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GEOGRAPHIC INTELLIGENCE REPORT

GIRRA

PART XIII: POPULATION



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GEOGRAPHIC INTELLIGENCE REPORT

CUBA

PART XII: POPULATION

CIA/RR GR L-60-1, Part XII

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

Office of Research and Reports

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CUBA

PART XII: POPULATION

I. General

The population of Cuba, numbering 5,870,854 as of May 1953 (see Table 1), is of heterogeneous composition and is distributed unevenly throughout the Island. From early Spanish colonial days to the present, the growth of population in Cuba has, to a large extent, paralleled the development of the sugar industry; and the racial composition reflects the successive waves of laborers -- Negro slaves, Chinese contract laborers, and, more recently, immigrants from other islands of the Antilles -- brought to Cuba by the white population to work in the canefields and sugar mills.

The 1953 census enumeration, Censos de Población, Viviendas y Electoral: Informe General, is the most recent detailed statistical source available on the population of Cuba and was the principal source used in preparing this report. Although the data are old and changes in absolute numbers obviously have occurred since 1953, the relative population structure probably has not changed significantly in terms of distribution, racial composition, employment, and literacy.

II. Distribution

A relatively high population density prevails in regions of plains and hills and a corresponding low density in mountainous regions and areas of coastal swamps. The actual density ranges from 187.2 persons per square kilometer (484 persons per square mile) in

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CENSO DE POBLACION: CUBA

Tabla 1 -- POBLACION TOTAL, POR PROVINCIAS Y MUNICIPIOS: 1953

Provincia	Municipio	Poblacion
PINAR DEL RIO	1 Abreva	7,098
	2 Arroyo de Pasajeros	28,882
	3 Caballero	34,973
	4 Calabazán	26,244
	5 Calles	16,666
	6 Camajuaní	26,362
	7 Cienfuegos	99,530
	8 Ciguamayo	10,247
	9 Corralillo	10,569
	10 Crotos	18,738
	11 Encrucijada	19,037
	12 Esperanza	21,963
	13 Fontaine	35,110
	14 Almira	10,740
	15 Pibcetas	48,662
	16 Quemado de Gdines	21,339
	17 Saico Veloz	10,855
	18 Ranchuelo	12,564
	19 Rodas	23,786
	20 Segue la Grande	39,065
	21 San Antonio de las Vueltas	31,226
	22 San Spiritus	115,636
	23 San Pedro del Valle	17,353
	24 San Fernando de Camarones	12,617
	25 San Juan de los Remedios	30,188
	26 San Juan de los Yeros	13,808
27 Santa Clara	142,176	
28 Santa Isabel de las Lajas	17,333	
29 Sanjo Domingo	32,605	
30 Trinidad	48,808	
31 Yaguajay	36,513	
32 Zulueta	9,439	
	1,030,162	
CAMAGUEY	1 Camaguey	191,379
	2 Ciego de Avila	97,852
	3 Emersalda	23,195
	4 Florida	49,091
	5 Guimara	31,361
	6 Jatibonico	20,978
	7 Merced	106,926
	8 Nuevitas	36,309
	9 Santa Cruz del Sur	61,145
	618,256	
ORIENTE	1 Alto Songo	78,001
	2 Anilla	32,578
	3 Banes	50,766
	4 Baracoa	69,283
	5 Bayamo	143,467
	6 Campesinela	97,409
	7 Caibari	24,717
	8 Cobre	43,926
	9 Gibara	39,947
	10 Guasimamo	124,885
	11 Holguin	226,779
	12 Jaruco	73,493
	13 Mansanillo	43,804
	14 Mayarí	84,261
	15 Niquero	46,844
	16 Palmas Soriao	95,545
	17 Puerto Padre	89,361
	18 Sagua de Tiamamo	86,719
	19 San Luis	42,483
	20 Santiago de Cuba	106,384
	21 Victoria de las Tunas	122,869
	22 Yaguajay	31,516
	1,797,606	
LA HABANA	1 Aguacate	11,933
	2 Alqueria	13,286
	3 Batabanó	16,601
	4 Bayamo	26,449
	5 Bejucal	11,204
	6 Caiman del Guayabal	10,061
	7 Cárdenas	112,333
	8 Cárdenas	42,840
	9 Cárdenas	21,734
	10 Cárdenas	787,765
	11 Cárdenas	10,106
	12 Cárdenas	18,009
	13 Cárdenas	5,863
	14 Cárdenas	10,567
	15 Cárdenas	229,576
	16 Cárdenas	14,329
	17 Cárdenas	15,986
	18 Cárdenas	7,191
	19 Cárdenas	26,756
	20 Cárdenas	9,709
	21 Cárdenas	28,929
	22 Cárdenas	18,952
	23 Cárdenas	20,332
	24 Cárdenas	10,683
	25 Cárdenas	21,600
	26 Cárdenas	32,861
	1,538,803	
MATANZAS	1 Matanzas	10,400
	2 Matanzas	8,051
	3 Matanzas	6,026
	4 Matanzas	11,286
	5 Matanzas	52,580
	6 Matanzas	10,631
	7 Matanzas	29,350
	8 Matanzas	14,967
	9 Matanzas	11,188
	10 Matanzas	16,974
	11 Matanzas	9,177
	12 Matanzas	11,078
	13 Matanzas	24,457
	14 Matanzas	16,544
	15 Matanzas	52,619
16 Matanzas	10,169	
17 Matanzas	20,121	
18 Matanzas	16,443	
19 Matanzas	9,776	
20 Matanzas	9,628	
21 Matanzas	6,254	
22 Matanzas	6,941	
	395,780	

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La Habana Province to 23.5 persons per square kilometer (61 persons per square mile) in Camagüey Province. Well over 50 percent of the total population resides in Oriente and La Habana Provinces (31 percent and 26 percent, respectively), and 21 percent is concentrated within the Havana metropolitan area.* (See Map 1.)

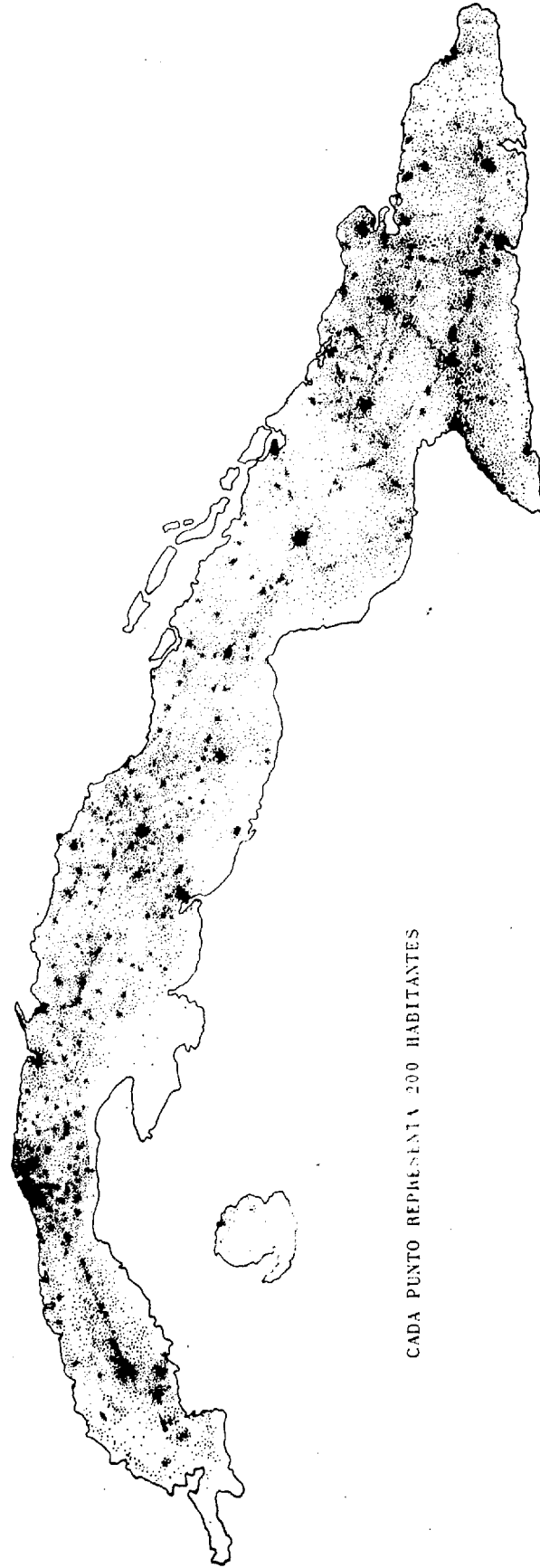
Even though the Cuban economy is primarily agricultural, 57 percent of the population resides in urban zones and only 43 percent in rural areas. These figures, however, are somewhat misleading because an urban zone, for purposes of the 1953 census enumeration, was defined as "a population center of 150 inhabitants or more which has electrical, medical, legal, and recreational services, or which is located in close proximity to and is functionally related to another population center having these services." Thus many of the so-called urban zones are little more than workers' settlements situated in rural areas where agriculturally-oriented activities (such as the operation of sugar mills and the intensive cultivation of tobacco) require an above-average concentration of workers. The rural population as designated in the census enumeration consists mainly of families residing in isolated dwellings on fincas (farms) rather than in settlements.

