

GROWING NUMBERS OF AMERICANS – ESPECIALLY CUBAN AMERICANS – FAVOR ENGAGEMENT WITH CUBA

Angus-Reid Public Opinion—Most Americans Willing to Re-establish Ties with Cuba—U.S. Citizens—February 2012¹

This online survey was taken by a representative national sample of 1,008 American adults from January 27th to January 28th 2012.

Major Findings

- 62% would re-establish diplomatic relations with Cuba
- 57% would lift the travel ban that prevents most Americans from visiting Cuba
- 51% would lift the trade embargo with Cuba
- 67% of Hispanics support re-establishing diplomatic relations with Cuba and their views on the travel ban and the trade embargo mirror those of the entire sample of Americans.
- Majorities of Independents (67%), Democrats (64%) and Republicans (56%) agree with re-instituting bilateral ties

Freedom House—Change Comes to Cuba: Citizens' Views on Reform after the Sixth Party Congress—Cuban Citizens—October 2011²

Survey is based on field research conducted in June of 2011 Cuba after the 6th Party Congress that took place in April 2011. 190 Interviews were conducted with Cuban citizens from six different provinces about their perceptions and experience of change, expectations for the future and their access to information.

Major Findings

- 63% view the new economic reforms favorably and say that it's better to be self-employed than to work for the government
- 79% noticed changes in Cuba over the last 6 months particularly an increase in the number of self-employed or cuentapropistas

¹ <http://www.angus-reid.com/polls/44366/most-americans-willing-to-re-establish-ties-with-cuba/>

² <http://freedomhouse.org/template.cfm?page=70&release=1513>

- 41% believe the country is making progress, compared to the 15% in December 2010
- There has been a rise in expectations: 31% believe their family's economic situation to improve in the next 12 months. In December 2010 only 17% of Cubans thought this way.
- When asked what reforms they want in Cuba, the most frequent responses were greater freedom of expression and freedom of travel. In the December 2010 survey the top reforms were improved economic conditions.

Florida International University -- 2011 Cuba Poll: Conducted September 2011— Cuban American's from Miami-Dade County³

648 randomly selected Cuban-American respondents were polled in Miami-Dade County in September 2011. This is the 10th poll in a series of Cuba polls conducted since 1991. Overall results are weighted to be representative of the Cuban-American community of Miami-Dade County as a whole.

Major Findings

- 57% favor lifting all restrictions on travel
- 60% oppose restrictions on family travel
- 57% support re-establishing diplomatic relations with Cuba
- 80% believe that the embargo has “not worked very well” or “not worked at all”
- 56%, a majority of respondents, support maintaining the embargo
- 39% ready to expand trade and investment in Cuba beyond current levels.
- Specific group of 18-44 year olds or those who arrived in the U.S. after 1994 expressed the most support in changing our relationship with Cuba.
- 70% support engagement via diplomacy
- 75% support travel
- 75% support food and medicine sales
- 76% of those who arrived after 1994 (two-thirds) are either non-citizens or non-registered citizens.

Cuba Business Bureau – Insider Advantage Poll: Conducted April 15, 2010 – Nationwide⁴

Q: Should the U.S. re-establish full diplomatic relations with Cuba?

- Support full relations – 58%
- Oppose full relations – 33%
- No opinion – 9%

³ http://www.diasporaydesarrollo.org/index.cfm/files/serve?File_id=68ad2e41-37b9-47cf-9cef-22e5adff6080

⁴ <http://cubabusinessbureau.com/>

Q: *Should the U.S. allow all U.S. citizens to travel to Cuba?*

- Allow travel to Cuba: 61%
- Prohibit travel to Cuba: 25%
- No opinion: 14%

Q: *Should the U.S. allow American companies to do business in Cuba?*

- Allow business: 57%
 - Prohibit business: 30%
 - No opinion: 13%
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BBC World News America – Harris Poll: Conducted January 13-15, 2010 - Nationwide⁵

Of the adults surveyed:

