

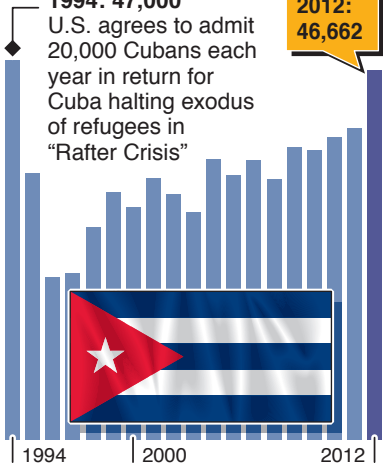
Cubans leaving home

Numbers of people leaving Cuba are growing steadily, reaching levels not seen since 1994 when tens of thousands took to the sea in makeshift rafts and rickety boats

1994: 47,000

U.S. agrees to admit 20,000 Cubans each year in return for Cuba halting exodus of refugees in "Rafter Crisis"

2012: 46,662



EASING TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS

Jan 2013: Cubans allowed to leave country for 24 months without losing rights, and can seek further extension

Jul 31: U.S. extends most visitor visas for Cubans from six months to five years, allowing for multiple visits