

New York Haitian Community Demographic Study

The City University of New York's Haitian Studies Institute (CUNY-HSI) invites proposals for the first community and demographic study of Haitians in New York City and surrounding counties. Over the last 20 plus years, Haiti has seen many significant political changes that have spurred immigration to New York City, one of the largest Haitian communities in the United States. Through this study, we look forward to better understanding the diverse make-up of the community including recent migrants as well as long established individuals and families. A chief goal of the study is to collect valid and reliable information that can inform strategic planning, service delivery, financial resource investments, and marketing and communications of Haitian communal organizations to New York City and State government agencies. We are particularly interested in going "beyond the numbers" to understand the sense of connection, relationship, and motivations that form complex Haitian diasporic identities.

Who We Are/Why We are Doing the Study

The CUNY-HSI is an ethnic studies entity with a core mission of supporting studies on Haitians, Haiti, and its diaspora. As such, CUNY-HSI is uniquely positioned to spearhead this significant study as it is the only Haitian organization with the ability and vantage point to oversee, convene, and strategize in the New York City region. With a decade of experience, and our embeddedness in the CUNY system, CUNY-HSI effectively identifies the gaps, challenges, and opportunities for our diverse community. Over the last years, we have incubated, designed, and implemented programs to address pressing needs, while engaging in partnerships throughout the city to leverage the expertise of our community's leading organizations, elected officials, and thought partners. With additional reliable and valuable data, we will be able to strategize most effectively to have the greatest impact in our community. We anticipate a continual investment in collecting and analyzing data following this study in order to understand more nuanced patterns, priorities, and trends in our New York Community.

We want to ensure that the data collected is reflective of the uniqueness of New York City in its geography, magnitude, and complex setting.

Research Objectives

To meet the study's goal, CUNY-HSI has identified the following research objectives:

1. Estimate the size of the Haitian population in New York City, surrounding counties and the number of households in which they reside, and the total number of people in Haitian households (households with at least one Haitian member).
2. Provide information, at household and/or individual levels, for specified geographic areas on a wide range of demographic and socio-economic

characteristics, Haitian identity, Haitian community connections, and educational and human service needs.

3. Provide information on key subgroups within the population, including but not limited to, older adults, families with young children, individuals with disabilities, young adults, extended/non-traditional families, Haitians in nursing homes or assisted living facilities, Haitians living in poverty, Kreyol-speaking Haitians, LGBTQ+, and first-generation immigrants.

Scope of Work and Deliverables

Proposals should address the following scope of work and deliverables:

1. Development of the research design, including sampling approach, size of sample, estimation of coverage and weighting for population and household estimates.
2. Development of the screener and research
3. Translation of the survey into Kreyol, in order to connect with non-English dominant/semi-literate populations within our community.
4. Management of survey administration and data
5. Analysis of survey data following a plan developed in coordination with the CUNY-HSI staff and Advisory
6. Preparation of a clean, weighted data file and file documentation to be fully accessible to CUNY-HSI and other researchers and organizations as determined and approved by CUNY-HSI (understanding that issues of confidentiality will be respected).
7. Preparation of final report(s), including a comprehensive report and summary, methodological report, topic reports, and slide decks based on a plan developed in coordination with the CUNY-HSI staff and in close collaboration with CUNY-HSI's graphic designer.
8. Presentation of study findings in community forums and meetings following a plan developed in coordination with CUNY-HSI staff.
9. Training of CUNY-HSI staff on how to utilize the dataset to develop customized reports and/or assisting vendor in developing digital interface strategies.
10. Ongoing communication and updates for CUNY-HSI
11. Collaborate with CUNY-HSI staff in establishing any needed communication and/or marketing plans, including any constituent group meetings prior to finalization of instruments.

All work will be done in collaboration with CUNY-HSI staff. Researchers may include any additional deliverables they wish CUNY-HSI to consider as part of their proposal.

Timeline

Proposals should provide a timeline for conducting the study, including milestones such as project launch meetings, development of the instruments, sampling plans, data collection, data analysis, and data review with project leadership in advance of report writing, final report, and presentations to the Haitian community. The timeline should include data collection commencing in academic year 2026 with an initial report by the fall of 2027.

Project Budget and Budget Narrative

Proposals should include a detailed budget and a budget narrative explaining project costs.

Qualifications of Research Team

Preferred qualifications of the research team include:

1. Universities and research centers/institutions with experience and expertise in survey research methodologies and data analytic methods.
2. Excellent written, digital, and oral communication skills, as needed to present information to professional and lay audiences.
3. Demonstrated ability to understand client needs and priorities, and to work closely and cooperatively with
4. Experience conducting local community and demographic studies in the United States, and/or studies of other rare populations, particularly religious and ethnic groups.
5. Knowledge of contemporary Haitian Americans and Haitian American communal

For each member of the research team, please submit a brief description (two pages or less) of qualifications, planned role in the study, recent clients and, if relevant, titles of selected publications.

We welcome collaborations between general researchers and researchers steeped in the Haitian community, understanding that the strengths of such a collaboration might yield a richer study.

References

Provide names and contact information for 3-5 references who can address your research team's qualifications to conduct this Haitian community study. Individual submissions will not be considered.

Submission Guidelines

Submit all proposal materials, including a complete project proposal, detailed project budget with accompanying budget narrative, and a list of references, to HSI@brooklyn.cuny.edu no later than November 30, 2025, at 11:59 p.m.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS: NOVEMBER 30.

For questions or additional information, please direct inquiries to Marie.Cerat@brooklyn.cuny.edu

Ownership of Deliverables

Researchers should expect that all deliverables produced by researchers under this engagement – including but not limited to the final data file, reports and other presentation materials – will be the property of CUNY-HSI. CUNY-HSI may grant permission to researchers to use deliverables in their own work, post deliverables online, and distribute deliverables to third parties.



HaitianStudies.Org