- 38% say they would like to visit Cuba if possible, but there is an age difference. Of those who are:
 - 55 and older – 30%
 - 18-34 – 43%
 - 35-44 – 46%
 - 75% say the relationship with Cuba is important.
 - 57% say there are missed opportunities for U.S. business
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Orbitz.com-Ipsos Poll: Conducted April 23-27, 2009 – Nationwide⁶

- 67% of Americans would support a policy that allows all Americans to travel to Cuba.
 - 72% agree that expanding travel and tourism from the U.S. to Cuba would have a positive impact on the day-to-day lives of the Cuban people.
 - 32% of Americans strongly support such a policy that would allow all Americans to travel to Cuba.
 - 23% say that they would oppose lifting these restrictions for Americans traveling to Cuba (only 13% would strongly oppose it).
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Washington Post / ABC News poll: Conducted April 21 – 24, 2009 – Nationwide⁷

Q: *Do you think the U.S. Government should or should not end its travel restrictions, and allow U.S. citizens to visit Cuba and Cubans to visit the United States?*

⁵http://www.businesswire.com/portal/site/home/permalink/?ndmViewId=news_view&newsId=20100302005732&newsLang=en

⁶<http://www.ipsos-na.com/news/pressrelease.cfm?id=4386>

⁷<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wpdyn/content/graphic/2009/04/27/GR2009042700688.html?sid=ST2009042700689>

Should – 55%
Should not – 40%
No Opinion – 5%

Gallup poll: Conducted April 20-21, 2009 - Nationwide⁸

Q: *Apart from their diplomatic relations, do you favor or oppose the United States government ending its restrictions on Americans traveling to Cuba?*

Favor lifting travel ban – 64%
Oppose lifting travel ban – 27%
No opinion – 9%

	% Favor	% Oppose
Ending travel restrictions		
Republicans	57	36
Independents	60	29
Democrats	74	19

Bendixen poll: Conducted April 14-16, 2009 – Cuban-Americans only⁹

Q: *Do you favor or oppose all American citizens being able to travel to Cuba?*
2009 2006

67% favor 49% favor
29% oppose 45% oppose

CNN / Opinion Research poll: Conducted April 3-5, 2009 – Nationwide¹⁰

- 64 percent thought the U.S. government should allow citizens to travel to Cuba.
 - 71 percent of those polled said that the U.S. should reestablish diplomatic relations with Cuba, while 27 percent opposed such a move.
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World Public Opinion (WPO) poll: Conducted March 25 – April 6, 2009 – Nationwide¹¹

Q: *Do you think, in general, American's:*

⁸ <http://www.gallup.com/poll/1630/Cuba.aspx>

⁹ http://www.bendixenandassociates.com/studies/National_Survey_of_Cuban_Americans_on_Policy_towards_Cuba_FINAL.pdf

¹⁰ <http://www.cnn.com/2009/POLITICS/04/10/poll.cuba/>

¹¹ http://www.worldpublicopinion.org/pipa/pdf/apr09/Cuba_Apr09_quaire.pdf

Should be free to visit Cuba. - 70%

Republicans - 62%

Democrats - 77%

Independents - 66%

Should continue to be prohibited from visiting Cuba - 28%

Republicans - 37

Democrats - 20

Independents - 32

Refused/Don't know - 2

Q: If there is increasing travel and trade between Cuba and the United States, do you think it is more likely that:

This will strengthen the communist regime in Cuba - 26%

Republicans - 38

Democrats - 16

Independents - 28

This will lead Cuba in a more open and democratic direction - 71%

Republicans - 59

Democrats - 80

Independents - 69

Refused/Don't know - 3

Zogby / ABC News poll: Conducted Sept. 23-25, 2008 – Nationwide¹²

- 68% believe all U.S. citizens should be allowed to travel to Cuba

Zogby Interactive poll: Conducted July 2007 – Nationwide¹³

- 56% of Americans said the U.S. should remove travel restrictions and end the embargo on trade to Cuba

¹² <http://www.thedialogue.org/page.cfm?pageID=403>

¹³ <http://www.thedialogue.org/page.cfm?pageID=403>