Considering the urban population as a whole, 35 percent lives in cities of 100,000 or more inhabitants; 23 percent in cities of

* The Havana metropolitan area includes the urban zones of La Habana, Marianao, Guanabacoa, Santiago de las Vegas, Regla, Bauta, and Santa María del Rosario municipios.

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GRÁFICO 9.—DISTRIBUCION GEOGRAFICA DE LA POBLACION TOTAL DE CUBA: 1953



CADA PUNTO REPRESENTA 200 HABITANTES

Map 1. Distribution of Population, 1953

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25,000 to 100,000 inhabitants; 20 percent in cities of 5,000 to 25,000 inhabitants; and 22 percent in urban communities of less than 5,000 inhabitants. Clusters of urban centers are in evidence particularly along the route of the Central Highway and in proximity to the cities of La Habana, Santiago de Cuba, and Santa Clara. (See Table 2 for a listing by province of urban centers with 1,000 or more inhabitants and Map 2 for the geographic distribution of urban centers by relative size.

III. Racial Composition

Racially the population of Cuba consists of whites, Negroes, members of the yellow race, and mestizos. The white population in Cuba is predominantly of Spanish descent, and the yellow population is almost entirely of Chinese descent. As defined for purposes of the 1953 census enumeration the term mestizo is applied to persons of mixed race -- whether white-Negro, white-yellow, or Negro-yellow. The total number of persons enumerated as of a white-yellow or Negro-yellow racial mixture was statistically insignificant as compared with the large number of white-Negro mestizos.

Persons of white skin constitute nearly 74 percent of the total population and are about evenly divided between urban and rural dwellers. Mestizos and Negroes together comprise 26 percent of the total population (14 percent and 12 percent, respectively), and persons of yellow skin constitute approximately 0.3 percent of the population. Somewhat more than half the mestizos and Negroes reside

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Table 2—NUCLEOS URBANOS DE 1,000 HABITANTES Y MAS, POR PROVINCIAS: 1953*

Núcleos urbanos		Núcleos urbanos		Núcleos urbanos		Núcleos urbanos	
Población		Población		Población		Población	
PINAR DEL RÍO		LA HABANA—Cont.		LAS VILLAS—Cont.		ORIENTE	
De 25,000 a 30,000:		Palos.....	4,042	Central Marta.....	1,095	De 100,000 y más:	
Pinar del Río.....	38,886	Punta Brava.....	4,856	Central Narcois.....	1,051	Santiago de Cuba.....	163,237
De 10,000 a 25,000:		Quivicá.....	4,018	Central Victoria.....	1,190	De 50,000 a 100,000:	
Artemisa.....	17,461	Reservorio Nacional.....	1,478	Cifuentes.....	2,298	Guantánamo.....	64,671
Guantanamo.....	12,908	Rincón.....	3,018	Congojas.....	1,060	Holguín.....	87,573
De 5,000 a 10,000:		San Antonio de las Vegas.....	1,512	Corralillo.....	1,123	De 25,000 a 50,000:	
Consolidación del Sur.....	6,146	San Antonio de Río Blanco.....	2,306	Cumanayagua.....	4,679	Manzanillo.....	42,252
Los Palacios.....	5,260	San Felipe.....	1,383	El Santo.....	2,219	Palma Soriano.....	25,421
De 1,000 a 5,000:		Santa Cruz del Norte.....	3,537	Encrucijada.....	4,791	Victoria de las Tunas.....	20,431
Bahía Honda.....	3,042	Santa María del Rosario.....	1,824	Esperanza.....	4,712	De 10,000 a 25,000:	
Cabañas.....	2,228	Tapaste.....	1,431	Falcón.....	1,135	Banes.....	20,267
Candelaria.....	3,648	Vereda Nueva.....	1,907	General Lino Pérez.....	1,041	Baracoa.....	11,459
Cañas.....	1,789	Wajay.....	1,252	Guao.....	1,197	Bayamo.....	20,178
Central Mercedes.....	1,146	MATANZAS		Guasimal.....	1,752	San Luis.....	11,110
Central Orosoo.....	1,740	De 50,000 a 100,000:		Isabela de Sagua.....	3,701	De 5,000 a 10,000:	
Central Pilar.....	1,181	Matanzas.....	63,916	Manacas.....	2,515	Antilla.....	6,481
Central San Cristóbal.....	1,162	De 25,000 a 50,000:		Manicaragua.....	3,993	Caimanera.....	5,647
Consolidación del Norte.....	2,254	Cárdenas.....	43,750	Mata.....	1,349	Campechuela.....	5,536
Guano.....	4,070	De 10,000 a 25,000:		Matagüá.....	1,214	Central Chaparra.....	5,604
Isabel Rubio.....	1,394	Colón.....	15,755	Mayajigua.....	2,950	Central Delloisa.....	5,849
La Coloma.....	1,907	Jovellanos.....	10,444	Meneses.....	1,650	Custo.....	5,983
Mariel.....	4,611	De 5,000 a 10,000:		Poza la China.....	4,852	Gibara.....	8,144
Matambra.....	4,659	Jagüey Grande.....	5,244	Quemado de Güines.....	4,840	Jiguani.....	6,940
Paseo Real de San Diego.....	1,436	Pedro Betancourt.....	6,863	Rancho Veloz.....	1,943	Laguna Blanca.....	5,920
Puerta de Golpe.....	1,512	Perico.....	6,041	Ranchuelo.....	4,288	La Maya.....	5,037
Puerto Esperanza.....	1,867	Unión de Reyes.....	5,351	Rodas.....	4,569	Mayarí.....	6,386
Quebra Hacha.....	1,684	De 1,000 a 5,000:		Rodrigo.....	1,627	Niquero.....	7,204
San Cristóbal.....	4,638	Agramonte.....	2,948	San Antonio de las Vueltas.....	8,020	Puerto Padre.....	9,705
San Juan y Martínez.....	4,866	Alacranes.....	3,166	San Diego del Valle.....	1,096	Sagua de Tánamo.....	7,604
San Luis.....	2,785	Amarillas.....	1,935	San Fernando de Camarones.....	2,378	San Germán.....	5,802
Santa Lucía.....	1,698	Banaguiles.....	1,245	San Juan de los Yeras.....	2,361	De 1,000 a 5,000:	
Viñales.....	1,602	Bolondrón.....	3,444	Santo Domingo.....	4,728	Alto Songo.....	2,197
LA HABANA		Callimete.....	2,260	Siticoito.....	1,213	Baire.....	8,967
De 100,000 y más:		Canasí.....	1,103	Taguasco.....	2,642	Bartle.....	1,052
La Habana.....	785,456	Carlos Rojas.....	2,163	Tunas de Zaza.....	1,380	Cacoé.....	2,724
Mariano.....	219,278	Ceiba Mocha.....	1,288	Yaguaramas.....	1,098	Cañey.....	2,009
De 50,000 a 100,000:		Central Alava.....	1,031	Zaza del Medio.....	4,252	Cayo Mambí.....	1,553
San Miguel del Padrón y sus repartos.....	60,631	Central España.....	1,600	Zulueta.....	4,254	Central Jobabo.....	3,248
De 25,000 a 50,000:		Central Mercedes.....	1,192	CAMAGUEY		Central Las Cañas.....	1,083
Guantanamo.....	32,490	Central Tinguaro.....	1,212	De 100,000 y más:		Central Mabey.....	2,405
Güines.....	29,226	Céspedes.....	1,003	Camaguey.....	110,388	Central Maceo.....	1,433
Regla.....	26,766	Cidra (Santa Ana).....	1,463	De 25,000 a 50,000:		Central Manatí.....	2,318
De 10,000 a 25,000:		Coliseo.....	1,765	Ciego de Avila.....	35,178	Central Miranda.....	2,180
Bauta.....	11,518	Guareiras.....	1,122	De 10,000 a 25,000:		Central Preston.....	8,827
Güira de Melena.....	13,715	Güira de Macurijes.....	1,187	Florida.....	21,159	Central Río Cauto.....	8,174
San Antonio de los Baños.....	17,783	Juan Gualberto Gómez.....	2,570	Morón.....	18,629	Central Romelie.....	1,066
San José de las Lajas.....	13,011	Limonar.....	3,801	Nuevititas.....	12,390	Central Salvador.....	1,520
San Pedro del Coto.....	13,261	Los Arabos.....	1,690	De 5,000 a 10,000:		Central San Antonio.....	1,390
Santiago de las Vegas.....	10,974	Manguito.....	2,569	Central Elia.....	5,447	Central San Ramón.....	1,037
De 5,000 a 10,000:		Marí.....	2,605	Guayabal.....	5,889	Central Santa Cecilia.....	1,101
Alquízar.....	7,111	San Antonio de Cabezas.....	2,300	Ignacio Agramonte (Vertientes).....	7,021	Central Soledad.....	1,245
Bajocul.....	9,682	San José de los Ramos.....	1,269	De 1,000 a 5,000:		Central Taquí.....	1,288
Calabazar.....	5,945	Varadero.....	2,640	Caacorro.....	2,442	Central Tánamo.....	2,032
General Ferns (Rancho Boyeros).....	5,765	LAS VILLAS		Ceballos.....	1,405	Cobre.....	2,586
Jaruco.....	5,291	De 50,000 a 100,000:		Central Baraguá.....	2,267	Cristo.....	3,160
San Nicolás de Bari.....	5,738	Cienfuegos.....	57,991	Central Cunagua.....	1,879	Deleite.....	1,188
Santa Fe.....	5,872	Santa Clara.....	77,398	Central Lugareño.....	3,135	Dos Caminos.....	2,004
Surgidero de Batabanó.....	5,076	De 25,000 a 50,000:		Central Santa Marta.....	1,326	Dos Caminos del Cobre.....	2,278
De 1,000 a 5,000:		Placetas.....	25,226	Central Stewart.....	1,943	Entrada de Holguín.....	1,203
Aguacate.....	8,686	Sagua la Grande.....	26,187	Central Velasco.....	1,173	Fray Benito.....	1,456
Arroyo Arenas.....	3,619	Sancti-Spiritus.....	37,741	Céspedes.....	4,410	Guamá.....	1,600
Bacuranao.....	1,684	De 10,000 a 25,000:		Chambas.....	3,046	Guamo.....	3,507
Batabanó.....	3,024	Cabaiguán.....	15,399	Esmeralda.....	4,191	Guara.....	1,862
Caimito del Guayabal.....	4,263	Caibarién.....	22,657	Falla.....	1,876	Guas.....	2,857
Campo Florida.....	2,688	Camajuaní.....	12,574	Gaspar.....	1,740	Juan Vicente.....	1,392
Cano.....	2,103	Cruces.....	10,704	Guadalupe.....	1,098	Jutinico.....	2,370
Caraballo.....	2,228	Remedios.....	10,602	Guáimaro.....	4,503	Kingston.....	1,160
Casalina de Güines.....	2,522	Trinidad.....	16,766	Guayacanes.....	1,029	La Ríola.....	1,818
Cuba del Agua.....	1,968	De 5,000 a 10,000:		Hatuey.....	1,737	Los Indios.....	1,103
Central Herabey.....	1,428	Aguada de Pasajeros.....	5,112	Jatibonico.....	4,583	Maffo.....	2,804
Cofmar.....	3,775	Fomento.....	7,852	Jiquí.....	1,135	Minas de Bueyito.....	1,199
Corralillo.....	1,032	Guayos.....	5,509	Júcaro.....	1,411	Nicoara.....	3,074
Cuatro Caminos.....	1,886	Palmira.....	6,261	Kinston Barrio.....	1,448	Palmarito.....	1,985
Gabriel.....	1,560	Santa Isabel de las Lajas.....	5,862	Majagua.....	2,289	Pilón.....	2,489
Guara.....	1,327	Yaguajay.....	5,191	Minas.....	3,827	Río Seco.....	1,015
Jibacoa.....	1,184	De 1,000 a 5,000:		Piedrecitas.....	1,619	San Andrés.....	1,655
La Salud.....	3,376	Abreua.....	1,682	Pina.....	3,667	San Fernando.....	1,104
Madriga.....	4,377	Bases.....	2,223	Punta Alegre.....	4,068	San Manuel.....	2,105
Managua.....	2,149	Buenvista.....	1,314	Santa Cruz del Sur.....	2,781	San Martín.....	2,020
Masorra (Hospital).....	4,455	Calabazar de Sagua.....	3,286	Sibanié.....	3,875	Santa Rita.....	1,955
Melena del Sur.....	4,492	Cartagena.....	1,239	Simón Reyes.....	1,804	Tiguabos.....	1,266
Minas.....	1,006	Cascajal.....	1,493	Sols.....	1,724	Veguitas.....	2,014
Nueva Gerona.....	3,203	Casilda.....	2,445	Velasco.....	4,068	Yara.....	1,444
Nueva Paz.....	4,082	Caunso.....	3,403	Yarey de Vásquez.....	2,781	Yarey de Vásquez.....	1,812
		Central Agabama.....	1,418	Yateras.....	1,804	Yateras.....	2,182
		Central Constanza.....	1,167	Zarsal.....	1,724	Zarsal.....	1,421

