roman Catholic - 82.2%
Protestant - 7.3%
Other - 6.3%
Independent - 3.5%
Anglican - 0.1%

Unreached People Groups:	2 (0.3% of pop)
Average annual Christian growth:	0.013
Average annual baptisms:	172,041
Foreign missionaries:	260
Per million:	23.09
National Christian workers/pastors:	1,500
Per million:	133.22
Number of churches/congregations:	6,294

Children's ministry in CUBA

Overview: • Cuba is a predominantly Christian nation, mostly of Roman Catholic background. There is also a steadily growing, active Protestant minority.

- Though the communist government sometimes makes it difficult for Christians to gather, for the most part there is freedom for churches and ministries to host kids' camps, Sunday School classes, and Vacation Bible School programs.
- Several denominations and churches have recognized the importance and value of including children in leading their own ministry programs, but the lack of training and resources often hinders these efforts.
- The church in Cuba is very open to receiving help and training for their children's ministry leaders.

Focus for Prayer

Training children's leaders for outreach in
6,294 congregations

Strategies for reaching and discipling
2,098,138 children for Christ