

Table 1. Facts about Cuba

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| Size                   | 109,884 km <sup>2</sup> (about the size of U.S. state of Tennessee). The main island is 1250 km (780 mi) long. Cuba is the largest island in the Caribbean and the 17th largest island in the world.   |
| Geography              | Cuba consists of flat to rolling plains as well as low mountain chains with peaks between 600 and 1974 m (1968.5 and 6476 ft), surrounded by shallow platforms, keys, and islets, as well as deep depressions, such as the Bartlett trough (6810 m [ $\sim$ 4.23 mi]).   |
| Coastline              | 3740 km (2324 mi)  |
| Highest point          | Pico Turquino (1974 m [6476 ft])   |
| Population (2014)      | 11,238,317   |
| Political subdivisions | 15 provinces and one special municipality: Isla de la Juventud.  |
| Official language      | Spanish  |
| Geological resources   | Cuba's most important mineral resource is nickel, with 21% of total exports in 2011. The output of Cuba's nickel mines that year was 71,000 tons, approaching 4% of world production. As of 2013, its reserves were estimated at 5.5 million tons, over 7% of the world total. Cuba is also a major producer of cobalt, a by-product of nickel mining operations. Oil exploration in 2005 by the USGS revealed that the North Cuba basin could produce $\sim$ 4.6 billion barrels (730,000,000 m <sup>3</sup> ) to 9.3 billion barrels ( $1.48 \times 10^9$ m <sup>3</sup> ) of oil. |