* Se emplea el término "núcleo urbano" para designar a las zonas urbanas que poseen una población de 1,000 habitantes o más. Este cambio se debe a los cambios en el concepto de núcleo urbano que se estableció en el Censo de 1953. Véase el artículo "Núcleos urbanos" en el volumen 1 de este libro para más detalles.

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in urban areas, whereas 89 percent of the persons of yellow skin are concentrated in urban areas. (See Tables 3 and 4.)

Table 3

Racial Composition by Provinces

Race	Pinar del Río	La Habana	Matanzas	Las Villas	Camagüey	Oriente
White	357,252	1,184,493	307,230	849,242	483,405	1,062,334
Negro	63,463	176,601	47,622	94,628	81,554	261,443
Yellow	368	9,005	1,216	1,657	1,835	2,576
Mestizo	27,339	168,704	39,712	84,635	51,462	471,253
Total	<u>448,422</u>	<u>1,538,803</u>	<u>395,780</u>	<u>1,030,162</u>	<u>618,256</u>	<u>1,797,606</u>

Table 4

Urban and Rural Population by Race in Percentages

Race	Pinar del Río		La Habana		Matanzas		Las Villas		Camagüey		Oriente	
	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural
White	32	68	90	10	53	47	45	55	50	50	38	62
Negro	41	59	97	3	77	23	72	28	42	58	48	52
Yellow	70	30	96	4	83	17	92	8	83	17	76	24
Mestizo	45	55	98	2	81	19	69	31	56	44	39	61

Although widely distributed throughout Cuba, the proportion of people defined as colored (Negroes, mestizos, and Chinese) to whites varies considerably by province and municipio. (See Maps 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8.) Approximately 66 percent of the colored population is concentrated in the provinces of Oriente and La Habana.

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Of the pure Negro population, 36 percent reside in Oriente Province and 24 percent in La Habana Province. Within Oriente Province the heaviest concentration of Negroes (55 percent) occurs in six municipios in the Santiago de Cuba-Guantánamo region, and in La Habana Province more than 80 percent is concentrated in the Havana metropolitan area alone.

Of the mestizo population, slightly more than 50 percent lives in Oriente Province and another 20 percent in La Habana Province. In Oriente Province the mestizo population is dispersed fairly widely throughout the agricultural areas, whereas in La Habana Province more than 66 percent is concentrated in the Havana metropolitan area.

The Chinese reside in the larger urban areas of the country, where they operate small businesses such as groceries, restaurants, laundries, and truck farms. Fifty-six percent of the total Chinese population is concentrated in La Habana Province and 15 percent in Oriente Province. The Chinese constitute more than 1 percent of the local population only in the municipios of La Habana, Isla de Pinos, and Nueva Paz in La Habana Province and of Alto Songo and Guantánamo in Oriente Province. A significant aspect of the Chinese minority is the disproportionate sex ratio, with 90 percent of the Chinese population being male. The Chinese community includes a large number of Cuban wives -- both legal and common-law. Presumably the children of these unions are reported as mestizos in the census enumeration.

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The native Indian population of Cuba was almost wiped out by the early Spanish conquerors, but small numbers of mestizos with marked Indian physical characteristics are encountered in the rugged mountain regions of Oriente Province. Presumably small numbers of Indians survived in these remote areas and intermarried with local white and Negro settlers.

IV. Religion

Statistical data are not available on religious affiliation, but the Roman Catholic religion is predominant.

V. Occupational Structure

The total labor force as of May 1953 was comprised of 2.1 million persons, or 54 percent of the population aged 14 years or more. The active labor force numbered about 2 million persons who were employed in some occupation during the year prior to the census enumeration. Many of these people had only seasonal employment, however, and were either unemployed or underemployed during the off season. Approximately 83 percent of the labor force was of the male sex, and only 17 percent was female.

More than 60 percent of the labor force resides in urban zones. This situation is explained in part by the seasonal migration of workers from urban zones to the sugar centrals during the grinding season and back to the cities during the off season and in part by the official classification of bateyes (residential areas associated with the sugar mills) as urban zones.

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Slightly more than 41 percent of the active labor force was employed in agricultural work as of 1953. Although the agricultural population was distributed widely throughout the country, the largest concentrations of workers were in the two provinces of Oriente and Las Villas, which accounted for 37 percent and 22 percent of this occupational group, respectively.

Persons employed in service activities comprised the next largest occupational group (20 percent of the active labor force), and more than 50 percent of them were concentrated in La Habana Province.

The manufacturing industry employed 17 percent of the active labor force in 1953. La Habana Province accounted for 38 percent of this occupational group, and most of the remainder was located in cities of 25,000 or more inhabitants in various parts of the country.

About 12 percent of the active labor force was engaged in commerce, and, as in the manufacturing industry, about 40 percent of this occupational group was concentrated in La Habana Province, with most of the remainder in various cities of 25,000 or more inhabitants.

Utilities, transportation and communications, and the construction industry together employed another 9 percent of the active labor force. In each of these enterprises approximately 50 percent of the workers were concentrated in La Habana Province.

Of the remaining 1 percent of the active labor force, mining accounted for 0.5 percent. The other 0.5 percent was employed in unspecified occupations. Slightly more than half the miners were employed in Oriente Province, with the largest concentrations in the Mayarí and Jiguaní mining areas.

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Percentage figures for the distribution of population by occupation are given for each of the six provinces of Cuba in Table 5.

Table 5

Employment of Active Labor Force by Province

Type of Employment	Percent					
	Pinar del Río	La Habana	Matanzas	Las Villas	Camagüey	Oriente
Agriculture	62	10	46	52	54	57
Manufacturing	12	21	18	17	15	13
Construction	2	6	3	2	2	2
Commerce	8	16	10	10	10	10
Transportation, communications	3	8	5	4	5	4
Services	11	36	16	14	13	12
Other	2	3	2	1	1	2

Wages in Cuba are generally high compared with those of other countries in similar economic circumstances. Wages paid in the larger enterprises generally run well above the legal monthly minimum of 60 pesos (\$60.00). Pay rates, however, vary considerably between companies within a given industry and between general categories of industry. Wages paid in the sugar industry represent a fixed percentage of the Government's estimate of the average price of sugar for the coming year. In the event that the average price exceeds the estimate, wages are then adjusted retroactively to conform with the higher average price.

Data on prevailing wages or earnings are not published by the Cuban Government. Table 6 gives some indication of comparative wage

Table 6. Selected Pay Rates in Havana in 1955

(Excerpted from Foreign Labor Information: Labor in Cuba,
U.S. Department of Labor, May 1957)

Employer and Occupation	Wages or Salaries (in pesos or dollars)		
	Lowest	Highest	Average
<u>Monthly rates</u>			
<u>10 leading companies 1/</u>			
Messengers and office boys	\$ 90.00	\$227.00	\$116.00
Simple office work, such as mimeo- graphing	110.00	227.00	151.00
Stenographers, chiefly Spanish language	120.00	330.00	187.00
Secretaries, bilingual	200.00	385.00	296.00
Accountants	187.00	497.00	308.00
<u>Hourly rates 2/</u>			
Unskilled laborers71	1.07	.92
Mechanics, third class99	1.46	1.20
Mechanics, first class	1.25	1.83	1.45
<u>Construction industry</u>			
Bricklayers, concrete-form car- penters, and rodmen	-	-	3/ .75
Helpers and laborers	-	-	3/ .47
<u>Cuban Electric Power Co.</u>			
Welders	-	-	1.09
Ironworkers	-	-	.90
Reinforced steel workers	-	-	.75
Helpers of skilled workers	-	-	.60
Laborers	-	-	.47
<u>Daily rates 2/</u>			
<u>United Fruit Co. 4/</u>			
Stevedores and winchmen	-	-	9.56
Tally clerks, longshoremen, tractor operators	-	-	8.60
Foremen, general	-	-	14.11

1/ Companies engaged in manufacturing, utilities, petroleum, and banking, principally in Havana. Only 9 companies reported on manual workers. Data exclude Christmas bonuses and sick-leave allowances.

2/ Including the 9.09 percent allowance for 48 hours' pay for 44 hours' work, but not including vacation pay.

3/ Minimum wage rates established in 1949 and still accepted as the current going rate by unions in the industry in 1955.

4/ November 1954 rates. Overtime rates are double those listed. Source: Foreign Service Report No. 229, Havana, September 20, 1955.

rates paid in 1955 by 10 leading companies in La Habana for a variety of jobs. In February 1958, it was reported that several of the pay rates listed had been increased 7 to 10 percent above the 1955 level.

The regular workday is 8 hours and the workweek is 44 hours, but a workweek of 56 hours is authorized in the sugar industry during the harvest season. Industries, offices, and commercial establishments generally are closed on Sundays. During June, July, and August, shops that are normally open on Saturday must give employees 1 free day each week in addition to Sunday. Banks have had a 5-day workweek since 1948; and many offices, particularly in larger establishments, have followed their example. Government offices are usually open from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and 5 days per week.

VI. Literacy

Literacy is relatively high in Cuba. Of the total population aged 10 years or more, 76 percent was reported as literate in the 1953 census enumeration. Some disparity was shown between the urban and rural population, however, with 88 percent of the urban population reported as literate as opposed to only 58 percent of the rural population (see Table 7).

Table 7
Percentage of Literacy by Province

	<u>Pinar del</u> <u>Río</u>	<u>La Habana</u>	<u>Matanzas</u>	<u>Las Villas</u>	<u>Camagüey</u>	<u>Oriente</u>
Total population (aged 10 years or more)	69.2	90.8	80.8	75.2	72.7	64.7
Urban population	82.3	92.5	88.5	85.4	86.2	84.2
Rural population	61.8	71.4	69.1	64.3	58.5	50.3

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A further percentage breakdown of literacy by municipio is provided in the 1953 Census, but the municipio figures do not differ significantly from the province figures in most cases.

Literacy data by racial group were not included in the 1953 Census. Fragmentary information on the Chinese community, however, is available from another source, dated December 1950. Most of the Chinese are literate in their own language. Cantonese is the dialect spoken almost exclusively by the Chinese colony in Cuba. Nearly all of the Chinese speak some pidgin Spanish. The degree of proficiency in Spanish varies from very poor to very good, but generally only those who learn it when they are young become fluent. Most of the Chinese colony can read Spanish, but cannot write it, and a few can read some English.

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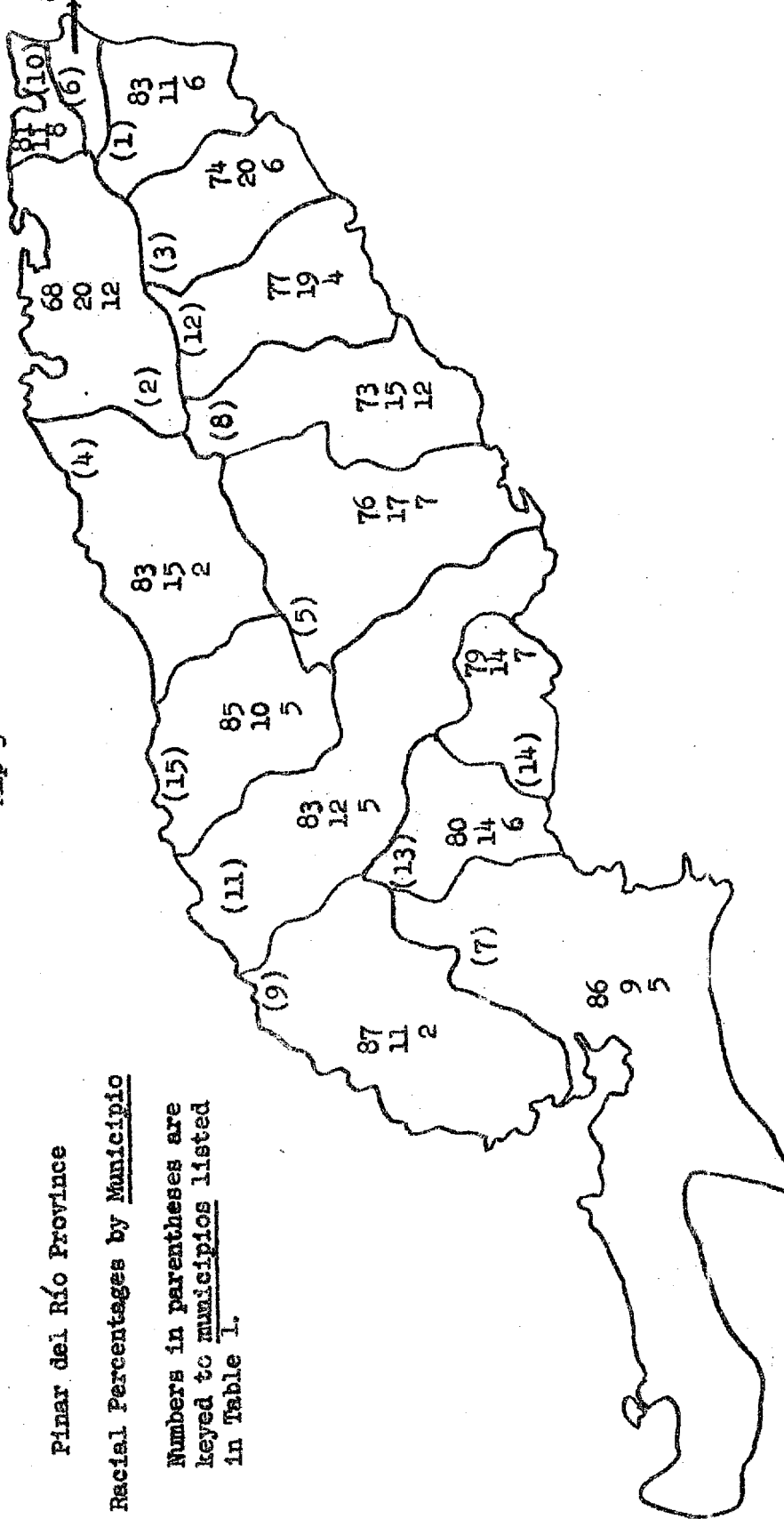
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Map 3

Pinar del Río Province

Racial Percentages by Municipio

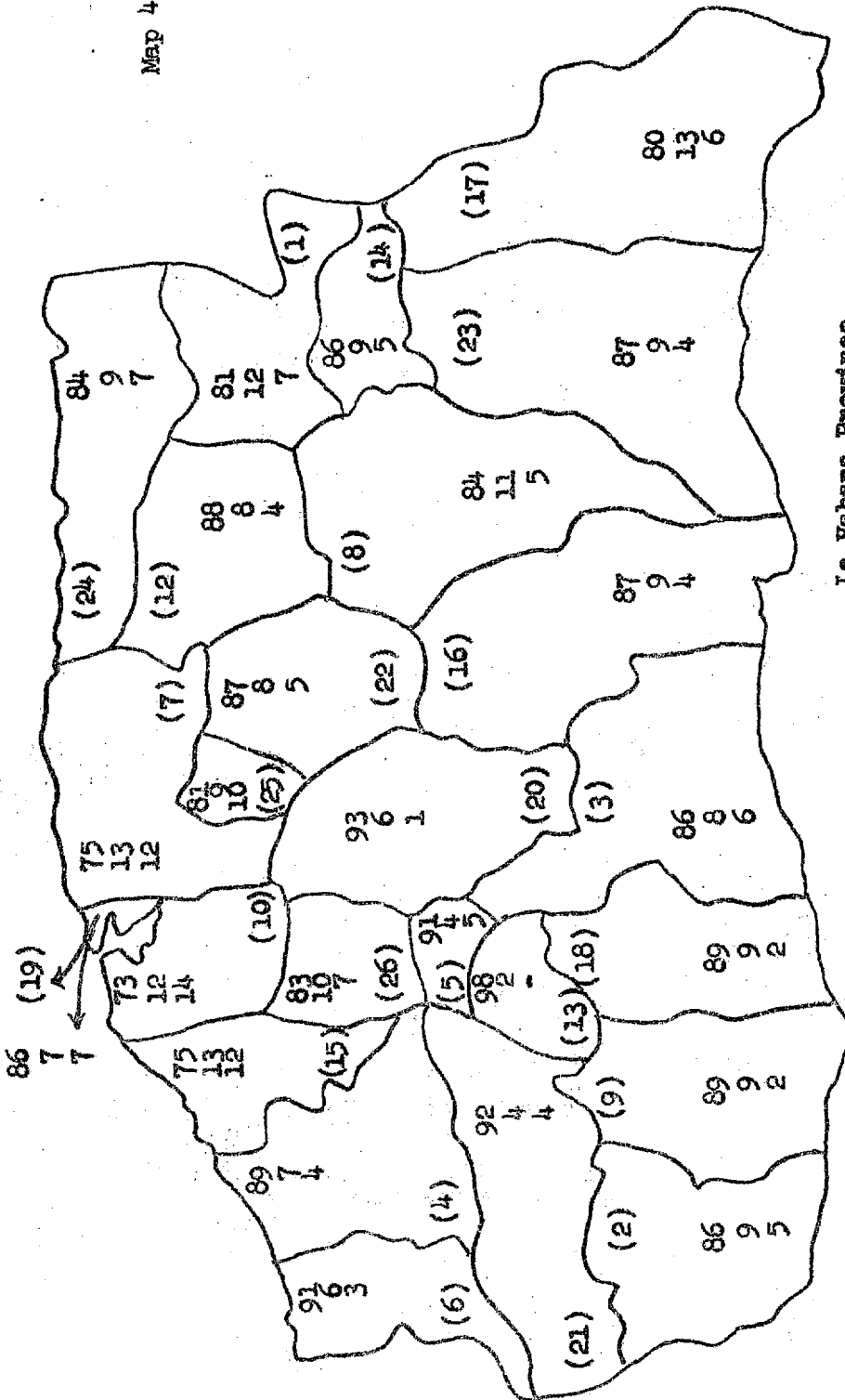
Numbers in parentheses are keyed to municipios listed in Table 1.



The three percentage figures indicated for each municipio are listed in the following order: white, Negro, mestizo. E.g., the municipio of Guane (7) is 86% white, 9% Negro, and 5% mestizo.

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Map 4



La Habana Province

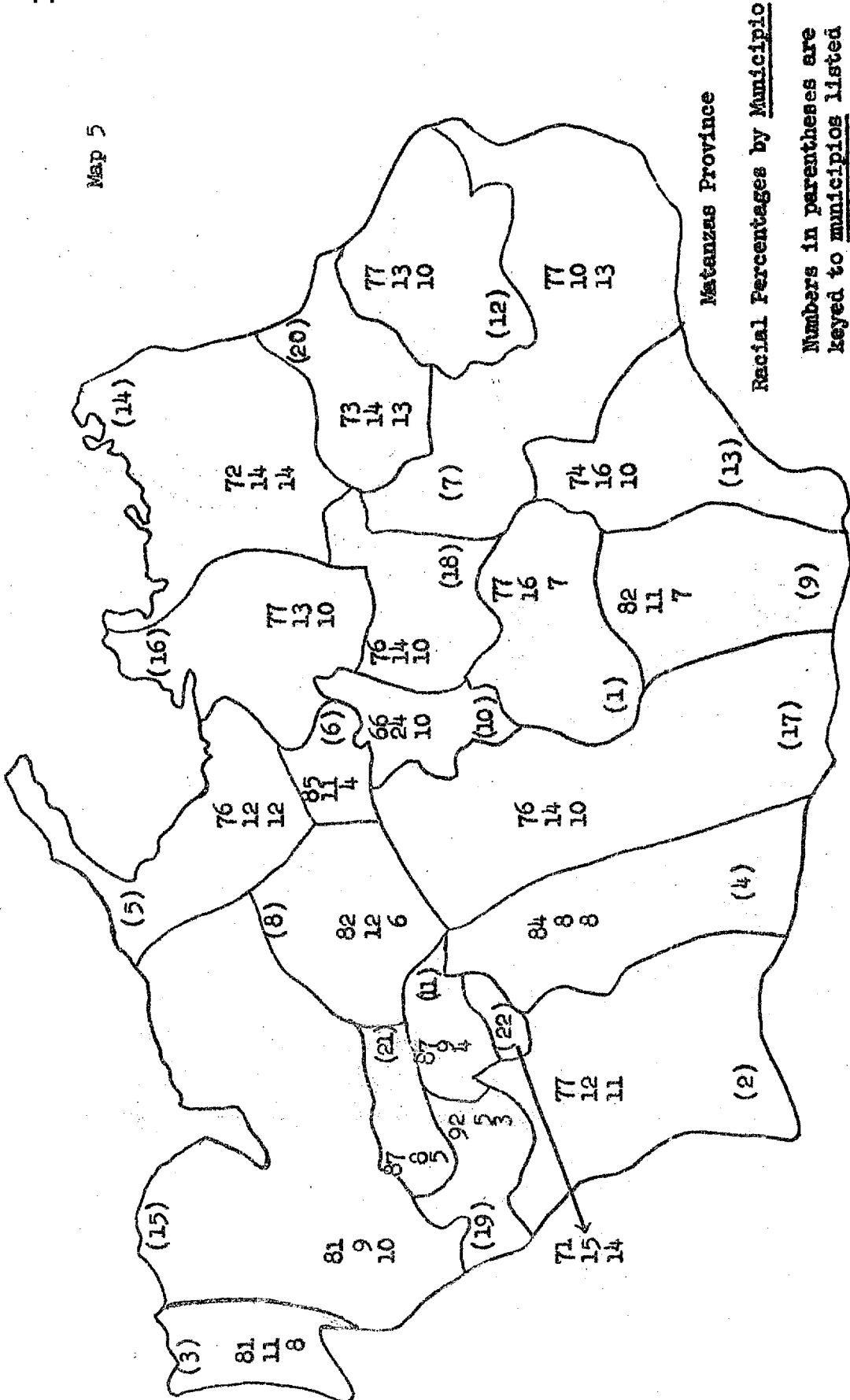
Racial Percentages by Municipio

Numbers in parentheses are keyed to municipios listed in Table 1.

The three percentage figures indicated for each municipio are listed in the following order: white, Negro, mestizo. E.g., the municipio of Estabanó (3) is 86% white, 8% Negro, and 6% mestizo.

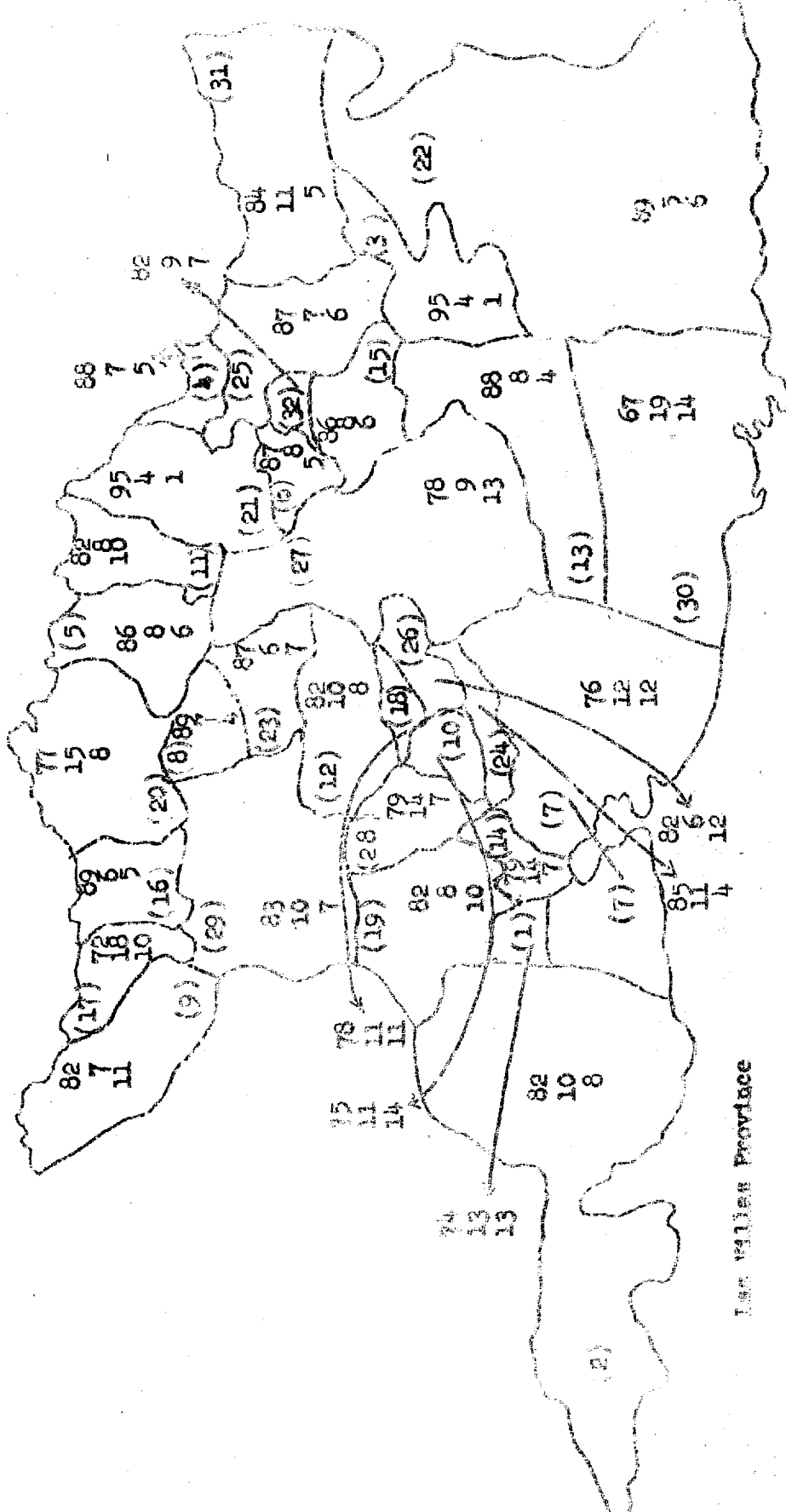
Note: The yellow race constitutes a significant element of the population in the municipios of Habana (1%), Nueva Paz (1%), and Isla de Pinos (1.5%).

Map 5



The three percentage figures indicated for each municipio are listed in the following order: white, Negro, mestizo. E.g., the municipio of Alacranes (2) is 77% white, 12% Negro, and 11% mestizo.

Map 6



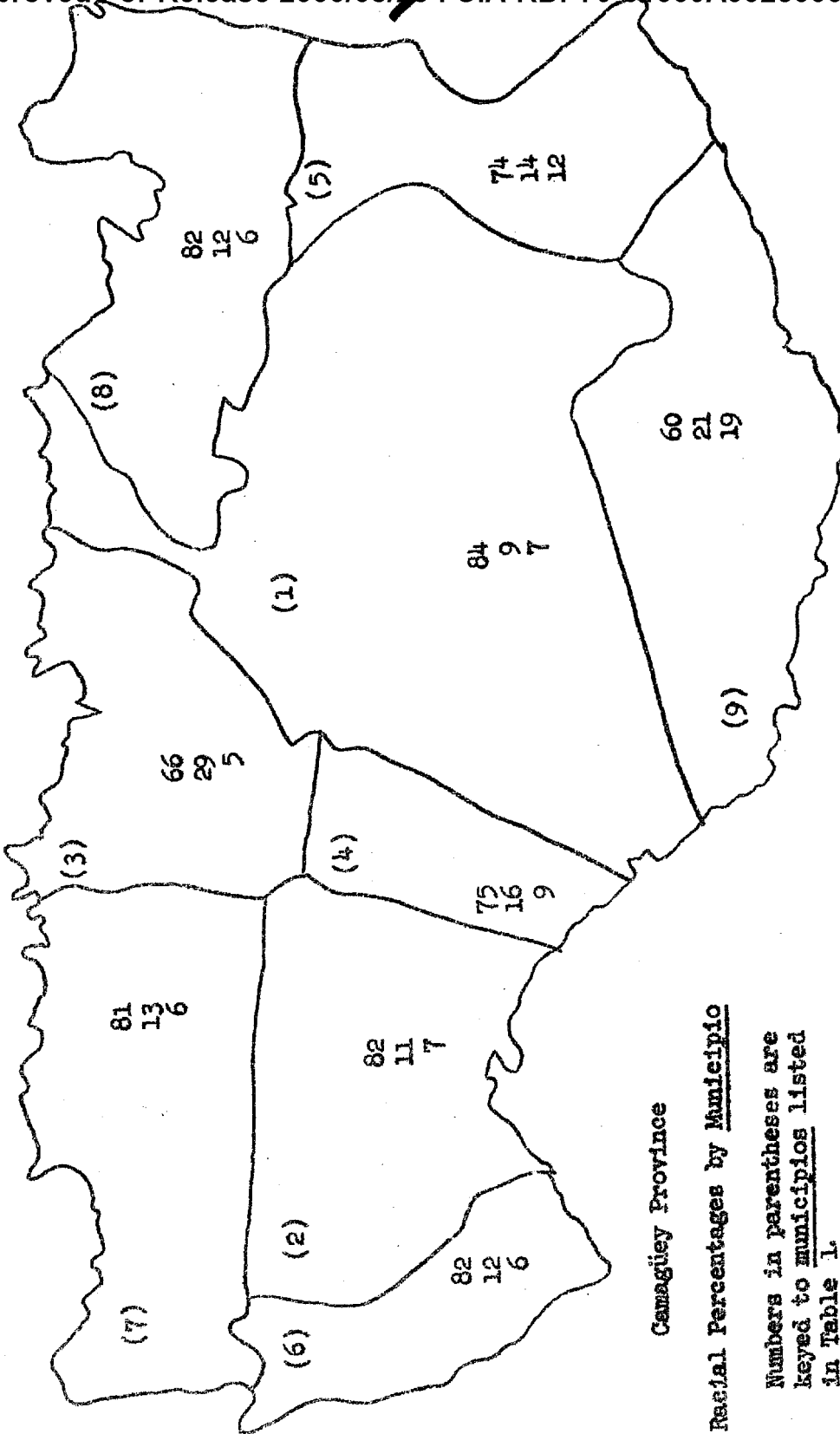
Leeward Province

Racial Percentages by Municipio

Numbers in parentheses are keyed to municipios listed in Table 1.

The three percentage figures indicated for each municipio are listed in the following order: white, Negro, mestizo. E.g., the municipio of Trinidad (30) is 67% white, 19% Negro, and 14% mestizo.

Map 7



Camagüey Province

Racial Percentages by Municipio

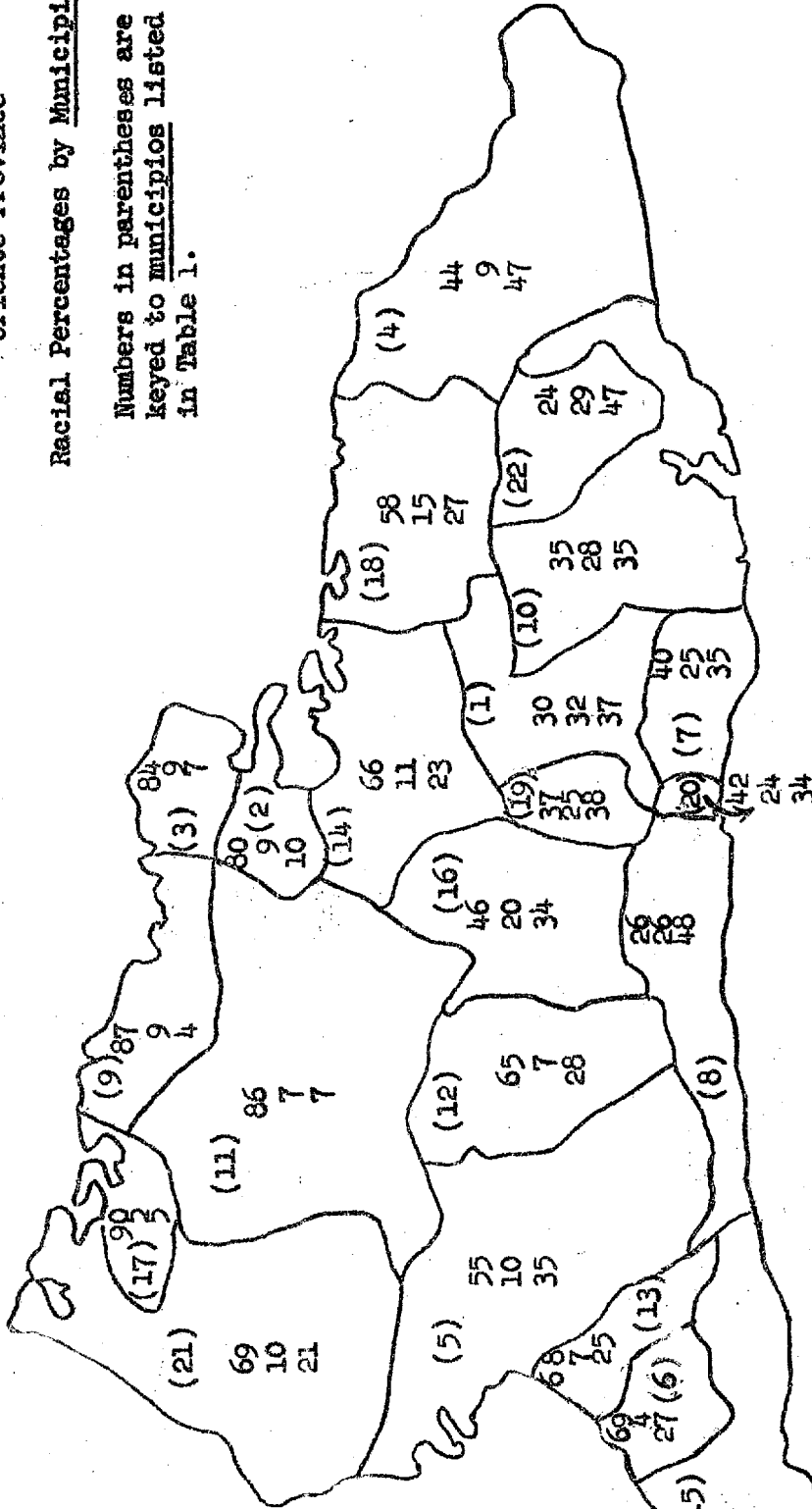
Numbers in parentheses are keyed to municipios listed in Table 1.

The three percentage figures indicated for each municipio are listed in the following order: white, Negro, mestizo. E.g., the municipio of Florida (4) is 75% white, 16% Negro, and 9% mestizo.

Map 8

Oriente Province
Racial Percentages by Municipio

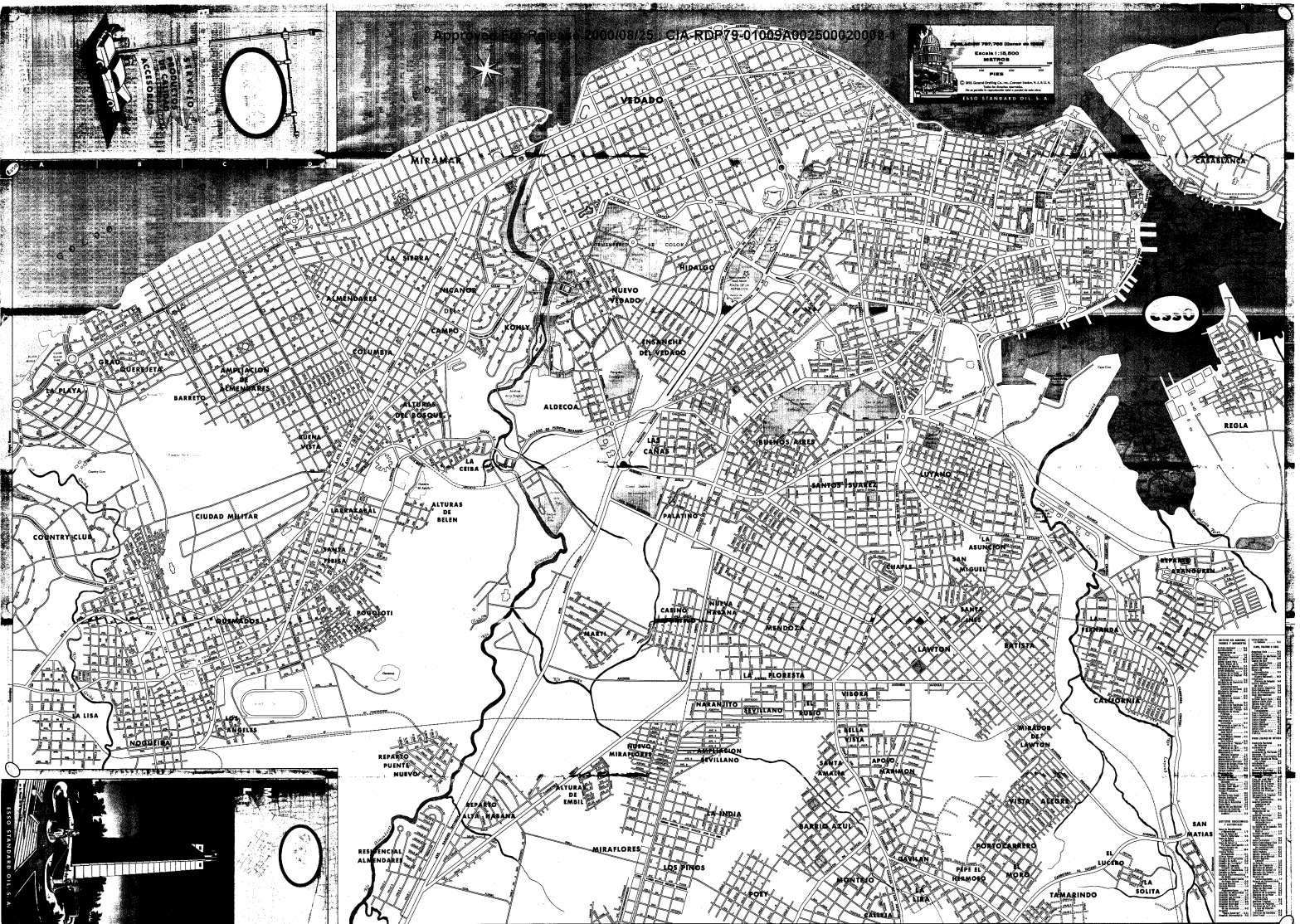
Numbers in parentheses are keyed to municipios listed in Table 1.



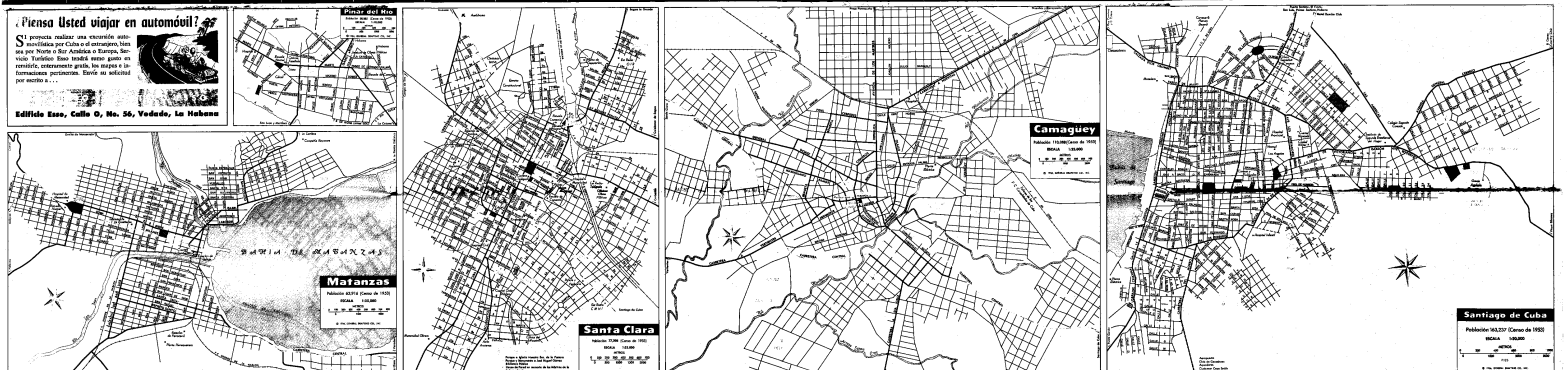
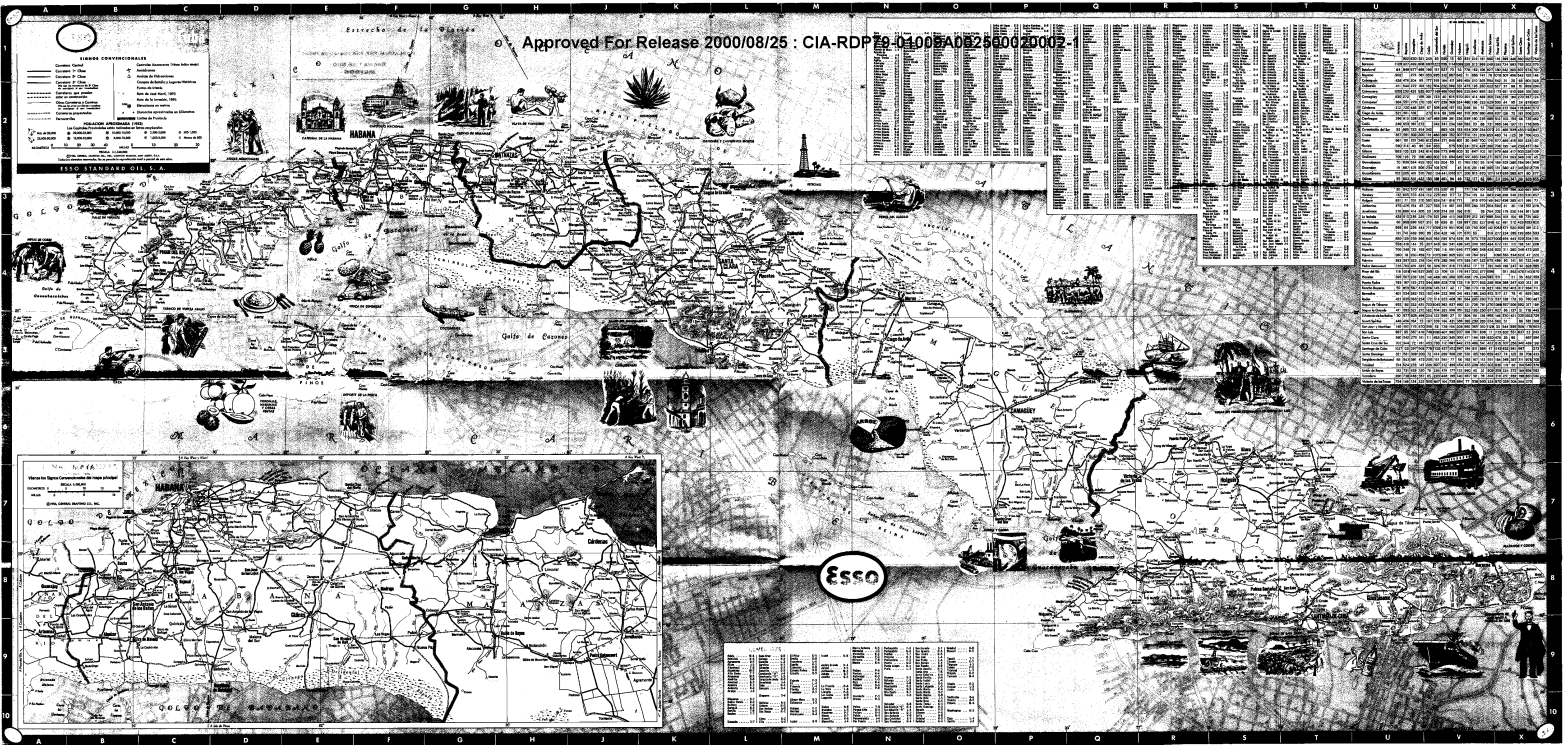
The three percentage figures indicated for each municipio are listed in the following order: white, Negro, mestizo. E.g., the municipio of Cobre (8) is 26% white, 26% Negro, and 48% mestizo.

Note: The yellow race constitutes a significant element of the population in the municipios of Alto Songo (1%) and Guantánamo (2%).

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